

COUNCIL MINUTES OF  
July 11, 2024

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Elijah Ames, Andrew Bermudez, Adam Briggs, Levi Ladd, Heidi Kinney, Danny Hutchins

**EXCUSED ABSCENSE:** Marcia Delaware

**I. PUBLIC HEARING**

*1. Resolution B2024-2025-1 Municipal Budget*

**Randolph Saunders** asked if the 2 million dollars that the Town gives to the School is in addition to the 16 million dollars in their budget. **Trampas King** stated that it wasn't. **Mr. Saunders** also asked how the Homestead Exemption relates to the taxes. **Mr. King** stated that the Town is only valued at 85% by the State which means they will only reimburse us for 80% of the exemption. Therefore, the exemption will decrease from \$25,000 to \$22,500. The reason we aren't valued at %100 is because of the prices that properties have been selling for. The State assumes that the assessed value should be comparable.

**II. MINUTES**

*1. Approve/Amend Council Minutes of June 20, 2024*

Motion to approve: **Levi Ladd**

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**III. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, & ELECTIONS**

*1. Order A2024-45 Appointment to Library Trustees Board*

**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the appointment of Lisa Perez-McKusick to the Library Trustees Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2024.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**ADAM BRIGGS**

Second: **Levi Ladd**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*1. Manager's Report*

**Trampas King** thanked everyone for coming. He thanked everyone that was involved with organizing the parade and also those that participated. It went very well, and he thanked the Police and the Fire Departments for their help with the parade and with the fireworks the night before. **Mr. King** stated that things were starting to get busy. Swimming lessons have started at the beach and the summer camp will be starting shortly and will run for two weeks. **Mr. King** thanked the Dexter Development Association for all of their hard work at the beach and also a big thanks to all of the donors. Upcoming events for the Town include the Kiwanis Cruise In on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Red Hotdog Festival on the 10<sup>th</sup>. **Mr. King** introduced **Monique Dudley**, Dexter's newest fulltime Police Officer, and stated that we are excited to have her on board. **Ms. Dudley** stated that she is excited to be here and has bought a house in Town and plans to be here for a long time.

*2. Departmental Reports*

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**Andrew Bermudez** commented on Juli Kimball's report where she stated how thankful she was for the donations of diapers, pullups, and wipes from the Work Camp Program. He stated that not only do these kids pay to come to Dexter and fix up people's homes, they also bring donations with them for the Town.

*3. Resolution B2024-2025-1 Municipal Budget*

**BE IT RESOLVED, WHEREAS** the sum of \$4,916,737, which sum constitutes the estimated requirements of the Town of Dexter for the year 2024-2025 based upon the budget submitted by the Town Manager as provided by the Town Charter, be raised by assessments upon the estates of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dexter and upon the estates of the non-resident proprietors within the Town for the present municipal year and the sum is hereby appropriated in addition to the sum otherwise provided. The amount for each purpose being specified in the schedule is as follows:

CLASSIFICATION	APPROPRIATION	REVENUES
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 48,000	
General Government	\$1,099,084	
Public Works	\$ 853,504	
Airport	\$ 24,150	
Public Safety	\$ 796,775	
Health & Welfare	\$ 65,390	
Solid Waste Mgt/Lakes & Dam	\$ 330,000	
Culture & Recreation	\$ 234,362	
Facilities & Parks	\$ 475,704	
Cemetery	\$ 145,000	
Economic Development	\$ 12,500	
Debt Service	\$ 301,194	
Contributions to Reserve Accts	\$ 132,500	
County Tax	\$ 422,491	
Education	\$2,056,093	
Subtotal	\$6,996,747	

Increase from 2023-2024 ----- \$43,120

General Government Revenue	\$ 60,100
Cemetery Revenue	\$ -0-
Culture & Recreation Revenue	\$ 11,000
Excise Tax Revenue	\$ 620,000
Facilities & Parks Revenue	\$ 7,925
Health & Welfare Revenue	\$ 20,000
Public Safety Revenue	\$ 60,400
Public Works Revenue	\$ 69,000
MMSWA Revenue	\$ 2,000
Airport Revenue	\$ 3,000
Economic Development	\$ -0-

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Undesignated Revenue	\$ 1,034,500
General Fund Transfers	\$ 130,000
Capital Projects Revenue	\$ 14,085
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 48,000
Bonds Issued	\$ -0-
Subtotal	\$ 2,080,010

Decrease from 2023-2024 ----- (\$47,455)

NET BUDGET ----- \$4,916,737

NET INCREASE FROM 2023-2024 ----- \$90,575

Filed July 11, 2024  
**ELIJAH AMES**

Second: **Heidi Kinney**  
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

*1. Resolution B2024-2025-2 Tax Due Date and Interest Rate*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the 2024-2025 property taxes shall be due and payable on or before October 15, 2024; and furthermore that the interest rate for the outstanding balance paid after that date shall be at the rate of 8.5% per annum.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**HEIDI KINNEY**

Second: **Adam Briggs**  
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*2. Resolution B2024-2025-3 Mil Rate*

**BE IT RESOLVED, WHEREAS**; the sum of \$4,916,737 is required to be raised through taxation to support municipal operations, as well as the Town's contribution to School Administrative District #46 and payment to Penobscot County for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, that a mil rate not to exceed 19.8 mils be hereby adopted for the 2024-2025 tax year.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**ANDREW BERMUDEZ**

Second: **Elijah Ames**  
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*3. Resolution B2024-2025-4 Tax Club*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the continuation of the Tax Club for the collection of property taxes for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**DANNY HUTCHINS**

Second: **Adam Briggs**  
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

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4. *Order A2024-46 Approve License for Anthony Lee's Winery for Red Hotdog Festival*  
**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the off-premise catering permit for Mark Libby doing business as Anthony Lee's Winery for the Maine Red Hot Dog Festival on August 10, 2024.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**LEVI LADD**

Second: **Heidi Kinney**  
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

5. *Order A2024-47 Approve Liquor License Renewal for Dexter Municipal Golf Course*  
**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the renewal of the Malt Liquor License for Ryan Wilks doing business as the Dexter Municipal Golf Course.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**ADAM BRIGGS**

Second: **Levi Ladd**  
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

6. *Order A2024-48 Approve License for Dexter Municipal Golf Course for Red Hotdog Festival*  
**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the off-premise catering permit for Ryan Wilks doing business as Dexter Municipal Golf Course for the Maine Red Hot Dog Festival on August 10, 2024.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**ELIJAH AMES**

Second: **Adam Briggs**  
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

7. *Order A2024-49 Expenditure of ARPA Funds*  
**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes the expenditure of ARPA funds for paving of the entire beach parking lot.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**HEIDI KINNEY**

Second: **Adam Briggs**  
The paving would be from the driveway into the boat landing down to the end of the parking lot by the water. **Frank Spizuoco** stated that the quote he had gotten for \$40,000 was about 1780sq feet but didn't cover paving right in front of Lakeshore Restaurant. **Trampas King** stated that there is \$45,912 left in the ARPA funds. **Levi Ladd** asked if there was anything we could do about the sand level. **Mr. Spizuoco** stated that we can't dump sand in the water like we used to. About the only thing we could do would be to build a "sand box" berm but that isn't the top priority with everything else that is going on. **Mr. Ladd** asked if the money can be applied to any project. **Mr. King** stated that in the beginning there were only certain things, but now we can use it for pretty much anything. We have already used monies for sand at the boat landing, renovations to the bath house, broadband, paving Sunrise Ave., and lights at Ellm's field. **Levi Ladd** asked the reasoning behind the paving. **Mr. Spizuoco** stated that it was

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mostly to increase and improve parking and it will also be beneficial with the fundraising to show that the Town has some skin in the game and is helping with the improvements as well. There was much discussion about the drainage situation and how that will need to be addressed with the paving.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*8. Order A2024-50 Authorization of MOD with Androscoggin Bank*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the General Obligation Bond with Androscoggin Bank in the amount of One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000), with interest at the rate of 6.70% per annum, calculated on an actual 365-day year, and in seven (7) annual installments of principal and interest, payable on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October of each year beginning October 4, 2024, with the first six payments being in the amount of Two Hundred Ten Thousand One Hundred Nineteen and 28/100 Dollars (\$210,119.28), and a final payment of Two Hundred Ten Thousand One Hundred Nineteen and 20/100 Dollars (\$210,119.20) on October 4, 2030.

Filed July 11, 2024  
**ANDREW BERMUDEZ**

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*9. Discussion on Sale of Remaining Tax Acquired Properties*

**Trampas King** stated that we have done our due diligence and have given the homeowners the additional ninety days. We have three properties left, 92 Spring Street, 85 High Street, and a mobile home on School Street that we can't do anything with because both owners are in nursing facilities and the State has interest in the property. The other two will be put out for bid.

*10. Discussion on Ordinance for No Dogs at the Beach*

At the last meeting there was a discussion on banning dogs at the beach. **Trampas King** and **Frank Spizuoco** stated that they had been noticing that a lot of people bring their dogs, so they have reconsidered as they don't want to single them out. After much discussion it was decided to not allow dogs at the beach area itself but to establish an area in the back on the other side of the bath house. The area would eventually be fenced in and waste bags will be provided. There is currently an Ordinance in effect to leash your dog and to pick up their waste so this will still be enforced if not honored.

*11. Sign/Approve Quit Claim Deeds for the Following:*

Justin Bell  
Henerey & Harley Ann Murdoch  
SCHMECHEL  
Joel Costonis  
Matthew Race

**Adam Briggs** made a motion to Approve/Sign

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

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12. Approve/Sign Cemetery Deed for the following:

Robert & Joan Sawyer

Rhonda Eaton

**Adam Briggs** made a motion to Approve/Sign

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**VI. PUBLIC FORUM**

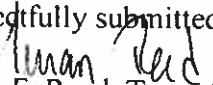
**Trampas King** informed the Council that Roger Nelson's daughter had approached him about dedicating a room in the new arrival building at the airport. Mr. Nelson has worked for the airport for over thirty years with most of his time being volunteered. The Council was in support of this so a dedication will be made at next month's meeting.

**Frank Spizuoco** gave an update on the happenings at the beach. There were around fifty kids that participated in the swimming lessons. There will be a lifeguard on duty full-time for the whole month of July and some of the month of August. The camera system will be in next week. The DVR will be installed inside of the restaurant. The Police have also been driving by a lot so that has made a big difference.

**Elijah Ames** made a motion to adjourn at 7:37

Second: **Danny Hutchins**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan E. Reed, Town Clerk