

**COUNCIL MINUTES OF  
January 13, 2022**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Charles Ellms, Andrew Bermudez, Peter Haskell, Adam Briggs, Heidi Kinney, Levi Ladd, David Palmer (via zoom)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Marilyn Curtis, Matthew Connor

**I. PUBLIC HEARING**

*NONE*

**II. MINUTES**

*1. Approve/Amend Council Minutes of January 13, 2022*

Heidi Kinney pointed out an error on page 5 where it said does feel like and should say doesn't feel like.

Motion to approve with amendment: **Heidi Kinney**

Second: **Peter Haskell**

Vote: 6-1 (Ladd abstains), motion passes

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

*NONE*

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*1. Manager's Report*

**Trampas King** started by thanking the Highway Department for all their hard work the last month with all the snow, cold, and freezing rain. One week they had an eighty-hour week. **Mr. King** also thanked all the departments for stepping up as there had been a lot of workers out sick. The high school was able to hold their winter carnival this year and the kids seemed to be having a good time. Both basketball teams are going to the playoffs, the wrestling team came in third in, and the cheerleaders were second place in the States and got a sportsmanship award. **Mr. King** reported that the Town Hall is open during the day for walking and the skate hut is open off and on. The trails on the disc golf course are open and ready for snow shoeing and cross-country skiing.

*2. Departmental Reports*

*NO COMMENTS*

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

*1. Order A2022-06 Tax Payment Extension*

**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council, pursuant to Chapter 2, Administration; Article VII Sec. 2-192 of the Dexter Code of Ordinances, hereby extends until March 14, 2022, the time period for owners of record and lien holders to bring their accounts current. Owners of record and lien holders are required to make full payment of all property taxes and costs assessed against properties that have tax liens that mature on February 11, 2022. Municipal Quit Claim deeds will be issued at the April 14, 2022, meeting on properties that have satisfied full payment of their taxes. Action will be taken to dispose of any remaining properties with outstanding tax balances with matured liens.

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**CHARLES ELLMS**

Second: **Heidi Kinney**

**Karl Weinschenk**, owner of 47 Water Street, addressed the Council stating that he didn't open his mail until Saturday and came in to pay the one year of taxes due, but we wouldn't accept his money. It was explained to him that at we couldn't accept any money because the Council was voting that night to extend the due date until the 14<sup>th</sup> of March but all three years of taxes due would have to be paid. **Mr. Weinschenk** asked the Council if he could do a payment plan where his last payment would be made on March 17<sup>th</sup>. **Andrew Bermudez** stated that the Council is already giving a thirty-day extension and that we have standards to follow and can't make exceptions for certain individuals. **Trampas King** stated that we do everything that we can to make sure that homeowners are getting their letters but that they know that they have taxes due every year. **David Palmer** asked about last years taxes. **Mr. King** stated that he owed three years last year as well but paid the third year before it got to this point. **Mr. Bermudez** asked if this was **Mr. Weinschenk's** primary residence and he stated that he rents it out and he thought that his girlfriend was paying the taxes. The Council agreed that everyone would be treated the same and **Mr. Weinschenk** would have to pay all three years by March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*2. Order A2022-07 Accept Money from Totally Teens*

**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby accepts funds in the amount of \$15,724.19 from the Totally Teen Club, as the group has dissolved. The funds will be put in a reserve account to be used for teen and family programs offered at the Town Hall.

Filed February 10, 2022  
**HEIDI KINNEY**

Second: **Charles Ellms**

**Trampas King** explained that in the 90's there was a teen club that was held at the Town Hall and that the committee would do fundraisers in order to do projects. The club stopped operating in the late 1990s, but the account stayed active. **Mr. King** stated that he approached **Art Jette** a couple years ago about the dormant account and if they could do something with it. **Mr. Jette** approached him a couple of months ago and stated they would turn the money over to the Town with the stipulation that it be used for teen and family programs.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*3. Order A2022-08 Expenditure of ARPA funds*

**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes the expenditure of ARPA funds as follows:

Cable on Zions Hill	\$32,000
Town Hall Restorations – In and Out	\$25,000
Lights at Ellms Field	\$10,000
Paving of Sunrise Avenue	\$25,000
Walking Trails	\$5,000
Heart of Maine Resource Center	\$15,000

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Fencing at Crosby Park	\$15,000
Bath House	\$58,500
Beachfront	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$195,500</b>

\*All amounts are estimations

Filed February 10, 2022

**PETER HASKELL**

Second: **Charles Ellms**

**Andrew Bermudez** stated that since he was the President of the Heart of Maine Resource Center, he would be abstaining from the vote due to the appearance of a conflict of interest. It was asked what was being done at the beach and **Trampas King** explained that he wanted to have some sand brought in to make a better beach front but would have to work with the DEP. Levi Ladd asked about the plans for the beach house. **Mr. King** stated that the current one would be torn down and the new one would have four separate 8x10 rooms and each would have a sink and a toilet and would be ADA compliant. **Mr. King** stated that we do have money set aside for the beach house as well.

**Vote:** 6-1 in favor (Bermudez abstains), motion passes

**VI. PUBLIC FORUM**

**Trampas King** had several things to discuss with the Council. The first was a Covid Policy, or lack thereof. **Mr. King** explained that the Town had never actually written specific Covid guidelines as we had been following CDC recommendations and that we would continue to do so. The second item was the lease for the golf course as the current one is with **Jim Costedio** and is about to expire. **Mr. King** stated that he wanted to go over the current lease and see if it needed changes. **Ryan Wilks** would be the new lessee. **Mr. Wilks** was in attendance and stated that he has been subletting the course from **Mr. Costedio** for the past two years and he feels like it has been going well. Membership has increased and there have been improvements to the course and buildings. **Mr. King** asked Councilors **Kinney** and **Ladd** to look over the lease. The third item was the 1995 grader belonging to the public works department. The center wheel was broken in the ice storm of 1998, and we have been trying to fix it ever since. It currently has 11,000 hours on it and usually around 10,000 miles you start to have motor or transmission issues. **Mr. King** stated that we can purchase a 2008 with 4500 hours on it. The 2008 is a bigger machine than the one we currently have. The price is \$95,000 and they will take the one we have in trade. We will be able to try it out first so see if it is something we want. **Chuck Ellms** stated that ours has been out of whack since 1998 and either the transmission or the rear end will go, and we will have to make the decision to rebuild or upgrade. Within 3 years half of the cost of the "new" one would be spent on repairing the current one. Even with a certified rebuild it would be 150-175k. **Mr. King** stated it is something we need to think about, and it will be on next month's agenda. **Levi Ladd** asked if we could do a lease agreement with a new one. **Mr. Ellms** stated that you could but a new one would be \$400,000. **Andrew Bermudez** stated that with our hourly usage we can get 10-15 years out of the used one. Lastly, **Mr. King** stated that **Chief**

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**Connor** and the other officers have been working on pricing for a new fire truck. They were told that prices are increasing by 8% every year so we need to act on this now for the best price and the interest rates are good. The new truck will take 1 to 1 ½ years to build. The new truck would be replacing our 1997. The truck we just had rebuilt is a 1992, and the ladder truck is a 1986. **Mr. King** stated that we have \$218,000 in reserve and we wouldn't have a payment due until delivery of the truck. **Charles Ellms** asked how much we put in the reserve each year. **Mr. King** stated that last year it was \$50,000 and \$30,000 the two previous years but he doesn't want to empty the reserve account and he doesn't want to go over five years for financing and stated that we will have two more budget cycles to put money in the reserve account. **Chief Connor** explained that the new truck would take the place of the current rescue, and pumper trucks. The rescue truck would be sold but isn't worth much since the frame has been repaired. All Councilors agreed to the purchase. **Mr. King** stated they would work on getting firm numbers and vote on it at the March meeting.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

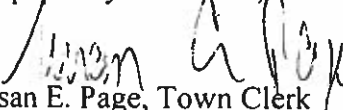
NONE

**Heidi Kinney** made a motion to adjourn at 7:45

Second: **Charles Ellms**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan E. Page, Town Clerk