

**COUNCIL MINUTES OF
March 19, 2026**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Marcia Delaware, Charles Ellms, Adam Briggs, Andrew Mitchell, Danny Hutchins

EXCUSED ABCENSE: Elijah Ames, Nancy Clifford

I. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Ordinance C2026-2 Sign Ordinance

This Ordinance is to try to eradicate all the signs on the lawn at the Post Office and it puts all of the sign Ordinances in one place in the Code Book.

2. Ordinance C2026-3 Solar Energy

Marcia Delaware stated that this Ordinance has been rewritten four times, and we had a couple of moratoriums in place until we decided what to do. The townspeople voted in the last election that they didn't want more solar farms, so it was time to put an Ordinance in place.

Theresa McManus read a statement about the permits that were already in place and stated that they had been issued illegally and she encouraged the Council to vote no on the Ordinance.

II. MINUTES

1. Approve/Amend Council Minutes of February 11, 2026

Motion to approve: **Adam Briggs**

Second: **Charles Ellms**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

III. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, & ELECTIONS

1. Order A2026-07 Appointment of Election Officials

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby appoints the following Election Clerks for a term of two years:

REPUBLICAN	DEMOCRAT
SueEllen Hill	Stacey Barker
Deborah Tibbetts	Marcia Delaware
Marsha Wyman	Douglas Eddy
Geoffrey Mountain	Cheryl Pomerleau
Michael Burton	Carla Suel
Jane Clinton	Erlfred Sherburne
Carmen Clinton	Carol Sherburne
Judy Saunders	Brian Knowlton
Theresa McManus	Teresa Brzustowicz
Debra Chapman	UNENROLLED
	Jeffrey Barker
	Shelley Watson
	Andrew Bermudez

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ANDREW MITCHELL

Second: **Danny Hutchins**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Manager's Report

Trampas King stated that mud season has only begun and they will do their best to keep the roads open. The Town Hall is still open daily for walking. **Mr. King** thanked **Emily Hartman** and **Crystal Greaves** for running the skating hut this season. The VFW hosted a nice lunch followed by card games. It was sponsored by the Age Friendly Committee. Chair Yoga has been completed. They had about fifteen participants each week. That will start again in the fall. The chili cook-off hosted by The Friends of the Meeting House went well with nine people making chili. Street sweeping will start the beginning of April. Spring clean up day will be the first Sunday in May with Hannaford providing lunch. **Mr. King** stated that he will meet with the Department Heads soon so that he can get the budget numbers to Marilyn.

2. Departmental Reports

No Comments

3. Ordinance C2026-2 Sign Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby amends the Code Book by adding to Chapter 11 Streets and Roads; Article II. Signs; by adding Sec. 11-60. Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Signs and deleting from Chapter 13 Town Buildings, Parks, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, Article II. Access to Town Property Sec. 13-19 and from Appendix C Land Use Section 2. Land use district requirements F. Signs. **See Complete Ordinance in Agenda**

Filed March 19, 2026
DANNY HUTCHINS

Second: **Andrew Mitchell**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

4. Ordinance C2026-3

BE IT ORDAINED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby amends the Code Book Appendix C Land Use by adding Appendix E Solar Energy Ordinance. **See Complete Ordinance in Agenda**

Filed March 19, 2026
ADAM BRIGGS

Second: **Charles Ellms**

Dan Hutchins stated that he did have an issue with the permits that are grandfathered as there didn't seem to much of a system before for issuing them. **Adam Briggs** stated that we need to go with what the people want but pointed out that people talk about taxes being high and one of the properties where a solar field that was installed will now be valued at one million dollars. That will be a lot of tax revenue. If people choose to not do anything that could lower taxes, then they can't complain about taxes being high. Pulling permits would send a bad message to businesses. **Charles Ellms** stated that if we tried to pull permits, we would have to pay for everything they have invested plus future revenue and who in their right mind would want to do business here?

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

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V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Order A2026-08 Renewal of Medical Marijuana License for Puffers Place

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the Medical Marijuana License renewal for Puffers Place, 50 Johnson Road.

Filed March 19, 2026

CHARLES ELLMS

Second: **Andrew Mitchell**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

2. Order A2026-09 Renewal of Liquor License for the Brewster Inn

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the Spirituous, Vinous, and Malt Liquor License for Mark Stephens doing business as The Brewster Inn, 37 Zions Hill Road.

Filed March 19, 2026

ANDREW MITCHELL

Second: **Danny Hutchins**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

3. Order A2026-10 Accept Money from Hartley Charitable Foundation

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council hereby accepts the generous donation from the Hartley Family Charitable Fund in the amount of \$1800.00.

Filed March 19, 2026

ADAM BRIGGS

Second: **Andrew Mitchell**

Trampas King stated that he doesn't have a proposed use yet for the money.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

4. Order A 2026-11 Accept Grants from Heart of Maine United Way

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby accepts the donation in the amount of \$6,500.00 from Heart of Maine United Way for fuel assistance and heating repairs.

Filed March 19, 2026

DANNY HUTCHINS

Second: **Andrew Mitchell**

Trampas King stated that **Juli Kimball** had put in to receive the monies. \$1500 is for oil and \$5000 is for heating repairs. The funds need to be used in a year.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

5. Order A2026-12 Authorize Purchase of Hitachi Loader

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council authorizes the purchase of a 2024 Hitachi ZW150-6 Loader from Abbot Equipment in the amount of \$104,000.00 for the Highway Department.

Filed March 19, 2026

CHARLES ELLMS

Second: **Andrew Mitchell**

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Trampas King stated that the monies are from the return of the TYM to SR1 Equipment. This was our second choice when we were looking. It was priced at \$140,000 last year but she is selling it for \$104,000 plus throwing in a tire and a cutting edge.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

6. Add Orders A2026-13 and A2026-14

Andrew Mitchell made a motion to add orders A2026-13 and A2026-14

Second: **Charles Ellms**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

7. Order A2026-13 Accept Check from State of Maine for Unclaimed Property

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council accepts the check from the State of Maine Treasurer in the amount of \$31,965.76 for unclaimed property. Monies are to be deposited into the general fund.

Filed March 19, 2026

ANDREW MITCHELL

Second: **Charles Ellms**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

8. order A2026-14 Accept Refund Check from SR1 Companies

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council accepts the refund check from SR1 Companies in the amount of \$142,000.00 with \$104,000.00 being deposited into Highway Equipment account #E105-01-507-10 and \$38,000.00 into Highway Equipment Reserve account #R130-10-402-13.

Filed March 19, 2026

ADAM BRIGGS

Second: **Andrew Mitchell**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

VI. PUBLIC FORUM

David Page asked about the Hartley family that donated money. **Trampas King** stated that the wife was a Clukey and grew up in Dexter. She has passed but the husband lives in Bar Harbor. **Marcia Delaware** stated that he has been donating money for about ten years.

Todd Mitchell asked what roads would be paved this year. **Trampas King** stated that we only have \$214,000 left in the budget, but Upper Garland Road would be done. He stated that the companies won't give actual quotes because of fluctuations in oil prices.

Theresa McManus informed everyone that Johnathan Bush will be at the Town Hall on March 31st at 6:30 and everyone is invited to attend.

Trampas King stated that he had been approached by the owner of The Clukin Moo, **Shelley Rumsey**, about leasing the skating rink for the summer to put the food truck. She would need to use electricity and water. She is willing to pay rent. **Mr. King** stated that he had been wanting to tear down the walls to the rink and do something different, and **Ms. Rumsey** stated that her husband has an excavator and would be willing to do that. The Council was in agreeance to lease to her. An order will be placed on the April agenda.

Chuck Ellms asked if Gordon and Steve had looked at the truck at Abbot Equipment to replace the one that blew the motor. It is 2013 with 70,000 miles with a price of \$34,000. **Trampas King** stated that they had looked at it.

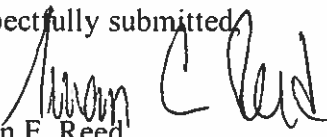
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Adam Briggs made a motion to adjourn at 7:05 P.M.

Second: **Charles Ellms**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

Respectfully submitted,



Susan E. Reed

