

**COUNCIL MINUTES OF  
August 14, 2025**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Marcia Delaware, Elijah Ames, Danny Hutchins, Charles Ellms, Adam Briggs  
Andrew Bermudez, Heidi Kinney

**Trampas King** thanked John and Diane Parola for all of their dedication to the Town of Dexter and to the Red Hotdog Festival. **Mr. King** stated that there was a donation made by the Alford Foundation for the Bring Back the Beach project and that the new pavilion being built was going to be named the Parola Family Pavillion.

**I. PUBLIC HEARING**

*NONE*

**II. MINUTES**

*1. Approve/Amend Council Minutes of July 10, 2025*

Motion to approve: **Marcia Delaware**

Second: **Adam Briggs**

**Marcia Delaware** noted that on page three there was an error, should be B2025-2026-3 Mil Rate

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

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

*1. Order a2025-45 Results of August 5, 2025, Special Election*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby accepts the results of the Special Election of August 5, 2025, as follows:

**TOWN OF DEXTER**

**SAD #46 DIRECTOR - VACANCY**

Jackson, Dale	134
Ploude, Antoinette	35
Sherburne, Carol	144

Filed August 14, 2025

**MARCIA DELAWARE**

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*1. Manager's Report*

**Trampas King** stated that it had been busy the last couple of weeks. There was a Cruise In, a Fly In, and the Red Hotdog Festival. He thanked all of the volunteers that made it possible. The RHDF was well attended, and they broke the record for attendance. **Mr. King** stated that we have had some very hot weather and just like with the cold, we need to check on our neighbors. It has also been very, very dry and the roads are dusty. We need to refrain from having any kind of outdoor fires. **Mr. King** sadly announced that Steve Kimball, the Public Works Director, had given his notice. He will be greatly missed.

*2. Departmental Reports*

*No Comments*

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**V. NEW BUSINESS**

*1. Order A2025-46 Closure of Municipal Parking Lot on October 31<sup>st</sup> for Trunk or Treat*

**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes the closure of the Municipal Parking Lot on Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 P.M. for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat.

Filed August 14, 2025  
**DANNY HUTCHINS**

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Dexter Police Officer **Monique Dudley** was in attendance and stated that she had was excited to do this again. They had a great turnout last year and ran out of candy early.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*2. Order A2025-47 Amendment to Resolution B2025-2026-3 Mil Rate*

**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby amends Resolution B2025-2026-3 by changing the sum of \$4,916,737 to \$5,216,737.

Filed August 14, 2025  
**ELIJAH AMES**

Second: **Marcia Delaware**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*3. Order A2025-48 Closure of Municipal Parking Lot for Age Friendly Street Dance*

**BE IT ORDERED** that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes the closure of the Municipal Parking Lot on September 6<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 P.M. for the Dexter Age Friendly Street Dance.

Filed August 14, 2025  
**ADAM BRIGGS**

Second: **Elijah Ames**

**Trampas King** stated that there would be a contra dance and also line dancing. It will be in the municipal parking lot and on Grove Street by Story Teller Guitars. The rain date will be on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*4. Proposed Ordinance – Eligibility for School; Nepotism*

**Andrew Bermudez** stated that this is just a proposal that is up for discussion. He went on to say that with the Conflict-of-Interest Ordinance he suggests that we table it for now. He had wanted to start the discussion before contacting the Town attorney to save some money but due to some concerns from an outside group called the Maine Education Initiative, we should seek legal advise first. **Elijah Ames** stated that he felt that we also need to table the nepotism policy and that they should both be squashed. He stated that it is specifically targeting Judy Saunders who was the subject of the recall in June. **Mr. Ames** feels that it is ok for a family member to serve on the board regardless of the policy because they could recuse themselves when necessary. **Mr. Bermudez** stated that the recall is the reason for the proposal. He stated that people came out in droves (there were 520 votes cast) to vote at the recall election, and it is the duty of the Council to rectify the violation of the policy. **Mr. Ames** stated that 90% of the premise of the recall was based on lies. **Mr. Bermudez**

clarified that the proposal is to allow the school to be able to enforce their own policy, as the Superintendent stated that they can't remove a board member due to policy violations. **Marcia Delaware** stated that she didn't think that **Mr. Ames** understood that this ordinance is just a way for the

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Town to support the school, and back up their policies to make sure this doesn't happen again. **Mr. Ames** argued that having the wife of the Superintendent being employed by the school is a bigger conflict and these ordinances seem like an attack on two specific people. **Mr. Bermudez** again stated that we are not defining the policy just trying to support what they already have in place, and he doesn't like the accusations that he is going after specific groups.

**Adam Briggs** made a motion to table both ordinances until we can get advice from our attorney.

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*5. Proposed Ordinance – Eligibility for School Board; Conflict of Interest*  
**SEE ABOVE**

*6. Discussion on Solar Array Question for November Ballot*

There was a discussion as to putting a question on the ballot for solar arrays to get the voters' opinions. To have it on the ballot and be counted by the machine there wouldn't be time to discuss it at the September meeting. The option of hand counting the ballots for that question was also discussed. It was decided that there should be two questions. One on commercial arrays and one on residential. There would be a definition of both along with the question. It was decided that the questions would be written and would be submitted to be printed on the ballot.

*7. Discussion on Changes to Sign Ordinance*

**Andrew Bermudez** stated that there is concern with signs at the Post Office. He wanted to know if we could limit the number of signs for one thing. **Charles Ellms** asked if we could ban them altogether since that is Town property. He also asked if we do make a new ordinance who will enforce it. **Marcia Delaware** stated that it was discussed by the Planning Board, and it should go back to them for further discussion.

**Elijah Ames** made a motion to send back to the Planning Board

Second: **Marcia Delaware**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**VI. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were several comments from those in attendance regarding the proposed ordinances, some against and some in favor.

**Dave Iverson**, representing the American Legion, asked the Council for permission to do a bucket drive in front of the Legion Hall. They wanted to do it on September 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a statewide event, and they have never participated in it before. There were concerns about safety but it was decided that they could have the event if they provided a document stating that the Town wasn't liable if something were to happen.

**Frank Spizuoco** happily reported that three people came from Bangor to enjoy the handicap swing.

**Elijah Ames** made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm

Second: **Marcia Delaware**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan E. Reed, Town Clerk



