

Town of Van Buren
Regular Council Meeting

January 4, 2023

1. Open Meeting / Take Attendance

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

All councilors present, town manager Luke Dyer present.

2 Approve / Modify Agenda

Motion by Paul Nadeau, seconded by Kevin LaPointe to adopt agenda as printed.

Motion carried.

3 Approve minutes of December 21,2022 meeting.

Motion by Kevin LaPointe, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras to adopt meeting minutes of 12/21/2022

Motion carried.

4. Public Discussion, Hearings and Possible Action Items

a. Quitclaim Deed- 107 St. John Ave.- Map 15 Lot 104-A

Motion by Peter Madore, seconded by Kevin LaPointe to grant quit claim deed for 107 St. John Ave.- Map 15 Lot 104-A to Cypress Management LLC.

Motion carried.

5. Old Business

a. MDOT Planning Partnership Initiative- Awaiting bids on RFP- Due 1/20/2023

Waiting for RFP Responses.

b. Efficiency Maine- EV Charging Stations- RFP submitted- Award date 2/3/2023

Submitted, waiting for award date.

c. Town Website Upgrade- Going LIVE soon!

Waiting for DNS server to switch over.

d. Come Play!! Website- Going LIVE soon

Waiting for DNS server to switch over.

e. US Route 1A 'Live' Sign- In design phase

Working with Maine DOT on design.

f. Northern Girl Building- Awaiting appraisal

Searching for a commercial appraiser.

g. ARPA Request- Security Cameras for Highway/Town Office- Installed

Highway cameras installed, town office next week.

h. Downtown Pocket Park Committee

Work still in progress, further updates coming.

i. BUILD Van Buren- Update

Incorporation documents have been submitted. Committee members names will be submitted at the next council meeting.

6. New Business

a. Aroostook County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Agreement 2023

Motion by Anne-Marie Poitras, seconded by Kevin LaPointe to sign contract with the Aroostook County Sheriff's office for dispatch services effective January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$15,294.93

Motion carried.

b. CDS Request for New Firehouse & Training Center-approved.

New fire station and training center approved.

c. Police cruiser

Motion by Paul Nadeau, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras to approve swap of 2016 Van Buren police cruiser for a 2015 Limestone Fire Support Vehicle with the Limestone Police Dept. This will be a vehicle for vehicle swap.

Motion carried

b. 148 Main Street- Purchase & Sale Agreement

Purchase/sales agreement has been signed in the amount of \$25,000.00. Funds to be returned to Build Van Buren.

c. St. John Valley Chamber

Motion by Anne-Marie Poitras, seconded by Kevin LaPointe that we opt in with a \$2,000.00 budget. Town manager will meet with Lorraine Marston from the Madawaska Chamber of Commerce to finalize all details.

Motion carried.

7. Town Manager Report

Meeting with Katahdin Trust Financial managers (1/5/2023) to review current accounts.

Town manager will submit a letter to the Smith Foundation in Presque Isle.

Store is being painted.

Working with MSAD#24 students on working the store.

Live Snowmobile cam will be working on Monday 1/9/2023

Spectrum will be coming to install all new fiber to reestablish the TV station.

8. Town Councilor's Reports

Kevin: Spring fling for the snowmobile club. Tentative date of March 5, 2023.

Paul: Happy New Year to all employees, Possible broadband, Gateway School.

Anne: None

Peter: Thank you Luke for all of your efforts.


John: Still receiving thank you's from the Christmas parade.

9. Public Comments

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Kevin LaPointe, seconded by John Beaulieu to adjourn meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Motion carried.



Paul Nadeau – Secretary

1/18/2023

Date Adopted

Town of Van Buren
Regular Council Meeting
January 18, 2022

- 1. Open Meeting / Take Attendance**

Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m.
Anne-Marie Poitras, Kevin LaPointe, Peter Madore, Paul Nadeau, present
John Beaulieu absent.
Town manager Luke Dyer Present.
Motion by Kevin Lapointe, seconded by Paul Nadeau to elect Anne-Marie Poitras chairperson pro-temps.
Motion carried.
- 2. Approve / Modify Agenda**

Motion by Paul Nadeau, seconded by Kevin LaPointe to adopt agenda as printed.
Motion carried
- 3. Approve minutes of January 4, 2023, meeting.**

Motion by Kevin LaPointe, seconded by Peter Madore to adopt meeting minutes of January 4, 2023
Motion carried
- 4. Public Discussion, Hearings and Possible Action Items**
 - a. Liquor License- Ouellette's Trading Post
Motion by Kevin Lapointe, seconded by Peter Madore to approve liquor license renewal for Ouellette's Trading Post.
Motion carried.
- 5. Old Business**
 - a. MDOT Planning Partnership Initiative- Awaiting bids on RFP- Due 1/20/2023
Waiting for proposals from different vendors.
 - b. Efficiency Maine- EV Charging Stations- RFP submitted- Award date 2/3/2023
Waiting for award date.
 - c. US Route 1A 'Live' Sign- In design phase
Work has started on sign.
 - d. Northern Girl Building- Appraiser quotes
Quotes from two assessors. One quote is for \$5300. Second quote is for \$5,000.
Motion by Paul Nadeau, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras that we contract with Mark Savage, a commercial appraiser to come and appraise the Northern Girl building.
Motion carried.
 - e. ARPA Request- Security Cameras for Highway/Town Office- Installed
Highway cameras are all installed, town office will be completed soon.
 - f. Downtown Pocket Park Committee
Will post on January 19, 2023, for volunteer committee's members.
 - g. BUILD Van Buren- Letter for account
Meeting on January 19, 2023, to review by-laws to move this entity forward.
 - h. 148 Main Street- In Escrow
In escrow, ready to close. Release deed has been signed.
- 6. New Business**
 - a. Spring Fling 2023
Plans are under way with Revitalize Van Buren, The Gateway Snowmobile Club, Town of Van Buren. Town councilors will be serving the food.
 - b. ARPA Request- Conference Camera & Accessories (for Channel 8 broadcast)
Motion by Kevin LaPointe, seconded by Peter Madore to purchase cameras and necessary equipment to broadcast town council meetings on the local broadcast station. Funds will be taken from American Rescue Plan Act Funds for technology improvements.
Motion carried.
 - c. Adoption of Revolving Loan Bylaws
Motion by Anne-Marie Poitras, seconded by Peter Madore to approve Revolving Loan Committee by Laws amendments. Effective January 6, 2023

Paul Nadeau abstained from voting.
Motion carried.

d. **Bank Account Signature Authority**

Motion by Peter Madore, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras that the Van Buren Town Council authorize the following town officials to be the authorized officers to sign all financial documents for related business for the Town of Van Buren, Maine.

Luke Dyer, Town Manager, Michael Ouellette, Town Bookkeeper, Jessica Cyr: Town clerk.
Motion carried

e. **TIF**

Owners of 66 Main Street, need repairs made to the building to improve the town's building.
Motion by Peter Madore, seconded by Kevin LaPointe to use TIF funds for repairs that need to be completed at 66 Main Street.
Motion carried.

7. Town Manager Report

- a. Researching Meta Tag technology for the camera set up at Gros Ben's intersection.
- b. Spoke with CDBG today, looking for funds to demolish the Yacht club.
- c. Pickle Ball League will start in February 2023.
- d. Ice Rink is being flooded.
- e. Skating rink signs will be coming in next week.
- f. Sewer project is nearing completion.
- g. Bid letters have been sent out to the abutting landowners of the demolished buildings.
- h. Car from Limestone has been delivered.

8. Town Councilor's Reports

Paul: Kudo's to all Van Buren town employees.

Kevin: None

Peter: Kudo's to all town employees.

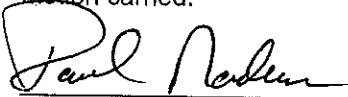
Anne: Swag is looking great!

9. Public Comments

None

10. Adjourn

Motion by Kevin LaPointe seconded by Paul Nadeau to adjourn meeting at 7:35 p.m.
Motion carried.



Paul Nadeau – Secretary

1/18/2023
Date Adopted

Town of Van Buren
Regular Council Meeting

February 15, 2023

1. Open Meeting / Take Attendance

Meeting called to order at 7:19 p.m.

All councilors present, town manager Luke Dyer Present.

2. Approve / Modify Agenda

Motion by Kevin LaPointe, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras to adopt agenda as printed.

Motion carried.

3. Approve minutes of February 1, 2023 meeting.

Motion by Kevin LaPointe seconded by Anne-Maire Poitras to adopt meeting minutes of February 1, 2023.

Motion carried.

4. Public Discussion, Hearings and Possible Action Items

a.

None

5. Old Business

a. MDOT Planning Partnership Initiative- Bids opened- Request Revisions
Bid being reworked.

b. Efficiency Maine- EV Charging Stations- Awaiting Efficiency Maine
Waiting for Efficiency Maine for further guidance.

c. US Route 1A 'Live' Sign- In design phase- Possible funding opportunity
Part of downtown revitalization project, funds can be used from this.

d. Northern Girl Building- Appraiser started work 2/13/2023
Appraiser came on 2/14/2023.

e. Downtown Pocket Park Committee- MDOT Landscape Engineer
Included in MDOT Planning Partnership Initiative

f. 148 Main Street- In Escrow- Awaiting Maine Title Company
Waiting on title company

g. Spring Fling 2023- Beanies arrived- All moving forward
Plans are all in place.

h. CDS Funding (Fire Station) – Started Rural Development paperwork
Paperwork has been sent to Town Manager to start review.

6. New Business

a. Open Demo Property Sale Bids

143 High Street, Map 14, Lot 79

Jeff Mitchell: \$2500.00

Debra Macarulso: \$2000.00

Motion by Kevin LaPointe, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras to accept bid of \$2500.00 for 143 High Street.

Motion Carried.

348 Main Street, Map 20, Lot 64

Motion by Kevin LaPointe, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras to accept bid of \$5000.00 for 348 Main Street.

Motion carried.

504 Main Street, Map 22, Lot 7

Jeff Venella: \$2100.00

Motion by Paul Nadeau, seconded by Peter Madore to accept bid of \$2100.00 from Jeff Venella, for 504 Main Street.

Motion carried.

124 Birch Avenue, Map 17, Lot 22

Motion by Paul Nadeau, seconded by Peter Madore to accept bid in the amount of \$2100.00 for 124 Birch Street.

Motion carried.

7. Town Manager Report

Vacation week of 2/20/2023

The Playground had a soft opening last weekend.

8. Town Councilor's Reports

Peter: Great work everyone,

Anne-Marie: US Cellular are going to upgrade to 5G

Kevin: Skating rink, unable to build ice due to weather conditions

Paul: Great work to all employees, Luke doing a great job,

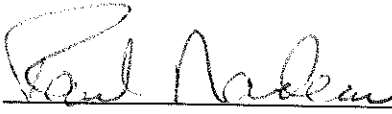
John: None

9. Public Comments

10. Adjourn

Motion by Peter Madore, seconded by Anne-Marie Poitras to adjourn meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Motion carried.



Paul Nadeau-Secretary

3/1/2023
Date Adopted