

# Mechanic Falls Town Council

April 23, 2019

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cathy Fifield, Chair  
Stephen Bolduc, Vice Chair  
Nicholas Konstantoulakis

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Zakk Maher – Town Manager  
Miranda Hinkley – Town Clerk  
Ashley Cleaves – Recreation Coordinator

## **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Tarsha Downing	Penny Emery	Melany Jacobs
Rudy Kyllonen III	Sandra Ballard	Jennifer Mouse
Mark Gary	Denise Simpson	Jessica Smith
Eriks Petersons	Shannon Lessard	Rain Tarantino
Sue Marston	Donna Komanetsky	
Courtney Marston	Laurie Chin	
Vanessa Harlow	Paula Glatz	

**1.0** Councilor Fifield called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**2.0** We stood and saluted the flag.

**3.0** Kieth Bennett and Wayne Hackett absent.

## **4.0 General Reports:**

**NONE – Present at next regular meeting**

## **5.0 Public Hearings:**

**NONE**

## **6.0 Comments from the Public:**

**NONE**

## **7.0 Old Business:**

**NONE**

## **8.0 New Business:**

Town Council requested this emergency meeting to discuss the Summer Recreation Camp Program. On March 7, 2005, there was a resolution signed to endorse the creation of a Summer Day Camp Program. This resolve states that the camp will use the head-start building as their base of operation, moneys would be raised by registration fees and no moneys would be appropriated by taxation. It further states that the program would fall under the umbrella of the Recreation Committee for administrative purposes. Moneys will come through the town financial department and insurance will be provided by the town.

Sue Marston was running this program from its creation. This January, Sue advised the Town Manager that she would not return to the program this year as she is moving on to another Town to run their program. She presented the program's budget during the budget hearing in February and the Council was advised that she would not be returning. The Town Manager looked for alternative ways to provide care for the Town's children in the absence of a director. Zakk and Ashley met with the YMCA to devise a system for the children to be bused from Mechanic Falls to the Auburn YMCA. Parents could apply using a sliding scale for payment, the YMCA would provide the bus and driver. They would be looking to hire a few camp counselors from the Town of Mechanic Falls to ride the bus with the campers and work at the YMCA Summer Camp.

Councilor Konstantoulakis moved to allow comments from the public. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. All in favor, so voted. The idea of sending the children to another Town was not well received. Parents spoke against the YMCA initiative stating that they did not want their children bused out of town. They like to have the flexibility to drop their children off at camp here in Town at their convenience and if they missed the bus, the child would not be able to attend or they would have to drive all the way to Auburn to bring the child to camp. They were concerned that the program would never come back to the Town if it was outsourced.

There was a concern that April was too late to get a program up and running, however Sue spoke to that concern stating that she felt there is enough interest in the Program, and that she could reach out to find a Director. She states it is her opinion that the Program could still run and be successful.

Councilor Fifield handed out her recommendations for a new Resolution. Zakk advised that there are areas of the Resolution that conflict with the Town Charter. Councilor Konstantoulakis moved to move forward. Motion seconded by Councilor Bolduc. The Town Manager asked for clarification on exactly what the motion is for. Are we hiring a Director under the Recreation Committee? Councilor Fifield expressed that she would like a workshop scheduled to discuss transferring the Summer Camp Program to a department of the Town rather than a sub committee of the Recreation Committee. No vote was taken, motion dies. The Council asked if a vote was required to hire a Director using the current guidelines without change. Zakk advised a vote was not needed. The Council would like to hire the Director as soon as possible. Sue Marston will send out a request the RSU for interest in the Director Position. She will also send information and applications to the parents.

**9.0 Ordinances, Resolves & Licenses:**  
**NONE – Presented at next regular meeting**

**10.0 Executive Session:**  
**NONE**

**11.0 Adjourn:**  
Councilor Konstantoulakis motioned to adjourn, Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. All in favor, so voted. Meeting Adjourned 7:16pm.