To the Citizens of Millinocket,

As your elected representatives we are committed to maintaining an open, transparent, and community-informed decision-making process for <u>all</u> issues. An issue we are currently considering is the state and the future of our police department, which has clearly been a controversial issue in recent times. We would like to inform the public of recent developments and invite your input moving forward.

The safety and well-being of our community is our top priority. As such, we have been exploring a multitude of options to address this issue in a timely manner, including possible short-term solutions that can ensure all residents are safe, healthy and protected. All options have been on the table as we have been gathering information to then present to the community.

On Monday, December 21st we will be holding a regular Town Council Meeting (moved to Monday due to the holidays) where we will be presenting a short-term solution to address our current departmental issues. The public is **always** invited to comment and take part in the decision-making process. Please note that we are still gathering information to ensure that we will be presenting a thorough and thought-out proposal and provide the public with any and all information requested. That being said, we cannot and will not discuss personnel issues.

Following our Monday meeting, the council will be holding two public sessions exclusively for the discussion of our police department. This will be a place where <u>all members of the public</u> are invited to express concerns, ask questions, and be fully engaged in the decision-making process of how we, as a community, want to be served and protected moving forward. The Council will not make any decisions on the police department without proper notice, proper community input, and proper vetting of information. As mentioned, we are committed to ensuring a transparent and community-informed process where we can consider the facts, concerns, and opportunities. The dates for these public sessions will be posted on the Town Website and our Facebook page in the near future.

I want to offer a sincere thank you to our officers for their continued service to our community, and wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a healthy and peaceful New Years.

Sincerely,

Steven C Golieb Chairman, Millinocket Town Council s.golieb@millinocket.org