



# Millinocket

Maine's Biggest Small Town

## Town Manager's Report – 6.23.22

### Fourth of July:

- Huge thanks to Councilor Bragdon and the Millinocket Events Committee for lining up a weekend of festivities in celebration of Independence Day!
- The event schedule is included in our meeting packet, as well as posted to our social media and website. The schedule includes a Craft & Vendor fair, live music on the Bandstand in Veterans Park, even a community bonfire with free smores! Of course, we couldn't have a 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration without the key ingredients, the parade and fireworks!
- We encourage to anyone and everyone to come our have a blast with us for this July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend and help us kick off summer 2022!

### School Board Vacancies:

- Given the two recent resignations from the School Board, the Town Council will be appointing new members to serve temporarily until the next election.
- We have requested an add be placed in the Katahdin Region News, as well as on our website and Facebook page. Interested community members are encouraged to apply by emailing me at [manager@millinocket.org](mailto:manager@millinocket.org) or calling the Town Office at (207) 723-7000. The deadline is July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2 weeks from today.
- I will forward all information onto the Council who will then interview the candidates and decide on the temporary placement.

### Freedom of Information Act Request:

- The narrative around the Town vs. the School in relation to finances and bank accounts has been a hot topic recently. The actual information and timeline have been misconstrued and miscommunicated in such a way that many people being lead to believe a story that is not based on the truth of the situation.
- I have been asked by the Council to organize, produce, and post publicly the contents of the recent FOIA request made by the Bangor Daily News. This will include all email correspondence related to the subject at hand as well as a timeline of events.
- This packet of information will soon be posted to our website and available to public consumption.
- Soon after we will schedule a public meeting to address the matter, inviting the members of the School Board and Education Association to attend and participate. **\*DATE & TIME TBD\***



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## Local Sign Gone Viral and National Response:

- We are all aware of the Juneteenth related sign that was posted at a business in our Downtown and the national attention that business and our community have received because of it.
- This has caused so much turmoil for our Town in the past 3 days and has disgraced our character. It is entirely unacceptable behavior that we simply will not condone.
- The Town Office, our phones, and emails have been receiving alarming messages and threats from all over the country, stating that our COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE is racist. This is so deeply upsetting. I believe that in the big picture, we are the exact opposite. We released the following statement in response to this disastrous event:
  - "It is deeply saddening, disgraceful and unacceptable for any person, business, or organization to attempt to make light of Juneteenth and what it represents for millions of slaves and their living descendants. There is no place in the Town of Millinocket for such a blatant disregard of human decency. The Town of Millinocket is a beautiful place to live - filled with welcoming, kind, and hardworking people. As such, the Town does not accept or endorse anything short of inclusivity. We invite any and all to come discover the wonderful things that our community offers.

## Reminder:

- **The best way to reach me as Town Manager is to call the town office (207-723-7000) or email me ([manager@millinocket.org](mailto:manager@millinocket.org)). Social media is not an appropriate form of communication to me or the council. It does not guarantee a response or even that the comment would be seen.**
- **I hope that any member of our community feels comfortable reaching out to me with any questions or concerns they have. All are welcome!**

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Jamieson, Town Manager.