

**TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
TOWN HALL CHAMBERS
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020**

A Town Council Workshop of the Old Orchard Beach Town Council was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020. Chair Thornton opened the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

Chair Joseph Thornton
Vice Chair Shawn O'Neill
Councilor Kenneth Blow
Councilor Jay Kelley
Councilor Michael Tousignant
Town Manager Larry Mead
Assistant Town Manager V. Louise Reid
Finance Director Diana Asanza

Absent:

DUE TO COVID-19, THE PUBLIC WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THIS WORKSHOP IN PERSON. PLEASE WATCH THE WORKSHOP ON SPECTRUM 1301, OR GO ON-LINE TO WWW.OOBMAINE.COM AND CLICK ON "MEETING VIDEOS" AND WATCH THE MEETING LIVE, AND IT WILL BE ARCHIVED TO WATCH AT A FUTURE DATE.

The purpose of this Workshop was to revisit those items that needed further discussion and particularly to address Revenue issues.

REVISITS

The Town Manager indicated that because of Budget changes and the fiscal negativity of projections for the coming year the question of revisits will be ongoing and budgets for all departments will be adjusted accordingly.

REVENUE

Revenue is the major issue to be discussed at the Workshop this evening

The Revenue revisits will include:

General Government

Tax Interest	Payment in Lieu of Tax	Motor Vehicle Excise Tax
Inland Fisheries Excise	Cable Television	Investment Income
Homestead Exemption	Franchise Tax	State Revenue Sharing

**Sale of Town Owned Property Use of Unassigned Fund
Balance**

It should be noted that General Government Revenue projections were at \$605,000 or 18.83%.

Government Licenses/Permits/Fees

Business License	Electrical Permits	Plumbing Permits
Building Permits	Flood Hazard	Town Clerk Fees
Town Agent Fees	Planner Fees	Town Clerk – Certified
Town Clerk – Marriage Licenses	Town Clerk – Burial	

It should be noted that Government Licenses/Permits/Fees were at a decrease of (\$61,000) or a decrease of (-16.23%).

Public Safety Licenses/Permits/Fees

Parking Meters	Parking Lot Revenue	Parking Fines
False Alarms	Ordinance Violation Fees	Parking Lot Permit Fees

It should be noted that Public Safety Licenses/Permits/Fees were decreased by (\$57,000) or (-9.77%).

Public Works License/Permits Fees

Street Opening Fees	Not defined.
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Sani Licenses/Permits/Fees

Transfer Station Fees	Septic Dumping Fees	Water Treatment Fees
Sewer User Fees	Commercial Tipping Fees	Trash Bag Sales

It should be noted that there is a decrease of (\$10,000) of (-21.85%).

Intergovernmental Revenue/Other Revenue

Other State Revenue	BETE Revenue	State Police Grant
Federal Police Grants	Fire Department Grants	Bureau of Highway
DOT E. Cummins Blvd. Revenue	State DOT Block Grant	Safety Grant
Safety Grant	State GA Assistance	FEMA Reimbursement
Lease Revenue	Police Restitution	Miscellaneous Revenue
Cable Franchise Agreement	AARP Donation	Sale of Metal Surplus
Contribution	Workers Comp Refund	Sale of Town Equipment

Rebate Revenue	Insurance Claims	Legal Reimbursements
General Assistance Donations	Conservation Comm. Donations	Public Works Donations
RSU Reimbursement for Resource Officer	MDEA Reimbursement	Fire Department Donations
Memorial Park Donations	Property Damage Reimbursement	Settlement Revenue
Event Donations	Bond Revenue	Beach Access Chair Donations
	MMA Wellness Grant	

This account increased by \$7,495 or a 2.10% increase.

Other Fund Revenue

Transfer in FUND 202: Rescue Call Fees	Libby Library Resource Ballpark Revenue	Historical Society Revenue
Transfer in TIF Fund	Transfer in Use of Bond	Transfer in FUND; Special Dog Fund
Transfer in Use of Sewer Reserve Fun	Proceeds	

The actual budget figures as of 3/10/2020 was \$503,000.

The Total Non-Property Tax Revenue was increased by \$484,495 or 8.95%.

Several Times during the discussion it was mentioned that the revenue coming into the Town will be less than was originally anticipated and concerns about a tax increase. It was noted that the U.S. economic outlook appears healthy according to key economic indicators. Most were released however before the impact of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. Economic indicators tell you what's already happened, not what the future holds. The disease is spreading so fast that the impact has not yet shown up in most indicators. The most critical indicator is the gross domestic product which measures the nation's production output. Most states have asked all businesses to close unless they are deemed essential, such as grocery stores. As a result, GDP growth rates could fall as much as 50%.. That's about the depth experienced during the Great Depression, but it shouldn't last as long. Unemployment could be as high as 30%.

Revisits:

Police: Revisit Scarborough Dispatch Supervisor Position
 Revisit adding additional Officer
 CIP – It is felt that the pay stations and camera can wait.
 Councilors would like to revisit the riot gear. They all seemed to agree to
 Pull pay stations and add Riot Gear.

Public Works: Adding five more fleet trackers – Upfront \$262 one time cost and an
 additional \$105 monthly or \$1,260 annually

One new position

Sidewalk CIP – Staples Street – how much will be saved if done in-house

Do we do Wild Dunes Way as a complete project

Culvert – estimated price to have contractor line it (Ted Berry) instead of replacing;
 Stephanie Hubbard, Wright Pierce Engineer, is concerned that if repaired
 with a lining it will not address the hydraulic capacity of the structure (in
 fact reduces the ID of the pipe.) In the drainage assessment, this culvert
 did not meet the capacity requirements for the 25 year, 24 hour storm event
 and in fact would overtop the road in this event

Recreation: May hold off on summer concerts in July which would be a reduction in the Budget.

WWTF – Revisit CIP – Generator and Crane Truck

Ballpark – Revisit entire Budget.

Discuss CIP cuts that are being considered:

Finalize Revenue considerations.

This evening they revised the following:

Ballpark Operating Budget

The budget projections included the situation that the Ballpark might be closed for June, July and August; closed for the entire season, or open for the entire time usually opened.

In discussions how they could reduce the budget consideration including backing off some maintenance that could be held off till next season; equipment purchases; decision on opening of the Concession stand and the need for staffing it.

Consideration if the Ballpark does not open Summer/Fall.

\$3,600 – Ground Maintenance – weekly mowing, monthly fertilizing, equipment maintenance, change oil/filter, sharpen blades approximately every two weeks July through October.

\$620 – FICA Employer Tax Liability.

\$8,000 – Electrical will decrease approximately 60%.

\$3,500 – Building maintenance for winterization.

\$12,480 – Unemployment costs in the amount of \$8,000 for layoff, plus wages for Ballpark Manager –Spring 2021 (May/June) - \$4,480.

Total Expenses if Ballpark does not open Summer of 2020 - \$31,200.

Revenue Offset for CMP pole rental revenue - \$4,560

Transfer from General Government - \$26,640.

Cost for Non-Union Increase: 1% - \$18,764

July 4th Fireworks Expense - \$10,000

Public Works Operating Equipment Repair (\$10,000) for undercoating maintenance costs.

Deb Service Interest Expense (\$10,000) for 2010 MMBB Bond (BAB's Federal Subsidy

Ballpark Expenses:

Full Time Salary	\$21,840
Seasonal Wages	20,000
This accounts for Field Manager, Assistant Field Personnel, Concession and Event Help	
FICA/Medicare Expense	3,200
Service Contracts – Website Hosting \$300 annually	300

Advertising Expense (Sponsorship Expense)

The majority of expenditures from prior years has been from Blues Fest and
Without this event there will not be a need for advertising expenses in FY21.

Electricity	\$22,000
Water	3,000
Phone Cellular/Paging	780
Networking/Internet	1,350
Spectrum Internet and Phone Bundle	112.50
Heating Fuel Expense	0
Building Repair/Maintenance	1,000
Operating Equipment Repair	0
Administrative/Office Supplies/Equip	200
Operating Supplies Expense	750

This funds cleaning supplies, paper supplies for bathrooms and concession.
Propane for stand-alone grills.

Other Facilities Maintenance	0
Vehicle Fuel	500
Lawn Mower and grounds maintenance equipment and ATV.	
Ground Maintenance –	
Boston Company	4,800
Marketing Paint (Site One formerly John Deere)	850
Concession Expense	5,800

This will fund the concession supplies for retail. Based on 50% of projected revenue.

Special Events Expense	0
Expenses associated with Blues Fest Concert and since there will not be a Blues Fest this fall there will be no expenses.	

Total Expenses - \$89,920

Revenues:

Miscellaneous Revenues	\$	250
Such as Clynk Account		
Telco Site Revenue		4,560
Transfer from General Fund		37,321
Ballpark Donations Revenue		1,000
Ballpark Concession Revenue and Other Event Sales		8,000
Ballpark Gate Receipts		0
Ballpark Field Rentals		26,289

Based on calendar of summer baseball games. Southern Maine River Rats,
Firecracker Tournament, Men's League, Father/Son Tournament, Pro-Baseball
Showcase, etc.

Baseball Souvenir Revenue 1,500

Men's League Revenue	10,000
Special Events Rentals	1,000
Ballpark Sponsorship Revenue	0
Total Revenues - \$89,920	

The following letters of support were received as it regards keeping the Ballpark open.

May 18, 2020

RE: The Ballpark at Old Orchard Beach

Dear Larry and Town Councilors,

My name is Edna Woods and I am the founder of the New England Parkinson's Ride.

Before I get in to the reason for my letter, I first want to say that I am so saddened by everything that is going on in our country due to COVID-19! I am 85 years old and this is one of the most difficult things I have watched this country and our world have to cope with. Knowing how difficult it must be for Old Orchard Beach, normally so alive with tourists in the summer, is particularly heartbreaking. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

I know many of you know my story but for those of you who don't I'd like to share just a little bit. In 2006 my youngest of 7 children was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease...he was only 41. Because he was, and still is, an avid cyclist, we tried to find a fundraising ride for Parkinson's. Sadly the only thing we could find anywhere in the country was a group of 6 cyclists riding 100 miles from Revere, MA to Old Orchard Beach, ME. Our family joined them in 2007 and immediately fell in love with your beautiful little town. Watching the cyclists come down the road to the Pier was so uplifting that we were all in tears. In 2008 that ride was canceled and we had to start our own but there was no question where we would hold it, Old Orchard Beach had stolen our hearts.

We didn't really know anything about how to run a bike ride and my husband Bob and I hadn't ridden one in probably 50 years... but our son had Parkinson's Disease and our family had a mission. Thankfully we met Kim McLaughlin and she guided us through the whole process of putting together an event in town. We knocked on doors and met people willing to help with rest stops and food and parking. Blow Brothers taught us everything we needed to know about with porta-potties. Loranger School let us start the ride there and lots of townspeople helped us set up the finish at the pier. We needed lodging but many of our cyclists could only stay one night. Fred and Ann Kennedy at The Alouette came to our rescue and we have filled their lodging establishments ever since. Whenever we had a need, the people in Old Orchard Beach and the surrounding towns opened their arms to us, and are a big part of our success story.

In 2015 the ride was too big to continue to finish at the pier but we were determined not to leave the town that everyone had come to love. It was then that we discovered The Ballpark! The location was perfect for us as there was ample parking for all the cars coming from all over the country. We could start and end in the same place and even hold our Pre-Ride Dinner there, thanks to the Saco Bay Rotary. And the bonus was we got to work with Guy Fontaine and John Gallo who immediately became part of the family.

Over the past 6 years the ride has evolved and now the afternoon is filled with food & drink, sponsor booths helping those with Parkinson's Disease, and friendship. We hire a local band to help us celebrate and by 6 in the evening everyone is off to enjoy the town...a perfect ending to a perfect day.

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I think by now you know why I am sharing my story. It is my understanding is that there is to be a meeting to discuss the future of The Ballpark and I wanted to let you know that losing this venue would be heartbreaking for our entire ride family and The Michael J Fox Foundation. I know this year is so very difficult for everyone and that The Ballpark, along with most venues that hold mass gatherings, will take a particularly hard hit. But this is one season. Would it not be possible to let these decisions ride until 2021 to give The Ballpark an opportunity to get back on its feet? There are so many possibilities for exciting events, baseball games, concerts, etc., and the site is a perfect place to hold them. Though we obviously won't be able to host our ride there this year, we promise we will be back for years to come...until there is a cure.

I pray that you are all well and keeping safe. We will make it through all this, and 2021 will be a year of renewal.

Thank you for your time and for supporting our efforts for the past 12 years!!

Edna



PO Box 1124. Merrimack, NH 03054

May 19, 2020



Dear Larry and Town Council Members,

I am writing because I heard that there was a suggestion put forth during budget meetings to consider closing The Ballpark in order to save money during this difficult time.

As most of you know, the New England Parkinson's Ride has held our event in Old Orchard Beach for the past 12 years. We moved to the Ballpark in 2015 and the entire face of the Ride changed. We were able to host many more people, hold our Pre & Post-Ride parties, offer showers, and provide for sponsor booths. We partnered with UNE in a program for advanced students to offer Osteopathic manipulations, primarily to those suffering from Parkinson's disease.

When we first met with Guy Fontaine and John Gallo, it became clear that we would make a great team and would work together to make The Ballpark the best it could be, not just for us but for the entire Town. We committed immediately to a long term relationships and were determined each year to leave The Ballpark better than we found it.

In addition to the blood, sweat, and a few tears that we and our family of volunteers have put into the effort, the New England Parkinson's Ride has donated things like a tent for the stage, the repair of a freezer and then a shared cost for a new one, a new grill, repair and build of 50+ picnic tables, and the cost *and* manpower of getting 5 showers back into use. In addition to paying for the rental of The Ballpark, we pay for all services we use such as mosquito spraying, trash, and additional ballpark staff. We pick up every last piece of trash and leave The Ballpark shining when we leave the area on Sunday. We also make sure that the Town knows that we are there for them, should the need arise, and that anything we have that can be of service, we will put at their disposal. That need came to pass when the Town of OOB hosted its community wide event in June 2018. We were thrilled to be able to assist with the delivery of 25 tables and canopies for the Town's use and loved being a part of such a wonderful event.

Although we *all* find ourselves struggling to adjust this year...both financially and emotionally, we know that this too shall pass. When it does, we are all going to need our community connections more than ever. I truly believe life is going to be simpler and we will all get more joy than ever before out of the simple things like ballgames, concerts, and other local events that keep us connected. I also believe that The Ballpark has so much potential to not only survive but to thrive. When you put up tents with twinkle lights like we do for our Pre-Ride Dinner, there is no reason townspeople and tourists alike wouldn't rent it for business events and even weddings. Perhaps this off year is the perfect time to work on a marketing plan for your incredible venue.

In closing, I'd like to thank The Ballpark, the Town, and every local cyclist & volunteer (over 100 of them from OOB) for helping us make a difference. Because of you we are able to host families from all over the world for what my mom likes to call "a weekend at the beach with a ride thrown in for fun". Because of your support we are able to donate **100%** of the money raised directly to The Michael J. Fox Foundation and every penny of the \$5.8 million we have raised to date goes directly to research. That simply could not happen without the support of the Town of OOB and The Ballpark.

Please let us know if there is more that we can do to help keep The Ballpark alive for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Cindy W. Theberge, Executive Director

Live.Ride.Cure.

www.neparkinsonsride.com



May 19, 2020

Hello Larry & Town Council Members,

I serve as Chairman of the Board of the Michael J. Fox Foundation and am writing to express our deep appreciation for the support that we and the New England Parkinson's Ride (NEPR) have received from Old Orchard Beach, for more than a decade. I have a home in Biddeford and my family and I have ridden in the NEPR for years, which has given me a great appreciation for The Ball Park, both as a much-loved home for our ride and as an iconic, special place that I believe is a tremendous asset for OOB and the surrounding area.

Last year the Michael J. Fox Foundation raised and invested over \$100 million in research to find a cure for Parkinson's Disease and NEPR was once again our largest single day fundraiser. Equally incredible is the strong sense of community among the NEPR riders. They return each year from all over the United States to visit Old Orchard Beach, ride the coast of Maine, and enjoy the festivities at The Ball Park. The town and The Ball Park have truly become our Michael J. Fox Foundation home in Maine and although Michael has not been able to attend the event, our co-founder, Debbie Brooks, and many other prestigious members of the Foundation join us each year. Michael is also there with us in spirit and prepares a special video for NEPR each year. As a local resident, I watch NEPR's recognition at our Michael J. Fox Foundation gala in New York and hear its praises at Board meetings with great pride for our Maine coast, cities, towns and people.

I hope, and believe, that the thousands of riders, volunteers, and family members contribute value to the Old Orchard community, both through the services they use and the visibility they bring, as they raise funds from many thousand donors. Once these visitors experience this part of Maine, many return for vacations, and some even become permanent residents.

As a local resident who has enjoyed numerous events at The Ball Park, I believe it is a valuable resource for our area and one I hope the town will see fit to preserve. As an executive in both commercial and not-for-profit organizations, I am acutely aware of the impact of the pandemic and the financial challenges. We need to be fiscally responsible yet we need to keep a longer-term vision. We must think creatively about how we can use our resources to build an even stronger sense of community and, eventually and safely, bring families and friends together. I am confident The Ball Park has an important role to play.

I appreciate you allowing me time to share my views. Again, I want to thank you and the Old Orchard Beach community for being such gracious hosts and valuable supporters of our NEPR, The Michael J. Fox Foundation, and the millions of Parkinson's patients worldwide. Without support and resources such as The Ball Park, we cannot be successful.

As Michael says "We will be here until Parkinson's is not!" We look forward to the future and the thousands of ride participants and volunteers partaking of your hospitality.

Sincerely,

Skip Irving
Chairman, Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

Todd Sherer, PhD
Chief Executive Officer

Michael J. Fox
Founder

Deborah W. Brooks
Co-Founder & Executive
Vice Chairman

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Respectfully Submitted,

**V. Louise Reid
Town Council Secretary**

I, V. Louise Reid, Secretary to the Town Council of Old Orchard Beach, Maine, do hereby certify that the foregoing document consisting of twelve (12) pages is a copy of the original Minutes of the Town Council Workshop of May 19, 2020.

V. Louise Reid