

**TOWN OF ORONO**  
**COUNCIL VIRTUAL BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020 AT 4:00PM**

**WATCH ONLINE AT**  
<https://zoom.us/j/94598011113>  
**(LINK AVAILABLE AT ORONO.ORG)**

*Comments can be submitted via email before the meeting at [info@orono.org](mailto:info@orono.org)  
and during the meeting by using Zoom comment features.*

**MINUTES**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Council Chair Cindy Mehnert, Tom Perry, Laurie Osher, Meghan Gardner, Sam Kunz, Cheryl Robertson, Terry Greenier and Town Manager Sophie Wilson.

**2. FY21 Municipal Budget Discussion**

- **Public Services, Parks and Recreation** (continued from 5/26/2020)

Ms. Wilson explained the reasons for not opening the pool due to Covid-19.

Public Comments:

Donald Tilbury - How are you going to make up this shortfall without raising property taxes? My thoughts are people have been hurt enough by the current economy either through loss of work or just higher prices at the grocery store.

Nadine Jones - Maybe start with town hall, it's administrative top heavy! I appreciate Rob, he's a good, sensible person. But really, regarding sidewalks, most Orono students either go by bus or parents drop off, very few walk, especially on snow days. There might be a few!

Catherine Thibedeau - I think communicating in real time when something can't be done helps people understand. (i.e. if OPD posts on Facebook when the sidewalks will be plowed or why they can't be during a storm).

Nadine Jones - Not a good example of people wanting the sidewalk to be cleaned by 3:00. Put it on hold, please. Sometimes I see a plow go by every half hour, I thought since we had past Councilors on my street that was why we had plows go by so often.

Melanie Brooks - I would be shocked if UMaine did RAD camp this summer.

Jessica Witham - Bangor sent out notification today that they're not able to use their schools for summer child care, so they're using their Rec building, limiting numbers of kids, and people

need to put their kids into a “raffle”/random drawing to see who gets in and who doesn’t, but at least they have a plan.

Melanie Brooks - I’d like to see Orono Rec be involved with after school care.

### **3. Brief Town Manager Report**

Ms. Wilson gave a brief report on the following items:

- Town Office CAT 6 Cabling project - move for approval to the June 15, 2020 Council Meeting.
- RSU#26 Warrants to be signed by Council at June 4, 2020 Council Meeting.
- Work with the Community Development Director to provide aid to businesses during Covid-19.
- Housing for an International Student during Covid-19.
- Addressing poor condition of gateway Town of Orono signs.
- Displaying a Pride sculpture in front of Town hall.
- Tim Waring to display folk sculptures around town.

### **4. Adjourned at 6:05pm**

Minutes are not verbatim. A video-recorded version is available on the Town’s website at [www.orono.org](http://www.orono.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy W. Ward  
Executive Assistant