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**City of Belfast**  
**Council Chambers-Belfast City Hall**  
**Tuesday, March 18, 2014**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Regular Council Meeting No. 18**

**1) Call to order**

**2) Present:** Mayor Walter Ash, Jr.; Councilors Mary Mortier, Roger Lee, Eric Sanders, Michael Hurley and Nancy Hamilton, and City Manager Joseph Slocum, and Admin. Assistant Manda Cushman.

**3) Pledge of Allegiance**

**4) Adoption of the agenda**

City Manager requested to add item **G) 1.** Executive Session to discuss a Union matter under 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) D.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to add item G) 1 to the agenda. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. This motion was approved, 4-0 with Councilor Hurley absent for the vote.

**5) Acceptance of the minutes**

Regular Council Meeting of March 4, 2014 and Special Council Meeting of March 6, 2014.

Councilor Hamilton, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of March 4, 2014 and Special Council Meeting of March 6, 2014. This was approved, 4-0 with Councilor Hurley absent for the vote.

**6) Open to the public**

Please state your name and town you are from when addressing the City Council.

1. Christopher Hyk, Belfast. Informed the Council that the Army Corps of Engineers will be holding a public meeting at the Belfast Hutchinson Center on March 26<sup>th</sup> at Noon, and on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am in Augusta the MSMA is going to lobby to get the 9.5 million dollar reduction for the schools repealed so that it doesn't go through. He also produced documentation for the RSU consultant about special education programming.

2. Judy Kao, Belfast. Spoke about her concerns with proposed additional parking at the Belfast Commons and informed the Council that she has a petition to save the Belfast Common from additional parking with 238 signatures.
3. Carol Good, Friends of Belfast Parks Announced that there will be no April Stools Day this year, informing the Council that they will continue public education about picking up after your dog and discussed potential options for improving this education/awareness along the Harbor Walk.
4. Amie Hutchison, from P.A.W.S Animal Adoption Center introduced herself to the Council as the new Executive Director, and informed the Council that she hopes to continue positive community outreach.
5. Tony Kulik, spoke about the Dredging meeting that occurred in Bangor and urged Council and the public to attend the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Belfast Hutchinson Center starting at noon.
6. Bindy Pendleton, spoke about how Belfast could reduce their carbon footprint, urging the Council to consider the divestment request.

## 7) Communications

Councilor Hamilton gave an update on the Interfaith Fuel Fund, informing that they have made 40 grants this season, noting that it is nice to see organizations that are helping those in need of fuel assistance this winter.

Councilor Hurley acknowledged the loss of two Belfast citizens, Col. Bruce MacLaren and Elizabeth Minor.

Councilor Hurley informed the public that Our Town Belfast is having their annual meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the PlantLab and all are invited.

Councilor Sanders spoke about the loss of Elizabeth Minor and how her Belfast spirit will be missed.

Councilor Sanders thanked all those who spoke about their concerns with additional parking at the Belfast Commons, and hopes everyone can work together to find the best solution for all.

Councilor Sanders reminded the public about Cal Ripken baseball sign-ups at the YMCA this week.

Councilor Lee acknowledged the loss of Elizabeth Minor and her many positive impacts.

City Manager Joseph Slocum informed the Council about the following:

- Gave clarification about the dredging meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Hutchinson Center.
- Scheduled Department Visits with the Councilors for Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, visiting the Transfer Station at 2:00 pm and the Library at 3:00 pm.
- Requested that we hope to receive an update or a presentation of the Walkability audit that was done.
- Reminded the Council that we need to pick a local, person, project or group to receive the 2014 Belfast Spirit of America Foundation Tribute, and please submit any ideas you may have.

- Informed Council that they will be meeting with consultants at the Harbor Walk tonight at 9:00 pm to discuss the lighting.
- Reminded all that there is a Harbor Committee Meeting tomorrow at 4:00 pm.
- Addressed public concerns with proposed parking at the Belfast Commons, and reassured everyone that there are no plans yet at this point it is just a concept.

Mayor Ash reminded Council that due to the meeting at 9:00 pm tonight along the Harbor Walk, we hope to stay on task.

Mayor Ash noted his respect for both Col. Bruce MacLaren and Elizabeth Minor and is saddened by the loss of both. He requested a moment of silence.

- Moment of silence to acknowledge the loss of Col. Bruce MacLaren and Elizabeth Minor.

## **8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports**

Councilor Sanders informed Council that the Withdrawal Committee met last Thursday, March 13 in Morrill in which all towns were present except for Northport, and he felt it was a productive meeting. The next Withdrawal Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 3, 2014 at 6:30 pm at the Morrill Community Center.

## **9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda**

- A. Request by Chief of Police Mike McFadden to approve James A. Bergdoll as a Reserve Police Officer for the Belfast Police Department.
- B. Request by Chief of Police Mike McFadden to approve Alex S. Bryant as a Parking Enforcement Officer for the Belfast Police Department.
- C. Request to approve an application by Anne Saggese d/b/a Belfast Farmer's Market located at Waterfall Arts, 256 High Street, Belfast, Maine for a renewal, wine or malt liquor license.

City Manager Joseph Slocum gave a brief explanation of item 9) C per a memo from the City Clerk.

Councilor Hamilton, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. This motion was approved, 5-0.

## **10) Business**

- A) Consideration of a request from some Belfast citizens to endorse a resolution calling for divestment from publicly traded fossil fuel companies.

David Smith of Belfast gave a brief statement to the Council about the request and thanked Councilors for their consideration.

Councilors each made statements about their position on the request.

Karen Marysdaughter addressed Councilor Hamilton's concerns, noting that to accept this request to divest would be a powerful message.

Councilors discussed in great length their position on the item noting possible revisions to the resolution as a potential option for a motion.

Councilor Lee, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to endorse a resolution calling for divestment from publicly traded fossil fuel companies, with the entire second to last paragraph stricken and the word "immediately" from the fifth from the last paragraph stricken from the resolution. This motion was lost, 2-3.

Councilors discussed the idea of the City Manager writing a letter in the Council's language that expresses similar sentiment including mention of State review.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to direct the City Manager to write a letter to Maine Public Employees Retirement System as per agreement of the Council that reflects Council sentiment, which includes mention of per-State review. This motion passed, 3-2.

**B) Presentation by our Airport Consultant on the results of their evaluation of the feasibility of extending the runway at Belfast Municipal Airport.**

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge gave a brief overview of the Airport and the request that the City look into the possibility of the airport expanding to accommodate corporate jets that are used by some local businesses.

Consultant James Miklas of Airport Solutions Group reviewed the first phase of the Municipal Airport Master Plan which outlined the runway corridor analysis.

There were brief questions and comments from Council regarding clarification of proposed airport layout.

City Manager Joseph Slocum noted that this is just a study, nothing is concrete.

**C) Consideration request for the City Manager to hire R. J. D. Appraisal Services to act as the City's acting assessor for 2014.**

No discussion.

Councilor Hamilton, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request for the City Manager to hire R.J.D. Appraisal Services to act as the City’s acting assessor for 2014. The motion passed, 5-0.

**D)** Consideration of requests by the City Manager to provide additional compensation to the Assistant to the Assessor.

Councilor Lee requested clarification on how much the additional compensation would be.

City Manager referred to the Manager’s Report in which he recommended the City pay this position an additional \$100 per week from January 1, 2014 to May 12, 2014 and \$60 a week thereafter until July 1, 2014.

Councilor Hamilton, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept request by the City Manager to provide additional compensation to the Assistant to the Assessor. The motion passed, 5-0.

**E)** The second reading proposed amendments to the Belfast parking ordinance- Waterfront Mixed Use Zoning District. Increased seating in restaurants.

City Planner Wayne Marshall requested the City Council to have a public hearing at this time.

Mayor Ash opened a public hearing on the second reading of proposed amendments to the Belfast parking ordinance – Waterfront Mixed Use Zoning District.

Mayor Ash asked for proponents and opponents and hearing none declared the hearing closed.

Councilor Lee, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the second reading of proposed amendments to the Belfast parking ordinance – Waterfront Mixed Use Zoning District, increased seating in restaurants. The motion passed, 5-0.

**F)** First reading on a proposal to reduce electrical permit fees for commercial establishments.

City Planner requested that Councilors table the issue until the next meeting on April 1, 2014.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Hamilton, made a motion to table the first reading on a proposal to reduce electrical permit fees for commercial establishments until April 1, 2014. The motion passed, 5-0.

**G)** Request by the City Manager for an Executive Session to discuss a real property and economic development matter under 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) C.

City Manager requested that Councilors table the issue until the next meeting on April 1, 2014.

Councilor Lee, seconded by Councilor Hamilton, made a motion to table an Executive Session to discuss a real property and economic development matter under 1M.R.S.A 405 (6) C until April 1, 2014. The motion passed, 5-0.

**G) 1.** Request for an Executive Session to discuss a Union matter under 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) D.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Union matter under 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) D at 8:55 p.m. The motion passed, 5-0.

Councilor Hamilton, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Union matter under 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) D at 8:58 p.m. The motion passed, 5-0.

**H)** Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Councilors signed a renewal, wine or malt liquor license by Anne Saggese d/b/a Belfast Farmer's Market located at Waterfall Arts, 256 High Street, Belfast, Maine. (Approved March 18, 2014)

## **11) Open to the Public**

No members of the public took the opportunity to speak.

## **12) Communications**

Administrative Assistant Manda Cushman reminded the Council and public that on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Boathouse the City of Belfast will be holding a public meeting on Low Power FM Radio.

**13) Adjourn**

9:00 Adjournment to do a work session site visit to the new lights along the Harbor Walk along Steamboat Landing and to review lighting options.

Councilor Hamilton, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. The motion passed, 5-0.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE  
IS A TRUE COPY OF INFORMATION  
ON THE RECORD WHICH IS IN MY  
OFFICIAL CUSTODY

ATTEST



AMANDA CUSHMAN, BELFAST MAINE