

\*These are “Action Only” minutes. Video of comments may be found on recorded discs at City Hall or at [www.cityofbelfast.org](http://www.cityofbelfast.org).\*

**City of Belfast**  
**Council Chambers-Belfast City Hall**  
**Tuesday, February 17, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Regular Council Meeting No. 16**

**1) Call to order**

- 2) **Present:** Mayor Walter Ash, Jr.; Councilors Mary Mortier, Neal Harkness, Eric Sanders, Michael Hurley and John Arrison; City Manager Joseph Slocum.  
**Absent:** Admin. Assistant to the City Manager Manda Cushman.

**3) Pledge of Allegiance**

**3) Adoption of the agenda**

- 4) Councilor Hurley requested to amend the agenda to include item **10) H** Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) A.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**5) Acceptance of the minutes**

Regular Council Meeting of February 3, 2015.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of February 3, 2015. This was approved, 5-0.

**6) Open to the public**

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

1. Mike Cunning, Belfast spoke about a request that he will be bring before the Council in the future to place a granite bench on one of the nodes of the Footbridge in memory of Peg Worth.
2. Karen Brezsnayak introduced herself to the Council and community as the new Executive Director of the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce and gave an organization update.

3. Sal Garozzo, Executive Director of the Group Home Foundation which currently runs Little River Apparel who recently announced that they will have to lay off 60 to 70 individuals, he spoke to the Council of their plans to reinstate these jobs in the community.

## **7) Communications**

City Manager Joseph Slocum spoke about the following:

- Starting tomorrow the flooring will be replaced in the City Clerk's Office.
- Congratulations to the City Clerk who is welcoming another child tomorrow.
- Thank you to the Public Works, Police Department and Harbor Department who worked hard to prepare for the storm that didn't happen.

Councilor Harkness spoke about communications with community members who skied along the Rail Trail and that when considering railings or not the Council should consider all its users both in winter and summer months.

Councilor Arrison spoke about his communication with Glenn Montgomery and that he wanted to pass along how pleased he was with all the snow removal that Public Works is doing this winter.

Councilor Hurley spoke about the possibility of the City purchasing a new tracked sidewalk clearer.

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

No comments.

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

No consent items.

## **10) Business**

A) Consideration of a request from the City Manager to appoint a new City Assessor: Brent Martin.

City Manager Joseph Slocum introduced Brent Martin to the community.

Brent Martin spoke of his qualifications and that he was looking forward to the opportunity to work for the City of Belfast.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to appoint Brent Martin as the new City of Belfast Assessor. This motion was approved, 5-0.

B) Request from Cold Comfort Theater to use Steamboat Landing for a four-day musical performance to be held August 5th to August 8, 2015.

Parks and Recreation Director Norm Poirier spoke about the request from Cold Comfort Theater and the Department & Commission recommended that the Council approve this request with the recommendation that they request a donation from Cold Comfort Theater for use of park amenities such as electricity.

Councilor Mortier noted that where they are requesting to place signs for this event is no longer permitted and they will need to be informed of that.

Councilors discussed that they would leave the determination of a donation amount up to the Parks and Recreation Director and the organization to work out but that they would like a report back on what was decided.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request from Cold Comfort Theater to use Steamboat Landing for a four-day musical performance to be held August 5<sup>th</sup> to August 8, 2015. This motion was approved, 5-0.

C) Request from the eighth-grade class at Troy Howard Middle School to use the Boathouse for a dance.

Parks and Recreation Director Norm Poirier spoke about the fact that he has spoken with Christine LeSan one of the parents that is helping with this event and that the Parks and Recreation Department are now partnering with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class and are working out other opportunities to collaborate.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the request from the eighth-grade class at Troy Howard Middle School to use the Boathouse for a dance. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Request from the New York Yacht Club to use Steamboat Landing on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a social event for their members.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request from the New York Yacht Club to use Steamboat Landing on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a social event for their members. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Norm Poirier spoke to the Council about the upcoming Snowball Winter Festival on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

E) Request of the Fire Chief to purchase a refurbished ambulance.

City Manager Joseph Slocum explained the request on behalf of the Fire Chief.

Councilor Harkness requested clarification on what part of the ambulance was new and what was refurbished.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request from the Fire Chief to purchase a refurbished ambulance for \$95,000, funding to come from the Ambulance Capital Reserve account. This motion was approved, 5-0.

F) Update from the Economic Development Director on the Environmental Cleanup of 45 Front Street (Maskers property).

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge updated the Council on the following: The draft clean-up plans which was approved by the EPA and Maine DEP, they have begun the 30 day public comment period that will end on March 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Public Hearing here in City Hall on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, and after the 30 day public comment period the plan will be brought before Council for approval and recommendations.

Councilors discussed details with how it would be determined who gets what piece of the building, if there is interest. Ultimately it was decided that no piece of the property would be disposed of or walked off with without City Council approval.

Assistant Planner Sadie Lloyd, spoke of communications with Megan Pinette of the Belfast Historic Society and that it has been determined that there is almost nothing of historical value in/outside of the building other than a few corner embellishments on the exterior.

Councilor Hurley discussed using the website and Facebook page as opportunities to get out information to the public about this.

G) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order # 36 Signed by Councilor Hurley, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to increase sewer fees 7% for the next two years (2015 & 2016). (Approved October 21, 2014)

Council Order # 37 Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend \$95,000 for a refurbished ambulance box remounted on a 2015 Chevrolet 4500 Series with Dura-Max Diesel from Global Emergency Vehicles in Levittown, PA. Funds will come from the Ambulance Capital Reserve Account. (Approved February 17, 2015)

H) Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) A.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A at 7:58 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A at 8:30 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

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

No comments.

### **12) Communications**

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed that he will be going to Augusta tomorrow to talk at the Legislative Appropriations and Taxation Committees public hearing on Governor LePage's proposed budget.

Councilor Hurley informed the Council of a Skate Park meeting that took place at City Hall on Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, and gave an update on the Energy Committees upcoming efforts to look into LED lighting for all City buildings.

Councilor Harkness spoke of the passing of resident Stephen Allen, and wished the best to his family.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed that the City is looking into possibly updating the City website and will keep the Council informed.

Mayor Ash informed the Council that he will be unable to attend the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting and that Councilor Mortier will be filling in for him at that meeting.

### **13) Adjourn**

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**14) Work Session: Code and Planning Department presentation of City Flood Ordinance – overview of program and information about new Federal Flood Maps that the Council will be asked to adopt by July 6, 2015.**

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