

These are "Action Only" minutes. Video of comments may be found on recorded discs at City Hall or at www.cityofbelfast.org.

**City of Belfast
Council Chambers-Belfast City Hall
Tuesday, January 19, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

Public Hearing #1

In accordance with Title 28A Section 653 MRSA 1964 a public hearing will be held on January 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall to hear an application by Meanwhile LLC located at 2 Cross St., Belfast, Maine for a renewal Spirituous, Vinous and Malt liquor license.

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

Regular Council Meeting No. 14

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 and Admin. Assistant to the City Manager Manda Cushman.

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Adoption of the agenda

City Manager Joseph Slocum requested to amend the agenda as follows:

- Add item 10) D #1 Request to waive a Property Tax Lien.
- Add item 10) I #1 Update on the Airport Master Plan.

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

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of January 5, 2016.

Councilor Arrison noted a typo on page 4 of the minutes, the word verses should be changed to versus.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of January 5, 2016 as amended. 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. Toussaint St. Negritude, Belfast Poet Laureate spoke of a personal encounter of racial profiling.
2. Councilor Arrison requested that the Council consider authorizing the City Manager to write a letter to the State Police regarding Toussaint St. Negritude's valued role within the community.
3. Jacob Fricke of Belfast spoke out against racial profiling.
4. Ridgley Fuller of Belfast discussed the idea of creating a welcoming committee in Belfast and informed the Council and community that the Belfast area Warming Center is ready to go in case of an emergency and on January 31st from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Troy Howard Middle School they will be doing a dry run and ribbon cutting.
5. Kimberly Callas, Executive Director of Belfast Creative Coalition gave an organization update.
6. Ian Stewart, Executive Director of Coastal Mountain Land Trust gave a brief update on the status of the Rail Trail campaign.

7) Communications

Councilor Harkness thanked all who participated and organized the 27th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day event in Belfast.

Councilor Arrison informed the public of the upcoming "Work Ready" course being offered by Adult Education here in Belfast.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed the following:

- Informed the Council that the State has changed the law on tax foreclosed properties and will be gathering more information to give to the Council regarding this change.
- Gave an overview of the MRC Meeting at the Boathouse that took place on January 6th.

Councilor Arrison thanked the Public Works Department for working hard to get everyone plowed out in a timely matter and inquired about the Washington Street Project.

City Planner Wayne Marshall gave a brief update on the Washington Street Project.

Councilor Sanders inquired about recent litigations between RSU #20 and RSU #71 regarding funding and requested further information on the matter at the next Council Meeting.

Councilor Mortier also requested information regarding carry over funds for RSU #71 at the next meeting.

Councilor Hurley informed the Council that he and Councilor Harkness are meeting with the City Planner tomorrow to discuss affordable housing in Belfast.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

No comments.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve the application by Meanwhile LLC located at 2 Cross St., Belfast, Maine for a renewal Spirituous, Vinous and Malt liquor license.
- B. Request to approve a Lunch Wagon License permit application by John Thomson d/b/a The Grinning Dog, LLC located at 29A Belmont Ave., Belfast, Maine, license to expire on December 31, 2016.
- C. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for Randal & Collins VFW Post #3108 for a fundraiser event located in the rental hall at 34 Field St., Belfast, Maine on January 23, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.
- D. Request to approve a Facility Use application by the Waldo County YMCA for use of public roads for their 7th Annual Family Triathlon on Saturday, May 21, 2016.
- E. Request from the Fire Chief to confirm Brittany Whittlesey to be a member of the Belfast Ambulance Service as a per-diem paramedic.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the consent agenda. This motion was approved, 5-0.

10) Business

A) Further discussion on the possibility of the City of Belfast joining the Maine Mayor's Coalition.

Rick McCarthy, Managing Director of Eaton Peabody Consulting Group in Augusta informed the Council about who the Mayor's Coalition is and what they do.

Mayor David Rollins of Augusta explained to the Council how he feels the Coalition varies from the Service Centers Coalition.

Councilors discussed the possibility of the City of Belfast joining the Mayor's Coalition.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request for the City of Belfast to join the Mayor's Coalition with membership funding to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance. This motion was approved, 5-0.

B) Update on the Rail Trail.

City Manager Joseph Slocum reviewed the proposed railing design and informed the Council that the City is looking to work with an engineer who can best advise the City on specs for the bidding process and install how to the railing.

C) Request from Maurice and Esther Darres to extend a private road and private utilities in and on an unimproved portion of the Court Street right-of-way.

City Planner Wayne Marshall reviewed the request which includes extending the road, extending the private sewer line from Salmond Street to property and water connection off existing water line.

Councilors clarified details of the request with the City Planner.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request from Maurice and Esther Darres to extend a private road and private utilities in and on an unimproved portion of the Court Street right-of-way. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Renewal of 5 year agreement with Soil Preparation for the disposal of sludge from the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Waste Water Treatment Facility Superintendent, Jon Carman discussed the agreement and gave his recommendation of renewing with Soil Preparation for another 5 years.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the renewal of a 5 year agreement with Soil Preparation for the disposal of sludge from the Waste Water Treatment Plant, authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) #1 Request to waive a Property Tax Lien.

City Treasurer Rickie LeSan explained the request noting that there is an error in the assessment of this property, through the advice of the City Attorney the City is requesting to file a waiver of the foreclosure which will provide the City time to correct the tax liens.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept request to waive a property tax lien. This motion was approved, 5-0.

E) Update on Developing Boathouse fees for Non- Profit entities.

City Manager Joseph Slocum informed the Council that he and Council Mortier were looking to accomplish two things: to update the overall rental fees and to identify a fair way to charge non-profits.

Councilors discussed the proposed changes including the fees and the new classification system.

Councilor Hurley requested discussing the idea of adding a plaque to the Boathouse in memory of Charles Cawley at a future date.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to adopt the new fee schedule for the Belfast Boathouse as presented. This motion was approved, 5-0.

F) Update on some construction issues related to the Front Street Reconstruction project.

City Planner Wayne Marshall gave an update on the Front Street Reconstruction project reviewing schedule, lighting options and disposal of soils.

Councilor Hurley discussed concerns with drainage.

Councilors discussed lighting, requested more information about lighting options.

G) Request to seek reimbursement for cable-television equipment from the Penobscot Down East Cable Television Consortium.

Ned Lightner, Director of Bel TV reviewed the equipment purchased and recommended that the City utilize the Equipment Reimbursement Funds that they have through their membership in the Penobscot Down East Cable Television Consortium for reimbursement of those funds totaling \$1,847.37.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the request to seek reimbursement for cable television equipment from the Penobscot Down East Cable Television Consortium for equipment purchased totaling \$1,847.37. This motion was approved, 5-0.

H) Discussion on the fees we charge Swanville to provide fire suppression services.

City Manager Joseph Slocum briefly reviewed the Fire Chief's memo on the fees we charge Swanville to provide fire suppression services.

Councilor Hurley requested to see what the City of Belfast does for calls to other towns to see a comparison in mutual aid.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to table this issue until the next Council Meeting providing the Fire Chief is available to speak on the matter at that time. This motion was approved, 5-0.

I) Discussion about the possible elimination of some street lights.

City Planner Wayne Marshall reviewed lights on and around Cross Street.

Councilors discussed the lights requesting that City Planner look into whether or not CMP can temporarily turn off lights, and that the Harbor Walk light #7 closest to the stairs be turned down.

Councilor Hurley and Harkness noted that they would like the City to create a better plan at addressing lighting in the future.

I) #1 Update on the Airport Master Plan.

City Manager Joseph Slocum briefly updated the Council on the work currently being done by the Airport Master Plan Advisory Committee and expects more information to be provided to the Council shortly.

J) Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 10:35 p.m. The motion passed, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 10:39 p.m. The motion passed, 5-0.

K) Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 10:39 p.m. The motion passed, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 10:53 p.m. The motion passed, 5-0.

L) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order #25 Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend \$20,093 for a 2016 police package 4WD SUV from Darlings of Bangor ME. Funds will come from the Purchase of Equipment Account (230-535). (Approved December 15, 2015)

Council Order #26 Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

Up to \$60,222 be carried forward from the FY 2014-2015 to FY 2015-2016 from the following accounts:

110-505 Finance Misc. Expense	\$ 1,610
120-501 Assessing Wages	8,500
130-674 Codification	3,260
420-573 Sidewalk Maintenance	26,277
450-577 Road Construction	14,732
460-678 Tree Plantings	1,450
680-604 Engineering/Professional Services	4,393

(Approved January 5, 2016)

Council Order #27 Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend \$98,200 for a ambulance remount on a 2016 Ford 4500 E-450 V10 Gas Chassis w/ Ambulance Pre Package from Autotronics of Bangor ME. Funds will come from the Equipment Capital Reserve Account (270-537). (Approved January 5, 2016)

Council Order #28 Signed by Councilors Mortier, Harkness, Sanders, Hurley and Arrison, Ordered That:

The City Council grants a Property Tax/Poverty Abatement pursuant to 36 MRSA 841(2) for the 2013 tax year inclusive of all interest and fees for a total sum of \$646.30. (Approved January 5, 2016)

Council Order #29 Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend \$25,482.00 for the City Park Entrance Enhancement Project to be completed by Landscape Services LLC of Camden, Maine. Funds will come from the City Park Enhancement Account (730-830), with funding being reimbursed by the Mening Trust.(Approved October 7, 2015)

11) Open to the Public

No comments.

12) Communications

Councilor Hurley discussed the following:

- Informed Council that on Friday, January 15th a candle light ceremony for Peg Worth was held on the Armistice Bridge at the granite bench that has been dedicated to her.
- Requested that the Council come up with a plan for the cost of benches that remain without plaques as there has been interest.
- Thanked members of the Mayor's Coalition for speaking to the Council at tonight's meeting.

Councilor Harkness informed Council that he has reached out to supporters of Indigenous People's Day to come up with a way to celebrate the day.

Councilors discussed upcoming schedules, deciding to have a Council Work Session on Capital Projects, Tuesday, February 9, 2016 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

13) Adjourn

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 p.m. This motion was approved, 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