

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, October 18, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

Regular Council Meeting No. 8

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 requested to remove item **10) A Request by the Cemetery Board of Trustees for permission to construct a small three sided lean-to/storage shed attached to the back of the Grove Cemetery Chapel to store tools and gardening materials and to replace it with a request to appoint Roger Picker to the Zoning Board of Appeals.**

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

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of October 4, 2016.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of October 4, 2016. This was approved, 5-0.

6) Open to the public

1. Jan Dodge and Samantha Paradis provided an updated on Aging Well in Waldo County and invited the Council to attend an upcoming meeting on October 26th in which the City will be presented a certificate from AARP recognizing Belfast as an age-friendly community.

2. Petra Hall gave an update on Belfast Community Radio.

3. Victor Treadwell gave an update on fundraising for the Belfast Community Radio.
4. Bre Bebb, Executive Director for Our Town Belfast gave an organization update.
5. Gene Randall provided an update on the “Ban the Bag” efforts in Belfast.

7) Communications

Councilor Hurley recognized the loss of Frank Wearham who recently passed away and discussed the possibility of providing shredding at the Transfer Station in the near future.

Councilor Harkness recognized the loss of Cathy Morgan who recently passed away and informed the public that the Maine Medical Association is having a community forum on opiates October 25th at the Troy Howard Middle School from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed the following:

- The winter parking band begins on November 1st
- Leaf pick-up begins on October 24th
- Test siren for Penobscot McCrum will take place tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. and will be tested the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 1:00 p.m.
- October is Domestic Abuse Awareness Month

Councilor Sanders reminded the public to be mindful of tourist and increased use of the Rail Trail.

Councilor Mortier thanked those who worked on the recent Project Canopy Grant over the summer to insure the trees stayed watered.

Councilor Arrison discussed the handicap accessible ramp that is now installed at City Point Station for access to the Rail Trail.

City Manager Joseph Slocum briefly gave an update on Highview Terrace and informed the Council about sidewalk work being done at upper Main Street across from Grove Cemetery.

Mayor Ash gave an update on the Mayor’s Coalition and citizen concerns with handicap parking by the Post Office on Franklin Street.

Councilor Harkness requested that the City look at and reevaluate all City handicap parking before painting next spring.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

Councilor Arrison gave a brief update on the recent Broadband Committee meeting.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for The Otis Group Incorporated d/b/a/ Rollie's Bar & Grill for the Timberwind Birthday Party located on the schooner at Thompson's Wharf on October 6, 2016 from 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- B. Request from the Library Director to appoint Kate Harris as the part-time Library Assistant for the Belfast Free Library.

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

10) Business

- A) Request to appoint Roger Pickering to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to appoint Roger Pickering to the Zoning Board of Appeals. This motion was approved, 5-0.

- B) Request from the Pedestrian, Biking and Hiking Committee for Council approval on a variety of projects.

Glenn Montgomery, Pedestrian, Biking & Hiking Committee Chair discussed with Council a variety of projects with the Council including two new bike racks, adding designs to two downtown crosswalks, installing pedestrian crossing lights at the top of Main Street and adding green paint to bike lanes at Rt. 1 overpass and Main Street.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the Pedestrian, Biking & Hiking Committees request to add two new bike racks downtown. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Council unanimously supported assistance from the Economic Development Director to apply for funding for new bike racks.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the request from the Pedestrian, Biking and Hiking Committee to add designs to two downtown crosswalks subject to approval by the Chief of Police and Public Works Director for safety concerns. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilors discussed the crossing light and asked that the Committee discuss this request with the Cemetery Trustees as well as look into alternate locations such as the crosswalk at Main Street and Market Street. They also discussed future funding for crossing lights at Starrett Drive crosswalk and the possibility of adding green paint to bike lanes on Main Street that intersect with Rt. 1 bypass, Council unanimously requested further information on cost.

C) Request from the Economic Development Director, Thomas Kittredge, to have the City Council approve the recommendation to hire an Airport consultant and to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with that consultant.

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge reviewed the process in which the City reviewed the applicants and recommended that the Council consider hiring McFarland-Johnson as the new Airport consultant for the City of Belfast and to authorize the City Manager to execute and sign a contract with them.

City Manager Joseph Slocum and Council Arrison reviewed the interviews.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to approve the recommendation to hire McFarland-Johnson as the City's Airport consultant and to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with that consultant. This was approved, 5-0.

D) Request to authorize the City Manager to sign a request for an amendment regarding a Community Development Block Grant that supports the Maine Downtown Center.

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge briefly explained the request.

Councilor Arrison, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign a request for an amendment regarding a Community Development Block Grant that supports the Maine Downtown Center. This was approved, 5-0.

E) Consideration of a recommendation from the City Manager that the City purchase a tract of land for the construction of a new Public Works facility.

City Manager Joseph Slocum reviewed the property and due diligence that the City did to determine if the property at 54 Doak Road would be an appropriate location to build a new Public Works facility. He recommended that the City approve the purchase of this property discussed his recommendation to bond for this project in entirety.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to purchase land at 54 Doak Rd. for the construction of a new Public Works facility, to be bonded in due course. This was approved, 5-0.

F) Consideration of a possible extension of employment contract with the City Manager.

Mayor Ash briefly explained the request, no Council discussion.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve a 3 year extension of employment contract with the City Manager from June 17, 2017 to June 17, 2020. This was approved, 5-0.

G) Update on projects from the City Planner, Wayne Marshall. (Washington Street, Front Street, Courthouse, Harbor Walk and MDOT projects)

City Planner Wayne Marshall discussed with Council the following projects: Front Street Reconstruction Project, Washington Street/CMP Remediation Project, East side of the Harbor Walk, County Courthouse, LED Downtown lights and MDOT projects.

H) Request from the City Planner for one or more members of the Council to attend an “Aging In Place” forum at the Waldo Town Hall on Wednesday, October 26th.

Since this was discussed during communications, Council and staff was in agreement that there was nothing further to discuss.

I) Consideration of a request for the City of Belfast to take over the management of speed limits in the City from the Maine State Department of Transportation.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to accept the request for the City of Belfast to take over the management of speed limits in the City from the Maine State Department of Transportation. This motion was withdrawn.

Councilors discussed areas of concern and what this would mean for the City of Belfast if they were to take over this management of speed limits.

City Attorney Bill Kelly discussed the state statutes regarding local control and what would be required by the City if they chose to take over this management.

Police Chief Mike McFadden discussed communications with other communities that have done this in the State of Maine.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to table this request until City staff can gather more information. This motion was approved 5-0.

J) 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 Arrison, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 10:52 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 11:12 p.m. This motion was approved, 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 Arrison, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 11:12 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 11:17 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

L) Request to go into Executive Session to discuss an Employment matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) A.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss an Employment matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) A at 11:17 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss an Employment matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) A at 11:22 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

M) 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 Arrison, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 11:22 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 11:37 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

N) Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) E.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) E at 11:37 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) E at 11:41 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

O) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order #45 Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to accept the lowest fuel bid at the fixed cost of \$1.455 price per gallon (using approximately 24,000 gallons per year) from Maritime Energy, Belfast ME for October 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017 for the following City Buildings: City Hall, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Fire & Ambulance Station, Transfer Station/Recycling Building, Highway Department, Belfast Free Library, Boathouse and Belfast Police Station. (Approved on February 16, 2016)

11) Open to the Public

No public comments.

12) Communications

Councilor Hurley briefly talked about the new LED street lights downtown.

13) Adjourn

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 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