

\*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, November 1, 2016  
7:00 p.m.**

**Public Hearing #1**

In accordance with Title 28A Section 653 MRSA 1964 a public hearing will be held on November 1, 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 Bowen's Tavern, located at 181 Waterville Road, Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Restaurant Class liquor license.

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

**Public Hearing #2**

Pursuant to the Special Amusement Ordinance of the City of Belfast and the provision of Title 28-A Section 1054 MRSA, a public hearing will be held in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall on November 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter, on an application for a Special Amusement Permit by Bowen's Tavern, for live entertainment, music, vocals - Karaoke, DJ and dancing at 181 Waterville Road, Belfast, Maine, interior/exterior.

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

**Regular Council Meeting No. 9**

**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) A #1** Request to transfer \$15,403 from Sewer Expansion Reserve to account 720-643.
- Add item **10) L #1** Request to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) E.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, 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 18, 2016.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of October 18, 2016. This was approved, 5-0.

## **6) Open to the public**

1. William Pollack of the VFW informed the public of the Veteran's Day Parade on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:00 a.m.
2. Gene Randall provided an update on 'Ban the Bag' efforts in Belfast.
3. Susan Thoms of Northport informed the Council of the Homeless Coalition that is forming in Belfast.
4. Alan Crichton of Waterfall Arts gave an update on the Cultural Plan.
5. Ron Blais, Mill Lane resident, requested to speak during item 10) B.
6. Police Chief Mike McFadden introduced Phil Kelley, whom he is requesting be appointed as a Crossing Guard for the Belfast Police Department.

## **7) Communications**

Councilor Hurley welcomed Phil Kelley and requested copies of the ordinances and referendum questions from other towns that have considered banning the bag.

Councilor Harkness and City Manager Joseph Slocum reminded the public that voting is next Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and reviewed voting locations and hours for Belfast.

Mayor Ash informed the public of the certificate that members of the Council accepted from AARP naming the City of Belfast as an Age Friendly Community.

Councilor Mortier and City Planner Wayne Marshall informed the public of dates and times for upcoming Aging Well in Waldo County meetings.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed the following:

- Leaf pick-up now going on within the bypass.
- City parking ban starts November 1st.

- Thanked Penobscot McCrum for the funding they gave to the City to cover expenses related to building the Rail Trail across the Penobscot McCrum property.
- Informed the public that the City Tax Collector and Treasure are retiring, and the City will be reviewing applications shortly.
- Invited the public to the annual Rotary pancake breakfast, Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7am at the Shrine Club.

## 8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

No comments.

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

- A. Request to approve an application by Bowen's Tavern, located at 181 Waterville Road, Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Restaurant Class liquor license.
- B. Request to approve an application for a Special Amusement Permit by Bowen's Tavern, for live entertainment, music, vocals - Karaoke, DJ and dancing at 181 Waterville Road, Belfast, Maine, interior/exterior.
- C. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for The Otis Group Incorporated d/b/a Rollie's Bar & Grill for a Propeller Club meeting located at the Waldo County Shrine Club, 20 Northport Ave., Belfast, Maine on October 19, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- D. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for The Otis Group Incorporated d/b/a Rollie's Bar & Grill for a Propeller Club meeting located at the Hutchinson Center, 80 Belmont Ave., Belfast, Maine on November 16, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- E. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for The Otis Group Incorporated d/b/a Rollie's Bar & Grill for the Business After Hours meeting located at Seebreeze Family Eyecare, 91 Waldo Ave., Belfast, Maine on October 26, 2016 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- F. Request by the Chief of Police to confirm Philip Kelley as a Crossing Guard for the Belfast Police Department.
- G. Request to approve a Parade Permit application submitted by William Pollock on behalf of the Randall Collins VFW Post 3108 for the Veteran's Day Parade on Friday, November 11, 2016 starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Belfast Area High School.

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

## 10) Business

- A) Request to fund the engineering design to build steps to the shore at Highview Terrace.

Assistant City Planner Sadie Lloyd explained the request to allocate funds required to have Gartley & Dorsky Engineers prepare the engineer and design services for the proposed steps at Highview Terrace.

Councilor Arrison requested hearing the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Department before moving forward with the request.

City Planner Wayne Marshall discussed that \$2,000 could be utilized from the DECD rangeway project grant.

City Manager Joseph Slocum noted that the remaining \$3,200 would need to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance to cover the service cost.

Councilors thoroughly discussed the safety concerns with this rangeway and how this would fit into the rangeway project.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request to fund the engineering design services from Gartley & Dorsky for \$5,200 to determine a more detailed cost estimate for building steps to the shore at Highview Terrace. This motion was approved, 4-1 (Councilor Arrison opposed).

**A) #1** Request to transfer \$15,403 from Sewer Expansion Reserve to account 720-643.

City Manager Joseph Slocum briefly explained that these funds would be used for energy initiatives/upgrades at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and that this request was previously approved by Council during budget sessions.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to transfer \$15, 403 from Sewer Expansion Reserve to account 720-643. This was approved, 5-0.

**B)** Consideration of traffic engineers report on speed conditions on Mill Lane and possible decisions on next steps.

Assistant City Planner Sadie Lloyd reviewed the traffic engineers report and discussed the recommendations with the Councilors.

City Manager Joseph Slocum noted that the striping company will be in town next week and could do the center line recommendation if the Council so choses.

Councilors discussed the report and the recommendations.

Ron Blais, Mill Lane resident requested clarification on the speed survey.

Christy Hinerman, Mill Lane resident discussed concerns with the idea of widening the road and requested that Council pursue reducing the speed for the entire road to 25 mph through MDOT.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to request from MDOT to reduce the speed on Mill Lane to 25 mph, to authorize the engineer's recommendation to paint the double center lines, and to have to Assistant City Planner refer back to the engineer to address the Council's questions and concerns regarding the traffic report. This was approved, 5-0.

C) Request to release \$4,100 to the Belfast Area High School from the Carolyn Crosby Trust Account.

No Council discussion.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to release \$4,100 to the Belfast Area High School from the Carolyn Crosby Trust Account. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Update on a future new Public Works facility and request for authority to proceed with property acquisition and pre-finance engineering.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed the request by the previous owner to rent the house on the property at 54 Crocker Rd. for the next 18 months at \$700 a month in which he would be responsible for all utilities.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to rent the house at 54 Crocker Rd. to the previous owner for 18 months at \$700 a month. This was approved, 5-0.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed financing this project, recommending that the City hire Gartley & Dorsky as interim engineering firm to assist in moving forward with financing. He noted the City would advance funds from the General Fund to pay for these engineer services and that it would be repaid with the bond funds for the project.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request for authority to proceed with property acquisition and pre-finance engineering for the future new Public Works facility. This motion was approved, 5-0.

E) Consideration of modifying the handicapped parking space on Franklin Street.

City Manager Joseph Slocum explained the request to take away the parking space behind the existing handicap space on Franklin Street and to center the handicap space to the center of the two spots, he also discussed the plan to review all of the handicap spaces throughout the City.

Councilors discussed the Franklin Street space and any alternate options for this area to accommodate a handicap space.

Councilor Arrison, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to modify the handicapped parking space on Franklin Street. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**F) Update on rebuilding the stone well at the Head of the Tide.**

City Manager Joseph Slocum informed the Council that two masons that have offered to rebuild the well are unavailable until the spring and wanted to get Council approval on the proposed time table for this work.

Councilors unanimously agreed to wait until the spring to rebuild as to accommodate the masons schedules and requested that the City clean up the stones and pump in the interim.

**G) Consideration of a policy on Council meetings.**

City Manager Joseph Slocum and the City Council briefly discussed how meetings are typically arranged and how the Council may want to consider arranging meetings in the future. No Council action was taken.

**H) Update from the City Planner on various ongoing projects.**

City Planner Wayne Marshall provided updates on the Front Street Reconstruction Project and CMP/Washington Street Remediation Project.

**D) Update on further efforts to develop the Rail Trail.**

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed with the Council kiosks design and locations, donor boards, maps and mile markers. Council unanimously agreed on having the kiosks constructed out of wood along with their locations, they unanimously agreed on installing the installation of a donor board, maps and mile markers as presented at the meeting.

**J)** Consideration of a proposal to give an old ambulance to Belfast Community TV for purposes of creating enhanced mobile local programming opportunities.

Ned Lightner, Director of Video Services explained the request to turn an old ambulance into a production truck for Belfast Community TV and discussed some of the logistics involved in transforming this vehicle.

Councilor Hurley discussed having uniformity in City vehicle design and lettering.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the request to give an old ambulance to Belfast Community TV for the purposes of creating enhanced mobile local programming opportunities. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**K)** Request to an Executive Session to discuss 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 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 9:55 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Arrison, seconded by Councilor Harkness, 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 10:22 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**L)** Request to an Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) E at 10:22 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) E at 10:30 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**L) #1** Request to an Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) E at 10:30 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) E at 10:40 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

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

Council Order #23 Signed by Councilor Sanders, Ordered That:  
The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to release \$4,100 from the Carolyn Crosby Trust Account to the Belfast Area High School. (Approved on November 1, 2016)

Council Order #24 Signed by Councilor Sanders, Ordered That:  
The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to transfer \$15,403 from the Sewer Expansion Reserve to account #720-643. (Approved on November 1, 2016)

**11) Open to the Public**

No public comments.

**12) Communications**

Councilor Hurley discussed inquiry about banning plastic dog waste bags if the City considers moving forward with the 'Ban the Bag' proposal.

**13) Adjourn**

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 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