

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, November 15, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

Public Hearing #1

In accordance with Title 28A Section 653 MRSA 1964 a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall to hear a New application by Sarah Waldron & Seth Whited d/b/a Neighborhood at 132 High Street, Belfast, Maine for a Malt, Vinous and Spirituous Restaurant (Class I,II,III,IV) license, interior only.

Mayor Ash asked for proponents and opponents.
Councilor Hurley congratulated Sarah and Seth on their new restaurant.
Mayor Ash declared the hearing closed.

Regular Council Meeting No. 10

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 **9) D** Request to approve a Facility Use Request by Breanna Bebb of Our Town Belfast for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at Post Office Square on Saturday, December 3rd at 5:00 p.m.
- Add item **10) G #1** Discussion on General Assistance issues with the State.
- Add item **10) J #1** Request to go into Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) C.

Councilor Harkness, 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 November 1, 2016.

Councilor John Arrison requested that on page 2 & 4 of the minutes the name Ron Boulay be changed to Ron Blais.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of November 1, 2016, as amended. This was approved, 5-0.

6) Open to the public

1. Andrew Carpenter of Belfast thanked the Council and City for the construction of the Rail Trail.
2. Breanna Bebb, Executive Director of Our Town Belfast gave an organization update.
3. Seth Whited of Belfast announced the opening of the new restaurant, Neighborhood in coming months.
4. Emily Baer, Executive Director of Belfast Creative Coalition gave an organization update.

7) Communications

Councilors Harkness, Arrison and Mortier expressed gratitude to the citizens of Belfast for their reelection as City Councilors for the City of Belfast.

Councilor Hurley congratulated all who worked on the election.

Councilor Sanders discussed social tolerance and working together as a community, and thanked all those involved in the Veteran's Day Parade.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed the following:

- An opening on the MRC Board, will bring back before Council on December 6th.
- Informed the Council that he has received inquiries regarding dedicating benches on the East Side of the Footbridge.
- Updated Council on increased cost associated with the Mayor's Coalition and Police Dog.

Mayor Ash informed the public that the Festival of Trees in Bangor starts this weekend, and the Chamber After Hours event will be held at the Shrine Club this Thursday.

Councilor Mortier discussed transitioning the annual New Year's by the Bay event to Our Town Belfast.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

No comments.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve a new application by Sarah Waldron & Seth Whited d/b/a Neighborhood at 132 High Street, Belfast, Maine for a Malt, Vinous and Spirituous Restaurant (Class I,II,III,IV) license, interior only.
- B. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for Trillium Events, INC for the Our Town Belfast Homecoming Concert located at the United Farmers Market of Belfast, 18 Spring Street, Belfast, ME.
- C. Request from the Fire Chief to confirm Michael Drinkwater to be a member of the Belfast Ambulance Service as a call in EMT.
- D. Request to approve a Facility Use Request by Breanna Bebb of Our Town Belfast for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at Post Office Square on Saturday, December 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

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

10) Business

- A) Update on the development of the Belfast Radio Station and request to approve the purchase of equipment and establish call letters.

Erik Klausmeyer provided an update on the committee's progress thus far and requested that the Council consider accepting the cash and in-kind gifts for the Radio Station, accept the recommended call letters of WBME, and authorize the purchase of equipment.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the cash and in-kind gifts for the Belfast Radio Station. This was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the request to establish call the letters WBME for the Belfast Radio Station. This was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to authorize the committee to purchase equipment for the Belfast Radio Station. This was approved, 5-0.

- B) Request from the City Manager for direction on how the City should proceed to address a proposal that the City ban the use of plastic bags as recommended by a group of citizens.

City Manager Joseph Slocum explained the group's memo outlining their recommendations, he recommended that the Council consider publishing these recommendations for public review and to then schedule a Public Hearing at a future date. No action was taken, Council unanimously

agreed to publish the recommendations and that they would schedule a Public Hearing at their first Council Meeting in January.

C) Request from the Poet Laureate Committee to approve the members of the Committee and to broaden the geographic range of applicants to include all towns of Waldo County.

Linda Buckmaster, Poet Laureate Search Committee Chair requested the Council appoint members to the Search Committee, including a member of Council to serve.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to appoint Councilor Harkness to serve as the Council representative on the Poet Laureate Committee. This was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Arrison, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to appoint Emily Baer, Linda Buckmaster, Jacob Frike and Brenda Herrington as members of the Poet Laureate Committee. This was approved, 5-0.

Linda Buckmaster discussed with Council broadening the geographic range to include all towns in Waldo County.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request to broaden the geographic range of applicants to include all towns of Waldo County. This was approved, 5-0.

D) Recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission to approve a policy for use of public spaces in the City of Belfast.

Norm Poirier, Parks and Recreation Director discussed with Councilors the proposed policy.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the policy for use of public spaces in the City of Belfast as presented. This was approved, 5-0.

E) Request from the Library Director Steve Norman to divide a full-time bookkeeper/administrative assistant position into two part-time positions.

No discussion.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request from the Library Director Steve Norman to divide a full-time bookkeeper/administrative assistant position into two part-time positions. This was approved, 5-0.

F) Recommendation from the Pedestrian, Hiking and Biking Committee to appoint T. William Smith to a vacancy on the committee.

No discussion.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to appoint T. William Smith as a member of the Pedestrian, Hiking and Biking Committee. This was approved, 5-0.

G) Request to approve a new lease with French and Webb for two buildings owned by the City at Heritage Park.

No discussion.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to approve a new lease with French and Webb for two buildings owned by the City at Heritage Park. This was approved, 5-0.

G) #1 Discussion on General Assistance issues with the State.

City Manager Joseph Slocum gave a presentation to the Council and public regarding General Assistance issues with the State and requested authorization to hire another part-time General Assistance Administrator to help with the increased volume of applicants.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to authorize the City Manager to hire another part-time General Assistance Administrator, to be brought back before the City Council for review within 3 months. This was approved, 5-0.

H) Update on the Rail Trail.

City Manager Joseph Slocum gave an update on kiosks, maps and signs.

Councilors provided feedback on map and signage design.

I) Update from the City Planner Wayne Marshall on a variety of downtown projects.

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

J) Consideration of a request to approve a Declaration of Intent to reimburse expenditures for a new Public Works Facility through tax exempt financing.

City Manager Joseph Slocum explained the request to pass a Declaration of Intent for the property that the City is purchasing at 54 Crocker Rd. for a new Public Works Facility.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve a Declaration of Intent to reimburse expenditures for a new Public Works Facility through tax exempt financing. This was approved, 5-0.

J) #1 Request to go into Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) C.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 9:55 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session to discuss an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A Section 405 (6) C at 10:05 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

K) Request to go into 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 10:05 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

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

L) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

11) Open to the Public

No public comments.

12) Communications

Councilor Harkness suggested that since there is a fifth Tuesday this month the Council set a Work Session for Tuesday, November 29th at 6:30 p.m. Council unanimously agreed.

Councilor Hurley noted that the highest tide will be tomorrow at 10:47 a.m., he requested a copy of the letter that the Chief wrote to MDOT regarding Mill Lane and suggested permanent crosswalk signs are installed specifically at the Family Dollar crosswalk.

Councilor Sanders requested information regarding Council pay recommendations.

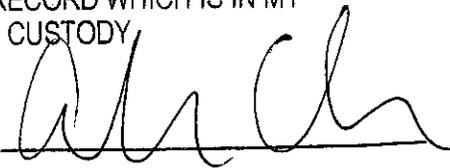
Councilor Arrison requested that when the response from the traffic engineer comes in regarding the study on Mill Lane that it is forwarded to the City Council.

13) Adjourn

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

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