

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, July 2, 2024**

5:40 p.m. Committee Interviews

7:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Regular Council Meeting No. 1

1) Call to order

2) Present: Mayor Eric Sanders (participated via zoom), Councilors Mary Mortier, Neal Harkness, Chris Bitely, Paul Dean; City Manager Erin Herbig and Deputy City Manager Manda Cushman.

Absent: Councilor Brenda Bonneville.

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Adoption of the agenda

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adopt the agenda. This motion was approved, 4-0.

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of June 18, 2024, and Special City Council Meeting of June 25, 2024.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of June 18, 2024, and Special City Council Meeting of June 25, 2024. This motion was approved, 4-0.

6) A. Open to the public

City Manager Erin Herbig noted that Council received no emails and no postal mail, prior to noon today which if received would be shared with Council before the start of the Council meeting to be included as part of the Open to the Public.

1. Samantha Gilligan of Belfast discussed concerns regarding the potential changes and closure of the labor and delivery unit at Waldo County General Hospital.
2. Andy Stevenson of Belfast requested that the City Council read and respond to the letter sent from attorney Kim Ervin Tucker yesterday.
3. Sierra Dietz of Belfast discussed item 10) H and potential closure of labor and delivery unit at Waldo County General Hospital.
4. John and Courtney Jurcheck owners of the Counter Current Collective in Belfast invited the City Council and public to attend their production of The Aliens.
5. Rachel Herbener of Belfast inquired about the surveyor selected and requested a response from the City Council.

B. Organization and Department Reports

No comments.

7) Communications

Councilor Harkness addressed the request for answers during Open to the Public and requested a draft statement from the City Council regarding the potential changes and closure of the labor and delivery unit at Waldo County General Hospital be placed on the next City Council Meeting.

8) Old Business and City Committee Reports

- Consideration of Committee Appointments.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to reappoint Glenn Montgomery and David Aguiar and appoint Joie Reynolds to the Pedestrian, Transportation and Accessibility Committee. This motion was approved, 4-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to reappoint Paul Naron and appoint Douglas Bell and Hugh Townsend to the Harbor Advisory Committee. This motion was approved, 4-0.

Councilor Harkness noted that the Housing and Property Development Committee would have a report to present to Council at a Council Meeting in August.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for Crusty Crab LLC d/b/a Front Street Pub for the Maine Celtic Celebration starting at 10:00 a.m. on July 19, 2024, until 8:00 p.m. on July 21, 2024, located at the Belfast Commons, Belfast, Maine.
- B. Request to approve an extension of liquor license permit for Dockside Family Restaurant LLC d/b/a Dockside Family Restaurant for the Holy Mackerel Tournament on July 26, 2024, through July 28, 2024, to extend their capacity of their property with a roped off area in their parking lot and deck at 30 Main Street, Belfast Maine.
- C. Request to approve a Lunch Wagon License permit application by Brittany Wallingford d/b/a Beanies located at 181 Searsport Avenue, Belfast, Maine, license to expire on December 31, 2024.
- D. Request to approve a Lunch Wagon License permit application by Jonathan Lane d/b/a Fried at Sea located at 58 Searsport Ave., Belfast, Maine, license to expire on December 31, 2024.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion was approved, 4-0.

10) Business

A) Request from the Police Chief to confirm Malinda Sanderson of Belfast as a full-time Police Officer for the Belfast Police Department.

Police Chief Bobby Cormier reviewed the request to confirm Malinda Sanderson of Belfast as a full-time Police Officer for the Belfast Police Department.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to confirm Malinda Sanderson of Belfast as a full-time Police Officer for the Belfast Police Department. This motion was approved, 4-0.

City Clerk Angie Crosby conducted the swearing-in ceremony.

B) Request from the Police Chief to approve Officer Tyler Baker to serve as the MDEA Drug Task Force Officer for the Belfast Police Department.

Police Chief Bobby Cormier reviewed the request to approve Officer Tyler Baker to serve as the MDEA Drug Task Force Officer for the Belfast Police Department.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve Officer Tyler Baker to serve as the MDEA Drug Task Force Officer for the Belfast Police Department. This motion was approved, 4-0.

C) Request to approve a new Facility Use Application by Yankee Magazine/WGBH Boston for use of the Steamboat Landing Park Gazebo to film a travel segment for Weekends with Yankee on Saturday, July 6, 2024.

City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the request to approve a new Facility Use Application by Yankee Magazine/WGBH Boston for use of the Steamboat Landing Park Gazebo to film a travel segment for Weekends with Yankee on Saturday, July 6, 2024, and answered Council questions.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve a new Facility Use Application by Yankee Magazine/WGBH Boston for use of the Steamboat Landing Park Gazebo to film a travel segment for Weekends with Yankee on Saturday, July 6, 2024. This motion was approved, 4-0.

D) Request from the Public Works Director to accept the bids for diesel fuel and to award the bid to the lowest bidder.

Public Works Director Bob Richards reviewed the bids and requested that Council award the bid to the lowest bidder Maritime Energy was the lowest bidder at \$2.7244 and answered Council questions.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the bids as presented and award the bid to the lowest bidder, Maritime Energy. If approved, funding is to be expended from account #410-567 Public Works Gas, Oil, Grease and Diesel. This motion was approved, 4-0.

E) Request from the Public Works Director to accept the bids for road salt and to award the bid to the lowest bidder.

Public Works Director Bob Richards reviewed the bids and requested that the Council award the bid to the lowest bidder New England Salt Company was the lowest bidder at \$66.50 per ton delivered and answered Council questions.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the bids as presented and award the bid to the lowest bidder, New England Salt Company. If approved, funding is to be expended from account #410-570 Public Works Salt and Calcium. This motion was approved, 4-0.

F) Consideration of a request to remove 1 City Street tree.

Public Works Director Bob Richards reviewed the tree on John Street and answered Council questions.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to approve the request to remove the tree at 14 John Street. This motion was approved, 4-0.

G) Request from the Code Enforcement Officer for the City Council to authorize City staff to administer funds for a Subsurface Wastewater Grant Program through the State of Maine for a replacement septic system at 36 Smart Road.

Director of Code and Planning Bub Fournier reviewed the request to authorize City staff to administer funds for a Subsurface Wastewater Grant Program through the State of Maine for a replacement septic system at 36 Smart Road and answered Council questions.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept and award the bid the system's replacement and move to authorize City staff to administer funds for a Subsurface Wastewater Grant Program for a property located at 36 Smart Road in the amount of up to \$30,000 through account G 1-2996-00. This motion was approved, 4-0.

H) Discussion regarding a request to consider converting the intersection of High and Miller Streets into a three-way stop.

Councilors discussed the citizen request to consider converting the intersection of High and Miller Streets into a three-way stop with the Director of Code and Planning Bub Fournier and City Manager Erin Herbig.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Bitely, made a motion to direct City staff to draft ordinances to reflect the request to convert the intersection of High and Miller Streets into a three-way stop for consideration at an upcoming Council Meeting. This motion was approved, 3-1 (Councilor Dean opposed).

I) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order #61 Signed by Councilor Dean Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$3,000.00 to cover the current 10% match requirement for the MEDEP Pump-Out Grant to install a new pump-out system. Funding is to come from the Harbor Department’s Enk Fund. (Approved June 18, 2024)

Council Order #62 Signed by Councilor Dean Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to waive the permit fee totaling \$1,037.50 to be applied to the fees for a new permit for the project located at 125 Union Street. (Approved June 18, 2024)

Council Order #63 Signed by Councilor Harkness Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$2,809.55 for a Poverty Abatement. Funding is to come from the Poverty Fund account #G1-2140-00. (Approved June 18, 2024)

Council Order #64 Signed by Councilor Harkness Ordered That:

**AMENDMENTS TO CITY CODE OF ORDINANCE
CHAPTER 58 TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES,
ARTICLE II STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING
SEC. 58-44 STOP SIGNS**

Editor’s Note: All text shown in black font is current text in the adopted City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 58 Traffic and Vehicles. **All text shown in red font** is new language that is proposed to be added. All text shown with blue strike through is to be removed. Bold text indicates the specific intersection. (See attached text of adopted amendments).

First Reading: June 18, 2024

Second Reading: Waived by City Council on June 18, 2024

(Approved June 18, 2024)

11) Open to the Public

- 1. Sierra Dietz of Belfast discussed item 10) H and thanked Council for considering her request.

12) Communications

Councilors discussed a request from a citizen to place the speed board sign up on High Street and thanked the Police Department for getting it up right away.

13) Adjourn

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE
IS A TRUE COPY OF INFORMATION
ON THE RECORD WHICH IS IN MY
OFFICIAL CUSTODY

ATTEST

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Amanda Cushman', written over a horizontal line.

AMANDA CUSHMAN, BELFAST MAINE