

\*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, February 17, 2026**

**6:20 p.m.** Request to go into an Executive Session on a Legal Matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

Councilor Bitely, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Legal Matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 6:20 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Bitely, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Legal Matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 6:37 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**6:40 p.m.** Request to go into an Executive Session on a Real Estate Matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Miller, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Real Estate Matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 6:37 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Bitely, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Real Estate Matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 6:55 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**7:00 p.m.** Regular Council Meeting

**Regular Council Meeting No. 15**

**1) Call to order**

2) **Present:** Mayor Eric Sanders, Councilors Mary Mortier, Neal Harkness, Dan Miller, Chris Bitely, Paul Dean; City Manager Erin Herbig and Deputy City Manager Manda Cushman.

**3) Pledge of Allegiance**

**4) Adoption of the agenda**

Mayor Sanders noted a request to amend the Consent Agenda to include item **9.A.** Request to approve an extension of liquor license for Darby’s Inc. d/b/a Darby’s Restaurant and Pub located at 155 High Street, Belfast, ME to provide outside seating with a fenced in dining area (3 parking spaces) during the Annual Ice Festival event on February 27, 28, & March 1, 2026.

Councilor Mortier, 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 February 3, 2026.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of February 3, 2026. This motion was approved, 4-0 (Councilor Miller abstained).

**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.

No comments.

**B. Organization and Department Reports**

No comments.

**7) Communications**

Councilor Harkness noted the passing of documentarian Frederick Wiseman who made a film “Belfast, Maine” and encouraged citizens to watch it.

Councilor Mortier reminded the public that the Annual Ice Festival is next weekend on February 27, 28, & March 1, 2026.

Mayor Sanders highlighted the Belfast High School athletics noting achievements of the winter sports program.

## 8) Old Business and City Committee Reports

No comments.

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

A. Request to approve an extension of liquor license for Darby's Inc. d/b/a Darby's Restaurant and Pub located at 155 High Street, Belfast, ME to provide outside seating with a fenced in dining area (3 parking spaces) during the Annual Ice Festival event on February 27, 28, & March 1, 2026.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion was approved, 5-0.

## 10) Business

A) Request from the Police Chief to promote Ethan Fitzjurls of Belfast as a Patrol Sergeant for the City of Belfast.

Police Chief Robert Cormier and City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the request to promote Ethan Fitzjurls of Belfast as a Patrol Sergeant for the City of Belfast.

The Mayor and City Councilors congratulated Officer Fitzjurls on his promotion.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Miller, made a motion to confirm Ethan Fitzjurls as a Patrol Sergeant for the City of Belfast. This motion was approved, 5-0.

City Clerk Angie Crosby conducted the swearing in ceremony.

B) Request from the Fire Chief to approve 2-year Ambulance and Fire Contract Rates.

Fire Chief Patrick Richards reviewed the request to approve 2-year Ambulance and Fire Contract Rates and answered Council questions.

Councilor Bitely, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to approve 2-year Ambulance and Fire Contract Rates as presented. This motion was approved, 5-0.

C) Request from the Fire Chief to enter into a 2026 Waldo County Fire Protection Mutual Aid Agreement.

Fire Chief Patrick Richards reviewed the request to enter into a 2026 Waldo County Fire Protection Mutual Aid Agreement and answered Council questions.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve the 2026 Waldo County Fire Protection Mutual Aid Agreement. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Request to approve the Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rates for the period of July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

City Clerk Angie Crosby reviewed the request to approve the Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rates for the period of July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, and answered Council questions.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Bitely, made a motion to approve the Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rate for the period of July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. This motion was approved, 5-0.

E) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

## 11) Open to the Public

No comments.

**12) Communications**

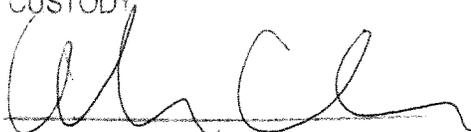
No comments.

**13) Adjourn**

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn at 7:31 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

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

AMANDA CUSHMAN, BELFAST MAINE