

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, July 7, 2016. The Honorable Mayor Kendall W. Lane called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll called: Carl B. Jacobs, Janis O. Manwaring, Terry M. Clark, Jay V. Kahn, Randy L. Filiault, Thomas F. Powers, Robert B. Sutherland, George S. Hansel, Gary P. Lamoureux Stephen L. Hooper, Bettina A. Chadbourne, Philip M. Jones, David C. Richards and Mitchell H. Greenwald were present. Councilor O'Connor was absent. The Mayor took a moment to recognize Councilor Clark's service. Councilor Clark was elected as a Ward 3 Councilor in 2010. He had served on the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee from 2010 to 2012 and is currently serving on the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee since 2013. Councilor Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the minutes from the June 16, 2016 meeting was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

PRESENTATION – RETIREMENT RESOLUTION – CHRISTOPHER CRAM

The Mayor invited Christopher Cram from the Fire Department forward to present him with a Retirement Resolution. The Mayor went on to express the City's gratitude to Mr. Cram for his dedication, and went on to detail his history of employment with the City of Keene. Mr. Cram thanked the Mayor for the acknowledgement of his years of service.

PRESENTATION – YOURGOV

Don Lussier, City Engineer introduced Harry McKelvey, IT Technical Support Specialist, who until recently was the City's Engineering Technician. Mr. McKelvey stated he was present to provide a brief presentation on what the YourGov app provides for service. Mr. Lussier and Mr. McKelvey noted that the app was not to report emergency situations, but merely for routine maintenance requests to the Public Works Department. Mr. McKelvey demonstrated how the process works from a citizen entering the request, either identified as the user or as anonymous, to the request being handled by the Public Works Department with an email to the user (if identified) that the request will be taken care of, and to the final notification that the request has been completed.

CONFIRMATION

A motion was made by Councilor Greenwald and duly seconded to confirm the following nomination: Sadie Butler to serve as a regular member on the Conservation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2018. On a roll call vote, with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor the motion carried. Councilor O'Connor was absent.

APPOINTMENT – AD HOC WINCHESTER STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

The following appointments to the ad hoc Winchester Street Reconstruction Project Steering Committee were received from the Mayor: Councilor Thomas Powers, Gary Spykman, Frank Mazzola, April Buzby, Tom Bogar, Kate Jennings, David Souther, William Hope, and Joseph Bendzinski. Don Lussier will serve as the staff liaison. The Committee charge is to provide planning, guidance and general direction for the Winchester Street Reconstruction Project, in

partnership with affected residents, local business interests, the city staff and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. The Committee will specifically focus on balancing the needs of all other various project stakeholders and will provide a conduit for the concerns of interested parties to be addressed during the design phase. The Committee will provide advice to the City's consultant through the review of draft work products and will ultimately provide a recommendation to the City Council with respect to a preferred alternative. A motion by Councilor Greenwald was duly seconded to accept the Mayor's appointments. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

COMMUNICATION – JASON WILDER – RESIGNATION – AD HOC COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A communication was received from Jason Wilder resigning from his position on the ad hoc Comprehensive Economic Development Committee. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the resignation for service on the board was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

COMMUNICATION – RICK BLOOD – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RULES OF ORDER

A communication was received from Rick Blood requesting a change in the Rules of Order for City Council meetings, which would remove the requirement that a Councilor stand in addressing the Chair. The communication was referred to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

MSFI REPORT – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR./JONATHAN DANIELS COMMITTEE – PERIODIC REPORT

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending the periodic report from the Martin Luther King, Jr./Jonathan Daniels Committee be accepted as informational. The report was filed as informational.

MSFI REPORT – REQUEST FOR NO PARKING – SHERIDAN AVENUE

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending the communication regarding a request for no parking on Sheridan Avenue be accepted as informational. The report was filed as informational.

PLD REPORT – CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION – PERIODIC REPORT

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending the acceptance of the periodic report from the Cities for Climate Protection as informational. The report was filed as informational.

PLD REPORT – REQUEST TO SELL FRUIT BEER AT THE FARMER’S MARKET OF KEENE

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that Monadnock Berries be granted permission to sell alcohol at the 2016 Keene Farmer’s Market on City property licensed to the Farmer’s Market of Keene and to allow samples to be provided after August 2, 2016, which is the effective date of SB 306. Said permission is contingent on the following: submittal of a signed letter of permission from the Farmer’s Market of Keene, obtainment of all necessary permits and licenses and compliance with all laws, including the requirements of NH RSA 179:44 II-a. A motion by Councilor Richards to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

PLD REPORT – BAN ON SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending the discussion on a ban on single use plastic bags be accepted as informational and requests staff report back with an update on recycling, including plastic bag recycling in September. The report was filed as informational.

FOP REPORT – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CITY CHARTER- COUNCIL COMPENSATION

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report indicating the Committee had failed to recommend moving forward on the proposed City Charter amendment, as proposed by Councilor Hansel, relative to City Councilors’ compensation. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. Discussion followed. The Mayor clarified that a vote in favor of the Committee report would mean the proposed Charter amendment would not move forward. With 12 Councilors voting in favor and Councilors Sutherland and Hansel opposed, the motion to carry out the intent of the report carried.

FOP REPORT – ENCOURAGING A DISCUSSION REGARDING LEVEL OF SERVICE – TELEVISION, INTERNET AND VOICE – CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS (SPECTRUM CABLE) TV PROVIDER

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending staff work with Charter Communications to prepare a presentation to occur at a FOP meeting prior to September 30, 2016. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

FOP REPORT – REMOVAL OF GRANITE CURBING – WEST SIDE OF CENTRAL SQUARE

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read indicating the Committee had failed to recommend providing funding up to \$20,000 to facilitate the sidewalk planting modification. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The Mayor stated he received a late communication from Ms. Faulkner Masten regarding this issue

agreeing to contribute \$6,500 towards the cost. The Mayor went on to express this information cannot be part of their decision process, but he wanted to be sure it was known. A motion by Councilor Filiault to amend the Committee report to refer the matter back to Committee was duly seconded. The motion failed with nine voting in opposition and Councilors Filiault, Powers, Sutherland, Jones and Richards in favor. The Mayor noted a vote in favor of the Committee report would deny funding. The motion to carry out the intent of the report passed with 10 voting in favor and Councilors Filiault, Powers, Sutherland and Richards opposed.

FOP REPORT – UPDATE ON MORE TIME ITEMS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending accepting the update on more time items as informational. The report was filed as informational.

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER – COMMENTS

The Assistant City Manager/Human Resources Director commented that the Revenue Collection Office will be closed to the public on Thursday, July 21, 2016 for implementing a new property tax billing system, and a software upgrade to all other components of the financial software system. All other City offices will remain open. She went on to state the IT Department has launched a collaborative process to work with a local vendor to refresh the City website with a modern, responsive design that incorporates a fresh approach to customer service, allows scalability to accommodate current and future projects and improves search engine optimization to enhance the visibility of City information and services. The project will take two to three months to complete. The Assistant City Manager went on to announce that Keene Police Chief Brian Costa and Cheshire County Sheriff Eli Rivera were part of a group that led a coordinated effort to form the Cheshire Addiction Assisted Recovery Initiative, and recently went to the White House. The mission is to promote treatment, reduce stigma and aid in the opioid epidemic, rather than to simply arrest and incarcerate people. The Assistant City Manager also reported that approximately 700 community members attended the June 28th Community Night held at the City's Marlboro Street Complex. The attendees were able to meet with City staff and were able to see up close the diversity of tools that the City departments work with every day providing service to the community. The Assistant City Manager welcomed 32 new employees to the City, noting these employees are part of the Summer Youth Program designated towards 14 and 15 year olds. For most of them, this opportunity is their first real job and a chance to experience personally the value of public service. The 10 departments that will have these new employees are: the Airport, Code/Health, Planning, Fire, Human Resources, the Library, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Purchasing and Youth Services.

MORE TIME

More time was granted by the Chair for the following item in Committee: Water Shut Off and Restart Charge – 25 American Avenue.

MEMORANDUM – CITY CLERK & FIRE CHIEF AND ORDINANCE O-2016-09:
RELATING TO DORMITORY, LODGING OR ROOMING HOUSES AND RESIDENTIAL
BOARD AND CARE

A memorandum was received from The City Clerk and the Fire Chief, along with Ordinance O-2016-09: Relating to Dormitory, Lodging or Rooming Houses and Residential Board and Care. Ordinance O-2016-09 was read for the first time. The memorandum and Ordinance were referred to the Planning, Licensing and Development Committee.

MEMORANDUM – CITY ENGINEER AND ORDINANCE O-2016-12: RELATING TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND PUBLIC WAYS

A memorandum was received from the City Engineer, along with Ordinance O-2016-12: Relating to Vehicular Traffic and Public Ways. Ordinance O-2016-12 was read for the first time. The memorandum and Ordinance were referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

FOP REPORT AND RESOLUTION R-2016-22: RELATED TO AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE FLASHING CROSSWALK SYSTEM ON WEST STREET

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read failed to recommend the adoption of Resolution R-2016-22. The report was filed as informational. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of the Resolution was duly seconded. Councilor Greenwald noted the Council has already dealt with this issue and it came forward a second time in error, therefore the Council should vote no to the adoption of the Resolution. On showing of hands, with 14 Councilors present and voting in opposition, the motion failed. Resolution R-2016-22 declared defeated.

MEMORANDUM - FINANCE DIRECTOR AND RESOLUTION R-2016-25: RELATING TO FISCAL POLICIES

A memorandum was received from the Finance Director along with Resolution R-2016-25: Relating to Fiscal Policies. Resolution R-2016-25 was read for the first time. The memorandum and Resolution were referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

MEMORANDUM - FINANCE DIRECTOR AND RESOLUTION R-2016-26: RELATING TO REFUNDING BONDS

A memorandum was received from the Finance Director along with Resolution R-2016-26: Relating to Refunding Bonds. Resolution R-2016-26 was read for the first time. The memorandum and Resolution were referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

MEMORANDUM - FINANCE DIRECTOR AND RESOLUTION R-2016-27: RELATING TO THE REALLOCATION OF BOND FUNDING FROM THE RAILROAD LAND INFRASTRUCTURE AND VICTORIA STREET EXTENSION PROJECTS

A memorandum was received from the Finance Director along with Resolution R-2016-27: Relating to the Reallocation of Bond Funding from the Railroad Land Infrastructure and Victoria

07/07/2016

Street Extension Projects. Resolution R-2016-27 was read for the first time. The memorandum and Resolution were referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

RESOLUTION R-2016-23: IN APPRECIATION OF DAVID S. GAILLARDETZ UPON HIS RETIREMENT

Resolution R-2016-23 was read by title only. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of the Resolution was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor. Resolution R-2016-23 declared adopted.

RESOLUTION R-2016-24: IN APPRECIATION OF BRUCE J. UHAS UPON HIS RETIREMENT

Resolution R-2016-24 was read by title only. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of the Resolution was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor. Resolution R-2016-24 declared adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 PM, there being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

A true record, attest:



City Clerk