

City of Keene
New Hampshire

PLANNING, LICENSES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

7:00 PM

Council Chambers A

Members Present:

David C. Richards, Chair
George S. Hansel
Bart K. Sapeta
Margaret M. Rice

Staff Present:

Jack Wozmak, Airport Manager
Elizabeth Dragon, City Manager
Tom Mullins, City Attorney

Members Not Present:

Philip M. Jones, Vice-Chair

Other Councilors Present

Terry Clark

Chair Richards called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Relating to the Airport Development and Marketing Committee - Ordinance O-2018-01

The City Manager referred to the strike through copy of the Ordinance included in the packet noting minor changes were made since coming before the Committee last. She reviewed each of the proposed amendments.

The City Manager noted it was very important to the City Clerk to have it clarified whether or not the Mayor would be counted as one of the five residents of Keene. A proposed amendment to the Ordinance clarifies that the Mayor will not be one of the five members from Keene; so technically there will end up being six members who reside in Keene. The City Manager said this moves the Committee away from day to day operations into a conversation of how the airport can be developed and marketed.

There being no Committee questions Chair Richards asked for public comments or questions.

Councilor Terry Clark commented the Mayor has a vote on the Planning Board which is governed by State Statute. He wonders if the Mayor having a vote on a Committee where he appoints the members is within the spirit of the City Charter. He also said he does not oppose this action he just wants clarity for future generations.

The City Attorney confirmed the Mayor's status on the Planning Board per State Statute. He continued the statute in that context does not apply to a direct legislative body that is created by the City. The Charter provision applies to the Mayor's actions with respect to his relationship with the City Council. Under the City Charter the Mayor does not have a vote unless there is a tie vote on the Council. The Committee being established is a legislative advisory body and really has no authority other than that. Attorney Mullins continued it is up to the City Council as to whether or not they want to provide for the Mayor to have a vote in a legislative Committee that it creates.

Along those same lines Councilor Hansel commented with 11 members and the City Manager not voting he would want to make certain that there will be an odd number of members. The City Attorney clarified there are 11 voting members and the City Manager does not count as a member.

Councilor Clark asked if the two members being added are the Mayor and City Manager. The City Attorney replied in the negative. Jack Wozmak, Airport Manager outlined vacancies existing on the prior Committee adding if the Committee gets flushed out to the full 11 you may see four new members in addition to the Mayor.

There being no questions or comments from the Committee or public, Chair Richards asked for a motion.

Councilor Hansel made the following motion which was seconded by Councilor Rice.

On a vote of 4-0, the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee recommends the adoption of Ordinance O-2018-01 Relating to the Airport Development and Marketing Committee, as amended.

1) **Adjournment** - There being no further business before the Committee Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 7:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary Lou Sheats Hall
February 22, 2018

Additional Edits by,
Terri M. Hood, Assistant City Clerk