

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, April 5, 2018. The Honorable Mayor Kendall W. Lane called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll called: Carl B. Jacobs, Janis O. Manwaring, Thomas F. Powers, Terry M. Clark, Randy L. Filiault, Bartolmiej K. Sapeta, Margaret M. Rice, Robert B. Sutherland, George S. Hansel, Gary P. Lamoureux, Bettina A. Chadbourne, Stephen L. Hooper, Philip M. Jones, David C. Richards and Mitchell H. Greenwald were present. Councilor Greenwald led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the minutes from the March 15, 2018 regular meeting was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced on Tuesday, April 17th, there will be a community forum to learn more about the Planning for the Future of Goose Pond. The community will be able to share input on how the forest could be managed into the future. The event starts at 6:30 PM at the Parks and Recreation Center. The Mayor announced the Planning Department will be holding an introductory workshop on planning and zoning concepts for all Councilors, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment members on Tuesday, May 1st. This will be an interactive workshop and staff hopes it will provide a better understanding of core concepts that will be discussed as the Land Use Code Update project. This training will start at 6:00 PM and will be held at The Hive at Hanna Grimes on Roxbury Street. The Mayor announced the City's operating budget meeting schedule. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 10th at 5:30 PM, the second meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14th and the last on Tuesday, May 15th; both starting at 5:30 PM. Lastly, The Mayor announced the annual Fiscal Policy workshop will be on Tuesday, July 17th at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers.

PUBLIC HEARING – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – 603 OPTX

Mayor Lane stated before opening the public hearing on the CDBG grant application for 603 OPTX, he would like to go over the process to be followed this evening.

The Mayor opened the first public hearing to address the proposed Community Development Block Grant application at 7:08 PM. The Notice of Hearing and Certificate of Publication were read. The Mayor went on to recognize Rebecca Bullock from Southwest Region Planning Commission to address the grant request.

Ms. Bullock identified herself as the Community Development Specialist with Southwest Region Planning Commission. She began with a brief overview of the CDBG program, followed by the specifics of this application. She continued that CDBG funds are available to municipalities for economic development, public facility and housing rehabilitation projects that primarily benefit low and moderate income persons. The City of Keene is eligible to receive up to \$500,000 per year for public facility or housing rehabilitation projects; up to \$500,000 per year for economic development projects; as well as up to \$500,000 per year in emergency funding. Feasibility study funds are also available for up to \$12,000. Ms. Bullock continued she has provided a handout describing the CDBG eligible activities, which includes the area HUD income limits.

Ms. Bullock continued that the proposed application to Community Development Finance Authority is for up to \$200,000 in CDBG funds. The CDBG would be sub-granted to Monadnock Economic Development Corporation which would loan the funds to 603 OPTX for costs related to business start-up including but not limited to equipment and capital and any other soft development related costs at the building located at 80 Krif Road in Keene. She continued this will create up to 10 new jobs of which at least seven would be filled with people from low to moderate income households. The total project cost is anticipated to exceed \$200,000 of new investment in Keene. The proposed project conforms to the City's housing and community development plan goal to assist new and existing businesses with obtaining financing to start up and /or expand, increasing the number of jobs available. Ms. Bullock went on to state that Jack Dugan from MEDC and representatives from 603 OPTX are present this evening to answer any questions and provide further details on the project.

The Mayor asked Jack Dugan to come forward. Mr. Dugan began by updating the Council on the CDBG grant application for the expansion of the Monadnock Food Co-op, which was just approved by the CDFA. He was pleased to report that project is moving forward full speed ahead. Mr. Dugan continued they are very excited about the project under discussion this evening as well. He continued we are all trying to find that next generation of folks to start up new businesses and grow businesses to create new jobs in Keene, and 603 OPTX exemplifies that. Together the two owners have about 50 years of experience in the industry. They have done a lot of due diligence on this start up and their business plan is very impressive. The intent is to apply for a \$200,000 block grant with the net proceeds of approximately \$173,000 after administrative and grant writing fees are deducted, to be loaned to 603 OPTX along with an additional loan from the MEDC revolving fund to equal a total of \$200,000 loaned to the company. They are also borrowing funds from a local bank and a lot of their own capital equity as well. This is quantified as an approximately \$800,000 project. Because they have also purchased a unit of Krif Road, the project is really worth almost \$1 million dollars.

The Mayor invited the representatives from 603 OPTX to come forward. Shawn Voisine of Keene and Stephen Polczwartek of Swanzey introduced themselves and spoke briefly about their experience in the optics industry.

Mayor Lane asked what exactly they do so people have an understanding of what they will be manufacturing. Mr. Voisine explained it is diamond turning of metals and crystals. The process involves using diamond tip tools to cut off axis mirrors in metals and in crystals. He added they will not be doing the coatings, but will use local vendors for that. Mr. Polczwartek added they will be making the optical surface which is a component to be used by itself or in an assembly. It can be used by the military or defense, or commercially across a number of different markets here in the United States.

The Mayor opened the floor to public comments and questions about the proposed CDBG project. There being none, the Mayor closed the public hearing for the proposed Community Development Block Grant application at 7:16 PM.

The Mayor opened the second public hearing for discussion of the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan at 7:17 PM and recognized Rebecca Bullock to address the

Council.

Ms. Bullock stated if any displacement takes place as a result of the proposed CDBG project the Uniform Relocation Act must be followed, which requires that any displaced household or business in a project using Federal funds must be found comparable housing or commercial space in a comparable neighborhood at a comparable price. Under the certification section of the application for CDBG funds, the City will certify that the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan is in place and in the event it is discovered this specific project does displace persons or households, a displacement and relocation plan must be submitted to CDFR prior to obligating or expending funds. At this time displacement is not anticipated for the proposed project.

The Mayor opened the floor to public comments and questions about the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. There being none, the Mayor closed the public hearing for the Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan at 7:19 PM.

A true record, attest:


Patricia Costello
City Clerk

ITEM CALLED FORWARD – ITEM D12 – FOP REPORT AND RESOLUTION R-2018-07-A: RELATING TO AN APPLICATION FOR CDBG FUNDS – 603 OPTX

The Mayor called forward item D12 on this evening's agenda, a Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report accepting as informational the presentation provided to them at their last meeting relative to the application for CDBG Funds for 603 OPTX. The report was filed as informational. The Mayor went on to call from Committee Resolution R-2018-07, and recognized Councilor Greenwald for a motion.

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to suspend Section 28 of the Rules of Order, to allow consideration of Resolution R-2018-07 on the same day as the associated public hearing was duly seconded. On a roll call vote, with 15 Councilors present and voting in favor, the Rules of Order were declared suspended. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of Resolution R-2018-07 was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor. Resolution R-2018-07 declared adopted.

PRESENTATION – MAIN STREET/ROUTE 12 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT – PROJECT UPDATE

The Mayor recognized City Engineer Don Lussier. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Lussier provided an update on the upcoming Main Street/Route 12 Bridge Replacement Project. He explained that he will mostly discuss how this will impact traffic, but will also touch on the anticipated schedule to be followed and provide some background on what the City has been doing to make this process a little less painful for the public. This bridge is located on Main Street over Beaver Brook, a twin arch metal plate culvert. The metal arch underneath has significantly deteriorated. This is one of our red listed bridges in the City of Keene, and it is going to be replaced this summer.

Mr. Lussier continued by reviewing the traffic plan, stating that where this bridge is located is one of the busiest corridors in the City and this project is going to cause some traffic concerns. Because of this, a lot of effort was put into coming up with a traffic control plan that would allow people to get through the intersection and allow the work to be done without undue expense, while also trying to accommodate the businesses that will be affected by it as much as possible. One of the first things that will happen at the site is Martel Court will be blocked off by the project, and instead of coming in off of Martel Court, it will come in directly from Route 101 eastbound taking a right turn in using a temporary driveway access. Traffic exiting Martel Court will take a right turn to exit the temporary driveway. That will be set up before any of the actual traffic detours in the intersection are put in place.

Mr. Lussier continued once all of that is set up, the next step will be the phase one traffic control plan, which will entail all of the traffic shifting to the very western edge of the structure. We have enough room there for three lanes all together: two lanes heading northbound with a dedicated right turn lane for those wanting to get onto Route 101 towards Nashua, a lane that allows traffic to go straight and a lane for left hand turns onto Route 101 westbound. In the southbound direction, traffic will be reduced to one lane. During phase one, pedestrian access is going to be by a temporary bridge over the river adjacent to the existing bridge. This plan is actually a value engineering idea the contractor came up with that allows the work to be done in two phases instead of three. In this phase the work on the east side of the bridge will be completed. Mr. Lussier continued in phase two, traffic will be shifted onto the newly constructed east side of the bridge. There will be two lanes northbound, a dedicated right turn lane and one lane allowing through or left turn access, and one dedicated southbound lane. During this phase pedestrian access will be directed onto the new portion of the bridge just on the other side of the concrete barriers from the motor vehicle traffic.

Mr. Lussier went on to discuss the wayfinding plan. What it is showing are the ancillary signs that will be placed around the site to help traffic find their way through these new traffic patterns. As you are coming into the intersection there will be a variable message board on each major entry point giving motorists information about the construction ahead and direction on how to navigate the area as an advanced warning. These signs will be put out about three weeks ahead of the construction so people are aware and can think about alternate routes if they wish to avoid the area. He provided some details on the detour routes that will be put in place as well as the anticipated traffic patterns. He noted the message boards will go up on April 9th, and the equipment will be staged onsite on May 2nd. The bypass to access Martel Court will be started the same day. On May 14th the temporary traffic plan will be put in place with the construction beginning by the end of that week. The project is slated for completing by September 28th.

Mr. Lussier acknowledged this will be a difficult project and the Public Works Department is trying to get the word out early and let people know what they can do to make this a little easier. Public Works also held a meeting a couple years back as the project was contemplated and some of the feedback that was received was incorporated into the plan for this project. They also reached out to impacted businesses and have tried to keep them informed and this will continue as the City works through this process. They have also reached out to companies in Swanzey that may be impacted. A press release has been published as well and an article was written about the

project last spring. In addition, the City's Highway Superintendent will be speaking about it during a weekly radio segment. There will also be efforts with social media to inform the public. There will be wayfinding signage as previously mentioned. There may be jobsite cameras that will provide up to the minute images of the jobsite that can be shared online, but this still needs Department of Transportation approval.

The Mayor stated the alternative access to Martel Court seems like an improvement that might be nice to maintain. He went on to ask how traffic on Swanzey Factory Road will be controlled. Mr. Lussier said that there was some discussion about restricting access to Swanzey Factory Road; however there are some legal issues because the City does not control the southern end of this road. The DOT wasn't particularly interested in setting up traffic signals or a stop control at that location either. He continued they have determined that a flashing warning sign will be placed just west of the bridge before the blind corner, and it will display "traffic entering from right" to give motorists advanced warning that there is traffic coming into the roadway after the blind corner and bridge abutment. They do expect that some traffic will divert around the construction area using Swanzey Factory Road, and the hope is that sign will alert people to the increased traffic there.

Mayor Lane commented on the timeframe for construction of May to September, and went on to ask about the timing for the upcoming lower Winchester Street Bridge over Ash Swamp Project. Mr. Lussier stated the Winchester Street Bridge will be done in the summer of 2019. The Mayor added that Base Hill Road will need to be addressed prior to the Winchester Street Bridge so that is also a consideration. Mr. Lussier agreed.

Councilor Jones stated his recall was there were various culvert options presented for this project, and asked what option was ultimately chosen. Mr. Lussier answered the selected alternative is going to be a precast concrete twin box culvert which will improve the hydraulic opening as compared to what is there today by letting more water through. The Councilor went on to ask if the road surface will be elevated or flush with the existing road surface. Mr. Lussier stated it will stay at the same elevation as the road.

Mayor Lane stated that once you increase the ability for water to flow through the box culvert, the concern for flooding on Martel Court increases. Mr. Lussier agreed stating the consultant did have to do a hydraulic analysis as part of the project and what that revealed was that the flooding down Martel Court has more to do with the Ashuelot River elevation than with the flow through this culvert. The Mayor agreed and added that is why he has concerns because there is nowhere for the water to go.

Councilor Sapeta thanked staff for the comprehensive plan to make the disruption as minimal as possible. He went on to ask if there is anything in this plan to improve access to Martel Court, and has there been any consideration for installing a roundabout. Mr. Lussier stated there is nothing in this project that touches the Martel Court intersection. This is funded through the State Aid Bridge Program, and they pay 80 percent of the cost, but they are pretty strict about limiting the scope of work to just the bridge. We know that this intersection is a concern, but there is no immediate solution.

Councilor Greenwald asked Mr. Lussier to go over the wayfaring plan again as it relates to vehicles exiting Martel Court and their use of the Main Street roundabout to change direction. Mr. Lussier stated the detour using the roundabout is only for vehicles leaving Martel Court and wanting to go west on Route 101 because they will not be able to take a left hand turn out of the temporary access that will be established. They will go to the traffic light at Route 101/Main Street and go straight up to the Main/Marlboro/Winchester Street roundabout to reverse direction to get to the right hand turn to access Route 101 west. They could also use Optical Avenue.

Councilor Manwaring asked about vehicles coming south on Main Street wishing to access Martel Court. Mr. Lussier stated you would be directed to turn right onto Route 101 west and then to go to the roundabout and reverse direction.

Councilor Sutherland asked if there will be a dedicated turning lane for the temporary access to Martel Court stating he has concerns about the safety of this temporary entrance. Mr. Lussier stated vehicles coming in from the west will need to slow down, and they will have advanced warning with a variable message board as well as signage closer to the temporary access directing motorists where the turn is to access Martel Court. He went on to address the exiting traffic from Martel Court stating they will be entering a one-way flow of traffic and will not be crossing lanes. He stated they understand the concerns, but after considering multiple alternatives, this was found to be the one to manage the traffic. That said, they will be monitoring the situation and will make changes if needed.

Councilor Powers stated this will definitely create traffic issues, but people will adjust their routes accordingly. Local people will know and will plan accordingly.

The City Attorney referenced Swanze Factory Road and asked if there will be two dedicated lanes for turning either right or left onto Route 101. Mr. Lussier said he would have to take a look at this, but thinks the road isn't wide enough to do that.

There being no further questions or comments, the Mayor thanked Mr. Lussier for the update on the project.

CONFIRMATIONS

A motion was made by Councilor Greenwald and duly seconded to confirm the following nominations: Elizabeth Bendel to serve as a regular member of Airport Development and Marketing Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2018; Nathan Jacobs to serve as a regular member of Airport Development and Marketing Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2019; Eli Rivera to serve as a regular member of Juvenile Conference Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2020. On a roll call vote, with 15 Councilors present and voting in favor the nominations were confirmed.

NOMINATION

The following nomination was received from the Mayor: Fire Captain Michael Burke to serve as a regular member of Planning Board with a term to expire December 31, 2019. The nomination was tabled until the next regular meeting.

COMMUNICATION – LEE ROBATOR – RESIGNATION – KEENE HOUSING AUTHORITY

A communication was received from Lee Robator resigning from the Keene Housing Authority. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the resignation with regret and appreciation of service was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

COMMUNICATION – FREDERICK HAAP – RESIGNATION – AIRPORT MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

A communication was received from Frederick Haap resigning from the Airport Marketing and Development Commission. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the resignation with regret and appreciation of service was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

COMMUNICATION – DORRIE MASTEN/PEDRAZA’S MEXICAN RESTAURANT – REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF PARKING KIOSKS – WEST SIDE OF CENTRAL SQUARE

A communication was received from Dorrie Masten, Pedraza’s Mexican Restaurant, requesting the City to consider removing the parking kiosks along Central Square. The communication was referred to the City Manager to handle administratively.

COMMUNICATION – ROGER WEINREICH – REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE NORTH BOUND LANES OF MAIN STREET – BLOCK PARTY

A communication was received from Roger Weinreich of Good Fortune Jewelry requesting permission to close the north bound lanes of Main Street for a block party on Saturday, June 2 and Saturday, June 9. The communication was referred to the City Manager in order to get a better definition of the project before the request was referred to the Committee and protocol meetings scheduled.

COMMUNICATION – SHANA DAVIS – REQUEST TO DISPLAY BANNER SIGNS – FOOD TRUCK

A communication was received from Shana Davis, Hot Hogs BBQ, requesting permission to erect a banner sign for her food truck at 100 Emerald Street. The communication was referred to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

COMMUNICATION – KEENE SWAMPBATS – REQUEST TO DISCHARGE FIREWORKS

A communication was received from Kevin Watterson, Keene Swampbats, requesting permission to discharge fireworks on Alumni Field on two dates: Saturday, June 16, 2018 and Monday, July 3, 2018. The communication was referred to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

COMMUNICATION – NEW ENGLAND AEROBATIC CLUB- REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY – DILLANT HOPKINS AIRPORT

A communication was received from Weston Lui, New England Aerobatic Club, requesting a license to hold aerobatic practice sessions at the Dillant-Hopkins Airport once per month starting in May 2018. The communication was referred to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

COMMUNICATION – FIRST LIGHT FIBER – REQUEST TO INSTALL CONDUIT ON CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY

A communication was received from Edward Robinson, First Light Fiber, requesting permission to install a telecommunications conduit on Main Street to service occupants of 16 Church Street. The communication was referred to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

COMMUNICATION – COUNCILOR FILIAULT – LIGHTING IN THE DOWNTOWN

A communication was received from Councilor Filiault, requesting that staff look at the options for improved lighting for Downtown crosswalks. The communication was referred to staff to handle administratively.

COMMUNICATION – COUNCILOR SAPETA – REQUEST TO ESTABLISH AD HOC COMMITTEE TO HONOR CLARENCE DEMAR

A communication was received from Councilor Sapeta, requesting consideration for the establishment of an ad hoc committee to consider options for honoring the legacy and achievements of Clarence DeMar. The communication was referred to the Mayor's Office.

MSFI REPORT – DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION – LEAK DETECTION – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending acceptance of this item as informational. The Chair filed the report into the record as informational.

MSFI REPORT – KEENE SERENITY CENTER – REQUEST TO CLOSE A PORTION OF CARPENTER STREET

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending the closure of Carpenter Street from Church Street to Kingsbury Street on June 23rd at the discretion of City

staff upon the applicant following the rules of that closure. A motion by Councilor Filiault to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

MSFI REPORT – GILBO EAST PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending that a resolution be drafted to appropriate \$185,000 from the Downtown Infrastructure Capital Reserve for additional improvements, to include new lighting and a concrete sidewalk along the eastern side of St. James Street, to the Gilbo Surface Parking Lot Rehabilitation Project, as presented. A motion by Councilor Manwaring to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. On showing of hands, 15 Councilors were present, 13 voted in favor and two opposed, the motion carried. Councilors Filiault and Sutherland voted in opposition.

PLD REPORT – FARMER’S MARKET OF KEENE – REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that the Farmer’s Market of Keene be granted permission to use 22 parking spaces along Gilbo Avenue on Tuesdays, and 22 parking spaces along Gilbo Avenue as well as additional 18 spaces on the other side of the median strip in the Commercial Street parking lot on Saturdays from May 1, 2018 to November 1, 2018. In addition, the petitioner is granted use of the median area for placement of picnic tables with the understanding that the pedestrian path may not be obstructed. Said permission is granted subject to the following conditions: compliance with the customary licensing requirements of the City Council; the receipt of a total rental fee of \$932.00 (payable on the first day of every month at \$155.00 per month); obtainment of a city food license from the Health Department; and compliance with any recommendations of City staff. Access to City electrical shall also be provided at a fee of \$60.00 for the season. It is further recommended that the Farmer’s Market of Keene be allowed to erect sandwich board signs on City property prior to the start of sales, subject to review and approval by City staff with respect to the number and location. The signs must be removed immediately after the sales have concluded. 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 – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

An informational report was received from the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee. The Chair filed the report into the record as informational.

PLD REPORT – UPDATE ON MORE TIME ITEMS – CITY MANAGER

An informational report was received from the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee. The Chair filed the report into the record as informational.

FOP REPORT – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO SOLICIT DONATIONS TO BE USED AS PRIZES FOR CITY OF KEENE FOURTH GRADE WATER SCIENCE FAIRS – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to solicit and accept donations to be used as prizes for the Fourth Grade Water Science Fairs from local and regional businesses. 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 – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TO LIBRARY RENOVATION PROJECT – CAMPAIGN MANAGERS FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER

Finance Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the acceptance of \$218,670.48 as listed in the Cambridge Trust January 1 – March 13, 2018 Donor List to be deposited into the Library Renovation Temporarily Restricted City Trust as part of the Next Chapter Campaign Drive. 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 – LAND USE CODE UPDATE - PLANNING CONSULTANT SELECTION – PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Finance Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and enter into a professional services contract with Camiros, Ltd. for planning services for the second phase of the Land Use Code Update project for an amount not to exceed \$134,000. In the event that a satisfactory contract and fee cannot be agreed upon, the City Manager is authorized to negotiate with the next highest ranked firms in turn. 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 – AMBULANCE BILLING CONTRACT – FINANCE DIRECTOR AND FIRE CHIEF

Finance Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute an ambulance billing contract with Comstar Ambulance Billing Service to provide ambulance billing services for five years, with a two year extension at the City's sole option at a fixed rate of 5% of collections. 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 – FY 17 AUDIT PRESENTATION – MELANSON HEATH

An informational report was received from the Finance Organization and Personnel Committee. The Chair filed the report into the record as informational.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager commented about the weather in the past 24 hours resulting in downed trees, branches, and power poles in the road ways. She was very impressed that the cleanup was

completed by 8 AM. The City Manager reported that Police and Fire had responded to in excess of 30 calls during this time frame. This was more than double our average daily calls.

The City Manager continued with the meeting she attended with the Mayor and Councilor Hansel. This meeting was coordinated by Christopher Coates, County Administrator, and Tim Murphy, Southwest Regional Planning Commission. United States Senator Shaheen discussed all the importance of adding Cheshire County to the Northern Border Regional Commission. The Commission provides Federal funding to assist with economic development and target areas located in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York. These funds have been used to support property projects that have helped reduce poverty, unemployment and help migration. If Cheshire County is successfully added to the eligible lists of counties, it will be a game changer for us in terms of stimulating economic development and redevelopment because it will open up a whole new pool of funding that will become available to us.

On April 10th, the City Manager will be speaking at the Lions Club. She was contacted by the World Affairs Council to come here on April 13th with a group from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka to meet with Rhett Lamb, Planning Director, and her about Keene's work about reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This is an international visitor leadership program and the topic is always different. On April 19th, the City Manager and the Mayor will be attending a breakfast forum hosted by the Chamber of Commerce where the Governor will be our guest speaker. On April 20th, the City Manager will be at UNH speaking to the Economic Development Academy about Main Street Revitalization and some of the projects she has been involved in the past. On October 18th and 19th Plan New Hampshire is holding their fall conference here in Keene. This will be a great opportunity to interact with Plan New Hampshire and give them a chance to see all that Keene has to offer.

MORE TIME

More time was granted by the Chair for the following items in Committee: Monadnock Progressive Alliance – Requesting Support for their “Ready for 100% Renewable Energy” Campaign; Tim Zinn/Let It Shine – Request for 2018 Keene Pumpkin Festival Brought to You By the Students of the Area's Schools – Event License; Clarence DeMar Marathon – Request to Use City Property.

MSFI REPORT AND ORDINANCE O-2018-05: RELATING TO PARKING LOTS

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending the adoption of Ordinance O-2018-05. The report was filed as informational. Ordinance O-2018-05 was read for the second time. A motion by Councilor Manwaring for adoption of the Ordinance was duly seconded. On a roll call vote, with 15 Councilors present and voting in favor, the motion carried. Ordinance O-2018-05 declared adopted.

PLD REPORT AND ORDINANCE O-2018-04-A: RELATING TO THE ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending the adoption of Ordinance O-2018-04-A. The report was filed as informational. Ordinance O-2018-04-A was read for the second time. A motion by Councilor Richards for adoption of the Ordinance was

duly seconded. On a roll call vote, with 15 Councilors present and voting in favor, the motion carried. Ordinance O-2018-04-A declared adopted.

MSFI REPORT AND RESOLUTION R-2018-05: RELATING TO THE RELEASE OF DRAINAGE EASEMENTS AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF A DEED FOR A RELOCATED DRAINAGE EASEMENT – ASHUELOT STREET

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending the adoption of Resolution R-2018-05. The report was filed as informational. A motion by Councilor Manwaring for adoption of the Resolution was duly seconded. On a show of hands vote, with 15 Councilors voting in favor the motion carried. Resolution R-2018-05 declared adopted.

MEMORANDUM AND RESOLUTION R-2018-12: RELATING TO THE ABSOLUTE DISCONTINUANCE OF A PUBLIC WAY KNOWN AS WELLS STREET PARKING LOT AND RESOLUTION R-2018-13: FOR THE RETURN OF LAYOUT OF A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY KNOWN AS WELLS STREET

A memorandum was received from Kurt Blomquist, Public Works Director/ Emergency Management Director, along with Resolutions R-2018-12 & R-2018-13. The memorandum was filed into the record. Resolutions R-2018-12 and R-2018-13 were referred by the Chair to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee and the Planning Board. The Mayor scheduled the site visit for Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 5:45 PM. The Mayor set a public hearing for Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

TABLED ITEM – APPOINTMENTS –DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION AD HOC COMMITTEE

The Chair withdrew his appointments to the Downtown Revitalization ad hoc Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:36 PM, there being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

A true record, attest:


City Clerk