

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, September 20, 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, Stephen L. Hooper, Philip M. Jones, David C. Richards, and Mitchell H. Greenwald were present. Councilor Bettina A. Chadbourne was absent. Councilor Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the minutes from the September 6, 2018, regular meeting was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee meeting for September 26th has been canceled to allow the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee to use the full Council Chambers that evening.

The Mayor continued that October 18th City Council Meeting is canceled as he and several councilors will be in Einbeck, Germany with Keene's Sister City. The Standing Committee meetings scheduled for October 10th and October 12th are being canceled as well.

The Mayor reminded the Council that the registrations will soon close for the Radically Rural Summit on September 27 and 28. The Partner City Committee is having their community night fundraiser with a German Dinner on September 25 at the Fireworks Restaurant.

The Mayor invited the Councilors to attend the annual Fire Prevention Parade on Sunday, October 7 at 1:00 PM. The viewing stand will be located on Railroad Square. Also the Councilors were invited to attend the Annual Inspection Dinner at Central Station on October 11 at 6:00 PM.

PRESENTATION – ROXBURY STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mayor Lane recognized Civil Engineer Brett Rusnock who was accompanied by representatives from the design consulting firm, McFarland Johnson. Mr. Rusnock explained that Josh Lund, Transportation Structures Manager, and Brian Colburn, Senior Transportation Engineer were present this evening to go over the planned Roxbury Bridge Replacement project scheduled for next year.

With the aid of a PowerPoint, Mr. Lund explained that this bridge is being funded and designed through the State Bridge Aid Program, and is scheduled for construction in 2019. He went on to point out the location of the bridge on a displayed map. He also showed an elevation view of the bridge showing the deterioration that has put this list on the Municipal Red List at the State. Issues include that the superstructure of the bridge is rated "poor", the substructure is rated "serious" due to deteriorated concrete and the need for a replacement box. He described the dimensions of the bridge and noted that the area where the bridge is located will be widened from 16 feet to 22 feet for better hydraulics. Mr. Lund went on to show an aerial view of the construction zone, noting the project scope will also include utility reconstruction, paving and sidewalks. Mr. Lund stated the sewer line under the bridge will be relocated to provide better

water flow was well. Mr. Lund stated the volume of traffic on the bridge is 5,300 vehicles per day. In terms of the associated utility work, this will involve moving above ground utilities below ground. Gas, sewer and water lines will also be replaced in the vicinity of the bridge.

Mr. Lund went on to describe the two options that were before the Council for construction. Option one is an Accelerated Bridge Construction (ABC), which would encompass a 30 to 60 day timeframe during which the entire bridge would be closed, including sidewalks. This gives the contractor full access to the site and expedites the process. Option two is a phased construction, which would maintain access by one lane of traffic during the entire process of construction. This option would take four to six months. Mr. Lund went over the detours or traffic signals that would be necessary during the construction period for each option.

He stated that a neighborhood meeting was held on September 5, 2018 and those attending preferred the short-term closure presented in option one. There were concerns not only with traffic but with flooding during the longer construction duration in option two. Residents also preferred the Beaver Street detour over the originally suggested Spring Street detour. Finally, residents prefer that an aesthetic rail be installed to replace the chain link fence that is currently there. He also noted that meetings have been held with the Fire and Police Departments and they also felt that option one was the best alternative for traffic and safety. Concerns with access to the area have been addressed to the satisfaction of the emergency services personnel as well.

Mr. Lund stated they are recommending the City move forward with option one for several reasons. He went over the reasons including: cost savings, less vehicular traffic impact, pedestrian access, constructability, etc. At this point Mr. Lund stated he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Lane asked when this project would start. Mr. Lund stated that is still under discussion. They are looking at the timeframe when school is out of session in July/August. This is also a time we are less likely to experience flooding issues.

Councilor Jones asked if they would dredge the area to provide more flood storage. Mr. Lund stated the area is cast concrete so they would not be able to dredge. He added there is enough flow to keep sediment from building up.

Councilor Sutherland asked for clarification regarding the width of the bridge. Mr. Lund stated they will be widening the footprint of the bridge from 16 feet to 22 feet.

Councilor Sapeta asked the design consultant to consider the design of the bridge and the fencing to include an artistic aesthetic.

Mayor Lane thanked the presenters for their presentation and stated this will be before the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee next week for consideration.

CONFIRMATION

A motion was made by Councilor Greenwald and duly seconded to confirm the following nomination: Joshua A. Greenwald to serve as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, with a term to expire December 31, 2020. On a roll call vote, with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor the nominations were confirmed. Councilor Chadbourne was absent.

COMMUNICATION – JONATHAN SHAER/NEW ENGLAND CONVENIENCE STORE AND ENERGY MARKETERS ASSOCIATION – IN OPPOSITION TO RAISING THE MINIMUM LEGAL AGE OF PURCHASE FOR TOBACCO AND NICOTINE PRODUCTS FROM 18 TO 21

A communication was received from Jonathan Shaer, of New England Convenience Store and Energy Marketers Association, submitting a petition with 332 signatures stating their objection to the proposal to raise the minimum legal age of purchase for tobacco and nicotine products from 18 to 21. The communication was filed into the record.

MSFI REPORT – CAMERON TEASE/KEENE SENIOR CENTER – ELIMINATION OF A PARKING SPACE ON COURT STREET

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending staff implement the proposed plan north of the driveway and draft an ordinance to eliminate a space south of the driveway at 70 Court Street. A motion by Councilor Manwaring to accept the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

MSFI REPORT – REVISIONS TO KEENE’S ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE PLAN FOR THE INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending the City Council approve this update to the proposed revised enforcement response plan and direct staff to do all things necessary to submit this plan to the EPA. A motion by Councilor Manwaring to accept the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

MSFI REPORT – KATIE SCHWERIN – PROPOSAL FOR PERMANENT ART INSTALLATION – AIRPORT PROPERTY

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending the City Council accept the proposed public art display by Katie Schwerin, Mount Monadnock Labyrinth, to be placed at the Keene City Airport and to authorize the City Manager to do all things necessary to implement the project. A motion by Councilor Manwaring to accept the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

PLD REPORT – ATTORNEY HOMER S. BRADLEY, JR. – REQUEST TO UNMERGE LOTS – 15 AND 19 GIFFIN STREET

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that the lots currently located at 15 and 19 Giffin Street be unmerged in accordance with the request from

Attorney Bradley, and as provided by RSA 674:39-aa. 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 – STEVE PIISPANEN/KEENE AUTO BODY – REQUEST TO DISCHARGE FIREWORKS

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that Keene Auto Body, Inc. be granted permission for the discharge of fireworks on Saturday, September 29th on a site to be coordinated with City staff no later than 10:00 PM subject to the customary licensing requirements of the City Council; submittal of a signed letter of permission from the appropriate property owner for use of the property; and obtainment of a Class B fireworks permit for the display date. Said permission is subject to approval of the site and display from the appropriate City Departments and other regulatory agencies. This permission is conditional upon the Petitioner absorbing the charges for any City services provided. Said payment shall be made within 30-days of the date of invoicing. 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 – PEG BRUCE/KIWANIS CLUB OF KEENE – REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY – TREE LIGHTING EVENT

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that the Keene Kiwanis Club be granted permission to use downtown City rights-of-way on November 23, 2018 for the Tree Lighting Festival from 5pm to 8pm conditional upon the customary licensing requirements of City Council, and that the Petitioner complies with any recommendations of City staff. In addition, the Petitioner is granted permission to erect a holiday tree on the Main/Marlboro/Winchester Street roundabout, and to decorate the downtown light poles on a date to be determined in conjunction with City staff. The Petitioner agrees to absorb the cost of any City services over and above any amount of City funding allocated in the FY 19 Community Events Budget. Said payment shall be made within 30-days of the date of invoicing. 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 – ANNUAL FIRE PREVENTION PARADE – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that the Fire Department be granted permission to use City property for the 2018 Annual Fire Prevention Parade to be held on Sunday, October 7, 2018. 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.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager do all things necessary to accept a donation of \$1000.00. 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 A DONATION – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager do all things necessary to accept a donation of \$25.00. 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 FUNDS FROM CHESHIRE COUNTY – YOUTH SERVICES

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept and administer funds provided by Cheshire County for Youth Services programs. 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 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP LIBRARY GRANT FROM THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES – LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept a \$244,142 Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership grant. 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 – INTENT TO SELL FORMER ALPS PROPERTY - AIRPORT DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to proceed with the Notice of Intent to Sell the former ALPS property. 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 – GILBO EAST PARKING LOT – FUNDS FOR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Council reallocate \$25,000 from the unspent balance of the Jordan Road Rehabilitation Project (90249) to the Gilbo East Parking Lot Improvement Project (90153). 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 – CITY HALL MURAL – PARKS, RECREATION AND FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept the donation of a mural located on the

north side of City Hall through the Walldogs project scheduled for summer 2019. 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 – SALE OF TAX DEEDED PROPERTIES – PARKS, RECREATION AND FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to execute the sale of tax deeded properties at 54 Stanhope Avenue and 15 Cross Street. 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 ACQUISITION REQUEST – BEAUREGARD PROPERTY OFF CHAPMAN ROAD (TMP# 241-018-000 000-000) – CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate the purchase of 27.5 acres of land off Chapman Road belonging to the Beauregard family. 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 – COUNCILORS GREENWALD AND RICHARDS – USE OF REMAINING FUND BALANCES AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending accepting this item as informational. The Chair filed the report into the record as informational.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager congratulated Andy Bohannon, Parks, Recreation and Facilities Director, as the winner of this year's Wink Tapply Professional Award. This award is the highest professional honor awarded by the New Hampshire Park and Recreation Association. It's named for Richard Wink Tapply who was highly regarded individual in New Hampshire, for his contributions to improving recreational opportunities in local and state government. She was proud that Mr. Bohannon has received this award.

The City Manager announced that the City was awarded the Safe Route Grants and that the Jonathan Daniels School will be benefitting from the Safe Route to School Grant. The City also received word from New Hampshire Department of Transportation that the project is in the final phase of the grant that was received in 2016 to benefit students who live within walking and biking distance of the schools. The City plans to hire a temporary part-time contract to conduct the scope of work which includes developing educational materials, conducting a survey for residents in the area, and working with the school to coordinate a walk/bike to school day event in the spring of 2019.

The City Manager welcomed home 3 out of 4 of Keene firefighters who were deployed to assist North Carolina. The New Hampshire team was still working in Pittsboro, NC. The team

consisted of Deputy Chickering, Firefighter Cate, and Firefighter Holmes. They were deployed as the Swift Water Group. The fourth member, Lieutenant Phillips still has not returned yet, as he is part of FEMA crew. He remains active in working to remove people from the flooded areas of NC. The units are working in Riegelwood, NC and are expected to be there for a couple more days. She wanted to recognize these four individuals, who volunteered to be deployed, and those who remained back here who took their positions and shifts while they were gone.

MORE TIME

More time was granted by the Chair for the following items in Committee: Daron Friedman – Request to Acquire Property – Washington Street; Christine and Edward Sweeney – Offer of Donation to the City – Land at 0 Apollo Avenue.

MEMORANDUM – CITY MANAGER AND ORDINANCE O-2018-19: RELATING TO PARKING

A memorandum was received from the Director of Economic Development, Initiatives and Special Projects along with Ordinance O-2018-19. The memorandum was filed into the record. Ordinance O-2018-19 was referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

FOP REPORT AND ORDINANCE O-2018-11: RELATING TO THE TAX LIEN PROCESS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the adoption of Ordinance O-2018-11 Relating to the Tax Lien Process. The report was filed into the record. Ordinance O-2018-11 was read for the second time. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of the Ordinance was duly seconded. On roll call vote, 14 Councilors were present and voting in favor. Councilor Chadbourne was absent. Ordinance O-2018-11 declared adopted.

RESOLUTION R-2018-30: IN APPRECIATION OF ELIZABETH C. SAYRE UPON HER RETIREMENT

Resolution R-2018-30: In Appreciation of Elizabeth C. Sayer Upon Her Retirement was read by title only. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of the Resolution was duly seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:17 PM, there being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

A true record, attest:

City Clerk

