

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, February 21, 2019. The Deputy City Clerk called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Deputy City Clerk asked for a motion to elect a Chair Pro Temp in the absence of the Mayor, Kendall W. Lane. A motion by Councilor Jones to nominate Councilor David C. Richards as Chair Pro Temp was duly seconded by Councilor Jacobs. On a roll call vote, with 13 Councilors present and voting in favor, the nomination was confirmed. Councilors Sapeta and Greenwald were absent. Roll called: Carl B. Jacobs, Janis O. Manwaring, Thomas F. Powers, Terry M. Clark, Randy L. Filiault, Margaret M. Rice, Robert B. Sutherland, George S. Hansel, Gary P. Lamoureux, Bettina A. Chadbourne, Stephen L. Hooper, Philip M. Jones, and David C. Richards were present. Bartolmiej K. Sapeta and Mitchell H. Greenwald were absent. Councilor Lamoureux led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Jones to accept the minutes from the February 7, 2019 regular meeting was duly seconded by Councilor Filiault. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – PRESIDING CHAIR

The Presiding Chair announced that the Capital Improvements Project Public Hearing at the City Council is scheduled for March 7, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

NOMINATION

The following nomination was received from the Mayor: Cauley Powell to serve as a regular member of Heritage Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2021. The nomination was tabled until the next regular meeting.

CONFIRMATIONS

A motion was made by Councilor Jones and duly seconded by Councilor Jacobs to confirm the following nominations: Louise Zerba to serve as an alternate member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire December 31, 2021; Dr. Steven Bill to serve as an alternate member of Conservation Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2019; Christine Houston to serve as a regular member of Heritage Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2021; Cary Gaunt to serve as an alternate member of Energy and Climate Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2020; Ely Thayer to serve as a regular member of College City Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2019; and Jennie Newcombe to serve as a regular member of Trustees of Trust Funds and Cemetery Trustees with a term to expire December 31, 2021. On a roll call vote, with 13 Councilors present and voting in favor, the nominations were confirmed. Councilors Sapeta and Greenwald were absent.

COMMUNICATION – FRANK RICHTER – RESIGNATION – PARTNER CITY COMMITTEE

A communication was received from Frank Richter resigning from the Partner City Committee. A motion by Councilor Jones to accept the resignation with regret and appreciation of service was duly seconded by Councilor Jacobs. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

COMMUNICATION – STEPHEN ROKES/LIBERTY UTILITIES – WITHDRAWAL REQUEST FOR EASEMENT – BENEATH HICKEY-DESILETS PARK – INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF DISTRIBUTION LINE FOR PROPANE/AIR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

A communication was received from Stephen Rokes, on behalf of Liberty Utilities withdrawing their request for an easement beneath the Hickey-Desilets Park. The request was tabled until later in the meeting.

COMMUNICATION – ZACH LUSE/PARAGON DIGITAL MARKETING – APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TAX RELIEF INCENTIVE (79-E) – FORMER GRACE METHODIST CHURCH AT 34 COURT STREET

A communication was received from Zach Luse, on behalf of Paragon Digital Marketing, submitting their application for Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive (RSA 79-E) and requesting that the City Council consider the maximum relief of 5 years that would allow for their successful investment in downtown Keene through the reuse of the former Grace Methodist Church at 34 Court Street. The request was referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

COMMUNICATION – ATTORNEY THOMAS BURACK/560 MAIN STREET, LLC – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ACQUIRING CITY PROPERTY – 560 MAIN STREET

A communication was received from Attorney Thomas Burack, from Sheehan Phinney, expressing his client's interest in acquiring a parcel of land commonly known as the Keene Old City Landfill at 560 Main Street. The request was referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

REMOVED FROM THE TABLE - INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF DISTRIBUTION LINE FOR PROPANE/AIR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

The Presiding Chair took the communication from Stephen Rokes, on behalf of Liberty Utilities off of the table. A motion by Councilor Jones to accept the withdrawal was duly seconded by Councilor Filiault. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor. Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report, which recommended denial of the request was filed as informational.

PLD REPORT – PETITION FOR A LICENSE TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN A NATURAL GAS PIPELINE – COUNCILOR CLARK

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending this item be accepted as informational. The report was filed into the record as informational.

FOP REPORT – DUBOIS & KING AIRPORT MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – AIRPORT MANAGER

The Presiding Chair tabled the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report until the next regular City Council Meeting.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION – MONADNOCK SQUARES – 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 \$300.00 from the Monadnock Squares and that the money be used for any improvements needed at the Keene Recreation Center. A motion by Councilor Jacobs to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Powers. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

FOP REPORT – LICENSE FEES FOR EVENTS REQUIRING STAFF PROTOCOLS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending these items be accepted as informational. The report was filed into the record as informational.

FOP REPORT – MARLBORO STREET – TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES GRANT – PUBLIC WORKS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending: that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept and execute a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and to execute a Memorandum of Understanding for bicycle, pedestrian, streetscape, and roadway improvements on Marlboro Street corridor, including the construction of a connection to the Cheshire Rail Trail in the vicinity of Bartholomew Court; that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute a sole-source professional service contract with DuBois & King for engineering and technical services for grant-funded pedestrian, bicycle, streetscape and roadway improvements on the Marlboro Street corridor for an amount not to exceed \$119,600 with funding to come from the Marlboro Street and Utilities Reconstruction Project; and the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute easements and access agreements required for the construction of pedestrian, bicycle, streetscape and roadway improvements on the Marlboro Street corridor. A motion by Councilor Jacobs to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Powers. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The Assistant City Manager, Elizabeth Fox, announced that this week was National Engineer's Week. She encouraged everyone to express appreciation to an engineer for all of their contributions they make every day to the things that make our modern society work.

The Assistant City Manager went on to recognize the achievement of and to congratulate TJ O'Brien, code enforcement officer in our Community Development Department for earning his Bachelor's Degree in Construction Management from Keene State College.

The Assistant City Manager reported that the City has leased a vacant T-Hangar. It was one of 3 that were available at the airport.

The Assistant City Manager continued with Fire Chief Mark Howard shared that the new ambulance went into service on Wednesday, February 20, 2019. This ambulance is known as “Ambulance #3” and will be running out of Central Station. It has already been on a few calls. The Fire Chief and department really appreciate the support of the Council and the Mayor in this CIP Project.

MORE TIME

More time was granted by the Presiding Chair for the following items in Committee: Nancy Sheldon/Shalldu, Ltd. – Acquisition of the Rail Spur that Bisects Two Parcels of Property – Corner of Ralston and Emerald Streets; Tim Zinn/Let It Shine – Requests to Use City Property – 2019 Pumpkin Festival.

MEMORANDUM – CITY CLERK & BUILDING AND HEALTH OFFICIAL AND ORDINANCE O-2019-03: RELATING TO VENDORS – TIME LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES

A memorandum was received from the City Clerk and the Building and Health Official along with Ordinance O-2019-03: Relating to Vendors – Time Limitations for Certain Activities. The memorandum was filed into the record. Ordinance O-2019-03 was referred by the Presiding Chair to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

FOP REPORT AND ORDINANCE O-2019-01: RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the adoption of Ordinance O-2019-01: Relating to the Conservation Commission. The report was filed into the record. Ordinance O-2019-01 was read for the second time. A motion by Councilor Jacobs for adoption of the Ordinance was duly seconded by Councilor Powers. On roll call vote, 13 Councilors were present and voting in favor. Councilors Sapeta and Greenwald were absent. Ordinance O-2019-01 declared adopted.

MEMORANDUM – CITY ASSESSOR AND RESOLUTION R-2019-05: RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR SOLAR, WIND & WOOD HEATING ENERGY SYSTEMS

A memorandum was received from the City Assessor along with Resolution R-2019-05. The memorandum was filed into the record. Resolution R-2019-05 was referred by the Presiding Chair to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

FOP REPORT AND RESOLUTION R-2019-04: RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR./JONATHAN DANIELS COMMITTEE

02/21/2019

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the adoption of Resolution R-2019-04: Relating to Human Rights and the Martin Luther King, Jr./Jonathan Daniels Committee. The report was filed into the record. Resolution R-2019-04 was read for the second time. A motion by Councilor Jacobs for adoption of the Resolution was duly seconded by Councilor Powers. On show of hands vote, 13 Councilors were present and voting in favor. Councilors Councilors Sapeta and Greenwald were absent. Resolution R-2019-04 declared adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:26 PM, there being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.



A true record, attest:

Deputy City Clerk