

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, May 16 2019. In the absence of the Mayor, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the City Clerk. 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, David C. Richards and Mitchell H. Greenwald were present. Philip M. Jones was absent. A motion by Councilor Rice to appoint Councilor Richards to serve as the temporary chair in the absence of the Mayor was duly seconded by Councilor Hansel. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. Councilor Richards took the Chair. Councilor Powers led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the minutes from the May 2, 2019 regular meeting was duly seconded by Councilor Jacobs. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – TEMPORARY CHAIR

The temporary Chair reminded the Councilors of their invitation to participate in the Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade on Monday, May 27. A special City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, May 30 for the purpose of holding the public hearing on the operating budget. Also there was a reminder about the June 6 site visit and public hearing on the discontinuance of the Ammi Brown Road and the layout of the Ammi Brown Trail. Finally, he announced that the fiscal policy workshop was being rescheduled for Tuesday, July 30. The time is tentatively set for 6:30 PM.

PROCLAMATION – PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

Public Works Director, Kurt Blomquist was called forward to receive a proclamation designating May 19 through the 25th as Public Works Week.

NOMINATIONS

The following nominations were received from the Mayor: Cary Gaunt to move from an alternate position on the Energy and Climate Committee to a regular position and Tammy Parrott to serve as the ex officio member representing the Keene Public Library on the Human Rights Committee. Both terms will expire December 31, 2019. The nominations were tabled until the next regular meeting.

COMMUNICATION – LARRY DACHOWSKI – RESIGNATION – ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

A communication was received from Larry Dachowski resigning from the Energy and Climate Committee. A motion by Councilor Greenwald 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 – APEER NAADZENGA – RESIGNATION – ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

A communication was received from Apeer Naadzenga resigning from the Energy and Climate Committee. A motion by Councilor Greenwald 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 – COUNCILOR FILIAULT – NH ROOMS AND MEALS TAX REVENUE SHARING

A communication was received from Councilor Filiault requesting that the City Council draft a resolution requesting the restoration of the original Rooms and Meals tax revenue sharing formula and that cities and towns receive their fair share of collected revenues. The communication was referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

MSFI REPORT – PERIODIC REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES – JUVENILE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

An informational report was received from the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee relative to the activities of the Juvenile Conference Committee. The report was filed into the record as informational.

MSFI RPEORT – URGING THE US GOVERNMENT TO LEAD A GLOBAL EFFORT TO PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR

Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, recommending the City Council direct the Mayor to write a letter urging the US government to lead a global effort to prevent a nuclear war. Discussion focused on whether the Mayor's letter would contain the five points that the petitioner requested be included in the letter. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to have the language in the Mayor's letter restate the language in the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Filiault. The motion to amend the report passed with Councilor Sutherland in opposition. The report as amended was adopted on a vote of 13 in favor. Councilor Sutherland voted in opposition.

FOP REPORT – REQUEST TO SOLICIT DONATIONS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to solicit and accept donations from local and regional businesses and service vendors to be used for events sponsored by Fire Department personnel related to public education in 2019. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Jacobs. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

An informational report was received from the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommending acceptance of the report out on donations received for the recent employee and

retiree health fair. The report was filed into the record as informational.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept the donation of \$120 from the Cheshire Cats Jump Rope Team and that the money be used towards program equipment and travel expenses for future tournaments. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Jacobs. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept the donation of \$40,188.23 as listed on the Cambridge Trust December 22, 2018 – April 29, 2019 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 by Councilor Jacobs. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF 2016 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AWARD

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept a grant in the amount of \$6,578 from the 2016 State of New Hampshire Homeland Security Program – HazMat Decon Allocation. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Jacobs. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

CALL FROM COMMITTEE – GOOD FORTUNE – USE OF CITY PROPERTY – BLOCK PARTY

The temporary Chair called the communication from Good Fortune for use of City property for a block party from the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee agenda. A motion by Councilor Rice to recommend that Good Fortune be granted permission to use downtown City property to hold the Good Fortune Block Party on Saturday, June 1, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM was duly seconded by Councilor Greenwald. The permission includes the closure of two lanes of traffic on Main Street on the northbound side from Eagle Court to Cypress Street. Said permission is granted subject to the customary licensing requirements of the City Council; obtainment of any necessary licenses or permits, and compliance with any recommendations of City staff. In addition, the petitioner agrees to absorb the cost of any City services provided. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager noted that she is proud to announce that Kurt Blomquist is a recipient of the American Public Works Association 2019 Top Ten Public Works Leader Award. Since 1960, the Association has recommended ten officials from either the United States or Canada for their

leadership and achievement in the public works field. She continued this was one of the most coveted and distinguished awards presented in the profession. The Manager stated the City is very fortunate to have Kurt as our Public Works Director as he has dedicated a large portion of his life to the City. Kurt will receive the recognition at the New England Chapter of the Association's luncheon on May 22. He will also be recognized at the June 6th City Council meeting as well as the Association's annual conference in Seattle, Washington in September. Those present expressed their congratulations to Kurt Blomquist with a standing ovation.

The City Manager continued that Councilors are encouraged to request tours of the library renovation by contacting the Library Director. Also the City's water main flushing program is continuing. The work will occur between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM. The work is meant to clear mineral deposits and exercise the water valves and hydrants.

MORE TIME – BEAUREGARD TRUST PROPERTY

More time was granted for the communication from Ed and Kathleen Kennedy Burke regarding the Beauregard Trust Property at 0 Chapman Road.

MEMORANDUM AND ORDINANCE O-2019-06: RELATING TO INTERDEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES - PARKING

A memorandum was received from the Director of Economic Development, Initiatives and Special Projects regarding Ordinance O-2019-06, which would relocate and align parking services management with the City's redevelopment and economic development efforts. Ordinance O-2019-06 read first time by title only. The Ordinance was referred by the temporary Chair to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

MEMORANDUM AND ORDINANCE O-2019-09: RELATING TO CLASS ALLOCATION SCHEDULES

A memorandum was received from the Assistant City Manager/Human Resources Director, relative to Ordinance O-2019-09, which would provide an across-the-board increase of 2.5% for non-bargaining unit employees. Ordinance O-2019-09 was read first time by title only. The Ordinance was referred by the temporary Chair to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

RESOLUTION R-2019-16: RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE CITY HALL REAR WALL PROJECT; RESOLUTION R-2019-17: RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT; RESOLUTION R-2019-18: RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE ROAD REHABILITATION PROJECT; RESOLUTION R-2019-19: RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE WINCHESTER STREET BY-PASS PROJECT; RESOLUTION R-2019-20: RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE TRANSFER STATION ROOF PROJECT; RESOLUTION R-2019-21: RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE WOODWARD POND DAM PROJECT

Resolution R-2019-16: Relating to the Appropriation of Funds for the City Hall Rear Wall Project; Resolution R-2019-17: Relating to the Appropriation of Funds for the Flood Management Project; Resolution R-2019-18: Relating to the Appropriation of Funds for the Road Rehabilitation Project; Resolution R-2019-19: Relating to the Appropriation of Funds for the Winchester Street By-Pass Project; Resolution R-2019-20: Relating to the Appropriation of Funds for the Transfer Station Roof Project; and Resolution R-2019:21 Relating to the Appropriation of Funds for the Woodward Pond Dam Project were read first time by title only. The Resolutions were referred by the temporary Chair to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

TABLED ITEMS – COUNCILOR GREENWALD, MANWARING, & RICHARDS – TAX DEEDING – KINGSBURY

The City Manager stated on May 9, the City receive a check for \$100,067.70 that represented the taxes due for 2016. In addition, consultants have been in the building and they have taken 300 samples for asbestos testing. The results of the tests will be available in six weeks. The Manager continued that the property owner has stated that they are shooting for late summer for the demolition of the building, but nothing concrete yet.

In terms of the Phase 2 brownfield grant, the Manager noted there is over \$100,000 available, but they have had difficulty moving forward. She met with the Southwest Region Planning Commission recently to discuss a modified Phase 2 and an adjusted scope. She is hopeful that the modified scope will gain the property owner's agreement and allow for forward movement. There is another meeting scheduled for the following week with the property owner and Jim Phippard and she is hopeful that they will come to an agreement.

Finally, she noted that she and the Community Development Coordinator had met with Mr. Phippard and he is making progress on a concept plan for the property and is hopeful to add more pad sites and to have the concept more compliant with the Marlboro Street zoning.

The temporary Chair stated that the City Manager has presented the Council with new information tonight. He continued there have been both public and non-public information presented to the Council and it is time to put all of the facts regarding the potential tax deeding of this property on the table and in the public realm so both the City Council and the public can weigh in on the ramifications of this process before they decide their course of action. The temporary Chair continued the decision to initiate the tax deeding process on this property may

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be one of the most important decisions this Council will make. He noted that he had reviewed this matter with Mayor Lane and he agreed that the best way to proceed is to send this back to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee for review and public input. As the temporary, Chair he removed the Kingsbury Tax Deeding issue from the table and referred it back to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:15 PM, there being no further business, the temporary Chair adjourned the meeting.

A true record, attest:


City Clerk