

06/21/2018

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, June 21, 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, George S. Hansel, Gary P. Lamoureux, Bettina A. Chadbourne, Stephen L. Hooper, Philip M. Jones, David C. Richards and Mitchell H. Greenwald were present. Robert B. Sutherland was absent. Councilor Hansel led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the minutes from the June 7, 2018 regular meeting was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that on Tuesday, July 17th, at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers, there will be a Fiscal Policy Workshop. The Mayor announced the summer break will include the week of August 8th and 9th for the Standing Committees and the August 16th City Council meeting. The August 22nd and 23rd Standing Committee meetings will be moved to the last week of the month on August 29th and 30th. The City Council will be back to its normal meeting cycle on September 6th.

PRESENTATION – 4TH GRADE WATER SCIENCE FAIR

The Mayor recognized Eric Swope, from Public Works and invited Jack Quarry, Emma Petrovich, and Alaria Clauss forward. The Mayor stated these were the top finishers at this year's City of Keene Water Science Fair. Jack Quarry, Wheelock School, finished third in the City of Keene Water Science Fair with his project titled "Suds the Hard and Soft of it". Jack explained differences between hard water and soft water and how one is better than the other for making suds. Jack went on to the State Fair and finished second. Emma Petrovich, Symonds School, finished second in the City of Keene Water Science Fair with her project on how the location of a pond affects its water quality. Emma collected samples of water from several of the area ponds, including some near homes and human activities and some from more isolated places. The ponds that were by forests were more protected from water quality problems. Emma received an honorable mentioned at the State Fair. Alaria Clauss finished first in the City of Keene Water Science Fair with her project on how diapers absorb water. She explained how the chemical structure of sodium polyacrylate is used to absorb many times its weight in liquid. She thoroughly impressed the judges with her knowledge and presentation. She went on to the State Fair and finished first there as well. The Mayor gave Alaria the trophy to take back to her home school, Fuller School. The Mayor thanked Eric Swope and the water department for their efforts for the City's Water Science Fair. He went on to state that the Keene Swampbats have designated Friday, June 22, 2018 as 4th Grade Water Fair night. The Swampbats donated family passes to all area 4th graders who completed the City of Keene Water Science Fair projects. The students will be invited to play games with Ribby on the field. Alaria and Ribby will throw out the first pitch.

PRESENTATION – 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY PLAN FOR KEENE

The Mayor invited Dr. Nora Traviss and Hannah Rettig forward. Ms. Rettig stated it is very easy to understand why a 100% renewable energy plan for Keene, through climate change, energy

security, sustainability resource moving forward, storage, energy independence, job benefits/creation, and human health would improve due the air quality improvement. Their vision would be to have Keene's residential sector 100% powered by solar. They did research on 4 areas to measure the use of energy: lighting and appliances; heating and cooling; hot water; and transportation. They then researched how much energy would be created by solar power and transferred the numbers into these areas to know much power would cover the energy usage. They determined that it would require 767 acres of land with solar panels.

Ms. Rettig went on to discuss energy justice. Distributional justice involves getting everyone the same opportunity to the resource. Recognition justice is to make sure that all the parties are involved and are part of the conversation. Renters and landlords make up about 50% of Keene and low income families/impooverished people make up another larger amount of the population in Keene. The plan is to use the Ready for 100% campaign and split into two groups, the rooftop solar and ground solar, by way of canvas to rooftop solar homes, hold open-sessions and create incentives and buddy programs that pair those who have the solar panels with those who do not to help guide them through the process.

Ms. Rettig continued with the political and economic forces that may make the process a little more challenging. Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), New Hampshire State Energy Strategy, Energy Efficiency Resource Standard, Renewable Portfolio Standards, Cities for Climate Protection Committee and Exemption for Residential Property Taxes for the Assessed Value for Renewable System are all available for Keene. Based upon the research Keene can be at 100% use of renewable energy within the next 30 years.

Ms. Retting responded to questions to an inquiry from Councilor Clark who indicated that many people have raised the question as to whether it was even possible that Keene could ever be at 100% renewable energy and he appreciated the presentation showed how it was possible. The Councilor stated he believed Keene could do this so sooner than 30 years and it behooved the City to move forward. Councilor Jacobs noted there was other renewable energy sources and clarified that this study only focused on solar. Ms. Retting stated other resources could be considered and it would be easier to include other sources – such as water and wind. Councilor Sepata referred the recent decision regarding a sustainable energy coordinator and inquired whether that position would assist. Ms. Rettig responded that getting the residential side and having someone to work with community members would be good. Ms. Novak continued that a big part of the energy footprint was off-campus housing and having a good relationship with landlords it would be good to have someone in the city facility this effort and provide some sustainability to the programs as students come and go. The Mayor stated on of the issues in Keene is particulate matter which is largely caused by the use of wood stoves, which is an alternative energy source. Ms. Novak responded she has worked with SWRPC and with students to measure and monitor that. Consider the political bent of “live free or die” the Mayor brings up an excellent point. She doubts there would ever be any consideration to a wood stove ban, but there is woodstove change out programs available. She added the level of education in this area is pretty high and in working with SWRPC and KSC they want to engage in a citizen science program to try to get citizens to engage with real time mapping so when air inversions do occur they can opt out from burning their wood stove on a volunteer basis or ideally use better wood burning applies, switch to pellets or consider solar. Councilor Rice inquired how solar

panels would be installed in an area so as not to interfere with its use. Ms. Rettig responded mounting solar panels near the exterior tree lines would be one option or in parking lots the solar panels could be used as cover for parked cars. The Mayor thanked the presenters for their efforts and this is a good that many strongly favor and the real issue is getting from here to there.

CONFIRMATIONS

A motion was made by Councilor Greenwald and duly seconded to confirm the following nominations: Paul Bocko to serve as a regular member of the Ashuelot River Park Advisory Board, with a term to expire December 31, 2020 and Richard Blood to serve as a regular member of the Airport Development and Marketing Committee, with a term to expire December 31, 2020. On a roll call vote, with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor the nomination was confirmed. Councilor Sutherland was absent.

NOMINATION

The following nomination was received from the Mayor: Jane Taylor to serve as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, with a term to expire December 31, 2022. The nomination was tabled until the next regular meeting.

COMMUNICATION – ASHUELOT COURT HOMEOWNERS – REQUEST TO PARTNER IN THE INSTALLATION OF WATER AND SEWER LINES ON ASHUELOT COURT, A DESIGNATED PRIVATE ROAD

A communication was received from several residents on Ashuelot Court requesting that the City partner in the installation of water and sewer lines on Ashuelot Court, a designated private road. The communication was referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

PLD REPORT – CAROLYN SWEET/MACHINA ARTS – USE OF CITY PROPERTY – FIRST FRIDAY EVENTS

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending the City Council grant permission to Machina Arts for the use of City property on Railroad Square to conduct a series of First Friday Arts events from 4:00 PM to 9:30 PM (inclusive of set up and break down) on the following dates: July 6, August 3, September 7, and October 5, 2018. Said permission is conditional upon the following: compliance with customary licensing requirements of the City Council; submission of signed letters of permission from any private property owner for the use of their property; obtainment of any necessary licenses or permits; and compliance with any recommendations of City staff. The staff reserves the right to bring back to Committee any changes of scope that warrant the City Council's approval. In addition, the Petitioner agrees to absorb the cost of any City services provided. A motion by Councilor Jones to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

**PLD REPORT – ANTHONY & FANELLA LEVICK/GRANITE ROOTS BREWING –
REQUEST TO SELL BEER AT KEENE FARMER’S MARKET**

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that Granite Roots Brewing be granted permission to sell alcohol at the 2018 Keene Farmer’s Market of Keene. Said permission is contingent on the following: submittal of a signed letter of permission from the Farmer’s Market of Keene, obtainment of all necessary permits and licenses and compliance with all laws, including the requirements of NH RSA 179:44 II-a. A motion by Councilor Jones to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

**PLD REPORT – JESSE O’BRYAN/BANCH AND BLADE BREWING COMPANY –
REQUEST TO SELL BEER AT KEENE FARMER’S MARKET**

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that Branch and Blade Brewing Company be granted permission to sell alcohol at the 2018 Keene Farmer’s Market of Keene. Said permission is contingent on the following: submittal of a signed letter of permission from the Farmer’s Market of Keene, obtainment of all necessary permits and licenses and compliance with all laws, including the requirements of NH RSA 179:44 II-a. A motion by Councilor Jones to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

**PLD REPORT – CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD – REQUEST TO CONDUCT AIR
DROPS – DILLANT HOPKINS AIRPORT**

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Connecticut Military Department Air National Guard 103D Airlift Wing to conduct air-drop operations at the Dillant-Hopkins Airport. A motion by Councilor Jones to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with 13 voting in favor. Councilor Clark voted in opposition.

**PLD REPORT – CLARENCE DEMAR MARATHON – REQUEST TO USE CITY
PROPERTY**

Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report read recommending that the Elm City Rotary Club be granted permission to sponsor the Clarence DeMar Marathon on September 30, 2018, subject to the customary licensing requirements of the City Council, and compliance with any recommendations of 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, and agrees to remit said payment within 30-days of the date of the invoicing. A motion by Councilor Jones to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

**FOP REPORT – DONATION FOR FUN TO READ INTERNSHIPS – KEENE PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager do all things necessary to accept a \$1,000 donation from the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association, to be used for hiring 3 teen interns for the Camp Fun To Read summer program. 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 – TAX DEED WAIVER REQUEST FOR 2015 – FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to waive tax deeding for an attached list of properties until November 2, 2018. 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 – REPURCHASE OF 18 IMPERIAL DRIVE – FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to convey 18 Imperial Drive to the former owner upon payment per RSA 80:90. 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 – REPURCHASE OF 62 SPARROW STREET – FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager be authorized to convey 62 Sparrow Street to the former owner upon payment of the taxes and interest and cost of June 5, 2018. 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 – MONADNOCK REGION COMPLETE STREETS IMPLEMENTATION GRANT – PUBLIC WORKS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Manager do all things necessary to apply for, accept and execute a “Monadnock Region Complete Streets Implementation Grant” for the Marlboro Street Corridor. 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 – DOWNTOWN PAVER CROSSWALK REPAIRS – FOLLOW UP – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending Scope 2 Option B, which would call for the removal of the existing pavers and installation of new acrylic crosswalks, with reflective white acrylic stripes at the eleven locations proposed by City staff. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded. The motion passed with 9 voting in favor and Councilors Clark, Filiault, Sapeta, Rice and Hooper opposed.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager announced there will be a regional issues series forum sponsored by the Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, June 28, 2018. Commissioner Taylor Caswell and Will Arvelo, Director of Economic Development, will be the speakers at Centennial Hall, Alumni Center, Keene State College. The City Manager also invited the Council to attend the grand opening of our Community Development Office on July 2, 2018 at 8 am. There will be a red ribbon to cut, symbolizing “cutting the red tape.”

MORE TIME

More time was granted by the Chair for the following items in Committee: Kevin Dremel – Use of City Property – Keene Music Festival; Peggy Schaufler/Country Life – Use of City Property – Sandwich Board Sign.

MEMORANDUM – ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER/HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR AND ORDINANCE O-2018-07 RELATING TO FIRE DEPARTMENT CALL PERSONNEL

A memorandum was received from the Assistant City Manager/Human Resources Director along with Ordinance O-2018-07. The memorandum was filed into the record. Ordinance O-2018-07 was referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

MEMORANDUM – POLICE CHIEF AND ORDINANCE O-2018-10 RELATING TO FALSE ALARM PREVENTION – PAYMENT OF COSTS

A memorandum was received from the Police Chief along with Ordinance O-2018-10. The memorandum was filed into the record. Ordinance O-2018-10 was referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

FOP REPORT AND ORDINANCE O-2018-09 RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the adoption of Ordinance O-2018-09 Relating to Administrative Departments. The report was filed into the record. Ordinance O-2018-09 was read for the second time. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of the Ordinance was duly seconded. On showing of hands, 14 Councilors were present and voting in favor. Ordinance O-2018-09 declared adopted effective July 1, 2018.

FOP REPORT AND RESOLUTION R-2018-19 RELATING TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF LED STREET LIGHT PROGRAM REBATE AND USE OF FUNDS FOR DOWNTOWN CROSSWALK AND LIGHTING REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the adoption of Resolution R-2018-19 Relating to the Acceptance of LED Street Program Rebate and Use of Funds for Downtown Crosswalk and Lighting Repairs and Improvements. The report was filed

into the record. Resolution R-2018-19 was read for the second time. A motion by Councilor Greenwald for adoption of the Resolution was duly seconded. On showing of hands, 13 Councilors were present and voting in favor. Resolution R-2018-19 declared adopted.

MEMORANDUM – ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR AND OPERATIONS MANAGER AND RESOLUTION R-2018-21 RELATING TO THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL RESERVE TO REPLACE THE DRUMMER HILL WATER PUMP STATION

A memorandum was received from the Assistant Public Works Director and Operations Manager along with Resolution R-2018-21. The memorandum was filed into the record. Resolution R-2018-21 was referred by the Chair to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 8:02 PM, a motion by Councilor Greenwald to go into non-public session for the purposes of discussion of a land matter under RSA 91-A:3 II(d) was duly seconded. On a roll call vote, 14 Councilors were present and voted in favor. Councilor Sutherland was absent. Discussion was limited to the subject matters. The session concluded at 8:35 PM. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to keep the minutes in non-public session was duly seconded. On a roll call vote, 14 Councilors were present and voting in favor. Councilor Sutherland was absent.

17 OLD SUMMIT ROAD

On motion by Councilor Greenwald, voted with four opposed to authorize the City Manager to do all things necessary for the City to bid on real property located at 17 Old Summit Road, Surry, New Hampshire, up to a maximum purchase price of \$50,000 including but not limited to the retention of an agent to act on behalf of the City as an undisclosed bidder at the auction and to negotiate and execute all documents required for the purchase of the property by the City. Councilors Filiault, Sepata, Jones and Greenwald in opposition.

ADJOURNMENT

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

A true record, attest:

City Clerk