

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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, Kate M. Bosley, Robert J. O'Connor, 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 Hooper led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the minutes from the September 5, 2019 regular meeting was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

The Mayor announced that the Fire Prevention Parade is October 6, 2019 with a 1 PM start at 350 Marlboro Street. The annual Firemen's Dinner will be on October 10, 2019 at the Keene Fire Department. The Mayor announced the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee meeting will be canceled for that evening.

PROCLAMATION – LIBRARY BOOK SALE PROCLAMATION

The Mayor presented a proclamation to Will Collins proclaiming the Library Book Sale. The Library Book Sale will be on Friday, October 18, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM and on Saturday, October 19, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING – 79E COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TAX RELIEF APPLICATION – 112 WASHINGTON STREET

The Mayor called the public hearing to order at 7:08 PM. The Notice of Hearing and Certificate of Publication were read. The Mayor recognized Medard Kopczynski, Director of Economic Development and Special Projects. Mr. Kopczynski began by explaining we will be hearing from the second applicant to the City for a 79-E process. The applicant, Mr. Josh Gorman, will review his application by explaining what he is doing with his property to increase the vitality of Keene as well as the connection to downtown Keene. Mr. Kopczynski stated the City recently received a communication from Mr. Luce, owner of Paragon Marketing, who was the City's first applicant. Mr. Luce indicated he has already seen a ripple effect of improvements to other surrounding properties since they improved their property. Mr. Kopczynski suggested that if Mr. Gorman is approved, we might see the same impact from this project. He went on to introduce the applicant to address the Council.

Mr. Joshua Gorman, 85 Park Avenue, thanked the Council for their service to the City. He went on to speak about his application for 79-E tax relief and the support he has received from City staff as he endeavored to make the application. He made particular note of the kind assistance he received from the Assessing Department and the Community Development Department. He went on to describe his project, noting that they purchased the property back in September of 2017. At that time, the property had been vacant for over a year and prior to its vacancy it was a single tenant office building. When 112 Washington LLC acquired the property, Mr. Gorman began exploring the potential uses and became very interested in the prospect of converting it into a bed and breakfast.

Mr. Gorman continued that at the time of purchase, he had inquired about applying for the 79-E tax relief, but the location of his property did not fall within the geographic area and therefore it did not qualify for 79-E tax relief. This spring he inquired again and he was made aware that there was a change in the program and the property was eligible for consideration. After going through the process of putting the property on the State Historic Register to meet the historic criteria, he submitted his application to the City. Mr. Gorman went on to go through the various criteria to qualify for the 79-E program and why he believes his project qualifies.

One of the qualifiers is that the project enhances downtown economic vitality. He explained that the conversion of this property into a nine-suite inn, which will include an operator's quarters, would certainly add to the vitality of downtown. Prior to the purchase, the building was vacant and deteriorating for a significant period of time. The renovations to this building on this gateway entrance to the downtown will bring a visual, artistic improvement to our downtown. The new use will also bring people from this and other communities into the community to enjoy all that our wonderful downtown has to offer.

The second criteria is the project must improve a culturally or historically important structure. Mr. Gorman noted the property is circa 1863 and it is one of significant grandeur from that period of our past. Mr. Gorman passed around some photographs of the property in its original condition when Mr. Gorman purchased it, and its current condition. He explained the property is on the Washington Street corridor that leads to Central Square. This is an area of historic significance addressed in the Comprehensive Master Plan, and it offers some of the most grand, historically accurate clusters of architecture in our region. The carriage house on the property, which was in disrepair upon purchase, is one of the most distinct and original carriage houses in the area. It was recently on the Heritage Commission's barn tour. Mr. Gorman continued that the 3,500 square foot main house is a stately classic revival that will have all of its remaining original features renovated and retained. The improvements being made will modernize the property's infrastructure and catch up on years of deferred maintenance while at the same time retaining and restoring its historic features. This will allow it to be preserved and enjoyed for generations to come. A report detailing the property's historic significance was prepared, and upon completion, the property was declared eligible for the State Historic Register.

Mr. Gorman went on to talk about the second criteria that promotes the preservation and reuse of existing building stock. In that regard, this project includes: the repair and restoration of existing shutters, corbels, soffit, fascia, as well as the repair of stained glass, the repair and restoration of the existing exterior doors, the removal of the front porch enclosure to restore it to the original open porch, the installation of the original arched windows which had been removed, and the preservation of original gas lighting fixtures that have been converted to electricity. Other improvements include the reuse of the original baseboard, interior doors, casing and moldings, and the repair of the marble fireplace, etc.

He noted the third criteria relates to promoting to the efficient design, safety and a greater sense of community consistent with the Master Plan. Mr. Gorman noted the Master Plan sites a need for programs that will maintain the City's history through the preservation, reuse and renovation, and energy upgrades to our many architectural gems. The 79-E program aligns with this, and this project encapsulates all the challenges and benefits relative to such reuse, preservation and

efficiencies. Also in the Master Plan is the need for walkability of the community, and the location and use proposed for this property aligns with that goal.

He noted there were a couple of other criteria of the program that he opted out of that perhaps he will meet, but he is unsure at this time. One would be returning a residential building to owner occupancy. Although it is a possibility, at this time he is not sure that they will live at the property.

The last criteria Mr. Gorman touched on was increasing energy sustainability and reduced carbon emissions, or an improved home energy score. He noted that they have upgraded from a very inefficient system and converted to a 10 zone forced hot water heating system. They also installed Energy Star windows, and blown in insulation. He has done everything possible in this regard. He finished by offering to answer any questions.

Councilor Hansel stated he is a neighbor to this property and has witnessed the amazing transformation as the renovations have taken place. He applauded Mr. Gorman and said this is the reason he supported the 79-E concept, because it supports smaller projects such as this.

Councilor Jones commented that this is not the City doing Mr. Gorman a favor; this is Mr. Gorman doing the City a favor. He noted that Mr. Gorman would still be paying on the assessed value of the property, but would receive a tax break on the improvements for a period of up to five years.

Mr. Bradford Hutchinson stated he has noticed the work going on with this building. He does not understand all the details of the 79-E program, but he is impressed overall and Mr. Gorman was honest in that he may not occupy the property. He is doing everything right and hopes Mr. Gorman receives what he is requesting.

There being no further public comments, the Mayor closed the hearing at 7:25 PM. He noted the hearing will remain open for written public comments until Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Written comments must be signed and submitted to the City Clerk by the deadline to be included in the record. He noted this application will be referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

A true record, attest:


City Clerk

PRESENTATION – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Medard Kopczynski stated that in August 2018, the Mayor appointed a second committee to look at economic development and to make recommendations to the City Council and staff. The first Committee, which was appointed in 2016, produced a plan titled "Economic Development Action Plan" that was used to guide actions such as the creation of the Community Development Department, and the *Building Better Together* project, among many other efforts. The 2017 plan was adopted by the City Council on February 16, 2017.

Mr. Kopczynski continued that we are here tonight to present a second plan developed by the Ad-Hoc Comprehensive Economic Development Committee. The Committee charge was to take

an inventory of economic development efforts in Keene and the Monadnock Region, provide guidance, and encourage collaboration and planning for comprehensive economic development efforts.

He noted he was pleased to submit this plan from the Economic Development Committee. He went on to thank the Mayor for creating the Committee, and the Committee members for their hard work and all of the volunteer hours in creating and presenting information by numerous speakers. Special thanks were extended Rebecca Landry for her work with the original Committee. The blueprint she created helped him in his efforts by providing a clear goal to meet in his staffing of this committee. In addition to building on former plans, the current plan is consistent with the Comprehensive Master Plan, which has a focus on providing for a vibrant economy. The goals in the Master Plan include supporting the growth of existing businesses, incubating new businesses and attracting businesses to locate and develop in Keene.

Mr. Kopczynski explained that the Committee began by reviewing the plan issued by the 2016 committee. A number of recommendations from that plan were in the process of implementation. Several were the basis of action plans by the City Manager and are now in place. In addition, many of the topics discussed are still priorities as we move forward. The Committee met monthly from September 2018 until July 2019, discussing a variety of topics, and hearing from a number of guest speakers. The result of the work of the Committee is a draft plan for Economic Development with a concentration on issues related to workforce retention and development. This report was not transmitted to the City Council as a hard copy; however, it is available in Novus. The report, including background information and attachments can be found on the City website. The Committee believed it was environmentally responsible to refer to the website instead of creating a paper report.

Mr. Kopczynski continued by providing the significant goals that emerge from this report:

1. To implement an outreach-marketing program, while supporting existing businesses to expand the local tax base and provide living wage opportunities. Urge the Council to set aside money for Economic Development and branding projects.
2. To continue and expand the close working relationship between the City and Keene State College, River Valley, Franklin Pierce University and Antioch University. Work to assure the success of the KSC / River Valley/ Cheshire Career Center collaboration.
3. Support and expand the presence of internships. Encourage employers to implement programs to subsidize college loan debt as an employment incentive.
4. Identify, promote and utilize incentive programs from the State and Federal Government.
5. Create and implement efforts to promote Keene as a cultural, recreational, and tourist destination. Support downtown Economic Development programs.

6. Support the installation and expansion of high-speed internet. Plan for the installation of conduit any time a street is excavated.
7. Promote diversity as a means to workforce growth.
8. Work to develop and expand the airport. Promote the development of public transportation.

He added that in addition to the noted goals, the consideration of developing and adopting an Economic Development Master Plan should occur.

Mr. Kopczynski continued that what is clear is that the local economy, while strong, has some challenges. It is important to celebrate the positive, and to recognize and face those challenges. The availability of quality housing, workforce attraction and retention, day-care, and energy supply are all factors to address in addition to others. Mitigating some of these challenges is the emerging joint effort between the City of Keene, Keene State College, River Valley Community College, Antioch New England University, Franklin Pierce University, Cheshire Career Center and our business leaders to address benefits, attraction, retention and education. Beginning with high school through college there are programs to train, and provide certification and degrees to an emerging workforce. In addition, through the leadership of the City Manager, Mayor and City Council we have, and continue to pay attention to and invest in Main Street (including the Arts and Culture Corridor) and the Marlboro Street Corridor. The Marlboro Street corridor should be the next economic driver, where we have a connection to major employers (including the City of Keene and Keene State College). An updated thoroughfare, zoning and tax incentives; connected to a top rated college and community college on the opposite end of the corridor; with intervening housing waiting for the workforce of the future; all within walking distances to all amenities.

The Committee, having heard from many sources, recognizes that the barriers preventing economic expansion is the ability to attract new business, to grow existing business, and to be able to start a new business. The lack of qualified employees is a significant problem in Keene and in the State of New Hampshire. There are several subjects that the Committee identified that affect the ability to both recruit and retain employees. These barriers are especially acute for younger employees looking for a place in the community and the age group that normally would be in the stage of life to raise children, purchase homes and become invested in neighborhoods.

A review of the New Hampshire Economy shows that the number of people working in the Granite State, and the value of the goods and services have been on the rise over the past several years. The quality of New Hampshire's workforce remains high, as its level of educational attainment continues to exceed that in most states, while the extent of severe economic hardship, as expressed by the State's poverty rate, is still lower here than anywhere else. There is detailed information on the economy of Keene contained in the report courtesy of the New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute.

Mr. Kopczynski stated New Hampshire's workforce is aging in character and there has been a shift in the types of jobs available in the Granite State, with service sector employment and lower

wages. New Hampshire businesses are experiencing labor shortages. One reason New Hampshire's labor force has stopped expanding is that the State's 25 to 64 year old population is declining, as more and more residents are reaching the age of retirement; however, there has been a recent uptick in millennial in-migration. Our challenges are not unique to Keene but in fact are shared by the State and New England.

He expressed pride that the Committee decided to focus on the advantages that Keene enjoys, including that we are a City of opportunity for all people...the City of Keene, our Colleges, our fine school system, the Chamber of Commerce and employers support diversity and inclusion without regard to physical abilities, sexual orientation, and religious affiliation, racial or cultural ethnicity. Keene is a progressive community that values and supports lifelong learning with a first-rate public school system and four institutions for higher education. We boast a regional airport that includes the third longest runway in New Hampshire. Keene houses a diverse group of internationally relevant, high tech manufacturers that consistently lead their peers in both innovation and social responsibility. We enjoy a rapidly growing arts scene that builds on the region's storied reputation for cultivating successful visual and performing artists. Keene citizens have a community vision that boldly strives to realize a more sustainable, thoughtful, and quality built environment that is attractive to young families and new residents of diverse backgrounds. We enjoy a vibrant and active downtown core that has received national recognition such as Central Square being named as "One of the Great Places in America" by the American Planners Association. In addition, a thriving "buy local movement" anchored by a downtown food coop and farmer's market. Substantial and responsive municipal services housed in a newly constructed Fire Station (2014), Police and Public Works Building (2006), and a beautifully renovated and expanded Public Library (2019) that is the largest such facility in the State of New Hampshire. Keene is a collaborative and well-functioning group of individuals, businesses, non-profit organizations, and government entities that consistently work together to tackle bold ideas.

Mr. Kopczynski went on to go over the topics reviewed by the Committee, which included: Arts and Culture, Energy, Use and Supply, County Economic Development Efforts, Current and Future Airport Economic Efforts, Current and Future MEDC Economic Development, Workforce Development Training and Education, Financial Resources available for existing or potential businesses, housing programs and Economic Trends in New Hampshire, Keene and the Monadnock Region. Mr. Kopczynski ended by stating the Committee recommendations are arranged by topic, which follow to great extent the subjects reviewed by the committee and to which speakers provided input.

The Mayor commented that yesterday he and the City Manager went to a meeting in Nashua of all the State's Mayors and many City Managers attended as well. What they learned is that Keene has moved beyond what many other communities in the state have done with regard to Economic Development. This is a reflection of the unique qualities of this community and our willingness to tackle tough issues and find solutions.

Councilor Greenwald thanked the Mayor for granting him the chairmanship of the economic Development Committee. The Committee was very well supported by staff including Mr. Kopczynski and the minute taker. He added they had very good discussions at the Committee.

As there were no further comments or questions, the Mayor thanked Mr. Kopczynski for his presentation and looked forward to further discussion of the plan at the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

ITEM BROUGHT FORWARD - COMMUNICATION – JESSICA BAUM – RESIGNATION – KEENE ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

A communication was received from Jessica Baum 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 Jones. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

CONFIRMATIONS

The clerk noted that with the acceptance of Jessica Baum's resignation, that the nomination of Zack Luse was being changed to a regular membership status. Mr. Luse would be completing her remaining term. A motion was made by Councilor Greenwald and duly seconded by Councilor Jones to confirm the following nominations: Jane Pitts to serve as a regular member on the Library Board of Trustees with a term to expire June 30, 2022 and Zach Luse to serve as a regular member on the Energy and Climate Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2021. On a roll call vote, with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor, the nominations were confirmed.

ITEM BROUGHT FORWARD - COMMUNICATION – DON WILMETH – RESIGNATION – LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A communication was received from Don Wilmeth resigning from the Library Board of Trustees. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the resignation with regret and appreciation of service was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

NOMINATIONS

The Mayor noted with respect to the nomination of Arthur Gaudio, that the alternate membership slot was previously held by Jeffrey Stevens who had moved out of Keene several months ago. The Mayor noted he was declaring that alternate membership slot as being vacant to allow for Mr. Gaudio's nomination to go forward. The Clerk noted that with the acceptance of Mr. Wilmeth's resignation, that the nomination of Charles Prigge was being presented.

The following nominations were received from the Mayor: Charles Prigge to serve as a regular member on the Library Board of Trustees with a term to expire June 30, 2021, Carl B. Jacobs to serve as a regular member on the Library Board of Trustees with a term to expire June 30, 2022; and Arthur Gaudio to serve as an alternate member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire December 31, 2020. The nominations were tabled until the next regular meeting.

COMMUNICATION – DONNA FORTE – REQUEST FOR LODGING HOUSE LICENSE APPLICATION – 57 WINCHESTER STREET

A communication was received from Donna Forte of 57 Winchester Street, requesting the renewal of the Lodging House License for property located at 57 Winchester Street. The communication was referred to the Planning, Licensing and Development Committee.

COMMUNICATION – COUNCILORS BOSLEY AND RICHARDS – COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF NEIGHBORHOOD SPEED LIMITS

A communication was received from Councilors Bosley and Richards, suggesting a review of all speed limits in the City’s residential neighborhoods, particularly in high and medium density zones. The communication was referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

COMMUNICATION – COUNCILOR FILIAULT – RELATING TO ROOMS AND MEALS TAX REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT

A communication was received from Councilor Filiault, suggesting the City seek a court order mandating that the State honor the original 60% - 40% revenue sharing agreement related to Rooms and Meals Tax revenues. The communication was referred to the City Attorney for an opinion.

COMMUNICATION – ATTORNEY MARGARET H. NELSON ON BEHALF OF KINGSBURY ACQUISITION, LLC – 80 LAUREL STREET

A communication was received from Attorney Margaret H. Nelson on behalf of Kingsbury Acquisition, LLC, outlining their attempts to resolve the on-going discussions about the tax obligations on property located at 80 Laurel Street. The Chair proceeded with a call for reconsideration of the vote from the September 6, 2019 City Council Meeting regarding tax deeding of 80 Laurel Street. He noted that issue was before the Council for further action.

Councilor Greenwald moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a payment plan for the payment of the taxes and accrued interest owed for the tax years 2009, and 2010, for property located at 80 Laurel Street, tax map number 589017000000000, payable in six essentially equal monthly installments as calculated by the City Tax Collector, commencing on September 20, 2019, unless such payment amounts, but not the period of time required for final payment, are amended by the City and the property owner by mutual agreement; and further that if payments are not made in accordance with the payment plan, as it may be amended, by the close of business on March 20, 2020, then a tax deed for the property shall be issued in accordance with applicable state law. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. A brief discussion took place. The City Manager clarified if the property owner defaulted on Payment #2 then the tax deeding process would begin. On a roll call vote, 10 voting in favor, five opposed. Councilors Manwaring, Clark, Filiault, Jones and Richards voted in opposition.

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to authorize the City Manager be authorized to negotiate with the property owner of property located at 80 Laurel Street, tax map # 589017000000000, for the purchase by the City of any easements, or land, now part of the property, that may be required by the City for any necessary public purpose, The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS – 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 a donation of \$700.00 and that the money is used for the Recreation Department scholarship fund. 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 – 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 a donation of \$500.00 and that the money is used for the Human Rights Committee collaboration with the Keene International Festival. 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 – 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 a donation of the construction of a pump track in Wheelock Park from the New England Mountain Bike Association Keene / Brattleboro Chapter. 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 – 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 a donation of an informational kiosk in Railroad Square from the Walldogs. 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 – PERIODIC REPORT – ASSESSORS BOARD

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

FOP REPORT – CONTRACT SERVICES TO PERFORM A WATER/SEWER RATE STUDY – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending the City Council authorize the City Manager to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute a professional

services contract with Raftelis to perform a Water/Sewer Rate Study for an amount not to exceed \$64,708. If a contract cannot be negotiated, the City Manager is authorized to negotiate with the next ranked firm. 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 – DESIGN CHANGE ORDER – ROXBURY ST. BRIDGE REPLACEMENT – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute a change order with McFarland Johnson for engineering services associated with the replacement of the Roxbury Street bridge over Beaver Brook, in an amount not to exceed \$6,767.83. 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 – SALE OF FORMER ALPS PROPERTIES – AIRPORT DIVISION

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Council authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute purchase and sale agreements for the former Alps properties at the Keene Dillant-Hopkins Airport. 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 – SALE OF AIRPORT HANGAR – AIRPORT DIVISION

Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Council authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute purchase and sale agreements for the so called “Green Hangar” at the Keene Dillant-Hopkins Airport. 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.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager congratulated several of the Public Works Department employees: Megan Dussette, Russel Fish, and Lee Dexter, who recently achieved the status of Road Scholar I; Charles Nichols and Joshua Byrnes who achieved the status of Road Scholar II; Cameron LaPoint who achieved the status of Safety Champion from the University of New Hampshire Technology Center program. The City Manager also wanted to recognize Robert Chaput and Shawn Rawlings in the Water and Sewer Department for finding 7 wallets and returning them to their owners. Most recently, they returned a wallet with a significant amount of cash and when the owner tried to thank them by giving them a \$100 in cash, they returned it and explained that they as employees could not accept gifts.

The City Manager provided updates on the Community Development Department. The department continue to implement both staff and software changes to create efficiencies and improve our interactions with the public. The Department went live with the online building permit application. This will make it easier for people to apply for building permits remotely.

They now accept payments for permits in the form of cash, checks or credit cards in the department. This makes it easier for the applicant to be able to do everything in the department versus going downstairs to pay their fee. The next step is to start collecting payments online.

The City Manager wanted to inform everyone about Radically Royal Summit starting today. 400 people have registered for this event from at least twenty-two other states. Downtown Keene becomes a walking conference center. The City Manager noted that she was impressed with the restaurants efficient service to allow people to come in have their lunch and get back to the conference within a short time frame.

RESIGNATION – HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

A memorandum was received on behalf of the Human Rights Committee indicating that Tammy Parrott had submitted her resignation as a member of the Committee. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the resignation with regret and appreciation of service was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

RESIGNATION – AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

A memorandum was received on behalf of the Airport Development and Marketing Committee indicated that Andrea White had submitted her resignation as a member of the Committee. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the resignation with regret and appreciation of service was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

DEDICATION OF PATH SYSTEM CHESHIRE RAIL TRAIL SECTION (THOM LITTLE)

A memorandum was received from the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee requesting the City Council consider dedicating the Cheshire Rail Trail section from Emerald Street to Island Street as “Little Way”. The memorandum was filed into the record. The request was referred by the Chair to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

MORE TIME

More time was granted by the Chair for the following item in Committee: Joseph S. Hoppock, Esq. – Request to Purchase City Property.

MEMORANDUM AND ORDINANCE O-2019-16: RELATING TO – SPECIFIC STREET REGULATION – SPEED LIMITS

A memorandum was received from Police Chief relative to Ordinance O-2019-16: Relating to – Specific Street Regulation – Speed Limits. Ordinance O-2019-16 was read first time by title only. Ordinance O-2019-16 was referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

MEMORANDUM AND RESOLUTION R-2019-35: RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATIONS OF FUNDS FOR THE SOLID WASTE FUND

09/19/2019

A memorandum was received from Assistant Public Works Director/Solid Waste Manager relative to Resolution R-2019-35: Relating to the Appropriations of Funds for the Solid Waste Fund. Resolution R-2019-35 was read first time by title only. Resolution R-2019-35 was referred to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

COMMUNICATION – ATTORNEY THOMAS R. HANNA, BEHALF OF THE COLONIAL THEATRE GROUP, INC. – RELATING TO THE DISCONTINUANCE OF A PORTION OF THE COMMERCIAL STREET PARKING LOT AND RESOLUTIONS: R-2019-36: RELATING TO THE DISCONTINUANCE OF A PORTION OF THE COMMERCIAL STREET PARKING LOT; R-2019-37: RELATING TO ACCEPTANCE OF A WARRANTY DEED TO CORRECT THE SIDEWALK AND CURBING ENCROACHMENT PROBLEM – COMMERCIAL STREET PARKING LOT

A communication was received from the Attorney Thomas R. Hanna, on behalf of the Colonial Theatre Group, Inc., requesting the discontinuance of a portion of the Commercial Street Parking Lot, along with Resolutions R-2019-36 and R-2019-37. The communication was filed into the record. Resolutions R-2019-36 and R-2019-37 were referred by the Chair to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee. The Mayor scheduled a site visit for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 5:45 PM and set a public hearing for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 7:05 PM.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 8:35 PM, a motion by Councilor Greenwald to go into non-public session for the purposes of discussion of litigation under RSA 91-A:3 II(e) was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. On a roll call vote, 15 Councilors were present and voted in favor. The session concluded at 9:15 PM. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to keep the minutes in non-public session was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. On a roll call vote, 15 Councilors were present and voting in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 PM, there being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

A true record, attest:


City Clerk