

12/05/2019

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held Thursday, December 5, 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 Bosley led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the minutes from the November 21, 2019 regular meeting was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR

The Mayor announced the Standing Committees scheduled for December 25, 2019 and December 26, 2019 have been canceled. The inauguration for the 2020 Keene City Council is scheduled to take place at noon on Wednesday, January 1, 2020.

CONFIRMATION

A motion was made by Councilor Greenwald and duly seconded by Councilor Jones to confirm the following nomination: Delene White to serve as a regular member of the Partner City Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2022. On a roll call vote, with 15 Councilors present and voting in favor, the nomination was confirmed.

NOMINATION

The following nomination was received from the Mayor: Cory Watkins to serve as a regular member on the Airport Development and Marketing Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2021. The nomination was tabled until the next regular meeting.

COMMUNICATION – MICHAEL REMY – RESIGNATION – ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

A communication was received from Michael Remy, submitting his resignation effective December 31, 2019 as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. 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.

COMMUNICATION – MAYOR KENDALL W. LANE – CANCELANATION OF JANUARY 2, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A communication was received from Mayor Kendall W. Lane, requesting the cancelation of the January 2, 2020 City Council Meeting due to the City Council's Standing Committee meetings being canceled for the previous week and that it is anticipated that there will be no agenda items for the City Council to consider at this meeting. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to cancel the Keene City Council January 2, 2020 regular meeting was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. On a show of hands, 12 Councilors voting in favor and three opposed, the motion carried. Councilors Bosley, Lamoureux and Greenwald opposed.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager updated the Council on the Kingsbury tax deed payment arrangement. The City has received the third payment from the property owner in the amount \$119,000 on November 26, 2019. The 2009 tax lien is almost paid in full. The December payment will be split between the remaining 2009 tax lien, \$2,256.48, and the 2010 tax. In regards to the land matters, the City has not received a response or counter-offer to their October 10, 2019 letter.

The City Manager continued with the proposed county budget is ready. The Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget is on December 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM at County Hall. In the summary letter, the proposed budget represents 2.86% increase from taxation. For more information, it is posted on the County's website.

The City Manager updated the Council on Park and Arch Street intersection crossing. The poles and crossing beacons for the intersection were installed on Tuesday, December 3, 2019. There were some final electrical connections that still need to be completed. The crosswalks should be operational by the end of this week.

The City Manager shared news about the electricity contract. The City uses a third party to assist with the acquisition of energy as a commodity. The City was able to secure a favorable 100% green pricing for all municipal accounts. Considering that we are contemplating an energy project at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, we only locked it in for a minimum of twelve and a maximum of 24 months.

The City Manager pointed out that there is an article on the Councilor's desk that was submitted in the November/December edition to the Expansion Journal. This business journal is interested in reaching out to businesses that are looking to expand or relocate. The quarter page article is in with the cities of Dover, Portsmouth, Rochester and Derry.

The City Manager wanted to publically thank the City Clerk, Patricia Little, and the Assistant City Clerk, Terri Hood, for all of the hard work they have been doing in the lobby. The lobby is decorated for the holidays.

MEMORANDUM – KEENE SOLARIZE CAMPAIGN – ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

A memorandum was received from Energy and Climate Committee, requesting that the City of Keene support the 2020 Keene Solarize Campaign. The memorandum was referred to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

MEMORANDUM AND RESOLUTION R-2019-41: APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR CDBG FUNDS

A memorandum was received from James Weatherly, of Southwest Regional Planning Commission, along with Resolution R-2019-41. The memorandum was filed into the record.

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Resolution R-2019-41 was referred by the Chair to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee. The Mayor set a public hearing for Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:13 PM, there being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

A true record, attest:


City Clerk