

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held on Thursday, March 4, 2021. The Honorable Mayor George S. Hansel read into the record the Emergency Order #12, issued by the Governor of the State of New Hampshire pursuant to Executive Order #2020-04. Mayor Hansel then called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. He continued that the members of the City Council would be participating remotely. The Mayor asked that during the roll call for attendance, each Councilor identify their online presence and whether there are others with them in the room. Roll called: Stephen L. Hooper, Michael J. Remy, Janis O. Manwaring, Michael Giacomo, Randy L. Filiault, Robert C. Williams, Philip M. Jones, Gladys Johnsen, Raleigh C. Ormerod, Bettina A. Chadbourne, Catherine I. Workman, Mitchell H. Greenwald, Kate M. Bosley, and Thomas F. Powers. Ward Three Council seat vacant. A motion by Councilor Powers to accept the minutes from the February 18, 2021 regular meeting was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley and the motion passed on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor recalled that the filing period for the Ward Three City Councilor Vacancy was still open and would extend until 4:30 PM on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Election of the new Councilor by the City Council would occur at the March 18, 2021 regular meeting. The Mayor announced a Council workshop on the Keene Police Department CALEA accreditation on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 starting at 6:00 PM. Mayor Hansel said that the City Council's summer vacation schedule would start with cancelation of the August 5 Council meeting as well as the August 11 and August 12 Standing Committee meetings. The Council would return to its normal meeting schedule for the August 19 regular meeting.

The Mayor shared positive news that several new businesses would be opening Keene, stating it was a good sign that we are coming out of the Covid-19 pandemic. The downtown economy would benefit from planned festivals and the Sierra Trading Post opening March 20 on Winchester Street and announcement of a Chaos and Kindness store to open later this spring. Mayor Hansel hoped this momentum would continue, helping downtown to grow and do well coming out of the pandemic.

Finally, Mayor Hansel congratulated the Keene High School girls' hockey team for making it to the second round of the State tournament, which was a first for the team. The team would play the undefeated Bishop Guertin School on March 5 and the Mayor wished them good luck.

MINUTES

Referring to the minutes of the February 18, 2021 City Council meeting, a motion by Councilor Powers to accept the minutes as printed was seconded by Councilor Bosley. On roll call vote, 14 Councilors were present and voting in favor. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

CONFIRMATION

Referring to the nomination of Councilor Ormerod to the Energy and Climate Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2021; the Mayor called for the vote. On roll call vote, 14

Councilors were present and voting in favor. Nomination confirmed. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

COMMUNICATION – REPRESENTATIVE JOE SHAPIRO – URGING THE CITY OF KEENE TO TAKE A POSITION ON HB 266

A communication was received from Representative Joe Schapiro, urging the City of Keene to take a position on HB 266, relative to enforcement of immigration laws and prohibition of sanctuary policies. He is also requesting to have a relevant Staff member testify or otherwise communicate that position. Mayor Hansel referred the communication to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

COMMUNICATION – GRANITE ROOTS BREWING – REQUESTING PERMISSION TO SELL ALCOHOL AT THE FARMERS' MARKET OF KEENE

A communication was received from Fenella and Anthony Levick, of Granite Roots Brewing, with an annual request for permission to sell alcohol at the Farmers' Market of Keene for the 2021 season. Mayor Hansel referred the communication to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

COMMUNICATION – COUNCILOR ORMEROD – REGARDING IN-PERSON COMMITTEE MEETINGS

A communication was received from Councilor Raleigh Ormerod urging the return of in-person committee meetings. Mayor Hansel stated his intention to refer this communication to City Staff, but first he allowed Councilor Ormerod to address his communication.

Councilor Ormerod stated that the Councilors bring out the best in each other when meeting face-to-face, particularly for Standing Committee meetings. The Councilor referred to recent events that could have been changed perhaps if the Standing Committees were meeting in-person. He thought that being face-to-face again would give the Council the best chance to continue bringing out the best in each other for creative productivity. Mayor Hansel said that the City Manager was working to establish hybrid in-person Standing Committee meetings when safe. The Mayor referred the communication to City Staff.

COMMUNICATION – COUNCILOR FILIAULT – REQUESTING MINUTES BE KEPT OF MEETINGS BETWEEN THE MAYOR, THE CHARTER OFFICERS, AND THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

A communication was received from Councilor Randy Filiault requesting that a minute taker be present at the bi-weekly meetings of City Staff and the Committee Chairs. Mayor Hansel referred the communication to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee.

MSFI REPORT – PRESENTATION – ANNUAL ESCO COST AVOIDANCE REPORT YEAR 8 – 2020

On a vote of 5 – 0, Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending on a roll call vote of 5-0 that the City Council accept the presentation on the

annual ESCO Cost Avoidance Report as informational. Mayor Hansel filed the report as informational.

MSFI REPORT – INTRODUCING A NEW CITIZEN REPORTING SYSTEM – CITY ENGINEER

On a vote of 5 – 0, Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read recommending that the City Council accept the report on the New Citizen Reporting System as informational. Mayor Hansel filed the report as informational.

PLD REPORT – NH RESOLUTION FOR FAIR NONPARTISAN REDISTRICTING

On a vote of 4 – 0, Planning, Licenses and Development Report read recommending that the Mayor submit a letter to the Governor, to Senator Kahn, and to the City of Keene Legislative Delegation in support of fair nonpartisan redistricting legislation pending before the State Legislature. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley.

Councilor Ormerod agreed that this was a good idea but questioned whether this action was too late due to decisions made already; what could be done still about the redistricting process. Mayor Hansel replied that the Governor appointed a committee on statewide redistricting, to which he was unsure whether the communication in question would be relevant.

Councilor Johnsen recalled that when she was a State Representative a State committee led a meeting at the Library that she said people felt was fair. She was unsure what the process would be like this year but could not imagine it being vastly different.

Councilor Giacomo agreed that this was a great idea in principle, and critical to a fair democracy. Still, he questioned who determines what is fair, what nonpartisanship looks like, and how this would be enforced. He supported the premise but said it seemed, "a very pie in the sky idea." He wanted to see more quantitative language if a letter were drafted appealing to Senator Kahn.

Councilor Jones recalled that when Ms. Terri O'Rorke brought this idea to the PLD Committee, she was less concerned about Keene – where legislative districts align with Wards – and more so about supporting other NH towns with enough population for one legislative district that are divided due to gerrymandering. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilor present and voting in favor. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

PLD REPORT – DOWNTOWN RE-OPENING COMMITTEE AND KEENE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK – KEENE FOOD FESTIVAL – REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY

On a vote of 4 – 0, Planning, Licenses and Development Report read recommending that the Keene Young Professionals Network be granted permission to use downtown City rights-of-ways including the Common on Saturday, June 5, 2021 to conduct a Food Festival conditional upon the following:

- The furnishing of a certificate of liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 naming the City of Keene as an additional insured;
- The signing of a standard revocable license and indemnification agreement;
- The Petitioner is responsible for compliance with the Governor's COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency and Executive orders and any City Ordinance that addresses the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency that maybe in place at the time of the event;
- That the Petitioner agrees to absorb the cost of any City services over and above the amount of City funding allocated by the City Council to the event, and agrees to remit said payment within 30-days of the date of invoicing;
- That the agreed upon footprint and layout for the event shall encumber Central Square, including the traveled portion of the road requiring the following road closures: Central Square, West Street from Federal Street to Central Square, Roxbury Street from Roxbury Plaza to Central Square, Washington Street from Vernon Street to Central Square, and Court Street from Winter Street to Central Square;
- That the Petitioner is permitted to place porta-potties in City parking spaces located at the base of Washington Street from Friday, June 4, 2021 to Monday June 7, 2021, which will be chained together and affixed to ensure they are not vandalized while unattended overnight;
- That the actual event will be held from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM with the times for set up and clean up to be established with City Staff;
- That free parking be granted under the provisions of the free parking policy for City parking spaces on Washington Street needed for storage of equipment from Friday, June 4, 2021 to Monday June 7, 2021, and spaces within the event footprint on the day of the event;
- Other licenses issued or granted within the event foot print or in the downtown maybe suspended for the period of the event if determined appropriated by City Staff;
- The submittal of signed letters of permission from any private property owners for the use of their property; and
- Said permission is granted subject to obtainment of any necessary licenses or permits and compliance with all laws; and compliance with any recommendations of City Staff.

Mayor Hansel acknowledged a point of order from Councilor Remy, who stated that he and Councilor Giacomo were Board members of the Keene Young Professionals Network (KYPN) and while the KYPN and neither Councilor stood to gain anything financially from this event, he questioned whether the Council identified a conflict of interest with their participation in the vote. Councilor Greenwald saw no conflict but cited recent more aggressive conflict of interest policies on matters for which Councilors are board members of the organizations being voted on. Councilor Williams questioned whether recusal would bar the Councilors from conversation, stating that the Council could rely on their knowledge of the event. Mayor Hansel said that KYPN is the petitioner and so if a conflict were found the Councilors would be barred from conversation, but he continued that should not be a reason whether to recuse. Councilor Powers said that the FOP Committee did not find a conflict and requested the City Attorney's opinions.

The City Attorney explained that he commented on this issue at the FOP Committee meeting on this matter and said it was clear there was no direct pecuniary interest. While there was a new standard regarding fiduciary obligations, he said it was so attenuated that he did not see a conflict in this instance. He continued that there could be no money remaining at the end of the process.

Councilor Bosley said that she saw no conflict in Councilors Remy and Giacomo discussing and voting on this matter of the license; however, she did identify a conflict when requesting money from the City as members of an organization's board.

Councilor Greenwald clarified that he did not identify a true conflict in this instance, but thought that the new standards should be addressed by the City Attorney. The Councilor would not vote to recuse.

Mayor Hansel led a vote to recuse Councilors Remy and Giacomo from this agenda item's discussion and vote. Yaw votes would support recusal and nay votes were to not recuse. On a roll call vote of 0 yav-14 nays, Councilor's Remy and Giacomo *were not* recused. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the PLD report was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley.

The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

PLD REPORT – PRESENTATION – COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH EFFECTS OF EVOLVING 5G TECHNOLOGY

On a vote of 3 – 1, Planning, Licenses and Development Report read recommending that the City Council accept the presentation from Commission to Study the Environmental and Health Effects of Evolving 5G Technology as informational. Councilor Johnsen was opposed. Mayor Hansel filed the report as informational.

FOP REPORT – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION – BEE CITY APPLICATION

On a vote of 4 – 0, Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept a donation of \$200.00 from John and Claire Therriault for the purpose of submitting a City of Keene Bee City Resolution. A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Hooper. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

FOP REPORT – KEENE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL NETWORK SUMMER FOOD FESTIVAL FUNDING REQUEST

On a vote of 4 – 0, Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that unspent funds from the City's FY21 Community Event Budget be used for the cost of City services for the Keene Young Professional Network Downtown Summer Food Festival on June 5, 2021.

Mayor Hansel recognized Councilor Remy for a point of order identifying his and Councilor Giacomo's roles on the Keene Young Professional Network (KYPN) Board. Councilor Remy stated that the group was not asking the City for funds, but to not charge the KYPN for City services provided to the event.

Councilor Bosley believed that in-kind contributions were synonymous to monetary contributions and therefore she did identify a conflict of interest for the Councilors participating in this vote. Councilor Williams thought the point was well-taken and he agreed with Councilor Bosley in identifying a conflict. Councilor Filiault asked to hear from the City Attorney.

The City Attorney agreed that there was uncharted territory with the new rule established recently, but that the basic idea was how much fiduciary obligation an individual has. Therefore, he thought it was fairly attenuated. Still, like all votes on conflict of interest, the decision is the Council's. Overall, he thought this discussion illuminated the need to establish parameters on what that phrase means at this point.

Councilor Jones remembered changing bylaws due to the Mayor's place on the Monadnock Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Board, when that corporation was negotiating fiduciary contracts with the City. He thought the Mayor's situation was different than a non-profit board seeking community funding for an event. He thought the precedent was specific to the Mayor's situation and that Councilor's Remy and Giacomo did not need to recuse.

The Mayor said his situation that caused the change in bylaws was an uncomfortable one and he appreciated Councilor Greenwald's suggestion that clearer parameters would make these conversations easier moving forward.

Councilor Giacomo said that all proceeds from token sales – exchanged for cash – and public/private entities would at the end of the event have the total event cost subtracted and then any remaining proceeds would be distributed to all of the participating restaurants. He said there would be no possible way for KYPN to make money from this event because any proceeds remaining at the end would be distributed to participants, per the event's net-zero funding structure.

Councilor Greenwald thought that most Councilors were on the board of one or more local non-profit organizations, which he thought spoke well for the Council. He did not think those affiliations presented personal self-interests and while Councilors could have slight bias on those respective organizations he did not think that should preclude them from speaking and voting. He said the case of the Mayor and MEDC negotiating with the City was different. Unless the result is some profit for the respective organizations, Councilor Greenwald did not think that

Councilors should be prohibited from speaking and voting on matters relating to those organizations. He said a stronger and clearer policy was needed. He saw no conflict in this case.

Councilor Bosley disagreed respectfully with Councilor Greenwald and stated that it was important for the Council to be alerted to Councilors' various affiliations as relevant matters are presented. While there was no personal gain to Councilors Remy and Giacomo in this instance, Councilor Bosley still saw a direct conflict of interest when an organization seeks funds from the City – even in-kind funds for services provided – to benefit their organization. During the budget process, she had seen Councilors advocate increased funds for the various boards they serve, which made her uncomfortable and she wanted to delve deeper into the matter. She agreed that it is important for Councilors to be engaged throughout the community but when there is a financial interest, she wanted the Council notified.

Councilor Ormerod recalled that he was the one Councilor who voted against the change to the conflict of interest rule. He shared his reasoning. He said the change was one in a group of very positive changes but his concern then was, "creating a fuzziness," by moving from the pecuniary to the fiduciary, which he thought was demonstrated in this meeting's conversation thus far. If the opportunity arose, he wanted to return to the clear-cut pecuniary. Councilor Ormerod said that he wanted to hear from Councilor Remy at this meeting and would therefore not vote to recuse.

Mayor Hansel agreed that this meeting highlighted the need for a follow-up conversation on changes to the bylaws but said that the focus should remain on this matter of recusal at hand.

Councilor Workman supported Councilor Bosley's position. While Councilor Workman wholeheartedly supported these funds going to KPYN, she did think Councilors Remy and Giacomo should be recused for the sake of transparency.

Councilor Filiault agreed with Councilor Workman, stating that this falls into a grey area and that the Council should vote on the side of caution. While this was not blatant, he thought caution was needed when discussing a new policy or rule of order. Despite believing that Councilors Remy and Giacomo should be recused, he applauded their efforts.

Councilor Chadbourne agreed with Councilors Bosley, Workman, and Filiault. Councilor Chadbourne said that public perception must always be considered and while it could be said that no money was being requested in this instance, she said that City services translate to money. She said that this could not be repackaged with different wording, this still came down to money. She said this presented a great opportunity for poor public misperception of Council. She would vote to recuse.

Councilor Giacomo said that all aforementioned points made sense and he too did not want a public perception of conflict, so he was happy to step aside as needed,

Mayor Hansel led a vote to recuse Councilors Remy and Giacomo from this agenda item's discussion and vote. Yay votes would support recusal and nay votes were to not recuse. On a roll call vote of 10 yays–4 nays, Councilor's Remy and Giacomo *were* recused. Nay votes were from Councilors Manwaring, Jones, Greenwald, and Powers. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Hooper.

Councilor Manwaring said that while the event sounded wonderful and she planned to attend, that there was a process for community event status, requiring that two successful events occur to achieve that status. She was concerned with setting a precedent for throwing out those rules. Mayor Hansel noted that the Council policy on funding “community events” does require that the event occur at least twice before requesting the City's “community event” status. It was the Mayor's understanding that KYPN was not asking for that status, but rather they were asking to use of surplus funds that resulted from other community events not being held this past year due to Covid-19. Mayor Hansel said that if KYPN wanted community event status moving forward, they would need to adhere to the aforementioned criteria. Councilor Manwaring said it seemed as if groups did not have to adhere to that criteria anymore. While there was leftover funding, Councilor Manwaring was concerned and could not support this when other groups have not had the same equal opportunities.

While she agreed with Councilor Manwaring about following the rules, Councilor Bosley stated that she understood this event came from the downtown reopening committee that was formed to bring vitality back to downtown after Covid-19, which Councilor Bosley thought provided some exception to the rules, and therefore she would support this.

Councilor Johnsen questioned whether there were back-up plans for the event should additional Covid-19 challenges arise in the community at the time. Mayor Hansel was aware of the possibility to move the date later in the summer if needed.

Councilor Jones said that this event came from a City committee that decided it better for the event to be sponsored by a non-profit. He said that Councilor Remy did well establishing KYPN as a sponsor, for which Councilor Jones was grateful and he looked forward to the event.

The City Manager agreed with Councilor Bosley's points and requested that the Council consider supporting this event. The City Manager continued that a great group of Councilors, Staff, and residents had been involved in the committee seeking to revitalize downtown. She thanked the KYPN for this significant undertaking. She said that the KYPN would have to fundraise additional expenses for this event beyond the cost of City services for things like porta-potties and other equipment. Approximately \$16,000 were estimated for in-kind City services for this event and the community events budget had a balance of \$29,600.

The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with 11 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Manwaring opposed. Councilors Giacomo and Remy recused. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

FOP REPORT – SALE OF TAX DEEDED PROPERTY – 62 ELM STREET

On a vote of 4 – 0, Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to sell the following tax deeded

property by sealed bid: 62 Elm Street, Map 554 Lot 24. A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the report was duly seconded by Councilor Hooper. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Ward Three Council seat vacant.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager began with an update on the effort to return to hybrid in-person and virtual meetings. Over the past year, the City utilized \$83,000 in GOEFFER grant funds to upgrade the audio and video equipment in the Council Chambers in order to improve the public's remote access to governmental meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the following upgrades occurred:

- The analog robotic cameras in the ceiling were upgraded to hi-definition cameras, which would improve the video quality.
- The microphones were upgraded to wireless, which would improve the meeting setup and eliminate the need to lay out cabling to each microphone.
- The switchers in the control room were upgraded to be compatible with a digital signal.
- The PA system was upgraded to improve the quality of the sound and minimize any feedback issues.
- Two new monitors were installed to improve the viewing angle at the head dais table.
- New assisted listening devices were added to be compliant with American Disability Association standards.

The City Manager said that all of this work set the stage for hybrid meetings in which Councilors in the Council Chamber would be able to hear remote Councilors (and the public when unmuted) through the speakers in the ceiling; the cameras in the Council Chambers would feed into the Zoom webinar so that remote Councilors and the public would see Councilors physically in the Chambers and all the monitors in the Council Chambers would show what the Zoom participants see. She said this was a huge improvement from using solely the mobile Zoom room technology. There is one additional piece of equipment needed to move forward that has been ordered.

The City Manager said it was currently Staff's plan to begin a modified hybrid format for Council Standing Committees beginning in April. . Since Council Committees consist of only five Councilors, it is easier to provide social distance and manage both in-person and virtual participation versus a full Council meeting. To mitigate risk, public participants and staff members would be asked participate virtually still on Zoom. This remains an option as long as the Governor's emergency order is in place. Our ability to limit meeting size and the way in which we use virtual platforms would likely change once the Governor's emergency order is lifted, unless there is legislative change regarding public meetings.

The City Manager shared an update on mask donations and thanked Monadnock Ford, which generously donated another 22,800 (12 cases) of masks. She also thanked Councilor Filiault for his help facilitating this donation.

The City Manager said it was time to start thinking about outdoor patios and the expanded use of sidewalks. Last season, the City executed licenses that provided for temporary expanded use of the City's right-of-way to accommodate more outside dining. It was the City Manager's intent to execute licenses for the entire 2021 season authorizing this expanded use again, utilizing the flexibility provided to her while in the state of emergency. Once executed, these licenses would be good for the entire season even if the Governor's emergency declaration were removed sometime this year. In addition, she said a meeting occurred this week to discuss what minor revisions would be necessary to allow more flexibility beyond the emergency. She planned to bring forward some recommended changes for Council consideration in the next few months.

The City Manager continued providing Covid-19 updates. At the March 3 meeting with all of our partners, the hospital, schools, County, and Keene State College (KSC), the City Manager heard that hospital numbers still looked good overall and they were moving back to normal operations. The testing positivity rate did go up to 7% of the 644 people who were tested last week. Inpatient Covid-19 individuals average approximately four, which they said was up a little but was nothing concerning.

On Covid-19, the City Manager said that KSC reported having 50 active cases off-campus. When they did their contact tracing, they learned that the virus was spreading easily to others (1:1) through small gatherings of five or six people in off-campus units. So just this week they changed their protocols. Now, if one person tests positive in an off-campus rental, the entire house is put into quarantine and the landlords are notified. This helps prevent others in the house who have not tested positive yet from interacting with the rest of the community. In addition, one week before this meeting there was a gathering of 35 students without masks and those students were immediately sent home for 14 days. In addition, KSC implemented twice weekly mandatory testing. This is a very aggressive approach and the City Manager was personally grateful to Dr. Treadwell for her leadership throughout this pandemic, citing her efforts as the likely reason that KSC had not seen the large outbreaks that other NH colleges had.

The City Manager continued explaining the State of NH would host a by-appointment drive through mass COVID-19 vaccination super site on March 6, 7, and 8 at NH Motor Speedway in Loudon. They planned to vaccinate nearly 12,000 people over the course of three days. This site would focus on providing earlier appointments to those scheduled currently to receive their first dose in April. At this time they intended to use the Johnsen & Johnsen vaccine, which only requires one dose/appointment. The general hours for vaccine administration: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. This effort would require a significant amount of staffing and resource support. The City had executed an agreement with the State to provide support by allowing off-duty personnel to sign-up for shifts both for this initiative and the Krif Road vaccination site in Keene. The agreement also allowed for Police details at the Krif Site when requested. These would be treated similar to an outside detail that officers could sign up for. The City would record and pay these employees through our payroll system and then be reimbursed by the State per our agreement. Others working at the super site this weekend must be affiliated with a volunteer organization and/or vetted through www.nhresponds.org. Volunteers must have a clear criminal background, a valid NH clinical license (if applicable for the position they are filling), and must be added as

03/04/2021

emergency management workers for liability/workers comp, etc., coverage. Keene had been participating both Police and Fire employees through the State program, which allowed rapid Covid-19 screening of participating Police and Fire employees; this program is ending March 31.

The City Manager shared some good news. She recalled that Councilor Workman and others had asked about the addition of some lighted crosswalks as a part of the Winchester Street roundabout project. Staff heard back from both the Federal and State governments, who were providing 80% of the funding, and they had approved the addition of some lighted crosswalks, including one at the Key Road intersection, which was a concern because of the number of pedestrians crossing from a nearby housing development.

Finally, the City Manager good news that many had logged in to State's platform to oppose HB 315 during the hearing process. This bill, as written, would have made it nearly impossible for the City to move forward with its Community Power Plan. It looked like there may be some compromise language coming forward, which the City Manager said was a big win for the City. It was likely the City's timeline for actual implementation could still be pushed a few months but overall this was very encouraging news. She thanked all who took the time to comment, stating that legislators appreciate hearing from local elected officials.

MSFI REPORT – KEVIN LEARY – REQUEST FOR PROPERTY ACCESS – OLD GILSUM ROAD AND USE OF OLD GILSUM ROAD – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

FOP REPORT – CONTINUED DISCUSSION – EVALUATION PROCESS FOR CHARTER EMPLOYEES

Mayor Hansel granted more time to these two issues.

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING – RELATING TO CHAPTER 18 BUILDING REGULATIONS – ORDINANCE O-2021-01

Mayor Hansel referred Ordinance O-2021-01 to the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee for first reading.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Hansel adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

A true record, attest:


City Clerk