



Due to the COVID-2019 State of Emergency, the Planning, Licenses and Development Committee will be holding its meeting remotely using the web-based program, Zoom. Members of the public will be able to access this public meeting through a variety of options, described below. If you encounter any issues accessing this meeting, please call 603-757-0622 during the meeting. To access the meeting online navigate to *Zoom.us* and enter the Webinar ID #820 9283 4376. To listen via telephone call 877 853 5257 and enter the Webinar ID #820 9283 4376. When the meeting is open for public comment, callers may press *9 if interested in commenting or asking questions.

**PLANNING, LICENSES AND
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

Council Chambers A

June 9, 2021

7:00 PM

Kate M. Bosley, Chair
Mitchell H. Greenwald, Vice Chair
Philip M. Jones
Gladys Johnsen
Catherine Workman

1. Kevin Watterson/Swamp Bats – Request to Discharge Fireworks
2. Jan Manwaring/Pathways for Keene - Request to Use City Property - 4 on the 4th Road Race
3. James Murphy – In Support of the Improved Medicare Act of 2021

MORE TIME ITEMS:

- A. Terry Clark – Relating to Small Wireless Facility Deployments in Public Rights-of-Way
- B. Keene Music Festival - Request to Use City Property
- C. Kiwanis Club - Request to Use City Property - Tree Lighting Ceremony
- D. Danya Landis/Machina Arts – Requesting Permission to Erect a Parklet in Parallel Parking Spaces – Outdoor Dining
- E. General Discussion – Parklets - Public Works Director



www.swampbats.com
303 Park Ave. • Keene, NH 03431 • (603) 357-5464

May 3, 2021

City of Keene
Keene City Council
3 Washington St.
Keene, NH 03431

City Council Members:

Per this letter, the Keene SwampBats request your approval to host a Class B Fireworks display on Saturday, July 3rd, 2021.

This event, traditionally known as Independence Eve, will take place at Keene's Alumni Field on Arch Street, immediately following the regularly scheduled SwampBats game. The discharge of the fireworks will begin at approximately 9:45 pm. We will supply a letter of approval from the SAU 29 and an Insurance Rider naming the City of Keene as a co-insured.

We have submitted our application for Community Funding. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin D. Watterson'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin D. Watterson, President
Keene SwampBats



March 29, 2021

To the Mayor and City Council,

Pathways for Keene would like to hold the 4 on the 4th Road Race on Sunday, July 4, 2021. The event was canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic, so this year represents the 19th year for this race. We are requesting a license from the City of Keene, and we also have submitted an application for continued Community Event Status.

We appreciate the City's past support and are asking for this to continue. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jan Manwaring", written over a faint circular stamp.

Jan Manwaring

Secretary, Board of Directors



May 26, 2021

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council
FROM: Planning, Licenses and Development Committee
ITEM: 3.

SUBJECT: James Murphy – In Support of the Improved Medicare Act of 2021

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council June 3, 2021.
More time granted.

RECOMMENDATION:

On a vote of 3-0, the Planning, Licenses, and Development Committee recommends the request from James Murphy regarding the issue of support of the Improved Medicare Act of 2021 to be placed on more time, due to continued technical difficulties.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Communication_Murphy

Legislative Policy

BACKGROUND:

Chair Bosley asked to hear from James Murphy.

James Murphy of 19 Shadow Lane stated that he has lived here for 48 years. He continued that his request is a petition for support of a Resolution on the Improved Medicare For All Act of 2021. It will provide affordable, high quality, comprehensive coverage for all medically necessary care under a national health program. Healthcare is a basic human right of every American and providing it as publicly funded social insurance is the only proven and cost-effective way to achieve equitable and sustainable universal coverage. The City of Keene will witness a savings of \$5 million annually on expenditures of employee healthcare and this will vastly improve healthcare outcomes to residents, who will encounter no financial barriers to care. Healthcare providers, hospitals, and doctors will benefit from not having to write off uncompensated care, as “everyone in and nobody out” will be the norm upon the Act becoming the law of the land.

Chair Bosley thanked Mr. Murphy and asked if staff wanted to speak to this item. Hearing no staff input, she stated that she wants to hear what the Committee’s opinion is regarding supporting this.

Councilor Johnsen stated that she appreciates Mr. Murphy’s request and it is clear that many people would benefit from this. She continued that they could recommend that the City Manager be directed to draft a Resolution in support of this, and she hopes they do. Anything they can do to make this come from Keene, NH, to take care of Keene residents on Medicare, is something she strongly supports.

Councilor Jones thanked Mr. Murphy and stated that he thinks this is important. He continued that he needs staff input on whether this is a social issue or a City issue. All that makes it a City issue is paragraph 3, and that needs staff input. If staff agrees with it, the PLD Committee should endorse this. Otherwise, it is a social issue, and they should not get into that. He asked if the other Committee members agree with his interpretation.

Chair Bosley replied that she agrees with Councilor Jones. She continued that she fully supports Mr. Murphy's request, as a human being. However, she is not sure that the PLD Committee or the City Council is the right place to be putting this forward, because it presumes that this benefits the city as a whole, but she knows there are mixed opinions about this and they have not heard from the public on this topic. She holds reservation until they flesh this out more.

The City Manager stated that the third paragraph says "*The City of Keene will witness a savings of _____ million from its annual expenditures.*" She continued that she has not investigated whether or how that would occur, so she cannot confirm any number of savings in the City's budget because of this.

Heather Stockwell, of 1166 Main St., Dublin, stated that she has lived in NH for over 50 years. She continued that she is on staff with Rights and Democracy (RAD) as a statewide campaign organizer. RAD is a non-profit organization with a mission to raise up the voices of working people and families, and they support raising the minimum wage, ending the overdose crisis, housing for all, and a universal healthcare system for all. In 2018, the entire US saw a 25% increase of insurance premiums and NH saw an outrageous 45% increase, as documented in the NH Providers Association report from that year. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit early in 2020 we were already in a healthcare crisis. The City of Keene spends almost \$5 million for City employees' health insurance, which is why that number is being raised tonight. When the pandemic hit, an additional 5 to 10 million people lost their health insurance, on top of the 28.9 million that were already uninsured. Almost 44% of people do not have or cannot afford to use their insurance. People are afraid to seek care when they need it most, and at a time when our neighbors' health is most linked to our own. More than 575,000 people have died from COVID-19 in the last year. An estimated 45% of those deaths could have been prevented if the US had responded differently, with earlier mask mandates, earlier lockdowns, more PPE or oxygen machines, and so on and so forth. COVID-19 has increased the life expectancy gap between Black and white people in the US by more than 50%, in one year.

Ms. Stockwell continued that people heard the term "Medicare for all" politicized during the last election cycle, but it is an actual piece of legislation that would create a national, universal healthcare program for the country. It would do this by taking an existing program, Medicare, and improving and expanding it. A universal healthcare system would provide everyone in the US with comprehensive healthcare coverage and would be free at the point of service. A healthcare system like this is often referred to as "single-payer." A single-payer system means there is only one payer in the system. The government acts as the payer, instead of greedy insurance companies that are making millions of dollars. We the people, the users, would pay nothing at the point of service. Under a single-payer system, aka Medicare for all, all residents in the US would be covered for all medically necessary services, including doctor, hospital, preventative, long-term care, mental health, reproductive health care, dental, vision, and prescription drug costs. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) is being opened up and more subsidies are being added for folks still struggling, but it is not enough. It is just keeping those private insurance companies making bigger and bigger profits, and literally putting those profits over people's actual care. The ACA is important but insufficient, unjust, and inefficient. It is unjust because individuals' access to care is determined by who their employer is and what state they live in, and costs vary widely across locations, and even across facilities in the same location. It is inefficient because insurance companies become an intermediary. Much of doctors' and patients' time is spent doing paperwork rather than focusing on direct care. It is unsustainable, because very little time and energy is spent on wellness and preventative care. Studies show that people put off routine procedures and screenings until the required care is more expensive and in some cases it is just plain too late.

Ms. Stockwell continued that she urges the City to support this Resolution for the greater good of the people of Keene and the broader community of Cheshire County and the United States. They are bringing this Resolution forward to the City Council because there are a number of cities and towns that have passed a Resolution to send a message to the national delegation that this is something communities support. Communities are struggling with healthcare costs. The \$5 million estimate does not even include the school district. That is just City employees. Therefore, she urges the Committee to take the time they need to think about this, but know that this is not a legal, binding thing being asked of them. They are asking the community to come together and say they support this.

Councilor Johnsen stated that she concurs with Councilor Jones's question, and would like to know if this is a social issue or something for the Keene City Council to discuss. She continued that she likes it personally but wants to make sure that they have the right hat on.

Chair Bosley replied that the conversation is before them, regardless, and the Committee needs to decide what they want to do with it and decide if they want to recommend that the City Council support this. They could accept the petition as informational.

Councilor Jones stated that Ms. Stockwell spoke very well and he agrees with everything she said, but he is seeing this as a social issue. He wants to hear how this is about the city. The City Council needs to represent the city as a whole. They cannot get into social issues.

Chair Bosley asked for further public comment. Due to technical difficulties, the Committee took a five-minute recess at approximately 9:15 PM. Chair Bosley stated that if the internet connection is lost again, the meeting will adjourn and this agenda item will continue at the next meeting.

Amanda Elizabeth Toll of 24 Base Hill Rd. stated that her Zoom log-in says Keene Democrats but she is speaking as herself. She continued that she represents Cheshire 16 in the NH Statehouse and Cheshire 16 encompasses the City of Keene at large. She is here tonight to speak in support of the passage of the Medicare For All Resolution in Keene. She ran and was elected on a feminist platform, and this is a feminist issue to the core. People stay in abusive situations due to lack of healthcare.

Chair Bosley stated that due to continued technical difficulties, the meeting will adjourn and the Committee will pick this item up on their next agenda.

PETITION IN SUPPORT OF A RESOLUTION ON 'IMPROVED MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT OF 2021

TO BE ON THE AGENDA OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF KEENE

Whereas the Improved Medicare Act of 2021 will provide affordable, high- quality comprehensive coverage for ALL medically necessary care under a national health program and

Whereas healthcare is a basic human right of every American and providing it as publicly- funded social insurance is the only proven and cost-efficient way to achieve equitable and sustainable universal coverage and

Whereas the City of Keene will witness a saving of\$... million from its annual expenditure on its employee- healthcare and will result in vastly improved health outcomes of its residents as NO financial barriers to care will be encountered and

Whereas healthcare providers (hospitals and doctors) will benefit from NOT having to write off uncompensated care, as EVERYBODY IN-NOBODY OUT will be the norm upon the Act becoming the law of the land and

Therefore, and for more reasons detailed in the attached Resolution, I hereby support it and urge the Council members to accept it on the agenda for debate and discussion at the earliest session of the body as possible

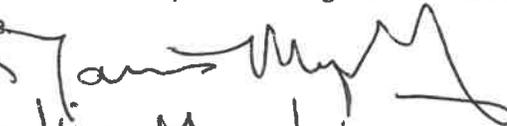
Signed:

Name.....

Address:

phone

#.....



Jim Murphy

19 Shadow Lane, Keene, NH

357-4141

Email(optional).....

Murphyarts@gmail.com
murphyarts@gmail.com

date..... 4/29/2021

2021 Keene Medicare For All Petition Signatures:

First Name	Last Name	Home City
Claire	Casey	Keene
James	Pointer	Keene
Vernon	Thornblad	Keene
Nancy	Pollard	Keene
Adriana	Elliot	Keene
Linda	Rubin	Keene
Dove	Raina	Keene
Vicky	Pittman	Keene
Amanda	Toll	Keene
Larry	Welkowitz	Keene
Helene	Mogridge	Keene
Marie	Duggan	Keene
Nancy	McGartland	Keene
Kathleen	O'Donnell	Keene
Michele	Chalice	Keene
Carl	DeMatteo	Keene
Marcia	Kayser	Keene
Jamie	White	Keene
Bonnieta	Kraft	Keene
Peter	Majoy	Keene
Christine	Brunner	Keene
April	Weed	Keene
Mohammad	Saleh	Keene
Meena	Neva	Keene
Jodi	Newell	Keene
JoAnn	Fenton	Keene
Nancy	Salwen	Keene
Terri	O'Rorke	Keene
Stephanie	Ritchie	Keene
Sofia	Cunha-Vasconcelos	Keene
Jesse	de la Rosa	Keene
Judith	Reed	Keene

Joseph	Staples	Keene
David	Robinson	Keene
Catherine	Behrens	Keene
Ruth	Meyer	Keene
Janet	Collett	Keene
Robin	Picard	Keene
Carin	Torp	Keene
Ross	Patterson	Keene
Peg	Smeltz	Keene
Julia	Deuso	Keene
Marcia	Duffy	Keene
Dan	Fox	Keene
Katrina	Feraco	Keene
Megan	Smith	Keene
Sara	Olson	Keene
Jim	Murphy	Keene
Barbara	Lauren	Keene
Kim	Wallach	Keene
Moira	Croteau	Keene
Terry	Clark	Keene
Douglass	Robertson	Keene
Charles M	Tousley	Keene
Morgan	Grant	Keene
D'Vorah	Kelley	Keene
Katie	Hart	Keene
Amy	Chapin Hathaway	Keene
Renee	Monteil	Keene
Ashley	Denning	Keene
Rich	Wallace	Keene
James	Dunn	Keene
Sarah	Benning	Keene
Doug	Robertson	Keene
Brenda M	Dunn	Keene
Ann	Firestone	Keene
Elizabeth	Hallgring	Keene

Bryan	Lake	Keene
Randy	Murphy	Keene
Erik	Bell	Keene
Dvorah	Kelley	Keene
Anna	Lake	Keene
Amanda Elizabeth	Toll	Keene
Erik	Murphy	Keene
Daniel	White	Keene
Diane	Bogdan	Keene
Margaret	Kidd	Keene
Damien	Licata	Keene
Eleuthera Paulina	du Pont-Passigli	Alstead
Michele	Hansen	Alstead
Charles	Tousley	Chesterfield
Andrea	Polizos	Harrisville
Leslie	LaMois	Harrisville
Lisa	Anderson	Harrisville
Beverly	Pietlicki	Hillsborough
Colleen	Blais	Jaffrey
Jennifer	Diemand	Sullivan
Sascha	Simms	Sullivan
Carol	Leger	Swanzey
Judith	Grophear	Swanzey
Cynthia	Rodier	Swanzey
Robert	Mckelvey	Swanzey
Laura	Lynch	Temple
Fritze	Till	Walpole
Lori	Schreier	Westmoreland
Patricia	Rodrigues	Westmoreland
Ellen & Bruce	Clement	Westmoreland
Hailey	Mackey	Westmoreland
Ann	Goodrich-Bazan	Winchester
Charlene	Kennedy	WinchesterRichmond



CITY OF KEENE

R-2015-10

Fifteen

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and

A RESOLUTION~~Council Policy: A Resolution Relating to the Legislative Process~~.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Keene, as follows:

WHEREAS: Legislation adopted by the General Court of the State of New Hampshire can impact local government from an administrative, budgetary and service delivery level; and

WHEREAS: The City of Keene's effectiveness in influencing legislative initiatives is dependent upon identifying which issues are important, identifying procedures to communicate accurate and timely information and creating opportunities to share perspectives; and

WHEREAS: The City of Keene considers the New Hampshire Municipal Association as the single, most important resource to learn about legislative initiatives and to represent the City's interests in Concord; and

WHEREAS: The City of Keene's administrative staff routinely takes an active role in the legislative process by testifying on specific pieces of legislation that pertain to their specific profession; and

WHEREAS: The City of Keene's administrative staff and Keene City Council also take an active role in the legislative process by identifying any significant pieces of legislation that either has a budgetary impact, significantly impacts City operations; enhances or detracts service delivery and performance levels, or validates or contradicts a statement in the Community Goals or Master Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that participation in the New Hampshire Municipal Association's legislative policy committees will be encouraged for City Councilors and City staff; and that those initiatives which are adopted by NHMA will be submitted to the Keene City Council for their endorsement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, with the assistance of the City staff, will identify any other significant pieces of legislation that have not been

incorporated into the NHMA legislative policies and will communicate those items of legislation along with their potential impact to the respective Standing Committee of the Keene City Council for their official action ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor will be encouraged to host periodic meetings of the Keene City Council and the Keene Legislative Delegation to discuss and advance the City's positions on important legislative issues.


Kendall W. Lane, Mayor

Passed: March 5, 2015

A true copy; attest:


City Clerk