

04/03/2025

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held on Thursday, April 3, 2025. The Honorable Mayor Jay V. Kahn called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll called: Kate M. Bosley, Laura E. Tobin, Michael J. Remy, Randy L. Filiault, Robert C. Williams, Edward J. Haas, Philip M. Jones, Andrew M. Madison (arrived at 7:03 PM), Kris E. Roberts, Jacob R. Favolise, Bryan J. Lake, Bettina A. Chadbourne, Thomas F. Powers, and Mitchell H. Greenwald were present. Catherine I. Workman was absent. Councilor Powers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES FROM PRECEDING MEETING

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to adopt the minutes of the March 20, 2025, meeting as presented was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley. The motion carried unanimously with 13 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilors Madison and Workman were absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Kahn reminded Councilors of Linda Mangones retirement celebration from Keene Housing on April 9, 2025, at the Community Room at 105 Castle Street.

The Mayor also announced six-week summer youth employment opportunities for youths who would be 14 years old but not yet 16 years old as of June 1. Those applications would be accepted until April 20, 2025, and the Mayor hoped to receive an abundance of applicants.

Next, the Mayor reminded the Council that Earth Day week commences April 25, 2025, with the City's Arbor Day event at 11:00 AM. Green Up Keene will be Saturday, April 26, 2025. the Mayor encouraged the Council to visit the Public Works website to see the streets still available for cleanup.

The Mayor noted that the Legislative Delegation would be on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, from 6:00–8:00 PM at Heberton Hall. He encouraged the Council to attend as the City was concerned about several bills. The NH Municipal Association will attend to provide updates.

Lastly, Mayor Kahn reminded everyone of the Master Plan Future Summit on June 3, 2025 at 5:00 PM at Heberton Hall. He encouraged the Council to attend.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION - KSC MEN'S BASKETBALL SENIORS

The Mayor welcomed Athletic Director, Martin Testo, and student athletes: Octavio Brito, Mason Jean-Baptiste, Nate Siow, and Spencer Aronson plus Student Coach Spencer Merkin. Coach Steve Enright could not be present but wanted to ensure this was about celebrating the graduating class and not only individuals. The Mayor spoke about the honor of watching the athletes for the prior four years and this bittersweet moment. Mayor Kahn said basketball, at its core, is a team sport, but wrapped around that core are amazing and remarkable individual achievements.

Individually, the Mayor highlighted the amazing talent on the senior team.

The Mayor also recognized the dedication of Student Coach, Spencer Mirken, who was instrumental in the program's success over the prior four years, contributing significantly to the team's practices, games, and recruiting efforts.

The Mayor concluded that the graduating seniors of KSC Men's Basketball Team demonstrated exceptional dedication, skills, and sportsmanship throughout their careers. They contributed significantly to the rich tradition of KSC athletics, leaving a legacy of excellence and dedication that would inspire future generations of Owls.

BLUE LINE APPRECIATION – RECOGNITION OF POLICE OFFICERS

Mayor Kahn wanted to provide a recap of the Blue Line Recognition event on Sunday, March 30, 2025, because he was unsure that his and Governor Ayotte's comments could be heard sufficiently. He recalled a Proclamation honoring the Keene Police Officers in 2024 because they successfully de-escalated an arrest in the Applebee's parking lot of a person accused of murdering a child's mom, while the child was in the car with a weapon present. Again in 2025, the Keene Police Department (PD) successfully apprehended a suspect in Milford accused of having murdered his girlfriend's 2-year-old son. Mayor Kahn said that is the kind of professionalism we have in the Keene PD. He wanted to recognize how police work has changed over time. He said their professionalism is important to meet those expectations, whether dealing with those facing housing and food insecurity, driving misbehaviors on roadways, drug enforcement, or trying to help those in mental health distress. The Mayor said this was not the kind of police force you see on TV; he said these officers were performing social services in the streets and being visible on foot patrols and downtown events, which is an important element to making everyone feel safe in the community. The Mayor also recognized the families of police officers—and firefighters equally—because it is important that the families provide the kind of love and support these professionals need.

NOMINATION - CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Mayor nominated Katie Kinsella to serve as a regular member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire December 31, 2027. The Mayor tabled the nomination until the next regular meeting.

COMMUNICATION - STEPHEN BRAGDON AND CHERYL BELAIR - SAFETY ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DRIVEWAY AT 82 COURT STREET

A follow-up communication was received from Stephen Bragdon & Cheryl Belair regarding continued safety concerns when vehicles exit their driveway at 82 Court Street. Their previous communication requesting consideration of an ordinance restricting parking on either side of the driveway was submitted in November 2023 and reported out as informational in February 2024. Mayor Kahn referred the communication to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

MSFI REPORT - REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION TO STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE - PROPOSED ROUNDABOUT AT RT 9 AND WHITCOMBS MILL ROAD

A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, recommending the City Council authorize the drafting of a letter to the State of New Hampshire, proposing a roundabout be constructed at the intersection of Rt. 9 and Whitcomb's Mill Rd. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Filiault.

Councilor Greenwald noted that he was contacted by a constituent suggesting a traffic signal instead of a roundabout. If the State were to take up this matter, he thought it would consider the best solution for the dangerous cross traffic and speed there before someone would be seriously injured. Councilor Jones noted—in response to the constituent's suggestion to Councilor Greenwald—that this would simply be a letter of communication to the State Commissioners and would not conflict with the 10-Year Plan or anything other projects going on. Mayor Kahn said he would follow through on the will of the Council and prepare a letter. However, he said this seemed like an exceptional effort and he was unsure how often the Council could do this.

Councilor Haas asked if City staff knew the timing of the related development on Whitcomb's Mill Road. City Engineer, Bryan Ruoff, said there was a safety audit of this intersection on April 1 with NH Department of Transportation (DOT) staff. It would take DOT two to three months to prepare a preliminary report on those findings. At that point, the City would provide DOT with feedback based on their determination, and a final report would be issued about six months later based on that safety study. The Mayor asked if that audit was conducted by the Public Works Department and the City Engineer said it was in conjunction with DOT after the City requested the safety audit of the intersection to develop recommendations for improving it. DOT would develop preliminary recommendations based on their findings and the City could respond based on its opinion of those recommendations.

The Mayor asked if the DOT investigation would influence the timing of this requested letter calling attention of the Commission to the study. The City Engineer said, in his opinion and based on his previous experiences, the weight of the City's letter would be the most in response to DOT's preliminary findings and recommendations. So, if their preliminary findings and recommendations were to do nothing/something, that would allow the City to agree that something should be done immediately and not on the 10-Year + Plan; or if they find nothing can be done to improve safety, the City could interject and disagree. The City Engineer thought the weight of the City's letter would be more effective if it followed the results of the DOT audit.

Councilor Favolise asked if the recommendation was adopted at this meeting was any reason the Mayor could not wait to send it until the timing was more appropriate. The City Attorney, Amanda Palmeira, said no. The Council could place any time frame it wanted on the letter, and without one, it would be at the Mayor's discretion.

Councilor Tobin was curious about how long it would take for the report to come back, questioning whether the letter should happen simultaneously with the audit. She heard the City Engineer say the whole process could take up to six months, which could then add the City to the 10-Year Plan. Mayor Kahn sought guidance from Councilors Powers or Greenwald as to whether to move forward at this meeting.

Councilor Jones was glad for the audit, stating it had nothing to do with his letter. He listed representatives present for the audit, including the City Engineer as well as representatives from the Southwest Regional Planning Commission and Police & Fire Departments. He said the City was looking for other ways to circumvent the 10-Year Plan, and he cited past cases of that working for and against the City with money taken from one project and used for another. Those were the other processes he wanted the City to look at. Councilor Jones said he wanted to get that on the minds of Commissioners as soon as possible to start looking at those other processes.

Councilor Greenwald saw no reason to delay. He thought that by sending the letter, it might draw attention to the study, and then the City could send another letter in six months when it is completed. The Mayor said he could understand that action. The motion to carry out the intent of the Committee report carried on a vote of 13–1. Councilor Powers opposed. Councilor Workman was absent.

MSFI REPORT - MONADNOCK VIEW CEMETERY: SECTION B NEW CREMATION LOTS

A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, recommending the City Council approve additional cremation lots in Section B of the Monadnock View Cemetery. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Filiault. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

MSFI REPORTS - FORMER FINDINGS PROPERTY AND KEENE SKATE PARK PROJECT UPDATE; DOWNTOWN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT UPDATE; & ROUTE 9 RESTRIPIING PROJECT UPDATE

A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, recommending the update on the former Findings property and the skate park project be accepted as informational. A second Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, unanimously recommending accepting the verbal update on the Downtown Infrastructure Project as informational. A third Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, unanimously recommending the verbal update on the Route 9 Restriping Project be accepted as informational. Mayor Kahn filed all three reports as informational.

FOP REPORT - ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH WRIGHT PIERCE FOR MARTEL COURT BYPASS SEWER FORCE MAIN FINAL DESIGN

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read, recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute an engineering services agreement with Wright Pierce for the final Design of the Martel Court Sewer Force Main Bypass Project (32JM012A), up to \$650,000. A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Remy. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

FOP REPORT - RIGHT OF WAY (ROW) ACQUISITIONS FOR THE GEORGE ST BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read, recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute temporary and

permanent easements with abutting property owners necessary for the construction and future maintenance of the George Street replacement bridge, up to the aggregate amount of \$40,000. A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Remy. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

FOP REPORT - RIGHT OF WAY (ROW) ACQUISITIONS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION HERITAGE TRAIL PHASE 1 PROJECT

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read, recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute permanent easements with abutting property owners necessary for the construction and future maintenance of the Transportation Heritage Trail (THT) Phase 1 Project, up to the amount of \$10,000. A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Remy.

Councilor Jones noted that this came to the Council from constituents living in the area when there was a public hearing on Phase 1. So, he thought this was addressing that problem and would be good for all. The Mayor agreed, noting that he walked this trail from Eastern Avenue with Councilor Haas, Chuck Redfern, and Public Works Director Don Lussier. Mayor Kahn said this would be a real improvement from the existing runoff. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

FOP REPORT - LEGISLATIVE ITEMS OF CONCERN

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read, recommending that the City Manager or Mayor be authorized to write letters weighing in on behalf of the City on the various bills discussed this evening.

The City Clerk read into the record all of the bills under consideration and the City's positions on each:

- **Support:** Senate Bill 245 – Prohibiting Surprise Ambulance Billing and Regulating Ground Ambulance Reimbursement
- **Oppose:** House Bill 316 – Relative to Reimbursement for Ground Ambulance Services
- **Oppose:** House Bill 410 – Limiting Local Authority to Adopt Restrictions on the Building and Development of Residential Properties
- **Oppose:** House Bill 675 – Limiting the Authority of School Districts to Make Certain Appropriations
- **Oppose:** Senate Bill 291 – Relative to the Religious Use of Land Property Tax Exemption
- **Oppose:** Senate Bill 297 – Relative to Pooled Risk Management Programs
- **Oppose:** The Trailer Bill dealing with the State budget. The City would oppose any cuts to revenues, advocate to maintain Granite Advantage changes to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicaid, and Medicaid Advantage programs. All of these would impact the Human Services Department budget.

Councilor Jones asked if the City would address this at the Legislative Delegation meeting.

Councilor Filiault agreed with the City Manager's comments, having attended the Finance, Organization, and Personnel Committee meeting. Councilor Filiault called these bills essential and pointed out that House Bill 675 was trying to take away complete local control from taxpayers and the School Board for school spending. Councilor Filiault thought this was the State Legislature testing whether it could do away with local control and said it would come for the City Council and municipalities soon. He recalled Councilor Roberts calling many existing Legislators anti-union, and Councilor Filiault stated that, "if they can come, and go around, and go against Fire Union, Police Union, Public Works; they'll see it as a victory. So local control gets hijacked by legislative control." Councilor Filiault agreed with all the bills the City was set to oppose, especially House Bill 675 because of the serious consequences for the taxpayers of the City that he outlined. He asked what would happen if the City were to lose control of its property taxes next. A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Remy.

Councilor Powers pointed out that for years, many believed NH was a home rule state, and it was not. He stated that home rule states "don't mess it up in the fashion that this Legislature has done for years." As such, Councilor Powers felt this was one of the most important years for the City to take a position on everything because it would be helping everybody the City serves. Mayor Kahn referenced the draft letter on House Bill 675 in the meeting packet, which he shared with the other mayors in the State. At this time, six others had signed it, too. The letter was directed to the Senate, acknowledging that the House had already probably embedded this into its appropriation legislation. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

FOP REPORT - TRANSFER OF PERSONNEL FUNDS TO ADDRESS LIBRARY BUDGET SHORTFALL

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read, recommending that the City Manager or Mayor be authorized to allocate \$47,000 from the FY25 Public Works Winter Operations wage lines to the FY25 library part-time wage-related accounts. A motion by Councilor Powers to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Remy.

Councilor Filiault declared a Conflict of Interest because his wife works part-time at the Library. With no objections from the Council, Mayor Kahn accepted Councilor Filiault's recusal.

Councilor Williams said he was impressed by how the Library Manager and Assistant Manager had worked to make this right, working above and beyond to address this problem. He appreciated it. The motion carried unanimously with 13 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Filiault abstained. Councilor Workman was absent.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager, Elizabeth Ferland, began by recognizing Parking Manager, Chelsea North, and Deputy City Manager, Rebecca Landry, for their leadership in developing a thoughtful pilot program for the Wells Street Parking Garage. This proposal would support downtown employees and residents while improving overall access to public parking. A "pilot" program would overlap the timing of the permits with vacancies during the day in an attempt to better utilize the spaces.

However, she said there would need to be some experimentation to get the numbers right and attempt to avoid conflicts. The pilot included:

- Evening Employee Permits: 25 reserved spaces on the lower level from 3:00 PM–1:00 AM at \$30/month.
- Overnight Resident Permits: 10 spaces available on the lower level from 5:00 PM–8:00 AM.
- Expanded Public Parking: Free parking on the upper level is extended by one hour—from 4:00 PM–1:00 AM. (additional free parking for those working later shifts in the downtown area)

This trial would help assess demand, test operational logistics, and align with the City’s goals of improving downtown access while maintaining financial and operational sustainability. As well as addressing concerns related to improving downtown parking opportunities for employees of downtown businesses.

Next, the City Manager shared some updates on City solar projects:

- Keene Dillant-Hopkins Airport: Updated the site layout for the proposed solar project, now utilizing development parcels 12 and 14 (she shared the draft layout). Due to increased Runway Protection Zone requirements and protection of a grasshopper sparrow habitat, the system was downsized slightly to 5.5MW DC (3.5MW AC), with an estimated annual production of 6.49 million kWh. This redesign would help lower interconnection costs, and she was hopeful for a study agreement from Eversource in the summer of 2025. Bird surveys required by NH Fish & Game would be conducted this season, and she anticipated the System Impact Study to begin in late fall 2025.
- Rose Lane: This is a smaller project with State permitting progressing. The Shoreland Permit was approved, and the Alteration of Terrain permit was under NH Department of Environmental Services review. Eversource had approved the interconnection, and Revision Energy expected to begin local permitting later in spring 2025.
- Monadnock View/Cedarcrest Solar Project: Development of the Cedarcrest solar project was well underway. Cedarcrest was aiming to begin construction in summer of 2025, pending final permitting and completion of the land sale. The Parks & Recreation Department had been actively engaged to ensure coordination during the construction phase. Councilors received an email outlining details of this project, particularly relating to the community garden. The City Manager specifically recognized Recreation Director, Carrah Fisk-Hennessy, who worked extensively with the community gardeners to develop an interim solution for this growing season. Thanks to the collaboration of Public Works, a portion of the new garden area will be made available this season to ensure continuity for gardeners. The City Manager also extended her appreciation to Councilor Tobin and Mayor Kahn for their efforts to facilitate these important conversations, calling this a strong example of how the City can balance progress with responsiveness to community needs.

The City Manager concluded with an update about the Farmers’ Market. The Public Works Department and City Clerk’s Office were meeting with all licensed downtown vendors to discuss the upcoming downtown construction project—what to expect and how the City could best accommodate outdoor commerce. The Mayor had suggested holding a separate meeting with

Farmers' Market representatives, tentatively scheduled for the week of April 7. This dedicated meeting would focus specifically on the plans for the solar pavilion project on Gilbo Avenue, including the anticipated construction timeline and identifying alternative downtown locations for the Farmers' Market to operate during the 2027 season. Given the rising cost of food, the City Manager said access to fresh, locally grown options is more important than ever. So, supporting the Farmers' Market during this transition would be essential to maintaining access to affordable food options.

REPORTS - RESIGNATION - JUDE NURU - ENERGY & CLIMATE COMMITTEE

A memorandum read from Megan Fortson, Planner, recommending that the Council accept the resignation of Jude Nuru from the Energy & Climate Committee with gratitude for his four years of service. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the resignation with thanks was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent. Mayor Kahn pointed out the vacancy on the Energy & Climate Committee. Anyone interested in serving on any City committee could submit a volunteer interest form on the City website at any time.

MORE TIME - MSFI REPORTS - CARL JACOBS - INSTALLATION OF A PEACE POLE - CENTRAL SQUARE; & PROPOSAL TO ADD THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE TO ACCOMMODATE BANNERS ACROSS MAIN STREET

A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, recommending placing this item (Installation of a Peace Pole) on more time. A second Municipal Services, Facilities, and Infrastructure Committee report read, unanimously recommending placing this item (Proposal to Add the Necessary Infrastructure to Accommodate Banners) on more time with the intent that staff return with an update at the next meeting. Mayor Kahn granted more time for both reports.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING; RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CODE, REGARDING STOP SIGNS - ORDINANCE O-2025-10; RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CODE, REGARDING YIELD SIGNS - ORDINANCE O-2025-11; RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CODE, REGARDING TRAFFIC SIGNALS - ORDINANCE O-2025-12; RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CODE, REGARDING VEHICLE TURNING LIMITATIONS - ORDINANCE O-2025-13; & RELATING TO THE INSTALLATION OF A STOP SIGN ON WILBER STREET AT WATER STREET - ORDINANCE O-2025-14

Four memoranda read from City Engineer, Bryan Ruoff, recommending that Ordinances O-2025-10, O-2025-11, O-2025-12, and O-2025-13 be referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities & Infrastructure Committee for their review and recommendation. Additionally, A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report read, unanimously recommending the City Manager be directed to draft an Ordinance to add a stop sign on Wilber St. at its intersection with Water Street. Mayor Kahn referred Ordinances O-2025-10, O-2025-11, O-2025-12, O-2025-13, and O-2025-14 to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

RESOLUTION - RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE FOR THE FY 25 FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL BUDGET - RESOLUTION R-2025-10

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read, recommending adoption of Resolution R-2025-10. A motion by Councilor Powers to adopt Resolution R-2025-10 was duly seconded by Councilor Remy. The City Manager, Elizabeth Ferland, noted that at the FOP Committee meeting, she began explaining Resolution R-2025-11 for the hiring of four firefighters. In contrast, this Resolution R-2025-10 was about overtime. The City Manager explained that the Council was being asked to take \$490,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to keep a minimum staffing level of 12 firefighters; at this time, the minimum staffing level was 10. Currently there were 11 employees per shift, but not all 11 were available to work and count toward the minimum. Thus, the City was paying two firefighters overtime each shift to reach 12 until the end of the fiscal year. The City Manager said Resolution R-2025-10 would address this. Staff reviewed the Fire Department budget, estimated where wage lines would be at the end of the year, and combined those into this one Resolution so they would be appropriately funded in their wage and overtime lines until the end of the fiscal year. This would allow for keeping the 12 minimum firefighters required to run the third ambulance. The City Manager also told the Council that she recently met with Cheshire County in her efforts to seek immediate and less costly solutions. She said the County did not have the capacity to staff the skilled nursing facilities, which was driving the increase in the City's calls. So, she said this solution with Resolution R-2025-10 was the quickest way to have the staff needed for the third ambulance on every shift.

The City Manager also took a moment to address the next agenda item, Resolution R-2025-11, noting that it was not before them for vote this evening and was only being referred to Committee. It would be for wages for four extra firefighters, increasing from 11 to 12 per shift, but it still would not put the City above the 12 minimum, causing overtime issues. The FY-26 wages for the four firefighters alone were anticipated to be \$529,000 for the whole year. Resolution R-2025-11 would be for wages to bring four firefighters on Board for only one month of the fiscal year—the month of June—and gear and equipment for that month. She said there were additional revenues coming into the Ambulance Department to fund the firefighter request for this year, but not the four firefighters in the coming years. So, the City Manager estimated the increase to be approximately \$200,000 above what the City budgeted for, which she would keep an eye on. Regardless, the money would be in the Fund Balance for what she requested for the remainder of this fiscal year's budget. Resolution R-2025-11 was for one month—\$70,067—and she asked the Council to refer it to FOP to increase the manpower from 11 firefighters to 12 per shift.

The City Manager continued, explaining another level of confusion. She recalled that in January 2025, the Council authorized a SAFER Grant application for four firefighters per shift, totaling 16 firefighters. To date, the Grant has not been released. She was still planning to apply for the SAFER Grant but told the Council if it did not come out, the Council would see another request from her in the next fiscal year for four more firefighters—one more per shift for 13 per shift total. She said that keeping the minimum at 12 per shift would not be feasible because there is always someone on leave/vacation/sick, and it is not sustainable for the City always to be paying overtime to keep the 12 minimum. The City Manager was waiting to see if the Grant would become a reality before making that decision.

Lastly, the City Manager explained that if the Council adopted Resolution R-2025-11 at the next Council meeting, that cost would be added to the base of the Budget. The Fiscal Policy gives the City Manager a certain amount of funds for the entire budget based on the Cost-of-Living Index

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and this would not be a part of that. So, the budget would start \$529,000 higher, with an anticipated increase in revenue of approximately \$200,000.

The motion to adopt Resolution R-2025-10 carried unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

RESOLUTION - RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE - FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING -
RESOLUTION R-2025-11

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report read, unanimously recommending the introduction of a Resolution to appropriate funds to hire four additional firefighters (one per shift) for approximately \$529,000 per year. A memorandum from Jason Martin, Fire Chief, recommending that the City Council approve the appropriation of General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance in the amount of seventy thousand sixty-seven dollars (\$70,067.00) to fund salaries and equipment for four (4) new, additional firefighters. Mayor Kahn referred the memorandum to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to go into a non-public session to discuss land matters under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent. The non-public session began at 8:13 PM. The non-public session ended at 8:42PM.

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to keep the minutes of the non-public session non-public, as disclosure would render the proposed action ineffective, was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Kahn adjourned the meeting at 8:43 PM.

A true record, attest: 

City Clerk