

A regular meeting of the Keene City Council was held on Thursday, July 17, 2025. The Honorable Mayor Jay V. Kahn called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Roll called: Kate M. Bosley, Laura E. Tobin, Michael J. Remy (arrived at 7:06 PM), Randy L. Filiault, Robert C. Williams, Edward J. Haas, Philip M. Jones, Andrew M. Madison (arrived at 7:05 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 Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES FROM PRECEDING MEETING

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to adopt the June 19, 2025 minutes as presented was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley. The motion carried unanimously with 12 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilors Remy, Madison, and Workman were absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First, Mayor Kahn reminded the Council that the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure (MSFI) Committee and Finance, Organization and Personnel (FOP) Committee meetings would be held on July 23, 2025 & July 24, 2025. Following that, the City Council would be on summer break, with the following meetings canceled: August 7, 2025, City Council, and August 13, 2025 and August 14, 2025 Planning, Licenses and Development (PLD) and FOP. Council would resume its regular schedule on August 21, 2025.

Next, the Mayor reported that the filing period for the upcoming Municipal Elections would begin on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 8:00 AM and would continue through Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 4:00 PM. The City Clerk would be accepting Declarations of Candidacy for the offices of Mayor, Councilor-At-Large, and Ward Councilor to be included on the Municipal Primary ballot on October 7, 2025. Candidates for Mayor and City Council would receive a copy of the "Statement of Special Interests" when they file for office, notifying them of the pending obligation should they be elected. Filings for election officials would be accepted during the same timeframe, with those candidates' names added directly to the Municipal General Election ballot on November 4, 2025. A Charter Amendment was approved in 2023, limiting the Municipal Primary Election to Mayoral and Council candidates only. Mayor Kahn encouraged anyone wishing to serve their community to sign up. The City Clerk distributed a memo to the City Councilors listing the names of all offices that were up for re-election this year, and the names of incumbents. Over the coming few weeks, the City Clerk's Office would be informing the public as to which City wards had vacancies in election officials to serve and in what capacity. Questions regarding serving in elections roles should be directed to the City Clerk.

Mayor Kahn shared that this year's City of Keene Community Night would be held on August 19, 2025 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at 400 Marlboro Street. He invited everyone to join this family friendly event, where City employees would talk about the services they provide; most City Departments would have a booth/table or equipment displayed, explaining what they do. There would be activities for children and a cookout (burgers and hotdogs) and ice cream. There

would also be large equipment such as excavators, police cruisers, fire trucks, etc., on display and for kids to explore.

Given the emergency response that was necessary the previous week due to the water main break on Water Street, the Mayor personally—and on behalf of all Councilors—wanted to thank City staff and the Department of Public Works and Emergency Services Team for their quick response to the break and its repair. He said the staff were laudable. Mayor Kahn thought the whole Community’s response was equally laudable, stating there was a lot of support for City staff being about to get on top of the problem as quickly as they did. The Mayor thanked the City Manager, Elizabeth Ferland, for all her leadership and Deputy City Manager, Rebecca Landry, for public communications and outreach during the emergency. Lastly, the Mayor thanked C&S Wholesale Grocers for very generously donating cases of water, which he called a wonderful act of community responsiveness/service. He also thanked the Keene Police Department for helping to distribute those cases of water to the community at the Public Works building.

Finally, the Mayor Kahn led the Council in wishing happy birthdays to Councilors Remy and Haas, both celebrating July birthdays.

PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

Mayor Kahn welcomed Director of Parks and Recreation Carrah Fisk-Hennessey to receive a Proclamation, declaring July 2025 as Park and Recreation Month in the City of Keene. The Mayor read the Proclamation into the record, recognizing the vital role that Parks and Recreation play in building vibrant, healthy, and connected communities. Park and Recreation Month 2025 was the *Build Together, Play Together* celebration—dedicated to the full-time, part-time, and seasonal Parks and Recreation professionals, as well as the many volunteers who help make Keene Parks and Programs possible.

Director Fisk-Hennessey noted that in addition to the City of Keene’s Community Night on August 19, 2025, there were also two upcoming Parks and Recreation Community Nights. On July 24, 2025, Parks and Recreation Community Night at the Bike Park, with community organizations partaking in lots of fun giveaways and other great opportunities for people to use the BMX bikes that were donated and to ride the Park. On July 31, 2025, Community Night at the Skate Park would be another opportunity for the community to come together and realize the wonderful amenities within the City of Keene. Ms. Fisk-Hennessey said none of it would be possible without the Department’s professional and seasonal staff, whom she wanted to publicly thank for working so hard to make the City’s programs and spaces accessible and available to all of the community.

NOMINATIONS - AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING COMMITTEE & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Mayor Kahn nominated Julie Schoelzel to serve as a Regular Member of the Airport Development and Marketing Committee, with a term to expire December 31, 2025. The Mayor also nominated Kathy Halverson and Jill Bouchillon to serve as Alternate Members of the

Heritage Commission, both with terms to expire December 31, 2026. Mayor Kahn tabled the nominations until the next regular meeting.

CONFIRMATIONS - LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES & ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

Mayor Kahn renominated Hollie Seiler and Pam Russell Slack to serve as Regular Members of the Library Board of Trustees, both with terms to expire June 30, 2028. The Mayor also nominated Catherine Koning to serve as an Alternate Member of the Energy and Climate Committee, with a term to expire December 31, 2026. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to confirm the nominations 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.

COMMUNICATION - PETITION - ANNE FARRINGTON - IN SUPPORT OF EQUAL RESPECT FOR ALL RESIDENTS

A communication was received from Anne Farrington, on behalf of the Keene City Republicans, submitting a petition from concerned community members requesting that the City of Keene not designate itself a sanctuary city for any specific identity group. The petition containing 496 signatures is on file with the City Clerk. Mayor Kahn filed the communication and associated petition as informational. He noted that he spoke with Ms. Farrington, who also informally submitted this petition during the Planning, Licenses and Development (PLD) Committee meeting on July 9, 2025. The Mayor said this was the exact action she expected with this communication. The Mayor added that everything related to the July 9, 2025 PLD Committee meeting was being referred to the Human Rights Committee.

MSFI REPORTS - WITHDRAWAL: PROPOSAL TO ADD THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE TO ACCOMMODATE BANNERS ACROSS MAIN STREET; GOOSE POND SPILLWAY BRIDGE PROPOSAL; PRESENTATION: MARTELL COURT FORCE MAIN EVALUATION; & VERBAL UPDATE: DOWNTOWN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report was read, recommending the withdrawal [of the proposal to add the necessary infrastructure to accommodate banners across Main Street] be accepted as informational. A second Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report was read, recommending the plans to fundraise and build a path bridge to cross Goose Pond spillway be accepted as informational. A third Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report was read, recommending the presentation on the Martell Court Force Main Evaluation be accepted as informational. A fourth Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report was read, recommending accepting the Verbal Update about the Downtown Infrastructure Project as informational. Mayor Kahn filed the four reports as informational.

PLD REPORT - DIRECT REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE: BUBA STREET NOODLE & BAR - REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO SERVE ALCOHOL - SIDEWALK CAFÉ

A Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report was read, unanimously recommending that Buba Street Noodle & Bar be granted permission to serve alcoholic beverages in connection with their Sidewalk Café License, subject to the customary licensing requirements of the City Council, compliance with the requirements of Sections 46-1191 through 46-1196 of the City Code, and compliance with any requirements of the NH Liquor Commission. This license shall expire on March 1, 2026. A motion by Councilor Bosley to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

Mayor Kahn invited City Councilors to Buba Street Noodle & Bar's official Ribbon Cutting on July 18, 2025, at 11:00 AM and the Grand Opening at 11:30 AM.

PLD REPORT - LET IT SHINE - REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY - 2025 PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

Councilor Remy announced his standing Conflict of Interest due to being a member of the Let It Shine Board of Directors. Mayor Kahn recognized Councilor Remy's request to recuse himself and hearing no objections from the Council, granted the request.

A Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report was read, unanimously recommending a license be granted to Let It Shine, Inc., to use Downtown City rights-of-way on Saturday, October 18, 2025, to hold the Keene Pumpkin Festival subject to the following provisions:

- This license is granted based upon the event scope presented to City staff during protocol meetings held to date, changes or additions to the license may require that an amended license be issued by the City Council and no changes to this license or the associated protocol documents will be accepted after September 1, 2025;
- The Petitioner agrees to absorb the cost of any City services over and above the amount of City funding allocated in the FY 26 Community Events Budget, and agrees to remit said payment within 30 days of the date of invoicing;
- Licensee shall furnish a certificate of liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 naming the City of Keene as an additional insured;
- Licensee shall sign a standard revocable license and indemnification agreement and associated protocol documents;
- That the footprint and layout for the event shall encumber the traveled portions of Central Square, Main Street both sides from Central Square to Emerald Street and Eagle Court, and a portion of Railroad Street. Road closures may include any portions of other streets needed to facilitate detour routes. The full extent of road closures and detour routes shall be agreed upon with City staff and will include any closures necessary to facilitate safety during pre-event setup and post-event cleanup activities;
- That the Petitioner is permitted to use the northbound inside lane of Main Street for pumpkin drop-off by area schools on Friday, October 17, 2025;
- That the actual event will be held from 2:00 PM to 7:30 PM with the times for setup and clean up to be established with City staff;

- Licensee shall submit signed letters of permission from any private property owners for the use of their property;
- That free parking be granted under the provisions of the free parking policy for City parking spaces needed for logistical purposes beginning Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 6:00 AM and extending through Monday, October 20, 2025, and spaces within the event footprint on the day of the event; and
- This license is granted subject to obtainment of any necessary licenses or permits and compliance with all laws; and compliance with any recommendations of City staff.

A motion by Councilor Bosley to carry out the intent of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Jones. The motion carried unanimously with 13 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Remy abstained. Councilor Workman was absent.

PLD REPORT - KEENE PRIDE - REQUEST TO DESIGNATE KEENE A SANCTUARY CITY FOR THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

A Planning, Licenses and Development Committee report was read, unanimously recommending accepting Keene Pride's Request to Designate Keene a Sanctuary City for the LGBTQIA+ Community as informational. The report further recommended directing the Human Rights Committee to work with the concerned parties to draft a statement recognizing the LGBTQIA+ community and assuring dignity and respect for all persons and all communities in the City of Keene.

A motion by Councilor Bosley to carry out the intent of both recommendations of the Committee report was duly seconded by Councilor Jones.

Councilor Bosley noted there was a lot of community testimony on this topic and she hoped her fellow Councilors took the opportunity to watch the meeting video if they could not attend.

Councilor Filiault attended the PLD meeting but did not speak for quorum concerns. He listened and took notes during and after. First, Councilor Filiault wanted to give kudos to Councilor Bosley for doing a phenomenal job chairing the PLD meeting, which Councilor Filiault said could have gone sideways quickly. He thought Mayor Kahn's comments at the beginning of the meeting were well-received and powerful, for which Councilor Filiault applauded the Mayor. Councilor Filiault was glad this was going to the Human Rights Committee (HRC), stating he hoped the Council could have done something at this meeting, but one reason it was going to the HRC was because of the "sanctuary city" issue. He said he found it disappointing that the word "sanctuary" had been weaponized by the federal and state governments, so that any community in NH using the word "sanctuary" on anything would be a target. He thought it was disappointing because he said the definition of sanctuary is, "a place of refuge and safety," and it is also called by the Bible, "a holy place where God is present." So, Councilor Filiault found it disgusting that the federal and state governments made the word "sanctuary" evil; he called it today's politics. He recalled a few weeks prior when many of the Council attended Fire Department Lt. Cooper's funeral at the United Church of Christ in Keene. Councilor Filiault noticed that the room in the Church was called the "Sanctuary," and said it was an emotional service—not political. He called that *sanctuary*. He said Keene Pride removed the word

“sanctuary” from its letter because it was a weaponized word, which Councilor Filiault called disappointing. In the finalized letter, the word was removed, and he said Keene Pride was not asking for any special treatment at all; they were not asking for any laws to be changed or asking the City Council to ignore any laws. Councilor Filiault said they were simply asking the City Council to acknowledge that the LGBT community is safe and welcome in Keene. Councilor Filiault called it quite honestly laughable and ridiculous to suggest the City would somehow be unfair to other groups by doing so. He reported that crimes against the LGBT community were up 23% nationally, prompting Keene Pride’s letter. He said many reported at the PLD meeting that they did not feel safe. Many with opposing views questioned why they did not feel safe. Councilor Filiault’s reply was, “If you’re not a part of that community, then you don’t know.” He said the City Council represents everyone and has to listen to those who are marginalized, disenfranchised, and unfairly targeted simply because of their sexual orientation; they were being threatened. Councilor Filiault stated that from here on out, silence would not be an option. He said that disappointingly, the Keene City Republicans submitted a counter-petition against Keene Pride’s letter. Councilor Filiault said Keene Pride was basically asking to be safe, recognized, and not threatened—he reiterated that Keene Pride was not asking for any law to be changed. He said this was not a Republican, Democrat, or independent issue; Councilor Filiault stated that political party is irrelevant to someone being harassed for being LGBTQ. He called it a human rights issue about the unfair targeting of human beings—including in Keene—that Councilor Filiault said the City Council should not tolerate. He added that when a statement comes back from the HRC, he would be the first Councilor to sign it.

Mayor Kahn agreed with Councilor Filiault about Councilor Bosley’s excellent job Chairing a long and respectful PLD meeting, which could have otherwise been contentious. With Chair Bosley and the Committee’s leadership, the Mayor said the community maintained decorum. Mayor Kahn thought the HRC was in an interesting and potentially awkward position to come back with a statement that 24,000 people in the City of Keene would agree with. He noted that the Council did not often ask committees to do work like this, but this was what the City Council’s 20 Boards and Commissions were appointed for—to help the City deal with matters that take some expertise. He hoped the HRC would execute the job successfully.

The motion to carry out the intent of both Committee recommendations carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

FOP REPORT - BCM ENVIRONMENTAL LAND LAW, PLLC - REQUEST FOR CITY’S CONTRIBUTION TO MONADNOCK CONSERVANCY FOR DRAINAGE REPLACEMENT AT 0 ASHUELOT STREET

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report was read, unanimously recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute an agreement with JRR Properties LLC and the Monadnock Conservancy for the development and donation of parcel #567-001 Lot 2. As part of that agreement, the City will reimburse the Monadnock Conservancy for the replacement of the City’s existing drainage infrastructure with a combination of open drainage swale and the new stormwater pipes in the amount of \$234,845.00, with funding to come from the Stormwater Resiliency program 75M- 00621 A.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 - ACCEPTANCE OF YOUTHWELL NEW HAMPSHIRE SPRING GRANT FOR YOUTH SERVICES

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report was read, unanimously recommending that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept and expend funds provided by YouthWell New Hampshire for Youth Services programs. 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 - ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION - AED DEVICE

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report was read, unanimously recommending the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to accept a donation of an AED from ZOLL Medical and Outdoor AED enclosure from Dartmouth Health's Cheshire Medical Center and AED Team. 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.

Mayor Kahn thanked Fire Chief Jason Martin for bringing this item forward. He also acknowledged Chief Martin for the drill the Fire Department went through in response to the water outage, thanking the Chief for his response during the emergency.

FOP REPORT - SKATEPARK FENCE - TRANSFER OF FUNDS

A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report was read, unanimously recommending accepting the withdrawal of this item [Skatepark Fence - Transfer of Funds]. 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.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

The City Manager reported that in late June 2025, the City of Keene and Towns of Swanzey and Marlborough jointly went out to bid and completed a successful procurement for the Community Power Program. Direct Energy Services—the current supplier—was again the low bidder and was awarded a new 24-month contract, beginning December 2025. This contract would provide stable pricing and greater cost certainty for residents. Keene's default product would increase its renewable energy content from 35% to 50%, moving the City closer to its goal of 100% renewable energy by 2030. Three product options would continue to be offered, ranging from the State of NH minimum up to 100% renewable; residents can change or opt out at any time. The City Manager said the City planned to announce new the pricing more publicly in fall 2025 to avoid confusion with the current rates, which would remain in effect through November. The

rate secured was close to the Eversource rate that would be going into effect in August. The City's rate was also considerably lower than Community Power Coalition's (CPC) NH rate announced recently for August 2025 through January 2026. In summary, the City Manager reported the following (prices for the Basic rate, which only include state-required renewables):

- Eversource: 11.196, August 1, 2025–January 31, 2026
- Keene, Swanzey, & Marlborough: 11.100, until December 2025
 - 11.220, December 2025–December 2027
- CPCNH: 13.419, August 1, 2025 - January 31, 2026

The City Manager concluded on this topic that the energy market was not stable at this time, and the City saw a lot of changes, so she felt good about locking in this rate for two years. The City would share more with the public at the time of implementation and begin the outreach process before the change.

Next, the City Manager shared that as part of this year's adopted Budget, funds were allocated for the Keene Fire Department to engage in a formal strategic planning process. This initiative would result in a 3–5-year Strategic Plan to guide the Department's future direction, priorities, and resource allocation. The City Manager recalled that she had been talking a lot about staff and the future of Ambulance Services. So, she highlighted this because it was the perfect time for Fire Chief Jason Martin to take on this initiative. Chief Martin retained Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) to lead this effort. The planning process would include meaningful stakeholder engagement—both internal and external—to ensure a broad range of perspectives would be considered. The Department would share additional information as the project gets underway, including opportunities for community input.

The City Manager concluded by updating the Council and community on the recent water main break on Water Street. On Friday afternoon, July 11, 2025, the City received the first of two required bacteria test results from the laboratory. A second round of samples were promptly collected and analyzed. By approximately 4:30 PM on Saturday, July 12, 2025, the lab confirmed that the second set of results was also clean. At that time, the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) authorized lifting the Precautionary Boil Water Order. Although the water was deemed safe to drink as of Saturday afternoon, NH DES regulations require municipalities to notify all customers via a formal public notice published in a local newspaper for three consecutive issues. As a result, some residents may have seen the notice beginning Monday, July 14, 2025, after the order had already been lifted, which understandably caused confusion. The City Manager asked the public to rest assured that the water is safe and stated that the newspaper notice was simply a compliance measure required by the state regulation.

The City Manager shared some statistics about the emergency. During the event, the City's water system lost approximately 1,028,000 gallons of water. The immediate response cost the City \$22,600 in labor, material, equipment, and repair parts. Altogether, a total of 162 staff hours were expended responding to the break (not counting Keene Fire Department response). Final restoration of the roadway, sidewalk, and greenbelt will require contractor support; the City is not equipped for a repair this large. The restoration was estimated to cost approximately \$12,000 to \$15,000. Longer term, the City Manager said the City would evaluate options to rehabilitate or

replace the cross-town water main, which she expects would come forward in the FY27–FY33 Capital Improvement Program (CIP); staff were currently preparing that full CIP update of all projects (review of that CIP with the Council would be in January 2026).

The City Manager expressed the City’s sincere gratitude to C&S Wholesale Grocers for their generous donation of bottled water to the public during the emergency. Thanks to their support, City staff from Public Works and the Keene Police Departments worked overtime to distribute approximately 1,260 cases of bottled water to affected customers on Friday, July 11, 2025. The City Manager described the effective drive-up system of water distribution staff set up for the public, moving a lot of water in a short time.

City Manager Ferland also recognized the Public Works Director, Don Lussier, and the whole Public Works Department, including Administration and the Water and Sewer teams. They all responded quickly and efficiently to restore water service, address the flooded roadway, and make the necessary repairs under challenging conditions; their professionalism and dedication were instrumental in minimizing impacts on the community. In addition, the City Manager thanked the Emergency Management Team, who assisted with a wide range of critical response tasks. Among them, Deputy City Manager Rebecca Landry played a vital role in leading communications efforts, working throughout the weekend sending out timely and accurate information to the public across all platforms. The morning after the water main break, the City heard from concerned residents because they had missed earlier notifications as they were not active on social media. The City had issued alerts via email, social media, radio, and WMUR. However, the City Manager said the organization understands the importance of reaching residents through more direct means. The City had been working toward full implementation of the State’s Emergency Alert System, which enables municipalities to send critical alerts directly to residents’ phones. While the City already had an agreement in place and identified key City staff for access, the process requires a combination of online and in-person training that was not yet completed. Therefore, the Emergency Management Director for this incident, Kürt Blomquist, worked directly with the State of NH to issue a Boil Order alert on the City’s behalf.

Looking ahead, the City Manager anticipated that by September 2025, the City would have fully implemented the State’s Emergency Alert System and would be able to issue emergency alerts—such as Boil Water Notices or weather-related warnings—directly to the public. Once fully operational, the City would launch a public outreach campaign to encourage residents to register their phones to receive these important notifications. The City Manager and staff were very thankful to the community for their continued support and engagement. The City Manager said events like this remind everyone why sustained investments in the City’s water and sewer infrastructure are essential—not only to respond to emergencies, but to prevent them and build a stronger, more resilient City. She said there were a lot of positive and supportive comments from the community. The City Manager expressed her deep appreciation to the City’s residents and customers for their patience and understanding throughout the event, noting the difficulties not only for homeowners, but businesses. She noted that a water main break has a variety of impacts and is difficult for the City to get back on track because of the two required tests; in reality, Public Works had the water back on within a short time, but the Boil Order took the longest. The City Manager reiterated that everyone did a great job and said it was a great learning opportunity; she thought the City was moving forward in the right direction to be able to

communicate more directly with the public in the future. The Mayor thanked the City Manager, Deputy City Manager, and staff because of the community's positive response to the communication efforts.

Councilor Greenwald noted that no one had mentioned the City Manager's commendable efforts throughout the emergency.

Councilor Favolise noted that the City was in a period of ongoing Ward Optimization Weeks (WOW). One of the pieces of feedback that he received from constituents was that for the first time ever, they had started using the See-Click-Fix App to report different challenges with the water. Councilor Favolise wanted to share that as a kind of technology the City uses as a system that he thought would be important, moving forward, to have more people using. He said it was hard because in this case it was obvious to Public Works that there was a challenge with the water system, but in other cases it is hard for City staff to solve problems that they do not know exist. Councilor Favolise said See-Click-Fix is a way to get those issues on staff's radar. The City Manager noted that over 100 people reported the water issue, and the Public Works Director joked to her on site that he counted that as engagement for WOW. The City Manager confirmed that WOWs were underway.

REPORT - ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

A memorandum was read from the Finance Director/Treasurer, Kari Chamberlain, recommending that the City Council accept donations in the amount of \$15,000, and the City Manager be authorized to use each donation in the manner specified by the donor. A motion by Councilor Powers to accept donations in the amount of \$15,000, and the donation of water from C&S during the recent water main break, and that the City Manager be authorized to use each donation in the manner specified by the donors was duly seconded by Councilor Lake.

Councilor Remy said there were a lot of people involved in C&S' effort, stating the organization was glad to do it. For example, J.B. Hunt was a transportation provider who ensured everything went smoothly. Additionally, with only 10 minutes' notice, Choice Industrial Solutions hauled and offloaded the final cases of water from C&S. Councilor Remy thought the final total of water cases donated by C&S was a bit more than the 1,260 the City Manager quoted. Mayor Kahn thanked all community partners who stepped up during this time of need.

The motion to accept donations carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

REPORTS - RESIGNATIONS - AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING COMMITTEE & HERITAGE COMMISSION

A memorandum was received from Airport Director David Hickling, recommending that the City Council accept Luca Paris' resignation from the Airport Development & Marketing Committee with gratitude for service. A second memorandum was received from Planner Megan Fortson, recommending that the City Council accept Marilyn Huston's resignation from the Heritage Commission with gratitude for service. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to accept the

resignations with regret and appreciation for their service was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley. The motion carried unanimously with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

REPORT - RELATIVE TO SETBACKS AND BUILD-TO DIMENSIONS - ORDINANCE O-2025-20-A - JOINT PLANNING BOARD/PLD COMMITTEE

A Joint Planning Board-Planning, Licenses and Development (PB-PLD) Committee report was read, with the Planning Board unanimously finding Ordinance O-2025-20-A was in compliance with the Comprehensive Master Plan, and the PLD Committee unanimously recommending the Mayor set a Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2025-20-A. Mayor Kahn scheduled a Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2025-20-A on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers.

REPORT - RELATIVE TO AMENDMENTS TO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE TO ENCOURAGE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN KEENE - ORDINANCE O-2025-15-A - JOINT PLANNING BOARD/PLD COMMITTEE

A Joint Planning Board-Planning, Licenses and Development (PB-PLD) Committee report was read, with the Planning Board unanimously finding Ordinance O-2025-15-A was in compliance with the Comprehensive Master Plan, and the PLD Committee unanimously recommending the Mayor set a Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2025-15-A. Mayor Kahn scheduled a Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2025-15-A on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 7:05 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers.

MORE TIME - MSFI REPORT - JOE SCHAPIRO - SAFETY ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH ON-STREET PARKING - CHURCH STREET; & FOP REPORT - COUNCILOR FAVOLISE - REQUEST TO PLACE KENO QUESTION ON 2025 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report was read, recommending placing the item [Joe Schapiro - Safety Issues Associated with On-Street Parking - Church Street] on more time to allow for conversations with all parties to continue. A Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee report was read on a vote of 4–1, recommending the request to a Place Keno Question on 2025 Municipal General Election Ballot be placed on more time. Mayor Kahn granted more time for both items.

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING - RELATING TO CLASS ALLOCATION & PERFORMANCE BONUS - ORDINANCE O-2025-24

A memorandum was received from the HR Director/ACM, Beth Fox, accompanied by Ordinance O-2025-24 Relating to Class Allocation and Performance Bonus. Mayor Kahn referred Ordinance O-2025-24 to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

ORDINANCE FOR SECOND READING - RELATING TO PROHIBITED PARKING IN PROXIMITY TO DRIVEWAYS - ORDINANCE O-2025-22

A Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee report was read, unanimously recommending the adoption of Ordinance O-2025-22 Relating to Prohibited Parking Areas. A motion by Councilor Greenwald to adopt Ordinance O-2025-22 was duly seconded by Councilor Filiault. Councilor Filiault reported on behalf of the Committee. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote with 14 Councilors present and voting in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

RESOLUTION - RELATING TO PROPOSED FY26 BUDGET AMENDMENT - RESOLUTION R-2025-25

A memorandum was received from Finance Director/Treasurer, Kari Chamberlain, accompanied by Resolution R-2025-25 Relating to Proposed FY26 Budget Amendment. Mayor Kahn referred Resolution R-2025-25 to the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee.

RESOLUTIONS - RELATING TO AN AMENDED RETURN OF LAYOUT FOR A PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY KNOWN AS GROVE STREET - RESOLUTION R-2025-26; RELATING TO A DEED FOR LAND REMOVED FROM THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND AN EASEMENT FOR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE - RESOLUTION R-2025-27; & PETITION - PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A memorandum was received from Public Works Director Don Lussier, recommending the Mayor set a date and time for a site visit and public hearing on a Petition to Amend the Layout of Grove Street; further that the attached petition be referred along with Resolutions R-2025-26 and R-2025-27 to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee and the Planning Board for their consideration and recommendations. Mayor Kahn referred Resolutions R-2025-26 and R-2025-27 to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee and the Planning Board. The Mayor scheduled a site visit for September 4, 2025 at 5:30 PM and a Public Hearing to be held September 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

The City Attorney, Amanda Palmeira, confirmed that if Councilors did not attend the site visit, they would not be able to vote on the matter. Councilor Greenwald encouraged his fellow Councilors to be at the site visit. Mayor Kahn said a quorum would be important.

NON PUBLIC SESSION

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to go into non-public session to discuss land matters pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(d), and for consideration of the release of non-public minutes pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(m) 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 8:03 PM. At 8:27 PM, the non-public session ended.

On advice from the City Attorney and the City Manager, no action was taken to seal the minutes of this evening's session.

MOTION OUT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION – REVIEW AND RELEASE OF NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – LAND MATTERS

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to unseal the non-public minutes of October 19, 2023, pursuant to RSA 91-A;3 IV (b) because the reason the minutes were originally sealed no longer applies 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.

MOTION OUT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION – PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES AGREEMENT – CHESHIRE MEDICAL CENTER *AND* PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY FROM CHESHIRE MEDICAL CENTER

A motion by Councilor Greenwald to authorize the City Manager to execute a ten-year PILOT agreement (payment in lieu of taxes agreement) with an additional 5-year option with Cheshire Medical Center was duly seconded by Councilor Bosley. On show of hands, 14 Councilors were present and voted in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

A motion by Councilor Bosley to authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to purchase approximately 1.25 acres of land off Maple Ave from Cheshire Medical Center was duly seconded by Councilor Greenwald. On show of hands, 14 Councilors were present and voted in favor. Councilor Workman was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Kahn adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.

A true record, attest:



City Clerk