

\*These are "Action Only" minutes. Video of comments may be found on recorded discs at City Hall or at [www.cityofbelfast.org](http://www.cityofbelfast.org).\*

**City of Belfast  
Council Chambers-Belfast City Hall  
Tuesday, January 2, 2018**

**6:45 p.m. Committee Interview**

**7:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting**

**Public Hearing #1**

The City of Belfast City Council, at its meeting of Tuesday, January 2, 2018, beginning at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as practical thereafter, in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall, which is located at 131 Church Street, shall conduct a public hearing regarding adoption of a proposed extension to an existing Moratorium to prohibit the following activities that will be permitted by the 'Marijuana Legalization Act': operation of a marijuana retail sale establishment, operation of a marijuana cultivation establishment for retail sale, and operation of a marijuana retail social club. The City Council, at its meeting of January 3, 2017, adopted a moratorium for 180 days to prohibit such activities, renewed this moratorium for an additional 180 days at its meeting of July 18, 2017, and now intends to extend this moratorium for an additional 180 days, until June 29, 2018. The State Legislature has not yet enacted the required State regulations for this new industry and the City wants to understand said regulations before enacting local Ordinances.

Persons who may be affected by the proposed Moratorium are encouraged to attend the January 2 public hearing and to offer comment. Alternatively, comment can be submitted in writing to Wayne Marshall, Director, Code & Planning, City of Belfast, 131 Church St, Belfast, ME, 04915, or by email to [wmarshall@cityofbelfast.org](mailto:wmarshall@cityofbelfast.org). The language for the proposed Moratorium can be viewed on the City website, [cityofbelfast.org](http://cityofbelfast.org), reference Planning and Codes, and a copy is available for inspection at the Code and Planning Offices in City Hall during normal business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Questions regarding the proposal should be directed to Wayne Marshall, City Planner, at 338-1417 x 125, or by email at [wmarshall@cityofbelfast.org](mailto:wmarshall@cityofbelfast.org).

Mayor Paradis asked for proponents and opponents and hearing none declared the hearing closed.

**Public Hearing #2**

Pursuant to the Special Amusement Ordinance of the City of Belfast and the provision of Title 28-A Section 1054 MRSA a public hearing will be held in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall on January 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter on a new application for a Special Amusement Permit for Sarah Waldron d/b/a Neighborhood for Live Music, DJ, Karaoke, all Live Entertainment, and dancing at 132 High Street, Belfast, Maine, interior only.

Mayor Paradis asked for proponents and opponents and hearing none declared the hearing closed.

### **Regular Council Meeting No. 13**

#### **1) Call to order**

**2) Present:** Mayor Samantha Paradis, Councilors Mary Mortier, Neal Harkness, Eric Sanders, Michael Hurley and John Arrison; City Manager Joseph Slocum and Admin. Assistant to the City Manager Manda Cushman.

#### **3) Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **4) Adoption of the agenda**

City Manager Joseph Slocum requested to amend the agenda as follows:

- Remove item **10) I** Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Poverty Abatement pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. 841.
- Add item **10) J #1** Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) C.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adopt the agenda, as amended. This motion was approved, 5-0.

#### **5) Acceptance of the minutes**

Regular Council Meeting of December 19, 2017.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of December 19, 2017. This was approved, 5-0.

#### **6) Open to the public**

1. Betty Johnson, Board Member of Belfast Creative Coalition announced the hiring of a new Executive Director.

2. Lorraine Brown, Executive Director of Belfast Creative Coalition introduced herself to the public and thanked the Council for their continued support for the Belfast Creative Coalition.

3. Zach Schmesser, Executive Director of Our Town Belfast introduced himself to the Council and community.

4. Mayor and Councilors discussed appropriate amount of time to give to each individual who wishes to speak during open to the public, Council unanimously agreed that it should be flexible, as long as it is reasonable and not abused.

## **7) Communications**

Councilors discussed how and when a warming center in Belfast is activated.

Betty Johnson, County Commissioner informed the Council that the County will be addressing questions regarding a warming center with the Director of Emergency Management tomorrow.

Councilor Mortier discussed concerns with the storm moving in and encouraged the City Manager to reach out directly to Emergency Management regarding the Council's concerns.

City Manager Joseph Slocum discussed how City staff is preparing for the storm.

Mayor and Council thanked all emergency personnel including Fire & Ambulance, Police Department and Public Works for all they do during bad weather conditions to keep the community safe and accessible.

Councilor Mortier provided an update on New Year's By the Bay and thanked all those who helped make the event a success.

Councilor Hurley emphasized the importance of revisiting the idea of getting generators for all City facilities during budget season.

## **8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports**

Consideration of a committee appointment to the In-town Design Review Committee.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to appoint Barry Brindle to the In-town Design Review Committee. This motion was approved, 5-0.

## **9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda**

A. Request to approve a new application for a Special Amusement Permit for Sarah Waldron d/b/a Neighborhood for Live Music, DJ, Karaoke, all Live Entertainment, and dancing at 132 High Street, Belfast, Maine, interior only.

- B.** Request by the Fire Chief to confirm Brendan Bruns as a paid per call Firefighter for the Belfast Fire Department.
- C.** Request by the Fire Chief to confirm Benjamin Sniger as a paid per call Firefighter for the Belfast Fire Department.
- D.** Request by the Fire Chief to confirm Joel Burda as a paid per call Firefighter and Ambulance Attendant for the Belfast Fire Department and Belfast Ambulance Service.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the consent agenda. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**10) Business**

- A)** Request to cut down a tree at 19 Elm St. (around the corner on Court Street).

Councilor Hurley requested that the stump be removed as well.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request to remove a tree at 19 Elm Street (around the corner on Court Street). This motion was approved, 5-0.

- B)** Second Reading on a proposed extension of a moratorium on retail marijuana.

Director of Code and Planning, Wayne Marshall explained the request to extend the moratorium for 180 days until June 29, 2018.

Councilor Harkness suggested writing a letter to the Governor and State Representatives on behalf of the Council and City that expresses their frustration regarding the issue being held up by their lack of action; Council unanimously agreed that sending a letter would be appropriate.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the Second Reading on a proposed extension of a moratorium on retail marijuana for 180 days until June 29, 2018. This motion was approved, 5-0.

- C)** First Reading of proposed amendments to the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 80, covering requirements for design review.

Director of Code and Planning, Wayne Marshall provided a history of design review within the City of Belfast and reviewed the proposed amendments to the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 80.

City Planner, Sadie Lloyd discussed with Council the reason for the department coming forward with these proposed changes.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the First Reading of proposed amendments to the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 80 with the Public Hearing and Second Reading to be scheduled for February 6, 2018. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to accept the proposed amendments to the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 80 as presented and recommended. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**D)** Request from CMP to install a new telephone pole on Anderson Street to service underground utilities to the new State courthouse.

No Council comments.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request from CMP to install a new telephone pole on Anderson Street to service underground utilities to the new State courthouse. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**E)** Request from City Planner, Sadie Lloyd for authorization to install heat pumps in some City buildings and to have an engineer review other buildings for potential installation of these pumps.

City Planner, Sadie Lloyd reviewed the bids received and recommended that an engineer review the Boathouse, the Fire Station, and the Transfer Station to analysis and recommend best heat options for these buildings and to request new bids for heat pumps for only the Harbor Master's Office, the Public Restrooms and the Cemetery Workshop.

Council discussed concerns brought forward by the Harbor Master regarding weatherization.

City Planner, Sadie Lloyd reviewed the three items which she is seeking Council authorization:

1. Inquire about cost estimates for weatherization of the Harbor Master Office.
2. Inquire about cost estimates for heat pumps at Harbor Master's Office, Public Restrooms and the Cemetery Workshop.

3. Inquire about cost estimates for engineering analysis of the Boathouse, Fire Station and Transfer Station.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to authorize the City Planner to get further information and figures regarding items 1, 2 & 3, as discussed, regarding cost estimates for weatherization, engineer analysis and heat pumps for various City buildings. This motion was approved, 5-0.

F) Request from City Treasurer, Theresa Butler to carry forward certain budget accounts from fiscal year 2016 into the 2017 fiscal year.

City Manager Joseph Slocum requested that the carry forward for the Road Construction account be removed from the list provided to the Council and noted that Council had previously decided carry forwards from electric and heating accounts would be put into a reserve account for energy, Council unanimously agreed to place these accounts into a reserve account for energy.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request from the City Treasurer to carry forward budget accounts from fiscal year 2016 into the 2017 fiscal year, as presented, and that electric and heating accounts (except for WWTP) would be put into a reserve account for energy. This motion was approved, 5-0.

G) Request from North Star Adventures to use the City Ice Rink and surrounding area as part of a launch party event at Waterfall Arts on January 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Councilor Harkness inquired about the requested fire permit for the event.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the Facility Use request from North Start Adventures to use the City Ice Rink and surrounding area as part of a launch party event at Waterfall Arts on January 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., as recommended by the Parks & Recreation Director. This motion was approved, 5-0.

H) Update on progress efforts to design and build a new Public Works Facility for the City of Belfast.

City Manager Joseph Slocum explained where the City is at in the process of constructing a new facility and the types of things the City is looking at in creating a new site.

Councilors discussed the important, yet mindful, decisions that are being made in creating a new site.

I) Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Poverty Abatement pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. 841.

Item removed.

J) Request to go into Executive Session to discuss an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) C.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to go into Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 9:46 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 10:17 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

J) #1 Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) C.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 10:17 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session on a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 11:02 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

K) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

## 11) Open to the Public

No public comment.

### 12) Communications

Councilor Mortier reminded everyone that the plastic bag and expanded polystyrene foam ban are now in effect.

Councilor Hurley inquired about when the new welcoming recording for the phones would be done.

Councilor Mortier reminded City staff about updating their phone extension numbers on their email signature.

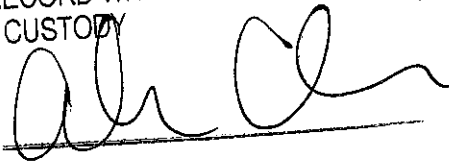
Mayor Paradis thanked those who are volunteering to be a part of the Fire Department.

### 13) Adjourn

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE  
IS A TRUE COPY OF INFORMATION  
ON THE RECORD WHICH IS IN MY  
OFFICIAL CUSTODY

ATTEST



AMANDA CUSHMAN, BELFAST MAINE