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**CITY OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING
TROY HOWARD MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018
6:00 PM**

1) Call to Order:

2) Present: Mayor Samantha Paradis; Councilors Neal Harkness, Eric Sanders, Mike Hurley and John Arrison, and City Manager Joseph Slocum.

Absent: Councilor Mary Mortier.

3) Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Arrison, made a motion to adopt the agenda. This motion was approved, 4-0.

4) Second Reading: Proposed amendments to City Code of Ordinances regarding establishment of the Route One South Business Park zoning district and associated amendments to Chapter 102, Zoning, Chapter 82, Shoreland and Chapter 66, General Provisions. The amendments, if adopted, would create an opportunity for Nordic Aquafarms to submit a permit application to the Belfast Planning Board to propose developing a land based salmon aquaculture farm on the property they intend to purchase from the Belfast Water District, Sam Cassida and Mathews Brothers.

a) Presentation: Director of Code & Planning, Wayne Marshall, provided a presentation on the proposed amendments.

b) Public Hearing:

The City of Belfast City Council, at a Special Council meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, beginning at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria of the Troy Howard Middle School that is located at 173 Lincolnvile Avenue, shall conduct the Second Reading and a public hearing on proposed amendments to the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 102, Zoning, Chapter 82, Shoreland, and Chapter 66, General Provisions.

Persons who may be affected by the proposed amendments are encouraged to attend the October 9 public hearing and to express your comments to the City Council. Comment also may be submitted in writing or via email by October 9. Written comment to Wayne Marshall, Director, Code & Planning, City of Belfast, 131 Church St, Belfast, ME, 04915. Email comment to public@cityofbelfast.org. The proposed language for amendments is posted on the City

website, cityofbelfast.org; reference both the Planning and Codes and Economic Development links; information under October 9 Council Hearing. A copy of the proposals are available for inspection at the Code and Planning Department offices in City Hall, Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Questions regarding the proposal should be directed to Wayne Marshall at 338-1417, x 125, or at wmarshall@cityofbelfast.org.

Mayor Paradis asked for proponents and opponents.

1. Larch Hanson of Steuben told a personal story of water quality and the quality of water and discussed improving relationship with water, as the water will remembers us.
2. Steve Byers of Waldo here to remind the Council that changing the zoning does not create more opportunities and encouraged the Council to consider how we can revitalize the City's waters.
3. Ellie Daniels of Belfast reviewed the history of the process thus far and objected to how the City has proceeded, stating that the process conflicts with the Zoning and 2009 Comprehensive Plan.
4. Lawrence Reichard of Belfast addressed the fundamentally question of whether or not we want to invite into our community a big corporation that has not been completely forth coming and requested the Council to instruct the City Manager and City Attorney to release all emails regarding this proposal to the public.
5. Phyllis Colella of Belfast concerned with climate change and stress on natural resources and requested that Council consider including clauses to protect neighbors.
6. Linda Buckmaster of Belfast addressed concerns with the project not being viable, feasible or sustainable and requested that the City received a third party review. And asked the Council how we are going to reduce our carbon footprint if we allow this carbon intensive industry into our community.
7. Ethan Hughes of Belfast the process the City followed hurt the fabric of the community and suggested completely restarting the process with no closed door meetings and no fast tracking.
8. Carter Cyr of Hallowell, works at Nordic Aquafarms, and discussed how Nordic is proposing to address waste products and options the company is looking into.
9. Zafra Whitcomb of Belfast discussed how it is possible to have a positive outcome with a large corporation, and urged everyone to keep transparency and positive discussions.
10. Donna Broderick of Belfast discussed information learned at the DEP public information meeting held by Nordic Aquafarms and noted concerns with the proposed outflow pipes and what would be going into the bay.

11. Dirk Faegre of Belfast requested further consideration of carbon footprint, and urged everyone to look at all the issues, both positives and negatives.
12. Natalie Charles of Belfast discussed concerns with a proposal for a project that is an experimental model with serious consequences, requested Council look into getting a third party review and environmental impact study.
13. Jim Merkel of Belfast discussed concerns that the City has spent too much money and staff time without involving the citizens and will lose benefits to the City if the proposal goes forward. Encouraged Council to relook at the proposal after hearing from the public with more civic engagement on this issue.
14. Eileen Wolper of Belfast discussed opposition to this proposal on the grounds of potential environmental disaster and danger to health and urged the Council to protect the clean water for the citizens.
15. Ridgley Fuller of Belfast discussed feeling helplessness and requested that the issue go to referendum.
16. Joanne Moesswilde of Belfast discussed feelings that any big industry is not good for Belfast would like to see the Council properly update the Comprehensive Plan, urged everyone to think about what is the legacy we want to leave behind.
17. Sarah Hughes of Belfast discussed importance of honoring mother earth and encouraged Council to feel indigenous to a place.

Mayor Paradis declared the hearing closed.

Director of Code & Planning, Wayne Marshall, noted all written comments submitted prior to the Council Meeting.

c) Council Discussion. Opportunity for the Council to have general discussion of the proposed amendments and information presented at the hearing.

Council thanked all those who came forward to speak and addressed comments and proposed amendments.

Director of Code & Planning, Wayne Marshall, noted to the public that there will not be a Public Hearing at the October 16th Council Meeting regarding this proposal.

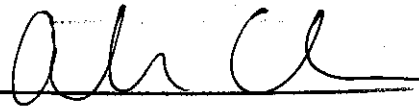
Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to acknowledge that tonight has been the Second Reading and Public Hearing of proposed amendments to City Code of Ordinances regarding establishment of the Route One South Business Park zoning district and associated amendments to Chapter 102, Zoning, Chapter 82, Shoreland and Chapter 66, General Provisions, and to table the proposal for further discussion at the Council Meeting of October 16th. This motion was approved, 4-0.

5) Adjournment

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

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