

These are “Action Only” minutes. Video of comments may be found on recorded discs at City Hall or at www.cityofbelfast.org.

City of Belfast
Council Chambers-Belfast City Hall
Tuesday, April 16, 2019
7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing #1

In accordance with Title 28A Section 653 MRSA 1964 a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall to hear an application by Seng Thai Corporation d/b/a Seng Thai Restaurant located at 139 Searsport Avenue, Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt and Vinous Restaurant license, interior only.

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

Public Hearing #2

In accordance with Title 28A Section 653 MRSA 1964 a public hearing will be held on April 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall to hear an application by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Belfast, located at 37 Miller Street, Belfast, Maine for an Incorporated Civic Organization license, for the U.U. Church of Belfast Auction being held on May 4, 2019 at the Belfast Boathouse located at 34 Commercial Street.

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

Regular Council Meeting No. 20

1) Call to order

2) Present: Mayor Samantha Paradis, Councilors Mary Mortier, Neal Harkness, Eric Sanders, Michael Hurley and Paul Dean; City Manager Joseph Slocum.

Absent: 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:

- Add item **10) I #1** Request by the Climate Change Committee to pass a resolution supporting United States compliance with the Paris Accord.
- Add item **10) A #1** Request by the Chief of Police to appoint Jeremy Bell as a part-time Police Officer to the Belfast Police Department.

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

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of April 2, 2019 and Special City Council Meeting of April 4, 2019.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of April 2, 2019. This was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the minutes from the Special City Council Meeting of April 4, 2019. This was approved, 5-0.

6) A. Open to the public

No comments.

B. Organization and Department Reports

1. Zach Schmesser, Executive Director of Our Town Belfast, provided a brief update on upcoming events.
2. Steve Ryan, Executive Director of the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce, provided a brief update on upcoming events.

7) Communications

Councilor Dean provided an update on the upcoming Keeping Belfast Beautiful roadside clean-up event.

Councilor Hurley discussed animal control for the City of Belfast.

Councilor Harkness inquired about the status of the Armory.

Mayor Paradis informed the public of the upcoming MDOT public meeting regarding the Goose River project on Thursday, April 25th at 6:00 p.m. at Belfast City Hall, discussed recent meeting with Governor Mills and discussed looking into providing childcare at public City meetings.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum informed the public of the Public Works spring roadside pick-up on May 1st, discussed a Maine Recreation Survey and noted that he has been contacted by the Randall Collins VFW regarding City contribution for flags throughout town.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, discussed recent negotiations with Paul Naron noting that the City is awaiting a written proposal from Mr. Naron.

Mayor Paradis discussed having a Work Session with the Climate Change Committee on April 30th regarding their 3rd report.

Council unanimously agreed to hold a Work Session at 6:00 p.m. regarding Climate Change Committee's 3rd report and Market Analysis.

Council unanimously agreed to hold a tour of the old Public Works Facility followed by a meeting at City Hall for neighbors on May 14th starting at 5:30 p.m.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve an application by Seng Thai Corporation d/b/a Seng Thai Restaurant located at 139 Searsport Avenue, Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt and Vinous Restaurant license, interior only.
- B. Request to approve an application by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Belfast, located at 37 Miller Street, Belfast, Maine for an Incorporated Civic Organization license, for the U.U. Church of Belfast Auction being held on May 4, 2019 at the Belfast Boathouse located at 34 Commercial Street.
- C. Request to approve a Lunch Wagon License permit application by Tina Cook d/b/a Chef on the Run, LLC located at Bank of America, 21 Schoodic Drive, Belfast, Maine and AthenaHealth, 3 Hatley Rd., Belfast, Maine, license to expire on December 31, 2019.
- D. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for Neighborhood Belfast , LLC d/b/a Neighborhood for the Our Town Belfast "Taste of Belfast" event located at the United Farmers Market, 18 Spring Street, Belfast, Maine on April 22, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- E. Request to approve a Facility Use application by Bike the US for MS organization under the oversight of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to utilize Heritage Park on the evening of May 28, 2019 for an overnight stay for their annual Bike the US for MS event.

- F. Request to approve a Facility Use application by Our Town Belfast for use of the Armistice Footbridge to host the annual “Dinner on the Bridge” fundraiser event for Thursday, June 20, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with a rain date of Friday, June 21st.
- G. Request to approve a Facility Use application by Come Boating for the use of the area in and around the shed the group uses next to the trailer parking lot at the Harbor for their annual Yard Sale/Launch Day event on Saturday, May 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

10) Business

A) Possible action to fill a vacant seat to represent Belfast on the RSU #71 School Board.

Caitlin Hills, School Board Chair, recommended appointment of Josh Solobello to fill the vacant seat.

Josh Solobello introduced himself to the Council.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to appoint Josh Solobello to fill the vacant seat on the RSU #71 School Board. This motion was approved, 5-0.

A) #1 Request by the Chief of Police to appoint Jeremy Bell as a part-time Police Officer to the Belfast Police Department.

Deputy Chief of Police, Gerry Lincoln, provided a recommendation to confirm Jeremy Bell as a part-time Police Officer.

Jeremy Bell introduced himself to the Council.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to confirm Jeremy Bell as a part-time Officer for the Belfast Police Department. This motion was approved, 5-0.

B) Report from Steve Ryan, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, on existing and proposed collaborative economic and community development efforts.

Steve Ryan, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, Lorraine Brown, Executive Director of the Belfast Creative Coalition and Zach Schmesser, Executive Director of Our Town Belfast

discussed how they hope to collaborate moving forward to improve and expand upon economic and community development in Belfast with Councilors.

C) Request from the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce for a “Business After Hours” event to be held on May 15th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Beaver Street.

Steve Ryan, Executive Director of the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce, explained the request in more detail and answered Council questions.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the Facility Use Request by the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce for a Business After Hours event to be held on May 15th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. located on Beaver Street. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Request from Our Town Belfast to allow downtown businesses to conduct a Yard Sale event on Saturday, June 1st from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Zach Schmesser, Executive Director of Our Town Belfast, explained the request in more detail.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the Facility Use Request by Our Town Belfast to allow downtown businesses to conduct a Yard Sale event on Saturday, June 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

* Lorraine Brown, Executive Director of the Belfast Creative Coalition, provided a brief organization update.

E) Request to accept a revision to the Office Park Zoning District Ordinance amendments as adopted on April 2, 2019.

Director of Code and Planning, Wayne Marshall, explained the revision and requested the Council accept the language, as presented, as a revision to the Ordinance amendment that the Council adopted on April 2nd.

Councilors requested clarification on the proposed revision.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the revision to the Office Park Zoning District Ordinance amendments that the Council adopted on April 2nd, as presented. This motion was approved, 5-0.

F) Report on the proposed Local Option Sales Tax.

Mayor Paradis provided updated information, noting a new proposed legislation regarding Local Option Sales Tax.

Councilors discussed questions regarding the proposed legislation.

G) Request to accept seasonal portable toilet bids and to award the bid to the low bidder, Moore's Septic Services.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, briefly addressed the request.

Councilors discussed ensuring that restrooms are kept clean during peak usage.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to accept seasonal portable toilet bids as presented and to award the bid to the lowest bidder Moore's Septic Services for \$7,717.50 per year for the 2019-2021 seasons. This motion was approved, 5-0.

H) Request from Belfast Fire Chief, James Richards, to use \$23,550 from the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve account to purchase 30 Scott Carbon Air Pack Cylinders to replace 60 cylinders recently removed from service.

Councilors briefly discussed the importance of this equipment for the safety of the City's firefighters.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request from the Fire Chief to use \$23,550 from the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve account to purchase 30 Scott Carbon Air Pack Cylinders. This motion was approved, 5-0.

I) Request for funding for the Climate Change Committee to attend a Beaches Conference in June. (Mayor Paradis)

Barbara Bell, Climate Change Committee member provided more information regarding the conference, requesting up to \$250 so that one to two committee members could attend.

Councilors requested clarifying questions regarding funding.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request for funding of up to \$250 from account 100-502 so that the Climate Change Committee can attend the Beaches Conference in June. This motion was approved, 5-0.

I) #1 Request by the Climate Change Committee to pass a resolution supporting United States compliance with the Paris Accord.

Mayor Paradis explained the request.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request to pass a resolution supporting the United States compliance with the Paris Accord. This motion was approved, 5-0.

J) Update and discussion on temporary signage throughout Belfast. (Councilors Hurley and Dean)

Councilor Dean and Hurley discussed proposed locations for signage.

Councilors thoroughly discussed locations and management, unanimously agreed that more information and research would be required before taking any formal action.

K) Discussion regarding the city requesting the Department of Health and Human Services to locate an office in Belfast. (Councilor Harkness)

Councilor Harkness discussed with Councilors the need for an office in Belfast and what he expects the process to be moving forward, he recommended the Council consider sending a letter to the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services requesting that they locate a full service office in the City of Belfast.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to authorize City staff to write a letter on behalf of the City Council to the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services requesting that they locate a full service office in the City of Belfast. This motion was approved, 5-0.

L) Update from the Broadband Committee on Next Century Cities.

Councilor Mortier requested Council approval of the two quotes and description that the Broadband Committee would like to submit to Next Century Cities to be published on their website for the City of Belfast.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the request to submit the two quotes and description, as presented, to Next Century Cities to be published on their website. This motion was approved, 5-0.

M) Request from the City Manager for a single Council member's signature for the annual audit.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, briefly explained the request.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to authorize Councilor Sanders to sign the annual audit on behalf of the City Council. This motion was approved, 5-0.

N) Update on Council Goals.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, reviewed where the City is at in addressing Council Goals that were identified at a Council Work Session in December 2018.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, discussed proposed dates and times for Council Budget Meetings, deciding on the following:

Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:00 pm

Thursday, May 2nd at 6:00 pm

Thursday, May 23rd at 6:00 pm

Tuesday, May 28th at 6:00 pm

Thursday, May 30th at 6:00 pm

O) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order #55 Signed by Councilor Hurley, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$2,500 to support the 2019 Keep Belfast Maine Beautiful clean-up event. Funding is to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance. (Approved April 2, 2019)

Council Order #56 Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$5,000 as the City's matching funds for the Harbor Management Access Grant to build new floats. Funding is to come from the Harbor Enk account. (Approved April 2, 2019)

Council Order #57 Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$7,250 for new electronics and maintenance for the Harbor Boat. Funding is to come from the Harbor Enk account. (Approved April 2, 2019)

Council Order #58 Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to waive up to \$6,250 in building permit fees associated with construction of the new location for the Soup Kitchen located at 29 Belmont Ave. (Approved April 2, 2019)

11) Open to the Public

No comments.

12) Communications

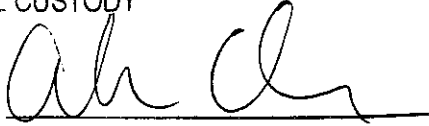
Councilor Hurley discussed concerns of water runoff brought forward by Bradbury Street residents and requested Council members look at Miller Street to determine if the Council would like to address traffic issues in the near future.

Mayor Paradis requested an update on the website redesign from the Economic Development Director at the next Council Meeting.

13) Adjourn

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

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