

\*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, August 20, 2019**

**Committee Interviews 5:30 p.m.**

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

**Regular Council Meeting No. 4**

**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 and Admin. Assistant to the City Manager Manda Cushman.

**3) Pledge of Allegiance**

**4) Adoption of the agenda**

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, requested to make the following changes:

- Remove item **10) J** Request from the Climate Change Committee to change the committee name to the Climate Crisis Committee.
- Add item **10) J #1** Consideration of approving the 2019-2020 Mil Rate, committing the taxes to the Tax Collector and setting a date for when taxes will be due.

Councilor Hurley requested to add item **10) S #1** Request to go into an Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1M.R.S.A. 405 (6) D.

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

**5) Acceptance of the minutes**

Regular Council Meeting of August 6, 2019.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of August 6, 2019. This was approved, 5-0.

**6) A. Open to the public**

1. Duke Tomlin invited the public to the Airport Openhouse and Fly-in on September 14<sup>th</sup>.
2. Glenn Montgomery of Belfast spoke in favor of agenda items 10)E & 10) F.
3. Kali Litrides of Belfast provided Council with possible improvements to the City's current handicap parking spaces.
4. Gerald Clare of Belfast addressed need for crosswalks at various locations throughout town.
5. Carol Good of Belfast recommended additional crosswalks at various locations throughout town.
6. Nancy Smith discussed concerns with MDOT proposed project.
7. Derek Dejoy of Belfast spoke in favor of the memorial tree in Heritage Park.

**B. Organization and Department Reports**

Jon Beal of the Climate Change Committee provided a Committee update.

Louis Marks of the Restorative Justice Project provided an update on a joint event that they are working on with Belfast Creative Coalition, and requested permission to place art installments in various locations throughout town. City Manager, Joseph Slocum, directed Ms. Marks to follow up with the Parks and Recreation Director to be placed on the next agenda regarding their request.

**7) Communications**

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, provided an update regarding leash and smoking ordinance amendments and noted that tonight's discussion on the MDOT proposal to eliminate the jug handle is discussion only.

Councilor Hurley requested more information on who provided them with facts on homelessness in Waldo County.

Councilor Harkness discussed concerns regarding miss use of the Belfast Commons for parking during Harbor Fest.

Councilor Dean requested Council consider the idea of creating a committee to address Handicap Accessibility throughout the City.

Mayor Paradis addressed taking a new job outside of the City.

## 8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

Councilor Hurley provided a brief update on the Energy Committee.

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

- A. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for The Otis Group d/b/a Rollie's Bar & Grill for the Harbor Fest located at the Belfast Boathouse, 34 Commercial Street, Belfast, ME on August 17, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- B. Request to approve an off premises catering permit for Paul Naron d/b/a United Farmers Market of Maine for the Harbor Fest located at Steamboat Landing Park, Belfast, ME on August 16, 2019 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

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

## 10) Business

A) Update from Harbor Master, Katherine Pickering, on the Silver Jackets effort to identify the high water marks in Belfast and to show the potential impact of climate change in Belfast.

Harbor Master, Kathy Pickering and Climate Change Committee Chair, Jon Beal updated the Council on the projected and discussed potential locations.

B) Proclamation honoring Betty Seeley.

Mayor Paradis read the proclamation and Council thanked Mrs. Seeley for all that she had done over the years for our Veterans.

C) Request from the American Legion Post 43 to close down Church Street from Market Street to Anderson Street on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM to honor Betty Seeley as a long- time supporter of veterans everywhere.

Fran Riley provided an overview of the request.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, noted that the American Legion is also requesting the Council consider trimming the trees in the park next to the Legion before the event.

Councilors discussed the tree health and flag pole location, noting that they will all review the park and discuss the tree request at the first meeting in September.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request from the American Legion Post 43 to close down Church Street from Market Street to Anderson Street on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM to honor Betty Seeley. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**D)** Consideration of a request to plant a memorial tree for Laila-Al-Matrouk in Heritage Park.

Parks & Recreation Director, Norm Poirier, provided an overview of the request.

Derek Dejoy reviewed the proposal and answered Council questions.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to accept the request to plant a memorial tree for Laila-Al-Matrouk in Heritage Park. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**E)** Request from Our Town Belfast to consider the prohibition of bicycles on City sidewalks and to post a sign stating that skateboarding is banned in the downtown area.

Zach Schmesser, Executive Director, Our Town Belfast, reviewed the request to prohibit skateboarding and bicycles on sidewalks in the downtown and to post signage so public is aware.

Councilors discussed request and possible location of signage.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to bring back proposed language for the requested prohibition of bicycles and skateboards on downtown sidewalks for a First Reading at a future meeting. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**F)** Request from Our Town Belfast to consider pedestrian safety changes for lower Main Street.

Zach Schmesser, Executive Director, Our Town Belfast, discussed the proposed changes which would include the installation of a crosswalk from Federal Street across Main Street to Washington Street Parking Lot and consideration of changing the flow of traffic in and out of the Washington Street Parking Lot onto Main Street.

Councilors discussed the proposed changes in detail.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to install a crosswalk from Federal Street across Main Street to the Washington Street Parking Lot and to change the lower entrance to the Washington Street Parking Lot next to Quench to one way going in. This motion was approved, 3-2 (Councilors Harkness and Dean opposed).

**G)** Public Hearing on proposed amendments to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 58, Section 58 – 40, “time limits for parking,” regarding the Armistice Bridge parking lot.

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

**H)** Consideration of a proposal to make the parking spaces at the western end of the Armistice Bridge three hour parking spaces.

No Council discussion.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the Second Reading of the ordinance amendments to make parking spaces at the western end of the Armistice Bridge three hour parking spaces, as presented. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**I)** Consideration of possible committee appointments.

City Clerk, Amy Flood, reviewed the committee openings with Councilors.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to reappoint Duke Tomlin and William Ryan to the Airport Advisory Committee. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to reappoint Biff Atlas and Roy Rodgers and appoint Joel Lee to the Board of Assessment Review. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to reappoint Doug Chamberlain and Zafra Whitcomb to the Broadband Committee. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to reappoint Megan Pinette to the Cemetery Board of Trustees. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to appoint Sharon Besso and Dr. Joe Duggan to the Climate Change Committee. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to reappoint Dan Miller, Joanne Moesswilde and John Turner and to appoint Andrew Peters to finish the remainder of David Carlson's term. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to reappoint Robert Adler to the Library Board of Trustees. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to reappoint Bill Smith and Zachary Schmesser and to appoint Christopher Gardner to the vacancy and to create an alternate position and to appoint Tim Freeman as the alternate. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to reappoint Wayne Corey to the Planning Board. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to reappoint Kenneth Colby Horne to the Water District Trustees. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to reappoint Doug Smith and Roger Pickering to the Zoning Board of Appeals. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilors unanimously agreed to take no action on the Parks & Recreation Commission at this time.

**J) Request from the Climate Change Committee to change the committee name to the Climate Crisis Committee.**

Item tabled until September 3, 2019.

**J) #1** Consideration of approving the 2019-2020 Mil Rate, committing the taxes to the Tax Collector and setting a date for when taxes will be due.  
City Manager, Joseph Slocum and City Assessor, Brent Martin reviewed options with the City Council and answered Council questions.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to set the 2019-2020 Mil Rate at 22.9 and to commit the taxes to the Tax Collector setting the date for when taxes are due for October 10, 2019. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**K)** Consideration of suggestion by the Department of Transportation to make traffic safety changes at the jug handle that would eliminate the use of the jug handle.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum and Director of Code and Planning, Wayne Marshall, discussed the proposal from MDOT with the Council.

**L)** Request from Councilor Hurley to consider a declaration of Public Health Nuisance on Browntail Moths.

Councilor Hurley explained the request to Councilors.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request to declare a Public Health Nuisance on Browntail Moths in the City of Belfast. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**M)** Update on removing investments in fossil fuels from City held trust investments.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, reviewed with Council the information City Staff was able to gather.

Councilors discussed the proposal requesting more information before any action is taken.

N) Consideration of ballot for membership on Waldo County Budget Committee.

No Council discussion.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to vote for Herb Harnden for the Waldo County Budget Committee. This motion was approved, 5-0.

O) Request from the Economic Development Director to have the City authorize the creation of the Community Development Block Grant Public Service Grant Advisory Committee and to approve membership for that committee.

Economic Development Director, Thomas Kittredge, reviewed the request with Council.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request to authorize the creation of the Community Development Block Grant Public Service Grant Advisory Committee and to approve the following membership slate: Martin Grimnes, President, Arcadia Alliance, Thomas Kittredge, Economic Development Director for the City of Belfast, Craig Picard, Design Manager for Front Street Shipyard, and JB Turner, President, Front Street Shipyard. This motion was approved, 5-0.

P) Request from the Economic Development Director for direction to finalize the area to be subject to a market study and to approve the process for finding a firm to perform a market study.

Economic Development Director, Thomas Kittredge, reviewed the request.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to have the City conduct a market study only in the areas that were approved by the USEPA and to have City staff obtain three quotes/estimates from firms to perform this work. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Q) Update from the City Manager on the Contract Rezoning negotiations with Paul Naron and the status of public access to the water at Highview Terrace.



City Manager, Joseph Slocum, provided a brief update.

**R)** Request by the City Manager to go into Executive Session to discuss and 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 MRSA 405 (6) C at 10:30 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) C at 10:35 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**S)** Request by the City Manager to go into Executive Session to discuss and Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to go into Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) C at 10:35 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session on an Economic Development matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) C at 11:05 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**S) #1** Request to go into an Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1M.R.S.A. 405 (6) D.

Councilor Sanders, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) D at 11:05 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) D at 11:17 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**T) Possible action on Economic Development matter.**

No action taken.

**U) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.**

**Council Order # 4** Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$35,439.54 as the City match for an Efficiency Maine grant of \$10,000 to install two electric vehicle charging stations at the Bridge Street parking lot. Funding is to come from the following accounts: the Energy Savings Account (approximately \$2,500) and the remaining balance from Undesignated Fund Balance.

**Council Order # 5** Signed by Councilor Sanders, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$6,000 to purchase new computer equipment and software for the Planning & Code Office. Funding is to come from the Planning & Code Capital Equipment Reserve Account.

**Council Order # 6** Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$59,000 to purchase a six mobile lift system for the new Public Works Facility as part of the project. Funding is to come from the borrowing of the new Public Works Facility.

**Council Order # 7** Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$10,000 to purchase equipment storage for the Parks & Recreation department. Funding is to come from the Parks Capital Reserve Account.

**Council Order # 8** Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to transfer the perpetual care portion of the cemetery lot sales (attached), totaling \$9,500, for fiscal year 2018-2019 to HM Payson to be placed in the Cemetery Trust Fund.

**Council Order # 9** Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$1,000 to rent the Crosby Center for the November 2019 Election. Funding is to come from the Elections Supplies and Expenses Account (150-504).

**Council Order # 10** Signed by Councilor Dean, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$8.75 per yard delivered for winter sand from Scott Ellis Contractor. Funds are to come from account #410-571.

**Council Order # 11** Signed by Councilor Mortier, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$2.0966 diesel fuel delivered from Maritime Energy. Funds are to come from account # 410-567.

**Council Order # 12** Signed by Councilor Harkness, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$48 per ton for winter salt from New England Salt Co., Inc. Funds are to come from account #410-570.

**Council Order # 13** Signed by Councilor Sanders, Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to accept \$2,500 for the sale of two used oil burning furnaces that are currently located at the Public Works Facility. Funds are to be placed into the Public Works Equipment Capital Reserve Account.

**11) Open to the Public**

No public comments.

**12) Communications**

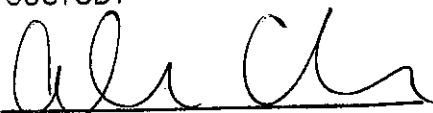
Councilors reminded the public regarding the change to various intersections throughout the City.

Councilor Hurley discussed concerns with lack of maintenance throughout the City.

**13) Adjourn**

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Sanders, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:17p.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