

\*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, March 3, 2020  
7:00 p.m.**

**Regular Council Meeting No. 17**

**1) Call to order**

- 2) Present:** Mayor Eric Sanders, Councilors Mary Mortier, Neal Harkness, Brenda Bonneville, Michael Hurley and Paul Dean; City Manager Joseph Slocum and Admin. Assistant to the City Manager Manda Cushman.

**3) Pledge of Allegiance**

\*Mayor, Councilors and Department Heads honored City Manager, Joseph Slocum, with a Proclamation and key to the City.

**4) Adoption of the agenda**

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

**5) Acceptance of the minutes**

Special Council Meeting of February 10, 2020; Special Council Meeting of February 11, 2020; Special Council Meeting of February 13, 2020 and Regular Council Meeting of February 18, 2020.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the minutes from Special Council Meeting of February 10, 2020; Special Council Meeting of February 11, 2020; Special Council Meeting of February 13, 2020 and Regular Council Meeting of February 18, 2020. This was approved, 5-0.

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

1. Jason Banister provided an update on the Midcoast Actors Studio.

**B. Organization and Department Reports**

- Susan Duplar, Public Health Nurse, provided an organization update.
- Norm Poirier, Parks & Recreation Director, provided a department update.
- Steve Ryan, Executive Director, provided a Chamber update.

## 7) Communications

Councilor Hurley informed Council that he would be bringing back information regarding updating the City Tree Ordinance and noted that the Belfast Street Party will be back this year on Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, briefly reviewed updated information regarding appropriations of School and County taxes with the Council.

## 8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

Mayor Sanders provided a brief Climate Crisis Committee update and noted the Committee will be requesting to add a student representative to the meeting.

Councilor Hurley reminded the Council that the Energy Committee will be giving a presentation during the March 17<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

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

Councilor Hurley requested that Council include in the request from Keeping Belfast Beautiful the request to keep a portion of outer High Street closed/detoured during clean-up for safety of the volunteers.

- A. Request to approve a Facility Use application by organizers of Keeping Belfast Beautiful for the annual “Clean-up Day” to take place on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. throughout Belfast, and to approve the request to close/detour a portion of outer High Street during the clean-up for safety of the volunteers.

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

## 10) Business

- A) Request from the Public Works Director, Bob Richards, to approve and award road paving projects bids for fiscal 2019-2020.

Public Works Director, Bob Richards, reviewed the bids and recommended approving the lowest bidder, Mainely Paving Services for \$74.55 a ton placed per mix and \$1.50 for milling.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the bids as presented and award the bid for FY 19-20 road paving projects to the lowest bidder Mainely Paving Services. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**B) Discussion with the Police Chief, Gerry Lincoln, about filling the recently vacant Deputy Chiefs position in advance of the 2020-2021 budget.**

Police Chief, Gerry Lincoln, explained his request to hire a Deputy Chief.

Councilors discussed their support to continue the position.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request from the Police Chief to fill the vacant Deputy Chief position. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**C) Request from the City Treasurer, Theresa Butler, for Council to abate some personal property taxes because they are uncollectible.**

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, briefly explained the request on behalf of the City Treasurer.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the request from the City Treasurer to abate some personal property taxes because they are uncollectible, as presented. This motion was approved, 5-0.

**D) Discussion on the retirement of the City Manager and what provisions may need to be made between the date the Manager retires in the date the new Manager arrives.**

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, suggested that the City Council authorize City Attorney, Bill Kelly, to sign all legal documents on behalf of the City Manager if needed during the interim and transition stage.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to authorize City Attorney, Bill Kelly, to sign all legal documents on behalf of the City Manager if needed during the interim and transition stage. This motion was approved, 5-0.

E) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

**11) Open to the Public**

No public comments.

**12) Communications**

Mayor Sanders informed the public that the City Council would be conducting a Special City Council Meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to appoint a new City Manager and approve their contract.

City Manager, Joseph Slocum, noted to the Council that the results of the water tests came back and nothing was found.

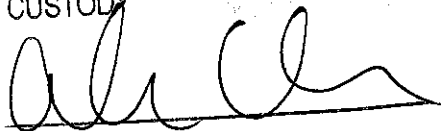
Councilors discussed upcoming meetings that the Council will need to schedule such as Work Sessions on Assessing and Goals and Budget Meetings. Councilors noted to continue with scheduling Work Sessions on the 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**13) Adjourn**

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Bonneville, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 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