

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, August 4, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

All City Council Meetings will be conducted online using Zoom and can be streamed on the City website at www.cityofbelfast.org. They will air live on BEL TV as well as on Belfast Community Radio WBFY 100.9.

Regular Council Meeting No. 3

1) Call to order

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

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Adoption of the agenda

Councilor Harkness requested to add item **10) B #1** Request from Aynne Ames for use of the amphitheater at the Commons to conduct Classics at the Commons.

Councilor Dean requested to add item **10) F #1** Council discussion and possible action on procedures for Public Hearings.

Councilor Hurley requested to add item **10) F #2** Request to go into Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A.

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

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of July 21, 2020.

Councilor Bonneville requested to amend the motion for item **10) F** to read: the motion was approved 3-1-1 (Councilor Bonneville opposed, Councilor Mortier recused)

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of July 21, 2020, as amended. This was approved, 5-0.

6) A. Open to the public

1. Zafra Whitcomb of Belfast thanked the Council for conducting a listening session for the 115 Congress Street site.
2. Aynne Ames of Belfast discussed her request to utilize the amphitheater at the Commons.

B. Organization and Department Reports

No comments.

7) Communications

Councilor Hurley discussed the listening session and concerns brought forward regarding speeding on Congress Street and informed the Council of the bicentennial images that will be installed by the end of August.

Councilor Harkness noted there have been reports of coyotes in town.

City Manager, Erin Herbig, reminded the public that City Hall will be moving to new hours starting on September 1st.

Mayor Sanders noted the School Board's decision regarding school in the fall.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

No comments.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve a Parade Permit for the Belfast United Methodist Church for a vehicle/car parade on August 9, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. starting at the Belfast United Methodist Church.

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

10) Business

A) Presentation from the Belfast Creative Coalition on their Annual Report.

Betty Johnson, Board of Director Chair of the Belfast Creative Coalition, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the organizations accomplishments over the past year and read a letter from the Board of Directors formally declining financial assistance from the City for FY20-21.

B) New Facility Use Request from the Belfast Maskers to close off Court Street, between Spring and Miller Streets, for outdoor public performances on August 22nd, 28th and 29th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and August 23rd and 30th from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Meg Nickerson, Belfast Maskers, discussed the request in more detail.

Norm Poirier, Parks & Recreation Director, discussed support of the event with proper precautions taken to address CDC guidelines.

Councilors discussed support with precautions and offered safety recommendations.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to approve the new Facility Use Request from the Belfast Maskers to close off Court Street, between Spring and Miller Streets, for outdoor public performances on August 22nd, 28th and 29th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and August 23rd and 30th from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

B) #1 Request from Aynne Ames for use of the amphitheater at the Commons to conduct Classics at the Commons.

Aynne Ames discussed in more detail her request and how they plan to address CDC guidelines.

Councilor Bonneville, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the request to approve use of the amphitheater at the Commons to conduct the Classics at the Commons. This motion was approved, 5-0.

C) Consideration of establishing a Friends of the Belfast Harbor Walk & Rail Trail Advisory Committee.

Norm Poirier, Parks & Recreation Director, explained the request.

City Manager, Erin Herbig, reviewed recommended members of the committee.

Councilor Harkness recommended appointing Councilor Hurley as the Council member to serve.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to establish a Friends of the Belfast Harbor Walk & Rail Trail Advisory Committee, as presented with Councilor Hurley as the Council representative. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Consideration of removal of three City street trees, located at 216 Main Street, 16 Cottage Street and 131 Church Street.

Bob Richards, Public Works Director, reviewed the locations and recommendations from the City contracted arborist.

Councilors discussed the three trees.

Councilor Dean requested a report back from the arborist regarding 16 Cottage Street.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request to remove two City street trees located at 216 Main Street and 131 Church Street, and to authorize serious trimming of the tree located at 16 Cottage Street. This motion was approved, 5-0.

E) Request to move \$5,000 from the Airport Capital Reserve to hire McFarland-Johnson to conduct a site assessment of the pavement conditions and potential fuel farm improvements at the Belfast Municipal Airport.

Kenn Ortmann, Airport Manager, reviewed the request noting that the cost has changed to \$6,300.00.

Councilor Bonneville, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to move up to \$6,300 from the Airport Capital Reserve to the Airport operating budget to hire McFarland-Johnson to conduct a site assessment of the pavement conditions and potential fuel farm improvements at the Belfast Municipal Airport. This motion was approved, 5-0.

F) Update and further discussion on installing a bridge to aid in pedestrian accessibility and safety on Swan Lake Ave.

Councilor Mike Hurley, provided an update recommending that the authorize looking into how much it would cost to get a design done for a temporary bridge that can be submitted to MDOT for possible approval.

Councilors asked clarifying questions and unanimously agreed to have Councilor Hurley reach out to get an estimate on design work.

F#1 Council discussion and possible action on procedures for Public Hearings.

Councilor Dean discussed creating a policy regarding Public Hearings, recommending conducting them at both First Readings and Second Readings.

Councilors discussed this further unanimously agreeing that they needed further information before taking action.

F#2 Request to go into Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A at 10:02 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A at 10:57 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

G) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

11) Communications

Councilor Hurley briefly addressed letter from Belfast Creative Coalition.

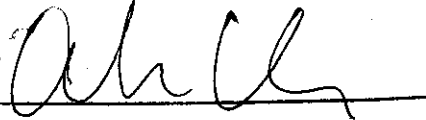
City Manager, Erin Herbig, noted that she received a question from Joel Lee regarding absentee ballots; she is recommending he reach out to the City Clerk for more information and informed the Council that the City Clerk will be giving an update on the November Election at the next City Council Meeting.

12) Adjourn

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:57 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