

\*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, December 1, 2020**

**6:00 p.m.** Committee Interviews  
**7:00 p.m.** Regular Council Meeting

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

**Regular Council Meeting No. 11**

**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**

Mayor Sanders noted the request to add item **10) I #1** Request to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

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

**5) Acceptance of the minutes**

Regular Council Meeting of November 17, 2020.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of November 17, 2020. This was approved, 5-0.

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

1. Noel Evens spoke in support of item **10) G** regarding the Belfast Municipal Airport.

## **B. Organization and Department Reports**

No comments.

### **7) Communications**

Councilor Bonneville provided an update on recent visits with downtown business owners.

Councilor Mortier thanked all who have worked to make Belfast festive for the holidays.

Councilor Harkness discussed recent elections in Maine and requested Council support for the City Manager to write a letter of thanks on behalf of the City of Belfast to Secretary of the State Matthew Dunlap for his department's guidance and support through the election, Council supported the request.

Mayor Sanders discussed improvements being made to the Council Chambers.

Councilor Dean discussed COVID-19 vaccine news.

Councilor Hurley discussed the City of Belfast Christmas Tree and mask mandate.

Mayor Sanders discussed the passing of Garden Club volunteer Ann Mullen and suggested Council consideration of a memorial plaque in one of the gardens she tended to.

Councilor Harkness discussed Annual Chamber awards.

### **8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports**

- Consideration of committee appointments.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to appoint Joseph Slocum to the Friends of the Belfast Harbor Walk and Rail Trail Committee. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilors unanimously agreed to table voting on an appointment to the Planning Board until the December 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and requested additional information regarding Planning Board terms for all current members.

- Jon Beal Chair of the Climate Crisis Committee provided an update from the committee.

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

No Consent Agenda items.

## 10) Business

A) Presentation on proposed amendments to the City Ordinance, Chapter 34 Miscellaneous Offenses, Article IV Exploding Targets to regulate the use of exploding targets in the City of Belfast.

Director of Code & Planning Bub Fournier reviewed the proposed ordinance noting that of the 27 written comments received for the public hearing all but one were in support of adopting the proposed amendments.

B) Public Hearing on proposed amendments to the City Ordinance, Chapter 34 Miscellaneous Offenses, Article IV Exploding Targets to regulate the use of exploding targets in the City of Belfast.

Mayor Sanders asked for proponents and opponents.

City Manager Erin Herbig noted that the City received 27 written comments via email from the following and copies were provided to the Council prior to the start of the meeting: Marianne McKinney of Belfast, Nels Wight, Deborah Smith and Reggie Dyche of Belfast, Nancy Crooker of Belfast, Patricia A. Smith of Belfast, Kiril Lozanov of Belfast, Lucy Raybold of Belfast, Arthur Raybold of Belfast, Gene Randall of Belfast, Alison Gilchrist Picton of Belfast, Linda Garson Smith of Belfast, Marcia Cooper of Belfast, Neva Allen of Belfast, Deborah Bailly of Belfast, Corliss and Rick Davis of Belfast, David Bond of Belfast, Joanne Moesswilde of Belfast, William D. Fergusson of Belfast, Betty Sue Easton of Belfast, Rebecca Jessup of Belfast, Barbara Klie of Belfast, Elisabeth Cooper of Belfast, Larry Quinn of Belfast, Rev. Dr. Duncan Newcomer of Belfast, Jacqui Lee of Belfast, Terry and Donna Fancy of Belfast, and Bridget Matros of Belfast.

1. Elaine Bielenberg of Belfast spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.
2. Ernie Cooper of Belfast spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Sanders declared the hearing closed.

C) Discussion and possible action on proposed amendments to the City Ordinance, Chapter 34 Miscellaneous Offenses, Article IV Exploding Targets to regulate the use of exploding targets in the City of Belfast.

Councilors discussed support for the proposed amendments.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the Second Reading on proposed amendments to the City Ordinance, Chapter 34 Miscellaneous Offenses, Article IV Exploding Targets, as presented. This was approved, 5-0.

**D) Discussion with Chief of Police regarding speeding in Belfast.**

Police Chief Gerry Lincoln reviewed how his department is addressing speeding within Belfast, provided the Council with data on the department's enforcement and answered Council questions.

**E) Update and discussion on the modified Holiday on the Harbor event.**

Parks and Recreation Director Norm Poirier reviewed the request to move forward with a modified Holiday on the Harbor event noting that he is requesting authority to cancel the event if COVID-19 cases in the area get worse within the next couple of weeks.

Councilors unanimously agreed to move forward with the request for a modified Holiday on the Harbor event, granting authorization to the Parks and Recreation Director to cancel if necessary.

**F) Request from the City Assessor to transfer \$1,800.00 from the departments Capital Equipment Reserve to the departments operating budget account 120-509 Computer Support and Training to purchase a new computer.**

City Manager Erin Herbig briefly reviewed the request from the City Assessor to transfer \$1,800 from the departments Capital Reserve to the departments operating budget to purchase a new computer for the Assessor's Assistant.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the request from the City Assessor to transfer \$1,800 from the departments Capital Reserve to the departments operating budget to purchase a new computer for the Assessor's Assistant. This was approved, 5-0.

**G)** Request from the Airport Manager to have the City Council authorize the City Manager to sign a Project Contract with airport engineering consultant McFarland Johnson for Procurement Assistance and Construction Services for Installation of a New Fuel Farm.

Airport Manager Kenn Ortmann reviewed the request answering Council questions regarding the timeline.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign the Project Contract with airport engineering consultant McFarland Johnson for "Procurement Assistance and Construction Services for Installation of a New Fuel Farm"; authorize the City Manager to enter into Cooperative Agreements with Houlton and Norridgewock airports to authorize the FAA to transfer \$300,000 to the account for Belfast Municipal Airport, allowing Belfast to have sufficient funds for its fuel farm project and to submit its grant application to the FAA during the spring of 2021; and authorize \$45,000 in City funds to be committed to the fuel farm project as its required 5% match (though these funds will not actually be spent until 2021). This was approved, 5-0.

**H)** Update on the City of Belfast Wastewater Treatment Facility Contract Superintendent Bid Process.

City Manager Erin Herbig explained the bid process noting that two bids were submitted before the opening and a third bid was submitted a couple days late due to a reasonable miscommunication; due to the specialized nature of the job and the limited amount of bids submitted she requested that the Council authorize all three applicants to be interviewed.

Council unanimously agreed to have all three applicants interviewed.

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

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Bonneville, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A at 8:43 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A at 9:12 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

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

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean , made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 9:12 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Bonneville, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 9:46 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

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

**Council Order #37** Signed by Councilor Bonneville Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to transfer up to \$1,800 from the Assessing departments Capital Reserve to the departments operating budget to purchase a new computer for the Assessor's Assistant. (Approved on December 1, 2020)

**Council Order #38** Signed by Councilor Bonneville Ordered That:

**AMENDMENTS TO BELFAST CODE OF ORDINANCES  
CHAPTER 34 MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES  
ARTICLE IV EXPLODING TARGETS**

**Editor's Note:** New language is identified in underlined, black font. (See attached text of adopted amendments)

**First Reading:** November 17, 2020

**Second Reading:** December 1, 2020

(Approved on December 1, 2020)

**11) Communications**

Councilor Hurley informed the public of Our Town Belfast's Holiday Passport to support local shopping for the holidays.

**12) Adjourn**

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. This motion was approved, 5-0.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE  
IS A TRUE COPY OF INFORMATION  
ON THE RECORD WHICH IS IN MY  
OFFICIAL CUSTODY

ATTEST

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. Cushman', written over a horizontal line.

AMANDA CUSHMAN, BELFAST MAINE