

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, February 16, 2021
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. 16

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 requested to add item **9) B** Council Approval of the third amendment to an option and purchase agreement between the City of Belfast, the Belfast Water District and Nordic Aquafarms and item **10) F #1** Discussion regarding sound amplification use ordinance and permit.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adopt the agenda, as amended. This motion was approved, 4-0 (Councilor Bonneville was having technical difficulties).

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of February 2, 2021.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of February 2, 2021. This was approved, 4-0 (Councilor Bonneville was having technical difficulties).

6) A. Open to the public

City Manager Erin Herbig noted that Council received 1 email, prior to the start of the Council meeting to be included as part of the Open to the Public from Alana Rodriguez of Oakland regarding concerns with the anti-mask protests, she also noted that all emails received by 6pm on February 3rd the February 2nd Council Meeting had been provided to the Council and were recorded in the minutes of the February 2nd meeting.

B. Organization and Department Reports

No comments.

7) Communications

Councilor Mortier requested the City Manager review where City closures for the Transfer Station are posted for public information.

Councilor Hurley discussed a recent article by 4th graders and why they love Maine and discussed COVID vaccination in Maine.

Mayor Sanders thanked Facilities & Maintenance Director Norman Gilmore for the new podium he built for Council Chambers.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

- Jon Beal, Committee Chair provided an update from the Climate Crisis Committee.
- Councilor Hurley, Committee member provided an update from the Energy Committee.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve an application by Paul Naron d/b/a United Farmers Market of Maine located at 18 Spring Street, Belfast, Maine for a renewal of a Farmer's Market Authorization liquor license.
- B. Council Approval of the third amendment to an option and purchase agreement between the City of Belfast, the Belfast Water District and Nordic Aquafarms.

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

10) Business

- A) Discussion and possible action on a City of Belfast Core Values Statement.

Councilors discussed proposed edits to the Core Values Statement.

City Manager read the proposed Core Values Statement.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adopt the City of Belfast Core Values Statement, as amended. This motion was approved, 5-0.

B) Request from Our Town Belfast to utilize City sidewalks to place ice sculptures as part of their Ice Festival event on February 27th.

Parks & Recreation Director Norm Poirier and Our Town Belfast Executive Director Zach Schmesser reviewed the request and answered Council questions.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Bonneville, made a motion to accept the request from Our Town Belfast to utilize City sidewalks to place ice sculptures as part of their Ice Festival event on February 27th. This motion was approved, 5-0.

C) Request from the Economic Development Director to apply for a 2021 CDBG Community Enterprise Grant.

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge reviewed the request.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to authorize the submission of an application to the Community Development Block Grant Community Enterprise Program in the amount of \$100,000.00; and authorize the City Manager to sign any documents related and necessary to the submission of the grant application. This motion was approved, 5-0.

D) Request from the City Manager to accept the bids and award the bid for #2 Fuel Oil for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the bids and recommended the Council award the bid to the lowest bidder, Tidewater Oil for \$1.999/gal for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Bonneville, made a motion to accept the bids as presented and to award the bid for #2 Fuel Oil for fiscal year 2021-2022 to Tidewater Oil for \$1.999/gal. This motion was approved, 5-0.

E) Request to purchase a new shredder for City Hall for \$2,000.

City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the request to purchase a new shredder and recommend the Council approve the expenditure of up to \$2000 to purchase a new shredder, with \$400 coming from accounts 100-603 City Manager Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 110-603 Finance Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 120-603 Assessing Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 130-603 City Clerk Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 670-603 Planning Office Equipment Capital Reserve.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$2000 to purchase a new shredder, with \$400 coming from accounts 100-603 City Manager Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 110-603 Finance Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 120-603 Assessing Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 130-603 City Clerk Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 670-603 Planning Office Equipment Capital Reserve. This motion was approved, 5-0.

F) Consideration of starting City Council Meetings at 6:30 p.m.

City Manager Erin Herbig explained the request noting that one of the Council Priorities over the past year has been looking at ways in which Council Meetings could be more efficient. One suggestion was to move the start of all Regular Council Meetings from 7:00PM to 6:30PM.

Councilors discussed the request and possible impact on Council, staff and publics availability to meet earlier as well as informing the public regarding the change.

Council unanimously supported starting the meetings on a trial basis for three months starting in April at 6:30 p.m.

F) #1 Discussion regarding sound amplification use ordinance and permit.

Councilors discussed with the City Attorney Bill Kelly the possibility of an ordinance, requesting that the Attorney work with the Chief of Police and the Director of Code and Planning to bring back proposed language at the March 2nd Council Meeting.

J) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order # 49 Signed by Councilor Bonneville Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$2000 to purchase a new shredder. With funding of \$400 to come from each of the following accounts 100-603 City Manager Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 110-603 Finance Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 120-603 Assessing Office Equipment Capital Reserve, 130-603 City Clerk Office

Equipment Capital Reserve, 670-603 Planning Office Equipment Capital Reserve. (Approved on February 16, 2021)

Council Order #50 Signed by Councilor Bonneville Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to accept the lowest fuel bid at the fixed cost of \$1.999 price per gallon (using approximately 24,000 gallons per year) from Tidewater Oil, Belfast ME for November 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022 for the following City Buildings: City Hall, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Fire & Ambulance Station, Transfer Station/Recycling Building, Highway Department, Belfast Free Library, Boathouse and Belfast Police Station. (Approved on February 16, 2021)

11) Communications

Councilor Hurley discussed the opening on the Comprehensive Planning Committee and the Comp Plan Community Survey.

Councilor Dean thanked the Public Works Department.

Mayor Sanders discussed the Police Department swearing in ceremony for newly appointed officers.

12) Adjourn

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 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