

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, March 15, 2022**

6:15 p.m. Request to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 6:15 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0 (Councilor Bonneville was absent).

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) E at 7:00 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0 (Councilor Bonneville was absent).

7:02 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Due to the ongoing public health crisis, per Emergency Order adopted by the City Council on August 12, 2021, all City Council Meetings will be conducted online using Zoom. If you do not plan to speak at open to the public we encourage the public to stream the meeting on the City website www.cityofbelfast.org, watch live on BEL TV channel 7 or channel 1303.

Regular Council Meeting No. 18

1) Call to order

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

Absent: Brenda Bonneville.

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Adoption of the agenda

Mayor Sanders requested to add the following items:

1. **10.A #1** To authorize the transfer of \$100,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to the Former Eckrote Waterfront Park account to fund the City's financial obligations with regard to the Options and Purchase Agreement between the City of Belfast, Nordic Aquafarms and the Belfast Water District dated January 30, 2018 and amended on April 15, 2019, June 29, 2020 and April 21, 2021.
2. **9.D** Request to approve an application for Lisa Mosher, d/b/a Dockside Family Restaurant, located at 30 Main Street, for a new Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Restaurant Class liquor license, interior and exterior decks.

Councilor Hurley requested the agenda items be rearranged to go in the order item 10) C, 10) F and then 10) G.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adopt the agenda, as amended. This motion was approved, 4-0.

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of March 1, 2022.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to accept the minutes from Regular Council Meeting of March 1, 2022. This motion was approved, 4-0.

6) A. Open to the public

City Manager Erin Herbig noted that Council received 0 emails and 0 postal mail, prior to noon today which were shared with Council before the start of the Council meeting to be included as part of the Open to the Public.

No public comments.

B. Organization and Department Reports

No comments.

7) Communications

Councilors discussed the passing of citizen Patti Ann Lord.

Councilors discussed budget hearing process.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

No comments.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve a Facility Use request from Ando Anderson to utilize Steamboat Landing Park and the Armistice Footbridge on Thursday nights from July-August for the Summer Nights Concert Series.
- B. Request to approve a request from the Maine Irish Heritage Center to fly the Irish flag on St. Patrick's Day at Belfast City Hall as part of their initiative to cover the State of Maine in green, white, and orange to honor the States deeply rooted Irish history and heritage.
- C. Request to approve a Special Amusement Permit for Darby's Inc d/b/a Darby's Restaurant for live music at 155 High Street, Belfast, Maine, indoor only.
- D. Request to approve an application for Lisa Mosher, d/b/a Dockside Family Restaurant, located at 30 Main Street, for a new Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Restaurant Class liquor license, interior and exterior decks.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Hurley, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended. This motion was approved, 4-0.

10) Business

A) #1 To authorize the transfer of \$100,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to the Former Eckrote Waterfront Park account to fund the City's financial obligations with regard to the Options and Purchase Agreement between the City of Belfast, Nordic Aquafarms and the Belfast Water District dated January 30, 2018 and amended on April 15, 2019, June 29, 2020 and April 21, 2021.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to authorize the transfer of \$100,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to the Former Eckrote Waterfront Park account to fund the City's financial obligations with regard to the Options and Purchase Agreement between the City of Belfast, Nordic Aquafarms and the Belfast Water District dated January 30, 2018 and amended on April 15, 2019, June 29, 2020 and April 21, 2021. This motion was approved, 4-0.

A) City Council discussion on return to in-person Council Meetings.

Councilors discussed the return to in-person Council Meetings, unanimously agreeing to table until the April 5th Council Meeting.

B) Request to appoint Justin VanDongen as the new City Assessor.

City Manager Erin Herbig briefly reviewed the request and introduced Justin VanDongen to the community.

Councilor Mortier provided her perspective as a member of the hiring committee.

Justin VanDongen introduced himself to the Council and community.

Councilors welcomed Justin to Belfast.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to appoint Justin VanDongen as the new City Assessor for the City of Belfast. This motion was approved, 4-0.

C) Request from the Parks and Recreation Director to change the name of the Four Seasons Recreational Area.

Parks and Recreation Director Norm Poirier discussed the request brought forward by Belfast Mountain Bike Club under the New England Mountain Bike Association to change the name of the Four Seasons Recreational Area to “Belfast Bike Park”.

Councilors discussed the requested name and possible alternatives to what was recommended, Council requested that the Department and Commission work on alternative suggestions to bring back at a future meeting for discussion.

C) #1 Discussion with members of the Pedestrian, Biking and Hiking Committee regarding pursuing Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program.

Pedestrian, Biking and Hiking Committee members Bill Durkin and Bruce Snider reviewed the request to pursue the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program on behalf of the City of Belfast along with two other options which may have cost associated.

Councilor Mortier suggested having a Council Work Session with the Committee.

Councilors scheduled a Council Work Session on Tuesday, March 29th, 2022 at 6:00 PM (1st hour with Pedestrian, Biking and Hiking Committee and 2nd hour to discuss Council Goals)

C) #2 Request to approve a Facility Use Request by organizers of Keeping Belfast Beautiful for the Keeping Belfast Beautiful event on Saturday, May 7th from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Parks and Recreation Director Norm Poirier briefly reviewed the request with Council which included a request for funding of \$1,200.00.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to approve the Facility Use Request as presented and to approve up to \$1,200 in funding from account G 1-2322-00 Keep Belfast Beautiful. This motion was approved, 4-0.

D) Request from the Director of Code and Planning to implement the 2022 Curbside Belfast (Phase V) program on May 1, 2022.

Director of Code and Planning and City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the changes and looked for Council feedback.

Councilor Mortier suggested a fee of \$250 for the season which would include the license and permit fee and to eliminate the level platform requirement for the season.

Councilor Dean suggested requiring a ramp from the sidewalk to the Curbside dining area.

Councilors discussed the proposed changes to the program.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to approve the 2022 Curbside Belfast (Phase V) program on May 1, 2022 as presented at the meeting with the amendments of including a fee of \$250.00 for the season (which includes the license and permit fee), to eliminate the level platform requirement for this season and to include a requirement for a ramp from the sidewalk to the dining area. This motion was approved, 4-0.

E) Request from Interim Chief of Police to accept reimbursement for Officer Masse.

City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the request to \$24,309.00 as the reimbursement for Officer Masse.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the \$24,309 and to place the money in the Police Budget line 220-537 Equipment Capital Reserve. This motion was approved, 4-0.

F) Discussion with members of the Pedestrian, Biking and Hiking Committee regarding pursuing Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program.

Item moved to 10) C #1.

G) Request to approve a Facility Use Request by organizers of Keeping Belfast Beautiful for the Keeping Belfast Beautiful event on Saturday, May 7th from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Item moved to 10) C #2.

H) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order #70 Signed by Councilor Dean Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to transfer \$100,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to the Former Eckrote Waterfront Park account to fund the City's financial obligations with regard to the Options and Purchase Agreement between the City of Belfast, Nordic Aquafarms and the Belfast Water District dated January 30, 2018 and amended on April 15, 2019, June 29, 2020 and April 21, 2021. (Approved on March 15, 2022)

Council Order #71 Signed by Councilor Dean Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to expend up to \$1,200 to support the Keeping Belfast Maine Beautiful event for the purchase of supplies such as trash bags, disposable gloves, and the cost of tipping fees for the dumpster. Funding is to come from account G 1-2322-00 Keep Belfast Beautiful. (Approved on March 15, 2022)

Council Order #72 Signed by Councilor Dean Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to accept the \$24,309.00 as a reimbursement for Officer Masse. These funds are to place the money in the Police Budget line 220-537 Equipment Capital Reserve. (Approved on March 15, 2022)

11) Communications

No comments.

12) Adjourn

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

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