

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, December 20, 2022**

6:15 p.m. Request to go into Executive Session on a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 6:16 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Real Estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) C at 6:33 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

6:30 p.m. 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 Harkness, made a motion to go into Executive Session on a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 6:34 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session on a Legal matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E at 6:52 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

7:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

All City Council Meetings and City Committee Meetings will be conducted in-person at Belfast City Hall, effective May 3, 2022.

Regular Council Meeting No. 12

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: Councilor Brenda Bonneville.

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Adoption of the agenda

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

5) Acceptance of the minutes

Regular Council Meeting of December 6, 2022.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to accept the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of December 6, 2022. This motion was approved, 4-0.

6) A. Open to the public

City Manager Erin Herbig noted that Council received 2 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.

1. Steven Welsh, 54 Ryan Road, explained that he and other Ryan Road residents were present for discussion **10) A** if Council had any questions for them during that agenda item.

B. Organization and Department Reports

City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the City Facility Holiday closures, noting that all the information is available on the City website and Facebook page.

7) Communications

Councilor Harkness noted that he received an inquiry from a citizen regarding information on local warming centers and emergency information ahead of Friday's storm and asked that this information be shared with the Public on the City website.

Councilor Dean reminded citizens of the sand shed that is available to the public at the Public Works Facility on Crocker Rd.

Councilor Harkness thanked all who participated in the Annual Menorah Lighting.

Councilor Hurley thanked Plants Unlimited for donating Christmas Trees, which are available for free, at the Belfast Soup Kitchen and discussed that although New Years By The Bay is not happening this year there will still be a bonfire at midnight.

Mayor Sanders thanked all who have made downtown Belfast look beautiful for the holiday season and suggested that the Council hold a Work Session in January with the Planning Board and Planning Department regarding amendments to inside the Bypass.

8) Old Business and Council Committee Reports

Climate Crisis Committee provided an update regarding the process to obtain Community Resilience funds from the State, related to climate change.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve a twelve-month Blanket Letter of Approval for Game of Chance (Spades) for Randall Collins Memorial VFW Post 3108 located at 34 Field Street, Belfast, Maine. This approval is granted from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.
- B. Request to approve an application by Tall Pines Healthcare Inc. d/b/a The Residence at Tall Pines located at 24 Martin Lane, Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt & Vinous Type II Assisted Living Facility liquor license (interior only).
- C. Request to approve an application by Satori Belfast, LLC d/b/a Satori Belfast located at 108 Main Street, Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Restaurant (Class I, II, III, IV) liquor license (interior only).
- D. Request to approve an off-premises catering permit for The Otis Group Incorporated d/b/a Rollie's Bar & Grill for a holiday party on December 10, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. located at the Waldo County Shrine Club, 20 Northport Ave., Belfast, Maine.
- E. Request to approve a Qualified Catering Organization permit for Lisa's White Flour Catering for a holiday party on December 10, 2022 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. located at the Fireside Inn, 159 Searsport Ave., Belfast, Maine.
- F. Request from the Fire Chief to confirm Desiree MacArthur as a per-diem paramedic/firefighter for the Belfast Fire and Ambulance Department.

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

10) Business

A) Discussion regarding a request for a reduction in the speed limit and changes in the City Traffic Ordinances to permit the installation of speed tables on Ryan Road.

Steve Welsh of Ryan Road explained why citizens on the road were concerned about the speeding that occurs and requested a speed reduction or alternatives such as speed bumps or tables.

Councilors discussed citizen concerns regarding the speeding on Ryan Road and how to respond to those concerns.

City Manager Erin Herbig suggested that Council direct the City Manager to have the Belfast Police Department conduct an inhouse speed study and to work with the Code and Planning Department to get more information on the history of the road so that Council can make an informed decision on how best to proceed at an upcoming Council meeting. Councilors unanimously agreed.

A) #1 Request from the Wastewater Superintendent to sell surplus equipment to the Anson-Madison Sewer District for \$1,500.00.

Wastewater Superintendent Travis Jones briefly reviewed the request from the Wastewater Superintendent to sell surplus equipment to the Anson-Madison Sewer District for \$1,500.00.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to authorize the sale of these parts to the Anson-Madison Sewer District for \$1,500.00, with funding to be applied to the Wastewater Department's Chemical account # 990- 610. This motion was approved, 4-0.

B) Request from the Economic Development Director to hire a firm as a Qualified Environmental Professional for the City of Belfast's Brownfields Assessment Grant and to authorize the execution of a contract with that firm.

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge reviewed the request to hire a firm as a Qualified Environmental Professional for the City of Belfast's Brownfields Assessment Grant and to authorize the execution of a contract with that firm.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to approve the Brownfield Selection Committee's recommendation to hire Ransom Consulting as the City of Belfast's Qualified Environmental Professional for its Fiscal Year 2022 USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant; and to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Ransom

Consulting to provide these services and to sign any and all documentation required for the execution of this contract. This motion was approved, 4-0.

C) Request from the Economic Development Director to hire a firm as a Qualified Environmental Professional for the City of Belfast's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant and to authorize the execution of a contract with that firm.

Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge reviewed the request to hire a firm as a Qualified Environmental Professional for the City of Belfast's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant and to authorize the execution of a contract with that firm.

City Manager Erin Herbig briefly explained how the Brownfields grants impact future development within the City and thanked the Economic Development Director for his hard work on these grants.

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Mortier, made a motion to approve the Brownfield Selection Committee's recommendation to hire TRC as the City of Belfast's Qualified Environmental Professional for its Fiscal Year 2022 USEPA Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant; and to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with TRC to provide these services and to sign any and all documentation required for the execution of this contract. This motion was approved, 4-0.

D) Request from St. Margaret's Episcopal Church to waive a building permit fee.

Councilor Hurley briefly explained why he supported the waiving of fees.

Councilor Hurley, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to waive the building permit fee of \$337.50 for St. Margaret's Episcopal Church. This motion was approved, 3-1 (Councilor Mortier opposed).

E) Consideration of the creation of a Belfast Police Explorer Program.

Chief of Police Bobby Cormier and Sergeant Rick Smith reviewed the proposal to create a City of Belfast Police Explorer Program and answered Council questions.

Councilors discussed their support for this new program.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to authorize the Belfast Police Department to create a Belfast Police Explorer Program beginning in January 2023. This motion was approved, 4-0.

F) Presentation on the City of Belfast Harbor Breakwater Improvements Evaluation Report.

Todd Coffin and Jeff Walker with WSP, Harbor Master Kathy Given and Harbor Advisory Committee members gave a presentation on the City of Belfast Harbor Breakwater Improvements Evaluation Report and answered Council questions.

Councilors authorized City staff to investigate whether Community Resilience funds could be utilized for a sediment study and if partnering maybe a viable option when applying for these funds.

G) Request to approve the Fiscal Year (FY)2023-2024 City of Belfast Wage and Salary Scale.

City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year (FY)2023-2024 City of Belfast Wage and Salary Scale and answered Council questions.

Councilor Mortier, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year (FY)2023-2024 City of Belfast Wage and Salary Scale, as presented. This motion was approved, 3-1 (Councilor Hurley opposed).

H) Request to approve the Calendar Year 2023 City of Belfast Observed Holiday Schedule.

City Manager Erin Herbig reviewed the proposed Calendar Year 2023 City of Belfast Observed Holiday Schedule and answered Council questions.

Councilor Harkness, seconded by Councilor Dean, made a motion to approve the Calendar Year 2023 City of Belfast Observed Holiday Schedule, as presented. This motion was approved, 4-0.

I) Signing of Council Orders and housekeeping items.

Council Order #40 Signed by Councilor Mortier Ordered That:

The City Manager and the City Treasurer are authorized to sell surplus Wastewater equipment, a collection of parts for maintaining the belt filter press that was used to dewater sludge, to the Anson-Madison Sewer District for \$1,500.00. With funding to be applied to the Wastewater Department's Chemical account # 990- 610. (Approved December 20, 2022)

11) Communications

Councilor Hurley discussed hope that City staff is seeking out as many infrastructure funding sources as possible and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Councilor Mortier thanked organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and Our Town Belfast for all they do during the holidays to make our City the place we all love.

Mayor Sanders asked everyone to take time to remember all the good the City and community does this time of year.

Councilor Dean added Waterfall Arts to the list of community organizations that do so much this time of year for the community.

12) Open to the Public

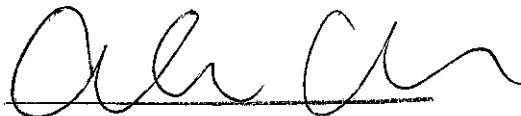
No comments.

13) Adjourn

Councilor Dean, seconded by Councilor Harkness, made a motion to adjourn at 9:49 p.m. This motion was approved, 4-0.

I 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