



Town Council Regular Session

April 3, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Town Council Chambers

MINUTES

1. **6:45 PM Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3.II(e) - Legal - Pending Litigation**

Councilor Present: Council Chair Katanna Conley, Council Vice-chair Brian Ward, Councilor Justin Glazebrook, Councilor Joe LaMattina, Councilor Sonke Dornblut, Councilor Scott Blackstone (arrived at 6:50PM).

Excused: Councilor Colin White.

Staff Present: Town Manager Stephen Fournier and Wendy Chase, Recording Secretary

Chair Conley convened the meeting at 6:45PM.

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3.II(e) - Legal - *Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against this board or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership therein, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled*

Second: **Councilor Glazebrook**

Vote: **5-0-0** (voting against - **None**)

The non-public minutes were not sealed.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Conley reconvened the meeting at 7:04 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Roll Call**

Present: Council Chair Katanna Conley, Council Vice-chair Brian Ward, Councilor Joe LaMattina, Councilor Scott Blackstone, Councilor Sonke Dornblut, Councilor Justin Glazebrook.

Excused: Councilor Colin White

4. **Election of Officers, Adoption of Town Council Rules, and Committee Assignments**

a. Elect Council Chair

Motion: **Councilor LaMattina** made a motion to Nominate Councilor Katanna Conley as Chair
Second: **Councilor Ward**
Discussion: Councilor Ward made a motion to nominate Councilor Joe LaMattina as Chair. Councilor LaMattina withdrew the nomination.
Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**

b. Elect Council Vice-chair

Motion: **Councilor Dornblut** made a motion to Nominate Councilor Brian Ward as Vice-chair.
Second: **Councilor LaMattina**
Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**

c. Adoption of Town Council Rules for 2024/2025

i. Proposed Amendment to Rules of Proceedings

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve the 2024/2025 Council Rules of Proceedings as amended.

Second: **Councilor LaMattina**

Discussion: Town Manager Fournier explained the proposed changes to the rules. Communications - do not read letters at meetings. Acknowledge the letter and place on file unless the Council asks that the letter be removed from the table for discussion. Enforce the rule that during public forum only allow public comments on the agenda items. He explained that there is an unwritten rule that the Vice-chair makes the motions for all action items, making it easier for recording purposes.

Discussion ensued, and the Council agreed that there would be no changes to public forum procedures. Residents will continue to be allowed to speak on any topic for 3 minutes or longer if the Council votes to allow it.

Councilor Blackstone proposed the following amendment to the rules: when the Council receives a new application, not a renewal, for a committee, the Council will first send that application to the Chair of that Committee and ask them for a recommendation. Upon receipt of the recommendation from the Committee, the Council will vote on the candidate, taking into consideration the Committee's recommendation to all for smoother transition of the candidate and the Committee.

Discussion ensued and a change was made that the Council will provide a copy of the candidate's application to the committee chair, offering them the opportunity to

"weigh-in" on the application to the Council.

After further discussion Town Manager Fournier suggested adding a line to the committee/board/commission application to read: While attendance at the Council Meeting for your appointment is not mandatory it is highly recommended. The Council may give their nomination at such time as their questions have been addressed. This process is not an amendment to the Rules; it is a practice the Council will engage in going forward.

Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to amend the rules to change the order of the Agenda by moving Nominations, Appointments and Elections under Acceptance of Minutes.

Second: **Councilor LaMattina**

Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**

d. Town Council Committee Assignments

The list of Committee Representatives will be voted on at the April 17, 2024 meeting. All Councilors were advised to contact the Chair before the next meeting if they would like to change the committee they are currently representing.

5. Public Forum

Chair Conley opened the public forum at 7:35PM.

Chair Conley closed the public forum at 7:35PM without public comment.

6. Town Council to Consider Acceptance of Minutes

a. March 20, 2024 Draft Minutes

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve the March 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes as written.

Second: **Councilor LaMattina**

Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**

7. Report of the Town Manager

a. April 3, 2024

Town Manager Fournier said that they were monitoring tomorrow's storm. School and Recreation classes are canceled tomorrow.

Town Manager Fournier presented a PowerPoint presentation of Town Councilors duties and rules. He provided a master schedule of things the Town Council should do throughout the year.

Town Manager Fournier reminded the Councilors that they may submit

ordinances and resolutions to the Council for approval and that the staff will help them write them.

Councilor Dornblut asked if there was an update to the urban compact conversation. Town Manager Fournier said that there is discussion at the state level. Local Department of Transportation (Division 6) has concerns. The Town Engineer checks weekly for new developments.

8. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

9. Old Business

10. Town Council to Consider Nominations, Appointments, and Elections

- a. James Drago - Reappointment to the ZBA - Term Expiration April 2027

Motion: Councilor Ward made a motion to reappoint James Drago to the ZBA with a term expiration of April 2027.

Second: Councilor Dornblut

Vote: Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)

- b. Ingrid Ahlberg - Reappointment to the Ad hoc Riverfront Advisory Committee - Term Expiration April 2027

Motion: Councilor Ward made a motion to reappoint Ingrid Ahlberg to the Ad hoc Riverfront Advisory Committee with a term expiration of April 2027.

Second: Councilor Dornblut

Discussion: Councilor LaMattina said that Ms. Ahlberg has been a member for a long while now and he highly recommends her reappointment.

Vote: Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)

- c. Betsy Wolfe - Reappointment to the Ad hoc Riverfront Advisory Committee - Term Expiration April 2027

Motion: Councilor Ward made a motion to reappoint Betsy Wolfe to the Ad hoc Riverfront Advisory Committee with a term expiration of April 2027.

Second: Councilor LaMattina

Discussion: Councilor LaMattina said that Ms. Wolfe currently sits on the Committee and he highly recommends her reappointment.

Vote: Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)

11. Resolutions/Ordinances in the 1st Reading

- a. Resolution #2023/2024-35 - Public Transportation Advisory Committee

Chair Conley read Resolution #2023-2024-35 into the record.

12. New Business/Correspondence

a. Correspondence to the Town Council

There was no correspondence.

b. Closing Comments by Town Councilors

Councilor Blackstone commented that the Rec Department's Easter egg hunt was a huge success and reminded everyone that there is an "Eclipse day" at the Rec Department on April 8th.

Councilor Dornblut congratulated Councilor Conley and Councilor Ward on their reelection as Chair and Vice-chair and thanked them for the work they do.

c. Next Meeting

April 17, 2024

13. Adjournment

Chair Conley adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Chase
Recording Secretary