

**TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 20, 2019 7:00 PM  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Approved December 18, 2019**

PRESENT: Council Chairman Toni Weinstein, Councilor Zachary Dumont, Councilor Jon Kiper, Councilor Gretchen Kast, Councilor Casey Finch, Councilor Helen Sanders, Council Vice Chairman Amy Burns (by speakerphone)

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Steve Fournier

**AGENDA**

Chairman Toni Weinstein welcomed everyone to the November 20, 2019 Newmarket Town Council Meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Weinstein stated that Vice-Chair Amy Burns would be participating by speakerphone.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

As no one from the public was present, Chairman Weinstein closed the Public Forum at 7:01 pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING** – None

**TOWN COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Acceptance of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 6, 2019**

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 6, 2019 which was seconded by Councilor Kiper.

Changes/Corrections: Councilor Kast recommended “Ad Hoc” be added to the Riverfront Advisory Committee for clarification. After discussion the committee title was left as *Riverfront Advisory Committee*.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 6, 2019 were approved by a vote of 7-0.

### **Acceptance of the Minutes of the Non-Public Meeting of November 6, 2019**

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Non-Public Meeting of November 6, 2019 which was seconded by Councilor Kiper.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and the Minutes of the Non-Public Meeting of November 6, 2019 were approved by a vote of 7-0.

### **REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Town Administrator Steve Fournier said regarding **Parking in Downtown** he would take part in a conference call tomorrow with Walker Group, who conducted the survey in 2006, to discuss updating that document for 2019 and come up with suggestions. He said he recommended the Council then form a committee to look at the recommendations.

Town Administrator Fournier provided an update on first quarter **FY2020 Expenditures** and said 37.1% of the General Fund Budget was expended after 4 months, but after encumbrances brought were brought in was on target at 33.5%. He said year-to-date Water & Sewer expended 42.2% and 48.6%, and said they were right where they should be with the budget at this point.

Town Administrator Fournier said the State of New Hampshire DRA set the **Property Tax Rate** at \$24.26, a decrease of \$4.98/1,000 or 9.2%. He said the Town decreased 10%, Local & State Education decreased 18.9%, and County decreased by 20% due to increase in property valuations. He said Tax Bills were due December 18, 2019. For any questions about property value contact the Assessors to set up a meeting. He said for the State, Newmarket falls right in the middle at approximately 23%/1,000.

Town Administrator Fournier said he has been asked to speak at the **2019 Coastal Climate Summit** on behalf of the Town with NHDES on the benefits of Aquatic Mitigation Resources Funding. He said this funding was used to rebuild the Lubberland Creek Culvert Project, and said he would speak about Emergency Management.

Discussion: Councilor Dumont asked if any costs were involved in having the Walker Group update their Parking Study, and Town Administrator Fournier said he will find out the costs tomorrow. Chairman Weinstein said the Coastal Climate Summit was open for all to attend. Town Administrator Fournier said Public Works and Fire were on vacation and those reports were not included.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilor Finch said the *Conversation Commission* met, and Southeast Land Trust (SELF) asked to make a presentation to the Council to speak about the Clark Farm property. He said they secured funding from LCHIP and were looking to make the Council presentation on December 18, 2019, and were presenting to the Conservation Commission next week. Town Administrator Fournier said he preferred to wait for the Conservation Commission meeting as they would be providing the funds. He said they may just need a

resolution authorizing the Conservation Commission to withdraw funds to purchase the property, and said SELF could attend on the night the resolution is adopted.

Councilor Kast said the Council just held their Joint Meeting with the *Planning Board*, but wanted to mention that the Water Resources Chapter Update Committee has its first meeting on Monday, November 25, 2019 5:30-7:00 pm.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> READING**

#### **Resolution #2019/2020-10 Amending Personnel Policy Updating Harassment Policy**

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to approve *Resolution #2019/2020-10 Amending Personnel Policy Updating Harassment Policy* which was seconded by Councilor Dumont.

Town Administrator Fournier said the resolution is self-explanatory, and said the Town needed to update different policies from time-to-time to reflect new laws in place.

Chairman Weinstein commented that the changes reflect a more progressive approach, and said she would love to see policy training for all committees and boards.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and *Resolution #2019/2020-10 Amending Personnel Policy Updating Harassment Policy* was approved by a vote of 7-0.

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> READING – None**

### **ITEMS LAID ON THE TABLE – None**

### **NEW BUSINESS /CORRESPONDENCE**

### **TOWN COUNCIL TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS**

#### **Riverfront Advisory Committee**

Candidate: *Michael Provost – Term to Expire June 30, 2021*

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to appoint *Michael Provost – Term to Expire June 30, 2021 as a member of the Riverfront Advisory Committee*, which was seconded by Councilor Dumont.

Chairman Weinstein said Michael Provost has a lot to offer the community and the Committee. She said she reached out to another interested party, and Councilor Kast said she also reached out to someone. Town Administrator Fournier said once the Committee is complete they probably will not do much until the Capstone Project is finished.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and *Michael Provost* was appointed as a member of the *Riverfront Advisory Committee* by a vote of 7-0.

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

#### **Resolution #2019/2020-12 Withdrawal of School Impact Fees**

Chairman Weinstein read Resolution #2019/2020-12 *Withdrawal of School Impact Fees* in full.

#### **Resolution #2019/2020-13 Acceptance of Hayden Place as a Town Road**

Chairman Weinstein read Resolution #2019/2020-13 *Acceptance of Hayden Place as a Town Road* in full.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None

### **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Councilor Kast said at the Joint Meeting the Planning Board made a recommendation about Impact Fees and asked the procedure for the Council to consider that recommendation. Town Administrator Fournier said he would need an amendment to delete provisions for Impact Fees in the Ordinance, whether to recommend or not recommend, and the reasons why.

Councilor Dumont first congratulated NPD for 2 fund-raising events held bringing in \$3,300 for a new playground, and \$13,802 for the Rockingham County Child Advocacy Center. He said he also attended the NHMA 78th Annual Conference last week and sent notes out to everyone. He said Keynote Speaker Jim Hunt said a lot that applied at the town as well as city level, and stressed attention to detail and consistent investment by town public officials to make the kind of community that stands out. He said there was also a big emphasis on Green Awareness at the conference and he felt Newmarket was right at the forefront. He added that NRRA still felt that recycling in New Hampshire was worth it.

Chairman Weinstein also attended the NHMA Conference needed to understand future costs of waste, and said with programs like composting the Town is saving future dollars. She asked Town Administrator Fournier, as a member of the NHMA Board, to bring these comments back. She also agreed that Jim Hunt was relevant and a great speaker. She said she missed spending time in the Exhibitors Hall.

Councilor Kiper said he did walk around the Exhibitors Hall and said Newmarket is on the cover of "Housing Solutions for New Hampshire".

Chairman Weinstein said dates coming up are December 7<sup>th</sup> for the Tree-Lighting. She advised councilors to review the report of the Economic Development Consultant about potential development in the north, south, and west areas of their community.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Town Council Chambers.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Town Council Regular Meeting  
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Chairman Weinstein adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary