

**TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**DDECEMBER 4, 2019 7:00 PM**

**TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Approved December 18, 2019**

PRESENT: Council Chairman Toni Weinstein, Council Vice Chairman Amy Burns, Councilor Zachary Dumont, Councilor Jon Kiper, Councilor Gretchen Kast, Councilor Helen Sanders

EXCUSED: Councilor Casey Finch

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Steve Fournier

**AGENDA**

Chairman Toni Weinstein welcomed everyone to the December 4, 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 Councilor Casey Finch was excused.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

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

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

Town Administrator Fournier said Hayden Place is a subdivision developed by Chinburg Properties, and said the road was reviewed by Underwood and he recommended it be accepted as a Town Road.

As there were no audience members present, Chairman Weinstein closed the Public Hearing at 7:02 pm.

**TOWN COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Town Administrator Fournier said he understood there were a number of revisions councilors wished to make to the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting and the Joint Town Council/Planning Board

Meeting, both held November 20, 2019. He asked that approval of the minutes be held off until the next meeting and changes be forwarded to him.

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

Town Administrator Fournier said he was notified by the Attorney General's office that the Department of Revenue Administration and the Secretary of State approved all 8 **Charter Amendments** previously approved by the Council. He said the Town Attorney recommends that the Council make a motion to forward the amendments to Ballot in March.

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to forward the 8 Charter Amendments to the March 2020 Town Meeting Ballot, which was seconded by Councilor Kast.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and the motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.

Town Administrator Fournier said he was happy to announce that the Town of Newmarket Wastewater Facility Upgrade Project was selected as the 2019 **Performance & Innovation in the SRF Creating Environmental Success (PISCES) Award** from the EPA, presented to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services at the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities Conference in Cleveland in November. This is New Hampshire's first PISCES nomination and first PISCES Award, with kudos to the Water & Sewer Department.

Town Administrator Fournier said the State Legislature has approved **Sports Betting** in the State. He said people will be able to place bets 2 ways: (1) online using DraftKings App if physically in the State; (2) at 10 locations across the State to be set up for in-person wagering. He said prior to a facility applying for a license the question would have to be placed on the Ballot for approval. Vice-Chair Burns felt it should be placed on the Ballot, and Councilor Dumont agreed that the Town to have a choice about hosting a facility. Town Administrator Fournier said he would need to get a resolution ready for a Warrant and hold a Public Hearing. The consensus of the Council was to proceed with the draft of the resolution.

Town Administrator Fournier said he was exploring updating the **2006 Parking Study** done by Walker Parking Consultants. He said the cost could be about the same as for the last study (\$30,000). Councilor Dumont asked about partnering with UNH, and Town Administrator Fournier said he will also look at Rockingham Planning Commission when the price comes in. Councilor Kast asked why an update would cost as much as a regular study, and Town Administrator Fournier said this is 13 years later. He said he felt this study would give them an independent view of where the Town should go. Councilor Kiper asked where the funds would be coming from, and Town Administrator Fournier said they would have to find the money.

Town Administrator Fournier said he received communications from Chinburg Properties expressing concerns over the direction of the newly installed parking spaces near the Library. He said they agreed to keep the parking spaces there, but to change the flow of traffic to the other direction, coming out onto Main Street.

Town Administrator Fournier said he would have before the Council at the next meeting a letter of intent with **Revision Energy** to work with the Town to explore putting solar panels on the Wilson Property, which would generate revenue for the Town and provide cheaper electricity.

Town Administrator Fournier said this weekend is **Very Merry Main Street**, a Crafts Fair, and Holiday Party, ending with lighting of the Giving Tree at singing Carols at Arbor Park from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. More information is available at [newmarketrec.org](http://newmarketrec.org).

Town Administrator Fournier said the Secretary of State announced February 11, 2020 as the **2020 Presidential Primary**. He said voting will be held at the Newmarket Elementary School from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, and asked councilors to block the day off.

Questions: Chairman Weinstein said she was glad an agreement was reached with Chinburg, as the extra parking spaces are well-used and beneficial to the Town. She asked town Administrator Fournier for an explanation of the Capstone Presentation he attended for the Riverwalk Project.

Town Administrator Fournier said the Capstone Project is 7 or 8 engineering students with diverse backgrounds who get together and have to work on a Capstone Project for the University. He said they first came to the Town to ask if they could do the project here, and then presented it to professors, engineers, and project advisors on their scope of ideas for the study, and asked him to attend. He said the Riverwalk would be from Schanda Park down to the Chinburg Building and then examine connecting to Heron Point. He said they will study what the Town needs to do, how to get the proper permits, and look at what has been done in the past. He said this would take about 1 year.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilor Kast said the *Planning Board* has not met since the last Joint Meeting, but the Sub-Committee on the Water Resource Chapter for the Master Plan had their first meeting and got a good structure for a plan for redoing that chapter for the next meeting in January.

Councilor Dumont said the *Budget Committee* met and had the presentation of the Town FY2021 Operating Budget. He said there was a good scope of questions from Budget Committee members, and he expects more in-depth questioning closer to the Town Public Hearing.

Chairman Weinstein said the *Energy & Environment Advisory Committee* met last night and further discussed the Solar 603 project in Canterbury and how to implement that in Newmarket. She said it will incentivize people to install solar panels and the Committee will be working to move that forward. She said they are also working on a letter to local businesses about EV Charging Stations. She said the Committee also talked about a lot of options on tree planting and tree management and doing a public partnership. She said Newmarket has a Tree City USA sign at the north entrance to Town, and Town Administrator Fournier said the Town has a Tree Forester to be compliant with the designation.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

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

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

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Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to approve Resolution #2019/2020-12 Withdrawal of School Impact Fees, which was seconded by Councilor Dumont.

Town Administrator Fournier said the Superintendent's letter speaks for itself and this is for construction costs for the High School.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and Resolution #2019/2020-12 Withdrawal of School Impact Fees was approved by a vote of 6-0.

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

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to approve Resolution #2019/2020-13 Acceptance of Hayden Place as a Town Road, which was seconded by Councilor Dumont.

Town Administrator Fournier said Hayden Place meets all criteria and was inspected by the Town Engineer, and he recommends acceptance of the resolution.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and Resolution #2019/2020-13 Acceptance of Hayden Place as a Town Road was approved by a vote of 6-0.

**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**

**Ad Hoc Arts & Tourism Commission**

Candidate: *Laura Scafati – Term to Expire December 2022*

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to appoint *Laura Scafati – Term to Expire December 2022* as a member of the *Ad Hoc Arts & Tourism Commission*, which was seconded by Councilor Kast.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and appointment of *Laura Scafati* as a member of the *Ad Hoc Arts & Tourism Commission* was approved by a vote of 6-0

**Riverfront Advisory Committee**

Candidate: *Cindy Quetti – Term to Expire June 30, 2021*

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

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and appointment of *Cindy Quetti* as a member of the *Riverfront Advisory Committee* was approved by a vote of 6-0

**Council Representative to the Ad Hoc Arts & Tourism Commission**

Councilor Sanders said she would like to be considered as the Town Council Representative to the Ad Hoc Arts & Tourism Commission.

Vice-Chair Burns made a motion to appoint Councilor Sanders as the Town Council Representative to the Ad Hoc Arts & Tourism Commission, which was seconded by Councilor Dumont.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and the motion to appoint Councilor Sanders as Town Council Representative to the Ad Hoc Arts & Tourism Commission was approved by a vote of 6-0. He said he was also going to staff that Committee with the Recreation Director.

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

**Resolution #2019/2020-14 Downtown TIF Transfer of CIP Funds**

Chairman Weinstein read Resolution #2019/2020-14 Downtown TIF Transfer of CIP Funds in full.

**Resolution #2019/2020-15 Moody Point Association Agreement**

Chairman Weinstein read Resolution #2019/2020-15 Moody Point Association Agreement in full.

**Resolution #2019/2020-16 MacIntosh & Tucker Wells Water Treatment Plant**

Chairman Weinstein read Resolution #2019/2020-16 MacIntosh & Tucker Wells Water Treatment Plant in full.

**Resolution #2019/2020-17 Bennett & Sewell Well Improvements**

Town Administrator Fournier read Resolution #2019/2020-17 Bennett & Sewell Well Improvements in full.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None

**CLOSING COMMENTS**

Chairman Weinstein said she attended a Coastal Climate Summit today, and Town Administrator Fournier represented Newmarket and spoke about the Lubberland Creek Culvert Project. She said it was exciting to see Newmarket at the forefront of innovative ways to deal with Climate Change issues. She also reminded everyone about the Giving Tree Ceremony this weekend in Arbor Park.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Town Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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Chairman Weinstein adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary