

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE

TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, June 1, 2022 7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Minutes

Approved June 15, 2022

Councilors Present: Council Chair Toni Weinstein, Council Vice-chair Katanna Conley, Councilor Megan Brabec, Councilor Scott Blackstone, Councilor Brian Ward, and Councilor Joe LaMattina.

Councilors Excused: Councilor Colin White, Sr.

Staff Present: Town Manager Stephen Fournier, Director of Finance William Tappan, and Wendy Chase, Recording Secretary.

Chair Weinstein convened the meeting at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Conley made a Motion to seal the June 1, 2022 Non-public Meeting Minutes, which was seconded by Councilor Ward.

Motion was Passed by a vote of 6-0.

AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

Chair Weinstein opened the Public Forum at 7:01 PM.

Chair Weinstein closed the Public Forum at 7:01 PM without public comment.

PUBLIC HEARING

Resolution #2021/2022-33 – Authorizing the Issuance of Bond for Well Water Treatment Facility

Chair Weinstein opened the Public Hearing at 7:02 PM

Finance Director Tappan explained he contacted multiple banks and the NH Municipal Bond Bank to solicit loan offers. Norway Bank was the only bank contacted that would lend the amount required to refinance the loan for 20 years. With the new interest rate of 2.84% we are projected to save the Town over \$280,000.00.

Chair Weinstein closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 PM

TOWN COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

May 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Councilor Conley made a motion to Approve *the May 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes*, which was seconded by Councilor Ward.

Motion was Passed by a vote of 4-0-2. Chair Weinstein and Councilor Brabec abstained.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Fournier reported the following:

- **Salary Survey** – Pursuant to the town’s personnel policy it is required that a study of salary levels be conducted. The Town received two bids and the Town Manager is recommending MRI to conduct the survey this summer/fall.
- **Policy Enactment** – The Town Manager submitted an ordinance amendment to allow for departmental operation policies to be reviewed and approved by the Town Manager. This is consistent with other council-manager forms of government in the area.
- **Moody Point Storm Water Grant** – NH DES Coastal Program did not select the town’s submission for funding to study the critical infrastructure at Moody Point. We may be eligible for funding through the NH DES Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program. We will submit a pre-application for a Stormwater Planning Project. There is a \$100,000 principal forgiveness: in the end no cost to the Town.
- The deadline to accept applications for the town engineer position is tomorrow.

Town Manager Fournier explained that the new Code Enforcement Officer position is full-time and will report directly to the Director of Planning and Community Development.

Chair Weinstein inquired about the Parking Enforcement Officer position. Town Manager Fournier said that the Chief has been advertising for the position and hasn’t received any applications to date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Ward reported on the Budget Committee Meeting May 23rd. They had to postpone meeting with the Fire Chief and will meet with him at a later date. They reviewed revenues and the decrease in motor vehicle registrations and increase in building permits.

Councilor Brabec reported on the Arts & Tourism Commission. They met on May 31 and elected a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. They discussed bringing in artists during the “Arts in the Park” events with Rec Director Aimee Gigandet. There is still one open position available on the Commission.

RESOLUTIONS IN THE 2ND READING

Resolution #2021/2022-33 – Authorizing the Issuance of Refunding Bond for Well Water Treatment Facility

Vice-chair Conley made a Motion to Approve *Resolution #2021/2022-33*, which was seconded by Councilor Ward.

Motion was Passed by a vote of 6-0.

TOWN COUNCIL TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Charlotte DiLorenzo – Racial Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Advisory Committee – 1-year term – Term Expiration April 2023.

Councilor LaMattina made a Motion to Appoint *Charlotte Di Lorenzo to the Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Human Rights Advisory Committee with a term expiration of April 2023*, which was seconded by Councilor Conley.

Chair Weinstein commented that she couldn't think of anyone more qualified to serve on this committee.

Representative Di Lorenzo was present but did not comment.

Motion was Passed by a vote of 6-0.

Dr. Andrea Bien – Racial Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Advisory Committee – 1-year term – Term Expiration April 20223

Councilor Ward made a Motion to Appoint *Dr. Andrea Bien to the Racial Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Advisory Committee with a Term Expiration of April 2023*, which was seconded by Councilor Conley.

Councilor Conley commented that Dr. Bien has a lot of qualifications.

Town Manager Fournier said we are still looking for 5 members to serve on this Committee.

Motion was Passed by a vote of 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS IN THE 1ST READING

Ordinance No. 1 2021/2022 – Amending Chapter 1 of the Code of the Town of Newmarket, NH; Clarifying the Authority of the Town Manager

Chair Weinstein read Ordinance No. 1 2021/2022 into the record.

Resolution #2021/2022-34 – Water & Sewer Rate Increases 2023

Chair Weinstein read Resolution #2021/2022-34 into the record.

Resolution #2021/2022-35 – To Select a vendor to conduct a Salary Survey and Compensation Study for the Municipal Government

Chair Weinstein read Resolution #2021/2022-35 into the record.

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE COUNCIL

There was no correspondence to the Town Council.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY THE TOWN COUNCILORS

Councilor Blackstone commented on the success of the Rec Connect event held last week at the Stone Church. Recreation Director Aimee Gigandet and her Staff as well as the Business Association did a great job. Saturday, June 25 the Recreation Department is doing a garden tour and the Historic Society will be displaying gardening tools at the museum.

Councilor Brabec asked for clarification on adding something to the Council Agenda.

Town Manager Fournier said that the Council can either suspend the rules at a meeting to allow adding something to the agenda or hold a separate work session meeting to discuss items not on the agenda.

Councilor LaMattina said that the members of the Historical Society would like a meeting with the Council to discuss the letter they sent regarding the historic overlay district.

Town Manager Fournier suggested meeting an hour earlier for the July 20, 2022 meeting and hold a work session and invite members of the Historical Society to discuss the letter.

NEXT MEETING

June 15, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Weinstein adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Chase
Recording Secretary