

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, April 15, 2013

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:52 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Otis, Morgan Allain, Benski and Higbee, Rozek, Nelson and Theberge. Councilor Remillard was absent. Also present: Pat MacQueen, Corinne Cascadden, Bryan Lamirande, Donny Labrecque, Maurice Tibbetts and the press.

Minutes, Previous Meeting

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to accept the minutes of the April 1 and 8 Regular Meeting/Work Session; March 27 Work Session and the April 3 Budget Minutes. So moved, the motion carried.

Disbursements: Disbursement Summary Draft #1688 start date 4/04/2013; end date 4/16/2013 has a total cash disbursement of \$808,899.45. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to accept the disbursement summary and pay all bills as recommended by the Committee on Accounts/Claims. So moved, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Comments

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Council Committee Reports. No reports

NEW BUSINESS

2. Ordinance 2013-05 Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 15, Traffic and Vehicles, Article III. Stopping, Standing and Parking, Sec. 15-79. Parking Spaces Reserved for the Disabled by Repealing Ordinance Number 2009-04. (1st read)
Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Otis to table the ordinance and schedule a public hearing on May 6. So moved, the motion carried.
3. Ordinance 2013-06 Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6. Fire, Article III, Standards by Amending Division 5, Fee and Charges Relative to the Multi-Family Classification. (1st read)
Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Otis to table the ordinance and schedule a public hearing on May 6. So moved, the motion carried.
4. Ordinance 2013-07 Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8 Housing, Article II. Housing Code by Amending Division 5, Certificate of Compliance Relative to the Inspection Fees. (1st read)
Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Nelson to table the ordinance and schedule a public hearing on May 6. So moved, the motion carried.
5. Resolution 2013-06 Accepting Three Hundred Forty-Two Dollars and Sixty-Two Cents (\$342.62) Donated to the Recreation Department for the Annual "Easter Eggstravaganza" (1st read)
Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Otis to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing on May 6. So moved, the motion carried.

5a. School Custodians, Local 1444 Tentative Agreement.

	FY 12	FY13	FY14	FY15
Total Annual Cost:	592,087	621,487	602,089	641,220
Negotiated Pay Inc.	0%	0%	2%	1.5%
Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$ 9,395	\$ 7,599
Longevity	\$0	\$0	\$ 300	\$ 300
Clothing Allowance	\$0	\$0	\$ 700	\$ 0
Fica	\$0	\$0	\$ 719	\$ 581
NHRS	\$0	\$0	\$ 827	\$ 669
Health Ins.	<u>\$24,693</u>	<u>\$29,400</u>	<u>(\$31,338)</u>	<u>\$29,981</u>
	\$24,693	\$29,400	(\$19,398)	\$39,130 = \$73,825

For the record, Mayor Grenier stated that after raises, the proposed savings due to Health Insurance was \$19,398. Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to accept the cost items as presented by Local 1444. Roll call resulted in unanimous negative votes of Council including Mayor Grenier who declared that the cost items were not accepted.

5b: AFSCME Local 1444 Tentative Agreement

	FY 14 – 0% Eff. 7/1/13	FY15 – 0.75% Eff. 7/1/14	FY16 – 1.5% Eff. 7/1/15
Wages	\$0	\$10,530	\$21,219
Clothing Allowance	\$0	\$ 1,750	\$ 0
Longevity	\$0	\$ 2,175	\$ 0
Inc. Ave. OT Cost	\$0	\$ 630	\$ 1,260
Fica/WC/Ret	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$ 3,771</u>	<u>\$ 5,620</u>
Inc. Dollar Cost:	\$0	\$18,857	\$28,099 = \$46,956

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to accept the cost items as presented by AFSCME Local 1444 for a total of \$46,956. Roll call resulted in unanimous affirmative votes of Council including Mayor Grenier who declared that the cost items were accepted.

6. City Manager's Report

National Community Development Week

On Wednesday April 3rd, officials from the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA), the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA), AHEAD and the City convened at the Notre Dame High School to recognize and celebrate National Community Development Week. During this week one community in the state was picked for each day of the week and Berlin was chosen for Wednesday. Mayor Grenier led off the speakers followed up by Chris Diego Chair of the CDFA Board, Chris Miller of NHHFA and Andre Caron who has done so much to make the future development of this project into senior supported housing possible. Mike Claflin, Executive Director of Affordable Housing Education and Development (AHEAD) also spoke. AHEAD has stepped in place of Tri County CAP to carry on the development of this project.

Emergency Operations Plan

Another emergency management meeting was held at the Fire Department last week continuing the work on updating the City's Emergency Operations Plan. Bonnie M. Lockwood of McGrew Management Services LLC has been assisting the group under a FEMA grant in completing this update which is due to be completed within the next or month or so.

PWD Clean Up

Sweeping only at night is putting the Department behind in getting up all the sand that is in the streets. PW is going to try to sweep more during the day during periods of rain to keep down the dust. The street line painting contract has been awarded and the Dept. is waiting for decent weather to allow that to begin.

Housing Matters

Last Thursday, Kevin Lacasse and Tim Coulombe of TKB came in to sign four agreements with the City which obligate TKB to maintain the four properties at 285 Spring, 104 Grafton, 115 Strafford and 81 Mason under the HUD guidelines for low to middle income persons for twenty years.

Abatements for 325 & 432 Burgess St., 124½ Norway, and 3 Glen Ave have been completed. Demolition bids will be going out today for the first three, and probably tomorrow for 3 Glen Ave. The initial re-use design for 3 Glen Ave has gone to the Planning Board and been approved, and Linda is meeting with both abutters to discuss the plans.

Property sales bids are due on April 18 for 590 Goebel (went to abutters only), 290 Grafton, 6 Rouleau Rd, and 538 Burgess (these three went to the general public, and this is the second time around for these properties).

The status of properties sold by Resolution is as follows:

- 702 Glen Ave to Jason & Mary Sullivan (abutter) - proposed demolition of house & rehab of garage (general clean- up has occurred to date)

- 717 Fifth Avenue to Barry Kelley: Demolition has been completed, final loam and seed and site preparation to be completed this spring
 - 180 Glen Ave to Jim Lavertue: Waiting on signed contract and payment
- Please note that Final Tax Deeding will occur on April 23.

Rabies Clinic

On Saturday April 13, Deb Patrick & Kris Davis registered a total of 106 dogs in 3 hours from 1:00 – 4:00pm at the Recreation Center. People thanked them for being there and for making it convenient for them to register their dogs on that day which saved them a trip to City Hall.

Response to Council Fire Department Budget Questions

Attached hereto is the response from the Fire Department to questions raised at the Fire Budget review meeting for your information.

Legislative Matters

Budget Bill Highlights at Crossover The House has passed budget bills and HB 1 & 2 for the biennial state operating budget that will take effect July 1, 2013. These include the following:

- Catch up formula for Rooms and Meals tax distribution restored.
- Restored funding of State aid environmental grants.
- Restored LCHIP funding.
- Increased Highway block grant funding
- Increase State aid bridge/highway funding.

SB 152 The Mayor and Council have expressed strong support for SB 152 which would provide for video lottery machines and table gaming at one location in the State. A 45 member joint Senate/House committee will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, April 16, at 10:15am in Representative Hall in the State House. I have been asked to attend and testify at that hearing in favor of the bill on behalf of the City.

As the bill stands now, distribution of the 'net machine income' from this operation includes portions of the revenue going toward:

- Debt payments for I-93 expansion
- Local highway and bridge betterment projects
- Highway block grants for municipalities
- Economic development for the north country
- University System and Community College System
- Host municipality
- Abutting municipalities
- Various state agencies

Additionally, a portion of the revenue from table gaming would go into the education trust fund, reducing the amount of the general fund subsidy (estimated to be \$100 million in fiscal year 2014) needed annually to fund education adequacy costs.

SB 146 This bill as written would expand municipal welfare obligation to include persons receiving Old Age Assistance (OAA) or Aid to Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD). Currently municipalities are prohibited from doing this. Clearly, this would be a new financial mandate on municipalities and would appear to violate constitutional Question #2. The Senate has amended the bill to provide that a municipality may provide such assistance if it chooses to. NHMA opposed the original bill because of its financial mandate, but is generally supporting this local option approach.

PWD Monthly Report: Attached.

Time-keeping and Time off - My time-keeping is attached. Also, I plan to take Tuesday the 23rd through the 26th off to babysit grandchildren.

Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Nelson to accept the City Manager's Report and place it on file. So moved, the motion carried.

7. Mayor's Report -

Appointments: Planning Board – Mark Evans, as a regular member for a three year term set to expire April 2016; Water Works Commission - Mike Caron, four year term set to expire May 2017. Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Rozek to accept the Mayor's nomination of Mark Evans on the Planning Board and Michael Caron on the BWW Commission and to send a letter of thanks to Fran Cusson for the time she served on the Planning Board. So moved, the motion carried.

Resignation: School Board - Nathan Morin effective immediately. Mayor Grenier said it is difficult to accept this resignation because Nathan was a different voice and government works best with different voices. Although they often disagreed, Nathan always had the City's best interests at heart. This is the second time he has served and he hates to see him go. Nathan's resignation was brought on by a different perspective to the board and Mayor Grenier always respected the job he did. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Rozek to accept with regret Nathan Morin's resignation from the School Board. So moved, the motion carried. Mayor Grenier directed the City Clerk to advertise to fill the position until the November Municipal Election. Letters of interest will be accepted until Friday April 26 and interviews will be conducted on April 29.

Councilor Nelson moved second by Councilor Morgan Allain to accept/file the Mayor's Report. So moved, the motion carried.

8. Public Comments: No comments

9. Council Comments: No comments

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Mayor and Council at this time, Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Rozek to adjourn the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the regular meeting closed at approximately 8:19 p.m.

A True Record, Attest:
Debra A. Patrick, CMC
City Clerk