

PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 20, 2014

Mayor Grenier opened the duly advertised public hearing at approximately 7:39 p.m. to discuss the following subject matter:

Resolution 2014-23 Appropriate \$110,000 to the School Department's FY'2015 Budget

There being no comments for or against the subject matter, Mayor Grenier declared the public hearing portion of the meeting now closed.

Proclamation – Extra Mile

For individuals and organizations who go the extra mile to make Berlin a better place. The following citizens were recognized: Will Obrien's team: Scott Hachez, Patrick Chaloux, Cory Paradis, Craig Eichler, Lori Duclos, Alyssa Warner, Bill Gagne, Ben Gagnon, David Manikian, Caroline Manikian and also recognized were Sylvia Poulin, Diane Davy, Robert Platt, Paul Partenope and the AV Chamber of Commerce.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, October 20, 2014

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:58 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Remillard, Otis, Morgan Allain, Benski, Higbee, Rozek, Nelson and Theberge. Also present: City Manager James Wheeler, Pam Laflamme Linda White, Brian Chevarie, Corinne Cascadden, Bryan Lamirande and Barbara Tetreault.

Minutes, Previous Meeting

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the October 6 Regular Meeting/WS. So moved, the motion carried.

Disbursements: Disbursement Summary Draft #1726 start date 10/07/2014 end date 10/20/2014 for a total cash disbursement of \$494,423.42. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Nelson 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
2. Resolution 2014-23 appropriating One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00) to the School Department's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget (tabled 10/06/2014)
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows:

Whereas, in an attempt to gain space, the School Department hired a contractor to remove old duct work and cast iron steam grates from the basement level of Brown School; and
Whereas, the contractor recognized asbestos wrapping on the pipes, grates and walls requiring immediate action to remove the asbestos and reconstruct the affected areas; and
Whereas, the City Council and School Board are committed to providing students and staff with the safest environment possible; and
Whereas, the City Council sees fit to appropriate \$110,000.00 of the School's excess revenues from Fiscal Year 2014 to the Fiscal Year 2015 budget to cover the cost of asbestos abatement and reconstruction. Now therefore be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Berlin hereby appropriates an additional One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00) from unappropriated fund balance to the School Department for the Capital Improvement Project "Asbestos Abatement

and Reconstruction Costs - Brown School" for use in Fiscal Year 2015. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to remove the resolution from the table at this time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a third time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to pass the resolution. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Ordinance 2014-07 amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 13 Streets, Article IV Parks & Recreation, Division 1. Generally by adding Sec. 13-95 Mt. Jasper. (1st read)

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to table the ordinance and schedule a public hearing on November 3, 2014. So moved, the motion carried.

4. City Manager's Report

Mark Lapointe has been promoted to Public Works Supervisor. Michel Salek has been hired as a Laborer/Equipment Operator.

Department Heads attended a training session conducted by Primex at the Heritage Park on October 9th. This training session is one of several that Primex has developed specifically for us. The training topics for this session include a section on time management as well as an assessment of a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis from the Department Head perspective.

We were able to secure 6.999 cents/kwh for electricity for March through November of 2015. Winter season rates have gone up across the board. Accordingly, our strategy is pay the PSNH rates from November 2014 until the lower contract prices take over in March.

There was a Route 110 Construction and Traffic Control Meeting held at 1 pm at City Hall on October 15, 2014 in response concerns by adjacent business owners. Spokes people for the affected business community attended. NHDOT indicated that the new road between Green St. and Third Ave. is planned to be opened on or about October 31st. Construction work will continue primarily along the edges of the route with some intermittent traffic interruptions. The next meeting is planned for October 29th at 1 PM at City Hall.

The ribbon cutting for the Mt. Jasper Trail went on as planned on Thursday, October 16th; however due to rain the hike was rescheduled to the spring.

Department Heads are currently finishing up their Capital Improvement Programs for the next 2016-2021 plan renewal. We expect to bring a proposed document to the Council within the next few weeks.

Construction on the new Recreation Buildings by the Berlin High School Building Trades Program is going well. The Parks Maintenance/Restroom Building on Gilbert St. is currently being erected (see attached picture). The foundation for the Community Field Restroom/Storage Building is complete. The Building Trades Program expects to begin erection of the superstructure within the next couple of weeks

The City's Watson Street Pump Station Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan was submitted to the EPA on September 30, 2014. This draft of the plan is considered to be 90% complete pending review comments from the EPA and/or the NHDES. This plan proposes further I&I removal over the next 5 years at a cost of \$1.4M to \$2.0M. Given other strains on the Sewer Fund we are seeking some flexibility on how much we spend. A copy of the 90% Draft will be left in the City Council Chambers. I can also provide an additional copy if someone is interested.

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

5. Mayor's Report – RiverFire.

Mayor Grenier thanked all involved for their hard work to make the RiverFire a success. Although the weather was not good the event went on fabulously and once again Councilor Nelson led the charge and worked tirelessly and we thank her and all who helped.

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

6. Public Comments

Bryan Lamirande, School Business Administrator, thanked Council for their support of the school district. Their commitment allowed the schools to move quickly to have the asbestos removed immediately.

7. Council Comments – No comments.

8. Adjournment:

Non-Meeting: Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to recess the regular meeting and enter into Non-Meeting per RSA 91-A:2, I. (c) Legal Consultation. Roll call resulted in unanimous affirmative votes. Mayor Grenier declared the regular meeting recessed at approximately 8:13 p.m.

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