

**COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2022**

{The meeting was held in a hybrid model – in person and via Zoom}

Mayor Casavant called meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Roll Call: Scott Whiting, Norman Belanger, Liam LaFountain, and Doris Ortiz were present. Bobby Mills joined the meeting at 6:25pm via zoom. William Emhiser, Martin Grohman, Amy Clearwater and Marc Lessard were excused.

The Council and all who were present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustment to the Agenda:

ADD: November Homelessness Awareness Month – Proclamation

ADD: Discussion – Approval/Denial – Flag Display Appeal

Mayor Casavant read the following Proclamations;

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and in 2022, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer and prostate cancer combined; and

Whereas, screening for lung cancer for high-risk individuals using low-dose computed tomography can lead to the earlier detection of lung cancer and save lives, reducing the mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest x-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial and reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24% in men and 33% in women as demonstrated by another large randomized trial; and

Whereas, funding for lung cancer research trials is far behind funding for research of many other cancers, and additional research is needed in early diagnosis, screening and treatment for lung cancer as well as in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities; and

Whereas, women diagnosed with lung cancer are more likely to be younger and never-smokers; lung cancer incidence and mortality rates in women are rising. More women die from lung cancer than breast cancer every year and by 2035, it is expected that more women will die from lung cancer than men; and

Whereas, organizations working in the community, such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum, are committed to educating people about lung cancer and lung cancer screening while working to increase lung cancer screening rates.

Now Therefore, I, Alan Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, Maine do hereby proclaim November 2022 as **LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** and encourage all citizens to educate themselves about the need for research, screening and early detection of lung cancer affecting women and men.

Biddeford joins the nation in recognizing November as Homelessness Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this proclamation is to educate the public about the many reasons people are homeless, and to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers and other service organizations; and

WHEREAS, there are several local organizations committed to sheltering, providing supportive services, as well as providing meals and food to those experiencing homelessness including: Seeds of Hope, York County Community Action, Bon Appetit Community Meal Program, Biddeford Food Pantry; and

WHEREAS, Seeds of Hope estimates there are between 50-60 people experiencing homelessness in our community and Biddeford schools have identified 50-75 students currently couch surfing due to housing insecurity, the Biddeford City Council recognizes that homelessness continues to be a serious problem for many individuals and families in our community; and

WHEREAS, public symbols of support for those experiencing homelessness can make a lasting impact on members of the homeless community who otherwise feel isolated and alone. The Biddeford City Council stands with the homeless community in their struggle for housing and to ensure dignity for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alan Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, do hereby proclaim, November as Homelessness Awareness Month in Biddeford and encourage all residents to recognize that many people do not have housing and need support from citizens and private/public nonprofit service entities.

Public Hearing: Public Input Session on Police Chief Recruitment Process

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:09

There were no public comments

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 6:09

Public Addressing the Council: No Public Comments

Consideration of Minutes: **October 18, 2022**

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Whiting to accept the minutes as printed.

Vote: Unanimous

ARPA Second Reading:

2022.86 Allocation of Undesignated ARPA Funds

Motion made by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Whiting

Vote: Unanimous

Orders of the Day:

Committee-of-the-Whole: Special Assessment District

Councilor Whiting makes a motion to go into Committee-of-the-Whole, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Time: 6:10pm

Councilor Whiting makes a motion to exit Committee-of-the-Whole, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Time: 6:29pm

2022.92) Acceptance / Cricket Lane as a Public Way

Motion made by Councilor Whiting to accept Cricket Lane as a Public Way, seconded by Councilor Belanger

One Public Comment

Vote: Unanimous

2022.93) Acceptance / No Trespassing Policy – Andrews Rd Landfill

Motion made by Councilor Whiting to accept No Trespassing Policy – Andrews Rd Landfill, seconded by Councilor Belanger.

One Public Comment

Vote: Unanimous

2022.94) Discussion – Approval/Denial – Flag Display Appeal

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor LaFountain – Motion withdrawn by Councilor Whiting.

Two Public Comments

Motion made by Councilor Mills to allow both flags to fly during the month of November, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

Two Public Comments

Vote: 3-2, Councilors Mills, Ortiz Opposed. Councilors Belanger, Whiting, LaFountain in Favor. Motion passes as amended.

Motion made by Councilor Belanger to amend the motion and allow the Christian Flag to be flown from November 1st through November 12th and then allow the Transgender Flag to be flown from November 13th through November 20th and then the Christian Flag again from November 21st through November 30th, seconded by Councilor Whiting.

Three Public Comment

Vote: 3-2, Councilors Mills, Ortiz Opposed. Councilors Belanger, Whiting, LaFountain in Favor. Amendment passes.

Public Addressing the Council: Two people addressed the Council.

City Manager report: Jim Bennett did not give a City Manager's Report

Other Business:

Councilor LaFountain spoke about his visit to the Fire Department saying he was very impressed by their service and professionalism. He thanked the Fire Department for the work that they do in the community, not only regarding service calls but beyond that by going into the schools to do some preventative work to explain to the kids how to prevent fires and how to handle if there is a fire in their home.

Councilor LaFountain also spoke about the Recreation Department and how they hosted a family Halloween get-together at the Community Center and that there were over 500 kids and adults there to celebrate and he wanted to thank the Recreation Department for doing great job at organizing that.

Lastly Councilor LaFountain wanted to congratulate the Biddeford High School Volleyball team for having an undefeated season and a State Championship.

Council Mills spoke about his Ward Meeting and that it was very productive. He took a lot of notes regarding concerns some of the residents have. Councilor Mills feels the meeting went really well.

Council President Addressing the Council: Councilor Belanger did not address the Council.

Mayor Addressing the Council: Mayor Casavant did not address the Council.

Executive Session: The Council did not enter into Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Adjourned: 7:21pm