

**COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022**

*NOTE: Due to COVID-19, this meeting was held in-person in the Council Chambers,
as well as virtually (via ZOOM),*

Mayor Casavant called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Scott Whiting, Martin Grohman, Bobby Mills, Amy Clearwater, Norman Belanger, Liam LaFountain, Doris Ortiz, Marc Lessard

William Emhiser was excused.

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

Adjustments to the Agenda:

- Add Order of the Day 2022.82

Presentation: Update on Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Operations

Public Works Director Jeff Demers introduced the presentation and Alex Buechner, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent. Alex began with providing definitions of Combined Sewer (a combination of wastewater and storm water);

He explained that for years, the City has been working toward separating all of the combined sewer overflows to bring Biddeford in compliance with State regulations, as well as, and most importantly for human and environmental protection.

Presentation: Update on Pearl Point Park Project

Economic Development Coordinator Brad Favreau provided an update on the Pearl Point Park Concept Plan and surrounding green spaces. Richardson & Associates was contracted with to develop a design for the new park, and after a robust community engagement period, a final concept plan was presented. According to Mr. Favreau, “The concept plan offers a balance between hardscaping and open green space, a link for the expanding RiverWalk, informal performance space, a river overlook pavilion, and space to exhibit public art. The design also provides a landing for a future pedestrian bridge.”

Public Hearing: State Liquor License Application – Coletti’s Pizza Factory

Mayor Casavant opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:45 p.m.

Consideration of State Liquor License Application: Coletti’s Pizza Factory

Motion by Councilor Clearwater, seconded by Councilor Mills to recommend the issuance of a State Liquor License to Coletti’s Pizza Factory.

Vote: Unanimous.

Public Addressing the Council..(3 minute limit per speaker for up to 15 minutes):

There were no public comments.

Consideration of Minutes: September 6, 2022

Motion by Councilor Mills, seconded by Councilor Clearwater to accept the minutes as printed.

Vote: Unanimous.

Second Reading:

{For a copy of the ordinance amendment and first reading, see the Council Meeting minutes of September 6, 2022}

2022.72) Amendment/Land Development Regulations/Bonus Density

Motion by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Clearwater to grant the second reading of the ordinance amendment.

Due to impending State Legislation:

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Mills to table the ordinance amendment until State Law has been instituted for Bonus Density.

Vote: Unanimous.

Orders of the Day:

2022.78

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager be authorized to enter into an agreement with Bill Dodge Buick GMC for one 2023 GMC Yukon to replace the current Fire Department Command

Vehicle, in the amount of \$51,941.50. Funding for the purchase of this vehicle is from the FY22 CIP.

NOTE: The Finance Committee will consider this item at their September 20, 2022 meeting and make a recommendation to the Council.

Motion by Clearwater, seconded by Councilor Mills to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous.

2022.79 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager be authorized to enter into an agreement with United Construction & Forestry for one 2022 John Deere Loader and one RPM Snow Blower in the amount of ~~\$465,540~~ \$401,863 to be used as Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) at the Biddeford Municipal Airport. Funding will breakdown as follows: \$361,676.70 through Maine Department of Transportation Grant; \$40,186.30 from FY22 Capital Improvement Projects Fund.

Note: The Finance Committee will consider this item at their September 20, 2022 meeting and make a recommendation to the Council.

Motion by Councilor Clearwater, seconded by Councilor Mills to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous.

2022.80 BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the Biddeford City Council does hereby grant approval pursuant with Title 15 M.R.S.A. §5824(3) & §5822(4)(A) to the transfer of 3,886.00 in U.S. Currency, or any portion thereof, on the grounds that the City of Biddeford Police Department did make a substantial contribution to the investigation of this or related criminal case. ALFSC-CR-18-1069. These funds shall be transferred to the City of Biddeford, Asset Forfeiture Account 3119-40576.

Motion by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Mills to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous.

2022.81 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..SEPTEMBER 2022

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Biddeford to amend the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Administration, Article I, In General, by amending the following:

Section 2-2 Election Wards

In accordance with the City Charter, Article III-City Council, Section 1-City to be divided into Wards, the Ward boundaries shall be as follows:

Being more particularly bounded, described and shown as Ward 1 on a plan entitled, "City of Biddeford, Maine, Official Ward Map, Adopted by order of the Biddeford City Council, October 4, 2022" Scale: 1"=2,000', prepared by City of Biddeford, Maine Engineering Department-GIS Division and recorded in the City of Biddeford, Maine Engineering Department as plan D-1900.

Motion by Councilor Mills, seconded by Councilor Whiting to grant the first reading of the ordinance amendment.

Vote: 7/1; Councilor Grohman opposed.

Councilors Whiting, Mills, Clearwater, Belanger, LaFountain, Ortiz and Lessard in favor.

1st Reading carries.

2022.82 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager be authorized to enter into an agreement with United Construction & Forestry for one 2022 John Deere Motor Grader 672G and one Henke 12' Postless Grader Wing (for snow plowing); as well as a set of winter tires from New England Truck Tires in an amount not to exceed \$342,846.70, broken down as follows:

- 2022 John Deere Motor Grader 672G - \$337,000 (minus trade in of \$28,000) = \$309,000
- Grader Wing (for snow plowing) = \$24,938

- Winter Tires (from New England Truck Tires) = \$8908.70
- TOTAL: \$342,846.70

Funds for this purchase to come from the FY22 CIP.

Note: The Finance Committee will consider this item at their September 20, 2022 meeting and make a recommendation to the Council.

Motion by Councilor Clearwater, seconded by Councilor Mills to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous.

Appointments:

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

ORDERED, that I, Alan M. Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, do hereby appoint:

**Israa Enan
34 Cutts Street, #201
Ward 5**

to the *Recycling & Waste Management Commission*, replacing Richard Potvin, for a term to expire December 2025.

Motion by Councilor Mills, seconded by Councilor Clearwater to confirm the appointment.

Vote: Unanimous.

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

ORDERED, that I, Alan M. Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, do hereby appoint:

**William Stepchew
86 Old Pool Road
Ward 1**

to the *Shellfish Conservation Committee*, for a term to expire in December 2025.

Motion by Councilor Clearwater, seconded by Councilor Mills to confirm the appointment.

Vote: Unanimous.

Public Addressing the Council...(5 minute limit per speaker; 30 minute total time limit):

There were no comments from the public.

There was no City Manager Report as City Manager James Bennett was not present.

Other Business:

Councilor LaFountain: brought up the recent news coverage of the homelessness in Biddeford and he would like the City to continue to have discussions on possible solutions.

Councilor Ortiz: following up on Councilor LaFountain's comments, informed the Council that the Affordable Housing Task Force will be making a presentation at the October 4th Council Meeting, in which homelessness will be addressed.

Councilor Mills: shared that September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. He further shared an excerpt from NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness:

Suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background. In fact, suicide is often the result of an untreated mental health condition. Suicidal thoughts, although common, should not be considered normal and often indicate more serious issues.

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month – a time to raise awareness of this stigmatized, and often taboo, topic. We use this month to shift public perception, spread hope and share vital information to people affected by suicide. Our goal is ensuring that individuals, friends and families have access to the resources they need.

Councilor Clearwater: added to Councilor Mills’ comments that the Suicide Prevention Hotline number is 988.

Councilor Grohman: shared a couple of upcoming events:

- (1) Roll to School Day – October 12th students and adults with meet at Shevenell Park and bicycle to the Biddeford Middle School.
- (2) The Grow Smart Summit is scheduled for October 13th here in Biddeford

Mayor Addressing the Council: Mayor Casavant shared that the first WinterFest planning meeting took place yesterday. There was a great discussion, which involved new volunteers and new ideas, with a focus to attract more people to the event. He encouraged everyone to get involved.

He was proud to be a part of the Ribbon Cutting on Main Street (near the Elm Street intersection) for a few new businesses in that area. It was a great start to Friday’s Art Walk event.

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Clearwater to adjourn.

Vote: Unanimous.

Time: 7:03 p.m.

Attest by: _____
Carmen J. Bernier, City Clerk