

City of Biddeford
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2021
(Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held virtually via ZOOM).

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by the Chair, Councilor John McCurry.

Present: Chair, Council President, John McCurry; Mayor Alan Casavant; Councilor Stephen St. Cyr; Councilor Mike Ready; City Manager, Jim Bennett; and City Clerk, Carmen Morris.

Adjustment to the Agenda
No adjustment to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes of August 3, 2021

Motion by Councilor Ready to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Councilor St. Cyr.

Vote: unanimous.
Motion carries.

Expenditure Warrants:

The Warrants were available in the Finance Office for the Committee members to review and sign.

Discussion/Approval

Approval/Funds for Comp Plan Survey

Motion by Councilor Ready to approve an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00 for a Comprehensive Plan Community-Wide Survey, seconded by Councilor St. Cyr.

Discussion: Councilor Ready supports this item but doesn't understand why we could not use the bid process.

Councilor St. Cyr would be in favor of sending out a postcard rather than a paper survey to each household.

Planning & Development Director, Mat Eddy, gave an explanation noting they did give a survey.

Motion by Councilor Ready to defer this item to the full City Council for consideration and approval, seconded by Councilor St. Cyr.

Vote: unanimous.

Vote on motion, as amended: unanimous.
Motion carries.

Recommended/Fire Department Dorm Rooms Project/H.E. Callahan Construction of Auburn, Maine

Motion by Councilor Ready to recommend the expenditure for Fire Department Dorm Rooms,

with the project being awarded to H.E. Callahan Construction of Auburn, Maine, seconded by Councilor St. Cyr.

Discussion: Councilor Ready asked about the furniture piece of this item and how that amount had been determined.

Fire Chief, Scott Gagne, explained that he did go out and obtain three bids for the furniture.

The City Manager's recommendation would be to pay for the building permits out of the Bond money, and the furniture option would be absorbed with operating funds.

Councilor McCurry would like to see a priority list of the projects that are expected to be paid out of the Bond money, preferably before voting on this.

Councilor Ready agrees with the prioritization but he feels the Fire Department Dorm Rooms are a priority, especially due to the fact that we have female firefighters.

Councilor St. Cyr agrees and supports it.

Councilor McCurry asked about using other reserved or aid funds for this project.

The City Manager explained that any change in funding will come back to this Committee for final approval.

Vote: unanimous.

Motion carries.

Other Business

Councilor St. Cyr asked when the new Finance Director would be starting, and Jim answered September 8.

Councilor McCurry asked if shredding is still scheduled for October, and Jim answered he would look into it.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Ready, seconded by Councilor St. Cyr.

Vote: unanimous.

Motion carries.

Adjourned at 5:56 p.m.