

**COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 7, 2020**

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

Roll Call: William Emhiser, John McCurry, Jr., Stephen St. Cyr, Robert Quattrone, Jr., Amy Clearwater, Norman Belanger, Michael Ready, Doris Ortiz, Marc Lessard

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Consideration of Minutes:

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to accept the minutes of **June 16, 2020** as printed.

Vote: Unanimous.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to accept the minutes of **June 23, 2020** as printed.

Vote: Unanimous.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to accept the minutes of **June 25, 2020** as printed.

Vote: Unanimous.

Second Readings:

{For a copy of the budget order and ordinance amendments, see the Council Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2020}

CDBG Fund:

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to grant the second reading of the order.

Vote: Unanimous.

**2020.46) Amendment/Land Development Regulations/Art. XIII-Amendments,
Sec. 3-Contract and Conditional Zoning/Add Contract Zone #19 Maine Governmental
Facilities Authority**

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to grant the second reading of the ordinance amendment.

Motion by Councilor Clearwater, seconded by Councilor Belanger to amend the proposal to move the parking lot 15 feet to the west, to preserve the tree buffer.

Vote: 4/5; Councilors Clearwater, Belanger, Quattrone and Ortiz in favor.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, St. Cyr, Ready and Lessard opposed.

Amendment fails.

Vote on 2nd reading: 7/2; Councilors Quattrone and Ortiz opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, St. Cyr, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready and Lessard in favor.

Second reading carries.

**2020.51) Amendment/Ch. 58, Solid Waste/Sec. 58-1-Definitions; and Sec. 58-35-Portable
Receptacles/Add Alternative Designated Solid Waste Container**

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

Vote: 8/1; Councilor Ready opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, St. Cyr, Quattrone, Clearwater, Belanger, Ortiz and Lessard in favor.

Second reading carries.

Orders of the Day:

2020.54

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..JULY 7, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, by the City Council of the City of Biddeford that the use of Community TV Fund balance remaining as June 30th, must be approved by a vote of the City Council, prior to the any expenditure using these funds.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Lessard to grant the order.
Vote: Unanimous.

Appointment:

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JULY 7, 2020
ORDERED, that I, Alan M. Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, do hereby appoint:

Don Furman
20 Elizabeth Road
Ward 1

to the *Zoning Board of Appeals*. for a term to expire in December 2023.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to confirm the appointment.
Vote: Unanimous.

Public Addressing the Council..(5 minute limit per speaker; 30 minute total time limit):
There were no public comments.

City Manager Report:

City Manager, James Bennett had the following items:

- (1) The parking garage will have their financial closing at the end of this week. This means that the project will be moving forward in the very near future.
- (2) He has been monitoring the excise tax revenue and the State Revenue Sharing very closely over the past couple months and he is pleased to inform the Council that both revenues have hit the FY20 forecast.

Other Business:

Councilor St. Cyr: would like the Council to have a discussion on the federal PPE funds that are available. He has been informed that both the Tri-City Transit and the McArthur Library have received these federal funds; and he thinks that it is possible a couple of other municipal service agencies have also received these federal funds. He expressed his disappointment to learn of these funds after the Municipal Service budget had been approved. He asked that the City Manager look into which municipal service agencies received what federal assistance funds.

Councilor Clearwater also expressed her disappointment that the Council may not have received the full financial picture during the Municipal Service budget discussions with the local agencies. She would also like to have further discussion on this once more information on what agencies have received what funds can be acquired.

Councilor Lessard: made a motion to reconsider the Municipal Services budget line item of the FY21 Budget; the motion was seconded by Councilor McCurry.

As discussion ensued, it became clear that the Council would like Staff to follow up with the Municipal Service Agencies in an effort to obtain full disclosure of all federal and state assistance funds that have been received.

Vote on motion to reconsider: 4/5; Councilors McCurry, Lessard, Quattrone and St. Cyr in favor. Councilors Emhiser, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready and Ortiz opposed.
Motion fails.

Councilor Clearwater: asked if Staff could look into the parking situation near the crosswalk on Crescent Street, close to where Seeds of Hope is located. She indicated that the Downtown Committee had had this discussion months ago and she wants to ensure this issue does not fall through the cracks.

Councilor Clearwater expressed her concern with the fact that most of the committee appointments that come before Council for confirmation are of middle-aged white males. She would like to see more effort put into recruiting a more diverse selection of volunteers for the City committees. Mayor Casavant agrees, however, he explained the struggle in finding folks who want to volunteer to serve on the City committees/commission/boards.

Council President Addressing the Council: Councilor McCurry also agrees with Councilor Clearwater's comments regarding needing more diversity on City committees; however, he realizes that it is not easy to get people to volunteer.

He informed the Council that Mayor Casavant is working on an Ice Arena issue which will be brought to the Council at some point.

Councilor McCurry received numerous phone calls over the weekend about fireworks and the lack of police response. He contacted the Police Department and found out that the lack of response was due to the tremendous amount of calls that had come in, which included not only complaints about fireworks, but also other calls for service; as well as the inability for the Police Department to practically respond to every call.

Mayor Addressing the Council: Mayor Casavant recently toured the Community Gardens and is quite impressed. He recognized Holly Culloton for all her efforts with the Community Gardens.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded Councilor Belanger to adjourn.
This motion was withdrawn.

Executive Session: 1 MRSA 405(6)(A)...Personnel Matter

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to move into Executive Session.

Vote: Unanimous. Time: 7:13 p.m.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Clearwater to move out of Executive Session.

Vote: Unanimous. Time: 8:01 p.m.

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

Vote: Unanimous. Time: 8:01 p.m.

Attest by: _____
Carmen J. Morris, City Clerk