

**COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 19, 2020**

*NOTE: Due to COVID-19, this meeting was held virtually (via ZOOM),
and was live streamed on the City's website*

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.

Proclamation: Emergency Medical Services Week – May 17-23, 2020

Mayor Casavant read the Proclamation. He commended the Biddeford EMS Staff for their efforts.

*Public Hearing: **FY21 School Department Budget***

Mayor Casavant opened the Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m.

School Committee Member, Nathan Bean urged the Council to support and approve the proposed FY21 School Department Budget.

Mayor Casavant closed the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m.

Consideration of Minutes: **May 5, 2020; May 12, 2020**

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to accept the minutes of May 5, 2020 as printed.

Vote: Unanimous.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to accept the minutes of May 12, 2020 as printed.

Vote: Unanimous.

*Second Readings: **FY21 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET***

Essential Programs & Services Funding Act:

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

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to amend the order by adding \$115,000 to the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act; for new totals of \$31,124,399 and \$19,247,475. The breakdown of additional funds is as follows:

Other Instruction - \$40,000

Facilities Maintenance - \$75,000

Vote on amendment: 5/4; Councilors St. Cyr, Belanger, Lessard and Emhiser opposed.

Councilors McCurry, Quattrone, Clearwater, Ready and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

Motion by Councilor St. Cyr, seconded by Councilor Quattrone to amend the order by reducing the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act by \$83,172; for new totals of \$31,041,227 and \$19,164,303.

Vote on amendment: 4/5; Councilors St. Cyr, Lessard, Quattrone and Emhiser in favor.

Councilors McCurry, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready and Ortiz opposed.

Motion fails.

Vote on second reading of the order, as amended: 6/3; Councilors St. Cyr, Lessard and Emhiser opposed.

Councilors McCurry, Quattrone, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

School Construction Projects – Local Share:

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

Vote: Unanimous

Additional Local Funds – for School Purposes:

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to grant the second reading of the order, with a new total of \$1,174,374.

Vote: 6/3; Councilors St. Cyr, Lessard and Quattrone opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

School Appropriations:

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to grant the second reading of the order, for a new total of \$39,201,160.

Vote: 6/3; Councilors St. Cyr, Lessard and Emhiser opposed.

Councilors McCurry, Quattrone, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

Adult Education:

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

Vote: 8/1; Councilor St. Cyr opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, Quattrone, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready, Ortiz and Lessard in favor. Motion carries.

Food Service:

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

Vote: Unanimous.

School Department Estimated Revenues:

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

Vote: 7/2; Councilors St. Cyr and Lessard opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, Quattrone, Clearwater, Belanger, Ready and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

Orders of the Day:

2020.32

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve awarding the Pavement Marking Project to Poirier Guidelines in an amount not to exceed \$47,342.79. This project is budgeted for in Account 21162-60462.

NOTE: This item will be considered at the May 19, 2020 Finance Committee meeting.

Motion by Councilor Ready, seconded by Councilor McCurry to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous (Councilor Lessard was excused)

2020.33

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve the replacement of two (2) Return Activated Sludge (RAS) Pumps at the Water Street Wastewater Treatment Plant; with the purchase of the RAS Pumps from Wescor Associates, Inc. of Wrentham, MA in an amount not to exceed \$53,160.00. Funds for this project will come from Account 35102-60602.

NOTE: This item will be considered at the May 19, 2020 Finance Committee meeting.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous (Councilor Lessard was excused)

2020.34

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve the Lining of the Granite Box Culvert Project on St. Mary's Street. This is a two-part project, with the 3-D scan to be done by The Ted Berry Company in an amount not to exceed \$35,200.00; and the lining of the box culvert to be done by DLVEWS, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$455,200.00. Funding for this project will come from the CSO Fund.

NOTE: The Finance Committee will consider this item at their May 19, 2020 meeting.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous (Councilor Lessard was excused)

2020.35

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve a Substantial Amendment in the 2019 Year Action Plan for changes related to the COVID-19 Virus and Care's Act Funding that add \$268,000 in funding for a job retention program for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to table the order.

Vote: Unanimous (Councilor Lessard was excused)

2020.36

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve and authorize the City Manager to sign, execute and submit the City's Final Draft of the CDBG Year 3 Action Plan and all associated documents in connection with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to table the order.

Vote: Unanimous (Councilor Lessard was excused)

2020.37

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve amendments to the Consolidated Plan for changes related to the COVID-19 virus and Care's Act Funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to table the order.

Vote: Unanimous (Councilor Lessard was excused)

2020.38

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby approve amendments to the Citizen Participation Plan for changes related to COVID-19 virus and Care's Act Funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Ready to table the order.

Vote: Unanimous (Councilor Lessard was excused)

Standing COVID-19 Operational Updates/Modifications:

2020.39

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby **repeal** the Emergency Order measures that were put into place on March 31, 2020, in response to COVID-19:

- (1) Provide the orange PAYT bags free of charge to residents
- (2) Waive all fees for disposal at the Recycling Center

Effective June 1, 2020, residents will, once again, need to purchase the orange PAYT bags from local suppliers; and effective June 1, 2020 all items will be accepted and fees for disposal of items at the Recycling Center will go into effect, per the City's ordinance, *Ch. 58, Sec. 58-64. Large item and recycling programs.*

Motion by Councilor Clearwater, seconded by Councilor McCurry to grant the order.
Vote: Unanimous. (Councilor Lessard was excused)

2020.40 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 19, 2020

BE IT ORDERED, by the City Council of the City of Biddeford that the City Treasurer be authorized to waive parking lot permit fees for the month of June 2020 for anyone who currently has an active parking lot permit.

Motion by Councilor Clearwater, seconded by Councilor McCurry to grant the order.
Vote: 5/3; Councilors McCurry, Ready and St. Cyr opposed.
Councilors Emhiser, Quattrone, Clearwater, Belanger and Ortiz in favor.
(Councilor Lessard was excused).
Motion carries.

Park Facilities, Parking Attendants and Lifeguards

The Council was provided with Staff's written opinion supporting that lifeguards and parking attendants need to be hired and deployed for the upcoming summer season. The general consensus of the Council was in agreement.

City Manager, James Bennett gave the following update:

- (1) Staff is in full-blown reopening phase. He noted that the current Executive Order required expired registrations to be completed by June 10th. The concern is that it would only leave us two to three weeks to collect over half a million dollars' worth of excise tax, plus all other transactions that have been put off thus far. The plan is to open to the public starting on Tuesday, May 26th from 8am to 3pm and the idea is that during the first week of being reopen, only those transactions that cannot be done online would be processed. Staff understands that there will be lines upon reopening and have taken steps to modify operations. The public is encouraged to wear masks inside the building. Other than the Clerk's and Codes Offices, all other City Hall Offices will operate by appointment only to the public. The back entrance into City Hall will be an employee only entrance and not open to the public. There will also be a barrier in the Clerk's Office to prevent the public from accessing the rest of City Hall. He stressed that folks should do any transactions online that can be done online; and that lines should be expected. Staff will be putting together an information video to relay this information which will be released within the next couple of days.
- (2) Deputy Fire Chief Duross will be conducting a mandatory employee training on staying safe during this time – and mandatory screening will be done for all employees entering City Hall starting on June 1st.
- (3) The Department of Public Works and the Wastewater Treatment Plan are all back to normal 40/hour week operations. Recycling Center is back to full operations and will be open on Saturdays. All disposal fees will be back in effect as of June 1st.
- (4) Staff has been working through being able to allow restaurants to use some public space in an effort to assist them to maintain business and allow public seating in an outside space.

Councilor Ready suggested doing a mailing to all citizens to explain the City Hall reopening plan and inform the people of all the transactions that can be done online.

Public Addressing the Council..(5 minute limit per speaker; 30 minute total time limit):
Public Works Director, Jeff Demers took this opportunity to thank the citizens, the Council and the City Manager for their support and understanding as DPW modifies its operations through these unprecedented times.

One citizen addressed her concern to the Council.

Council President Addressing the Council: Councilor McCurry thanked everyone for their consideration of the FY21 School Department Budget. He understands the struggle with the consideration, whether the budget was supported as presented or not.

Mayor Addressing the Council: Mayor Casavant congratulated Public Works Director Jeff Demers and all the Public Works Crew for all they have done to get the Recycling Center reopen and operating in a professional and organized matter.
He also commended all City Staff for all they have done to maintain services during this time, and he extended his sincere appreciation.

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

Vote: Unanimous.

Time: 8:01 p.m.

Attest by: _____
Carmen J. Morris, City Clerk