

**COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 16, 2021**

*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.

Presentation: FY22 School Department Proposed Budget

Superintendent of Schools, Jeremy Ray gave a PowerPoint presentation, which included what the School Department is expecting in the next couple years by way of State subsidies based on the City's valuation. He talked about the different Relief Funds that have become available to the School Department due to COVID-19 relief efforts, and how he expects those funds to be spent over the next couple years. Preliminary numbers have the School Department proposed FY22 budget come in at an increase of 1.69%.

Update: Proposed Uses of CIP & Bond Funds

Public Works Director Jeff Demers focused mainly on the paving projects slated for the next couple years. A paving schedule has been drafted with the smaller paving projects expected to be completed by the Public Works Department, while the larger projects will be bid out to a private contractor. Carryover CIP funds and funds from a Bond approved by the voters in November 2020 will be used for the paving projects.

Consideration of Minutes: March 2, 2021

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Lessard to accept the minutes as printed.
Vote: Unanimous.

Orders of the Day:

2021.23

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...MARCH 16, 2021

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager be authorized to purchase one (1) 2021 John-Deere loader with plow and wing (the "Equipment") from Nortrax Equipment (the "Vendor") and may pay the Vendor an amount not to exceed \$221,000.00 (before discounts valued at \$40,000.00) for the Equipment as follows:

1. The City of Biddeford expects to incur debt to reimburse expenditures to pay the cost of the Equipment;
2. The City of Biddeford reasonably expects that the maximum principal amount of the debt, including for reimbursement purposes, is \$221,000.00;
3. The City Manager, on behalf of the City of Biddeford, is authorized to enter into a lease purchase, loan or other financing agreement for the Equipment provided that (a) the principal amount of such agreement will not exceed \$221,000.00, (b) the term of such agreement will not exceed one hundred and twenty (120) months and (c) any obligation of the City of Biddeford to make lease or loan payments pursuant to such agreement is subject to annual appropriation by the City Council of the City of Biddeford;
4. The City Manager is authorized to advance money from the General Fund of the City for payment of the costs of the Equipment; and
5. The City Manager, on behalf of the City of Biddeford, is authorized to negotiate, enter into, execute, deliver and cause to be performed, and to approve, any and all agreements, instruments, certificates and other documents, and to grant security interests in the Equipment, upon such terms, conditions, limitations and undertakings, which the City Manager determines are necessary and proper for the acquisition and financing of the Equipment, provided that any lease purchase, loan or other financing agreement will be countersigned by both the Mayor and the Treasurer of the City of Biddeford. Without limiting the foregoing, the City Manager, on behalf of the City of Biddeford, in connection with the acquisition of the Equipment, is authorized to sell, transfer, trade in or otherwise dispose of any equipment, which the City Manager determines is no longer useful to the City of Biddeford.

NOTE: The Finance Committee will review this item on March 16, 2021 and vote to recommend it to the City Council for approval. The lease-purchase of this item is included in the FY21 CIP budget, with a down payment of \$36,200.00

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

2021.24 **IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MARCH 16, 2021**
BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby grant approval for the City of Biddeford to join and participate in the Disaster Mutual Aid Agreement for York County.

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

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Clearwater to designate the City Clerk to sign the Mutual Aid Agreement in lieu of the Councilors due to the meeting being held via ZOOM.
Vote: Unanimous.

Vote on order, as amended: Unanimous.

2021.25 **IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MARCH 16, 2021**
BE IT ORDERED, that the Biddeford City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement with the St. Louis Alumni Association for designated space at the J. Richard Martin Community Center.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that lease term shall not exceed two years, shall be at no cost to the St. Louis Alumni Association with the exception of phone and internet expenses, and shall include such additional terms and conditions as deemed appropriate by the City Manager.

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

2021.26 **IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MARCH 16, 2021**
BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby accept the \$456,000 bid of Dearborn Brothers Construction, Inc. to perform the South and Crescent Street Sidewalk Reconstruction Project, as outlined in the March 16, 2021 Memo from the City's CDBG Rehab Program and Public Works Department.

NOTE: This item will be reviewed at the March 16, 2021 Finance Committee meeting and a recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council.

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

Appointment:

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...MARCH 16, 2021
ORDERED, that I, Alan M. Casavant, Mayor of the City of Biddeford, do hereby appoint:

Marc G. Malon, II
1 Rockwood Drive
Ward 1

to the *Solid Waste Management Commission*, for a term to expire in December 2023.

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Lessard 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.

City Manager Report:

City Manager James Bennett noted that he and Superintendent of Schools, Jeremy Ray intend to have a discussion about the City valuation forecast used to put together the School Department budget; as well as possible use of Relief Funds for the School Department.

Other Business:

Councilor Lessard: expressed interest in staying on as Biddeford's representative on the York County Budget Committee. He asked that at least 3 or 4 Councilors plan to attend the April 14th York County Budget Committee Caucus in order to nominate and elect him to the position for another three years.

Councilor Quattrone: asked Councilor Lessard if he gets elected for a 3-year term on the York County Budget Committee; but then does not get re-elected to the City Council this November, can he continue serving on the Committee? Councilor Lessard will inquire about this.

City Manager Bennett suggested that he contact the York County Commissioners and inquire about offering remote participation for the April 14th Caucus so that more elected officials may join.

Councilor Clearwater: noted that she has seen and is pleased with the amount of information disseminated about the Comp Plan surveys and the effort to get more and more people involved in the Comp Plan process.

Council President Addressing the Council: Councilor McCurry encouraged everyone who is eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccination. He cautioned that as people start venturing out more and more, that it is done safely and all restrictions and precautions are observed.

Mayor Addressing the Council: Mayor Casavant announced that this week is *Restaurant Week* in Biddeford and he encouraged folks to get out and sample the various foods offered by our local restaurants.

Executive Session:

- **1 MRSA 405(6)(D)...Labor Contract Negotiations**
- **1 MRSA 405(6)(C)...Real Estate Matter**
- **1 MRSA 405(6)(E)...Consultation with City Attorney**

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Lessard to move into Executive Session.
Vote: Unanimous. Time: 7:07 p.m.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Clearwater to move out of Executive Session.
Vote: Unanimous. Time: 8:16 p.m.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to adjourn.
Vote: Unanimous. Time: 8:16 p.m.

Attest by: _____
Carmen J. Morris, City Clerk