

**COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2023**

{The meeting was held in a hybrid model – in person and via Zoom}

Called to order by Mayor Casavant at: 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: William Emhiser, Scott Whiting, Martin Grohman, Bobby Mills, Norman Belanger, Doris Ortiz, Amy Clearwater and Liam LaFountain were present. Marc Lessard was excused.

The Council and all that were present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Adjustment to the Agenda:

MRS 405(6)(E) – Consultation with the City’s Attorney

Councilor Clearwater announces her resignation as City Councilor of Ward 5

Councilor Clearwater makes a motion to affirm her resignation, seconded by Councilor Mills

Vote: Unanimous

Affirmation Passes

The Mayor and fellow Councilors thanked Councilor Clearwater for all the wonderful things she’s done while being on the Council. Thanked her for her hard work, service, and guidance. They all expressed how much she’ll be missed.

Councilor Clearwater confirms that she will be submitting her resignation in writing to Mayor Casavant

Councilor Clearwater left the meeting at 6:04pm

*Public Hearing: **Adoption of General Assistance Model Ordinance***

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:05pm

There were no public comments

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 6:05pm

Public Addressing the Council: Two people from the public addressed the Council

*Consideration of Minutes: **December 20, 2022***

Motion made by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Council Mills to approve the minutes as printed.

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

Second Reading:

2022.107) Approval/Amendment to Art. III, Waste Flow Control and Transfer Station, Div. 1, Sec. 58-62 Use of Transfer Station

2022.107 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... December 20, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby authorize that business hours for the Recycling / Transfer center be set at Wednesday 7:00am to 4:45pm, Thursday 7:00am to 4:45pm, Friday 7:00am to 4:45pm, Saturday ~~6:00am to 3:45pm~~ 7:00am to 4:45pm. Closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

Motion made by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Emhiser

Vote: 5-1, Councilor Grohman Opposed; Councilor Emhiser, Whiting, Mills, Belanger and LaFountain in Favor

Motion Passes as Amended

Motion made by Councilor Mills to amend the Order by changing the time on Saturday to 7:00am to 4:45pm and further; that it is reviewed by the Council in 90 days, seconded by Councilor Emhiser

Motion made by Councilor Mills to amend his motion to Saturdays 7:00am to 4:45pm, seconded by Councilor Emhiser

Vote: Unanimous

Amendment Passes

January 10, 2023

Motion made by Councilor Mills, seconded by Councilor Emhiser to approve the order as amended.

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

Orders of the Day:

2022.102) Approval/Adoption of General Assistance Model Ordinance

2022.102 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... December 20, 2022

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford hereby adopts the Model General Assistance Ordinance by repealing the existing ordinance and adopting the CY2023 General Assistance Model Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the City Clerk be authorized to sign the DHHS Model Ordinance Adoption Form on behalf of the City Council.

Note: The Biddeford City Council adopted the appendices to the Model Ordinance at its November 15, 2022 regular meeting under Order 2022.95.

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

2023.1) Approval/Purchase Cured in Place Pipe (CIPP) Equipment

2023.1 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JANUARY 10TH, 2023

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager or his designee authorized the public works department to purchase (1) enclosed trailer and needed equipment called Cured in place pipe (Cipp)

Funding for this project will be as follows:

- Not to exceed \$43,000 from Code 23cso01/Bonds

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

2023.2) Approval/Convert Spurwink Employee to Non-Union City Employee

2023.2 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JANUARY 10, 2023 BE IT ORDERED,

that the City Manager be authorized to create a position of Social Worker with the express intent of converting the current Spurwink contract position to a non-union full-time position with the City. BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Personnel Committee review the position at it earliest reasonable opportunity to establish the appropriate level on the non-union pay scale.

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

2023.3) Approval/Granite Point Culvert Pre-Purchase

2023.3 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JANUARY 10TH, 2023

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager or his designee be authorized to pre-purchase a 9'x15' clamshell concrete culvert (with epoxy-coated rebar) from George R. Roberts Co. for \$89,580, for the Granite Point Culvert replacement project.

Funding for this project will be as follows:

- \$89,580 from DEP's 2020 Stream Crossing Public Infrastructure Improvement Project Grant (*Grant Total = \$125,000; Contract #06A-20210317-2465*)

NOTE: The Finance Committee will review this item at their January 10th, 2023 meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

2023.4) Approval/Western Avenue Storm Pipe Repairs

2023.4 IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JANUARY 10TH, 2023

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Manager or his designee authorized the public works department to contract Vortex Inc. to line portions of the Western Avenue Storm line with the product called Cured in place pipe (Cipp)

Funding for this project will be as follows:

- Code 23cso01/Bonds Not to exceed \$331,644

NOTE: The Finance Committee will review this item at their January 10th, 2023 meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

Appointment:

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JANUARY 10, 2023

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

Susan Deschambault

Ward 5

to the *Planning Board*

Motion made by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Ortiz to confirm the appointment.

Vote: Unanimous.

Appointment Confirmed

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JANUARY 10, 2023

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

Stephen Beaudette

Ward 4

to the *Planning Board*

Motion made by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Mills to confirm the appointment.

Vote: Unanimous.

Appointment Confirmed

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...JANUARY 10, 2023

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

Julian Schlaver

Ward 5

to the *Downtown Development Commission*

Motion made by Councilor Whiting, seconded by Councilor Belanger to confirm the appointment.

Vote: Unanimous.

Appointment Confirmed

Public Addressing: One person from the public addressed the Council

City Manager report:

Jim Bennett the City Manager addressed a couple questions/concerns from a resident that addressed the Council. Jim notified the Council and Public that he appointed Paul Lariviere as Harbor Master in accordance with the Charter. There were talks of digitizing the mooring program to make it a more efficient, up-to-date processes. He reported to the Council that the joint City Council meeting with the City of Saco is tentatively scheduled for February 9, 2023. Lastly, he spoke of the formal orientation onboarding process that the City of Biddeford will be implementing January 11, 2023 for all city employees. Starting next week, the first onboarding will begin. It's a three-day onboarding process for all full time employees. Jim believes it will help with the retention and recruitment of employees. It will help to continue to build the culture within the organization and he is very optimistic of the benefits.

Other Business:

Councilor Ortiz reported to the Council that this past week the members of the Affordable Housing Task Force finished their final report. They will be presenting the final draft to the Council at the next meeting. She wanted to take the opportunity to thank the folks in Planning & Development, Jim and the folks from the Task Force. She expressed that there was a lot of hard work that has gone into the report. She is optimistic that the Council will like it and she hopes things can move along as quickly as possible so things can get done.

Councilor Grohman reported to the Council that he received outreach from a constituent today regarding the student drop off area at St. James School. He doesn't have all the details but a student was hit there in the intersection but everyone is ok. The constituent was very concerned about traffic in that area. Council Grohman understands at one time there was a crossing guard posted there during student pick up and drop offs. This is something Councilor Grohman would like to talk more about and revisit. He says this is a very concerning incident even though everyone is ok. It's a wakeup call to look at things in that area around St. James School.

Council President Addressing the Council:

Council President Norman Belanger did not address the Council

Mayor Addressing the Council:

Mayor Alan Casavant mentions that the WinterFest is coming up February 3rd, 4th and 5th and says there is one slight technical difficulty, the complete lack of snow. The Mayor speaks about in past years, how the City would stock pile snow in various locations to help create the big snow hill on Adams Street. He says despite the lack of snow, his and the WinterFest Committee's intentions are to still go forward with the event and try to run as many things as possible. He gave some examples; Friday Night Joe Boucher will be here with his concert; tickets are on sale with the City Theater. Saturday there will be a stage in the parking lot with various talented performances. There will be a lot of free raffles; some of the prizes include bicycles, tickets to various events, so they are encouraging people to show up and participate in that. Juston McKinney is coming Saturday night for a comedy show. He says there will still be plenty of events and the bottom line is to bring the community together have some fun, share some laughter and those types of things.

Executive Session

MRS 405(6)(D) – Labor Negotiations

MRS 405(6)(E) – Consultation with the City’s Attorney

Motion made by Councilor Mills to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor

Whiting

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

Time: 6:38pm

Motion made by Councilor Grohman to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Councilor

Belanger

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

Time: 7:32pm

Adjourn:

Motion made by Councilor Belanger to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Ortiz

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Passes

Time: 7:32pm