

City of Biddeford

City Council

June 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM

City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom

1. Roll Call

Council President LaFountain - via zoom
Councilor Lessard - present
Councilor Ortiz - present
Councilor Emhiser - present
Councilor Whiting - present
Councilor Beaupre - present
Councilor Gross - present
Councilor Belanger - present
Councilor Doughty - present

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Adjustment(s) to Agenda

11.d will go first in Orders of the Day

Public Works Director Jeff Demers will provide a Construction Update

4. Public Hearing

4.a Public Hearing Liquor License for Maine Pickleball Partners, LLC DBA Bounce

4.b Public Hearing Liquor License for The Gutter Bar Biddeford LLC

Public Hearings opened at: 6:03 pm

One comment from the owner of The Gutter Bar described the project, the activities and the food.

Public Hearing closed at 6:06 pm

5. Liquor License Consideration

5.a Maine Pickleball Partners, LLC DBA Bounce

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Emhiser

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.
Motion passed.

5.b The Gutter Bar Biddeford LLC

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Emhiser

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.
Motion passed.

6. Proclamation

6.a Pride Month 2025

Mayor Grohman read the proclamation.

Presentation - Public Works Director Jeff Demers provided an update on current city construction projects.

7. Appointments

7.a 2025.68 Approval Mayoral Appointments to Citizen Committees

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Whiting

Councilor Lessard asked about the language on the applications.

Councilor Beaupre asked for a correction to the Ad Hoc committee, the term should expire on December 2025.

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

7.b 2025.73 Approval of Appointments to the PACTS Policy Board

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

8. Presentation

8.a Biddeford Opportunity Crew program

General Assistant Supervisor Jacob Hammer gave an overview of the proposal

9. Public Addressing the Council

One person complimented the beach preparations and asked about the porta potties.

One person complimented the work on the Biddeford Opportunity Crew.

10. Consideration of Minutes

10.a Council Minutes 5-20-25

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Belanger

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain via zoom.

Motion passed.

11. Orders of the Day

11.a 2025.72 Approval Amend Marble Block JDA

Councilor Lessard motion to go into executive session 1 MRS 405 6 c Real Estate Matters at 6:46 pm

Second: Councilor LaFountain

Vote: 6 yeas – Councilors Lessard, Ortiz, Belanger, Gross, and Doughty; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

3 nays – Councilors Beaupre, Whiting and Emhiser.

Motion passed.

Councilor Belanger motion to come out of executive session at: 6:58 pm

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

Councilor Belanger- motion to Table

Second: Councilor Lessard.

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

11.b 2025.69 WDC 3 Lincoln Site (Pearl St) Development Agreement

Motion: Councilor Emhiser

Second: Councilor Lessard

There was a lengthy discussion of the agreement with concerns and questions about the details particularly about the parking portion of the agreement.

Councilor Belanger – motion to allow a councilor to speak on the issue a third time.

Second: Councilor LaFountain

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom

Motion passed.

Councilor Belanger – motion to Table.

Second: Councilor Whiting

Vote- 8 yeas – Councilors Ortiz, Belanger, Gross, Doughty, Beaupre, Whiting, Emhiser; Councilor LaFountain via zoom.

1 nay – Councilor Lessard.

Motion passed.

11.c 2025.70 Approval 2nd Amendment to Master Plan Development Agreement 3 Lincoln LLC (Pearl St)

Motion: Councilor Emhiser

Second: Councilor Belanger

Councilor Belanger – motion to Table

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

Councilor Belanger – motion to extend the meeting past 9:00 pm

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: 7 yeas – Councilors Lessard, Belanger, Gross, Doughty, Whiting, Emhiser; Councilor LaFountain via zoom.

2 nays – Councilors Ortiz and Beaupre.

Motion passed.

11.d 2025.71 Approval Civic Plus Community Development Module

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

11.e Remove from Table 2025.51 Approval Sewer Operations FY26

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

12. Public Addressing the Council

None

13. City Manager Report

Acting City Manager Brian Phinney provided an update on the IRS issue.

He gave an update on the City Clerk staff structure

The insurance company stated that it was not required to install a lightening rod on the cupola.

He gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan process.

The FAA light has failed inspection and new parts have been ordered.

He gave an update on the grant for the Five Points intersection.

The accounting firm RKO will do a presentation to the Council at the next meeting.

ATT has contacted the City for renewals on the stack, this should be discussed soon.

14. Committee Updates by Council

None

15. Other Business

None

16. Council President Addressing the Council

Council President LaFountain did not address the Council at this time.

17. Mayor Addressing the Council

The school budget referendum election is Tuesday, June 10th at Tiger Gym; 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

The bath house construction is complete, there is a ribbon cutting tomorrow.

Confetti is this weekend.

18. Executive Session

18.a Executive Session 1 MRS 405 6 (a) Personnel Matters

18.b Executive Session 1 MRS 405 6 (D) Labor Negotiations

Councilor Belanger motion to enter executive sessions at 9:13 pm

Second: Councilor Ortiz

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom; Councilor Lessard was absent from the vote.

Motion passed.

Councilor Emhiser motion to exit executive sessions at 10:31 pm

Second: Councilor Doughty

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Motion passed.

19. Adjourn

Motion by Councilor Emhiser at 10:31 pm

Second: Councilor Doughty

Vote: Unanimous in favor; Councilor LaFountain yea via zoom.

Meeting adjourned.