

City of Biddeford
City Council
October 7, 2025 at 6:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom

1. Roll Call

Council President LaFountain - present
Councilor Lessard - present
Councilor Emhiser - present
Councilor Whiting - present
Councilor Beaupre - excused
Councilor Gross - present
Councilor Belanger - present
Councilor Doughty - present

Councilor St. Cyr sworn in after item 6.a.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Adjustment(s) to Agenda

11.j will be considered at the beginning of the Orders of the Day

4. Public Hearing

*4.a Public Hearing GA maximums - documents for this are attached with Order 2025.136
in the agenda below*

Public Hearing opened at 6:08pm

There were no public comments.

Public Hearing closed at 6:08 pm

5. Proclamation

5.a October as Domestic Violence Prevention Month

5.b Indigenous People's Day- Proclamation

Mayor Grohman read the proclamations.

6. Appointments

6.a 2025.138 Approval/ Mayoral Appointment to City Council

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

Councilor St. Cyr was sworn in.

6.b 2025.141 Approval Mayoral Appointment Council to a Committee

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

6.c 2025.133 Approval/Mayoral Appointment to a Committee- Citizen

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

7. Presentation

7.a Consideration of City Manager's first year performance goals

City Manager Truc Dever presented her goals and councilors gave feedback.

8. Public Addressing the Council

One citizen spoke about the Comprehensive Plan.

Two citizens asked questions about the sewer bills.

One citizen spoke about the executive sessions in council meetings.

9. Consideration of Minutes

9.a Council Minutes 9-16-25

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: 7 yeas – Councilors LaFountain, Lessard, Emhiser, Whiting, Gross, Belanger and Doughty.

Councilor St. Cyr abstained.

Motion passed.

10. Second Reading

10.a 2025.125 Approval/Purchasing Policy Amendments, Ch 2, Article V, Division 2

Motion: Councilor LaFountain

Second: Councilor Lessard

Councilor LaFountain requested training for the Finance Committee and Department Heads before this policy is implemented.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11. Orders of the Day

11.a 2025.136 Approval GA maximums

Motion: Councilor LaFountain

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.b 2025.121 Approval / Award Lead Hazard Reduction Project – 100 Graham Street

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.c 2025.122 Order Bid Approval-Lead Hazard Reduction 78 Prospect Street

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.d 2025.134 Order Bid Approval—Lead Hazard Reduction at 74 Summer Street

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Councilor Lessard asked for a running total for this fund for remaining projects at a future meeting.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.e 2025.127 Approval/Amend Part II Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Art IV - Fire

Advisory Committee, Police Advisory Committee, Public Safety Advisory Committee

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Councilors LaFountain and Belanger explained the work that the Policy Committee did to bring this to Council.

There was a request to clarify the term expiration mentioned in Sec 2.337.35 Membership

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.f 2025.135 Approval / IT Platform Services

Motion: Councilor Whiting

Second: Councilor Lessard

Councilor LaFountain asked to be recused from this discussion and vote.

Councilor Belanger motion to allow Councilor LaFountain to recuse himself from the discussion and the vote.

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Vote on the order: Unanimous in favor. Councilor LaFountain abstained.

Motion passed.

11.g 2025.137 Approval/ Amend Order 2025.52 to correct tax interest rate for 2025

Motion : Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.h 2025.139 Approval/Amend Chapter 42, Art IV - Sec. 42-92 Limited Parking - Delete

15-min Parking, 163 Main St

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.i 2025.140 Approval/Amend Code of Ordinances, Chapter 42, Art IV, - Sec. 42-92 -

Limited Parking - Add 15-Min Parking, Main/York

Motion: Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

11.j 2025.142 Approval/Fortunes Rock Ocean Wall Repair

Motion: Councilor LaFountain

Second: Councilor Lessard

Code Enforcement Officer Roby Fecteau explained the funding and FEMA process.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

12. Public Addressing the Council

One citizen asked about the committee selection process.

One citizen thanked the City Manager for the goals presentation.

One Citizen spoke about the tax bills and the comprehensive plan deadlines.

13. City Manager Report

City Manager Truc Dever spoke about the tax bills; they have been available online since 9-30-25 and then were mailed. There is an alert button at the top of the city's home page to link to the latest information about taxes and paying online.

She spoke about plans to support customers with extra help answering tax phone calls and processing payments by mail.

She had a meeting this week with Maine Water to discuss the sewer bills and will have an update for council at the next meeting.

The comprehensive plan is being worked on by city staff, they are aware of the deadlines. This will also be a topic at the department head workshop later this month.

She thanked the Fire Department for their quick response to two fires this week.

She gave project updates from the public works director.

14. Committee Updates by Council

None

15. Other Business

Councilor Lessard mentioned the extra days this month for leaf disposal. City Manager commented that the details are in the public works section of the city website.

Councilor Doughty gave a shout out to the Public Works and Recreation teams for the great job on the new playground. It is very popular.

Councilor Gross asked about the overnight work happening on Elm Street. Constituents who walk would like some extra safety measures.

16. Council President Addressing the Council

Council President LaFountain praised the open house held by the Fire Department; it was a huge success. He also praised the Citizens Advisory Committee for their work keeping the playground issue moving forward.

17. Mayor Addressing the Council

Mayor Grohman explained the process for committee applications and noted the 3 positions that were appointed tonight.

School enrollment is up for thirteen years.

The Biddeford Saco Chamber is hosting a 10 Talks on 10-15-25 and City Manager Dever will be one of the speakers.

18. Executive Session

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

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

18.c Executive Session 1 MRS 405(6)a- Employment of a Public Employee 19. Adjourn

Motion to enter at 7:54 pm by Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

Motion to exit at 8:56 pm by Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn at 8:56 pm by Councilor Belanger

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Meeting adjourned