

**City of Biddeford
Policy Committee Minutes
January 27, 2025 at 6:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom**

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM
All the members were present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Committee and this in attendance observed the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Adjustment(s) to Agenda

No adjustments noted.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.a Minutes of July 22, 2024

Motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion by Councilor Beaupre

Seconded by Councilor LaFountain

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

4.b Minutes of September 30, 2024

Motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion by Councilor Beaupre

Seconded by Councilor LaFountain

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

4.c Minutes of October 28, 2024

Motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion by Councilor Beaupre

Seconded by Councilor LaFountain

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

5. Discussion/Review

5.a Proposed Ordinance to Allow Solar Development - DRAFT - UPDATE ONLY AT THIS
TIME

Brad Favreau, economic development coordinator, provided the committee members with an update on the status of the solar ordinance. The Planning Board is scheduling a second workshop.

Member Pierson suggested that the Planning Board provide notice to the Policy Committee on the time and date of the workshop in order for committee members to offer comment and/or attend to streamline the process. There was consensus reading the recommendation. The solar ordinance will be brought back to the Policy Committee once it clears the Planning Board.

5.b Proposed Ordinance - Public Art Commission - DRAFT

Chairperson Belanger introduced the Public Art Commission Ordinance.

Motion to review and forward the public arts commission ordinance to the City Council for adoption.

Motion by Councilor Beaupre

Seconded by Councilor LaFountain

Discussion:

Members of the public voiced support for the ordinance and for the work of staff and the community.

Councilor LaFountain voiced appreciation for those engaged in the process of developing the draft ordinance.

Motion to amend by striking "downtown" from Sec. 2-341 Authority to Establish Subcommittee and replace with "public art" and change the spelling of "counsel" to "council".

Motion by Councilor LaFountain

Seconded by Councilor Beaupre

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

Motion to amend Sec. 2-333 Composition... by adding a new number four (4) and renumbering the remaining item, adding, "4. The Commission shall also include a student representative as an eighth non-voting member of the Commission to provide youth perspective."

Motion by Councilor LaFountain

Seconded by Councilor Beaupre

Second.

Chairperson Belanger

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

Motion to amend Sec. 2-333 Composition... by deleting the last sentence, "Any Commissioner appointed to fill a vacancy for which more than half of the unexpired term remains shall be deemed to have served one full term."

Motion by Chairperson Belanger

Seconded by Member Pierson

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

Motion to approve the original motion as amended and forward to Council for adoption.

Motion by Councilor Beaupre

Seconded by Councilor LaFountain

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

5.c Clifford Park Covenants Update

Chairperson Belanger introduced the item followed by comments from Brian Phinney COO. The item is lagging in action and the Committee voiced concern and disappointment that this item has taken a long time to move forward.

Members of the public also offered comment pointing out the Planning Board and Conservation Commission have already provided statements to Committee and the discussion should now be about review of the conservation easement language.

It was the direction of the Committee that draft conservation easement language be brought before the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

5.d Dissolution of Cable Committee

Chairperson Belanger introduced the item. COO Phinney indicated the item originated from the mayor's office based on council and public recommendations.

Members of the public voiced general support for the Cable TV Committee.

The Committee, by consensus, requested a full review of the various boards/committees/commissions to include the Cable TV Committee. The work will entail a detailed review of each to determine if modification, consolidation, or elimination warrants further consideration.

Other Business

Chairperson Belanger asked for other items or comments.

Councilor LaFountain asked for the Citizens Advisory Committee item to be brought back to the Committee to finalize earlier work.

Councilor LaFountain also requested a review on the process for tax acquired property and the process associated with requests to purchase city property.

6. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Councilor Beaupre

Seconded by Councilor LaFountain

Vote: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

7:14 PM