

## **PUBLIC HEARING – MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018**

Mayor Grenier opened the duly scheduled and advertised Public Hearing at approximately 7:35 p.m. to hear comments on the following subject matters:

Resolution 2018-08 Accepting a Donation of \$565 from Rotary for Dead River Park

Resolution 2018-09 Bond for Hillside Avenue Bridge Project

Mayor Grenier asked Mr. Wheeler to explain the Hillside Avenue Bridge Project Resolution for those present. Mr. Wheeler stated that the project will be funded by federal monies. As such, the federal match for the project is 80% while the City's is 20%. The local funds will be coming from the reimbursement received from the State in FY2016 for the Twelfth Street Bridge project. When this project took place, the City paid the entire State 80% portion with bond funds. The State refunded their portion of the project, which the City placed in the CIP Bond/Grant fund. At that time, the City appropriated \$200,000 in a housing fund for demolition of dilapidated homes. The City's match for this current project is \$150,000 which will be appropriated from the Twelfth Street Bridge project funds.

Mayor Grenier asked for comments from the public. With no comments presented, Mayor Grenier closed the public hearing on the subject matters above at 7:38 p.m.

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, May 7, 2018**

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:38 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Otis, Morgan Allain, Rozek, Higbee, Remillard and Theberge. Councilor Nelson and Gentili were absent. Also present: Jim Wheeler, Sue Tremblay, Mark Ginnetty, Justin Hale and Barbara Tetreault, Berlin Daily Sun

### **Minutes, Previous Meeting**

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the April 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting/Work Session and the Work Sessions of April 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup>. So moved, the motion carried.

### **Disbursements:**

Disbursement Summary Draft #1813 start date 04/17/2018 end date 05/07/2018 for a total cash disbursement of \$1,708,667.33. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to accept the disbursement summary and pay all bills as recommended by the Committee on Accounts/Claims. So moved, the motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – There were none.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Council Committee Reports – There were none.
2. Resolution 2018-08 Accepting a Donation of \$565 from Rotary for Dead River Park (tabled 4/16/2018)

**A RESOLUTION** accepting a donation of fencing and material to repair benches, with a value of \$565.00, from the White Mountain Rotary Club of Berlin Gorham for Dead River Park

### **Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows:**

Whereas, Berlin's Dead River Park is an undiscovered gem to many citizens; and

Whereas, a group led by Amy Michaud started a movement that had volunteers working many hours to bring the Park back to life; and

Whereas, recent efforts to clean debris, fix playground equipment, and trim the brush have added to what Dead River Park has to offer; and

Whereas, the White Mountain Rotary Club of Berlin Gorham saw an opportunity to give back to the community by providing fencing and material to repair benches at Dead River Park; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Berlin, NH, that a donation of fencing and material for the repair of benches, with a value of \$565.00, is hereby accepted from the White Mountain Rotary Club of Berlin Gorham for Dead River Park

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on behalf of the Citizens of Berlin, the City Council appreciates the volunteers who recognized the natural beauty of Dead River Park and worked to enhance the Park for all to enjoy.

This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to remove the resolution from the table at this time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a third time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to pass the resolution. So moved, the motion carried

**3.     Resolution 2018-09 Bond for Hillside Avenue Bridge Project (tabled 4/16/2018)**

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Eighteen

A RESOLUTION appropriating One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to fund the Hillside Avenue Bridge Replacement Project beginning construction in Fiscal Year 2018.

**Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows:**

Whereas, in 2010 the City completed a bridge deck repair project on the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge that qualified for State Bridge Aid; and

Whereas, funding from the State to reimburse the City was delayed to FY16 and in which two payments were received in the amount of \$239,626.00 and \$200,776.86 which were deposited to Account 51-360-510-0000 CIP Bond/Grant and the balance of which has since lapsed to the Undesignated Fund Balance of Fund 51; and

Whereas, the City Council appropriated \$200,000 to the Housing Initiative for property demolitions by Resolution 2015-32 from Account 51-360-510-0000 CIP Bond/Grant to Account 51-481-425-0102 Housing Initiative, and

Whereas, the City Council now appropriates \$150,000 to the Hillside Avenue Bridge Replacement Project by this Resolution 2018-09 from the Fund 51 Undesignated Fund Balance to Account 51-451-431-2607, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Berlin, NH, that \$150,000 is hereby appropriated to the Hillside Avenue Bridge Replacement Project Account 51-451-431-2607 from the Fund 51 Undesignated Fund Balance. Said funds will be used for the purpose of meeting the expenses related to replacement of the Hillside Avenue Bridge with construction beginning in Fiscal Year 2018.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to remove the resolution from the table at this time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a third time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to pass the resolution. So moved, the motion carried.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 4. Resolution 2018-10 Bullet Proof Vests (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Higbee moved, with a second from Councilor Theberge, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for May 21, 2018. So moved, the motion carried.

### 5. Resolution 2018-11 Highway Safety Grants (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Higbee moved with a second from Councilor Morgan Allain, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for May 21, 2018. So moved, the motion carried.

### 6. Resolution 2018-12 Homeland Security Training (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Theberge moved, with a second from Councilor Higbee, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for May 21, 2018. So moved, the motion carried.

### 7. Resolution 2018-13 Rescinding Resolution Adopting Personnel Policy (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second from Councilor Otis, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for May 21, 2018. So moved, the motion carried.

### 8. Resolution 2018-14 Discontinuance of Union Street (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second from Councilor Otis, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for May 21, 2018. So moved, the motion carried.

### 9. City Manager's Report

1. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) approved the Groundwater Management Permit for closed Cates Hills Landfill. The permit is issued for a period of 5 years to monitor groundwater quality and is a renewal of the Permit that expired on March 10, 2018.
2. On Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, the signing of Senate Bill 402, which names part of Route 110 after Tony Urban, took place at the State house.
3. There will be an online/virtual meeting with Spohn Ranch on Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm to look at review skate park design ideas. Advertising for the public event will start later this week. Public Works has been working on evaluating site conditions and we are working with Eversource to understand what they will and will not allow under their aerial easement area which overlays the southwestern corner of the property. The project is still on target to be built and completed late in summer or early fall.
4. The City's Fuel Oil contract is out for bid with bids due May 8th. This information can be considered in the final budget.
5. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Route 16 Project will be held Friday, May 11th at the Service Credit Union Heritage Park at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will follow.
6. The Berlin Main Street Program will host the Downtown Day of Caring on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Starting at 9:00 a.m. They are looking for volunteers to help rake, prune, sweep, mulch, weed, and plant their way through multiple sites in the downtown area. You can sign up to volunteer at [berlinmainstreetprogram@gmail.com](mailto:berlinmainstreetprogram@gmail.com) or calling 603-752-6246 or 603-381-1520.
7. EMS Study consultant interviews were held Friday, May 4th. A recommendation for a consultant will be made to Mayor and Council once the process is completed.
8. We have two tax deeded properties out for bids that are due May 15<sup>th</sup>. There are an additional four that will be out soon.

9. The two new pick-up trucks purchased for Public Works have been received.
10. Ethan Lopez of Boy Scout Troop 207 visited the Fire Station for a few hours to “work” with the firefighters. Ethan is working on his community Service Merit badge and the Fire Department was one of the places he chose to perform some of his hours. Ethan assisted with inventory, the Engine 2 weekly truck check as well as washing Engine 2.
11. DES will be holding a public hearing tomorrow, Tuesday, May 8th at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium regarding an expansion of the Mt. Carberry Landfill to add 710,000 cubic yards of capacity on top of the existing landfill. This expansion is projected to extend the facility’s life expectancy by about 2.3 years.
12. The Stand Up Androscoggin Valley Coalition will host an event Tuesday, May 15th from 6-8 p.m. at the Medallion Opera House/Gorham Town Hal. It will focus on the legal consequences of substance misuse and some of the pathways to manage it. A flyer and agenda are attached.
13. Opportunity Zones encourage long-term investment in the areas in which they are located. Created by the Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act last December, the program provides tax incentives for investors who reinvest unrealized capital gains into qualified Opportunity Zones. Berlin has been nominated by the Governor for a census tract east of NH Rte. 16. The nominations have been forwarded to the US Treasury Department which has 30 days to designate these tracts as Opportunity Zones. The future site of North Country Growers is within this tract.
14. Statistics from the Public Works, Fire and Police Departments are attached.
15. Also attached is a report from Fire Chief John Lacasse outlining some of his department’s projects and accomplishments over recent weeks.

Councilor Rozek asked if the two new pick-up trucks for PWD would be used as plows. Mr. Wheeler stated that plows will be put on them for that task. Councilor Theberge asked if the City seal would be placed on the vehicles and when the seal will be placed on the FD pick-up truck. Mr. Wheeler indicated that both PWD will have the City seal and indicated that Chief Lacasse’s mentioned this in his update. Councilor Theberge questioned where the location of the skate park will be. Mr. Wheeler explained where in the Community Park it is slated to be.

Councilor Rozek moved with a second from Councilor Higbee to accept the City Manager’s Report and place it on file. So moved, the motion carried.

**10.     Mayor’s Report**

Councilor Rozek moved, with a second from Councilor Higbee, to accept the Mayor’s Report and place it on file. So moved, the motion carried.

**11.     PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were none.**

**12.     Council Comments – There were none.**

**13.     Adjournment**

At approximately 8:07 p.m. Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Remillard to adjourn the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried.

A True Record, Attest:

Elaine Riendeau  
City Clerk

Note: Minutes are unofficial until they have been accepted by the Council by motion.