PUBLIC HEARING – JUNE 20, 2016

Mayor Grenier opened the duly scheduled and advertised Public Hearing at approximately 8:10 pm to hear comments on the following subject matters:

- Resolution 2016-12 Appropriate \$39,510,842 to 2017 Budget.

Rodney Bengston, 329 Hillside Avenue, still does not understand about the tax amount on the budget resolution because the total amount has gone up so that would raise taxes but that is not the case. He inquired if the pilot money from the windmills will be used for pavement fees.

Mayor Grenier replied that the budget consists of many things such as the pilot, property taxes, state funds, etc. Council took pilot payments from 2 utility projects specifically for capital funding. Revenues are included in the budget and expenditures are listed in the capital portion of the budget.

Understanding that Council said they are keeping the budget flat, Mr. Bengston inquired at what point in time does Council foresee getting the administration to decrease spending? Mr. Bengston does not believe Berlin has a population of 10,000 people and we have over 300 houses for sale and a decrease in businesses. Council needs to understand we have too many people who can't go to their employer to say they need a 2% or 3% increase to pay for their taxes.

There were no further comments regarding the Budget Resolution.

- Resolution 2016-13 Recreation Department Appropriations No Comments
- Resolution 2016-14 Authorize Northern Borders Application up to \$250,000 for Riverwalk. No Comments
- Resolution 2016-15 Refinance Bond No Comments
- Resolution 2016-16 Re-appropriate \$175,000 for School Fire Alarm Replacement No comments

There being no one wishing to speak for or against the subject matters at this time, Mayor Grenier declared the Public Hearing portion of the meeting closed at approximately 8:17 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, June 20, 2016

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 8:18 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Remillard, Otis, Morgan Allain, Gentili, Higbee, Rozek, Nelson and Theberge. Also present: City Manager Wheeler, Patty Chase, Susan Tremblay, Corinne Cascadden, Bryan Lamirande, Elaine Riendeau, citizens and Barbara Tetreault.

Minutes, Previous Meeting

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the June 6 Regular Meeting/Work Session; June 13 Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

Disbursements:

Disbursement Summary Draft #1767 start date 6/7/2016 end date 6/20/2016 for a total cash disbursement of \$721,136.73. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Nelson to accept the disbursement summary and pay all bills as recommended by the Committee on Accounts/Claims. So moved, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Donald Poirier, 43 Gilbert Street, would like something done about the parking situation on Gilbert Street. Cedar trees were dropped off in front of the Recreation building and left there for the last three weeks so it looks terrible since they are still waiting to be planted. Mr. Poirier spoke to Fire Chief Trull about unregistered vehicles not being taken care of and the Chief replied he will look into the matter.

Mayor Grenier asked the City Manager to review the parking situation on Gilbert Street as well. The City Manager agreed to do so and will report back to Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. <u>Council Committee Reports</u> No reports
- 2. <u>Resolution 2016-12 adopting a budget and appropriating money to defray the expenses of</u> <u>Berlin's City Government for the fiscal year 2017.</u> (tabled 6/6/2016)

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as follows:

That the following budget be adopted and accordingly, the sum of Thirty-Nine Million, Six Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand, Eight Hundred Forty-Two Dollars **(\$39,625,842.00)** be appropriated to defray the expenses of Berlin's City Government for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, less expected revenues, with the balance to be raised by taxation on real estate of the municipality

		2016	2017	
		Budget	Proposed	
Account #	Description		Budget	
01-401	MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL Total	64,748	59,820	
01-402	ADMINISTRATION Total	1,135,556	1,138,570	
01-403	ELECTIONS Total	16,912	16,712	
01-404	CITY HALL AND OTHER BUILDINGS Total	55,164	56,136	
01-405	SPECIAL FUNDS Total	260	260	
01-406	PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INS Total	134,516	93,489	
01-407	COUNTY TAX Total	1,553,959	1,553,959	
01-408	CENTRAL SERVICES Total	265,000	265,000	
01-409	DISCOUNTS/ ABATEMENTS/DEEDED P Total	100,746	-	
01-410	PERSONNEL BENEFITS Total	354,022	322,640	
01-411	CONTINGENCY Total	9,600	9,600	
01-412	OUTSIDE AGENCIES Total	67,166	70,582	
01-413	CEMETERY Total	12,711	12,961	
01-416	IT DEPARTMENT Total	131,850	132,750	
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,902,210	3,732,480	
01-420	POLICE DEPARTMENT Total	2,992,470	3,073,790	
01-421	FIRE DEPARTMENT Total	2,034,453	1,920,966	
01-422	STREET LIGHTING Total	145,200	145,200	
01-423	AMBULANCE SERVICE Total	323,000	329,000	
01-424	SPECIAL PUBLIC SAFETY Total	90,800	90,800	
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	5,585,923	5,559,756	
01-425	HOUSING DIVISION/HR Total	93,697	43 100	
01-420			43,100 43,100	
	TOTAL HOUSING DIVISION	93,697	43,100	
01-430	PUBLIC WORKS Total	1,875,726	1,904,305	
01-431	ENGINEERING Total	-	-	
01-436	SOLID /PW Total	838,186	814,985	
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	2,713,912	2,719,291	

	01-440	HEALTH DEPARTMENT Total	533,442	571,756	
	01-441	WELFARE Total	116,463	112,207	
	01-449	PARKS Total	310,590	264,239	
	01-450	RECREATION DEPARTMENT Total	128,058	136,970	
	01-451	LIBRARY Total	187,756	193,145	
		TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICE	S 1,276,310	1,278,316	
	01-470	DEBT SERVICE Total	783,085	557,891	
	01-480	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS Total	721,900	495,342	
		TOTAL DEBT AND CAPITA	L 1,504,985	1,028,233	
		TOTAL CITY GENERAL FUN	D 15,077,036	14,361,176	
	01-460	SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET Total	17,823,718	17,984,343	
	01-461	SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPROVMENTS Total	411,011	211,000	
		TOTAL SCHOOL GENERAL FUN	D 18,234,729	18,105,343	
	01-407	COUNTY TA)	1,553,959	1,553,959	
	01-414	TRANSFER OU	37,851	14,369	
		TOTAL CITY AND SCHOOL GENERAL FUND	33,349,616	32,480,888	
		OTHER CITY FUNDS			
	10	SCHOOL EDUCATION GRANTS	2,491,546	2,741,656	
	11	SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES	661,990	661,990	
This resolu	tion shall b	REGREATED A CITEXITY FOR AND after passage.	35,700	35,700	
	21	BERLIN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT	181,184	181,184	
Councilor	Semillard m	Prod Dvith & Readon + DW Beuncilor Otis to remove	e the resolution	rom the table 0	
Councilor	Remillard m	the motion carried. CDBC with a second by Councilor Otis to amen	1 the re \$ 511,#307	ov adding the	
following it	66633214478	Bibbi (Fild) IFId bird wern Carpit Parjed Bebbi & \$25,000 fo	or Skate ³ 1953 (k) 40	1-461356420082	
Capital Im	ggv∉g n∕ents	erad \$30,000 to an School Bus. So moved, the	motion ca p ri eg 0	7,180	
read a sec	65-434.48(Byed with a second by Councilor Oils to have	215,675	as amended 175,963	
Councilor	Remillard n	Title Shily. "So moved, the motion carried. I JOETAWIALA SECHER I JUDD Scilor Otis to have	th & 985 6240 PQ	as7a0299954,00	
		e only. So moved, the motion carried.			
		TOTAL CITY BUDGET - ALL FUNDS	\$42,345,240.00)\$39,625,842.00)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to pass the resolution, as amended. Roll call resulted in unanimous affirmative votes of Council including Mayor Grenier who declared the resolution, as amended, now passed. For the record, Mayor Grenier stated that there will not be a tax increase due to using funds from Undesignated Fund Balance and surplus school revenues.

Resolution 2016-13 accepting \$5,117.01 of donations to the Berlin Recreation Department and 3. appropriating these funds for use in various programs as listed. (tabled 6/6/2016)

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as follows:

Whereas, the businesses and individuals listed below have provided donations to the Berlin Recreation Department for use in various programs and events.

			PROGRAM
PROGRAM (account 30-368-601-0000)	DONATION	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Easter "Eggstravaganza"	Badger Realty, LLC	\$ 75.00	
	Gill's Flowers & Country Primitives	\$ 25.00	
	David Poulin, LLC dba Wireless Zone	\$ 235.64	
	Reimb. Of Rite-Aid Purchase	Ç 233.04	
	Misc. Donors - Day of Event	<u>\$ 135.07</u>	<u>\$ 470.71</u>
Gardens, City & LLViger Botanical	Margaret McClellan	\$ 25.00	
	Michael Najjar (Community Service Requirement)	\$ 100.00	
	Laurier & Maureen Ramsey	\$ 20.00	
	Will O'Brien - Garden Club Spaghetti Dinner		
	& Auction @ Philbrook Farm	\$ 300.00	
	Margaret McClellan	\$ 30.00	<u>\$ 475.00</u>
PROGRAM (account 19-338-000-0000)			
Hockey Development	BuRne Dance at Chalet/Anthony Horne	\$ 162.00	
	Misc. donors during BuRne Dance	<u>\$ 25.00</u>	<u>\$ 187.00</u>
Summer USDA Food Program	Dept. of Ed. Reimb./Purchase of food		
	from Tri-County CAP		
	Senior Meals	\$3,984.30	<u>\$3,984.30</u>
TOTAL FY 2016 Donations to I	Berlin Recreation:		\$5,117.01

Now therefore, be it resolved, by the Mayor and City Council that the City accepts donations of \$5,117.01 and appropriates these funds for use in several programs and events at the Berlin Recreation Department as listed above. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

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

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to have the resolution read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

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

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to pass the resolution. So moved the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

4. <u>Resolution 2016-14 authorizing an application for a Northern Borders Regional Commission Grant</u> <u>in an amount up to Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00). The purpose of the grant</u> <u>is construct Phase One of the Riverwalk Project along the Androscoggin River beginning at the</u> <u>Northern Forest Heritage Park and ending at the Berlin Mills Pedestrian Bridge.</u> (tabled 6/6/2016)

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as follows:

Whereas, up to Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) is available to nonprofits and municipalities in the Northern Borders Region which includes Coos County; and

Whereas, if awarded, Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) of the funds will be used for constructing Phase One of the Riverwalk project along the Androscoggin River beginning at the Northern Forest Heritage Park and ending at the Berlin Mills Pedestrian Bridge; and

Whereas, the City will be undertaking a major road reconstruction project along Route 16 starting this summer; and

Whereas, the City owns the property and is able to have control over its current and future growth; and

Whereas, there have been plans for a Riverwalk in this area for several years and with the increased focus on tourism and the purchase of the property, this grant offers an opportunity to begin the Riverwalk and offer better access to the river for residents and visitors; and

Whereas, this project is part of the vision for the community as stated in the City's 2010 Master Plan. Now therefore, be It resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows: That, the City Manager is authorized to apply for a Northern Borders Regional Commission grant in an amount up to Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00). The purpose of the grant is to construct Phase One of the Riverwalk project along the Androscoggin River beginning at the Northern Forest Heritage Park and ending at the Berlin Mills Pedestrian Bridge and the City Manager is authorized to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate the Northern Borders Regional Commission grant and contract; Be it further resolved that the City Manager is authorized to receive said grant and the grant proceeds are hereby appropriated for the purpose of the grant; and all grant proceeds shall be deposited with the City Treasurer and any additional use of these funds beyond the scope of work as listed in the application shall require prior approval of the City Council. 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 and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

5. <u>Resolution 2016-15 Authorizing the Issuance of Refunding Bonds.</u> (tabled 6/6/2016) Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as follows:

Whereas, the City of Berlin, New Hampshire (the "Issuer") has issued certain \$5,000,000 General Obligation Bonds through the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development ("USDA RD"), dated as of September 11, 2007, the outstanding principal amount of which is approximately \$3,846,025.00 (the "Refunded Bonds"); and

Whereas, although the Refunded Bonds are not subject to redemption prior to their respective maturity dates, USDA RD has consented to the redemption of the Refunding Bonds prior to such maturity dates; and

Whereas, it appears likely that bonds issued today would have a net interest cost less than the net interest cost on the Refunded Bonds; and

Whereas, the Issuer may be able to realize debt service savings by issuing certain refunding bonds (the "Refunding Bonds"), the proceeds of which would be utilized to current refund the Refunded Bonds and to pay certain other costs relating thereto;

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Issuer, acting by and through its City Council, hereby authorizes the issuance of Refunding Bonds pursuant to the provisions of RSA 33:3-d, the proceeds of which shall be utilized to current refund the Refunded Bonds, to pay any principal and interest coming due on the Refunded Bonds prior to the Redemption Date, and to pay the costs of issuance of the Refunding Bonds, including any costs of credit enhancement; and

It is further resolved that the City Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is hereby authorized to finally approve the aforesaid refunding by entering into a Loan Agreement or Bond Purchase Agreement (the "Agreement") with the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank or such other bond purchaser or underwriter as they may deem appropriate in connection with the issuance of the Refunding Bonds to evidence the Issuer's approval of the terms and conditions of the Refunding Bonds; and

It is further resolved that the Agreement and such other documents, if any, as shall be required in connection with the issuance of the Refunding Bonds shall be signed on behalf of the Issuer by the aforementioned individuals, each acting singly, or such other individuals as may be required by state law or as may be specified by bond counsel; and

It is further resolved that the Issuer is authorized to enter into such other documents, to engage such other professionals (including a Financial Advisor, Escrow Agent, Verification Agent and Paying Agent), and to do such other things as are necessary to consummate the aforesaid refunding; and

It is further resolved that all actions heretofore taken by the Issuer consistent with the foregoing are hereby confirmed, ratified and approved.

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

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

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

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

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to pass the resolution. So moved the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

6. Resolution 2016-16 re-appropriating \$175,000 from the School Department's Fringe Benefits/Fixed Expenses Account in the FY16 Budget to the School's Capital Improvement Account for Fire Alarm Replacement at Hillside/Berlin Middle School in the FY16 Budget (tabled 6/6/2016) Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as follows:

Whereas, the Berlin School Board recognizes the need to replace the existing fire alarm system at the Hillside Elementary/Middle School to assure the safety of students and faculty; and

Whereas, the budgeted amount of \$50,000.00 does not cover the cost of the project; and

Whereas, the Fire Alarm project for Hillside Elementary/Middle School was put out to bid with the low bid being \$225,000.00; and

Whereas, by transferring \$175,000.00 from the School Department's School Department's Fringe Benefits/Fixed Expenses Account, the project will be fully funded. Now therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin, NH that \$175,000.00 is hereby re-appropriated from the School Department's Fringe Benefits/Fixed Expenses Account (01-460-200-0000) to Capital Improvement Hillside/Berlin Middle School Fire Alarm (01-461-400-0007) 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 and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

7. Berlin Education Association (BEA) Negotiated Cost Items

	Increase	Wage	FICA	NHRS	Total
2016-17	1%	\$ 64,618	\$ 4,944	\$10,126	\$ 79,688
2017-18	1%	65,269	4,993	10,228	80,490
2018-19	2%	<u>131,804</u>	10,083	20,654	162,540
		\$261,691	\$20,019	\$41,008	\$322,718
Composite	3,570				
District Covers \$1,000 Deductible for Outpatient Surgery (FY 18only)					<u>15,000</u>
Total 3 year cost to the General Fund for 109 BEA employees:					\$341,288

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to approve the BEA cost items as presented. Roll call resulted in affirmative votes of Councilors Remillard, Morgan Allain, Gentili,

Higbee, Rozek, Nelson, Theberge and Mayor Grenier. Councilor Otis voted in the negative. Mayor Grenier declared the BEA cost items as accepted.

NEW BUSINESS

 Ordinance 2016-05 amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Berlin, Chapter 9, License and Regulation of Occupations and Businesses by creating Article X. Special Event Camping and Parking (1st read)

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to table the ordinance and schedule a public hearing on July 5. So moved, the motion carried.

9. <u>Resolution 2016-17 Authorize and Application for \$500,000 to CDBG for Holiday Center</u> (1st read) Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing on July 5. So moved, the motion carried.

10.	AFSCME Local 1444 Custodian & Bus Driver Negotiated Contract Cost Items						
		Increase	Wage	FICA	NHRS	Total	
	2016-17	0.75%	\$ 3,775	\$ 289	\$ 272	\$ 4,336	
	2017-18	1.25%	5,999	459	456	6,914	
	2018-19	1.75%	<u>8,322</u>	637	647	9,605	
			\$1 <u>8</u> ,096	\$ 1,384	\$ 1,375	\$ 20,855	
	Composite Fillings Added to the Dental Insurance (3 year cost)						
	Payment for unused Sick Leave (3 Year Cost)						
	21 or more yea	rs of Service – 2 El	E's \$ 6,000	459	670	<u> </u>	
	Total 3 year cost to the General Fund for 14 AFSCME Employees:						

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to approve AFSCME Local 1444 Custodian & Bus Driver Cost items as presented. Roll call resulted in affirmative votes of Councilors Remillard, Morgan Allain, Gentili, Higbee, Rozek, Nelson, Theberge and Mayor Grenier. Councilor Otis voted in the negative. Mayor Grenier declared the AFSCME Local 1444 Custodian & Bus Driver cost items as accepted.

10a AFSME Local 1444 PWD Contract Proposal Cost Items

			Current Salaries, NHRS & SS = \$1,778,473.09			
	% Increase	\$ Increase	Health Ins.	\$ Net Saving	% Saving	
			Premium Saving			
2017	3.00%	\$ 53,354.19	\$ 66,837.58	\$ 13,483.39	-0.76%	
2018	3.00%	54,954.82	72,913.73	17,958.91	-0.98%	
2019	3.00%	56,603.46	72,913.73	16,310.26	-0.86%	

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to approve the AFSME Local 1444 contract cost items as presented. Roll call resulted in unanimous affirmative votes of Council including Mayor Grenier who declared the AFSME Local 1444 cost items as accepted.

11. <u>City Manager's Report</u>

- 1. Bids were opened Thursday June 9th for the demolition of 24 Birch Street and 339 Goebel Street. Cross Excavating was the low bidder for both buildings. The work is expected to start sometime this week. Copies of the bid sheets are attached.
- 2. There is a bid due June 30th for the construction of a fuel distribution system at the Public Works Garage.
- The City received bids and awarded the following contracts: Contract 2016-04 Electrical Service to Vaillancourt Electric Contract 2016-06 Local Delivery Propane to CN Brown for 1.159 per gal. Contract 2016-07 Boiler Services to Mechanical Services

- 4. KRT Appraisal reviewed all of the abatement applications and has submitted a recommendation to the Board of Assessors for each contested parcel. The Board has made a ruling on roughly half of the applications and will be meeting this coming Tuesday, June 21st to review the remaining submissions. The Board will have their decisions made ahead of the July 1st deadline and they appreciate the public's patience with the abatement process as they seek to ensure that all taxable properties are being accurately reported and properly assessed.
- 5. The Annual NH Municipal Manager's Meeting was held from June 8th June 10th in Lincoln, NH. I was able to attend the meeting on June 10th. Cordell Johnston, NHMA attorney, gave a presentation on the 2016 Legislative Review. A cop[y of his presentation handout is attached.
- 6. The City's Joint Loss Prevention Committee (JLPC) has issued an updated version of the JLPC Manual. The Manual is required by the Department of Labor and it outlines safety practices. The Manuals will be distributed to employees in the coming weeks.

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

12. Mayor's Report

Mayor Grenier reported that work is continuing on Camp RZR preparations. The feedback he is getting from people is that they are excited about this new event. It will be a learning experience.

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

13. <u>Public Comments</u> – No Comments

Rodney Bengston, Hillside Avenue, thanked Council for doing a good job. Regarding the ATV event in September, will the increased Police patrols be paid for by the tax payers or will costs be contracted in.

Mayor Grenier replied there will not be any excess costs to taxpayers. The City will assume some work but Camp RZR will be picking up some expenses. There will be a charge to vendors that will go toward expenses. It is still a work in progress. The Chamber of Commerce is trying to make it successful. Councilor Nelson stated she would be happy to answer Mr. Bengston's questions.

14. <u>Council Comments</u> - No comments

15. <u>Adjournment:</u>

There being no further business before the Mayor and Council, Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Theberge to adjourn the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the regular meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 P.M.

A True Record, Attest: Debra A. Patrick, CMC City Clerk