

PUBLIC HEARING – NOVEMBER 7, 2016

Mayor Grenier opened the duly scheduled and advertised Public Hearing at approximately 7:30 pm to hear comments on the following subject matters:

Resolution 2016-31 Authorizing Assistance to Firefighters Grant for Ladder Truck

There being no one wishing to speak for or against the subject matter at this time, Mayor Grenier declared the Public Hearing portion of the meeting closed at approximately 7:31 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, November 7, 2016

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:31 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Remillard, Otis, Gentili, Higbee, Rozek, Nelson and Theberge. Councilor Morgan Allain was absent. Also present: Pamela Laflamme, and Barbara Tetreault.

Minutes, Previous Meeting

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the October 17 Work Session and Regular Meeting, October 24 Work Session and October 26 Public Hearing. So moved, the motion carried.

Disbursements:

Disbursement Summary Draft #1776 start date 10/18/2016 end date 11/7/2016 for a total cash disbursement of \$3,405,371.03. 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 – There were none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Council Committee Reports – Traffic Safety Committee Report

Councilor Rozek stated that on October 24, 2016, the Traffic Safety Committee met. He presented the following condensed version of the items reviewed.

Request for Street Lights on East Milan Road from 12th Street to White Mountain Lumber: Councilor Rozek stated that the Committee did not have the estimates to install used street lights and that information is critical to making a recommendation

Request for Stop Sign at Madison Avenue and Memorial Lane: The request was discussed but there were questions about whether accidents had occurred there that will need further research. Both items will be on the next agenda.

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the Traffic Safety Committee Report and place it on file. So moved, the motion carried.

2. Resolution 2016-31 Authorizing Assistance to Firefighters Grant for Ladder Truck (Tabled 10/17/2016)

A resolution authorizing an application to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for the

replacement of the 1995 Ladder Truck at a cost of approximately \$1 Million Dollars, of which 90% will be funded by grant and 10% funded by the City.

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

Whereas, the 1995 Simon-LTI Ariel Ladder Truck has reached its replacement term of twenty years of frontline service to the citizens of Berlin; and

Whereas, the NFPA recommends to cycle out the apparatus after twenty years; and

Whereas, the ladder truck has been out of service for long periods of time for required repairs and in accordance with the grant, the ladder truck will be permanently removed from emergency service; and

Whereas, Berlin has a large number of older, three and four story tenement housing in dense neighborhoods making a safe reliable truck an essential tool to meet incident priorities of life safety, rescuing trapped occupants on upper floors, incident stabilization by application of elevated master streams, and property conservation through ventilation and extinguishment.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin, NH, that the City Manager is authorized to apply for and receive funds from the Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant Program for replacement of a 1995 ladder truck at a cost of approximately \$1 Million Dollars, of which 90% would be grant funded and 10% would be funded by the City.

Be it further resolved that the City Manager is authorized to sign the grant documents and do all things necessary to effectuate the grant. Said funds granted to the City of Berlin will be used for the purpose of the grant.

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.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Resolution 2016-32 Authorizing an Application for \$5,110.84 grant for the Homeland Security Exercise & Evaluation Program (HSEEP). (1st Read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing on November 21, 2016. So moved, the motion carried.

4. Resolution 2016-33 Authorizing an Application to SAG for \$3,337,895.37 for Wastewater Phase 2 Upgrade (1st read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing on November 21, 2016. So moved, the motion carried

5. Resolution 2016-34 Authorizing an Application to FAA & NHDOT for \$276,450 for Airport Capital Improvement Project (1st read)

Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Nelson to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing on November 21, 2016. So moved, the motion carried.

6. Communication Priscilla Gemmiti – Willard Street Traffic Concern

I am writing to you about the chaotic traffic flow during school days 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Willard Street which needs some attention.

The city installed “no parking during school days” green signs 17 years ago ending on Carl Street...then the fun began...calls to BPD to write up tickets...meeting with the BPD and Principal at BHS...didn't amount to anything until my new next door neighbor complained to BPD about her traffic flow issues regarding the toddlers living in her care...e.g. pedestrian hazardous traffic running back and forth between buses and cars... turning in driveways without a thought of toddlers who might be around the corners...ignoring one lane traffic exit to Madison Ave...by everyone except the US Post Office...resulting in hazardous behavior.

Perhaps it is time to conduct a brain storm session with Berlin Police Department...School Department...Public Works and neighbors to resolve this long forgotten and ignored issue. The BPD have been very helpful and instrumental in our quest for a solution to our concerns. Officer Gendron, Officer Theriault along with their supervisor took action immediately... letters sent to parents...BPD dropped off yellow cones on both sides of Willard St ending on Carl St @ 6a.m. and picked them up @ 4 p.m. for 3 wks...I couldn't believe it!! But soon cars were back and traffic cars turning around on the one way street back to Willard St etc... So that's why I am asking for help! Thank you for your attention and I hope to hear from you soon...winter is coming that is a scary scene...believe it!

Sincerely yours,
Priscilla Gemmiti

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the communication, place it on file and send the letter to the Traffic Safety Committee for recommendation. So moved, the motion carried.

7. City Manager's report – there was no report

8. Mayor's Report

Mayor Grenier reported that, as a member of the Planning Board, Tom McCue cannot serve on the Trustees of Trust Funds. Tom McCue was withdrawn and Mayor Grenier nominated Bronson Frizzell to the Trustees of Trust Funds. Councilor Rozek moved to appoint Bronson Frizzell to the Trustees of Trust Funds for a term to end June 30, 2018; so moved, the motion carried.

Mayor Grenier also encouraged all to take part in tomorrow's election. Councilor Rozek moved to accept the Mayor's report and place on file; Councilor Nelson seconded and the motion carried.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were none

10. Council Comments – There were no Council comments.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Mayor and Council, Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Nelson to adjourn the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the regular meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 P.M.

A True Record, Attest:
Susan Tremblay
Administrative Assistant