

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, August 7, 2017**

With the Council work session ending early, Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:57 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Otis, Gentili, Higbee, Rozek, Remillard, Theberge and Morgan Allain. Absent: Councilor Nelson. Also present: Jim Wheeler and Barbara Tetreault

### **Minutes, Previous Meeting**

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the July 17<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting/Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

### **Disbursements:**

Disbursement Summary Draft #1795 start date 07/18/2017 end date 08/07/2017 for a total cash disbursement of \$2,246,318.67. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Higbee 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.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Resolution 2017-12 Appropriating \$208,984.00 to School Capital Projects (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for August 21, 2017. So moved, the motion carried.

3. Resolution 2017-13 Carry-Over Capital Funds \$1,243,033.17 (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for August 21, 2017. So moved, the motion carried.

4. Resolution 2017-14 Carry-Over Grants \$147,258.64 (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis, to table the resolution and schedule a public hearing for August 21, 2017. So moved, the motion was carried.

5. City Manager's Report

1. We welcome Jeffrey O'Neil to the Wastewater Treatment Plant as an operator. Jeff is originally from Berlin and made the move back for the opportunity to work in his home town. Heidi Gray has been hired in the Finance Department. She will be one of the account clerks at the Collections window.
2. HEB is working on design plans for the Hillside Avenue Bridge. The current schedule includes bidding in the fall for construction in the spring of 2018. A project status report from HEB is attached.

3. Eversource has informed us that they plan to lower the water level above the Smith Hydro Dam to complete annual maintenance and inspection work on the canal and penstock. The drawdown will occur from September 11 through September 22, 2017. A letter from Hydro Manager Michael Hitchko is attached.
4. Pavement markings have been delayed due to a very wet summer. Line striping with our contractor Highway Safety, Inc., is scheduled for August 20th with a rain date of August 21st.
5. A court date has been set for September 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. for the enforcement of judgement on Paul Croteau for his properties on Jericho Road.
6. The City of Berlin has been notified that it has been awarded a \$30,000 grant from the 2017 RBDG round for the feasibility study of a downtown snowmelt system. This money will be combined with the \$12,000 CDBG feasibility grant to complete the study.
7. Terry Letarte reported that it was another successful year with the British Soccer Camp which was held in the last week of June. The program continues to grow each year with 21 participants in 2015, 31 in 2016 and 35 in 2017. The program will be held next year from June 18th to June 22nd.
8. Mary Jo Landry of the Berlin Housing Authority has informed the City that St. Regis will be applying for tax credits in the next round. The Mayor and one City Councilor will be contacted as part of application review process.
9. Vachon Clukay & Co., the City's auditors, will be here next week for the on-site portion of the annual audit. The on-site portion typically last about one week.
10. The Berlin Police Memorial Committee will be hosting its 4<sup>th</sup> "Call to Duty" Memorial Golf Tournament at the Androscoggin Valley Country Club in Gorham on Friday, September 8, 2017. All proceeds will benefit the "Call to Duty" Memorial & Scholarship Fund. Additional information is attached.
11. The May, 2017 Police Statistics, as reported to the Police Commission at their July meeting, are attached.
12. A Public Works Activity Report is attached for your review.

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.

## 6. Mayor's Report

Mayor Grenier asked how Finance Director Chase was doing on the preparation of the MS-5. Mr. Wheeler stated that he believes everything is going fine and that it will be filed timely.

Mayor Grenier thanked Councilor Nelson and the Chamber folks for another great Jericho ATV Festival event. The attendance numbers were up and the number of vendors doubled this year. He also stated that while the North Country Growers closing has not taken place as of yet, it is imminent that it will

happen. He attended the Summit Salute on Saturday. The Veterans were very happy with the City's donation to their event. It was stated that larger communities would not donate to the cause.

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.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were none.

8. Council Comments

Councilor Higbee thanked the Mayor, Council and City for their support with the local farmers market. It is a great event and has had a good turnout with vendors and patrons.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Mayor and Council, Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to adjourn the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the regular meeting adjourned at approximately 8:18 P.M.

A True Record, Attest:

Elaine Riendeau  
City Clerk