

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, February 5, 2018**

Because the Work Session ended before 7:30 p.m., Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. Council will break from their normal order of business for the scheduled Public Hearing. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Remillard, Otis, Nelson, Higbee, Gentili, Rozek, and Theberge. Absent: Councilor Morgan Allain. Also present: Jim Wheeler, Sue Tremblay, John Lacasse and Barbara Tetreault, Berlin Daily Sun

### **Minutes, Previous Meeting**

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the January 15<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting/Work Session and the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

### **Disbursements:**

Disbursement Summary Draft #1807 start date 1/13/2018 end date 02/02/2018 for a total cash disbursement of \$2,496,508.80. Councilor Nelson 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.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Resolution 2018-03 Authorizing an application to the FAA & NHDOT for AIP Project Runway/Taxiway Improvements, Obstruction Removal, and Replacement of Airfield Signage (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second from Councilor Otis, to table this matter and schedule a public hearing for Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. So moved, the motion carried.

3. a. Correspondence – Henry and Rose Fortin

Henry and Rose Fortin  
522 Rockingham Street  
Berlin NH 03570  
752-5470

Young man did not stop, he came right through the intersection. His insurance company says he has the right of way because there is no stop sign on his side of the street.

City Clerk, Elaine Riendeau, informed the Mayor and Council that Mr. Fortin brought this correspondence in, which also included a picture of the intersection and location of the auto accident. Mr. Fortin told Ms. Riendeau that there is currently a stop sign on western side of the intersection and is asking for a stop sign to be placed on the dead-end portion of East Mason Street at said intersection. Councilor Nelson moved with a second from Councilor Rozek, to remand the matter to the Traffic and Safety Committee, forward copies to both the Police Department and Public Works Department as well as send an acknowledgement to Henry and Rose Fortin. So moved, the motion carried.

2. City Manager's Report

1. We disposed of a property (map112/lot17) on Western Avenue that was offered for sale to abutters. There was interest in the Cates Hill Road lot (406/17) and Jericho Road lot (106/20); however there was only one bid submitted on each lot and the minimum requirements were not met.

Additional properties expected to be advertised last week but delayed due to scheduling and will be advertised this week.

2. A Request for Proposals for auditing firms has been sent out and advertised; it is due Wednesday, February 28, 2018.
3. Walter Nadeau will be presenting the History of the Nansen Ski Jump Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the White Mountains Community College Fortier Library. This program is sponsored by the College, The Moffett House, Berlin and Gorham Public Libraries.
4. The Friends of the Nansen Ski Jump are hosting a Let's Go Sarah Event at 12 Noon tomorrow at the Nansen Ski Jump. They are hoping for a big turnout. The intent of the event is to raise publicity for the ski jump while wishing Sarah Hendrickson well in the upcoming Winter Olympics. People will be arriving up to an hour early to assemble for the video shoot. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.
5. In addition to other bills we have been discussing last week the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee heard testimony on SB450 which is legislation aimed at creating an advisory committee to further develop legislation to move permit authority of the National Permit Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) from the EPA to NHDES. Currently 47 of 50 states have delegated authority. After the hearing the Committee voted 5-0, Ought to Pass. My view of this bill, if it becomes law, is that it would be helpful to the City in managing its NPDES permit.

HB 559 seeks to increase RGGI funding for municipal and school energy efficient projects from \$2M to \$5M annually.

6. The 2017 Annual Report of AVRRDD activities is attached.
7. The End of Year Police Department and PWD statistics are attached.

Councilor Remillard asked about the remaining properties that the City plans to sell. Mr. Wheeler stated that he anticipates the bid notice to go out this week.

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.

### 3. Mayor's Report

#### a. Berlin Housing Authority Appointment

Mayor Grenier presented the Council with a reappointment to the Berlin Housing Authority for Mr. Charles Dodge. His new term would be set to expire on December 22, 2022. Councilor Nelson moved with a second from Councilor Theberge to reappoint Charles Dodge to the Berlin Housing Authority, with a term to expire on December 9, 2022. So moved, the motion carried.

#### b. AVRRDD – Council Representatives

Mayor Grenier presented the Council with reappointments to the City's District Representatives and Alternates for the Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District as they currently are, Councilor Michael Rozek, Primary Representative, Councilor Roland Theberge, First Alternate and Thomas McCue, Second Alternate. Their terms to expire on March 31, 2021. Councilor Nelson made a motion to accept the Mayor's recommendation and re-nominate Councilor Michael Rozek, Primary Representative; Councilor Roland Theberge, First Alternate and Thomas McCue, Second Alternate, with terms to expire March 31, 2021. So moved, the motion carried.

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were none.

5. Council Comments – There were none.

Councilor Gentili moved, with a second from Councilor Otis, to recess from the current order of business for the Public Hearing. So moved, the motion carried.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Grenier opened the duly scheduled and advertised Public Hearing at approximately 7:27 p.m. to hear comments on the following subject matter:

Resolution 2018-02 Authorizing an Application to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for the Replacement of the 1995 Ladder Truck

Mayor Grenier asked for comments from the public.

John Lacasse, 166 Prospect Street – Mr. Lacasse thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting the replacement of the ladder truck.

With no other comments presented, Mayor Grenier closed the public hearing on the subject matter above at 7:28 p.m.

Councilor Higbee moved, with a second from Councilor Otis to move back into the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6. Council Committee Reports – There were none.

7. Resolution 2018-02 Authorizing an application to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for the replacement of the 1995 Ladder Truck (tabled 1/15/2018)

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 is beyond 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 deemed unsafe by NFPA standards and in accordance with the grant, the unsafe 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 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. Roll call resulted in a unanimous vote in the affirmative, the motion carried.

## **8. Adjournment**

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 7:31 P.M.

A True Record, Attest:

Elaine Riendeau  
City Clerk

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