

PUBLIC HEARING – Monday, March 5, 2018

Mayor Grenier opened the duly scheduled and advertised Public Hearing at approximately 7:50 p.m. to hear comments on the following subject matter:

Resolution 2018-04 Authorizing an Application to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for \$270,711 for Firefighter's Personal Protective Gear and Vehicle Extrication Tools

Mayor Grenier asked for comments from the public.

With no comments presented, Mayor Grenier closed the public hearing on the subject matter above at 7:51 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, February 19, 2018

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:51 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Otis, Morgan Allain, Higbee, Gentili, Rozek, Remillard and Theberge. Absent: Councilor Nelson. Also present: Jim Wheeler, Sue Tremblay, John Lacasse, Jan Zicha and Barbara Tetreault, Berlin Daily Sun

Minutes, Previous Meeting

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the February 19th Regular Meeting/Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

Disbursements:

Disbursement Summary Draft #1809 start date 02/17/2018 end date 03/05/2018 for a total cash disbursement of \$824,954.07. 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 2018-04 Authorizing an Application to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for \$270,711 for Firefighter's Personal Protective Gear and Vehicle Extrication Tools

A RESOLUTION authorizing an application to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for the replacement of Firefighter's Personal Protective Gear and Vehicle Extrication Tools at a cost of approximately \$270,711 dollars, of which 95% (\$257,175.00) will be funded by grant and 5% (\$13,536.00) funded by the City.

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

Whereas, the Firefighter's Personal Protective Gear and Vehicle Extrication Tools are nearing or beyond their replacement term of ten years of providing adequate protection to our firefighters, and frontline service to the citizens of Berlin; and

Whereas, the NFPA recommends to cycle out personal protective gear and vehicle extrication tools after ten years; and

Whereas, the firefighter's personal protective gear and vehicle extrication tools have been deemed unsafe and unreliable by NFPA standards and in accordance with the grant, the unsafe gear and tools will be permanently removed from emergency service; and

Whereas, firefighter's personal protective gear is a necessary and essential component in the ability to safely mitigate numerous hazardous incidents, especially search and rescue operations, and fire suppression during fire suppression incidents; and

Whereas, vehicle extrication tools are critical in the safe and expedited removal of victims of vehicle accidents from their vehicle. A necessity in the on scene priority of stabilizing and transporting these victims to appropriate medical care as quickly as possible.

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 Firefighters Grant Program for replacement of firefighters' protective gear and vehicle extrication tools at a cost of approximately \$270,711.00, of which 95% (\$257,175.00) would be grant funded and 5% (\$13,536.00) 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. So moved, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

3. City Manager's Report

1. We received two bids on 650 Blais Street with the high bid of \$22,100 from Vivian Kenison. The bid tabulation sheet is attached. There were no bids on 723 Third Avenue or 340 Church Street.
2. There was a Skatepark Design Workshop Thursday, February 22nd beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Berlin High School Cafeteria. Spohn Ranch conducted the workshop which was attended by interested youth and adults. Spohn Ranch will continue taking public input through a Facebook page located at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BerlinNHskatepark/>
3. A Minor Subdivision plan was heard at the Milan Planning Board Meeting on March 1st to accommodate a sale of land from the BAA property to Mr. Bob Chapman. The plan was approved and we are currently awaiting recording information. This is expected to be one of the final steps before closing on the sale.
4. We are looking for nominations for the Berlin Volunteer Award Tree. If you know someone in the community that is making a difference with their volunteerism, send in a nomination by March 16th to Terry Letarte at tletarte@berlinnh.gov . Here is a link to the [nomination form](#) .
5. There will be a lecture and book signing on Wednesday, March 14th (which is a new date as March 7 was postponed due to snow) at 6:00 p.m. at the White Mountains Community College. Ty

Gagne will be there to sign his book "Where You'll Find Me". This event is sponsored by the College and the Berlin and Gorham Public Libraries.

6. Berlin EMS sent in their Annual Report. Attached is the discussion portion of their report. The audited financials are not included simply to reduce the bulk of this report,
7. The Hillside Avenue Bridge is out for bid at this time with bids due March 15th. A copy of the ad is attached.
8. The City has RFPs out for services to conduct a Study to Determine the Feasibility of Fire Services and Emergency Medical Services Integration and Consolidation; Engineering Services for a City Hall Elevator and Engineering Services for a Downtown Snowmelt Infrastructure Feasibility Study. All of these responses are due Wednesday March 21st.
9. NH HB1381 relative to Utility valuation will be voted on the floor of the House sometime this week. It is expected this will happen on Thursday. Attached is an article regarding the bill from yesterday's Laconia Daily Sun.

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.

4. Mayor's Report – There was none.
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were none.
6. Council Comments – There were none.
7. 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 8:00 P.M.

A True Record, Attest:

Elaine Riendeau
City Clerk

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