

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, October 1, 2018**

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:34 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

### **Public Hearing**

Mayor Grenier opened the Public Hearing at 7:34 pm for Ordinance 2018-03 Amending Chapter 9 Licensing – Sale of Closed Container Alcohol at Farmer's Market. There were no public comments. Mayor Grenier closed the public hearing at.

Mayor Grenier opened the Public Hearing for Resolution 2018-24 Authorizing \$4,500.00 Library Grant. There were no public comments. Mayor Grenier closed the Public Hearing at 7:35 pm.

### **Regular Meeting**

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Grenier, Councilors Remillard, Otis, Morgan Allain, Berthiaume, Gentili, Higbee, and Theberge. Councilor Rozek was absent. Also present: Jim Wheeler, Sue Tremblay, Shelli Fortin, Pamela LaFlamme, Eric Grenier, Corinne Cascadden, and Barbara Tetreault, Berlin Daily Sun

c. Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the September 17<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting/Work Session and the September 24<sup>th</sup> Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

### **Disbursements:**

Disbursement Summary Draft #1824 start date 09/24/2018 end date 10/01/2018 for a total cash disbursement of \$994,981.70. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Berthiaume 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. Councilor Remillard asked about the safety meeting and was advised they were waiting for the new Public Works director to begin. The meeting will be scheduled in October.

2. Ordinance 2018-03 Amending Chapter 9 Licensing – Sale of Closed Container Alcohol at Farmer's Market

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain, to remove this item from the table. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain, to read Ordinance 2018-03 by short title for a second time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain, to read Ordinance 2018-03 for a third time by short title. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain that Ordinance 2018-03 be passed. There was no discussion. So moved, the motion passed.

3. Resolution 2018-24 Authorizing \$4,500.00 Library Grant

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to remove this item from the table. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to read Resolution 2018-24 by short title for a second time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to read Resolution 2018-24 for a third time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, that Resolution 2018-24 be passed. There was no discussion. So moved, the motion passed.

**3a.** Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to set the polling hours for the State General Election, 8am until 7pm, and the polling locations of the Recreation Center, St Anne Hall, and the Community Bible Church. There was no discussion. So moved, the motion passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **4.     Resolution 2018-04 Appropriating \$107,000 to School Department for Minivan and Bus (1<sup>st</sup> read)**

Councilor Theberge moved, with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for October 15, 2018. So moved, the motion carried.

### **5.     Ordinance 2018-04 Opioid Legislation (1<sup>st</sup> read)**

Councilor Higbee moved, with a second by Councilor Gentili to table the Ordinance and schedule a public hearing for October 15, 2018. So moved, the motion carried.

### **6.     City Manager's Report**

1. Construction work on the skate park continued over the past two weeks. The Public Works Department and Berlin Water Works are working together on the City's in-kind portion of the earthwork. Spohn Ranch is scheduled to be on-site on 10-8-2018.
2. Mayor Grenier accepted an incentive rebate check from Eversource for \$91,500.00 on September 21<sup>st</sup> from Eversource Representative Randy Perkins. In addition to the rebate, the City's project has other energy savings. The Eversource "Green Page" which estimates the electricity savings and environmental benefits of the project is attached.
3. The Hillside Avenue Bridge is substantially complete. It was open for the BHS Homecoming weekend. It will have to be closed for the final top course paving which is planned for this week.
4. Bids are currently being requested for a tractor with a snow blower attachment for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Bids are due on October 11, 2018.
5. Attached is an article that appeared in the NH Business Review discussing the statistics of property poor municipalities in NH. Among other statistics the article claims that 87% of the acreage in Berlin is taxed at less than full value. A significant portion of which is of course tax exempt. The National Forest contributes to this number.
6. NHRS Trustees voted at their September 11, 2018 meeting to reduce Employer Contributions for Employee, Police, and Fire rates beginning July 1, 2019. The reductions will be 0.21%, 1.00%, and 1.80% respectively. Teacher rates have an increase of 0.44%.
7. Fire Department statistics are attached.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second from Councilor Morgan Allain to accept the City Manager's Report and place it on file. So moved, the motion carried.

2. Mayor's Report - Mayor Grenier shared the news that Ernie Allain had passed away and requested that flowers be sent on behalf of the City

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second from Councilor Otis to approve the expenditure from the Council Contingency for the flowers to be sent in memory of Ernie Allain. So moved, the motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no comments.

4. Council Comments – Councilor Morgan Allain asked about the date for the Safety Meeting. The meeting will be scheduled on October 22.

5. Adjournment

At approximately 8:00 p.m. Councilor Higbee moved with a second by Councilor Berthiaume to adjourn the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried.

A True Record, Attest:

Shelli Fortin  
City Clerk

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