

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, April 1, 2019**

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:35 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

### **Regular Meeting**

#### **a. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **b. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Grenier, Councilors Remillard, Otis, Gentili, Higbee, Rozek, Berthiaume, and Theberge

Absent: Councilor Morgan Allain

Also present: Jim Wheeler, Susan Tremblay, Shelli Fortin, Corinne Cascadden, Bryan Lamirande, Ron Lemoine, Dan Buteau, Peter Morency, Gina Welch, Jamie Welch, Rachelle Gilcris, Craig Gilcris, Sandy Pouliot, Roland Simard, Robert Demers, Mitch Dumont, Paul Lafleur, Claire Stiles, and Barbara Tetreault, Berlin Daily Sun

**c.** Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to accept the minutes of the March 13, 2019 Budget Session, March 18, 2019 Regular Meeting and Work Session, and March 20, 2019 Budget Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

#### **Disbursements:**

Disbursement Summary Draft #1835 start date 03/19/2019 end date 04/01/2019 for a total cash disbursement of \$739,723.34. 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 no public comments.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Council Committee Reports – There were no Council Committee reports.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Resolution 2019-07 Authorizing an Application to the NH Department of Safety for \$6,420.07 for Point of Dispensing Exercise (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Higbee to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for April 15, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

3. Resolution 2019-08 Accepting a Donation of Land from the Conservation Fund (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for April 15, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

4. Resolution 2019-09 Accepting an \$8,000 Grant from United Way to Schools (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Higbee to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for April 15, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

5. Resolution 2019-10 Authorizing Highway Safety Grants (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for April 15, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

6. Resolution 2019-11 Opioid Abuse Reduction (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Higbee moved, with a second by Councilor Berthiaume to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for April 15, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

7. Resolution 2019-12 Operation Stonegarden Grant for \$10,760 to PD (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Higbee to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for April 15, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

8. Resolution 2019-13 Apply and Accept ILO Program (1<sup>st</sup> read)

Councilor Higbee moved, with a second by Councilor Remillard to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for April 15, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

9. Vote on School Contracts

a. BEA – Mayor Grenier read the cost items for the three year agreement between the City and the Berlin Education Association.

FY2020	0.5% increase	Cost \$39,569
FY2021	1.75% increase	Cost \$139,386
FY2022	2.00% increase	Cost \$162,247

Total Cost \$341,202

Councilor Remillard moved with a second from Councilor Higbee to approve the cost items with BEA as presented by the Mayor.

Mayor Grenier advised that these are trying times for the community, but the Council recognizes the hard work and dedication put forth by the school employees. Mayor Grenier stated that he believes as teachers retire and younger teachers come in, the cost items may be reduced.

A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Higbee - Aye, Councilor Rozek – Aye, Councilor Berthiaume- Aye, Councilor Theberge – Aye, Councilor Remillard – Aye, Councilor Otis – Aye, Councilor Gentili – Aye, Mayor Grenier – Aye. The motion passed.

b. AFSCME Local 1444 – Mayor Grenier read the cost items for the three year agreement between the City and AFSCME Local 1444.

FY2020	0% increase	Cost \$5,846.00
FY2021	1.0% increase	Cost \$8,090.25
FY2022	1.5% increase	Cost \$10,182.41

Total Cost \$24,118.66

Councilor Remillard moved with a second from Councilor Higbee to approve the cost items with AFSCME Local 1444 as presented by the Mayor. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Higbee - Aye, Councilor Rozek – Aye, Councilor Berthiaume- Aye, Councilor Theberge – Aye, Councilor Remillard – Aye, Councilor Otis – Aye, Councilor Gentili – Aye, Mayor Grenier – Aye. The motion passed.

4. City Manager's Report

1. Chief Lacasse reports that Berlin will take part in a POD (Point of Dispensing) exercise on Saturday, April 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Berlin High School. The exercise is being planned and will be run in conjunction with the Health Consortium. Fire, State Police, and EMS will participate. There will be state officials present to observe and assess the response. If any Council member would like to observe, we can arrange for this with the Fire Chief.
2. Attached is a short communication, from the Fire Chief, which was requested at the FD Budget meeting. The memo lists current ISO ratings.

3. FCI Berlin has contacted us about re-initiating the city Beautification Project. They are hoping to be able to provide us with 5 personnel who will be supervised by PWD staff.
4. Reminder that there will be a Right-to-Know Workshop presented by the NH Municipal Association on Wednesday, April 3, at the High School Library beginning at 6:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required at <https://nhmunicipal.wufoo.com/forms/righttoknow-law-governmental-meetingsberlin/>.
5. Reminder to join your fellow residents, neighbors, and friends as the City starts to work with Camoin Associates to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy. This event will be held on Thursday, April 4 at the White Mountains Community College from 6pm-7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available.
6. Sealed Bids for Airport Improvements at the Airport will be received until April 12, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. The project consists of rehabilitation of Runway 18-36 and airfield sign improvements. Runway rehabilitation will consist of crack filling, crack repairs, and new runway markings. If funding allows, an emulsified asphalt sealcoat will be applied to the runway surface once the crack filling and repairs are complete.
7. Berlin's Parking Ban has been extended through April 15<sup>th</sup> in an ounce of caution and anticipation of a snow event that was predicted for the weekend as well as more potential snow over the next several days.
8. The 2019 Easter "Eggstravaganza" will be held Saturday, April 13 in the Berlin Recreation gymnasium. The gym will be filled with treats as well as books thanks to donations from Wireless Zone and Badger Realty. The event is free but donations are welcomed. Participants can enter a raffle for a large basket of gifts sponsored by Wireless Zone. Each child may select one book thanks in part to Badger Realty. The event is for children ages 2-10.

Ages 2 & 3	9:30 am	Ages 4 & 5	9:45 am
Ages 6 & 7	10:00 am	Ages 8, 9, & 10	10:15 am

9. Fire Department Incident Report is attached.
10. Police Department Statistics are attached.

Councilor Rozek moved with a second from Councilor Higbee to accept the City Manager's Report and place it on file.

Councilor Gentili asked if the Public Hearing for Resolution 2019-07 being held after the Point of Dispensing exercise would be a problem. City Manager Wheeler advised it would not be.

So moved, the motion carried.

7. Mayor's Report
  - a. Proclamation – National Service Recognition Day

Mayer Grenier read and signed the Proclamation for National Service Recognition Day.

WHEREAS, service to others is a hallmark of the American character, and central to how we meet our challenges; and

WHEREAS, the nation's counties/cities are increasingly turning to national service and volunteerism as a cost-effective strategy to meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, national service expands economic opportunity by creating more sustainable, resilient communities and providing education, career skills, and leadership abilities for those who serve; and

WHEREAS, RSVP participants demonstrate commitment, dedication, and patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service, a commitment that remains with them in their future endeavors; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Paul Grenier, Mayor of the City of Berlin, NH, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2019, as National Service Recognition Day, and encourage residents to recognize the positive impact of RSVP volunteers in our community; to thank those who serve; and to find ways to give back to their communities.

To the RSVP volunteers who provide service to local agencies and to the community, a Heartfelt Thank You.

**b. Water Commission Appointment**

Mayor Grenier received a letter from Sean Brungot:

Dear Honorable Mayor,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Berlin Water Commission Board. I've been a Berlin Resident my entire life and a homeowner in the City of Berlin for 20 years. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of New Hampshire and I've worked in the steel construction industry since graduation from UNH in 1994. It would be my pleasure to serve on the Water Commission Board.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me. My cell phone number is (540)986-5413. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sean Brungot  
Berlin, NH

Councilor Rozek moved, with a second by Councilor Higbee, to appoint Sean Brungot as a member of the Water Commission with a term to begin May 1, 2019 and to expire April 30, 2022. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Rozek moved with a second from Councilor Higbee to accept the Mayor's Report and place it on file.

Mayor Grenier asked that City Manager Wheeler prepare a plaque for Lucien Langlois to thank him for his years of service to the Water Commission. The plaque could be presented at the second meeting in May.

So moved, the motion carried.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Rachelle Gilcris thanked the Council for their support of the school system.

**9. Council Comments** – Councilor Berthiaume noted that her name was incorrect in the minutes for the Budget Hearings on 03/13/2019 and 03/20/2019.

**10. Adjournment**

At approximately 8:11 p.m. Councilor Rozek 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.