

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:44 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Public Hearing

Mayor Grenier opened the Public Hearing at 7:45 pm for Ordinance 2019-04 Amending Elections, Chapter 5, Section 6, Requirements for Notice of Candidacy. There were no public comments. Mayor Grenier closed the public hearing at 7:45 pm.

Regular Meeting

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Roll Call

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

Absent: None

Also present: James Wheeler, Susan Tremblay, Shelli Fortin, Gina Welch, Jamie Welch, and Barbara Tetreault, Berlin Daily Sun.

c. Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to accept the minutes of the August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting and Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

Disbursements:

Disbursement Summary Draft #1846 start date 08/20/2019 end date 09/03/2019 for a total cash disbursement of \$1,343,972.57. 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. Ordinance 2019-04 Amending Elections Chapter 5, Section 6 Requirements for Notice of Candidacy (tabled 08/19/2019)

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen

AN ORDINANCE amending the CODE OF ORDINANCES, Chapter 5 , ELECTIONS, Sec. 5-6. Requirements for Notice of Candidacy.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Berlin, as follows:

That Sec. 5-6. is hereby amended below.

Sec. 5-6.

The notice of candidacy shall be entitled "Notice of the Candidacy of (insert full legal name of candidate) for the office of (insert mayor or councilman ~~and ward number~~) of the City of Berlin, New Hampshire". Such notice shall be signed by the candidate ~~in the presence of~~ and filed with the city clerk during the filing period. Lines shall be provided on such notice for the signature of the candidate, for his or her legal address, for the date of signing, and for the signature of the city clerk ~~as witness~~. All candidates who file on the last day of the filing period shall do so in person before the city clerk. No name shall be printed on the ballot unless such notice of candidacy is filed as prescribed herein.

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

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 amend Ordinance 2019-04 by adding the requirement that the form be witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or Notary Public. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to read Ordinance 2019-04 as amended by short title for a second time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to read Ordinance 2019-04 as amended by short title for a third time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, that Ordinance 2019-04 as amended be passed. So moved, the motion passed.

2. Council Committee Reports – There were no committee reports.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Ordinance 2019-05 Rescinding No Parking on Main and Eighth Street by Brown School (1st read)

Councilor Berthiaume moved, with a second by Councilor Higbee to table the Ordinance and schedule a public hearing for September 16, 2019. So moved, the motion carried.

4. Resolution 2019-27 Carry Over Capital Appropriations from FY19 to FY20 (1st read)

Councilor Theberge moved, with a second by Councilor Morgan to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for September 16, 2019. Councilor Remillard raised a point of order, as the Resolution number on the second page was incorrectly typed as 2018-27, this will be corrected for the next meeting. So moved, the motion carried.

5. City Manager's Report

1. The airport runway has been re-opened as of last Thursday. The pavement sealing project was completed two weeks ahead of the 3 to 4 week schedule projection. Temporary markings have been placed until the seal-coat cures. We are expecting permanent markings to be applied at the end of September. Carol Niewola of the NHDOT- Aeronautics will come to the Airport at the end of September to meet with HEB Engineers and Axtell to view the runway work and would like to have a ribbon cutting at the same time. Council will be kept informed once plans are finalized.
2. There will be a Public Hearing on the State's 10 Year Transportation Plan on Thursday, September 19th, at 1:00 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium. The purpose of the Ten Year Plan is to develop and implement a plan allowing New Hampshire to fully participate in federally supported transportation improvement projects as well as to outline projects and programs funded with State transportation dollars. The document can be viewed on DOT's web site.
3. Members of the Berlin City Hall Employee's Association have petitioned the PELRB to join AFSCME Council 93 and end their affiliation of OPEIU. A copy of the petition is attached.
4. The second public input Economic Development Strategy meeting will be provided and facilitated by Camoin Associates on Sept. 11th at 6:00 PM at the WMCC.
5. The second Emergency Operations Plan update meeting will be held on September 10th at 9:00 AM at the WMCC. The effort is being managed by Mapping and Planning Solutions of Whitefield, NH. A Planning Team of emergency operations personnel and agencies will meet approximately 4 to 6 times until the update is completed. The first meeting was held on August 14th at Berlin City Hall.

6. NH Employment Security will be holding its annual Fall Job Fair on September 26th from 1:00pm-4:00pm, at St Anne's Hall on School St. Employers are encouraged to attend and participate.

7. 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.

Mayor Grenier advised that he went to the airport to see the work and that Axtell did a great job on the runway.

Mayor Grenier asked how long it would take for the City Hall Employees to change their affiliation from OPEIU to AFSCME. City Manager Wheeler advised that he would check with the PELRB.

Councilor Remillard asked about George Stanley's house. City Manager Wheeler advised that they just received permission to clean out the house and will be looking for contractors to do that. After the house is clean, another inspection will be done. If the home can meet code at that point, a list of corrections to be made will be given to Mr. Stanley. If the building is not able to be brought to code, demolition may be recommended. Mr. Stanley still owns the property and any costs incurred by the city will be a lien against the property.

Councilor Otis asked how many projects from Berlin are on the 10 year plan and was advised that there are none.

So moved, the motion carried.

10. Mayor's Report

Mayor Grenier thanked Jamie Welch for attending the hearing on the budget in Concord last Thursday. Mayor Grenier said they have been unrelenting and he is cautiously optimistic.

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

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no public comments.

9. Council Comments – There were no council comments.

10. Adjournment

At approximately 8:05 p.m. Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Higbee 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.