

TO: JOHN P. BOHENKO, CITY MANAGER

FROM: KELLI L. BARNABY, CITY CLERK

RE: ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 17, 2001, COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, ONE JUNKINS AVENUE, PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

PRESENT: MAYOR SIRRELL, ASSISTANT MAYOR CLEWS, COUNCILORS HANSON, GRASSO, HYNES, MARCONI, WHITEHOUSE AND PANTELAKOS

ABSENT: COUNCILOR WAGNER

1. At 6:30 p.m., an Anticipated "Non-Meeting" with Counsel was held regarding Coalition Communities and the proposed amendment to the State of New Hampshire Constitution.
2. Presentation – Presentation of checks for the Sherburne Park: Bunnell Family and Northern Utilities – Community Development Director Hayden announced that the City has received a generous contribution from Northern Utilities for renovations to Sherburne Park. The Bunnell Family presented Mayor Sirrell with a check in the amount of \$11,250.00 for renovations to the Sherburne Park.
3. Presentation – David Engel and Family and Dorothy Vaughan: Presentation of checks for Save the Old State House – Mayor Sirrell announced that she has received a check in the amount of \$500.00 from Dorothy Vaughan for Save the Old State House. David Engel presented Mayor Sirrell with a check in the amount of \$565.00 for Save the Old State House.
4. Presentation – Recognition of Arthur Parrott - Mayor Sirrell presented Arthur with a gift in recognition of his many years of service to the City in serving on the Planning Board.
5. Presentation – Doug Knight, Executive Director of Pro Portsmouth Re: First Night – Doug advised the City Council that there would be 40 performers and 14 venues for the 15th annual First Night. This year's slogan is Unity through Community.
6. Presentation – Melanson, Heath & Company, P.C. Auditors' Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2001 – Scott McIntyre of Melanson, Heath and Company provided a brief presentation of the City's Financial Report.

Voted to authorize the outside auditors to work with the Cable Commission in auditing the funds of the Cable Company and to see if the City of Portsmouth contract has been met financially.
7. Volunteer Committee Reports – Presentation and Report Back of Emergency Communications Center Study Committee – Mr. McDonald of PS Comm provided an overview of their findings in reviewing the Emergency Communications Center.

Voted to suspend the rules in order to take action on the report of the Emergency Communications Center Study Committee.

Voted to accept the report of the Emergency Communications Study Committee.
8. Acceptance of Minutes – December 3, 2001 – Voted to accept and approve the minutes of the December 3, 2001 City Council meeting.

9. Public Comment Session – There were three speakers: Frank Wisinski (Creation of a Seacoast Marine Corp Emergency Response Team); Seth Marbin (Martin Luther King Day March of Justice); and Mary Lou McElwain (South Mill Pond Petition).
10. Third and final reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 8, Article I, Section 8.130 – Scope, Signs Included by amending 8.130 C – Removal Required – Voted to pass third and final reading.
11. Letter from Jackie Jarest regarding the increased rates for non-residents at the indoor pool – Voted to accept and place the letter on file.
12. Letter from Frank Wisinski, requesting the formation of an USMC Veterans Emergency Response Team – Voted to refer the request to the City Manager and the City’s Emergency Management Representative.
13. Letter from Cubbi Lirette, Sexual Assault Support Services, requesting permission to hold the 19th Annual Walk-a-thon on Sunday, April 21, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.
14. Petition from Mary Lou McElwain regarding the condition of the South Mill Pond – Voted to accept and place the petition on file.
15. Letter from Steve Alie, Alie Jewelers regarding the success of the Holiday kick-off – Voted to accept and place the letter on file.
16. Letter from Kenneth Hale, AIDS Response Seacoast, requesting permission to hold the annual fund raising walk, 2002 Seacoast Aids Walk on Sunday, May 5, 2002 – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.
17. Sidewalk Obstruction License application – Lucky 7 Gallery – 1 A-frame sign – Voted to table the application due to the location of the sign with a report back from the City Manager at the January 14th City Council meeting.
18. Sidewalk Obstruction License application – Pierce Gallery 1- A-frame sign – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.
19. Sidewalk Obstruction License application – Portsmouth SDA Church – 1 obstruction – Voted to deny the location of the obstruction. Councilor Marconi voted opposed.
20. Letter from Seth Marbin, Service Director, City Year NH, requesting permission to hold a “Martin Luther King Day March of Justice” on Monday, January 21, 2002 – Voted to approve this march subject to no closing of City streets and all logistics to be worked out by the City Manager and the Police Department.
21. Donation to the Coalition Legal Fund – Voted to accept the \$5,000 contribution from the Town of Sandwich and \$1,000 from the Town of Stoddard to be placed in the Coalition Legal Fund.

22. Appointment of Blue Ribbon Committee to Save the Old State House – Voted to approve the appointments as submitted by Mayor Sirrell as follows:

Chairman Robert Padian, Mayor Evelyn Sirrell, Dr. Dorothy Vaughan, Eileen Foley, Harold Whitehouse, Laura Pantelakos, Joanne Grasso, David Adams, John Sullivan, J. Dennis Robinson, Duncan MacCallum, Martha Fuller Clark, Jackie Pitts, Jay Smith, Elaine Krasker, Ex-Officio Kathleen Mullins, Ex-Officio James Garvin, Ex-Officio David Engel and Ex-Officio Burt Cohen.

The mission of the Committee is: To rescue the surviving portion of the original New Hampshire State House and to restore the building to its colonial era-elegance on a suitable Site in the City of Portsmouth, NH; to re-animate the building as a living Monument for use as a unifying symbol of our heritage.

23. Attendance Records for major Boards & Commission for 2001 – No action required.

24. Appointments/Resignations – Voted to reappoint all reconsiderations of individuals to various boards and commissions as a basket motion.

Voted to approve the following reappointments as listed: Phyllis Eldridge to the Library Trustees until October 1, 2004; Steve Wrenn to the Cable Commission until April 1, 2003; John Rice, Richard Katz, and David Adams to the Historic District Commission until June 1, 2004; Scott Pafford, Mark Simpson, Clifford Taylor, and Thomas Ferrini to the Economic Development Commission until October 1, 2005; James Horrigan, Alain Jousse, Nathaniel Holloway and Robert Marchewka to the Zoning Board of Adjustment until December 1, 2006.

Voted to appoint Edward Hayes to the Economic Development Commission until October 1, 2005.

The City Council considered the following appointments to be voted on at the January 14th City Council meeting as listed: Eileen Foley and William Elwell to the Trustees of the Trust Fund, Peter Bresciano, James Feehley, Frank Daggett, and Betty Sanford to the Taxi Commission; Noele Clews, Paige Roberts, and George Savramis to the Planning Board; Frederick Gray to the Traffic & Safety Committee; Christopher Rogers to the Zoning Board of Adjustment; and Barbara Ward to the Library Trustees.

Voted to accept the resignation of Eileen Foley from the Pease Development Authority with sincere gratitude for serving on the Committee.

Voted to accept with regret the resignation of Charles Vaughn from the Trustees of the Trust Fund.

Voted to accept the resignation of Jerry Howe from the Cable Commission and the Peirce Island Committee with regret and appreciation for his years of service to these committees.

25. Appointment of Pease Development Authority Representative – Voted to suspend the rules in order to vote the appointment of a new Representative to the Pease Development Authority this evening. Councilor Marconi abstained from voting.

Voted effective January 1, 2002 the appointment of John Bohenko as the City of Portsmouth's representative to the Pease Development Authority, in accordance with RSA 12G. Councilor Marconi abstained from voting.

26. Youth Committee Report – Voted to accept the Youth Committee Report as submitted.
27. Traffic & Safety Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the November 15, 2001 meeting – Voted to accept and approve the action sheet and minutes of the November 15, 2001 Traffic & Safety Committee meeting.
28. Parking Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the November 15, 2001 meeting – Voted to accept and approve the action sheet and minutes of the November 15, 2001 Parking Committee meeting.
29. Adjournment – At 9:15 p.m., voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk