

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2004

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sirrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sirrell, Assistant Mayor Hanson, Councilors Grasso, Ferrini, Marchand, Pantelakos, Hynes, Raynolds, and Whitehouse

III. INVOCATION

Mayor Sirrell asked everyone to join in a moment of silent prayer.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Ferrini led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

MAYOR'S AWARD

1. Portsmouth Middle School Girls Basketball Team

Mayor Sirrell presented Mayor's Awards Mayor's Awards to the members of the Portsmouth Middle School Girls basketball team in honor of their championship.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Relocation of Detached PO Boxes from Portsmouth Business Center

Patricia Hersey, Portsmouth Post Mistress; and Kathleen Walker, Postal Service Real Estate Specialist informed the City Council and residents that the detached lockbox units from Greenleaf Avenue and the Portsmouth Business Center will be relocated to 70 Heritage Avenue by the end of July.

2. Judge John Maher, Trust Funds (not on agenda)

Judge Maher said managing the growth of trust funds is a complex job and recommended that the City Council appoint a committee to establish criteria for appointing members to the Trustees of Trust Funds. He said that this committee would be to look at the trust funds not the individuals presently serving on the committee.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – JUNE 8, 2004

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to accept and approve the minutes of the June 8, 2004 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Pantelakos and voted.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Councilor Whitehouse moved to extend the public comment session past the thirty-minute (30) time limit. Seconded by Councilor Raynolds. On a roll call vote 5-4, motion *failed* to pass. Councilors Grasso, Ferrini, Marchand, Hynes, and Mayor Sirrell voted opposed. Assistant Mayor Hanson, Councilor Pantelakos, Whitehouse, and Raynolds voted in favor.

Anthony Coviello said that he recently submitted an application to be considered to serve on the Historic District Commission. He requested that the City Council reconsider their policy on appointments to boards and commissions.

Harold Ecker said that there are a great deal of people here this evening to speak regarding the public hearing on parking amendments and asked the City Council to allow individuals to speak for as long as they choose on the matter.

Martin Cameron said that the budget proposed is fiscally irresponsible. He said that the taxpayers deserve some relief.

Jim Nevin said he moved here because of the school system. He said that he works three jobs in order to live and have his children go to Portsmouth schools. He urged the City Council not to cut the School Department budget.

Mark Herrholz spoke in support of the budget as submitted by the departments. He said that the city provides great services and most of the increases are based on fixed costs.

Marc Stettner spoke against the request on the agenda this evening by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Susan Denneberg spoke in favor of the Spanish program in the elementary schools.

Donald Coker said that this is a small city and asked how we got to such a large budget. He said the proposed nine percent increase in the budget is unacceptable.

Diane McGee expressed concern with further cuts to the School Department budget.

Nancy Clayburgh urged the City Council to support the budget as proposed and the enhancements to revenues.

Amelia Jones urged the City Council not to cut the School Department budget.

Tom Trout asked the City Council not to cut the School Department budget. He said he is concern with the effect cuts could have at the Little Harbour School.

Cathy Comeau spoke in favor of the School Department budget remaining as proposed. She said any further cuts could cause a cut to programs and teachers.

Melinda Linane said that the revenue enhancements would help the School Department from drastic cuts.

Nancy Lane spoke in support of the School Department budget as submitted.

Bill St. Laurent said the proposed nine percent increase to the budget is unacceptable. He said you need to consider individuals ability to pay taxes. He requested that the budget not be increased more than four percent.

Chris Cole spoke to the projects that could be cut from the budget based on the request for a reduction. He said he is in favor of the proposed increase to parking fees.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7, ARTICLES I, IV, & IX, SECTION 7.102 – PARKING METER ZONES, SECTION 7.105 – PARKING, SECTION 7.405 – AUTHORITY GIVEN TO REGULATE AREAS, AND SECTION 7.901 – PENALTIES – PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PARKING METER RATES AND FINES

City Manager Bohenko introduced Parking and Transportation Director Burke who will provide a brief presentation on the proposed adjustments to the parking meter rates and fines. Parking and Transportation Director Burke said the concept to increase the hours of parking enforcement was a suggestion of the City Council during their budget work session on June 3rd 2004. He said that the staff is recommending that the hours are increased to 7:00 p.m. and the staff is opposed to enforcement on Sundays. He said that the City Council would need to delete the Sunday enforcement from the ordinance. He said that we have very reasonable parking rates in comparison with other communities.

Mayor Sirrell read the legal notice, declared the public hearing open and called for speakers.

Michael Clayburgh spoke in favor of the proposed increases to the parking meter rates and fines.

Harold Ecker spoke in favor of the increase to parking fines but opposed to the increase in the meters. He said you will force people to shop at the malls were parking is free.

Bill St. Laurent spoke in favor of increasing the parking meter rates and fines but opposed to increasing enforcement hours and the parking garage fees.

Joel Wixson spoke in favor of the proposed increases.

Nicole Perl said she is concern with the fiscal issues facing the departments in the city. She spoke in favor of the proposed increases for parking. She said that Portsmouth has the lowest parking rates in the seacoast.

Michael Hughes spoke in favor of raising the parking rates, fines and violations as proposed. He said it is important to maintain the services the city provides to the residents and these increases will assist with that.

Mark Herrholz spoke in favor of raising the rates, fines and violations. He said this is a creative way to raise revenues.

John Moulton spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance and increases.

Sam Chase spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance.

The following group of individuals indicated that they are in favor of the proposed ordinance: Lisa Sweet, Leslie Stevens, Andrea Ardea, Lynn Kendall, Roddy, Cole, Zanthi Gray, Heidi DiPeirto, Jennifer Cotrupi, Ann Dintino, Karen Jacoby, Chris Cole, Helen Keller Magenau, Cathy Comeau, Susan Denneburg, Sally Struble, and Peter Anderson.

Donald Coker spoke opposed to the parking meter fees, fines and violations being increased. He said that this ordinance change would effect the downtown residents.

Marc Stettner suggested that the city create seasonal parking rates. He requested that the City Council keep the garage rates at fifty cents per hour and not to increase the hours of enforcement.

Steve Alie said raising the parking rates, fines and violations will be a costly mistake to the city and the downtown merchants. He said fifty cents an hour is not inexpensive and you will cause a drop in tourist to the downtown.

Cindy Dodds spoke opposed to the increase to the parking rates, fines, violations and enforcement hours. She said that the meter personnel are quick to issue tickets. She suggested that the meter personnel be reduced as a way to lower the budget.

Mike Gilcruise spoke opposed to raising the parking fines, rates, violations and enforcement hours. He also expressed his opposition to increasing the parking garage rates.

Jim Nevin spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance.

Natalie Hassold spoke on behalf of the Downtown Business Association. She said that the downtown merchants contribute a large amount of money to the city in taxes. She said the Association is opposed to the proposed increases for the parking garage rates and enforcement hours. She said that the increases would add an additional tax to those people that shop and stay downtown. She said that the Association is in favor of increasing the violation fee. She suggested that the city introduce a one-time forgiveness ticket. She said that the Association does support the increase to the parking meters but they do not want to see an increase in the monthly rates for the parking garage.

Lee Burns said we need something positive in this proposal to give the people that support the downtown. He said the parking garage rates should not be increased. He said that the city should market the parking garage and the parking validation program recently established.

Peter Egelston said that this should not be a debate between the revenue enhancements and schools. He said that this proposal should be approached in a creative way. He said that the downtown businesses provide a great deal to the city. He spoke against the increase in parking rates.

Stuart Shaines said that the proposed ordinance has nothing to do with the schools. He said something needs to be done and the city will make the decision as to what is the best way to increase revenues. He said that the business community contributes 60% to the budget.

Dan Kovel said that parking meters were put in as a necessary nuisance to the downtown. He said raising parking fees, fines and violations should never be used as a way to reduce the budget. He urged the City Council not to support this ordinance.

Bob Hassold spoke in support of raising the parking meter rates and fines. He recommended the city introduce a forgiveness ticket next year.

Paul Sorli said the demand for parking in the downtown this time of year is great. He said that the city needs to entice people to park in the garage versus on the street. Therefore the parking garage rates should not be increased.

Sally Struble said all residents contribute to the city not just the downtown business owners. She said that the rates are extremely low and should be increased.

Donald Coker urged the City Council to consider the input from the downtown residents and business owners when voting on this ordinance. He said if the rates are increased do not increase the hours of enforcement.

Marc Stettner urged the City Council to consider his proposal for seasonal parking rates.

Joshua DeMarco spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance. He said the parking rates are extremely low and should be increased. He said that people would still visit the downtown.

Mark Herrholz spoke in favor of the revenue enhancements as proposed.

Peter Anderson said that the city has free parking facilities for people to use and they are within walking distance to the downtown.

Lisa Sweet said it is not businesses against schools. She said the schools and her children would be directly impacted if the revenue enhancements were not passed. She said there has not been an increase to the parking fees in seven years.

David Cummings said the parking fees are unrealistically low. He said we need to be in line with other communities and areas in New England.

Bob Hassold said the city should do what they need to do in order to balance the budget this year. He suggested that the parking revenues be used to build a new parking garage or placed in a fund for parking enhancements. He suggested that the city create a sunset clause to review how the increases have effected the businesses.

Peter Egelston said everyone in the city pays their share but you need to look at the numbers the downtown district pays versus what it receives. He said raising the parking rates are not a solution to the budget. He spoke against extending the hours of enforcement. He said that the parking garage rates should remain lower than the street rates. He spoke opposed to any increase in the parking validation program rates.

Helen Keller Magneau spoke in favor of forgiveness ticket. He supports looking at this issue next year to see if the businesses were impacted by the rate increases.

After three calls and no further speakers, Mayor Sirrell closed the public hearing.

Mayor Sirrell declared a brief recess at 9:15 p.m. At 9:25 p.m., Mayor Sirrell called the meeting back to order.

Mayor Sirrell passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Hanson.

- B. ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 7 – VEHICLES, TRAFFIC PARKING (OMNIBUS PARKING ORDINANCE APRIL 18, 2003 TO APRIL 15, 2004)
 - 1. Amendment to Chapter 7, Article III, Sections 7.326 & 7.327 – Limited Parking
 - 1.1 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.327 – Limited Parking – Two Hours – Congress Street: southerly side from Chestnut Street to Church Street, except for the first two spaces westerly from the intersection of Fleet Street
 - 1.2 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.326 – Limited Parking – 15 Minutes – Congress Street: southerly side, first two spaces westerly from the intersection of Fleet
 - 2. Amendment to Chapter 7, Article III, Sections 7.326 & 7.327 – Limited Parking
 - 2.1 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.326 – Limited Parking – 15 Minutes – delete Market Street: last parking space on Market Street, on right side before entering Market Square to be dedicated for police cruiser parking only

- 2.2 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.327 – Limited Parking – Two Hours – Market Street – (a) westerly side from Market Square to Bow Street, except for the first two parking spaces from Market Square. The first of which is hereby designated for police cruiser parking only and the second of which is designated as a taxi stand; (b) easterly side from Daniel Street to Deer Street; (c) both sides from Deer Street to Russell Street
3. Chapter 7, Article VI, Section 7.601 – Truck Loading/Unloading Zones Established
4. Chapter 7, Article IVA – Bus Stops, Taxicab Stands & Horse Drawn Carriages, Section 7-A.408 – Taxi Stands Designated
5. Chapter 7, Article IV, Section 7.402 (b) Off-Street Parking Areas be amended by the addition of Business Validation Program

Assistant Mayor Hanson read the legal notice, declared the public hearing open and called for speakers. He advised the City Council that these proposed amendments have been effect for a year through the Parking Committee Pilot Program. After three calls and no speakers, Assistant Mayor Hanson closed the public hearing.

Assistant Mayor Hanson passed the gavel back to Mayor Sirrell.

- C. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE I, SECTION 10-102 – DEFINITIONS AND SECTION 10-208, TABLE 4 REGARDING REGULATION ISSUES ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF PROPERTY IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS A AND B DISTRICTS AND RELATED ORDINANCE PROVISIONS

Mayor Sirrell read the legal notice, declared the public hearing open and called for speakers.

City Manager Bohenko asked Deputy City Manager Hayden to come forward to discuss the proposed amendment to the ordinance. She advised the City Council that the proposed amendment came from the master plan process. Deputy City Manager Hayden introduced Rick Taintor the consultant working on the master plan. Rick provided a brief PowerPoint presentation on the proposed amendments to the ordinance. He reviewed the definition of ground floor. The proposed amendment would deal with Central Business Districts A & B.

John Grossman said that this ordinance would not make the streetscape more appealing or interesting. He said that he is opposed to the ordinance.

After three calls and no further speakers, Mayor Sirrell closed the public hearing.

- D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF REVENUES AND TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,000,000.00

Mayor Sirrell read the legal notice, declared the public hearing open and called for speakers.

City Manager Bohenko briefly explained the purpose of the resolution is to assist us during our temporary cash flow problem because of our tax bill cycle.

After three calls and no speakers, Mayor Sirrell declared the public hearing closed.

VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND DONATIONS

- A. Acceptance of Donation from Parrott Avenue Place in the amount of \$2,500.00

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to accept the donation in the amount of \$2,500 to the City on behalf of Parrott Avenue Place. Seconded by Councilor Ferrini and voted.

IX. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- A. Second reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 7, Articles I, IV, & IX, Section 7.102 – Parking Meter Zones, Section 7.105 – Parking, Section 7.405 Authority Given to Regulate Areas, and Section 7.901 Penalties - Proposed Adjustments to the Parking Meter Rates and Fines

Councilor Pantelakos moved to pass second reading and hold third and final reading at the July 12, 2004 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Raynolds.

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to amend the motion to pass second reading the adjustment of parking meter rates, parking fines, and hours of enforcement with the deletion of Sunday hours and hold a third and final reading at the June 28th Special City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Whitehouse and voted.

City Manager Bohenko said we will take the information and suggestions provided and reviewed these matters next year if we feel they are valid proposals. He said that he would provide a report back to the City Council in February.

Councilor Marchand said that we should review the process between now and next year. City Manager Bohenko said if you instruct him to provide a report back with a time certain he will.

Assistant Mayor Hanson said that we will look at the forgiveness ticket, which would cost the city \$300,000 but it is a great public relations tool. He said the reason we are extending the hours of enforcement is due to the employees of the downtown businesses taking the parking spots and feeding the meter. He said that we need to create a turn over for the parking spaces. He said that there are 80 parking spaces being used by downtown employees that should be free for the public to use.

Councilor Ferrini asked the City Manager if we could find out the effect of a seasonal program for parking rates. City Manager Bohenko said we would need to gather information from other communities that have such a program and report back to the City Council.

Councilor Whitehouse said he is concern with increasing the hours of enforcement. Councilor Whitehouse moved to amend 7.105 to remove the proposed 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. hours of enforcement and revert back to 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Marchand.

Assistant Mayor Hanson said if the Council votes in favor of the amendment you would be giving up 80 parking spaces in the downtown.

Mayor Sirrell passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Hanson.

Mayor Sirell said that the employees are taking advantage and suggested that the meter personnel start chalking tires again.

Councilor Marchand said he agrees with the need to turn over parking spaces. He said that we should provide incentives for people to park in the garage.

Assistant Mayor Hanson passed the gavel back to Mayor Sirrell.

Assistant Mayor Hanson said we have created the parking validation program, which requires you to park in the garage and the program is successful.

Councilor Pantelakos suggested that City Manager Bohenko write letters to the downtown businesses to advise their employees to park in the parking garage and not occupy a parking space all evening that could be used by someone visiting the downtown. City Manager Bohenko said that the validation program would be evaluated in July and August to see if we can assist with the employees taking the parking spaces.

On a roll call vote 7-2, motion to amend 7.105 to remove the proposed 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. hours of enforcement failed to pass. Councilors Marchand and Whitehouse voted in favor. Assistant Mayor Hanson, Councilors Grasso, Ferrini, Pantelakos, Hynes, Raynolds, and Mayor Sirrell.

Main motion passed as amended.

- B. Second reading of Amendments to Chapter 7 – Vehicles, Traffic Parking (Omnibus Parking Ordinance April 18, 2003 to April 15, 2004)
 - 1. Amendment to Chapter 7, Article III, Sections 7.326 & 7.327 – Limited Parking
 - 1.1 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.327 – Limited Parking – Two Hours – Congress Street: southerly side from Chestnut Street to Church Street, except for the first two spaces westerly from the intersection of Fleet Street
 - 1.2 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.326 – Limited Parking – 15 Minutes – Congress Street: southerly side, first two spaces westerly from the intersection of Fleet

2. Amendment to Chapter 7, Article III, Sections 7.326 & 7.327 – Limited Parking
 - 2.1 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.326 – Limited Parking – 15 Minutes – delete Market Street: last parking space on Market Street, on right side before entering Market Square to be dedicated for police cruiser parking only
 - 2.2 Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.327 – Limited Parking – Two Hours – Market Street – (a) westerly side from Market Square to Bow Street, except for the first two parking spaces from Market Square. The first of which is hereby designated for police cruiser parking only and the second of which is designated as a taxi stand; (b) easterly side from Daniel Street to Deer Street; (c) both sides from Deer Street to Russell Street
3. Chapter 7, Article VI, Section 7.601 – Truck Loading/Unloading Zones Established
4. Chapter 7, Article IVA – Bus Stops, Taxicab Stands & Horse Drawn Carriages, Section 7-A.408 – Taxi Stands Designated
5. Chapter 7, Article IV, Section 7.402 (b) Off-Street Parking Areas be amended by the addition of Business Validation Program

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to pass second reading on amendments to the Parking Ordinance, as presented, and hold a third and final reading at your July 12th City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Ferrini and voted.

- C. Second reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Article I, Section 10-102 – Definitions and Section 10-208, Table 4 regarding regulation issues on the ground floor of property in the Central Business A and B Districts and related Ordinance provisions

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to pass second reading on amendments to the Parking Ordinance, as presented, and hold a third and final reading at your July 12th City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Grasso and voted.

- D. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Borrowing in Anticipation of Revenues and Taxes in the Amount of \$16,000,000.00

Councilor Whitehouse moved to adopt the Resolution to authorize borrowing in anticipation of revenues and taxes in the amount up to \$16,000,000.00. Seconded by Councilor Grasso. On a unanimous roll call vote 9-0, motion passed.

X. PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

- A. Request for Sidewalk Obstruction License from Stephen Little, Seacoast Hearing Center, to place 1 A-frame sign in front of establishment

Councilor Pantelakos moved to refer to the City Manager with power. Seconded by Councilor Whitehouse and voted.

- B. Request for Sidewalk Obstruction License from Angela Bibeau, Bliss, requesting permission to place 1 A-frame sign in front of establishment

Councilor Grasso moved to refer to the City Manager with power. Seconded by Councilor Pantelakos and voted.

- C. Letter from Alexandra Arbogast, PETA, requesting permission to hold a demonstration in Market Square at the intersection of Market and Islington Street on Wednesday, June 30, 2004 from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Councilor Pantelakos moved to deny the request. Seconded by Councilor Whitehouse.

City Manager Bohenko said to set up a bed as a sidewalk obstruction is unacceptable.

Mayor Sirrell passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Hanson.

Mayor Sirrell said that she is opposed to this request and it is inappropriate to set up a bed on the sidewalk.

Councilor Marchand said he agrees with Mayor Sirrell. It is inappropriate and does not meet community standards.

Motion passed.

Assistant Mayor Hanson passed the gavel back to Mayor Sirrell.

- D. Letter from Bea Ann Kendall regarding the number of motorcycles allowed to park in a space in the downtown area

Councilor Whitehouse moved to accept and place the letter on file. Seconded by Councilor Pantelakos and voted.

- E. Letter from Paula Rais, Poet Laureate Program, requesting permission to permanent display a piece of art work by Portsmouth Poet Laureate John Perrault at City Hall

Councilor Pantelakos moved to refer to the City Manager with power. Seconded by Councilor Ferrini and voted.

Councilor Grasso suggested that we ask for artwork from our former Poet Laureates.

- F. Letter from Peter Henderson requesting that the School Department be exempt from any budget cuts

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to accept and place the letter on file. Seconded by Councilor Ferrini and voted.

- G. Letter from Emily Fazaloro, Dondero School student, regarding sidewalks on Peverly Hill Road

Councilor Ferrini moved to accept and place the letter on file. Seconded by Councilor Pantelakos.

Councilor Reynolds said that we need to take special note of Peverly Hill Road and install shoulders on the road. City Manager Bohenko advised the City Council that Peverly Hill Road is in the Capital Improvement Plan for upgrades in 2009.

Motion passed.

- H. Letter from Rick Condon, Portsmouth Professional Fire Fighters, requesting permission to hold a voluntary "Boot Drive" in Market Square on Saturday, July 17, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Councilor Pantelakos moved to refer to the City Manager with power. Seconded by Councilor Ferrini and voted.

XI. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

A. CITY MANAGER

- 1. Proposed Lease Renewal, Greenleaf Recreation Center

City Manager Bohenko said that the center is used as a citywide recreational facility and he recommended approving the renewal of the lease.

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and take other actions necessary to execute a lease agreement between the City and the Portsmouth Housing Authority for the lease of a portion of the Greenleaf Recreation Center. Seconded by Councilor Grasso and voted.

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to suspend the rules in order to continue the meeting beyond 10:30 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Grasso and voted.

2. Report Back Re: Request from Susan Dewhirst and Mark Nichols, on behalf of the United Way of the Greater Seacoast, Requesting Permission to Install Signs at the Entrances to the City

City Manager Bohenko recommended to accept the recommendation of the Planning Board and grant permission to install the signs.

Councilor Whitehouse moved to approve the placement of markers by the United Way of the Greater Seacoast as recommended by the Planning Board. Seconded by Councilor Pantelakos.

The Recommendations of the Planning Board are as follows:

- Standard sign blanks, approved by the Department of Public Works, should be used for all such signs.
- All such signs should be consolidated in specified locations in order to allow for more than one marker/sign to be displayed in a particular “sign group”.
- A model of a “sign group” should be jointly prepared and approved by the Department of Public Works and the Traffic & Safety Committee.
- The location for each “sign group” should be considered and recommended to the Council by the Department of Public Works and the Traffic & Safety Committee.
- Marking signs, not in compliance with this policy, should be relocated to a sign group [While this particular approach does not address directional signs, it is possible that a similar approach could be used to group directional signs].
- The Council should continue to consider requests by the Planning Board to place marking signs within the public right-of-way following the submission of a recommendation from the Planning Board [this process is presently followed].

Councilor Grasso asked how long the signs would be up. City Manager Bohenko said he would discuss that with the United Way.

Motion passed.

3. Report Back Re: Request from Mario Giberti to Purchase City Owned Land Located off Barberry Lane (Assessor’s Map 233/Lot 133)

City Manager Bohenko said that the Planning Board has reviewed the request and is recommending that the City Council deny the request so the land remains open space.

4. Joint Meeting between City Council and the Planning Board Re: Master Plan

City Manager Bohenko said that he would recommend establishing a work session on July 19, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the request to rename Big Rock Park and 6:45 p.m. to discuss the master plan.

Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to hold a work session on Monday, July 19th at 6:30 p.m. regarding a request to rename Big Rock Park followed by the Master Plan. Seconded by Councilor Whitehouse and voted.

City Manager Bohenko announced that the City Council would receive a tour of the Cottage Hospital on Monday, June 28, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the Special City Council meeting to adopt the budget.

B. MAYOR SIRRELL

1. Appointments

Councilor Grasso moved to reappoint John Rice to the Historic District Commission until June 1, 2007. Seconded by Councilor Whitehouse and voted.

Councilor Grasso moved to reappoint Ellen Fineberg to the Historic District Commission until June 1, 2007. Seconded by Councilor Reynolds and voted.

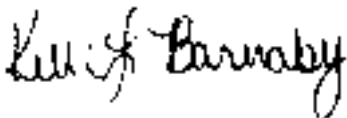
XII. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Whitehouse requested the City Manager and Mayor to meet with Judge Maher regarding the trust fund proposal.

Councilor Reynolds announced that the Vendor Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room A at City Hall.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:45 p.m., Assistant Mayor Hanson moved to adjourn. Seconded and voted.



Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk