

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
DATE: MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 7:00PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Blalock called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Perkins, Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr and Denton

III. INVOCATION

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

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Justice John Broderick led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Justice John Broderick Re: Change Direction Campaign

Justice Broderick provided a Presentation regarding the Change Direction Campaign and its goal to make the five most common signs of mental illness well known. The five signs of emotional suffering: withdrawal, agitation, hopelessness, decline in personal care and change in personality.

2. Update Re: Mosquito Control Program

Michael Morrison from Municipal Pest Management Services and Kim McNamara the Health Officer provided a summary of the City's on-going mosquito control program and discussed emerging mosquito borne illnesses and what can be done to protect ourselves.

3. MapGeo Parcel Viewer Application

Jamie McCarty, GIS Coordinator provided a brief introduction of the MapGeo Parcel Viewer Application that is an easy-to-use mapping application that allows citizens to select, view and understand important information about their own property.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – MAY 2, 2016

Councilor Lown moved to approve and accept the minutes of the May 2, 2016 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Pearson and voted.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Mayor Blalock announced due to the number of speakers public comment would be limited to 2 minutes.

Cathy Baker spoke to the value of the Parrott Avenue lot land and said there is very little green space left and this space should remain. She reported that the Portsmouth Housing Authority is the largest authority per capita in NH. Ms. Baker said we already run a lot of public housing on the taxpayers. She also addressed accessory dwelling buildings and the legislation that recently passed.

Shaun Rafferty said the south end is one of the most beautiful parts of the city and we must be custodian for the future generations and protect our neighborhoods.

Rick Horowitz spoke in opposition to building micro-housing at the Parrott Avenue lot. He said the space in the city should be open to all and remain as is. He said action on this matter should be shelved.

Dave McGunkin, New Castle, NH urged the City Council to transfer the fire boat to the Town of New Castle. He spoke to their needs in New Castle for this boat and said it should remain in the seacoast and would be made available to Portsmouth if needed.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said once we get to the item regarding the fire boat we could suspend the rules to allow individuals to speak on that topic.

Sherry Hogan said she does not want to live near commercial enterprises. She said commercial industry is coming to their section of town on Maplewood Avenue. She stated the zoning should remain as it was when she moved into the neighborhood.

Patricia Bagley said individuals can't afford to lose the free parking with the Parrott Avenue lot. She said the parking spaces would be reduced to 90 if micro-housing is built on the lot. She suggested that the City Hall lot should be opened up for individuals to park.

Jan McCracken spoke opposed to the development of the Parrott Avenue lot. She said the need for parking continues to increase and Portsmouth has become the new Boston.

Blair McCracken spoke opposed to the Parrott Avenue lot and suggested using City Hall parking lot for micro-housing.

Paige Trace spoke opposed to housing at the Parrott Avenue lot. She said that this will not be designed into anything other than a brick box and said it is an inappropriate project.

Marylou McElwain spoke opposed to workforce housing at the Parrott Avenue lot. She expressed concern with the loss of parking. She said workforce housing may fit well at the St. Patrick's school.

Esther Kennedy asked what truly is workforce housing. She said the City Council needs to analyze and determine what workforce housing is. She stated if the taxes were lowered the project near Water Country could be workforce housing.

Councilor Lown moved to suspend the rules in order to take up Item XII. A.2. – Renewal of Pool Lease Agreement SIPP. Seconded by Councilor Spear and voted.

City Manager Bohenko said we are recommending renewing the lease for 5 years. He provided history on the project and said over \$750,000.00 of capital improvements have been made to the pool. He addressed the terms of the lease and said we have a brand new pool as a result of SIPP.

Councilor Lown moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into a renewal of the Consolidated Lease and Operations Agreement consistent with the terms described. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Councilor Dwyer thanked City Manager Bohenko for the list of improvements. City Manager Bohenko spoke on future improvements and said this is a good partnership.

Motion passed.

Councilor Lown moved to suspend the rules in order to take up Item XII. A.5. – Reconsideration of Action of April 18, 2016 City Council Meeting Re: Disposition of the Fire Boat and allow public comment on this matter. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine and voted.

Peter Rice, New Castle, NH said he is a firefighter for New Castle and is here to support the efforts to acquire the fire boat.

Thomas Maher, New Castle, NH spoke in support of transferring the fire boat to New Castle.

Chief Dave Blanding, New Castle Fire Chief, said the fire boat should remain in Portsmouth Harbor and said if the boat is transferred to New Castle it would be available to surrounding communities. He said New Castle is ready to take over the fire boat and it would be located at the Wentworth Marina. He said the boat would also serve as a much needed secondary water supply for New Castle.

Nancy Jackson spoke in support of Chief Blanding and said that New Castle has a water pressure problem. She said we need 1,500 gallons per minute to pump in water and currently it is at 750 gallons per minute and the boat could make the difference between disasters and the loss of an important part of the downtown.

Peter Tarlton, New Castle, spoke in favor of the fire boat and that it would serve as an additional water source that is much needed for the area.

Tom Smith, New Castle, speaking as a member of the Budget Committee for New Castle said the town is ready to take on the fire boat.

Reggie Whitehouse said he is a long time member of the Fire Department and spoke in support of the Fire Chief and said the boat would be a great asset to the Town of New Castle.

Brady Greeley, New Castle, serves on the Fire Safety Task Force and said he can't understand the motive for removing the fire boat from the area. He urged the City Council to keep the boat in the seacoast.

Andy Schulze, New Castle, spoke to the problems with water pressure in New Castle and urged the City Council to vote to give the fire boat to the Town of New Castle. He said the Fire Department has the ability to maintain and operate the fire boat.

Councilor Spear asked Fire Commissioner Gamester why the Fire Commission chose Gilford. He spoke to the matter and said his opinion has not changed. He said he is not against the Town of New Castle it is a decision when the boat was no longer needed by the City of Portsmouth and New Castle originally said they were not in the position to take ownership of the boat. He said there is no need to have the boat in the river. He said Gilford has expressed an urgent need for the fire boat. He said careful consideration was given to both when New Castle came back and said they were interested in the boat and the decision was made to stay with Gilford.

Councilor Spear moved to reaffirm the vote of April 18, 2016 to dispose of the Fire Boat to the Town of Gilford. Motion received no second.

Councilor Lown moved to reconsider the vote of April 18, 2016. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer.

Councilor Spear said everyone from New Castle has explained their needs well and it is unfair to make a decision based on who has showed up to the meeting to speak on this matter. He said the case for Gilford need has been made well and he supports the original vote by the City Council. He said the Fire Commission believes that the Town of Gilford showed an urgent need for the boat. He said the Town of Gilford would use the boat most often.

Councilor Lown said he agrees with Councilor Spear and what the Fire Commission made for a decision. He said we are elected to represent the people of the City. He said the Town of New Castle will honor the mutual aid for the area.

Councilor Dwyer said she does not want to see us override our Fire Commission. She said it was confusing to have the letter from the New Castle Warden not supporting the boat or able to maintain the boat. She said we knew New Castle is trying to deal with a water pressure issue.

Fire Chief Achilles said the fire boat has limited capabilities and spoke to them and how they would impact the Town of New Castle.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said it was a bad idea to give the Fire Boat to Gilford and New Castle would keep the boat in our harbor. He feels New Castle needs the boat and could use it.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock said he agrees with Assistant Mayor Splaine and Councilor Lown. He said keeping it in New Castle is the best place for the boat to go. He said New Castle has made the point that the boat would remain in the harbor.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

On a roll call 5-4, voted to reconsider the vote of April 18, 2016. Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Dwyer, Lown Pearson and Mayor Blalock voted in favor. Councilors Perkins, Spear, Cyr and Denton voted opposed.

Councilor Lown moved to dispose of the Fire Boat to the Town of New Castle. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine and voted. Councilor Spear voted opposed.

At 9:00 p.m., Mayor Blalock declared a brief recess. At 9:15 p.m., Mayor Blalock called the meeting back to order.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCONTINUING ANY RIGHTS OF THE CITY OR THE PUBLIC IN THE FOLLOWING TWO PARCELS OF PROPERTY;

A CERTAIN TRIANGULAR TRACT OF LAND BEING LOCATED AT THE NORTHWESTERLY CORNER OF AND WITHIN THE INTERSECTION OF THE DEER STREET AND BRIDGE STREET RIGHTS OF WAY, AND BEING APPROXIMATELY 1,717 SQUARE FEET IN SIZE; AND A CERTAIN TRAPEZOIDAL TRACT OF LAND BEING LOCATED ALONG THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID TRIANGULAR TRACT OF LAND, BEING APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) FEET WIDE AND BEING APPROXIMATELY 269 SQUARE FEET IN SIZE

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

City Attorney Sullivan spoke to the parcels of land on the corner of Deer Street and Bridge Street. He said he would recommend the Council pass the motion to authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver release deeds to the triangular parcel and the

sidewalk easement to Deer Street Associates as part of the overall transaction under which the City will acquire Lot 1.

With no speakers, Mayor Blalock declared the public hearing closed.

B. CHAPTER 10 – ZONING ORDINANCE BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) DELETE THE EXISTING ARTICLE 5A – CHARACTER DISTRICTS IN ITS ENTIRETY AND INSERT IN ITS PLACE THE NEW ARTICLE 5A – CHARACTER DISTRICTS DATED 5/2/2016
- (2) AMEND ARTICLES 4, 5, 11, 12 & 15 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AS SET FORTH IN THE DOCUMENT TITLED “CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE” DATED 5/2/2016
- (3) AMEND THE ZONING MAP AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING MAPS DATED MAY 2, 2016:
 - (A) MAP 10.5A21A – CHARACTER DISTRICTS AND CIVIC DISTRICTS;
 - (B) MAP 10.5A21B – BUILDING HEIGHT STANDARDS;
 - (C) MAP 10.5A21C – SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FAÇADE TYPES, FRONT LOT LINE BUILDOUT & USES
- (4) AMEND THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF 52 PARCELS AS SET FORTH IN THE DOCUMENT TITLED “PROPOSED ADDITIONAL WEST END ZONING CHANGES” DATED 5/2/2016 AND AS SHOWN ON THE MAP TITLED “ADDITIONAL WEST END ZONING CHANGES – SECOND READING – MAY 2, 2016”

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

City Manager Bohenko requested Nick Cracknell, Principal Planner to provide a brief explanation of the ordinance.

West End Community Goals:

Purpose – to promote a walkable, mixed-use, pedestrian friendly neighborhood with a primary focus on building form and placement supported by context-sensitive development standards.

Summary of the Public Review Comments

Planning Board and Public Comments (2-28-2016):

1. *Regulating Plan – Islington Street Corridor*
2. *Building Block Length*
3. *Pedestrian Entrance Spacing*
4. *Maximum Ground-Floor Area Requirements*
5. *Ground-Floor Parking Requirements*
6. *Incentives for Development on Large Parcels*
7. *Incentives for Overlay Districts*
8. *Conforming Amendments*

Portsmouth Listens (3-17-2016):

10 Key Zoning Issues:

1. *Land Use*
2. *Building Heights*
3. *Building Footprints*
4. *Ground-Floor Uses*
5. *Universal Design*
6. *Large Chain-Stores*
7. *Liner Buildings and Parking*
8. *Sidewalk Widths*
9. *Design Review*
10. *Decouple the West End from Downtown*

Summary of Current Revisions (4-21-2016):

West End:

1. *Apply Modified B-District Uses*
2. *Decrease the Baseline Maximum Building Height*
3. *Decrease the Baseline Maximum Building Footprints*
4. *Add Recessed Entry to allow for Universal Access*
5. *Modify the Ground-Floor Residential Use Requirements*
6. *Clarify the Applicability of Architectural Design Review outside the Historic District*
7. *Increase the Incentives for Workforce Housing & Community Space*

All Character Districts:

1. *Decrease the Baseline Maximum Building Footprints*
2. *Adjust the Minimum Ground Floor Parking Requirements*
3. *Adjust the Maximum Floor Area for Ground-Floor Commercial Uses*
4. *Adjust the Sidewalk Width Requirements for Taller Buildings*
5. *Clarify the use of a Half-Story or Penthouse as Attic Space*

Apply Uses from a Modified Business District

Modified Business District Uses:

1. *Allows Townhouse and Multifamily Uses*
 2. *Allows Gas Station Uses*
 3. *Allows Veterinary Care Uses*
 4. *Allow Small-Scale Restaurant Uses*
 5. *Require Special Exception for Shopping Centers*
 6. *Exclude Hotel and Conference Center Uses*
 7. *Exclude Nightclub Uses*
 8. *Exclude large Restaurant and Performance Facility Uses*
- *Decrease the Baseline Maximum Building Height to 2-4 Stories or 50 Feet*
- *Allow for At-Grade Recessed Entryway*
- *Decrease the Baseline Maximum Building Footprint 15,000SF; with Ground Floor Parking 30,000SF; 20,000SF maximum footprint above the first floor*
- *Allow for Ground Floor Residential Uses within a Row house Building*
- *Clarify the Design Review Process – Character District Areas Outside the Historic District Have No Design Review*
- *Increase Incentives for Workforce Housing – Increase Maximum Building Height up to 2 Stories or up to 70 Feet*

Revisions affecting all Character Districts:

1. *Increase the Maximum Building Footprints*
Revised Maximum Footprint – CD-4W 15,000 SF; CD4 15,000 SF; CD5 20,000 SF

With Ground Floor Parking – CD-4W 30,000 SF; CD4 30,000 SF; CD5 40,000 SF
2. *Set Ground Floor Parking Requirements*

Reduce the parking requirement on the ground-floor to support larger liner buildings
3. *Set Floor Area Maximums for Large Commercial Uses*

Revised Maximum CD4-W 15,000SF; CD4 15,000SF; CD5 15,000SF

4. *Add a Wider Sidewalk Requirement for Taller Buildings*

Require wider sidewalks for taller buildings and allow this area to count towards the required Open Space and / or Community Space requirements

5. *Clarify the Half-Story or Penthouse Exemption*

Clarify that habitable space within a Half Story or Penthouse Level does NOT count as a Story

3 Key Issues with Existing Zoning Requirements

- ***Loophole with the Buildings Separated by Fire Walls***
- ***Inconsistent with the Vision Plans***
- ***Incongruent with Some Existing Building Footprints***

Mark Brighton said he expects the zoning ordinance amendment to be approved 9-0 tonight. He said when you pass it he would like the new councilors to give pause.

Paul Mannle thanked staff for all their hard work. He asked the City Council to keep the public hearing open to review Mr. Cracknell's PowerPoint presentation which included a great deal of information. He said this should be known as the West End Art Space District. He asked that the West End overlay include gateway parcels.

Rick Becksted said there is a building at BOA because of height restrictions and asked does that alter Mr. DiLorenzo's project and you may want to look into it.

Susan Denenberg said she is confused that we are going to take Character Based Zoning and remove the current zoning. She spoke to her neighborhood that is known as the walking neighborhood and would not want the zoning to change because it doesn't make sense.

Esther Kennedy said there are many questions on the area. She said we have not defined workforce housing in our zoning ordinance.

John Lyons said the West End is the perfect place for workforce housing. It is a place you can walk from into the downtown and it is an area that needs some tender loving care and asked the City Council to vote in favor of the zoning request.

Vincent Lombardi said he took part in the Charettes and Portsmouth Listens. He said some things still need work on the setbacks for large neighborhoods in the City. He said we need a different setback in the West End and the height along Islington Street buildings should be stepped back. He said the West End should not be like the downtown it should be known as the West End Village.

Peter Weeks asked the City Council to pass the Character Based Zoning. He complimented the Planning Department for taking the thoughts of Portsmouth Listens. He asked the City Council to pass the ordinance.

Gerry Zelin spoke on what could be improved upon in the ordinance. He said there has been no downtown Charrette. He said the amendments to the West End are critical to the downtown and allow the largest building foot print. He said the buildings would allow 20,000 foot print for CD5 and as long as it has parking it would allow 40,000 sf. He suggested seeing some building envelopes that could be constructed on the west end.

With no further speakers, Mayor Blalock closed the public hearing.

Councilor Spear moved to suspend the rules and continue the meeting beyond 10:30 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer and voted. Assistant Mayor Splaine voted opposed.

Assistant Mayor Splaine would like to stop the meeting and not vote on this matter.

VIII. APPROVAL OF GRANTS/DONATIONS

(There are no items under this section of the agenda)

IX. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- A. First reading proposed Ordinance to amend Chapter 10 – Zoning Ordinance – Article 4 – Zoning Districts and Use Regulations, Section 10.410 – Establishment and Purpose of Districts, Transportation Corridor – To provide for future transportation uses and related facilities as well as recreational trail use

Councilor Lown moved to pass first reading and schedule a public hearing and second reading on the proposed Ordinance at the June 6, 2016 City Council meeting, as recommended by the Planning Board. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and voted.

- B. Second reading of proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 10 – Zoning Ordinance as follows:
 - (1) Delete the existing Article 5A – Character Districts in its entirety and insert in its place the new Article 5A – Character Districts dated 5/2/2016
 - (2) Amend Articles 4, 5, 11, 12 & 15 of the Zoning Ordinance as set forth in the document titled “Conforming Amendments to Zoning Ordinance” dated 5/2/2016

- (3) Amend the Zoning Map as set forth in the following maps dated May 2, 2016:
 - (A) Map 10.5A21A – Character Districts and Civic Districts;
 - (B) Map 10.5A21B – Building Height Standards;
 - (C) Map 10.5A21C – Special Requirements for Façade Types, Front Lot Line Buildout & Uses

- (4) Amend the Zoning Map by changing the zoning designation of 52 parcels as set forth in the document titled “Proposed Additional West End Zoning Changes” dated 5/2/2016 and as shown on the map titled “Additional West End Zoning Changes – Second Reading – May 2, 2016

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to table until the June 6, 2016 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Denton.

Councilor Dwyer said if we table the motion when is the City Council’s opportunity to identify some questions or issues that were brought forward.

City Manager Bohenko said we could carve out some time from one of the budget work sessions.

Councilor Perkins said the ordinance has been worked on extensively.

On a roll call 6-3, motion passed. Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Dwyer, Pearson, Cyr, Denton and Mayor Blalock voted in favor. Councilors Perkins, Lown and Spear voted opposed.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said he would like to have the Planning Department work on 3-D modeling and take a site walk of the area. City Manager Bohenko said we would need to find the time. Mayor Blalock said he does not agree with the need for a site walk. Councilor Dwyer said she is not in favor of 3-D modeling of the area. Assistant Mayor Splaine said he would like to do visualization of the area. City Manager Bohenko suggested delaying the ordinance until June 20, 2016 and allow time to gather questions and information on the concerns expressed.

Councilor Cyr moved to reconsider the prior motion. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine. Councilors Dwyer, Lown and Spear voted opposed.

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to table until the June 20, 2016 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Denton. Councilors Perkins, Dwyer, Lown and Spear voted opposed.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

(There are no items under this section of the agenda)

XI. PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

- A. Letter from William Moriarty, The Salvation Army requesting to place 1 or 2 donation bins on municipal property

Councilor Lown moved to refer to the City Manager for report back. Seconded by Councilor Cyr and voted.

- B. Letter from Kate Loughlin regarding the littering of cigarettes in the downtown area

Councilor Lown moved to refer to the City Manager for report back. Seconded by Councilor Cyr and voted.

XII. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

A. CITY MANAGER

City Manager Bohenko said in accordance with City Council Rule 37 the remaining City Manager's Items fall under Consent Agenda.

1. Proposed Discontinuing any Rights of the City or the Public in the following Two Parcels of Property Re: 165 Deer Street

Councilor Denton requested to remove Item XII. A.3. – Proposed Lease Agreement with Pontine Theatre Re: Plains Schoolhouse.

Councilor Spear moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and voted.

- Proposed Discontinuing any Rights of the City or the Public in the following Two Parcels of Property Re: 165 Deer Street – **Voted to authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver release deeds to the triangular parcel and the sidewalk easement to Deer Street Associates as part of the overall transaction under which the City will acquire Lot 1.**

Voted to discontinue any rights of the City or the Public in a certain triangular tract of land being located at the northwesterly corner of and within the intersection of the Deer Street and Bridge Street Rights of Way, being approximately 1,717 square feet in size.

Voted to Discontinue and rights of the City or the Public in a certain trapezoidal tract of land being located along the northerly boundary of said triangular tract of land, being approximately four (4) feet wide and being approximately 269 square feet in size.

- Solar Power Agreements – **Voted to authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary leases, power purchase agreements collateral documents and minor amendments to implement the installation of the two solar array systems on substantially the terms as represented in the leases and power purchase agreements presented.**
- License Request Re: 64 Market Street – **Voted to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a license with Careno Construction to facilitate reconstruction activities of the Gaslight Restaurant.**

3. Proposed Lease Agreement with Pontine Theatre Re: Plains Schoolhouse

Economic Development Manager Carmer spoke regarding Pontine Theatre space needs issue. She reported Theatre Co-Directors toured the building and feel that the building would meet their needs. She said Pontine would use the building for program development, administration work, rehearsal space, meetings and educational programs.

Councilor Dwyer moved to authorize the City Manager to enter a five year Lease with Pontine for use of the Plains Schoolhouse effective July 1, 2016. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Councilor Denton said he would like to see if the space could be used as a potential site for the VFW. Mayor Blalock said the space would not be appropriate for the VFW. City Manager Bohenko said it is an 1845 building and it would be difficult to put the VFW at the site. He said he could look for other spaces and said alcohol could not be used in City facilities.

Councilor Dwyer said she can't image the Plains Schoolhouse site for the VFW. She said we could look for space for the VFW once we know their needs.

Councilor Spear said the lease should be better defined to the public benefit.

Marguerite Matthews, Pontine Theatre, said they have been in the community since 1979 and this allows them to remain in the community. She said they work with senior citizens and many of their shows are free to the community. She said they would work on developing a program for the public.

Motion passed.

B. MAYOR BLALOCK

1. Appointments to be Considered:
 - Reappointment of Reagan Ruedig to the Historic District Commission
 - Reappointment of Jonathan Wyckoff to the Historic District Commission
 - Reappointment to John Mayer as an Alternate to the Historic District Commission

The City Councilor considered the reappointments of the individuals which will be voted on at the next City Council meeting on June 6, 2016.

Council Spear said he would like to know the costs for the current Right-to-Know request received. He said the City should keep track of the time and cost expended for the research. He requested a memorandum back on the impact of the By-pass Treatment for the plant and said that the rate payers need to know the impact on this request.

Councilor Lown said he was annoyed at the tone of the letter. He said the questions have been asked and answered. He said this will zap resources and time from the City employees and burden the staff.

2. Appointment of Deer Street Garage Building Committee
 - John O'Leary, Public Representative
 - Mark McNabb, Public Representative
 - Everett Eaton, Economic Development Commission Representative
 - Brad Lown, City Council Representative
 - Eric Spear, City Council Representative

Mayor Blalock announced the above individuals were appointed to the Deer Street Garage Building Committee.

3. Proposed Stewardship Committee for African Burying Ground

Mayor Blalock announced the Charge of the Committee:

The charge of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee is to advise the City Council and City Manager on all matters pertaining to the African Burying Ground and Memorial Park. This Committee will sunset on December 31, 2017. In addition, the Committee is charged with the following:

- *Provide guidance on requests for expenditures from the African Burying Ground Trust Fund;*
- *Provide guidance on requests for events and other activities proposed to take place at the African Burying Ground and Memorial Park*
- *Work to ensure the ongoing interpretation and promotion of the African Burying Ground and Memorial Park*

Members:

Chris Dwyer, City Council Representative
Vernis Jackson, Chair Emeritus of African Burying Ground Committee
(To be Appointed), Community Volunteers Representative
(To be Appointed), Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail/Portsmouth Historical Society
Representative
(To be Appointed), Seacoast African American Cultural Center Representative School
Department Ex-officio
Portsmouth Public Library, Ex-officio
Community Development Department, Ex-officio

At 10:50 p.m., Councilor Spear moved to continue the remainder of the meeting until Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 6:30 p.m., seconded by Councilor Lown and voted.



Kelli L. Barnaby, MMC, CMC, CNHMC
City Clerk