

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2017

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 6:30PM

At 6:30 p.m., a Work Session was held regarding Senate Bill 191 relative to Keno.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Blalock called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Dwyer, Lown
(Via Conference Call), Pearson, Spear, Cyr and Denton

Absent: Councilor Perkins

III. INVOCATION

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

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ned Raynolds led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENTATION

1. Statistical Revaluation Update, Rosann Maurice Lentz, Assessor;
Representative from Vision & Property Valuation Advisors

Assessor Maurice Lentz introduced Michael Tarello of Vision Government Solutions and Steve Traub of Property Valuation Advisors that would be providing the presentation on the Statistical Revaluation with her. Assessor Maurice Lentz explained the statutory requirements and stated the revaluation encompasses the sale date range of April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017. She indicated the purpose of update is to maintain assessment equity and measurements of equity. She provided the definition of median ratio which is the middle ratio in a sorted (low to high) array of sales ratios; 50% of the ratios lie above the median and 50% fall below it. The median ratio is the most commonly used measurement because it is less influenced by outliers.

Mr. Tarello, with the use of charts, explained the median percent change in Market value by sale price. He reviewed the 2016 prior assessment ratio versus 2017 current assessment ratios residential properties.

Mr. Traub spoke to the 4 residential groups that were established for this statistical revaluation. He outlined the groups as follows:

- Group I: East of Downtown, South End, Sagamore Creek, Little Harbor
- Group II: Portsmouth Traffic Circle North, I-95 Corridor, Route 1 Bypass
- Group III: South Portsmouth Area (Middle Road South)
- Group IV: West of Downtown, North Mill Pond

He reported that residential is up 19% with commercial up 3%.

Assessor Maurice Lentz reviewed remaining tasks and dates that remain with informal hearings on August 24th and September 5th with residential hearings on August 29th and commercial hearings on September 11th. She reported that property owners may file an abatement application by March 1, 2018 and the Assessor's office reviews abatement applications and notifies property owners by July 1, 2018.

Councilor Spear asked when the new values go into effect. Assessor Maurice Lentz said the rates will be effective with December's bill. She also reported that the estimated tax rate will be put out on the website.

Councilor Dwyer said the last time we went through this the Assessor had detailed factors for the four groups. Assessor Maurice Lentz said she has the break out for each neighborhood. Councilor Dwyer indicated that she would like to see a presentation on some of the factors and scenarios as it would be useful to the public. Assessor Maurice Lentz said she could provide such a presentation. Councilor Dwyer said it is going to be difficult for people to understand the difference in commercial and residential shifts.

Councilor Cyr requested to explain commercial values.

Councilor Dwyer asked her if there is a minimum number in a cluster of sales. Assessor Maurice Lentz said Vision looked at 2 years' worth of sales for the revaluation.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – AUGUST 7, 2017

Councilor Pearson moved to approve and accept the minutes of the August 7, 2017 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Spear.

Councilor Denton moved to amend the minutes on page six, paragraph four, first sentence to strike 'that' and replace it with 'electric value charging stations'. Further to amend second sentence strike 'that' and replace it with 'electric vehicle charging stations'. *The sentences would now read Councilor Denton said he wanted to see roof top solar and is electric vehicle charging stations something that could be programmed in. Dave Allen said we hope to come in under the \$3,000,000.00 to add the electric vehicle charging stations or add it later to the project. Seconded by Councilor Spear and voted.*

Voted to pass main motion as amended.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Beth Margeson said the meetings could be more efficient and more dialogue is needed to speak to each other than at each other. She said she agrees with the changes to the public hearing. She stated that the public comment session should remain and everyone should have the right to stand up and speak. She indicated that this is free speech and the public comment session serves as a civics lesson.

Jerry Zelin said there is no criteria to the zoning ordinance that passed on June 19th. He also addressed the matter of conditional use permits as allowed under the ordinance and that he would like to see changes to the ordinance.

David Noard said he would like to have debate on how to build a monument to secrecy. He said we need to document what is important.

Roger Pittroff spoke against changing the public comment session and feels there is too much change being proposed.

Bert Cohen spoke to the Carbon Free and Dividend Resolution that the Council will be voting on at the end of the agenda. He said the Sustainability Committee supports the Resolution. He said this Resolution is what we are looking for in the system and for a big network. He stated we need a leverage point to change carbon production as outlined in the Resolution.

Merle White said taxis are not being enforced and drivers from Massachusetts are coming to Portsmouth.

Wes Tator said he supports the Resolution on Carbon Free and Dividend Resolution. He said that climate change is not being talked about enough and the City Council will make a difference. He stated that this would put a fee on carbon.

Jim Hewitt spoke in support of public comment session and said you should honor and respect Assistant Mayor Splaine for his work on the public comment session.

Kelly Shaw thanked those speaking on behalf of residents. She said that speaking at a City Council meeting is very intimidating and expressed concern about the public comment session being eliminated.

Ralph DiBernardo spoke in support of the changes to the public comment session. He said everyone can make feelings known through email. He stated that the public dialogue is a good idea.

Esther Kennedy said we do need to educate the public and you have to be careful what you wish for. She said people are spending hours and days researching what they are speaking to and to make sure the City Council learns from the public.

Erik Anderson said he supports the concept of public dialogue but is confused with the language under Rule 43. He said he doesn't feel the language is clear and that the public comment session is valuable and should remain.

Mimi Clark spoke in support of maintaining the public comment session as it is pure democracy.

Rick Becksted said he does not want to see the public comment session end. He said all of our time is valuable and the Council was elected to represent the public and to listen to their comments.

Rick Horowitz said he likes the idea for public dialogue but not at the expense of losing the public comment session. He said this has been with us for a long time and people come to speak their minds. He urged the City Council to add to public comment session and add a once a month dialogue session that should be broadcasted and made available.

Michael Dater said there is an ongoing erosion of participation in government and feels that the public comment session is under attack. He said the people in the room and City put you in office and not to get you to forget about the people. He stated the public comment session is vital to all the people and does not understand the public dialogue.

Lee Roberts said public comment session is important and said she is an educated voter and everyone should be able to come here and speak on matters that are important to them. She stated that public dialogue will not bring anything to the City Council meetings.

Jackie Cali-Pitts said public comment session should not be taken away. She said you should be adding to the session as we are the City of the "Open Door." She indicated there are other ways to condense our meetings and don't take away the public comment session.

Paige Trace said don't take away the public comment session. She said freedom of speech is our right. She indicated if there is an issue with long meetings maybe there are other things that need to have the time tracked.

Zelita Morgan spoke in support to keep public comment session and stated that the public comment session was one of the most important times when she served as a City Councilor. She said public comment session is democracy and maybe the Council needs to create different ways for the public to be part of the meetings.

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to suspend the rules to take up Item XII. D.1. – Rule 42 – PUBLIC’S RIGHT TO KNOW GUARANTEED, Rule 43 – COUNCIL – PUBLIC DIALOGUE and Rule 45 – PUBLIC HEARINGS. Seconded by Councilor Denton.

Councilor Cyr requested a brief recess. Mayor Blalock declared a brief recess at 8:20 p.m. At 8:25 p.m., Mayor Blalock called the meeting back to order.

On a unanimous roll call 8-0, voted to pass the main motion as amended.

Councilor Spear said he listened to what was said this evening and people are in favor of both the public comment session and public dialogue. He said we have two City Council meetings and we could have the public comment session at one meeting and the public dialogue at the next meeting.

Councilor Spear moved that City Council Rule 43 PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION be rewritten by the City Clerk and the City Attorney to Rule 43a. and Rule 43b. Under Council Rule 43a. Public Comment Sessions will continue to be held in the current manner at every other Council meeting. Under Council Rule 43b., the City Council shall hold a Council – Public Dialogue Session during the period which is forty-five minutes (45) before any otherwise scheduled City Council business, on the night of every other regularly scheduled Council meeting. At such Council – Public Dialogue Sessions the Council, the City Manager and any appropriate staff as determined by the City Manager shall welcome all interested individuals for an informal dialogue session. The purpose of this session is to provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly interact with members of the Council, the City Manager and any appropriate staff as determined by the City Manager from time to time. By vote of the Council, such Council – Public Dialogue Session may be scheduled to be held at other times and in other locations in the City beyond City Hall. All Council – Public Dialogue Sessions shall be held in accordance with RSA 91-A, the Right-to-Know Law by notice being made and minutes being taken. Seconded by Councilor Pearson.

Councilor Dwyer said this has nothing to do with public comment we have at public hearings or public informational input sessions.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock said he is not clear what public dialogue would look like on the night of the dialogue. He said this is to enhance public comment session.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Councilor Dwyer said if it was a small group of people it would be about people sitting in chairs around a table and people self-facilitate the group. The notes for these sessions would be just as they are now. She said the dialogue could be televised. She indicated we could have some staff recording the notes from each table much like the City Clerk does. She stated that people use dialogue a great deal in their comments and this would allow both.

Councilor Cyr asked City Attorney Sullivan if Public Dialogue Session were conducted into 3 out groups it would be a challenge to comply with the right to know law. He further stated that everything must be conducted with the right to know law and minutes kept. City Attorney Sullivan said perhaps a City Councilor could keep minutes or additional staff support would be needed.

Assistant Mayor Splaine stated he supported a Public Dialogue Session in 2012 in addition to the Public Comment Session. He said lets meet once a month and have the dialogue "a talk with your Councilor" in a round table discussion exchanging and having a dialogue and televised but do not take away the Public Comment Session at every meeting. He read the following into the record "*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise of thereof or ad verging the freedom of speech or of the press or of the right of the people to peacefully assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances*". He spoke to servant of leadership and we should listen to the people and always allow them to be heard. He is glad to see that with the pressure of the people that there is a compromise in the works. He is afraid to see pure democracy eroded in any way, we need not do that.

On a roll call vote 7-1, motion passed. Councilors Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr, Denton and Mayor Blalock voted in favor. Assistant Mayor Splaine voted opposed.

Councilor Cyr said he feels the issue of time would be to start earlier. He said much has been said about democracy and City Council meetings being intimidating. He indicated public comment is to put more effort to get more people in the seats and become more participating in meetings. He is concerned about Public Dialogue Session and feels it is vague. He said that this will not change the length of time of the meetings and perhaps we need to look at that in some way.

Councilor Denton said there are only 7 meetings left in the term and would provide for 3 to 4 meetings of a Public Dialogue Session. He said the rules could be changed back to where they were and this will not change the time length of meetings.

Councilor Denton moved to amend Councilor Rules 43a. and 43b. to hold sessions on alternate Saturday and Sunday mornings and evenings on weekends before meetings. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine. On a roll call voted, 1-7 motion failed to pass. Councilor Denton voted in favor. Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr and Mayor Blalock voted opposed.

Councilor Dwyer said democracy could be more than 1 kind of involvement. She said people want to participate to have conversations with people. She said civic participation is about variety. She said some people want to have a conversation with the Council and ask questions. She said government can be good for people.

Councilor Pearson said there was nothing that any one said this evening not one word that this forum could not be said in the exact same way at a table with a City Councilor. She said there is not one thing that could not be said at that podium that could not be said at a table with the City Council.

Councilor Spear said he is for 100% democracy. He said we would not be saving any time. He said the issue is to improve dialogue with the City Council. He said that this is a new process and we will work our way through it.

Councilor Lown said everything said at Public Comment Session was that we were trying to eliminate the Public Comment Session which we are not. He said this would improve participation.

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to have in addition to the current Public Comment Session for each City Council meeting that the City Council once a month hold a work session and dialogue session of 30 minutes. Seconded by Councilor Denton. On roll call vote 2-6, motion failed to pass. Assistant Mayor Splaine and Councilor Denton voted in favor. Councilors Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr and Mayor Blalock voted opposed.

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to table this matter until the September 5, 2017 City Council to be presented with the final version of language. No second received.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said we are now voting on something that we have not seen. He said we are trusting our government blindly.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock said adding a Public Dialogue Session to the Public Comment Session is worth pursuing. He said government is not perfect and nothing is perfect. He would not vote for something that he is not clear about. He said we will still have Public Comment Session and now a Public Dialogue which will enhance the Public Comment Session. He would insist that the Public Dialogue have some formal nature to it. Mayor Blalock said that this is not a time saving measure.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

On a roll call 7-1, voted to pass main motion as amended. Councilors Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr, Denton and Mayor Blalock voted in favor. Assistant Mayor Splaine voted opposed.

Councilor Spear moved the City Council Rule 42 – PUBLIC’S RIGHT TO KNOW GUARANTEED is hereby amended by the addition of the following paragraph:

In addition to the foregoing, any e-mails which are received by the City on behalf of the entire City Council shall be entered into the public record by the City Clerk. Any person addressing an e-mail to the entire City Council shall be provided with the option to have such person’s e-mail entered into the City Council packet and public comment record for the meeting. Only e-mails which include the name and address of the sender shall be provided to the City Council and thus be subject to this rule. Any public comment received by e-mail subject to this rule shall be updated after the Council agenda packet is released and prior to noontime on the day of the Council meeting to which the packet is addressed. Any public comments received after such noontime deadline shall be distributed to the individual Councilors, but shall not become part of the public record of the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Pearson.

Councilor Spear feels that this addition speaks to the challenge to get a diversity to allow e-mails to be part of the public record.

Councilor Cyr said it is a fine idea. He said this is about e-mails that are going to a form on a website and then the software on the server sends an e-mail.

Councilor Dwyer said it would require some adjustments, people could send an e-mail through the forum and would be given the choice online that allows the City Council to get it and have a printed packet for the public to view.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said that this is a good idea and allowing people to make comments through the e-mail.

Acting City Manager Colbert Puff said that we interpret it to electronic format.

Councilor Spear said the purpose of the rule is to include any electronic communication. He said people can choose to e-mail.

On a unanimous roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

Councilor Spear moved that City Council Rule 45, PUBLIC HEARINGS, be amended by the addition of the following:

- C. The order of presentation of all public hearing offered by the City administration**
- 1. Any presentation related to the public hearing offered by the City administration**
 - 2. City Council questions and deliberation regarding the subject matter of the public hearing**
 - 3. Public hearing speakers**
 - 4. Additional Council questions and deliberations**

Seconded by Councilor Cyr.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock said that this is a great idea and everyone will benefit from it and you should make the decision right after the conversation.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Councilor Dwyer said we don't want to do a "reach all your conclusions" and the idea is to move to the public hearing as soon as possible.

Councilor Dwyer said we are not deliberating, we will be having comments before hearing from the public.

On a unanimous roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. PURSUANT TO RSA 31:95-B, II (a) WHERE THE CITY COUNCIL WILL ACCEPT AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$369,065.05 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SENATE BILL 38 ADOPTED BY THE LEGISLATURE

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

Acting City Manager Colbert Puff said that this means more money to the City of \$369,065.05 and the funds would be towards paving projects.

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

Councilor Spear moved to accept and expend the funds. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer. On a unanimous roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

Councilor Spear moved to suspend the rules in order to take up Item XII. E.1. – Keno. Seconded by Councilor Cyr. On a unanimous roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Councilor Lown moved to place on the ballot at the November 7, 2017, Election whether to allow Keno on the ballot. Seconded by Mayor Blalock.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Councilor Lown said there are pros and cons to this but to have it on the ballot would allow the people to vote on the matter and it would generate a conversation. He said this vote is to let the taxpayers make the decision.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said he would oppose the motion because he hears issues regarding spending and this is a way to bring about gambling. He said Keno will be on the ballot because there is so much money to be made on this. He said there will be plenty of lobbying on this and he would rather see the issue placed on the ballot by petition.

Councilor Dwyer said she has mixed feelings on this matter. She said we are a representative form of government and not a referendum form of government. She stated the way the question is worded on the ballot does not give a clear picture of the question. She indicated we would have no way to regulate Keno. Councilor Dwyer said there should be a public hearing on this at the September 5, 2017, City Council meeting.

Councilor Cyr said he would not vote on this. He said it is not the same thing as the lottery. He stated this is a game that runs every 5 minutes and many people have gambling problems and there needs to be an end put to the gambling as this would be easy money for businesses.

Councilor Denton said he plays some games but he does not want to feed into the behavior.

Councilor Spear would like to postpone the vote until after the public hearing.

Councilor Lown withdrew his motion and Mayor Blalock the second to the motion.

Councilor Dwyer moved to establish a public hearing at the September 5, 2017, City Council meeting on whether to allow Keno on the ballot. Seconded by Councilor Cyr.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock said he seconded the motion because he feels the voters should decide on this matter.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Councilor Pearson asked if more information could come forward on this matter.

Mayor Blalock said we would have a presentation before the public hearing.

On a unanimous roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

VIII. APPROVAL OF GRANTS/DONATIONS

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

IX. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- A. First Reading of Proposed Ordinance Amendments to Chapter 4, Pertaining to the City's Food Licensing and Regulations by striking Articles I-V in its entirety and replaced with new language

Acting City Manager Colbert Puff requested to pass first reading and have a public hearing on this Ordinance at the next City Council meeting. She said that this was discussed at the Council Retreat in July. She said that there would be a presentation at the September 5, 2017 City Council meeting.

Councilor Spear moved to pass first reading and hold a public hearing and second reading at the September 5, 2017 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Cyr.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said he does not see an appeal process as part of the ordinance. Acting City Manager Colbert Puff indicated that there is an appeal process currently and there is an appeal process in this ordinance as well.

Councilor Dwyer said she would like to see what is being deleted and what the new subsection is and what is being modified.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said he would like the analysis to be part of the Council packet.

On a unanimous roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

Assistant Mayor Splaine indicated due to the late hour he will have his item regarding Toxic-Free Natural Alternatives for Weed and Pest Control on under his name for the September 5, 2017, City Council meeting and have additional information to provide to the City Council.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Denton requested to remove Letter from Barbara Massar, Pro Portsmouth, requesting to produce the following from the Consent Agenda.

- First Night Portsmouth 2018, Sunday, December 31, 2017
- Children's Day, Sunday, May 6, 2018; Noon to 4:00 p.m.
- 41st Annual Market Square Day Festival & 10K Road Race, Saturday, June 9, 2018; 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- 16th Annual Summer in the Street, Saturday evenings 5:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – June 30, July 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2018

(Anticipated action – move to refer to the Acting City Manager with power)

Councilor Denton requested to refer to the City Manager with power and further that Market Square Day local organizations which make the deadlines be given priority over non local organizations.

Councilor Spear moved to refer to the City Manager with power. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer.

On a roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

- Letter from Matt Junkin, Seacoast Rotary, requesting permission to hold the 9th Annual Turkey Trot 5K on Thanksgiving November 23, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.
(Anticipated action – move to refer to the Acting City Manager with power)
- Letter from Melissa Walden, American Lung Association, requesting permission to hold the Cycle the Seacoast Ride on Sunday, May 6, 2018
(Sample motion – move to refer to the Acting City Manager with power)

Councilor Spear moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer. On a unanimous roll call 8-0, voted to adopt the Consent Agenda.

XI. PRESENTATION & CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

- A. Letter from Joanne Ravgiala regarding Prescott Park, High-Hanover Garage and State Street Saloon Fire

Councilor Spear moved to accept and place the letter on file. Seconded by Councilor Cyr.

Councilor Spear said he would answer Ms. Ravgiala question regarding the repairs of the parking garage and the time it will take. He explained the new garage has the capacity of 600 spaces and High Hanover Parking Garage has 1,000 spaces and if we were to close all of them at one time it would create a large deficit so we are spreading out the deficit by closing 300 at a time over the next 3 years. He stated that this is a compromise we made and it is not going to cost more money.

On a unanimous roll call vote 8-0, motion passed.

XII. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

A. ACTING CITY MANAGER

Mayor Blalock explained that due to the hour being after 10:00 p.m. all items under the Acting City Manager's name become Consent Agenda. He asked if there are any items that the City Council wish to remove at this time from the Consent Agenda.

Councilor Dwyer requested to remove Item 1 – Request for Approval of Tentative Agreement between the Portsmouth School Board and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal (AFSCME) Council 93, AFL-CIO School Custodial from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote.

Consent Agenda – City Manager's Items

- Release of Request for Proposals for McIntyre Building (***Anticipated action – move to approve release of the RFP and schedule two special meetings for November 13 and November 27***)
- Approval of License Request Re: 177 State Street (***Anticipated action – move to authorize the Acting City Manager to negotiate and enter into a license with Jeffrey Bryan Remodeling Inc. to facilitate completion of construction activities at 177 State Street***)
- Approval of License Request Re: 175 Market Street (***Anticipated action – move to authorize the Acting City Manager to negotiate and enter into a license with Hutter Construction to facilitate construction activities at 175 Market Street***)

Councilor Dwyer moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Pearson. On a unanimous roll call 8-0, voted to adopt the Consent Agenda.

- Request for Approval of Tentative Agreement between the Portsmouth School Board and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal (AFSCME) Council 93, AFL-CIO School Custodial

Councilor Dwyer moved to accept the proposed contract with the City of Portsmouth and AFSCME School Custodial from July 1, 2017 to expire on June 3, 2020. Seconded by Councilor Pearson.

Councilor Dwyer said she likes the conversion of the annual and sick leave to an earned leave system.

Councilor Spear said annual leave is paid out and asked how the earned time is paid out. Human Resources Director Fogarty stated that earned time is cashed out like vacation time is.

On a unanimous roll call 8-0 vote, motion passed.

Acting City Manager's Informational Items

2. *Water Street Parking Memorandum*

Councilor Denton thanked Parking Director Fletcher for the memorandum. He said the memorandum speaks to an alternative to the gated system, the staff is piloting a simpler system of rearview mirror handtags and enhanced Parking Enforcement Officer enforcement. He indicated along with a modified lot barrier, signage, and enforcement will result in improved safety in the lot.

5. *News Release Re: Pre-Construction Meeting – Chestnut Street Streetscape Improvements*

Councilor Spear asked if there are trees on Chestnut Street.

Assistant City Manager Moore said the planting plan for the site include trees. He said the pedestrian connector funds have been appropriated through the Capital Improvement Plan and there will be a meeting with abutters. Assistant City Manager Moore announced the project construction is scheduled to begin early September and proceed through early November. He indicated the project will resume in the spring and be completed in June 2018.

B. MAYOR BLALOCK

1. Appointments to be Considered:
 - Alan Gold to the Economic Development Commission
 - Lindsay Gallant to the Sustainable Practices Blue Ribbon Committee

The City Council considered the appointments to be voted on at the next City Council meeting.

2. Appointments to be Voted:
 - Reappointment of MaryLou McElwain to the Parking & Traffic Safety Committee

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved the reappointment of MaryLou McElwain to the Parking & Traffic Safety Committee until August 4, 2020. Seconded by Councilor Cyr. On a unanimous roll call 8-0 vote, motion passed.

3. Resignation of John Bosen from the Economic Development Commission

Councilor Cyr moved to accept with regret the resignation of John Bosen from the Economic Development Commission. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine. On a roll call 7-0 vote, motion passed. Councilor Lown was not on the conference call for this vote.

F. COUNCILOR DENTON

1. Carbon Free and Dividend Resolution

Councilor Lown returned to the conference call.

Councilor Denton said that this was discussed a year ago at our Council Retreat and was the last remaining action from the Sustainability Committee from that meeting. He requested to have the word draft stricken from the 6th Whereas in the Resolution.

Councilor Dwyer said the value of this should be to educate the public. She said the Resolution doesn't feel like they educated the public and this is an awkward way to do something that is important. She said she is not against the concept and we need to go through the background.

Councilor Denton said that this is on a national level and the goal is to get other communities to support such a Resolution. He said that this is to help to achieve this on a national level.

Councilor Dwyer said she would like to urge our Congressional Delegation be sent a copy of the Resolution.

Councilor Denton said he could keep this for an item under his name for the next Council meeting.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock said we could pass the Resolution and urge the Congressional Delegation to support it.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Councilor Denton moved to adopt the Resolution and send a copy to our Congressional Delegation. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine. On a unanimous roll call 8-0 vote, motion passed.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Cyr requested to add numbers to each line of a document to allow for easier corrections and reference items.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:30 p.m., Councilor Pearson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine. On a unanimous voice vote 8-0, motion passed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelli L. Barnaby". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KELLI L. BARNABY, MMC, CMC, CNHMC
CITY CLERK