

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 7:00 PM

At 6:15 p.m. a Public Dialogue Session was held.

Public Dialogue Session – One Group

PRESENT: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Lazenby, Councilors Denton, Raynolds and Becksted.

The members of the public were asked to introduce themselves and begin discussing their concerns and/or questions related to their individual topics.

Elizabeth Bratter, property owner, explained that business owners have called her regarding employee parking and the fact that some of their workers park in 3 hour parking spaces and then move after 3 hours and also feel that the shuttle system in place every half hour can be unsafe for those who are by themselves at night. She suggested having a meeting to include business owners with a variety of employees to come up with solutions to the parking issues.

City Manager Bohenko explained an RFQ is being put out for a micro-transit system which could be utilized by the hospitality industry employees as an on-demand service. He agreed that previous initiatives haven't been successful, but is hopeful that this will help employees.

Councilor Becksted clarified that there is an employee parking area in the winter months at the Isles of Shoals Steamship Company for \$25.00 a month.

Ms. Bratter stated that many of the employees are college students or only work a couple of days a week so \$25.00 is still a lot of money to them.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby stated that it is clear that employee parking needs to be addressed.

Mayor Blalock stated that the Foundry Garage is also available and at this point we do still have the shuttle program with the CCC Church parking lot.

Planning Director Walker stated that the CCC property is being redeveloped so we are looking at other areas such as the Albacore Museum and we continue to use Fox Run Mall for events. She stated that having the micro-transit option and more robust public transit would be helpful.

Mary Lou McElwain stated that the City should work with businesses for input before setting up a program.

Harold Whitehouse stated he has had people from Hill Street call him regarding the lighting at Foundry Place Garage.

Public Works Director Rice stated that there were 2 areas of concern regarding lighting and they are shutting off the banner lighting in the evenings, which seems to have helped the Hill Street side and regarding the internal lights, they have pulled them up so they are screened by the beams which have also seemed to help. He stated that Dave Allen is the point person on this project and has been meeting with residents.

Beth Danilowski – discussed her concerns with the changes happening in the downtown and south end regarding parking and feels that it is difficult for the Council to understand their concerns if they don't live there. She stated the new parking garage is too far away to help with their issues and she doesn't feel that residents and businesses were taken into consideration with the new parking program. She continued that she doesn't support the "resident only" parking and is concerned with the McIntyre project not being required to provide enough parking for the proposed units.

Councilor Denton stated until recently he lived at State/Middle Street area and there was a lot of overflow parking being done there which he didn't mind. He stated that he feels that parking will stop being an issue in 5-10 years and in 20 years people will wonder why there are so many parking areas.

Mayor Blalock stated that currently we do have a parking shortage and parking does get pushed into the neighborhoods, but agrees that the trend is towards fewer cars and use of services such as Uber, etc. He stated that the south end neighborhood has withdrawn from the Pilot program at this point, but agrees that there needs to be a combined business/resident solution. He stated the Islington Creek Pilot is scheduled to be addressed again on February 19th.

Ms. Danilowski stated she owns a building in that area and asked if she will be notified.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby is concerned with the comment regarding the Council not hearing the residents but does understand the issue regarding rates. He stated that there will be a 50 cent per hour reduction for residents in all of the zones with the new phone app which replaces the previously used device that didn't work out well.

Paige Trace stated although she was not a part of the steering committee, she has read the program. She continued that all of the strife and objections in the south end is because this has morphed into something too large and unmanageable, such as guest registration, etc. She continued that a small simple pilot of the Gates Street area would be a good way to start and then add or subtract from there. She stated that having off-street parking has a value and they are assessed on that value so there is an objection to not being able to park on the street. She stated that if guest passes are necessary then it should be kept simple and if people are "cheating" the system, then it should be discontinued. She concluded that although the south end group decided not to go forward with the pilot program, there may be another group that decides they do want it.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby stated he was disappointed for Valerie Fagin who had done a lot of work on this program. He stated he feels that there was a lot of discussion and input but understands that it was a little more complicated than they wanted.

Paige Trace stated that Councilor Roberts deserves a lot of credit and the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee as they did a lot of work on it, but she did not like the net-parking part of it.

Councilor Reynolds stated he heard a lot about this issue during the campaign and thought it was a good process that got off-track. He stated that it seemed that it would exclude people with off-street parking as well as other residents of the city and feels that we need to think of another way to hold all residents equal and find alternatives for employees and tourists from parking in neighborhoods.

Mark Brighton asked if we have looked at other communities. He stated he had heard that people would have to get the VIN # from service providers, such as electricians, to allow them to park.

Mayor Blalock agreed that it did get complicated.

Mike Dater stated that he understands the south end has withdrawn from the pilot program, but prior to that, there was little communication from the city and he didn't understand the net parking portion. He stated there was confusion and hearsay and pitted neighbor against neighbor and residents against businesses. He stated he is glad it is over for the south end at this point but hopes that employee parking continues to be discussed.

Mary Lou McElwain requested that the city look at the use of plastic water bottles at city hall such as at meetings. She stated as an election worker in Ward 5, there were a lot of wasted water bottles left around and feels that plastic bags are not the only issue.

Mayor Blalock closed the Public Dialogue Session at 6:55 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Blalock called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Lazenby, Councilors Pearson (via teleconference), Dwyer, Denton, Perkins, Reynolds and Becksted

ABSENT: Councilor Roberts

II. INVOCATION

Mayor Blalock asked everyone to join in a moment of silence.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Blalock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – JANUARY 7, 2019 AND JANUARY 22, 2019

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to accept and place on file the minutes of January 7, 2019 and January 22, 2019 City Council meetings. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

V. PUBLIC DIALOGUE SUMMARY

Councilor Denton gave a brief summary of the topics discussed during the Public Dialogue which included lighting at Foundry Place Parking Garage; general parking issues including employee parking and Neighborhood Pilot program; use of plastic water bottles at city meetings.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS & VOTES ON ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

A. Public Hearing – Elderly Exemption

RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO RSA 72:39-B THE CITY HEREBY AMENDS THE ELDERLY EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX, BASED ON ASSESSED VALUE FOR QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS, SUCH THAT THE EXEMPTIONS SHALL BE AVAILABLE ONLY WHEN THE QUALIFYING TAXPAYER(S) HAVE A NET INCOME OF NOT MORE THAN \$42,471.00 FOR A SINGLE TAXPAYER OR \$58,398.00 FOR MARRIED TAXPAYERS, INCLUSIVE OF SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS. THE ELDERLY EXEMPTION SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED EXCEPT AS AMENDED HEREBY

• PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS

As there was no presentation or Council questions, Mayor Blalock read the public hearing notice and asked if anyone wished to speak:

Esther Kennedy – stated she was concerned with this when she had been a City Councilor because some people don't receive social security increases and feels that the \$42,471 for a single person is too low and should be raised. She stated we need to help the elderly stay in their homes. She stated she has the same concerns regarding the Disabled Exemption.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Blalock closed the public hearing.

Councilor Dwyer moved to adopt the Elderly Exemption Resolution, as presented. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby and voted on an 8-0 roll call.

B. Public Hearing – Disabled Exemption

RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO RSA 72:37-B, CITY HEREBY AMENDS THE DISABLED EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX, BASED ON ASSESSED VALUE FOR QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS, SUCH THAT THE EXEMPTIONS SHALL BE AVAILABLE ONLY WHEN THE QUALIFYING TAXPAYER(S) HAVE A NET INCOME OF NOT MORE THAN \$42,471.00 FOR A SINGLE TAXPAYER OR \$58,398.00 FOR MARRIED TAXPAYERS, INCLUSIVE OF SOCIAL SECURITY. THE DISABLED EXEMPTION SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED EXCEPT AS AMENDED HEREBY

PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS

As there was no presentation or Council questions, Mayor Blalock read the public hearing notice and asked if anyone wished to speak. Seeing no one, Mayor Blalock closed the public hearing.

Councilor Dwyer moved to adopt the Disabled Exemption Resolution, as presented, seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Councilor Denton asked City Manager Bohenko about expanding the Disabled Veterans Tax Credit as the statute was recently changed raising it to \$4,000.00.

City Manager Bohenko asked City Assessor Lentz to address the issue and she confirmed that the State RSA has been raised from \$2,000.00 to \$4,000.00.

Motion passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

C. Public Hearing – Zoning Ordinance & Map amended by Rezoning Property located at 290 Gosling Road

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE 4, SECTION 10.421.10 – DISTRICT LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND PORTSMOUTH ZONING MAP BE AMENDED BY REZONING THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 290 GOSLING ROAD AT ASSESSOR'S TAX MAP 213, LOT 1 FROM WATERFRONT INDUSTRIAL (WI) TO OFFICE RESEARCH (OR) DISTRICT

• PRESENTATION

Planning Director Walker gave a brief presentation and then introduced the petitioner Rob Ciandella who explained their reason for requesting the change in zoning of the area.

• CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS

Councilor Becksted asked if this would be more beneficial in terms of tax revenue if it remained zoned as is.

Planning Director Walker stated that property is generally more beneficial if it can be developed and there hasn't been a lot of interest in the current Waterfront Industrial (WI) zone.

- **PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS**

Mayor Blalock read the legal notice and opened the public hearing:

Esther Kennedy – stated she pays attention to waterfront property changes as she is concerned with losing it. She stated that this particular area is landlocked and not in use since Sprague Oil Company left. She asked if there were to be another company that wanted to come in, would they need this parcel to be able to use the other waterfront area.

Susan Denenberg – asked if there are parking requirements dependent on the zoning for those who will be working there and if so, that should be required for all parcels in the city with no exceptions.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Blalock closed the public hearing.

- **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND DELIBERATIONS**

Mayor Blalock asked Planning Director Walker to address the question asked by Ms. Denenberg.

Planning Director Walker stated that parking is based on land use so it has to meet minimum requirements and she feels there would be adequate parking in this area.

Councilor Reynolds moved to pass second reading and schedule a third and final reading for the February 19, 2019 City Council meeting on the request of 290 Gosling Road, LLC the property with the address of 290 Gosling Road (Map 213, Lot 1) be re-zoned from Waterfront Industrial (WI) to Office Research (OR), seconded by Councilor Perkins.

Councilor Becksted asked if this would be considered spot-zoning.

City Attorney Sullivan stated he is familiar with this area which was previous a tank farm for Sprague Energy and this would not be spot zoning because it will be in line with other similarly zoned property in the area.

Councilor Becksted asked if the neighboring businesses have been notified about this change and if there may be some effect on those businesses.

Planning Director Walker stated that abutter notices were sent as part of the Planning Board process and they did not hear back from anyone.

Motion passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

D. First Reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10 – Zoning Ordinance – Accessory Dwelling Units and Garden Cottages

Councilor Becksted moved to pass first reading as amended and schedule second reading and a public hearing for the February 19, 2019 City Council meeting to amend the Zoning Ordinance by deleting existing Section 10.814 – Accessory Dwelling Units and 10.815 as presented on the document titled “Proposed Dwelling Units and 10.815 – Garden Cottages” dated January 29, 2019 and amending related terms in Article 15 - Definitions, Section 10.1530 – Terms of General Applicability, seconded by Councilor Dwyer.

Councilor Becksted stated he has some concerns with the language because there are certain code requirements that have to be met to separate the units, otherwise it becomes a commercial property.

Motion passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

Councilor Becksted moved to suspend the rules to move up on the Agenda Item XI.C.1 – McIntyre Subcommittee Update. Seconded by Councilor Denton and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

XI.C. COUNCILOR ROBERTS, COUNCILOR DWYER, COUNCILOR PERKINS

1. McIntyre Subcommittee Update

Councilor Dwyer stated they are working to respond to the request for an opportunity for the public to meet with the architects on March 5, 2019 with location to be determined. She stated the 3-D model and physical model should be ready as well. She stated they want to hold it on a non-Council meeting night so that all of the time is devoted to that subject. She stated she would like to have break-out groups after a brief presentation.

Councilor Perkins stated that the sub-committee recently submitted a letter to the editor in which they hope they addressed some of the concerns that have been expressed.

Councilor Becksted asked if this will be televised and if there will be minutes taken in the groups.

Councilor Dwyer stated the presentation will be televised and when the groups come back together at the end.

E. Third and Final Reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10 – Zoning Ordinance, Article 11 – Site Development Standards, Section 10.1110 – Off-Street Parking (Proposed Amendments dated 1/29/2019)

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to suspend the rules in order to amend the Ordinance at third reading. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to amend the Ordinance as presented in the City Manager’s Comments dated January 31, 2019, seconded by Councilor Pearson.

Councilor Becksted asked if this will affect any other project in this district other than the McIntyre Project.

Planning Director Walker stated the specific aspect of this ordinance that will affect projects is the change to allow the projects to go to the Planning Board for a Conditional Use Permit to either increase or decrease their parking requirement. The other change is related to residential uses which currently in the downtown overlay district is 1.3 spaces per residential unit and this will make it the same as other areas of the city which is based on unit size. She stated the only project impacted currently would be the McIntyre Project but there will be others in the future. She stated an analysis of the past 2-3 years showed that the residential projects in the downtown district all met the current requirements and would also meet these requirements and that this is market driven.

Councilor Dwyer addressed the proposed amendments which came from a citizens concern as well as her own which she discussed with Deputy City Manager Colbert Puff:

10.1112.141 An application for a conditional use permit under this section shall include a parking demand analysis, **which shall be reviewed by the City's Technical Advisory Committee prior to submission to the Planning Board**, demonstrating that the proposed number of off-street parking spaces is sufficient for the proposed use.

b. In order to better clarify the types of measures the Planning Board can consider for offsetting parking demand, staff is recommending a modification as follows (inserted text **bolded**, deleted text stricken):

10.1112.142 An application for a conditional use permit under this section shall identify permanent **evidence-based** measures to reduce parking demand, including but not limited to provision of rideshare/**microtransit** services or bikeshare station(s) servicing the property, proximity to public transit, **car/van-pool incentives, alternative transit subsidies, provisions for teleworking**, and shared parking on a separate lot subject to the requirements of 10.1112.62.

Once a conditional use permit is granted, any conditions placed on an approval by the Planning Board as well as any measures included in the conditional use permit application are subject to monitoring and enforcement by City staff. Monitoring and enforcement of these conditions, is one of the many tasks carried out by the Planning Department's land use compliance staff.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby stated he appreciates the amendment but is concerned with the provision for "tele-working" stating he feels this is open-ended and may be a loophole.

Councilor Dwyer stated this will be up to the Planning Board to determine.

Councilor Becksted stated he is still concerned with the review process because the Technical Advisory Committee is only advisory whereas the Zoning Board of Adjustment has the 5 criteria that must be met. He stated that the parking requirement has also changed since the first McIntyre Proposal and feels that we should be using this as a bargaining chip, such as to keep the post office onsite.

Motion to amend passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

Councilor Becksted moved to postpone third reading temporarily, seconded by Councilor Denton.

Councilor Denton stated that there is a short-fall of parking currently but feels that in the future there won't be as much of a need and doesn't want to impose more than what is needed for the future.

Councilor Dwyer doesn't see the need to postpone stating that the Board of Adjustment has been more likely to reduce parking than the Planning Board has.

Councilor Pearson stated she agrees with Councilor Denton regarding not needing as much parking in the future and also doesn't feel that this should be tied to the McIntyre project.

Motion FAILED on a 1-7 roll call vote, Councilor Becksted voted in favor.

Councilor Raynolds moved to pass third and final reading, as amended, seconded by Councilor Dwyer.

Councilor Becksted stated he will not support this because we are elected to represent the people today not in the future.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby stated he doesn't see this as a way to lower the parking requirements for McIntyre project but is meant to make it consistent with other parts of downtown.

Motion passed on a 7-1 roll call vote, Councilor Becksted voted opposed.

- F. Third and Final Reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10 – Zoning Ordinance, Article 2 – Administration and Enforcement be amended by inserting a new Section 10.240 as presented on the document titled “Proposed Amendments to the Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance: Section 10.240 – Conditional Use Permits”, Dated November 19, 2018

Councilor Denton moved to pass third and final reading of the proposed Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance, Article 2 – Administration and Enforcement, by inserting a new Section 10.240 as presented on the document titled, “Proposed Amendments to the Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance: Section 10.240 – Conditional Use Permits”, dated November 19, 2018, seconded by Councilor Raynolds.

Councilor Becksted stated he will not support this ordinance.

Councilor Raynolds stated this will add specificity and consistency.

Councilor Pearson stated that part of the reason for streamlining this is to cut the hassle and costs of new projects and the Economic Development Commission supported this as well.

Motion passed on a 7-1 roll call vote, Councilor Becksted voted opposed.

- G. Third and Final Reading of Amendments to Chapter 10 – Zoning Ordinance be amended by deleting the existing Article 12 – Signs, and inserting in its place a new Article 12 – Signs as presented in the document titled “Proposed Amendments to the Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance: Article 12 – Signs”, dated January 15, 2019 (*Postponed until February 4, 2019 City Council meeting*)

Councilor Dwyer moved to pass third and final reading of the proposed Ordinance, as amended, seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Planning Director Walker reviewed a handout explaining the changes and answering questions brought up at the 2nd reading.

Discussion ensued regarding the requirement of a 7’ setback for temporary free-standing signs as many south end homes don’t have that much of a setback.

Planning Director Walker explained that was actually a part of the current ordinance and was not a proposed amendment. She stated that it is more of a guideline and provides protective measures if it becomes a problem. She stated that we didn’t have provisions previously for elections and now there will be.

City Manager Bohenko stated the city does not become involved with election signs unless they obstruct sight lines. He stated this is meant to clean up the ordinance and enforcement is based on using common sense and if there are any issues, it can come back to the Council.

Councilor Dwyer moved to amend by removing the 7’ setback requirement for temporary freestanding signs from any property line. Seconded by Councilor Becksted and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

Councilor Dwyer moved to pass third and final reading of the proposed amendment, as amended, seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Councilor Becksted stated he will not support this because it encroaches on the 1st amendment and also because we don’t really enforce it.

Motion passed on a 7-1 roll call vote, Councilor Becksted voted opposed.

VIII. APPROVAL OF GRANTS/DONATIONS

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

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and passed on a 7-0 roll call vote, Councilor Dwyer out of Chambers.

- A. Request for License to Install Projecting Sign for Shi Bo Lin, LLC owner of Pink Bamboo Hot Pot Café for property located at 128 Penhallow Street

(Anticipated action - move to approve the aforementioned Projecting Sign License as recommended by the Planning Director, and further, authorize the City Manager to execute the License Agreement for this request)

Planning Director's Stipulations

- ***The license shall be approved by the Legal Department as to content and form;***
- ***Any removal or relocation of projecting sign, for any reason, shall be done at no cost to the City; and***
- ***Any disturbance of a sidewalk, street or other public infrastructure resulting from the installation, relocation or removal of the projecting sign, for any reason shall be restored at no cost to the City and shall be subject to review and acceptance by the Department of Public Works)***

- B. Request for License to Install Projecting Sign for Justin Finn owner of Finn Wealth Advisors for property located at 23 High Street, Unit C ***(Anticipated action - move to approve the aforementioned Projecting Sign License as recommended by the Planning Director, and further, authorize the City Manager to execute the License Agreement for this request)***

Planning Director's Stipulations

- ***The license shall be approved by the Legal Department as to content and form;***
- ***Any removal or relocation of projecting sign, for any reason, shall be done at no cost to the City; and***
- ***Any disturbance of a sidewalk, street or other public infrastructure resulting from the installation, relocation or removal of the projecting sign, for any reason shall be restored at no cost to the City and shall be subject to review and acceptance by the Department of Public Works)***

- C. Letter from Kate Corriveau, Alzheimer's Association requesting permission to hold the 2019 Annual Seacoast Walk to End Alzheimer's on Sunday, September 22, 2019 ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)***

X. PRESENTATION & CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

- A. Email Correspondence

Councilor Perkins moved to accept and place on file. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby and passed on a 7-0 roll call vote, Councilor Dwyer out of Chambers.

XI. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

A. CITY MANAGER

1. 201 Kearsarge Way Access Easement

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to accept an access easement to 201 Kearsarge Way, as presented. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

2. 1179 Sagamore Avenue Water Services Access Easement

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to accept the easement regarding 1179 Sagamore Avenue, as presented. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

3. Report Back Re: Request to Rezone Properties on Pinehurst Road

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to place on file the citizen request to re-zone the properties along Pinehurst Road from General Residence A (GRA) to Single Residence B (SRB). Seconded by Councilor Perkins and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

4. Work Session Re: Parking Principles Review and Discussion

City Manager Bohenko explained that he would like to set the date for this Work Session for either March 11th or March 25th at the Levenson Room of the Public Library so that it is a more informal setting.

Councilor Dwyer stated she and Councilor Roberts met with city staff regarding who should be invited to attend the meeting in terms of other Boards and Commissions and feel that Planning Board, Zoning Board, Parking and Traffic Safety Committee and Economic Development Commission. She stated she would like to break out into smaller groups after a brief presentation and then come back together at the end.

Mayor Blalock suggested inviting the Chairs of the Commissions and have them invite their members.

Councilor Becksted stated he would like the meeting to be video recorded and feels that the Historic District Commission should be included as well.

Councilor Raynolds agrees stating the more the merrier.

Councilor Denton suggested also inviting business leaders.

Councilor Dwyer stated anyone will be welcome to come and observe, but feels the discussion should be with the board members first and then the Economic Development Commission can host a separate meeting with businesses.

Mayor Blalock agreed stating this should be a policy discussion and then bring it to the Chamber of Commerce after.

Councilor Becksted moved to set a Work Session Re: Parking Principles Review and Discussion for Monday, March 25, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Levenson Room of the Public Library. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

City Manager's Informational Items:

1. Neighborhood Parking Program Re: Pilot

City Manager Bohenko stated that they have received a letter from the South End neighborhood group removing themselves from the Pilot Program so the next meeting will be dealing only with the Islington Creek Neighborhood petition. He stated that the comments and suggestions of the Council were included in the packet and to let him know if there are any further comments.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby stated he didn't see his additional questions included. He stated he is wondering if there is more printed data available regarding current usage as it relates to best practices and secondly, are there any legal risks or concerns.

City Manager Bohenko stated he has made contact with NHMA and there is no law on this yet and therefore no information regarding challenges.

Assistany Mayor Lazenby asked what the cost estimate for implementation will be. City Manager Bohenko stated \$70,000, but will be less without the South End.

Councilor Dwyer stated that we have received notification that the South End is not going to continue but there may be another group that comes forward. She stated the issue of notification needs to be addressed.

City Manager Bohenko stated we are depending on our local newspaper to work with us and feels that we should go forward with the West End Pilot first, if the Council decides to do so, and then go from there. He stated that this came from the residents on the west end originally. He stated he will get the information requested out to the Council.

2. Reminder Re: Short Term Rentals Joint Work Session
3. Draft Comcast Franchise Renewal Agreement

B. MAYOR BLALOCK

1. Appointment to be Voted:
 - Nathalie Morison to the Conservation Commission

Councilor Denton moved to approve the appointment of Nathalie Morison as a regular member to the Conservation Commission with term to expire April 1, 2020 (filling unexpired term). Seconded by Councilor Perkins and passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

C. COUNCILOR ROBERTS, COUNCILOR DWYER, COUNCILOR PERKINS

1. McIntyre Subcommittee Update (Previously addressed)

D. COUNCILOR DENTON

1. Proposed Charter Amendment – Section 4.6 – Compensation of City Councilors

Each City Councilor shall be compensated at a rate of Seventy-Five (\$75.00) Dollars for each Council meeting in which that person is in actual attendance. ~~However, no City Councilor except the Mayor shall receive more than Fifteen Hundred (\$1,500) Dollars during any calendar year.~~

Councilor Denton moved to refer to the City Manager to begin the procedures under RSA 49-B:5 to have November’s municipal election ballot include a Charter Amendment that would strike the second sentence of Section 4.6, seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Councilor Denton explained that removing the cap on the amount the City Council receives annually could potentially lead to a more diverse Council. He explained that the Council usually doesn’t get paid for the months of November and December. He stated he is looking to start the discussion and bring it to the voters in November.

Councilor Becksted stated he is willing to take it to the next step but does not serve on the City Council for the money.

Mayor Blalock stated he agrees that being paid for 20 of the 22 meetings a year has always seemed odd to him and this would eliminate the “free” meetings.

Motion passed on an 8-0 roll call vote.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Becksted stated that the Council voted at the last meeting on a 5-year contract for Deputy City Manager Colbert Puff and the information provided by staff was that there were other employees with 5 year contracts. He stated he has since learned that only Police Chief Merner has a 5 year contract and the others that were mentioned, had 3 year contracts.

City Manager Bohenko stated that there were one year extensions on the other contracts but still feels that the 5 year contract was appropriate for Deputy City Manager Colbert Puff.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to adjourn at 9:05 p.m., seconded and passed unanimously.

Valerie A. French, Deputy City Clerk