

TO: KAREN CONARD, CITY MANAGER
FROM: KELLI L. BARNABY, CITY CLERK
RE: ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE EILEEN DONDERO FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022
PRESENT: MAYOR McEACHERN, ASSISTANT MAYOR KELLEY, COUNCILORS TABOR, DENTON, MOREAU, BAGLEY, LOMBARDI, BLALOCK (7:10PM) AND COOK

1. Proclamation – National Public Works Week – Mayor McEachern read the Proclamation declaring May 15th – May 21st as National Public Works Week.
2. Recognition – Rochelle Jones, Police Detective – Mayor McEachern presented Detective Jones with a City of Portsmouth coin in recognition of her professionalism and leadership in providing assistance recently to a man in crisis on the Piscataqua River Bridge.
3. Public Comment Session – There were 11 speakers: Roy Helsel (Audit Committee); Rich Duddy (Skatepark Fundraiser); Gerald Duffy (Civil Discourse); Randy Wright (Parking Program); Sue Polidura (Economy/Budget); Esther Kennedy (Wastewater Treatment Plant); Susan Paige Trace (City Hall Switchboard); Jonathan Sandberg (Bikes); Liza Hewitt (Representation); Arthur Clough (Fiscal Responsibility); and Bill Downey (Civic Participation).
4. Bicycle Pedestrian Path Easement for Property Located at 3548 Lafayette Road – **Voted** to authorize the City Manager to accept a Bicycle Pedestrian Easement and a Water Service Access Easement for Monarch Village, LLC in substantially similar form to the attached easements in the City Manager’s Comments dated May 12, 2022.
5. Consent Agenda – **Voted** to adopt the Consent Agenda.
 - A. Request from Eli Sokorelis, State Street Saloon to install a Projecting Sign at 43 Pleasant 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 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 from Samuel Habib, Exotic Vibes to install a Projecting Sign at 226 State 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 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 Todd Germain, Fire Chief, requesting permission to hold the Trans NH Bike Ride-Cycling for Muscular Dystrophy on June 24th – June 26th, 2022 (***Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act***)
- D. Request from Carol Clark, requesting permission to hold the Port City Pickleball Classic on September 30th – October 2, 2022 at the South Mill Pond Pickleball Courts (***Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act***)
- E. Request from Phil von Hemert, Tall Ships, requesting permission to hold the Tall Ships Event on August 11th – August 16, 2022 (***Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act***)
- F. Request from Music Hall Requesting street closure of Chestnut Street for TEDxPortsmouth on May 20, 2022 (***Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act***)
- G. Letter from Linda Conti, Seacoast Jazz Society, requesting permission to hold a street performance in three locations June 25 (12:30-2 pm), July 8 (5:30-7 pm), July 23 (12:30-2 pm), August 6 (12:30-2 pm), and August 20 (12:30-2 pm) (***Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act***)
6. Email Correspondence – **Voted** to accept and place on file.
7. Letter from Chris Rose, Portsmouth Middle School 8th Grade Science Teacher, regarding Impactful Energy Proposals – **Voted** to refer to the Sustainable Practices Blue Ribbon Committee for report back.
8. Letter from Michael Simchik regarding McIntyre – **Voted** to accept and place on file.
9. Letter from Hannah Taylor Requesting permission to hold Bootcamps in Prescott Park – **Voted** to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act.
10. Presentation regarding Middle Street Bike Lanes – Deborah Finnigan, WSP, Senior Project Manager provided a detailed presentation reviewing the Middle Street Bike Lanes.
11. **Voted** to suspend the rules in order to bring forward Item XV. D.1. – Middle Street Bike Lanes.

12. Middle Street Bike Lanes – **On a unanimous roll call 9-0, voted** to approve report recommendations with the Council and implement striped buffered bike lanes as the preferred alternative.
13. Presentation regarding Neighborhood Parking Program – Parking Director Fletcher provided a detailed review of the Neighborhood Parking Program.
14. **Voted** to suspend the rules to bring forward Item XV. D. 2. Sub-item 2 – Neighborhood Parking Program.
15. Neighborhood Parking Program – **Voted** to continue the Neighborhood Parking Program through Labor Day weekend as currently configured.
16. Demolition Committee – **Voted** to refer to the Planning Board the requested changes that were outlined in the Demolition Committee meeting of February 10, 2021 and, further identify the enabling legislation in the RSA that allows for a Demolition Committee.
17. Appointments to be Considered – The City Council considered the appointment and reappointments as outlined below to be voted upon at the June 6, 2022 City Council meeting.
 - Appointment of Herb Lloyd to the Sustainable Practices Blue Ribbon Committee
 - Reappointment of Margot Doering to the Historic District Commission
 - Reappointment of Reagan Ruedig to the Historic District Commission
 - Reappointment of Jonathan Wyckoff to the Historic District Commission
18. City Manager Evaluation Committee – **Voted** in accordance with the City Manager's Employment Agreement it is the intent of the City Council to negotiate a new agreement with the City Manager.
19. City Manager Contract – **Voted** to authorize the city's labor attorney to negotiate the City Manager's upcoming employment contract, communicating with the City Council as needed, and subject to the Council's performance evaluation and approval.
20. Community Engagement – **Voted** to receive a report back from staff on best practices and new technologies for citizen engagement and schedule a Council work session for discussion. Items to be considered: What are new and best ways to achieve our strategic goal to "*Invite and honor input from the community and encourage increased participation*" including public meetings with live polling, flash surveys, study circles, as well as traditional public hearings and citizen comment.
21. Parking and Traffic Safety Committee Action Items Needing Approval by City Council – **Voted** to approve Items as outlined below.
 - Request for renewal of valet parking license agreement on Hanover Street, by The 100 Club – Voted to approve renewal of valet parking license agreement on Hanover Street for The 100 Club.
 - Summit Avenue – Voted to approve lowering speed limit to 25 MPH.

- Raynes Avenue and Vaughan Street - Voted to approve one-way flow on Vaughan Street and Raynes Avenue, in a counter-clockwise direction, entering from Maplewood Avenue at Vaughan Street and exiting onto Maplewood Avenue at Raynes Avenue.
 - Middle Road – Voted to approve lowering speed limit to 25 MPH from Peverly Hill Road to Middle Street, for six-month trial period.
 - Parrott Avenue – Voted to approve lowering speed limit to 25 MPH.
 - Islington Street – Voted to approve lowering speed limit from Spinney Road to Maplewood Avenue to 25 MPH. Voted to approve lowering speed limit from Spinney Road to Greenland Road to 25 MPH for six-month trial period.
22. Parking and Traffic Safety Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of May 5, 2022 – **Voted** to accept and approve the action sheet and minutes of the May 5, 2022 Parking and Traffic Safety Committee meeting.
23. Requesting a report back from the City on Maple Haven and Pannaway Manor sidewalk projects – **Voted** to refer to the City Manager for report back on the Maple Haven and Pannaway Manor Sidewalk Projects.
24. City Manager’s Informational Items:
- PFAS Sampling at New Athletic Fields – Update on Results – City Manager Conard reported that a more thorough and comprehensive update will be provided in 2-3 weeks to share with the City Council at one of the June meetings.
 - Inspection Department Office Hours – City Manager Conard announced that the Inspection Department has re-implemented standardized office hours beginning today. Hours are as follows:
 - *Monday: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.*
 - *Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.*
25. Miscellaneous Business:
- Memorial Day Events were announced by Councilor Denton:
 - Burial at Sea Ceremony at Prescott Park on Friday, May 27th at 10:30 a.m.
 - Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30th at 1:00 p.m. starting off at the intersection of Junkins Avenue and Parrott Avenue through downtown then intersection of Middle Street, continue on Middle Street making a left onto Richards Avenue going up into the South Street Cemetery for the Ceremony beginning at 2:00 p.m.
 - A cookout at Prescott Park will follow after the Memorial Day Parade and everyone is invited to attend.

- Councilor Lombardi announced that the State of the City will be presented tomorrow morning, Tuesday, May 17th with City Manager Conard presenting. The event is being held at Grill 28 at Pease.
- Mayor McEachern announced that the Family Dance scheduled on Friday, May 20th has been cancelled, due to low ticket sales.
- City Manager Conard announced in accordance with Chapter 1, Article III, Section 1.303 of the Planning Board Ordinance she will be appointing Facilities Manager Joe Almeida as the Administrative Official, ex-officio member to the Planning Board replacing Ray Pezzullo who has retired from Public Works. She informed the Council that Joe will be attending the Planning Board meeting on Thursday, May 19th.
- Mayor McEachern thanked Ray Pezzullo for his years of service to the City and the Public Works Department.

26. Middle Street Repaving – **Voted** for a report back to the City Council regarding the Middle Street Repaving issue.

27. Adjournment – At 10:10 p.m., voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kelli L. Barnaby, MMC/CNHMC
City Clerk