

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, MARCH 17, 2025

PRESENT: MAYOR McEACHERN, ASSISTANT MAYOR KELLEY, COUNCILORS TABOR, COOK, DENTON, BLALOCK, BAGLEY, MOREAU AND LOMBARDI

1. **Voted** to close the Non-Public Session and seal the minutes.
2. Acceptance of Minutes – February 18, 2025 – **Voted** to accept and approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025 City Council meeting.
3. Public Art Review Committee (PARC) – 2024 Annual Report – Chris Dwyer, Chair of the Committee, provided a brief review of the 2024 Annual Report. She reviewed some of the highlights:
 - PARC undertook its first percent-for-art commission with the Peirce Island project. The Committee vetted over 20 proposals and selected *Spiraling Serenity* by DiBari Associates. The project is slated for installation in Spring 2025
 - PARC is working with a middle school committee to commission artwork which will be installed in late 2025
 - PARC worked in conjunction with Portsmouth400 to plan and oversee Terrence Parker's *Cod and the Mortal Sea*, an installation in the kiosk of Bohenko Gateway Park which was installed in October 2024
 - PARC has begun dialogue with representatives from the LGBTQ+ community about a public art project, initiated by the gift of \$10,000.00 from money raised for a PRIDE-themed artwork

Chris also reported that there are a few places that could benefit by different types of public art to bring greater interest to the spaces, creating identification for spaces. Those aspirational locations included: additional artwork to complete Bohenko Gateway Park; the rail trail, especially the main entry way; Langdon Park across from City Hall; entrance to Commerce Way.
4. Public Comment Session – There were 5 speakers: Erik Anderson (Land Lease); Esther Kennedy (Portsmouth); Dave Cosgrove (School Funding); Jim Lee (Budget); and Dave Marvez (Workforce Housing at Lower Lot of City Hall).
5. Third and Final Reading of Ordinance amendment to Chapter 10, Zoning Ordinance, by Striking Article 5, Measurement Rules, Section 10.515.14; by Amending Section 10.515.13; and by Adding new Sections 10.811.6 and 10.811.61, relating to Accessory Uses to Permitted Residential Uses of the Ordinance of the City of Portsmouth – **Voted** to pass third and final reading of the ordinance as presented.
6. Third and Final Reading of Ordinance amending to Chapter 10 – Zoning Ordinance – Zoning Map, Article 4, Zoning District and Use Regulations, Section 10.421 – District Location and Boundaries, Section 10.421.10, be amended to remove 185 Orchard Street, Tax Map 152, Lot 2-1 from the Historic District Overlay – **Voted** to pass third and final reading of the ordinance as presented.
7. Easement and License for Public Deck Access Located at 99 Bow Street – **Voted** to authorize the City Manager to accept and approve a Quitclaim Deed of Easement and License for Public Access in substantially similar form to the Deed from Martingale, LLC contained in the agenda packet. Councilor Blalock abstained from voting on this matter.

8. Request for Public Hearing Regarding Fernald Easement Financing – **Voted** to schedule a public hearing during the April 7, 2025 City Council meeting to consider bonding of up to \$1,478,000.00 to allow for the purchase of the Fernald Easement prior to or in lieu of the disbursement of grant funds.
9. Third Extension of Temporary Construction License for EightKph, LLC at 70 Maplewood Avenue – **Voted** to authorize the City Manager to execute and accept the Third License Extension to encumber the sidewalks along Maplewood Avenue and Deer Street that abut 70 Maplewood Avenue as requested.
10. Street Naming for Newberry Way – **Voted** to authorize the use of Newberry Way as the private street name between High Street and Fleet Street formerly named Haven Court.
11. 2025 Seacoast Eat Local Farmers' Market License – **Voted** to authorize the City Manager to execute the License Agreement as presented, allowing SEL to operate a Farmer's Market at the Municipal Complex on Saturday mornings from May 3, 2025, through October 25, 2025, and that the City Manager is further authorized to negotiate and execute any amendment to the Agreement that she deems consistent with its purpose.
12. Amendment to Lease with the Players' Ring – **Voted** to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into Lease Amendment 3 with the Players' Ring in a form similar to the Lease in the City Council packet.
13. Consent Agenda – **Voted** to adopt the Consent Agenda.

- A. Request from Ken Schmidt of Eiger Insurance Services to install a Projecting Sign at 28 Deer Street (***Anticipated action – move to approve the aforementioned Projecting Sign License as recommended by the Planning & Sustainability 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 signs, 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 John & Cari Karonis of Fair Winds Home, LLC to install a Projecting Sign at 19 Market Street (***Anticipated action – move to approve the aforementioned Projecting Sign License as recommended by the Planning & Sustainability 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 signs, 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 Jodie Tsekrekas, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, requesting permission to hold the CF Cycle for Life on Saturday, July 12, 2025 ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act)***
- D. Letter from Russ Grazier, Portsmouth Music and Arts Center, requesting permission to have a small parade from Portsmouth's African Burying Ground to the Vaughn Mall on Friday, April 11, 2025 at Noon as part of Jazz Appreciation Month Celebrations ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act)***
- E. Letter from Michelle Wall & Derrick Perreault, Red Bull Distribution Company, requesting permission to hold a charitable event "Wings for Life World Run" at Peirce Island on Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act)***
- F. Letter from Ken La Valley, AFSP Out of the Darkness, requesting permission to hold the Out of the Darkness Walk at Peirce Island on Saturday, September 20, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act)***
- G. Letter from Curtis Hermann, New Hampshire Sons of the American Revolution, requesting permission to hold a ceremony unveiling markers at the gravesites of 5 Patriots on Saturday, September 13, 2025 *(This request reschedules the November 16, 2024 event previously approved)* ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act)***
- H. Letter from Jonathan Day, Portsmouth Halloween Parade, requesting permission to hold the 30th Portsmouth Halloween Parade on Friday, October 31, 2025 ***(Sample motion – move to refer to the City Manager with Authority to Act)***

14. Email Correspondence – **Voted** to accept and place on file.

15. Request from Chris Adams for a License Agreement at 66 Coakley Road for the purposes of installing, maintaining and replacing a fence, and for ordinary yard maintenance – **Voted** to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a revocable license to Chris Adams of City owned property adjacent to 66 Coakley Road for the purposes of installing, maintaining and replacing a fence, and for ordinary yard maintenance. Assistant Mayor Kelley abstained from voting on this matter.
16. Appointments to be Considered: - The City Council considered the appointments listed below and will take action on the appointments at the April 7, 2025 City Council meeting.
 - Appointment of Mandela Pruett – Arts & Cultural Commission
 - Reappointment of Kara Anne Rodenhizer – Portsmouth Housing Authority
17. Resignation of Eva Boice – Cemetery Committee – **Voted** to accept the resignation of Eva Boice from the Cemetery Committee with regret and requested a letter be sent thanking Eva for her service to the City.
18. Boards, Commissions and Committee 2024 Attendance Records – **Voted** to accept the 2024 Boards, Commissions, and Committee Attendance Records.
19. **Voted** to suspend the rules to bring forward a request for a letter to be sent by Mayor McEachern supporting the workers at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.
20. Letter supporting the workers at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (Not on Agenda) – **Voted** to draft a letter of support to the workers at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.
21. Bird Flu Health Issues – No action required. City Manager Conard provided a brief update on this matter.
22. Parking & Traffic Safety Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the March 6, 2025 meeting – **Voted** to accept and approve the action sheet and minutes of the March 6, 2025 Parking & Traffic Safety Committee meeting. Councilor Blalock voted opposed
23. Acceptance of Donation to support the acquisition and installation of a memorial for Dinah Chase Whipple at North Cemetery from Appledore Marine Engineering LLC (The Webs Foundation) - \$1,000.00 – **Voted** to accept the donation as presented.
24. Adjournment – At 8:20 p.m., **voted** to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Kelli L. Barnaby, MMC/CNHMC
City Clerk