

CITY OF LACONIA - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 27, 2020

7:00 P.M. (via Zoom)

7/27/2020 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hosmer called the meeting to order at the above date and time.

As Mayor of the Laconia City Council, due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Board is authorized to meet electronically. Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, this is to confirm that we are:

a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means;

We are utilizing the Zoom platform for this electronic meeting. All Council Members have the ability to communicate during this meeting through the Zoom platform, and the public has access to watch the live YouTube video at <https://www.youtube.com/laconianh>, listen to this meeting through dialing the following phone # 1-646-558-8656 or participate by the Zoom app: Webinar ID: 864 2993 7427 password 075794

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting;

We previously gave notice to the public of how to access the meeting using Zoom, and instructions are provided on the City of Laconia's website at: www.laconianh.gov.

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access; If anybody has a problem, please call 524-3877 x 249 or email at: cityclerk@laconianh.gov

d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, we will adjourn the meeting and have it rescheduled at that time. Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by Roll Call vote.

Let's start the meeting by taking a Roll Call attendance. When each member states their presence, also please state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Hosmer lead the Salute to the Flag.

3. RECORDING SECRETARY

Cheryl Hebert, City Clerk

4. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES, (physically present)

Councilor Lipman YES, Is anyone in the room with you? NO

Councilor Haynes YES, (physically present)

Councilor Hamel YES, Is anyone in the room with you? NO

Councilor Felch YES, Is anyone in the room with you? NO

Mayor Hosmer noted all five (5) Councilors were in attendance and a quorum was established.

5. STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Myers, City Manager

6. COUNCIL PROCLAMATION

7. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.A. Regular meeting minutes of July 13, 2020

Minutes of the meeting were distributed to the City Council on Thursday, July 16, 2020. With no corrections or changes submitted to the clerk, the minutes will be accepted as distributed.

8. CONSENT & ACTION ITEMS

9. CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Representative Charlie St. Clair spoke in regards to the traffic plan for Motorcycle Week to be held August 22nd through August 30, 2020. A meeting was supposed to happen in regards to this and after speaking with the City Manager on Friday, it was stated that a traffic plan is not happening. A petition has been started. Representative St. Clair is appreciative of the decisions that the City has already made in regards to not having outside vendors but he really thinks a traffic plan needs to be put into place for safety reasons. Representative St. Clair would really like to see a meeting still happen with the appropriate parties. Representative St. Clair also spoke of the parking kiosks in regards to motorcycles and just this past weekend three bikes were parked in one spot and paid for the spot with only one ticket that was issued, therefore two out of the three bikes received parking tickets.

City Manager Myers stated that no decision has been made as of yet in regards to a traffic plan for motorcycle week. As for the parking kiosks, the City of Laconia does not require a ticket to be displayed on a vehicle. The kiosks are for the parking spot and if the kiosks shows the spot has expired then that spot is given a ticket.

Megan Dostis, General Manager of Tower Hill Tavern - Ms. Dostis is concerned for the safety if there isn't a traffic plan put into place as well as a lack of parking for the motorcyclists during the upcoming motorcycle week. The businesses in the Weirs that Ms. Dostis has spoken too believe it is in the best interest of everyone involved if there is the typical traffic plan that happens every year during Motorcycle Week. Ms. Dostis also reiterated what Representative St. Clair said about the parking kiosks.

Councilor Lipman asked City Manager Myers to repeat what he stated earlier about the parking kiosks.

The City does not do a typical pay and display approach for the parking spaces. Parking enforcement does not look at dashboards for a ticket to be displayed, they have a hand held machine that shows that there isn't money in the kiosks for a certain spot. If there isn't money in kiosks for a spot that is when there is a ticket issued. If people are finding that is not the case then the City Manager asks that they call the City Manager's Office to discuss this further.

Representative St. Clair explained he will await for further information in regards to a traffic plan.

10. INTERVIEWS

10.A. Brian Wolf - Seeking appointment as a regular member of the Water Commission for a three-year term expiring at the end of June, 2023

Brian Wolf was interviewed.

11. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS

11.A. Brian Wolf - Seeking appointment as a regular member of the Water Commission for a three-year term expiring at the end of June, 2023

Councilor Cheney moved to waive the Council rule in regards to the two week waiting period in order to make appointment of an applicant to an open position, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

Councilor Lipman asked if this is an emergency to have to take this vote up this evening.

City Manager Myers explained that with this being in the middle of construction season, it is important to have a full board.

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Haynes moved to approve the appointment of Brian Wolf as a regular member of the Water Commission for a three-year term expiring at the end of June, 2023, seconded by Councilor Cheney;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

12. **COMMUNICATIONS**

13. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

14. **PRESENTATIONS**

15. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report this evening due to the lengthy agenda.

16. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

16.A. **FINANCE (Lipman (Chair), Hamel, Cheney)**

Councilor Lipman explained a Finance Committee meeting was held after the last regular Council meeting and the minutes have been approved.

16.A.i. **WOW Trail Funding**

16.A.ii. **Downtown TIF Financing**

16.B. **PUBLIC SAFETY (Cheney (Chair), Bownes, Lipman)**

16.C. **GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ORDINANCES (Bownes (Chair), Felch, Cheney)**

16.C.i. **Review of Chapter 167, Noise and Chapter 161 Licensing as it pertains to outdoor sound equipment and loudspeakers**

16.C.ii. **Ordinance Amending Chapter 221, Vehicles and Traffic/Parking on Sublawns**

16.C.iii. **Procedural review of grant applications**

16.C.iv. **Regulation of Short Term Residential Rental Businesses**

16.C.v. **Proposed Historic Overlay District**

16.C.vi. **Scenic Road Motorcycle Noise Petition**

16.D. **LANDS & BUILDINGS (Hamel (Chair), Haynes, Felch)**

16.D.i. **Downtown parking garage**

16.D.ii. **Repair & maintenance of City buildings**

16.D.iii. **Perley Pond Maintenance**

16.D.iv. **Plan for the DPW Compound**

16.D.v. **Continuation of the discussion regarding parking in the Lakeport area**

16.E. **PUBLIC WORKS (Haynes (Chair), Felch, Bownes)**

16.E.i. **Retaining Wall Policy**

17. **LIAISON REPORTS**

Councilor Hamel is a liaison for Parks and Recreation and they are requesting financial data in regards to the parking kiosks and beach parking fees. It has been several years since a review has been done of these fees.

18. **CITIZENS REQUESTS TO COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS**

No comments were made.

19. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

19.A. **Project Updates Report**

City Manager Myers reviewed the report.

City Manager Myers spoke of Lakeport Landing (Erica Blizzard) and the faux fire tower that was addressed at the last Council Meeting. City Manager Myers sent an email to the Council earlier today. A copy of that is part of the record. The City Manager will await further direction from the Council. If the City should choose to seek legal action, the costs could be anywhere from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

Councilor Cheney asked that before any legal action be taken, if the City can approach Ms. Blizzard in regards to maybe at the minimum painting the tower red to closely resemble a brick tower.

Councilor Lipman suggests maybe reaching out to our own City engineers in regards to the faux brick tower.

Councilor Cheney stated any option that both sides can compromise would be best.

Councilor Cheney moved to direct the City Manager to approach Ms. Blizzard in writing asking her to modify the faux tower with paint that represents a faux fire tower,

Discussion was had between Mayor Hosmer and City Councilor Lipman as to whether or not the discussion between the City Manager and Ms. Blizzard should be in writing or not.

Councilor Haynes is not in favor of involving the City Engineer and after reading the memo, he thinks Ms. Blizzard is making a valid effort.

Councilor Hamel is also not in favor of involving the City Engineer but is in favor of asking Ms. Blizzard to paint it red.

Councilor Lipman is not asking for the Civil Engineer to take over but to ask for the Civil Engineer's expertise for

suggestions.

Councilor Felch thinks painting it red it will stick out like a sore thumb.

Councilor Cheney moves to direct the City Manager to communicate with Ms. Blizzard in regards to painting the faux hose tower a shade of red, seconded by Councilor Lipman;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch NO;

the motion passed with four (4) in favor and one (1) opposed.

19.B. **Monthly Economic Development Report**

City Manager Myers reviewed the report.

20. **NEW BUSINESS**

20.A. **Approval of Laconia Baseball Foundation, Inc. Facility Use Agreement and authorization of City Manager to sign on behalf of the City**

City Manager Myers gave background on the request.

Councilor Felch moved to approve the Laconia Baseball Foundation, Inc. Facility Use Agreement as presented, and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City, seconded by Councilor Cheney;

Councilor Hamel questioned the account that was opened years ago for the purpose of any extra funds raised to be put back into the upkeep of the field.

Parks Director Amy Lovisek is not aware of the exact financials but does not believe the mentioned accounts have ever been in the black nor has the Laconia Baseball Foundation, Inc. agreed to this. Director Lovisek will look into this further.

Councilor Hamel thinks if this account is still there it should be closed out.

City Manager Myers will look further into this and do any clean up that is necessary.

Discussion was had in regards to workers for next year and the amount of time City employees accrue. Maybe the organization could help with costs to maintain the field.

Mayor Hosmer called the question.

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

20.B. City Manager contract extension discussion

Councilor Haynes moved to extend the contract of City Manager Scott Myers, as outlined in Section 2 of his Employment Agreement, until June 30, 2022, seconded by Councilor Cheney;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

20.C. Request from Laconia Motorcycle Week Association for approval of organized rides in connection with 2020 Laconia Motorcycle Week

Mayor Hosmer read the background to this request.

The requested rides are:

Friday, August 22, 2020: 14th Annual Peter Makris Memorial Ride

Sunday, August 23 2020: Gypsy Tour for the Northeast Motor Sport Museum to NH Motor Speedway

Monday, August 24, 2020: Mae West Memorial Ride for Pets

Tuesday, August 25, 2020: Bentley's Saloon in Arundel Maine

Wednesday, August 26, 2020: Covered Bridge Tour

Thursday, August 27, 2020: We Love Laconia Ride

Councilor Cheney moved to approve the request from Laconia Motorcycle Week Association to approve the organized daily rides during the 2020 Laconia Motorcycle Week as listed above, seconded by Councilor Hamel;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

21. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

21.A. Request to fund renovations at the Weirs Fire Station

Councilor Felch moved to authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for renovations to the living quarters of the Weirs Fire Station as recommended, with funding to come from the Non-Capital Reserve Account, seconded by Councilor Cheney;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

21.B. **Second reading of Resolution 2020-06, relative to making itemized appropriations for the General Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021**

Councilor Cheney moved to waive a reading of this Resolution in its entirety and to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved a second reading of Resolution 2020-06 relative to fiscal year 20-21 General Fund appropriations, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved to amend Resolution 2020-06 to decrease the proposed appropriation from \$77,867,772 to \$77,693,772 and proposed non-tax revenues from \$30,556,889 to \$30,382,889 with no change to the amount to be raised by taxes, seconded by Councilor Felch;

City Manager Myers explained the reasonings for this amendment and that the revenue adjustments balance out the expense adjustments, hence no change to the amount to be raised by taxes.

Mayor Hosmer called the question.

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Felch moved to approve Resolution 2020-06 as amended, relative to making General Fund appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

21.C. **Second reading of Resolution 2020-07, relative to making itemized appropriations for anticipated grants for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021**

Councilor Cheney moved to waive a reading of this Resolution in its entirety and to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved a second reading of Resolution 2020-07, relative to fiscal year 20-21 Anticipated Grants, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved to approve Resolution 2020-07, relative to making Anticipated Grant appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

21.D. **Second reading of Resolution 2020-08, relative to making itemized appropriations for City Enterprise Funds: Sanitary Sewer Fund and Water Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021**

Councilor Cheney moved to waive a reading of this Resolution in its entirety and to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Haynes ;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved a second reading of Resolution 2020-08, relative to itemized appropriations and revenues for the Sanitary Sewer Fund Enterprise Fund and the Laconia Water Works Fund Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2020, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved to amend Resolution 2020-08 to decrease the appropriation and revenue amounts by \$135,950, from \$2,501,125 to \$2,365,175, with no change to the amount to be raised by taxes of fees, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Manager Myers explained this is to just adjust a transposition of numbers and again this does not change the bottom line.

Mayor Hosmer called the question.

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved to approve Resolution 2020-08, as amended, relative to itemized appropriations and revenues for the Sanitary Sewer Fund Enterprise fund and the Laconia Water Works Fund Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

21.E. **Second reading of Resolution 2020-09, relative to making itemized appropriations for the Internal Services Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021**

Councilor Cheney moved to waive a reading of this Resolution in its entirety and to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved a second reading of Resolution 2020-09, relative to itemized appropriations for the Internal Service Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021, seconded by

Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved to approve Resolution 2020-09, relative to itemized appropriations for the Internal Services Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

21.F. **Second reading of Resolution 2020-10, relative to making itemized appropriations for the following City Special Revenue Funds - Motorcycle Week Fund and Ambulance EMS Fund for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021**

Councilor Cheney moved to waive a reading of this Resolution in its entirety and to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved a second reading of Resolution 2020-10, relative to itemized appropriations for the Special Revenue Funds - Motorcycle Week Fund and Ambulance EMS Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved to approve Resolution 2020-10, relative to making itemized appropriations for the following City Special Revenue Funds - Motorcycle Week Fund and Ambulance EMS Fund for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2020, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

21.G. **Second reading of Resolution 2020-11, relative to making itemized appropriations for the City's three Tax Increment Finance Districts - Downtown TIF, Lakeport TIF, and Weirs TIF for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2021**

Councilor Cheney moved to waive a reading of this Resolution in its entirety and to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Haynes moved a second reading of Resolution 2020-11, relative to itemized appropriations for the Tax Increment Financing District Funds: Downtown TIF, Lakeport TIF and Weirs TIF for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2020, seconded by Councilor Cheney;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

Councilor Cheney moved to approve Resolution 2020-11, relative to itemized appropriations for the Tax Increment Financing District Funds: Downtown TIF, Lakeport TIF and Weirs TIF for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and terminating June 30, 2020, seconded by Councilor Haynes;

City Clerk Hebert took a roll call vote:

Councilor Cheney YES

Councilor Lipman YES

Councilor Haynes YES

Councilor Hamel YES

Councilor Felch YES;

the motion passed with all in favor.

22. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilor Haynes thanked the City Manager for the efforts that were taken to clean up Bartlett Beach.

Councilor Lipman thanked every one for their budget presentations.

Councilor Felch asked for an explanation in regards to the island at the end of Stark Street.

City Manager Myers explained that he may have mis-spoke when stating there would be landscaping. Without proper irrigation, crab grass grows and is not pleasing to the eye. It is much more pedestrian friendly though.

Councilor Felch also asked when the discussion in regards to traffic for Motorcycle Week would be discussed.

Mayor Hosmer anticipates that meeting will happen sometime this week.

Councilor Hamel asked that the one foot area on Court Street be mowed.

23. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

23.A. **Master Plan**

23.B. **Milfoil Treatment funding requests**

23.C. **Sewer & Water Master Plan**

23.D. **Single Stream Recycling/Concord Co-op/Solid Waste disposal cost reductions**

23.E. **Strategic Planning/Goal Setting**

23.F. **WOW Trail**

23.G. **Weirs Beach Restoration Project**

23.H. **Fair St/Court St traffic problems and accidents**

24. **Any other business that may come before the Council**

25. **NON-PUBLIC SESSION (According to RSA 91-A:3, II)**

26. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Council and hearing no objection, Mayor Hosmer adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Cheryl Hebert, City Clerk

DRAFT