

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rines called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Jean Dellert, District 3
Dennis Doiron, At-Large
Lewis Benner, At-Large
Phil Hart, District 4

Rebecca Colwell, At-Large
Richard Rambo, District 2
Mayor Brian Rines
Jeffrey Kobrock, City Manager
Molly Gallant, Council Clerk

Webster absent.

3. WORKSHOP – Discussion of Water District Governance Issues.

4. PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, RESOLUTIONS, & PUBLIC HEARINGS

4.1 Public Hearing for Liquor License Renewal for Cheung Lee Garden.

Public Hearing opened at 7:50 pm and closed with public comment.

4.2 Public Hearing for Liquor License Renewal for The Depot Sports Pub.

Public Hearing opened at 7:51 pm and closed with public comment.

4.3 Consideration of Comments from the Public on Issues that Do Not Appear Elsewhere on the Agenda (Please limit comments to five minutes.)

No public comment.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Consideration of Accepting July/August Warrants

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|-----|---------|---------------|--------------|
| #2 | 7/14/05 | 031052-034109 | \$ 179301.83 |
| #3 | 7/21/05 | 034110-034150 | \$ 327144.04 |
| #4 | 7/28/05 | 034151-034283 | \$ 787244.46 |
| #5 | 8/04/05 | 034284-034335 | \$ 158237.44 |
| #6 | 8/11/05 | 034336-034407 | \$ 121072.89 |
| #7 | 8/18/05 | 034408-034495 | \$ 357602.95 |
| #8 | 8/25/05 | 034496-034529 | \$ 455353.84 |
| #9 | 8/31/05 | 034530-034559 | \$ 201851.50 |
| #10 | 9/08/05 | 034560-034660 | \$ 145268.00 |

5.2 Consideration of Councilor Colwell Signing August Warrants and Councilor Rambo Signing September 2005 Warrants.

5.3 Consideration of July 14, 21, 28 2005 Council Minutes.

5.4 Consideration of Liquor License Renewals for Cheung Lee Garden Inc. & The Depot Sports Pub.

Motion by Councilor Dellert and seconded by Councilor Rambo to Accept Consent Agenda Items 5.1 – 5.4.

Vote: 7 in favor 0 – opposed Motion: passes

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Consideration of Ambulance Bad Debt.

This item was suggested by the City’s Auditing firm to write off uncollectable debt.

Motion by Rambo and seconded by Councilor Colwell to Accept Ambulance Bad Debt.

Vote: 7 in favor 0 – opposed Motion: passes

6.2 Consideration of MSAD #11 Estimate Pray Street School Costs.

Manager Kobrock stated the MSAD #11 School Board recently formally voted to close the Pray Street School, which will be on the referendum this fall.

6.3 Discussion of Cobbossee Avenue/Route 9.

This project is right on track with the plan that was talked about in March and April, the reconstruction is expected to be designed next year for inclusion in the FY 07-08 MDOT budget.

6.4 Consideration of Revenue from Sale of Surplus Equipment.

Manager Kobrock stated that the Wastewater Treatment Plant is selling surplus equipment; the money received will be put back into the project that was previously cut out. The Wastewater Advisory Board discussed this and approved it unanimously.

Motion by Councilor Colwell and seconded by Councilor Hart to Accept the Revenue from the Sale of Surplus Equipment.

Vote: 7 in favor 0 – opposed Motion: passes

6.5 Consideration of Artdogs Downtown Mixed-Use Building Rehabilitation.

Karen Adrienne of ArtDogs plans to buy out her business partner, Rich Entel. To date, the top floor has been renovated into an apartment, and the rooms below now serve as art studios to local artists. Of the original \$70,000 loan, \$66,227 remains. Karen requires an additional \$10,000 from the revolving loan fund to leverage bank financing and complete the buyout. The Economic Development Committee recommends the City make the funds available.

Motion by Councilor Doiron and seconded by Councilor Rambo to Accept the Artdogs Downtown Mixed-Use Building Rehabilitation.

Vote: 7 in favor 0 – opposed Motion: passes

7. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Manager Kobrock stated that next week the Council will discuss the Maine Development Foundation Grant, when the Council last discussed, more information was asked for. Wright-Pierce has analyzed the projections and savings. Maine Development Foundation indicated that they would like a decision in September.

The last time the Waterfront Project was discussed in Council, permitting was being worked on. The project has still not been bid on, it will be bid on when permitting is resolved.

The Planning Development Director search is continuing, there will be a meeting Friday morning to discuss applications. Pat Gilbert is working on the Public Works Supervisor search, Chris Paszyc is working on the Code Enforcement Officer search.

8. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Councilor Dellert was surprised to learn that the city could not charge fees for the parking of boats on the waterfront because of a grant the city received recently. Chris Paszyc stated that the city will be able to charge fees, and the Waterfront Committee is looking at management options and what is appropriate to charge and how to manage the waterfront. Councilor Dellert also stated that the Playground Committee is working on plans and will present them to the Council at a meeting in the future. Also, the Appeals Board has expressed the need for more members, there have been some vacancies. Mayor Rines stated that he would look into it.

Councilor Doiron stated that the demolition of the building on the corner of Highland Avenue and Adams Street has made the area look much nicer. The stop line in front of the A1 Diner needs to be repainted, it is too close to the light.

Councilor Rambo stated that the letter that Councilor Benner wrote to the editor was very good. Also, Vincent DiCara of the Economic Development Committee has shown an interest in reviewing the Planning and Development Director resumes. Councilor Rambo asked Manager Kobrock if he would look into the property on Brunswick Avenue with the renter issue to see if it has been resolved. Manager Kobrock stated that he would look into it.

Councilor Colwell asked if boards and commission vacancies were posted on the webpage, Manager Kobrock stated that they were not, but thought it a good idea. Councilor Colwell asked if there were any minutes from the Playground Committee, Manager Kobrock stated that the committee is going to be formalized at the next council meeting. Councilor Colwell also asked what the business downtown named Wayward Women was. Chris Paszyc stated that it is a new owner that will have gifts.

Councilor Hart asked if the bumps on Route 24 will be taken care of, Manager Kobrock stated that we are researching this. Councilor Hart also asked that the fountain at the common be addressed with the Playground Committee.

Mayor Rines asked if there has been any progress with the Skateboard Park, Ingrid Stanchfield stated that committee has not been formed yet but will be soon. Mayor Rines reminded the Council that Reading Rumpus will be this weekend.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rines adjourned the meeting at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Gallant
Council Clerk