

Mayor Hart called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

1. ROLL CALL

Patricia Hart, Mayor at large; Councilors: Terry Berry, District 1; Colin Frey, District 3; Maryann White, At large; Jon Ault, At large; Tim Cusick, At large; Amy Rees, District 2; Marc Rines, District 4

Also in attendance: City Manager, Christine Landes; City Clerk, Kelly Gooldrup; Public Works Director, Tony LaPlante; Economic Development Director, Tracey Desjardins; Code Enforcement Officer; Kris McNeill, Finance Director; Denise Brown, City Librarian; Anne Davis, Police Chief; James Toman, Fire Chief; Al Nelson, Waste Water Director; Doug Clark, Nick Aschauer, Deb Violette, Alan Claude, Melissa Fuller, Debby Willis, Roger Bintliff, Dennis Wheelock, Anne-Marie Brown, Mary-Ann Johnson, Phyllis Gardiner, Jessica Lowell, Eric Davis, Janet Barreto, Logan Johnson, Peter Johnson

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (anything not on the Agenda)

Mayor Hart asked for any comment from the public.

Roger Bintliff expressed concerns with the need for more parking spaces. He would like to see overnight parking be an option for the apartments above the businesses on Water Street.

Mayor Hart asked for any further comment from the public. Hearing none, we will move on to the next item on the agenda.

3. PETITIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Liquor License Renewal for Three Bridges A1 Diner

This will be the Public Hearing for a Liquor License Renewal for Three Bridges A1 Diner. The City Manager gave them a temporary conditional approval letter due to the delay in submitting the application. This letter expires January 10, 2020.

Mayor Hart opened the public hearing at 6:09pm and asked for any comments from the public. Hearing none. Mayor Hart closed the public hearing at 6:09pm.

4. NEW BUSINESS

1. Swearing in of Newly Elected Councilors for Districts 1, 2, 3, & 4

City Clerk, Kelly Gooldrup, was present and swore in the newly elected City Councilors.

District 1: Terry Berry
District 2: Amy Rees

District 3: Colin Frey
District 4: Marc Rines

Councilor Rines thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve for another two years.

2. Consider Approval of a Liquor License Renewal for Three Bridges A1 Diner

Councilor Cusick moved to approve the liquor license renewal application for Three Bridges A1 Diner.

Councilor Rines seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

3. Consider Approval of a Food Truck License for Millers Pride Food Truck

This is an application for a Food Truck License for Millers Pride Food Truck. This is the Food Truck that is located in the Bateau Brewing Parking Lot.

Councilor Rees moved to approve the Food Truck License for Millers Pride Food Truck.

Councilor White seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

4. Consider Approval of an On-Premise License of Outside Consumption for Gardiner Elks 1293

This is the application for an On-Premise Outside Consumption License for Gardiner Elks Lodge 1293 located at 148 Cobbossee Avenue.

Councilor Cusick moved to approve an On-Premise Outside Consumption License for Gardiner Elks Lodge 1293.

Councilor Berry seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

5. Consider Approval of a Major Special Event for Free ME from Lung Cancer

This is a Major Special Event Application for the Free ME from Lung Cancer event being held on 11/07/2020. This is a charitable cause and the Council being asked to waive all fees associated with the event.

Deb Violette, President of Free ME from Lung Cancer was present to answer questions and gave a brief description of the event.

Councilor Berry moved to approve the Major Special Event for Free ME from Lung Cancer being held on 11/07/2020 and waive all fees associated with the event.

Councilor White seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

6. Consider Approval of the 2020 Election Staff List

According to Maine State Law, MRS Title 21-A, Chapter 7. ELECTION OFFICIALS, election staff (Republican, Green Independent, and Democratic poll workers) must be approved in even years for two years.

Appointment: The municipal officers shall appoint election clerks by May 1st of each general election year to serve at each voting place during the time the polls are open and as counters after the polls close. In making the appointments, the municipal officers shall consider all nominations received by April 1st but may appoint any qualified voters. A list of the election clerks appointed under this subsection must be posted at each voting place for each election during the 2-year term following appointment.

Councilor Cusick moved to approve the attached list of election workers for a period of two years.

Councilor Rees seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

7. Consider Approval of Seller Listing Agreement Extension with Magnusson Balfour for Libby Hill Lots 8, 9, 12, 15, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, & 27

Dennis Wheelock, Keller Williams Magnusson Balfour, is the listing agent for Libby Hill Lots 8,9,12,15,18,19,20,25,26 & 27. The current listing agreement expired 12/31/2019. There is a request to extend that agreement for one more year with a new expiration of 12/31/2020. All other terms and conditions will be as listed in the original agreement.

City Manager Landes received a voice mail message from Ryan at Common Wealth Poultry, praising the work that Dennis Wheelock has done in the business park.

Councilor Cusick moved to approve a Seller Listing Agreement Extension with Magnusson Balfour for Libby Hill Lots 8,9,12,15,18,19,20,25,26, & 27 and allow the City Manager to sign.

Councilor Rines seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion.

Councilor Rees asked City Manager Landes how many lots had been sold in the last year. City Manager Landes replied that none had.

Mayor Hart asked for any further discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

8. Consider the Appointment of Multiple Applicants to Various Boards and Committees

Councilor White moved to advise and consent to the Mayor the appointments of the individuals listed on the attached to various Boards and Committees with the exception of Tasha Wallace until the City Clerk can follow up with her for more information.

Councilor Rines seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

9. Introduction and Appointment of Harbor Master/Safety Officer/ACO Robert Pekins

Robert Pekins, of West Gardiner, Maine has been hired as Safety Officer/Harbor Master/ACO. His start date was 1/6/2020. Rob has his Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Adirondack Community College. Rob currently works part-time as a Security Officer at Thomas College and he is employed by MSAD 11 as the Swim Coach, a position he has held for 20+ yrs. Rob is a certified lifeguard instructor as well as an AED and CPR instructor.

Councilor White moved to advise and consent to the Mayor the appointments of Robert Pekins as Harbor Master for the City of Gardiner.

Councilor Cusick seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

10. E911 Addressing Update/Eric Davis

Fire Department employee, Eric Davis, was present and gave an update to the City Council on the progress of the E911 Committees assigned task of evaluating all the road names and possible renaming of certain roads.

11. Parking Study/KVCOG: Nick Aschauer

Postponed from the December meeting, Nick Aschauer, from KVCOG, was present and updated City Council on the recent Parking Study that was completed.

Roger Bintliff and Alan Claude expressed concerns with downtown parking availability with the upcoming opening of six businesses and eight apartments in the Dingly Block area.

Council agreed to have the Economic Development Director create a study committee to bring back recommendations to Council.

Councilor Rees moved to accept the KVCOG/MEDOT Parking Study with appreciation and thanks.

Councilor White seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

12. Review and Possibly Accept TAP Bid for 38 Partridge Drive

At a previous City Council meeting, approval was given to send 38 Partridge Drive back out to bid with select covenants.

Councilor Ault moved to accept the bid of \$7,255.00 from Robert Duplisea and Anne-Marie Brown for the tax acquired property located at 38 Partridge Drive.

Councilor Cusick seconded.

Councilor Ault amended the motion to read as follows: Councilor Ault moved to accept the bid of \$7,255.00 from Robert Duplisea and Anne-Marie Brown for the tax acquired property located

at 38 Partridge Drive pending review from the Tax Collector of the bidders being in good standing with City.

Councilor Cusick seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

13. Discuss, Evaluate, and Possibly Approve 'List A' of Sewer Abatement Requests

The City Council will discuss, evaluate, and possibly approve the 'A' list of sewer abatement requests. Sewer abatement requests are reported quarterly to the City Council. Requests over \$150.00 require Council approval. See attached list for more information.

List A: City Council consideration (over the \$150.00 threshold) This quarter's list are all outside water meter requests.

List B: City Council Special Consideration (outside water meter readings not given within the six (6) month ordinance window) None

List C: Internal City Staff Approval (under \$150.00 threshold) None

Wastewater Director Doug Clark was available for questions.

Councilor Ault moved to approve the Sewer Abatement Requests from List A, in the amount of \$1,874.20.

Councilor Berry seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

14. Consider and Approve Food Sovereignty Ordinance to Send to First and Second Read

At the December 4, 2019 City Council Meeting, the City Council evaluated two Food Sovereignty Ordinances. It was decided at that meeting that two changes be added to proposal #2. Those changes were:

1. The locations at which direct producer to consumer transactions can occur have been expanded to include public or community activities or locations.

2. The amount of the fine for a violation of the ordinance provisions was filled in and set at \$100 to \$250 per violation.

Councilor Rees moved to send the Food Sovereignty Ordinance to a First and Second Read on January 22, 2020 and February 5, 2020, respectively.

Councilor Ault seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

15. Accept Minutes of November 13, 2019 and December 4, 2019

Councilor Cusick moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2019 and December 4, 2019 as presented.

Councilor White seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous

• **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

- New Council orientation and any current Councilors will be on January 29, 2019 starting at 9:00am
- Library received a grant of \$10,000 from the Robinson Trust to fix the windows in the Hazard Room.
- Fire Department recently received two grants. One for \$1,600 which the Fire Department will match out of the budget to purchase new Forestry Pump Tanks. One for \$14,500 from Firehouse Subs which will be used to purchase two new Thermal Imaging Cameras.
- Chapman end of Arcade Street will be closed for about 8 months starting tonight to allow the new bridge to be constructed. There will be no thru traffic allowed.
- New ambulances are in Bangor currently getting lettered and the final touches before arriving to be put in service.
- Congressman Golden will be Downtown on Saturday afternoon visiting various businesses.

• **CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

Councilor Ault

- Congratulations Council Frey. I look forward to working with you. Welcome back everyone else.

Councilor Cusick

- Welcome Councilor Frey and welcome back re-elected Councilors.

Councilor White

- Welcome back re-elected Councilors.
- Welcome to Councilor Frey.
- Congratulations to Librarian Davis and Chief Nelson on the grants.

Councilor Berry

- Welcome Councilor Frey.

Councilor Rees

- Welcome Councilor Frey. I look forward to working with you.

Councilor Frey

- Thank you all very much. I am happy to be here and I look forward to working with all of you.

Councilor Rines

- Welcome Councilor Frey.

Mayor Hart

- Here Here
- Thank you to the City Staff for all the hard work over the Holidays to make the City look so beautiful.
- Johnson Hall had the Festival of trees and it was very successful.
- Gardiner Main Street had a FaceTime Mixer at Bateau Brewing today.

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session pursuant to M.R.S.A § 405 (6)(D): Union Negotiations

Councilor Berry moved to take a ten-minute break and then enter into executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(D): Union Negotiations

Councilor Rines seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous. 7:30pm.

Councilor Ault moved to exit out of executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(D): Union Negotiations

Councilor Cusick seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous. 8:42pm.

- **ADJOURN**

Councilor Rines moved to adjourn.

Councilor Frey seconded.

Mayor Hart asked for any discussion. Seeing none. All those in favor. Unanimous 8:42pm.

(Minutes approved with one correction to item #7 during the January 22, 2020 Council Meeting)