

Approved
BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes
February 6, 2023
Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers
Town Hall
85 Union Street

All Votes to be Taken Via Roll Call

Councilors Present: W. David Watson, Stephen S. Walker, Abby King, Sandra Updegraph, Nathaniel Shed, James Mason, Kathy Wilson and Dan Ankeles

Councilors Absent: None

Town Staff Present: John S. Eldridge, III, Town Manager; Fran Smith, Town Clerk; Jay Astle, Public Works Director; Julia Henze, Finance Director; Sally Costello, Director of Economic Development; Tom Farrell, Director of Parks and Recreation Department, and the video crew.

Chair Mason opened the meeting and acknowledged the meeting had been properly noticed. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to Agenda: None

Public Comments/Announcements (for non-agenda items) *(This item was discussed at 6:32 p.m.)*

Bruce Kanter, 72 Rossmore Road, spoke regarding the Maquoit Woods property and how he hopes the Council sets up a process to determine how this property will be used. He also spoke on the health of the bay.

Councilor Watson announced that Senator King came to the Legion Post. He has been appointed to the Veteran's Affair Committee for the US senate, which is the first time in 30 years a Senator from Maine has been appointed to that committee.

Councilor Ankeles said the Council received a letter regarding concerns about possible PFAS firefighting foam in Hanger Four, and he reached out to people in the DEP to bring this information back to the Council once he has it.

MANAGER'S REPORT *(This item was discussed at 6:44 p.m.)*

a) Frank Wood Bridge update

Manager Eldridge provided this update.

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b) Special Election District 5 update/absentee ballots available

Clerk Smith provide this update.

c) Report on the hearing for the Aquaculture Lease - Middle Bay

Manager Eldridge provided this update.

d) Update on Maine Streetscape Project

Manager Eldridge provided this update.

e) Update on Asylum Seekers

Manager Eldridge provided this update.

f) Report from the Marine Resources Committee

Cody Gillis, Chair of the Committee, made this presentation and responded to questions from Councilor Updegraph, Councilor Watson, Chair Mason, Councilor Wilson, and Councilor Ankeles.

Councilor Walker spoke regarding this item.

Camden Reiss, Blaine Lund, Chris Green and Max Burtis, Brunswick shellfish harvesters, requested that the Council consider allowing resident harvesters to move out of town and maintain their licenses.

Bruce Kanter spoke of protecting the bay.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

12. The Town Council will hear public comments on a Special Amusement license, and will take any appropriate action. (Town Clerk) (This item was discussed at 7:52 p.m.)

**Special Amusement
Whiskey Ginger, LLC
D/B/A: Flip
212 Maine Street**

Jon Snell

Chair Mason opened the public hearing.

Clerk Smith introduced this item.

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Chair Mason closed the public hearing.

Councilor Wilson moved, Councilor Updegraph seconded, to approve the special amusement license for Whiskey Ginger, LLC, doing business as Flip, located at 212 Maine Street. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

- 13. The Town Council will hear public comments for the proposed “An Ordinance Authorizing Construction of Phase I-Tier 1A of the Midcoast Area Recreation Complex (MARC) for a Total of One Million One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$1,120,000), Appropriation of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) from Recreation Impact Fees to Match a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant for Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) Acceptance of Grants and Contributions to Provide Funding of MARC Phase I-Tier 1A,” and will take any appropriate action. (MARC) *(This item was discussed at 7:56 p.m.)***

Chair Mason opened the public hearing.

Director Costello, Director Farrell, Mike Lyne and Irl Rosner were present to represent the MARC Advisory Committee.

Director Costello spoke regarding them seeking to get a Land and Water Conservation Grant, and MARC is seeking to have authorization from the Council to use \$500,000 of Recreation Impact fees for the Town’s match. The Recreation Commission voted to support this use. They expect donations totaling around \$150,000.

Councilor Updegraph inquired about the balance of this account, to which Director Farrell responded there is still \$112,000 left in the impact fees.

Councilor Updegraph thanked Director Costello for her work on this and other grants. She asked if she knew how many had contributed to support this project.

Director Costello responded that donations have been broad and communitywide, including stakeholders, businesses and individuals.

Chair Mason closed the public hearing

The Council was fine with voting on this item tonight.

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor King seconded, to adopt "An Ordinance Authorizing Construction of Phase I-Tier 1A of the Midcoast Area Recreation Complex (MARC) for a total of One Million One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$1,120,000), Appropriation of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) from Recreation Impact Fees to Match a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant for Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) Acceptance of Grants and Contributions to Provide Funding of MARC Phase I-Tier 1A.” The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

(A copy of the adopted ordinance will be attached to the official minutes.)

NEW BUSINESS

- 14. The Town Council will hear a report on the environmental impact of salt used in our winter operations, the methods we currently use to minimize salt application, and possible strategies for further reductions. (Public Works Department) (This item was discussed at 8:19 p.m.)**

Sandy Scott, Chair of Conservation Commission, Josh Katz, and Director Astle made this presentation.

Councilor King, Councilor Walker, Councilor Shed, Councilor Watson, and Councilor Wilson asked questions, to which Director Astle responded.

- 15. The Town Council will discuss expanding outdoor seating to public parking spaces and in front of other businesses, and determine if any future action is necessary. (Town Manager) (This item was discussed at 8:58 p.m.)**

Manager Eldridge and Clerk Smith introduced this item.

Councilor King, Councilor Ankeles, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Shed, Councilor Watson and Councilor Updegraph spoke regarding this item.

- 16. The Town Council will consider amending the current *Policy Regarding Remote Participation in Public Proceedings*, and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager Eldridge) (This item was discussed at 9:18 p.m.)**

Manager Eldridge introduced this item and responded to question from Councilor Updegraph, Councilor Shed and Councilor King.

Councilor Walker moved, Councilor Wilson seconded, to adopt amended current *Policy Regarding Remote Participation in Public Proceedings*, with changes to get approval from the Chair, Town Manager or their designee. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

(A copy of the adopted policy will be attached to official minutes.)

- 17. The Town Council will consider appointments to the Town's Boards and Committees, and will take any appropriate action. (Appointments Committee) (This item was discussed at 9:26 p.m.)**

Councilor Watson presented the following slate and the Council supported it unanimously.

Village Review Board:

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- Robert Wiener - a balance of three-year term expiring 10/20/2025

Recycling and Sustainability Committee:

- Karen Topp - a three-year term starting 01/01/2023 ending 01/01/2026.
- Steve Weems - a three-year term starting 01/01/2023 ending 01/01/2026

Board of Assessment Review:

- Richard McInnes - a three-year term starting 01/01/2023 ending 01/01/2026

Planning Board

- Samuel Morris - a three-year term starting 02/23/2023 ending 02/23/2026

Conservation Commission:

- Samuel Morris - a three-year term starting 05/01/2023 ending 05/01/2026.

CONSENT AGENDA *(This item was discussed at 9:30 p.m.)*

- Approval of the minutes of January 17, 2023**
- Approval of the Election Warrant for February 28, 2023**
- Appointment of Fran Smith, Warden, and Ali Burnette, Deputy Warden, for the Special Election for February 28, 2023**
- Approval of renewal of Cumberland County HOME Consortium**
- Permission for overweight vehicles to use town road for Frank Wood Bridge Project**

Chair Mason moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive session for consultation with Town Attorney per 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E) and to discuss economic development per 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6) (C)

Chair Mason moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to go into executive session for consultation with Town Attorney per 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E) and to discuss economic development per 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6) (C), and to adjourn after the session. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

The executive session began at 9:29 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE ACTION MINUTES. THE ENTIRE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED AT WWW.BRUNSWICKME.ORG.

*Frances M. Smith
Town Clerk
February 12, 2023*

February 21, 2023
Date of Approval

Council Chair