

**TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**  
**May 22, 2023**  
**Special Meeting 6:30 P.M.**  
**Town Hall - Council Chambers**  
**85 Union Street, Brunswick, Maine**

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

**Councilors Absent:** None

**Town Staff Present:** John S. Eldridge, III, Town Manager; Tom Farrell, Director of Parks and Recreation; Sally Costello, Director of Economic Development; Chrissy Adamowicz, Economic Development Project Manager; Susan Karnes, Deputy Town Clerk; Branden Perreault, Deputy Finance Director; 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): None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**73. The Town Council will consider adopting the 2023-2024 School Budget Articles and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) [\*\(This item was discussed 6:33 p.m.\)\*](#)**

Ms. Wentworth, School Department Financial Director, introduced this item and read each article.

**ARTICLE 1. Region Ten Technical High School Budget.**  
**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to approve the Region Ten Technical High School budget as proposed by the Cooperative Board of Region Ten in an amount not to exceed \$3,729,065 with Brunswick's assessment as part of the total appropriation to the Brunswick School Department being an amount not to exceed \$408,937 for operating expenditures and \$0 for debt service expenditures. The motion carried with seven (7) yeas. Councilors Watson and Wilson were opposed.**

Manager Eldridge spoke about this item.

**ARTICLE 2. Merrymeeting Adult Education Budget.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to approve the Merrymeeting Adult Education budget in an amount not to exceed \$1,198,064 with Brunswick's assessment as part of the total appropriation to the Brunswick School Department not to exceed \$148,334. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas. Councilor Watson was opposed.**

**ARTICLE 3. Local Contribution Required under EPS to Receive Full State Dollars; and State Subsidy.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to appropriate the sum of \$33,513,753 toward the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act; and as part of the \$33,513,753 to raise the sum of \$18,229,454 as the Town's contribution toward the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688; and as part of the \$33,513,753 to accept state subsidy anticipated in the amount of \$15,284,299. The motion carried with seven (7) yeas. Councilors Watson and Wilson were opposed.**

**ARTICLE 4. Non-State-Funded Debt Service.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,599,050 for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**ARTICLE 5. Additional Local Funds.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,294,589 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$14,294,589. The School Board recommends \$14,294,589 in additional local funds which amount exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$14,294,589 for the following reasons: The State's EPS allocation in Transportation, Facilities Maintenance, Special Education, Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular programs and instructional staffing are inadequate to fully fund the 2023-2024 program approved by the school board in the proposed budget. The motion carried with six (6) yeas. Councilors Watson, Updegraph and Wilson were opposed.**

**ARTICLE 6. Other Funds.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to accept funds from other sources as estimated below and to appropriate the amount of \$557,956.**

Tuition and other charges	\$ 455,866
Miscellaneous	\$ 102,090
	\$ 557,956

**The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**ARTICLE 7. Unexpended Balances.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to appropriate \$2,755,392 from the existing, or estimated, unexpended balances of the Brunswick School Department. Total to appropriate \$2,755,392. The motion carried with seven (7) yeas. Councilors Watson and Wilson were opposed.**

**ARTICLE 8. Pre-kindergarten to Grade 12 total Budget.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to authorize the Brunswick School Department to expend \$52,783,240 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes title 20-A section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy, and other receipts for the support of schools. The motion carried with six (6) yeas. Councilors Watson, Updegraph and Wilson were opposed.**

**ADULT EDUCATION AND SCHOOL NUTRITION ARTICLES**

**ARTICLE 9. Adult Education.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to raise and appropriate \$148,334 for adult education; with authorization to expend the herein appropriated \$148,334 and any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**ARTICLE 10. School Nutrition.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$62,500 in support of the Brunswick School Nutrition Program. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**ARTICLE 11. Cost Center Allocation.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A., to authorize allocation of the school budget, \$52,931,574 to the various cost centers as recommended by the Brunswick School Board March 22, 2023 as follows:**

<u>Cost Center Summary</u> <u>Budget Category</u>	<u>Amount Recommended by</u> <u>School Board</u>	<u>Approved by Council</u> <u>May 22, 2023</u>
Regular Instruction	\$ 21,150,951	\$ 21,150,951
Special Education	\$ 9,963,270	\$ 9,963,270
Career and Technical Education	\$ 408,937	\$ 408,937
Other Instruction	\$ 1,116,838	\$ 1,116,838
Student and staff support	\$ 4,567,196	\$ 4,567,196
System Administration	\$ 1,677,742	\$ 1,677,742
School Administration	\$ 2,105,799	\$ 2,105,799

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Transportation and Buses	\$ 2,747,298	\$ 2,747,298
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 6,218,703	\$ 6,218,703
Debt Service and Other Commitments	\$ 2,764,006	\$ 2,764,006
Other- School Nutrition	\$ 62,500	\$ 62,500
<b>Total to June 20th Public Referendum</b>	<b>\$ 52,783,240</b>	<b>\$ 52,783,240</b>

Adult Education	\$ 148,334	\$ 148,334
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<b>Summary of Total Expenditures voted By School Board March 22, 2023</b>	<b>\$ 52,931,574</b>	<b>\$ 52,931,574</b>
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**The motion carried with six (6) yeas. Councilors Watson, Updegraph and Wilson were opposed.**

**GRANTS, DONATIONS, AND OTHER REVENUES ARTICLE**

**ARTICLE 12. Grants, Donations, and other revenues.**

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to authorize the Brunswick School Department to make application for grants and other revenues as opportunities may become available, to appropriate such revenues to the purpose for which received, and to authorize the Brunswick School Department to accept and expend any grant awards, donations, or other revenues that may be received. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the articles will be attached to the official minutes.)*

- 74. The Town Council will consider a warrant for the School Budget Validation Referendum to be held on June 20, 2023, and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) [\*\(This item was discussed 6:49 p.m.\)\*](#)**

Town Manager Eldridge introduced this item.

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to approve the warrant for the School Budget Validation Referendum to be held on June 20, 2023. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the Warrant will be attached to the official minutes.)*

- 75. The Town Council will consider adopting the “Resolution for the Capital Improvement Program for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 - 2028,” and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) [\*\(This item was discussed 6:50 p.m.\)\*](#)**

Town Manager Eldridge introduced this item.

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to adopt the “Resolution for the Capital Improvements Program for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 – 2028.” The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)*

76. The Town Council will consider adopting the “Budget Resolution for the July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, Fiscal Year,” and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) *(This item was discussed 6:52 p.m.)*

Town Manager Eldridge introduced this item.

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to adopt the “Budget Resolution for the July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, Fiscal Year.” The motion carried with eight (8) yeas. Councilor Watson was opposed.**

*(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)*

77. The Town Council will consider adopting the “Supplemental Budget Resolution Appropriating \$1,757,500 from the Unassigned Balance of the General Fund to Fund Capital Projects” and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) *(This item was discussed 6:55 p.m.)*

Town Manager Eldridge introduced this item.

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to adopt the “Supplemental Budget Resolution Appropriating \$1,757,500 from the Unassigned Balance of the General Fund to Fund Capital Projects.” The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)*

78. The Town Council will consider adopting the “Supplemental Budget Resolution Appropriating \$1,270,000 in Available Tax Increment Financing Revenues for the Purpose of Funding Qualified Capital Projects and Acquisitions” and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) *(This item was discussed 6:57 p.m.)*

Town Manager Eldridge introduced this item.

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor King seconded, to adopt the “Supplemental Budget Resolution Appropriating \$1,270,000 in Available Tax Increment Financing Revenues for the Purpose of Funding Qualified Capital Projects and Acquisitions”. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)*

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79. The Town Council will consider any other matters related to the adoption of the 2023-2024 Budget and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) ([\*This item was discussed 7:00 p.m.\*](#))

No further action needed.

80. The Town Council will consider setting a public hearing for June 5, 2023, for the purpose of considering an amendment to on “An Emergency Ordinance Authorizing Construction of Phase I-Tier 1A of the Midcoast Athletic & Recreation Complex (MARC) for a Total of One Million Six Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$1,670,000), Acceptance of Grants and Contributions, and Appropriation of Funding From Multiple Sources to Finance the Costs of the MARC Phase I-Tier 1A” and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager, Economic Development Director, & Parks and Recreation Director) ([\*This item was discussed 7:01 p.m.\*](#))

Manager Eldridge spoke regarding this item.

Director Costello introduced this item.

Director Farrell spoke regarding this item.

Councilor Ankeles, Councilor Walker, Councilor Hicks, Councilor Watson asked questions to which Director Costello and Director Farrell responded.

**Public comments were made by the following people:**

Tobias Parkhurst, Chair, Maine Skateboard Association, Augusta  
Josh Bankhead, Member, Maine Skateboard Association, Yarmouth  
Melissa Fochesato, 6 Penny Lane  
Stacy Frizzle-Edgerton, Executive Director, People Plus

Councilors Hicks and Watson asked questions to which Ms. Frizzle-Edgerton responded.

Director Costello read a letter from John Coray  
Larissa Darcy, Baribeau Dr., LC4 committee member  
Mike Lyne, 6 Micmac Ln., LC4 committee chair

Chair Mason amended the motion:

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to set a public hearing for June 5, 2023, on “An Emergency Ordinance Authorizing Construction of Phase I-Tier 1A of the Midcoast Athletic & Recreation Complex (MARC) for a Total of One Million Six Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$1,670,000), Acceptance of Grants and Contributions, and Appropriation of Funding From Multiple Sources to Finance the Costs of the MARC Phase I-Tier 1A”. The motion carried with 8 yeas (unanimous of all councilors present, Councilor Shed left the meeting).**

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Chair Mason, Councilor Walker and Councilor Ankles commented.

**Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Walker seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE ACTION MINUTES. THE ENTIRE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED AT [WWW.BRUNSWICKME.ORG](http://WWW.BRUNSWICKME.ORG).**

*Susan Karnes  
Deputy Town Clerk  
May 30, 2023*

June 20, 2023  
*Date of Approval*

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Council Chair