

APPROVED
TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes
August 7, 2023
Regular 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; Fran Smith, Town Clerk; Julie Henze, Finance Director; Sally Costello, Director of Economic Development; Taylor Burns, Assessor; Chrissy Adamowicz, Economic Development Project Manager; 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) Five minutes per speaker.
(This item was discussed at 6:33 p.m.)

Heather Osterfeld, 11 Wild Aster Lane, expressed concerns regarding the Maquoit Bay Water Shed Committee.

Bradford Johanson, 1004 Mere Point Road, inquired about how to get information on the repealed state tax stabilization program and that other options should be on the webpage.

Councilor Ankeles and Manager Eldridge spoke regarding tax relief programs.

William Nichols, 263 Woodside Road, asked that information be provided on tax relief programs.

Kristin Jhamb, 44 Macomber Way, asked to better inform those programs, to which Manager Eldridge responded.

Kelly Teel, 656 Gurnet Road, offered options to rehab the theatre for a homeless shelter and/or new Mainers' housing.

Manager Eldridge provided information.

Angie Bradstreet, assessing staffer, spoke on how this information is provided in tax bills.

Patricia Dunning, 140 Bracket Road, asked to have a place for a person to put their email addresses when paying the tax bill.

MANAGER'S REPORT *(This item was discussed at 7:00 p.m.)*

a) Nomination Papers Available

Clerk Smith spoke regarding this item.

b) Old Bath Road Water Main Extension - Project Update

Manager Eldridge spoke regarding this item and responded to Councilor Walker's question.

c) Report on Meeting with the Secretary of State Re: Polling Location

Clerk Smith spoke regarding this item.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

114. The Town Council will hear public comments on a new Liquor License and will take any appropriate action. (Town Clerk) *(This item was discussed at 7:06 p.m.)*

Malt/Wine/Spirits

Golden Crust, LLC
D/B/A: Otto Pizza
15 Cushing Street

Brian Conlin

Chair Mason opened the public hearing.

Clerk Smith introduced this item.

Brian Conlin, owner, spoke regarding this item.

Councilor Walker moved, Councilor Updegraph seconded, to approve a liquor license for Otto Pizza, located at 15 Cushing Street. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

NEW BUSINESS

115. The Town Council will receive Joint Resolution of the Maine Legislature Recognizing the 200th Anniversary of the Town Mall (Town Manager) *(This item was discussed at 7:08 p.m.)*.

Representative Arford made this presentation to Council.

- 116. The Town Council will consider revoking the Sellers of Prepared Food on the Lower Mall for Plot Twist Pretzel and will take any appropriate action. (Town Clerk) [*\(This item was discussed at 7:15 p.m.\)*](#)**

Clerk Smith introduced this item.

Nicole Galietta, Plot Twist Pretzel, spoke regarding this item.

Councilor Updegraph, Councilor Shed, Councilor King, Chair Mason, Councilor Watson, and Councilor Wilson spoke and asked questions to which staff and Ms. Galietta responded.

Councilor Walker moved, Councilor Updegraph seconded, to revoke Plot Twist's Sellers of Prepared Food on the Lower Mall License due to violations under Chapter 10 of the Municipal Code, Section 10.26 (b) (6.2) subsections (e) and (g). The motion carried with eight (8) yeas. Councilor Ankeles was opposed.

- 117. The Town Council will consider a Sellers of Prepared Food on the Lower Mall License for Tide 2 Table and will take any appropriate action. (Town Clerk). [*\(This item was discussed at 7:45 p.m.\)*](#)**

Clerk Smith introduced this item.

Blaine Lund, owner of Tide 2 Table, spoke regarding this item and responded to questions from Chair Mason and Councilor Wilson.

Councilor Walker moved, Councilor Ankeles seconded, to approve a Sellers of Prepare Food on the Lower Mall License for Tide to Table for the remainder of the 2023 license year. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

- 118. The Town Council will receive an update from the Assessor on the Valuation Equalization Project and determine if any future action is needed. (Assessor). [*\(This item was discussed at 7:50 p.m.\)*](#)**

Chair Mason spoke regarding this item.

Manager Eldridge and Assessor Burns presented information regarding this item, and responded to questions from Councilor Walker, Councilor Shed, Councilor King, Councilor Ankeles, and Councilor Updegraph.

Public Comments were made by the following people:
Jennifer Johnson, 10 Wadsworth Road

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Jim Coffin, 472 Princes Point Road
Christopher Teel, 656 Gurnet Road
Elise O'Connor, 108 Columbia Avenue
Caitlin D'Amour, 14 Hickory Drive
Joanne King, 1 Simpson Point Road
Carlos Almdovar, 4 Ledgeview Drive
Joseph McLaughlin, 14 Wood Pond Road
Sarah Brayman, 10 McKeen Street
Richard Ellis, Adams Road
Jamie Ecker, Simpson Point Road
Brenda Day, Durham Road
Kristin Jhamb, 44 Macomber Way
Irl Rosner, 396 Prince Point Road
Dennis Civiello, 13 Palmer Street
Patricia Dunning, 140 Bracket Road
Nate MacDonald, Everett Street

The full Council discussed this item.

Manager Eldridge responded to Council questions.

Chair Mason moved, Councilor Walker seconded, to set public hearing for August 21, to do the following: change the commitment date to on or before October 1, 2023; due dates for taxes for November 15, 2023, and May 15, 2024; and use an additional \$1,000,000 from fund balance to offset taxes. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

119. The Town Council will consider accepting and expending \$32,000 from the Efficiency Maine's Rural Level 2 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure program to fund the installation of networked level 2 charging stations at the Cedar Street parking lot and will take any appropriate action (Economic Development) [*\(This item was discussed at 11:12 p.m.\)*](#)

Project Manager Adamowicz introduced this item and responded to questions from Councilor Watson and Councilor Hicks.

Councilor Walker moved, Councilor Updegraph seconded, to accept and expend \$32,000 from the Efficiency Maine's Rural Level 2 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure program. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

120. The Town Council will consider adopting the updated Sustainability Committee Charge and will take any appropriate action. (Appointments Committee) [*\(This item was discussed at 11:28 p.m.\)*](#)

Councilor Updegraph introduced this.

Jamie Ecker, Chair of Committee, spoke regarding this item.

Councilor Hicks spoke regarding this item.

Councilor Updegraph moved, Councilor Hicks seconded, to approve the Sustainability Committee Charge, and officially change the name from Recycling and Sustainability to Sustainability Committee. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas,

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

121. The Town Council will consider adopting a resolution of Brunswick Emergency Communications Officers (BECO) and Maine Public Employee Retirement System Plan Change Effective October 1, 2023, to allow BECO to enter Plan 2C and will take appropriate action. (Town Manager) *(This item was discussed at 11:30 p.m.)*

Manager Eldridge introduced this item.

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Wilson seconded, to adopt the Resolution of Brunswick Emergency Communications Officers and Maine Public Employee Retirement System Plan Change Effective October 1, 2023. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

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

122. The Town Council will consider setting a public hearing for August 21, 2023, for the adoption of an ordinance to establish the Affordable Housing Support Fund and will take any appropriate action. (Economic and Community Development) *(This item was discussed at 11:34 p.m.)*

Sally Costello introduced this item.

Councilor Wilson moved, Councilor Shed seconded, to set a public hearing for August 21, 2023, for the proposed ordinance to establish the Affordable Housing Support Fund. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

123. 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 11:39 p.m.)*

Councilor Updegraph presented the following nominations:

Conservation Commission

- **Sandy Stott** to a 3-year term which began May 1, 2023, and ends May 1, 2026

- **Robert Moore** to a 3-year term which began May 1, 2023, and ends May 1, 2026
- **Sylvia Stocker** to the balance of a 3-year term which expires May 1, 2024.

The Council supported these nominations with nine (9) yeas.

124. The Town Council will consider an amendment to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Brunswick and the Brunswick Police Benefit Association (BPBA) and will take an appropriate action. (Town Manager) **Action will be taken on this item after the Executive Sessions. [\(This item was discussed at after the executive session\)](#)*

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Wilson seconded, to amend the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Brunswick and the Brunswick Police Benefit Association (BPBA). The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

(A copy of the order will be attached to the official minutes)

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

- **The Town Council will consider entering an executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (C) for a discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition, or the use of real or personal property permanently attached to real property or interests therein or disposition of publicly held property or economic development.**

Chair Mason moved, Councilor Wilson seconded, to enter an executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (C) for a discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition, or the use of real or personal property permanently attached to real property or interests therein or disposition of publicly held property or economic development. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

- **The Town Council will consider entering an executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (D) for a discussion of labor contracts and proposals and meetings between the Town of Brunswick and Brunswick Police Benefit Association (BPBA).**

Chair Mason moved, Councilor Wilson seconded, to enter an executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (D) for a discussion of labor contracts and proposals and meetings between the Town of Brunswick and Brunswick Police Benefit Association (BPBA). The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

- **The Town Council will consider entering an executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (C) for a discussion or consideration of a personnel matter.**

Chair Mason moved, Councilor Wilson seconded, to enter an executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (C) for a discussion or consideration of a personnel matter. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Walker seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

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

Frances M. Smith
Town Clerk
August 12, 2023

August 21, 2023
Date of Approval

Council Chair