

APPROVED  
TOWN COUNCIL  
Agenda  
August 21, 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; Julia Henze, Finance Director; Taylor Burns, Assessor; Sally Costello, Director of Economic and Community Development; 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 6:32 p.m.\*](#))

Councilor Wilson stated concerns with motorized scooters and skateboarders being in traffic.

Jean Powers, 40 Redwood Lane, spoke of the many who are eligible have not applied for the homestead exemption. People need to pay attention to what program information comes in their tax bills so they can sign up for them. The town's property tax fairness program does not even have 100 residents signed up, yet the state tax stabilization program has 1,500. She provided the information on how this works.

Jim Trusiani, 149 Maine Street, inquired about how the town's retire/rehire policy works; what is the status of the sidewalk project; and what the status on getting rid of the old fire station. Manager Eldridge and Director Costello responded to these questions.

Brad Johanson, 1004 Mere Point Road, representing Cam Reese, spoke regarding work relative to the pollution in the Maquoit Bay. He presented a petition requesting that the effects aquaculture is added to the pollution study. Manager Eldridge and Councilor Walker spoke on this subject.

Susan Mendenhall, 2 Iris Way, spoke regarding budget concerns.

Jennifer Johnson, 10 Wadsworth, spoke regarding how elderly residents have been discussing their concerns with her regarding the tax burden.

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Carol O'Donnell, 305 Maine Street, spoke that the Affordable Housing Fund is not taxpayers' dollars.

Blaine Lund, commercial harvester, spoke about concerns with flats being closed by the state and harvesters not being notified.

Councilor Hicks spoke regarding the Climate Action Task Force's work to create a plan to reduce greenhouse gases.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** *(This item was discussed at 7:15 p.m.)*

**a) Financial Update**

Manager Eldridge provided this update.

**b) Nomination Papers Available**

Clerk Smith provided this update.

**c) Bowker Street**

Manager Eldridge provided this update.

**d) Growstown School Committee Report**

Cathy Leonard, Committee Chair, provided this report, and responded to questions from Councilor Wilson and Councilor Updegraph.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**126. The Town Council will hear public comments on a Resolution Amending the Municipal Budget for the Period July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager) *(This item was discussed at 7:29 p.m.)***

Chair Mason opened the public hearing.

Manager Eldridge and Director Henze introduced this item.

Councilor Wilson asked questions, to which Manager Eldridge and Assessor Burns responded.

Director Henze responded to questions from Councilor King, Councilor Updegraph. Councilor Watson, Councilor Shed, and Councilor Wilson.

Councilor Ankeles spoke regarding this item.

Public Comments:

Jim Trusiani, 149 Maine Street  
Jean Powers, 40 Redwood Lane  
Brenda Day, 395 Durham Road

Chair Mason closed the public hearing.

This item will come back at the next meeting for Council action on the due dates.

- 127. The Town Council will hear public comments on adopting an ordinance to establish the Affordable Housing Support Fund and will take any appropriate action. (Economic and Community Development) ([\*This item was discussed at 8:02 p.m.\*](#))**

Chair Mason opened the public hearing.

Director Costello introduced this item and responded to questions from Councilor Updegraph, Councilor Walker, and Councilor Watson.

Public Comments:

Nat McDonald, Everett Street  
Carol O'Donnell, 305 Maine Street  
Brenda Day, Durham Road

Chair Mason closed the public hearing.

The Council agreed to vote at this meeting.

**Councilor Walker moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to approve the Ordinance that will establish the Affordable Housing Support Fund. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

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

- 128. The Town Council will hear public comments on new Special Amusement license applications and will take any appropriate action. (Town Clerk) ([\*This item was discussed at 8:18 p.m.\*](#))**

**Special Amusement**

**Nomad North LLC  
DBA: Nomad Pizza North  
14 Maine Street**

**Matthew Shankle**

**Venture Management**

**Ian Miller**

**DBA: Pepper's Landing  
147 Bath Road**

Chair Mason opened the public hearing.

Clerk Smith introduced this item.

Chair Mason closed the public hearing.

**Councilor Wilson moved, Councilor Updegraph seconded, to approve the special amusement licenses for Nomad Pizza North and Pepper's Landing. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

129. The Town Council will consider setting a public hearing for September 5, 2023, for an amendment to the map within the Zoning Ordinance for 0 Pennell Way and will take any appropriate action. (Planning Board) [\*\(This item was discussed at 8:21 p.m.\)\*](#)

Manager Eldridge introduced this item and responded to questions from Councilor Shed, Councilor Updegraph, and Chair Mason.

**Councilor Walker moved, Councilor Ankeles seconded, to set a public hearing for September 5, 2023, for the final adoption of the proposed zoning ordinance map/text amendments. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

130. The Town Council will consider setting a public hearing for September 5, 2023, to amend Municipal Code of Ordinances Appendix B- Master Schedule of Revenues, Charges, Fees, and Fines for Ambulance fees and will take any appropriate action. (Finance Director) [\*\(This item was discussed at 8:25 p.m.\)\*](#)

Chief Brilliant and Director Henze introduced this item and responded to questions from Councilor Hicks and Councilor Watson.

Councilor Shed and Councilor Updegraph spoke regarding this item.

**Councilor Wilson moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to set a public hearing for September 5, 2023, to amend the Municipal Code of Ordinances Appendix B- Master Schedule of Revenues, Charges, Fees, and Fines for Ambulance Fees. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

131. The Town Council will consider reaffirming Brunswick's Sister City relationship with Trinidad, Cuba and will take any appropriate action. (Councilor Ankeles) [\*\(This item was discussed at 8:37 p.m.\)\*](#)

Councilor Ankeles introduced this item.

Councilor Shed and Councilor Watson asked questions, to which Manager Eldridge responded.

Jackie Sartoris, resident, spoke with this item.

**Councilor Ankeles moved, Chair Mason seconded, to approve the letter reaffirming the sister city relationship between Trinidad, Cuba, and the Town of Brunswick. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

132. The Town Council will consider setting a special election November 7, 2023, to fill the vacant town council at-large position for a term to begin January 1, 2024, and to end on December 31, 2024, and will take any appropriate action (Town Clerk) *(This item was discussed at 8:47p.m.)*

Clerk Smith introduced this item.

Councilor Ankeles spoke regarding this item.

**Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Walker seconded, to set a special election for November 7, 2023, for the purpose of filling the vacant At-Large Town Council seat. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

133. The Town Council will consider adopting the proposed amendments to the Investment Policy and will take any appropriate action, (Finance Committee) *(This item was discussed at 8:53 p.m.)*

Director Henze introduced this item.

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor Wilson seconded, to adopt the proposed amendments to the Investment Policy. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the amendments to the policy are attached to the official minutes.)*

**CONSENT AGENDA** *(This item was discussed at 8:57 p.m.)*

- a) Approve Minutes from July 17, 2023, and August 7, 2023.
- b) Accept and Expend Grant from Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant
- c) Accept and Expend Grant from Shore Up Grant – Island Institute
- d) Utility Location Permit Application, Permit #ULP-23-02 – Collinsbrook Road
- e) Utility Location Permit Application, Permit #ULP-23-03 – Lunt Road

**Chair Mason moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

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

[The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.](#)

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

*Frances M. Smith*  
*Town Clerk*  
*August 28, 2023*

September 5, 2023  
*Date of Approval*

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Council Chair