CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, EILEEN DONDERO FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, PORTSMOUTH, NH
DATE: MONDAY, MAY 7, 2007           TIME: 6:00PM

- 6:00PM – WORK SESSION WITH THE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENT PROCESS

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER [7:00PM or thereafter]
II. ROLL CALL
III. INVOCATION
IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION

1. Building Re-use Committee Final Report – Heather Hurtt


VI. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

A. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE II, SECTION 10-208 – USES IN BUSINESS DISTRICTS – TABLE 4 AND CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE II, SECTION 10-209 – USES IN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS – TABLE 5 REGARDING THE REGULATION OF AMUSEMENT PARKS/OUTDOOR RECREATION IN THE INDUSTRIAL & GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICTS RESPECTIVELY

VIII. APPROVAL OF GRANTS AND DONATIONS

A. Acceptance of Donation from Wal-Mart Foundation for the Portsmouth Police Explorers - $1,000.00

B. Acceptance of Homeland Security Grant from NH Department of Safety to the Police Department for the purchase of 30 APCO-25 complaint digital/analog portable radios - $50,550.00

C. Acceptance of Highway Safety Grant to the Police Department for “Portsmouth DWI Patrols” - $3,666.66

D. Acceptance of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation (NHCF) Grant - $4,650.00

E. Acceptance of Donation to the New Library Building Fund
   • Stephen L. and Susan S. Tober - $2,750.00
IX. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

A. First reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 1, Article IX, Section 1.901 – Conflict of Interest by the amendment to Mandatory Financial Disclosure in Article IX, and the addition of a new Section 1.902 – Election Candidate Financial Disclosure

B. First reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Article I, Section 10-102 Definitions by the addition of Light Industry and Article XV, Section 10-1508 - establishing a Process by which to Consider a Non-residential Planned Unit Development Type Use within an Office Research Zoning District

C. Second reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-208 – Uses in Business Districts – Table 4 and Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-209 – Uses in Industrial Districts – Table 5 regarding the Regulation of Amusement Parks/Outdoor Recreation in the Industrial & General Business Districts Respectively

X. CONSENT AGENDA

A MOTION WOULD BE IN ORDER TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. Renewal Request for Sidewalk Obstruction Licenses from the following businesses with no changes from last year
   • Helen Marks – 1 A-frame sign
   • Riverrun Bookstore, Inc. – 1 Table and 1 A-frame sign

   (Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)

B. Letter from Mary Carey Foley, Student Council Adviser, thanking the City Council for a successful 2007 Student Government Day (Anticipated action – move to accept and place the letter on file)

C. Letter from Sister Mary Agnes, St. Charles Children’s Home, requesting permission to hold a 5k race on Monday, September 3, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at the Pease International Tradeport (Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)

XI. PRESENTATION & CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

A. Letter from Scott Bogle, Rockingham Planning Commission, requesting permission to hold the annual Bike/Walk to Work Day free Commuter Breakfast event in Market Square on Friday morning, May 18, 2007 from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

B. Letter from Susan Turner, Rockingham County Community Resource Network, Inc. requesting permission to hold a memorial service for friends who have died and who have suffered homelessness on May 18, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Goodwin Park
C. Letter from Brendan Cooney, Seacoast Local Festival, requesting permission to hold the Second Annual Seacoast Local Festival on Saturday, September 8, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. and further request the closing of Pleasant Street from State Street to Porter Street for the event

D. Letter from John Tinios, Popovers on the Square, requesting the reconfiguration of sidewalk tables and chairs and bike rack (Recommended action – move to refer to the City Manager for report back)

E. Letter from Dick Samuels, Water Country, requesting permission to hold a City Employee’s Day on Saturday, June 16, 2007 from 1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

XII. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

A. CITY MANAGER

*Items which require Action under other sections of the Agenda*

1. Consideration of First Reading of Proposed Ordinance Amendments:
   
   1.1 First reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 1, Article IX, Section 1.901 – Conflict of Interest by the amendment to Mandatory Financial Disclosure in Article IX, and the addition of a new Section 1.902 – Election Candidate Financial Disclosure (Action on this matter should take place under Section IX of the Agenda)
   
   1.2 First reading Regarding Proposed Amendments to the 1995 Zoning Ordinance – establishing a Process by which to Consider a Non-residential Planned Unit Development Type Use within an Office Research Zoning District (Action on this matter should take place under Section IX of the Agenda)

2. Public Hearing/ Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance Amendments:
   
   2.1 Public Hearing/Second Reading Amending Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-208 – Uses in Business Districts – Table 4 and Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-209 – Uses in Industrial Districts – Table 5 regarding the Regulation of Amusement Parks/Outdoor Recreation in the Industrial & General Business Districts Respectively (Action on this matter should take place under Section IX of the Agenda)

3. Letter from Popovers Re: Sidewalk Obstruction License Application (Action on this matter should take place under Section XI of the Agenda)

*City Manager’s Items Which Require Action*

1. Request to Establish Joint Work Session with the City Council and School Board Re: Study Circles
2. Request to Establish City Council Final Budget Review Work Session and Cancel Special City Council Meeting

3. Planning Board Report Back Re: Perry Silverstein of 10 Commercial Alley Seeking an Easement from the City to Allow for a Foundation and Building Overhangs to Extend Over and Above a Public Right-of-Way

4. Grant Funding Request Re: Art Speak

5. Acceptance of Right of Entry and Quitclaim Deed from K.S.C. LLC, 141 Congress Street

6. Doble Army Reserve Center Reuse Plan Options

**Informational Items**

1. Planning Board Report Back Re: Community Campus Signs
2. Report Back to Councilor Harold Whitehouse Re: Motorized Scooters and Handicapped Flags
3. Work Session Agenda for Review of FY08 Municipal Budget
4. Letter Re: 2007 Mosquito Control Activities

**B. MAYOR MARCHAND**

1. Appointments to be Considered:
   - MaryLiz Geffert – Alternate to Planning Board
   - James Melfi – Citywide Neighborhood Steering Committee
2. Appointment to be Voted:
   - Gary Lowe – Alternate to Cable Television and Communications Commission
3. *Upcoming Appointment Vacancies for the month of June
   - Historic District Commission – 3 Members and 1 Alternate
4. Safe Routes to School Appointments
   - Steve Pesci, Public Member
   - Bill Lyons, Public Member
5. *Reports

**C. ASSISTANT MAYOR FERRINI**

1. *Rooming House Ordinance
2. *Portsmouth Listens Mailing and Other Expenses - $3,500.00 *(Sample motion – move to authorize the City Manager to expend up to $3,500.00 from the Contingency Fund for expenses incurred by Portsmouth Listens)*

**D. COUNCILOR SMITH**

1. Traffic & Safety Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the April 12, 2007 meeting
2. Parking Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the April 12, 2007 meeting
XIII. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XIV. ADJOURNMENT [AT 10:00PM OR EARLIER]

KELLI L. BARNABY, CMC
CITY CLERK

(*Indicates verbal report)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Historic District Commission minutes of March 14, 2007 meeting
2. Conservation Commission minutes of March 14, 2007 meeting
4. Planning Board minutes of the March 1, 2007 and March 15, 2007 meetings
5. Site Review Technical Advisory Committee minutes of April 3, 2007 meeting

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC WHO ARE HEARING IMPAIRED: Please contact Dianna Fogarty at 603-610-7270 one-week prior to the meeting for assistance.
6:00 p.m. – Work Session

1. On Monday evening, the City Council will hold a work session with the Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Committee on Boards and Commissions regarding the appointment process.

Presentation:

1. **Building Re-use Committee Final Report.** At Monday’s meeting, Heather Hurtt, Chair of the Mayor’s Committee on Building Re-use, is scheduled to present a final report and recommendation on the Committee’s work over the past eight months. As you will recall, last August, Mayor Marchand convened the Blue Ribbon Committee on Building Re-use to analyze and advise the City Council on potential re-use opportunities associated with six city-owned buildings: the Public Library on Islington Street, the South Meeting House, to be vacated by the Children’s Museum of Portsmouth in 2008; the Creek Fire House at 251 Bartlett Street; The Plains School; the Rock Street Public Works Garage; and the Lafayette School.

   Over the course of twenty-three meetings, the Committee completed an inventory of each property including deed restrictions, operating costs, and zoning restrictions. The Committee held a series of public input sessions to gather data on building re-use criteria and guidelines, stewardship policies and potential building re-use opportunities. It also developed a selection matrix for reviewing building re-use Request for Proposals (RFPs). Based on its research and on the feedback from the listening sessions, the Committee
developed a recommendation for each property evaluated, which Ms. Hurtt will present on Monday evening just as she did for the former library and the Lafayette School. For your information, there is currently a RFP outstanding on the former library with proposals due May 16, 2007. Staff has also been directed to develop a RFP for the Lafayette School for distribution in late spring.

Acceptance of Grants/Donations:

1. **Acceptance of Police Department Donation and Grants.** Attached under Section VIII of the Agenda is a memorandum from John D. Kelley, Chairman of the Portsmouth Police Commissioners, and Michael J. Magnant, Police Chief, requesting that the City Council approve the following donation and grants:

   1. A donation of $1,000.00 from Wal-Mart Foundation for the Portsmouth Explorers.

   2. A Homeland Security Grant in the amount of $50,550.00 has been awarded from New Hampshire Department of Safety for the purchase of 30 APCO-25 compliant digital/analog portable radios. Each radio costs $1,685.00.

   3. A Highway Safety Grant in the amount of $3,666.66 for ‘Portsmouth DWI Patrols” has been awarded for Alcohol Traffic Safety and Drunk Driving Prevention on Portsmouth streets.

   The Police Commission is submitting this information pursuant to City Policy Memorandum #94-35 for City Council approval and acceptance.

   *I would recommend that the City Council approve and accept the donation and grants to the Portsmouth Police Department as listed. Action on this matter should take place under Section VIII of the Agenda.*

2. **Acceptance of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation (NHCF) Grant.** In February 2007, Art-Speak applied to the NH Charitable Foundation - Piscataqua Region (NHCF) for a $5,000 grant to support the rollout of the findings of the *American for the Arts Economic Prosperity II Program*. The grant was requested to support activities related to educating the community on the economic benefits of arts and culture in the greater Portsmouth area. You may recall that this survey and report are an update of the original 2000 *American for the Arts Economic Prosperity I Program*. The original study was carried out by the City in partnership with the American for the Arts, a national non-profit arts advocacy organization, and resulted in a report that quantified the value of the City’s non-profit arts and culture business as a $26 million component of the local economy. The recent update of the study was included as a goal in the City’s Master Plan and the Cultural Plan and was administered by Art-Speak in partnership with the Americans for the Arts.
Last week, the City received notification from NHCF that it had been awarded a $4,650 grant to support the development and dissemination of the study findings. It also supports an Art-Speak forum scheduled for fall 2007 in which Randy Cohen, Vice President for Policy and Research for the Americans for the Arts will present the report to city officials, the media, members of the cultural community, the Economic Development Commission and the public.

*I would recommend the City Council move to accept the NHCF grant award and authorize the City Manager to oversee its administration. Action on this matter should take place under Section VIII of the Agenda.*

3. **Acceptance of Donation to the New Library Building Fund.** Attached is a copy of a check in the amount of $2,750.00 from Stephen L. & Susan S. Tober donating funds to the New Library Building Fund:

*I would recommend that the City Council approve and accept the donation to the New Library Building Fund as listed. Action on this matter should take place under Section VIII of the Agenda.*

**Items Which Require Action Under Other Sections of the Agenda:**

1. **Consideration of First Reading of Proposed Ordinance Amendments:**

   1.1 **First Reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 1, Article IX, Section 1.901 – Conflict of Interest by the amendment to Mandatory Financial Disclosure in Article IX, and the addition of a new Section 1.902 – Election Candidate Financial Disclosure.** As requested by the City Council, under Section IX of the agenda, I am bringing back for first reading the proposed amendment to Chapter 1, Article IX, Section 1.901 – Conflict of Interest by the amendment to Mandatory Financial Disclosure in Article IX, and the addition of a new Section 1.902 – Election Candidate Financial Disclosure.

   *I would recommend the City Council move to pass first reading of the amended ordinance, as submitted, and hold a public hearing and second reading at the May 21st City Council meeting. Action on this item should take place under Section IX of the Agenda.*

   1.2 **First Reading Regarding Proposed Amendments to the 1995 Zoning Ordinance – establishing a Process by which to Consider a Non-residential Planned Unit Development Type Use within an Office Research Zoning District.** As a result of the April 16th City Council meeting, under Section IX of the agenda, I am bringing back for first reading the proposed amendments to the 1995 Zoning Ordinance – establishing a process by which to consider a non-residential planned unit development type use within an Office Research zoning district.
As you may recall, at the November 13, 2006 City Council meeting, the Council referred a rezoning request from Attorney Bernard Pelech, on behalf of his client, Smuttynose Brewery to the Planning Board for report back.

Attached is a memorandum from David Holden, Planning Director, outlining the Planning Board’s favorable recommendation for the City Council to consider adopting the proposed amendments to Chapter 10 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Portsmouth (See Exhibit I). Also, attached is a copy of a map (See Exhibit II) depicting the areas where the Non-residential Planned Unit Development (PUD) could apply.

I would recommend the City Council move to pass first reading of the amended ordinance, as submitted, and hold a public hearing and second reading at the May 21st City Council meeting. Action on this item should take place under Section IX of the Agenda.

2. **Public Hearing / Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance Amendments:**

2.1 **Public Hearing / Second Reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-208 – Uses in Business Districts – Table 4 and Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-209 – Uses in Industrial Districts – Table 5 regarding the Regulation of Amusement Parks/Outdoor Recreation in the Industrial and General Business Districts Respectively.** As a result of the April 4th City Council meeting, under Section VII of the agenda, I am bringing back for public hearing and second reading the ordinance amending Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-208 – Uses in Business Districts – Table 4 and Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-209 - Uses in Industrial Districts - Table 5 regarding the regulation of Amusement Parks/Outdoor Recreation in the Industrial and General Business Districts respectively. As you will recall, on October 23, 2006, the City Council met in a work session with the Planning Board to discuss various land use issues as they relate to the implementation of the City’s new Master Plan. As a result of the October 23rd work session with the Planning Board, Assistant Mayor Ferrini requested that City staff provide a zoning ordinance amendment that would have the effect of regulating amusement parks/outdoor recreation within the Industrial & General Business districts. On December 4, 2006, the City Council voted to refer this matter to the Planning Board for a report back. The Planning Board has considered this matter and voted to report back a recommendation to Council to adopt the attached amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. The attached memo from Planning Director David Holden provides further background on this matter.

I would recommend the City Council move to pass second reading of the amended ordinance, as submitted, and hold third and final reading at the May 21st City Council meeting. Action on this item should take place under Section IX of the Agenda.
3. **Letter from Popovers Re: Sidewalk Obstruction License Application.** Attached under written communications is a letter and a sidewalk obstruction license application from Popovers. The letter outlines a revised plan for the location of the tables and chairs as well as the bike rack. I am requesting that I have an opportunity to review this request with the appropriate City staff. *I would recommend the City Council move to refer the aforementioned matter to the City Manager for report back. Action on this item should take place under Section XI of the Agenda.*

**City Manager’s Items Which Require Action:**

1. **Request to Establish Joint Work Session with the City Council and School Board Re: Study Circles.** Portsmouth Listens has requested a meeting with the City Council and School Board on Monday, June 18, 2007 to report back regarding the Middle School Study Circles, which would entail City Council rescheduling its regular June 18th City Council meeting to June 25th. *Therefore, I would recommend the City Council establish this Joint Work Session on Monday, June 18, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. and reschedule its regular meeting to June 25th.*

2. **Request to Establish City Council Final Budget Review Work Session and Cancel Special City Council Meeting.** As you are aware, the City Council compressed the original budget schedule to accommodate the School Board in order to facilitate teacher contract extensions. Because of the changes, the Council did not formally establish Tuesday, May 15th as a Budget Work Session date and will need to do so at Monday evening’s meeting. Also, the City Council FY08 Budget Meetings and Work Sessions Schedule shows a Special City Council Meeting on May 29th, which we do not anticipate needing inasmuch as the final vote on the budget schedule is Tuesday, May 22nd. Attached is a copy of my memorandum outlining the FY08 Budget Meetings and Work Sessions Schedule. *Therefore, I would recommend the City Council move to establish a Final Budget Review Work Session meeting on Tuesday, May 15th and cancel the May 29th City Council Special Meeting.*

3. **Planning Board Report Back Re: Perry Silverstein of 10 Commercial Alley Seeking an Easement from the City to Allow for a Foundation and Building Overhangs to Extend Over and Above a Public Right-of-Way.** As you may recall, at the March 19, 2007 City Council meeting, the Council referred the aforementioned matter to the Planning Board for report back. Attached is a memorandum from David Holden, Planning Director, outlining the recommendation of the Planning Board to grant an easement to Perry Silverstein of 10 Commercial Alley to allow for a foundation and building overhangs to extend over and above a public right-of-way. *I would recommend the City Council move to approve the recommendation of the Planning Board to grant an easement to allow for the following:*

- Copper gutters and their attachment;
- Window granite heads and sills;
- Exterior lighting fixtures;
• Marquis cornice and drip edge;
• Window trim and sill around the display windows; and,
• Foundation footing.

4. **Grant Funding Request Re: Art Speak.** Included in your packet is a grant request from Russ Grazier, the President of Art-Speak, the City’s Cultural Commission for partial funding for the direct labor and services provided by the Art-Speak Coordinator for FY 2007-2008. As you are aware, Art-Speak has contracted with the City to implement the Cultural Plan as well as advocate for the City’s arts and culture sector. (funding for this request could come from Urban Development Action Grant funds (UDAG), which are non-local tax dollars.)

The proposal submitted requests that the City grant $20,000 towards the $37,440 annual professional administrator services contracted for the community by the Art-Speak Coordinator. The proposal describes eight services for the FY 2007-2008 fiscal year including items such as convening an annual arts and culture symposium, development of a Percent for Art Implementation Plan with City staff, support for the African American Burial Ground and Central Fire Station monuments, dissemination and media development as well management of the Islington Street Arts District Study. Art-Speak pledges to obtain the remaining labor funds ($17,440) from foundation grants and direct fundraising.

I believe that there is value added in the services provided by Art-Speak in that the organization has taken on responsibilities that would otherwise fall to other City staff. I also believe that Art-Speak has established credibility in the city, state and the region for effectively advocating for and raising awareness of the local cultural economy. In addition, Art-Speak is tasked with implementation of the goals in the Cultural Section of the Master Plan (Percent for Art, etc.) and the organization’s demonstrates its ability to raise funds for Art-Speak activities. As you can see from the attached proposal, Art-Speak has raised over $85,000.00 of non-tax dollars to support their activities (see Attachment 2 in the Art-Speak report). Therefore, I would recommend the City Council approve the grant request for $20,000 from the City’s UDAG funds to partially cover the labor costs for delivery of Art-Speak services.

5. **Acceptance of Right of Entry and Quitclaim Deed from K.S.C. LLC, 141 Congress Street.** I have been advised by Assistant City Attorney Suzanne Woodland that it is necessary for the City to obtain a Right of Entry as well as a Quitclaim Deed from K.S.C. LLC with respect to sidewalk work that is being performed on Congress Street. K.S.C. LLC is the owner of the property located at 141 Congress Street and this property is the location of the Sake Restaurant. Apparently, a portion of the 141 Congress Street building’s basement is located under the sidewalk on Congress Street, thus the need for the Right of Entry as reflected in the attachment.

I would recommend the City Council move to authorize the City Manager to accept the required Right of Entry and Quitclaim Deed from K.S.C. LLC.
6. **Re-use Plan Development for the Paul A. Doble Army Reserve Center.** As you will recall, the City Council held a public hearing on April 4th regarding the Re-use Plan for the Paul A. Doble Army Reserve Center on Cottage Street. At that time, the City Council asked me to develop Re-use options based on the public input received and the letters of interest submitted by agencies in response to the City’s Notice of Interest request. I have attached two Re-use Plan options for the Council’s consideration. In order to meet BRAC requirements, the Council needs to select one of the two options at your May 21st City Council meeting. I will then ask staff to complete the Re-use Plan for submission to the Department of the Army as well as the Homeless Assistance Application component that must be submitted to HUD. The final step prior to submission to the federal agencies will be a City Council public hearing on June 4th, 2007 on the re-use plan selected.

Per the federal regulations, the Re-use Plan must balance the needs of the homeless with other community needs. The Homeless Assistance Application component of the Re-use Plan is required by HUD to provide a rationale for why re-use proposals submitted in response to the City’s Notice of Interest request were not chosen for inclusion in the Re-use Plan.

The Draft Re-use Plan and Homeless Assistance Application will be posted on the City’s website and available at Portsmouth City Hall after May 21st. It will include information on the BRAC process followed to date, a property description, a summary of proposals submitted, the Re-use Plan recommendation and the Homeless Assistance Application component.

Under BRAC law, the City has until June 20, 2007 to submit the Re-use Plan and Homeless Assistance Application. The City has not yet received an “Environmental Condition of Property” for the Doble Reserve Center from the Army. The City will be permitted to submit the Re-use Plan after June 20, 2007 if the “Environmental Condition of Property” is not provided by the Army in sufficient time. *I would ask that the City Council allow me to bring this back for the May 21st agenda to vote on the preferred option so that we may establish a public hearing for June 4th.*

**Informational Items:**

1. **Planning Board Report Back Re: Community Campus Signs.** As you may recall, at the December 4, 2006 City Council meeting, the Council referred a request from Families First on behalf of Community Campus to the Planning Board for report back. This request was for permission to replace the small “Community Campus” signs currently posted on several roads with a larger sign that lists the name of each of their agencies. Attached is a memorandum from David Holden, Planning Director, explaining that Families First has withdrawn their request.
2. **Report Back to Councilor Harold Whitehouse Re: Motor Scooters and Handicapped Flags.** For your information, City Attorney Robert Sullivan will be providing a verbal report on Monday evening regarding Councilor Harold Whitehouse’s inquiry concerning handicapped flags on motor scooters.

3. **Work Session Agenda for Review of FY08 Municipal Budget.** Attached is an agenda for the City Council Work Session scheduled for Wednesday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m., in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers, regarding review of the FY08 Municipal Budget.

4. **Letter Re: 2007 Mosquito Control Activities.** For your information, attached is a letter from Municipal Pest Management Services, Inc. regarding 2007 mosquito control activities in Portsmouth.