1. At 6:15 p.m., a Work Session was held regarding Exchange City.

2. Presentation - School Board Status Report Re: Portsmouth Middle School Project – Mitchell Shuldman, School Board Chair – Dr. Shuldman, School Board Chair provided a status report regarding the Portsmouth Middle School Project.

3. Presentation - Annual Report Art-Speak – Russ Grazier, Art-Speak President – Russ Grazier, Art-Speak President provided the City Council with the annual Art-Speak report.


5. Acceptance of Minutes – April 7, 2008 – Voted to approve and accept the minutes of the April 7, 2008 City Council meeting.

6. Public Comment Session – There was one speaker: Harold Whitehouse (Book – Home by Nine).

7. Public Hearing – To Obtain Public Input with Regard to the Prime Wetlands that have been mapped in the City in Accordance with RSA 482-A:15 and Chapter 700 of the NHDES Wetlands Bureau Administrative Rules – Held a public hearing.

8. Voted to suspend the rules in order to take up Item XII. A.2. – Proposed Prime Wetlands designation.

9. Proposed Prime Wetlands Designation – Voted to approve the appropriation of up to $5,000.00 from the City’s Conservation Fund in order to complete the prime wetlands mapping project.

10. Acceptance of Donations for New Library Building Fund
   - Pax World Management Group - $5,000.00 (Fulfills Pledge)
   - Parade Hotel, LLC d/b/a Hotel Garden Inn - $5,000.00 (Fulfills Pledge)
   - John R. Maher - $1,500.00 (Fulfills Pledge)

   Voted to approve and accept the donations to the New Library Building Fund, as listed.
11. Acceptance of Donations to the Coalition Legal Fund
   • Town of Moultonborough - $3,000.00
   • Town of Lincoln - $2,000.00
   • Town of Bridgewater - $1,250.00
   • Town of Holderness - $250.00

Voted to approve and accept the donations as listed, to be placed in the Coalition Legal Fund.

12. Acceptance of Donation for Overnight Art Event
   • First National Bank of Ipswich - $1,000.00

Voted to approve and accept the donation for Art-Speak's Overnight Art Event, as listed.

13. Acceptance of Donation for Installation of Street Clock in front of 49 Market Street
   • Melvin D. Reisz, Summerwind Jewelers & Goldsmiths - $10,000.00

Voted to approve and accept the donation to the City for the installation of Street Clock, as listed.

14. Third and final reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 7, Article II – Taxicabs - Section 7.213 (D) – Fees and Terms for Permits/Licenses by the addition of the following language: Except that when the revocation is due to failure to meet vehicle inspection, requirements, no fee shall be due if the vehicle is repaired to the satisfaction of the taxi inspector within 24 hours of the revocation; and Section 7.219 (1) (2) (4) – Rates of Taxi Fares – (1) Increase the first one-eighth (1/8) mile or fraction hereof, from $.35 cents to $.45 cents; (2) Increase waiting time from $.25 cents to $.45 cents; (4) Increase discount to any passenger who is age sixty (60) or over from 10% to 20% - Voted to pass third and final reading of the proposed ordinance amendment, as presented.

15. Third and final reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.302 – Enforcement Authority by the addition of Item B to read as follows: Any vehicle or object parked or placed in violation of this ordinance shall be cited for such violation and may be towed at the vehicle owners expense at direction of the enforcement authority, the Chief of Police or the Director of Public Works - Voted to pass third and final reading of the proposed ordinance amendment, as presented.

16. Third and final reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 7 by creating a Two Hour Parking Area on Court Street, a No Parking Area on Court Street, a No Parking Area on Islington Street, a No Parking Area on Essex Avenue, creating a Loading Zone on Court Street and deleting provisions inconsistent with the foregoing - Voted to pass third and final reading of the proposed ordinance amendment, as presented. Councilor Kennedy voted opposed.

17. Consent Agenda – Voted to adopt the Consent Agenda, as presented.

   A. Letter from Patricia Yeaton, Seacoast Run Pedal Paddle, requesting permission to hold the Annual New Hampshire Seacoast Run Pedal Paddle on Saturday,
May 17, 2008 *(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)*

B. Renewal of Sidewalk Obstruction License with no changes from last year
   • The Press Room – 1 A-frame sign

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

C. Request from Leo Poisson, Trillium Fine Jewelry, requesting permission for a Sidewalk Obstruction License to place 1 A-frame sign in front of establishment *(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)*

18. Letter from Pawn Nitichan and Alexandra Allen, City Year, requesting the City invest $25,000.00 to support the start up of City Year’s Young Heroes Program – Voted to refer to the City Manager for report back.

19. Letter from Joseph Couture, Portsmouth Housing Authority Executive Director, Re: Wamesit Place – Voted to refer this matter to the CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee for a report back and recommendation.

20. Letter from Nicki Noble, Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce, requesting permission to hang Portsmouth Harbour Trail flags at 26 keys sites for the 2008 season *(Not on agenda)* – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.

21. Request for Group License Rate from Prime, Buchholz and Associates, Inc. at Parking Garage – Voted to accept the recommendation of the Economic Development Commission, as presented.

   **Recommendation as Follows:**
   
   • $90.00 per month rate for each twenty-four hour monthly pass purchased by Prime Buchholz, Inc.

22. Request to Establish a Joint Work Session with the School Board on June 23, 2008 – Voted to establish a joint work session with the School Board for Monday, June 23, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.


24. Appointment to be Considered – The City Council considered the appointment of Tim Allison to the Economic Development Commission. This appointment will be voted on by the City Council at the May 5, 2008 City Council meeting.

25. Appointments to be Voted – Voted the following appointments:

   • John Gregg – Reappointment to Cable Television & Communications Commission until April 1, 2011.
   • Sharon Morrison – Reappointment to Citywide Neighborhood Steering Committee until April 1, 2011.
• Karina Quintans – Appointment to Sustainable Practices, Blue Ribbon Committee.
• Frank Daggett – Reappointment to Taxi Commission until December 31, 2009.
• Frederick Gray, Jr., - Reappointment to Traffic & Safety Committee until January 1, 2010.
• Lea Aeschliman – Reappointment to Trustees of Trust Fund until January 1, 2011.
• Derek Durbin – Reappointment to Zoning Board of Adjustment as an Alternate until December 1, 2012.

26. Re-use of Building located at 251 Bartlett Street (Creek Athletic Club) (Postponed from April 7th City Council meeting) – The City Council agreed to hold a work session regarding this matter. City Manager Bohenko advised the City Council that he would report back with a date for the work session at the May 5, 2008 City Council meeting.

27. Retirement System – Define Contribution Proposal (Postponed from April 7th City Council meeting) – The City Council agreed to hold a work session regarding this matter. City Manager Bohenko suggested conducting the work session in the fall and that he would report back with a proposed date.

28. Granite State Fair Tax Coalition (Postponed from April 7th City Council meeting) – Moved to conduct a public hearing on this matter. Voted to amend the motion to include that speakers participating in the public hearing must be City of Portsmouth residents. Main motion passed as amended.

29. Green Building Report (Postponed from April 7th City Council meeting) – Councilor Raynolds reviewed the Green Building Report with the City Council. No action required.

30. Adjournment – At 9:20 p.m., voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kelli L. Barnaby, CMC/CNHMC
City Clerk