

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
DATE: MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2017

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 6:30PM

At 6:30 p.m., a roll call for attendance was done with Councilors Perkins and Pearson being absent.

City Council Present: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Dwyer, Lown, Spear, Cyr, Denton

City Council Absent: Councilors Perkins and Pearson (arrived at 6:33 p.m.)

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to enter into a Non Public Session regarding the Compensation of Public Employees – RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Seconded by Councilor Lown.

On a roll call vote 7-0, motion passed.

Staff Present: John P. Bohenko, City Manager; Robert Sullivan, City Attorney; Dianna Fogarty, Human Resources Director; Tom Closson, Negotiator; and Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk

Others Present: Richard Gamester, Fire Commission

Discussion was held regarding Contract Extensions for the Fire Chief and two Deputy Fire Chiefs.

At 6:42 p.m., Mayor Blalock declared the Non Public Session closed.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Blalock called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Perkins, Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr and Denton

III. INVOCATION

Mayor Blalock asked everyone to join in a moment of silent prayer in memory of Nathaniel Holloway.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Richard Smith led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Complete Street Demonstration Project Policy (Proposed Tactical Urbanism City Council Policy) – Juliet Walker, Planning Director

Planning Director Walker provided a brief Presentation on the Complete Street Demonstration Project Policy. She said it is based on the Policy in Burlington, Vermont but there have been some adjustments since the draft the Council was presented previously. She stated the policy outlines the process that an organization would follow for a Complete Street Demonstration.

2. Status of City Water Supply – Brian Goetz, Deputy Public Works Director

Deputy Public Works Director Goetz reported that during the recent State Street Saloon Fire 10,000 gallons-per-minute of water were delivered at peak of firefighting and that 800,000 gallons of water was estimated for duration of fire. He spoke to the new water main that was installed on State Street which was an improvement to the infrastructure. He reported that we are at a place where no water restrictions are necessary and that we have received 8 more inches of precipitation so far in water this year. He stated that monthly evaluations are conducted of the water supply.

Councilor Spear asked if the Water Department is tracking the effects of irrigation systems being used. Deputy Public Works Director Goetz said that they continue to track that information and reported there is not a large demand for irrigation installations.

Councilor Denton asked about water supply issues in Greenland. City Manager Bohenko said that the information is being updated and no commitments have been made on this matter. He said we are exploring and the numbers are daunting. He further stated that there are no detects in their wells right now but we are bringing together all the data.

Assistant Mayor Splaine suggested back in January that he would like the City Council to have a Work Session with the surrounding towns of Greenland, Newcastle, Rye and Newington to discuss water issues.

City Manager Bohenko said we want all information to have a productive meeting.

Councilor Dwyer spoke regarding the water restrictions that were put in place last year and perhaps we want to consider putting a policy in place.

3. Briefing Re: State Street Fire – Steve Achilles, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Achilles thanked publicly all those individuals and organizations that provided support. He reported that the Department is indebted to the infrastructure improvements made to the water system because there was plenty of water available for use during this general alarm fire. He outlined the time line of the incident and reviewed the progression of the sounded alarms. Chief Achilles also spoke to the structural failure of the building. He reported that \$7,000.00 in fire equipment was lost during the collapse of the building.

Assistant Mayor Splaine asked about older buildings and having fire suppression units installed. Fire Chief Achilles said the codes allow us to do certain things.

Councilor Spear said there is room to talk about changing requirements. He said what is done in one section of New Hampshire is not necessarily done here in our City.

Discussion followed regarding the collapse of the building and it being made of brick. Chief Achilles said that brick and steel can collapse.

Mayor Blalock thanked Chief Achilles and the work of the entire Department.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – MARCH 20, 2017 & APRIL 3, 2017

Councilor Perkins moved to accept and approve the minutes of the March 20, 2017 and April 3, 2017 City Council meetings. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer and voted.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

City Manager Bohenko said there will not be any changes to Thornton Street until a public meeting is held on May 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the New Franklin School. He said we will be looking forward to people coming forward to speak on the matter. He said any changes to the Ordinance would require three readings and a public hearing.

Richard Smith spoke regarding Peirce Island and asked that the Committee have the Arborist added to the Committee. He said he would like a site walk of the Island with the City Council. He said we need to protect what we have at the Island.

William Lyons spoke in support of Councilor Spear's motion on the agenda regarding surface parking in lots. He said parking is not the best use for surface lots and the Council should consider other uses. He asked that the City Council be creative on how to use these vital spaces in the lots. Mr. Lyons also spoke in support of the Complete Street Demonstration Project Policy.

MacAeda Ford said the draft change on Thornton and Bartlett Streets is a large concern for her living in the neighborhood. She spoke to the changes that would be made to the bus stops and expressed her concerns.

Beth Margeson spoke to vacancies to Boards and Commission and that in the early 1990's the ordinance was not followed. She said that the ordinance needs to be followed. She stated the cost involved is extremely small and the more people that are aware of the vacancies the more that would apply.

Patricia Bagley spoke regarding the Parking and Traffic Safety minutes in which she spoke regarding Food Trucks and provided clarification of her statements made during that meeting were not clearly defined in the Portsmouth Herald.

Mark Brighton said he is enthusiastic about composting and requested whatever the cost is to take that amount of money for composting and eliminate those funds from the Public Works Department.

Becky Vardell thanked the City Council for setting up a meeting on the parking changes on Thornton and Bartlett Streets.

Sam Tombarelli thanked the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee for the response to have further study on the parking matter on Thornton and Bartlett Streets. He hopes that Parking and Traffic Safety has the neighborhood provide their thoughts.

Zelita Morgan thanked the Fire Department for their action with the State Street Saloon fire. She also spoke to the Strategic Planning Committee for Vaughan-Worth-Bridge Revitalization Committee and feels there needs to be more residents on the Committee. She addressed the Parrott Avenue lot and said the City Council needs to stop obsessing over it. Ms. Morgan said more time needs to be spent on water contamination rather than parking in the City.

Harold Whitehouse said he is proud of living in the City with professional firefighters. He spoke on Parking and Traffic Safety Committee on a decision to alter Route 1. He would like to see a letter on letterhead that we are allowed to do this.

Doug Roberts representing PS 21, said he supports the Complete Street Demonstration Project Policy. He urged the City Council and City Manager to adopt the policy that is being presented this evening and said it is simple and clear.

Jane Zill spoke to Deputy City Manager Colbert Puff letter in the City Council packet but said she wanted to see a policy addressing the matter. She said a draft statement has been created on the actions of employees.

Paige Trace deferred her time to Jane Zill.

Jane Zill said employees are not our leaders our elected representatives are. She is not a customer, she is a taxpayer. Ms. Zill stated the City Manager and City Council need to develop a policy and that the draft policy statement allow for public comment.

Esther Kennedy said it is time for a policy for citizens to speak to City officials and feel comfortable.

VII. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- A. Third and final reading of Proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 7, Article VII, Section 7.704 and 7.705 to clarify the Prohibition of Truck Traffic on Banfield Road

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to pass third and final reading of the proposed Ordinance, as presented. Seconded by Councilor Lown and voted.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Letter from Robert Sutherland, Jr., St. John's Lodge requesting permission to hold the St. John's March on Sunday, June 25, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.
(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)
- B. Letter from Megan Bickford, New Hampshire SPCA requesting permission to place laminated posters and brochures at the Dog Parks located at South Mill Pond and Route 33 Park and Ride ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)***
- C. Request for License to Install Projecting Sign:

Andree Connell owner of Buff and File Nail Bar for property located at 218 State Street ***(Anticipated action – move to approve the aforementioned Projecting Sign License as recommended by the Planning Director, and further, authorize the City Manager to execute the License Agreement for this request)***

Planning Director's Stipulations:

- ***The license shall be approved by the Legal Department as to content and form;***
- ***Any removal or relocation of projecting sign, for any reason, shall be done at no cost to the City; and***

- ***Any disturbance of a sidewalk, street or other public infrastructure resulting from the installation, relocation or removal of the projecting sign, for any reason shall be restored at no cost to the City and shall be subject to review and acceptance by the Department of Public Works***

D. Request for License to Install Projecting Sign:

Sean Sullivan & Jeff Goss owner of The Clipper Tavern for property located at 75 Pleasant Street (***Anticipated action – move to approve the aforementioned Projecting Sign License as recommended by the Planning Director, and further, authorize the City Manager to execute the License Agreement for this request***)

Planning Director's Stipulations:

- ***The license shall be approved by the Legal Department as to content and form;***
- ***Any removal or relocation of projecting sign, for any reason, shall be done at no cost to the City; and***
- ***Any disturbance of a sidewalk, street or other public infrastructure resulting from the installation, relocation or removal of the projecting sign, for any reason shall be restored at no cost to the City and shall be subject to review and acceptance by the Department of Public Works***

E. Request for License to Install Projecting Sign:

Nora Fournier owner of Tailor Shop for property located at 99 Daniel Street (***Anticipated action – move to approve the aforementioned Projecting Sign License as recommended by the Planning Director, and further, authorize the City Manager to execute the License Agreement for this request***)

Planning Director's Stipulations:

- ***The license shall be approved by the Legal Department as to content and form;***
- ***Any removal or relocation of projecting sign, for any reason, shall be done at no cost to the City; and***

- ***Any disturbance of a sidewalk, street or other public infrastructure resulting from the installation, relocation or removal of the projecting sign, for any reason shall be restored at no cost to the City and shall be subject to review and acceptance by the Department of Public Works***

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Lown and voted.

IX. PRESENTATION & CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

- A. Letter from Jane Zill regarding policy guidelines (***attached memorandum from Nancy Colbert Puff, Deputy City Manager***)

Councilor Spear moved to accept the letter and place it on file. Seconded by Councilor Cyr.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said you cannot tell the City Manager how employees operate but the Council can create policy. He said residents need to be treated respectfully. He would like to know what the policy will be about and have public comment on this matter.

City Manager Bohenko said he has standards where employees get back to residents within 48 hours of an inquiry. He said the City employees provide a great deal of help in this community beyond what they do. He is saddened by the way this all transpired and that this is a personnel matter and people can come to him at any time to speak on issues. City Manager Bohenko said we are moving forward and we have a good culture in this organization.

Motion passed.

- B. Letter from Patricia Bagley regarding Parking & Traffic Safety Committee meeting concerning Parrott Avenue Lot regulations

Councilor Lown moved to accept the letter and place it on file. Seconded by Councilor Spear.

Councilor Lown said Patricia Bagley is correct with what she has said in her letter relating to metering Parrott Avenue. He has no agenda when dealing with Parrott Avenue. He said he would go back to the Committee and have Parking, Traffic & Safety look at the original motion which was to investigate holistically all the ideas we've had in the past couple of years, come back, and have a work session.

Motion passed.

At 8:45 p.m., Mayor Blalock called for a brief recessed. At 8:55 p.m., the meeting was called back to order by Mayor Blalock.

X. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIOONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

A. CITY MANAGER

1. Request to Establish First Reading of Proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 1, Article IX, Section 1.902 – Election Candidate Financial Disclosures (*Postponed from April 3, 2017 City Council meeting*)

City Manager said at the April 3, 2017 meeting first reading of the ordinance was postponed and he is requesting to establish first reading at the May 1, 2017 meeting.

Councilor Lown moved to authorize the City Manager to bring back for first reading the proposed Ordinance at the May 1, 2017 City Council meeting. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Councilor Dwyer said something like this ordinance could come back but there are changes needed for it to be meaningful. She spoke to the issues with the Ordinance and said she has no problem with the group reporting but it feels like the wrong report here.

Councilor Perkins said she agrees with Councilor Dwyer's comments. She can't contemplate how this will roll out. She said this feels like a solution looking for a problem. Councilor Perkins said there are limits to what the City Council can regulate.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said in part he agrees with Councilors Dwyer and Perkins. He said we need to include the third party contributions. He said we could use the State model and there is enforcement and spending by candidates. Assistant Mayor Splaine said we need to make sure the City cannot be bought. He spoke in favor of voting on first reading at the next meeting to hear from the public.

Councilor Spear asked City Attorney Sullivan was there a reason why onus was on the group and not the candidate. City Attorney Sullivan said the City is not at liberty to adopt whatever it wants, you need legal authority behind the ordinance you want to adopt. He said this is not the same for the State legislature. He stated the ordinance was done this way to put the requirement on the candidates. He feels we need to eliminate services and property from the ordinance.

Councilor Cyr said he agrees with Councilor Spear's comments.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock asked why it is \$100.00 for a candidate and \$99.00 for a group.

Councilor Denton said he would support the change to the ordinance.

Mayor Blalock said the intention is very good but as written it is missing too much. He said it is not definitive enough and said there is not enough to bring the ordinance forward for first reading.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Councilor Pearson said the ordinance will not do what people think it will do, most of the group endorsements will not spend any money they will use a digital means that doesn't cost money. She does not feel this is a problem.

Councilor Lown said he has been persuaded that the ordinance is not fixable, as presented.

Councilor Dwyer said we could do a little clean up and Section A could have a sentence to address what you want to report from a candidate.

Councilor Perkins said she would support that approach as stated by Councilor Dwyer. She said she supports the Legislative Committee approach as well.

Councilor Spear said that this would be voted down and asked what motion could follow to bring back the ordinance in a clean form.

On a roll call vote 2-7, motion to authorize the City Manager to bring back for first reading the proposed Ordinance at the May 1, 2017 City Council meeting failed to pass. Assistant Mayor Splaine and Councilor Denton voted in favor. Councilors Perkins, Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr and Mayor Blalock voted opposed.

Councilor Spear moved that City Manager Bohenko report back with new language for the ordinance in Section 1.902 (A) to clarify entities from candidates. Seconded by Councilor Pearson and voted.

2. Adoption of Complete Street Demonstration Project Policy (Tactical Urbanism Policy)

City Manager Bohenko requested the City Council to adopt the policy. He said if there are amendments he would request the City Council wait to adopt the policy until the May 1, 2017 City Council meeting.

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to adopt the aforementioned Policy, as presented. Seconded by Councilor Perkins.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said Doug Roberts made a presentation on this matter at the

City-wide Neighborhood Group and thanked the organization for their hard work.

Councilor Dwyer said Item #8 could be strengthened. Planning Director Walker said she could work with Eric Eby on expanding this. Councilor Dwyer said it needs a stamp of approval. She said the methods are one thing but it is the interpretation of the data.

Councilor Cyr said we would want access to the raw data. He said in Section 2, Item 2 is there a street where this would not be applicable. Planning Director Walker said this was focused on neighborhood streets but we could make changes. City Manager Bohenko said major thoroughfares are different.

Councilor Perkins said she is supportive of the policy. She wants to make sure we are not adopting a policy on everything. She stated under stewardships you might want to consider other insurance requirements. City Manager Bohenko said if we partner with a group we will make sure we are covered.

City Manager Bohenko withdrew the Policy in order to make changes and bring it back for the May 1, 2017 City Council meeting.

3. Request for Public Hearing Appropriation of Water and Sewer Bond Premiums

City Manager Bohenko said because of our triple A rating, we receive what is known as premiums. He received the amounts available for the water and sewer side. He reported the amount of \$404,790.40 will be used for the Foundry Place sewer line project. He indicated the amount received for the Foundry Place water line project is \$487,954.20.

Councilor Spear moved to authorize the City Manager to bring back for public hearing at the May 1, 2017 City Council meeting the aforementioned Bond Premium resolutions.

4. Rescission of Bond Authorizations for Various Projects:

General Fund:

- Resolution #18-2015 for \$600,000 – Rescind amount \$76,710.00
- Resolution #5-2014 for \$400,000 – Rescind amount \$25,000.00
- Resolution #13-2012 for \$1,600,000 – Rescind amount \$75,290.00

City Manager Bohenko said that this is a rescission of general fund bonds that will not be expended.

Councilor Lown moved to approve rescinding the remaining borrowing authority with regard to the Resolutions listed above. Seconded by Councilor Perkins and voted.

5. Request to Establish Date for City Council Retreat

City Manager Bohenko said Mayor Blalock will set a date for the Retreat. Mayor Blalock said we should not consider June 10th, as it is Market Square Day.

Mayor Blalock announced that the City Council Retreat will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at the Library in the Levenson Room.

Councilor Dwyer said the Council needs to start bringing topics to establish a balance for scientific items and look at commissions.

City Manager Bohenko said he would like the City Council to bring forward topics to him for the Retreat. He would like to have Information #7 regarding Report Back Re: Codes on Health, Inspections and Fire Safety discussed at the Retreat.

Councilor Perkins would like a new format used at the Retreat that would allow for more discussion. City Manager Bohenko said we could have the City Council lead the discussion on items for the Retreat as was done last year.

Mayor Blalock said Presentations should be more concise and where Councilor Pearson is an expert on Presentations and the delivery of them we should use her guidance and suggestions.

Assistant Mayor Splaine would like to thank the City Manager for providing information on Codes on Health, Inspections and Fire Safety. He said there are some very important items that need to be brought up to date. He would like to receive information on the codes prior to the Retreat to prepare the Council for the discussion at the Retreat.

City Manager Bohenko said we have robust codes and we need to update them. He said we can't go to the 2015 code because the State has not adopted those. He stated we will go forward with the most recent codes and there are things we can add.

Assistant Mayor Splaine thanked the Fire Chief for his presentation this evening.

City Manager's Informational Items

2. *Board & Commission Advertising Vacancies*

City Manager Bohenko said he would like to speak to Mayor Blalock that if there are vacancies and there is an incumbent that would be reappointed if that was advertised would cause a lot of confusion and negative feelings. He said we need to talk about that. He has asked the City Clerk to publish the vacancies once a month. He said if we want to change the ordinance we should hold three readings with a public hearing.

Councilor Spear said we should increase the budget for advertising to publish notices in the newspaper. He feels there is a great deal of benefit that people serving great lengths of time switch to other committees to open up vacancies. He said people should be encouraged to apply for serving on Boards and Commissions.

Councilor Lown said he agrees that we must follow the Ordinance. He feels that an incumbent are not considered a vacancy.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Mayor Blalock spoke to what he considers to be a vacancy. He said we should follow the ordinance and get people to apply.

Assistant Mayor Splaine returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Councilor Dwyer said she would like to look at how we look at Board and Commission appointments. It may be valuable not to have people on a board for 20 years. She said we need to consider to have a board of the City Council as an Appointment Board.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said on November 7th there will be an election for 9 vacancies for positions that must be filled.

3. *Double Poles*

City Manager Bohenko said we are making progress with the double pole issue.

4. *Update Re: Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade*

City Manager Bohenko said in June we would have a tour of the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility.

5. *Report Back Re: Weed Control*

City Manager Bohenko said Public Works Director Rice has provided a report back on weed control. He spoke to the chemicals used in the control of weeds.

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to send a copy of the memorandum to the Conservation Commission for report back to the City Council. Seconded by Councilor Denton and voted.

6. *Update Re: Plains School Reuse*

City Manager Bohenko said we would be bringing back an agreement with Pontine Theatre for a longer term lease.

Councilor Spear asked that Weston and Sampson come to report on the turf – crumb rubber issue. City Manager Bohenko said we are looking at another group to look at this and we can see if they are available for the May meeting. He said we need some kind of decision on this matter.

B. MAYOR BLALOCK

1. Strategic Planning Committee for Vaughan-Worth-Bridge Revitalization

- | | |
|--|---|
| (2) City Councilors | Councilor's Rebecca Perkins & Nancy Pearson |
| (1) Historic District Commission Member | Vince Lombardi |
| (1) Planning Board Member | Dexter Legg |
| (1) Economic Development Commission Member | Everett Eaton |
| (1) Downtown Resident | Barbara DeStefano |
| (1) Ex-Officio Member with Appointment by City Manager for Staff Liaison | |

Mayor Blalock announced the individuals that will be serving on the Committee.

Councilor Spear said he attended a meeting on MS4 Permit regarding Storm Water. He said as we transfer from these lots impervious to pervious surface that will cost money and at the State level off site improvements are permitted if a developer is going to an impervious surface they could mitigate that through a funding mechanism through the efforts the City is making. It may only be a \$20,000.00 grant but that is something we could use.

Mayor Blalock said the Committee meetings would be open to the public.

2. Appointments to be Considered:

- Reappointment of Barbara McMillan to the Conservation Commission
- Reappointment of Steve Miller to the Conservation Commission
- Reappointment of Allison Tanner to the Conservation Commission

The City Council considered the individuals listed above to be voted on at the May 1, 2017 City Council meeting.

3. Appointments to be Voted:

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved the reappointment of Adrienne Harrison, Kate Zamarchi to the Conservation Commission until April 1, 2020; reappointment of Rick Becksted, Jacqueline Cali-Pitts and Lisa Louttit to the Recreation Board until April 1, 2020. Seconded by Councilor Pearson and voted.

4. Resignation – Kimberly Meuse from the Conservation Commission

Councilor Spear moved to accept with regret the resignation of Kimberly Meuse from the Conservation Commission with a thank you letter for her service to the City. Seconded by Councilor Pearson and voted.

Mayor Blalock said that Councilor Spear will be postponing his item until the new Committee can do its work on these kinds of matters.

C. ASSISTANT MAYOR SPLAINE & COUNCILOR DWYER

1. Welcoming Communities Resolution

Assistant Mayor Splaine and Councilor Dwyer read the Resolution.

Assistant Mayor Splaine moved to approve the Resolution. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer.

Councilor Denton asked if the Police Commission or the School Department have reviewed the Resolution. City Manager Bohenko said the Police Chief has reviewed the Resolution but not the Commission or the School Department.

Councilor Cyr requested on the Resolution where all the City Councilors names are listed that his be Joshua Cyr and not Josh Cyr.

Motion passed.

D. COUNCILOR PERKINS

1. Update Re: Housing Committee Activities

Councilor Perkins provided an update on activities of the Housing Committee. She reported that the Committee adjourned at the end of the year. The policy was adopted at the City Council level. She said there will be some zoning changes coming forward. She stated a survey was done by Portsmouth Huttle on what kind of housing that will be looked for in the future. Councilor Perkins said there will be a session in June of the Portsmouth Housing Huttle with a presentation on what housing will look like in the future.

Councilor Perkins spoke regarding food trucks hours of operating being a concern. She asked the City Manager how she could move the matter forward and get the food trucks involved in a discussion. City Manager Bohenko said input can be provided to him and he would speak with staff. He said this is something that could work in the Vaughan Mall.

E. COUNCILOR DWYER

1. Council Rule Re: Public Hearings

Councilor Dwyer asked if it would be favorable to have a City Council Rule regarding Public Hearings. She said public comment has become so long this year we have been subject to people coming and talking at our public comments from other communities. She would like a rule to have residents, business owners speak first before a non-resident and then during public hearings that out of town residents have a 3 minute limit.

Councilor Perkins said this is a great topic for the Retreat.

Councilor Spear said he will make comments at the Retreat.

Assistant Mayor Splaine said he wrote the public comment session rule in 1991 and feels it is a great idea. He feels a rule would be great on this matter.

Councilor Lown said every ordinance and rule is made because someone is inconsiderate.

F. COUNCILOR SPEAR

1. Surface Parking

Councilor Spear postponed this matter due to the late hour.

G. COUNCILOR DENTON

1. Smaller Curbside Composting Pilot Program

Councilor Denton moved that the City Manager report back with a cost estimate for a contracted curbside residential composting pilot program for just the single Ward that has the largest ratio of residents living there over the least amount of backyards. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Councilor Spear said this is a great idea and would like to see the Public Works Department decide on the geography on this matter and inform the City.

Councilor Denton moved to amend the motion that the City Manager report back with a cost estimate for a contracted curbside residential composting pilot program for residents. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Splaine.

Councilor Spear said that this is a good idea for the budget process.

Motion passed.

XI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Dwyer asked when the budget will be released. City Manager said on April 28th and there would be a press conference at 8:00 a.m.

Councilor Denton requested that the City Council do a walk of Hodgdon Brook in the near future.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:45 p.m., Councilor Spear moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Lown and voted.



KELLI L. BARNABY, MMC, CMC, CNHMC
CITY CLERK