

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
DATE: MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

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

I. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Lazenby, Councilors Roberts, Pearson, Dwyer, Denton, Perkins, Raynolds and Becksted

II. INVOCATION

Mayor Blalock asked everyone to join in a moment of silence.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Blalock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – MAY 1, 2019 AND MAY 6, 2019

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to accept and place on file the minutes of May 1, 2019 and May 6, 2019 City Council meetings. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer and voted.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Debbie Jennings – spoke opposed to the 27 Thaxter Road Involuntary Lot Merger and reviewed the handout she distributed to the City Council outlining her reasons.

Lee Roberts – thanked Councilor Pearson for bringing the Carey Cottage issue to the City Council and encouraging efforts to save it from demolition. She spoke to the importance of keeping our historic charm and to seriously consider a public/private partnership as this was the location of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty signing in 1905.

Ben Schopick – stated he recently discovered the cottage and spoke to the beauty of both the home and the land surrounding it. He urged the Council to find an alternative to demolition.

Kerry Vautrot – Chair of Portsmouth Advocates – thanked the Council for their letter of support and listening to the public outcry against demolition of Carey Cottage. She stated it has been suggested that the city take over the property and she encourages the city to look into any and all options.

Paige Trace – stated that the budget affects everyone in the city as it continues to go up and she urged the Council to go back and think about a zero-based budget. She also spoke opposed to the proposal to close Marcy Street to a food truck festival for Prescott Park Arts Festival, stating that they were allowed to defer a \$20,000 payment to the City but taxpayers don't have that option.

Petra Houda – stated she has attended most of the budget work sessions and has looked at the increases to see if there were places to save, but because salaries are already negotiated, that is where most of the increases occur. She stated she then looked at other operating expenses and saw that there are accounts that have budgeted amounts in previous years with actual spent at zero but then are budgeted at that same amount again. She stated that this looks like the budget is cut and pasted every year and urged the Council to scrub the numbers for additional cuts and savings.

Stephanie Seacord – spoke in favor of saving the Carey Cottage from demolition and thanked the Council for their recent letter of support. She noted it's place in history with the Peace Treaty signing and stated it would be a shame to go into the city's 400th anniversary having demolished this building.

Mark Brighton – first acknowledged an error he had made regarding the inflation figure he was using versus the City Manager's figure stating that he was citing the March-March and the City Manager cited the November-November. Secondly he stated that it is a misconception that the tax rate is what matters and that it is the residential valuations that are exploding with commercial values not keeping up so when the revaluations happen, the money comes from the residents pockets.

Esther Kennedy – stated she is concerned with the budget continuously going up and the money that is in there but isn't being spent. She continue that she wants the Council to look at positions in the city as people leave and whether they need to be replaced, especially in middle management.

Chris Mulligan – representing Chad Callahan – owner of 27 Thaxter Road – asked the Council to approve the restoration of 2 lots as recommended by the Planning Board and Planning Department. He stated that Ms. Jennings arguments against do not support denying this request.

Lisa Maflouze Oakes – thanked Councilor Pearson for taking up the cause against demolition of Carey Cottage. She stated she grew up in that area and it has a rich history. She stated that once the building is gone it is gone and doesn't like what has happened in the city over the last 20 years.

Sheridan Lloyd – urged the Council and City to acquire the Carey Cottage property through eminent domain and cited several reasons why they could do so. She gave Wagon Hill Farm in Durham as an example of this being done with positive results.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND VOTES ON ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

A. Public Hearing on Resolution Re: Construction of Senior Center

Resolution Authorizing a Bond Issue and/or Notes of up to Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) for costs related to Construction of a Senior Center

- PRESENTATION

Senior Services Supervisor Brinn Sullivan gave a brief power point presentation stating it is the same as presented at the May 6, 2019 Council meeting. Ms. Sullivan reviewed the goals for the present and future:

- *Inviting, inclusive & comfortable drop-in space for informal gathering*
- *Extensive array of programs for all interests and abilities*
- *Safe, well organized, fun space for activities both indoors and outside*
- *Programming to include Arts & Culture, Health & Fitness, Diversity, Educational, & Social*
- *Vibrant, modern hub for seniors and the community to gather*
- *The senior subcommittee supports a vision for a 50+ activity center serving both the current senior population and the soon-to-be senior. To continue to building membership and serve 5 decades of older adults. This innovative and inclusive philosophy encourages a multigenerational environment which offers layers of support and creates a dynamic atmosphere.*

Ms. Sullivan reviewed the timeline moving forward with the Council:

<i>February 2019:</i>	<i>Acquisition of 125 Cottage Street property</i>
<i>April 2019:</i>	<i>Asbestos Abatement completed</i>
<i>Spring 2019:</i>	<i>Bid documents publically noticed by the City</i>
<i>Summer 2019:</i>	<i>Commence construction</i>
<i>Spring/Summer 2020:</i>	<i>Completed construction</i>

Finally, she recognized the members of the committee in attendance in the audience.

- CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS

Councilor Dwyer stated there is some confusion in the public as to if we will be keeping the Senior Center at the Community Campus as well and also if this is going to include housing of some kind.

Ms. Sullivan stated they will relinquish the lease at the Community Campus once this center is open. She continued that she is glad to clarify that there is no housing of any kind at the new facility and that it is not going to be an adult day care which requires supervision. She stated this is an independent activity center.

- PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS

Mayor Blalock read the public hearing notice and opened the public hearing:

Dianne Stradling – stated she teaches yoga at the senior center and asked the Council to fund the Senior Center.

Nancy Anderson – stated she has lived here for 50+ years and was a member of the original senior committee and is pleased with the progress made by the city for this permanent space. She commended the City Manager, Rus Wilson and Brinn Sullivan and feels that this will evolve into a multi-generational center.

Maureen O’Leary – spoke in favor of the Senior Center and stated she currently works with the National Council on Aging. She cited various issues facing the 65+ population which continues to grow and will double over the next 3 decades. She stated this center will improve the quality of life for the citizens of Portsmouth.

Nancy and Brian Johnson – spoke in favor of the Senior Center stating they are members of the current center which is an inviting place.

Paige Trace – spoke in favor of the senior center stating that we are a “city” but we are also a true community and she is happy that we are caring for our senior citizens.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing. He also thanked former Assistant City Manager David Moore for his many years of work on this project.

- ADDITIONAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND DELIBERATIONS

Councilor Becksted moved to adopt the Resolution as presented, seconded by Councilor Pearson.

Councilor Becksted stated he has been on the Recreation Board and is the Council representative to the Recreation Board and has been working on this for several years and is glad that it is moving forward. He stated he agrees that this will save money once we are no longer paying rent at the community campus. He stated he hopes that the intent of this becoming a community center for all ages is what will happen.

Councilor Reynolds stated he agrees with Councilor Becksted and also hopes that this will be more than a senior center and be a multi-generational facility.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Mayor Blalock stated that although he is technically a “senior”, he will look at this as a community center and thanked the committee for their work on this project.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby returned the gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Motion passed on a 9-0 roll call vote.

B. Public Hearing – Billiards and Bowling Hours

Public Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 6, Article II, Section 6.202 – Billiards and Bowling Hours

- PRESENTATION
- CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS

There was no presentation or questions.

- PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS

Mayor Blalock read the public hearing notice and asked if anyone wished to speak.

Bart Madeiros, owner of Bowl-O-Rama – explained he recently purchased the business and became aware of the ordinance which restricted bowling prior to 1:00 p.m. on Sundays. He stated he receives many requests for birthday parties, etc. for Sunday mornings and requested the change to the ordinance.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

- ADDITIONAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND DELIBERATIONS

Councilor Becksted moved to pass second reading and schedule a third and final reading for the June 3, 2019 City Council meeting, seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Councilor Becksted stated he had been unaware of this ordinance restriction and explained his history and memories of Bowl-O-Rama.

Motion passed.

- C. Public Hearing on Resolution Re: Supplemental Appropriation for Greenland Well Source Water Protection Land Purchase

Resolution Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation from Water Fund Net Position for Greenland Well Source Water Protection Land Purchase for the sum of up to Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$220,000.00) ***(Sample motion – move to adopted the resolution as presented. This requires a 2/3 vote for passage)***

- PRESENTATION

Al Pratt, Water Resource Manager, gave a brief power point presentation.

- CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS

Councilor Dwyer asked that given the concerns of water in Greenland, are there no regulations on development near wells or are there any state regulations that would override this.

Mr. Pratt stated there is a rule now for new development near potential water supplies.

Councilor Dwyer asked if this should not have been a buildable lot.

Mr. Pratt stated it was already there.

- PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS

Mayor Blalock read the public hearing notice and asked if anyone wished to speak. Seeing no one, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

- ADDITIONAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND DELIBERATIONS

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to adopt the resolution as presented. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer and passed on a 9-0 roll call vote.

D. Public Hearing on Resolution Re: Elementary School Facility Improvements

Resolution Authorizing a Bond Issue and/or Notes of up to Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) for costs related to Elementary School Facility Improvements

- PRESENTATION

School Superintendent Zdravec explained that this is the last of the Elementary School improvements which will be for New Franklin.

- CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS

Councilor Reynolds asked if this will include a high-efficiency HVAC. Superintendent Zdravec stated yes.

- PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS

Mayor Blalock read the public hearing notice and asked if anyone wished to speak. Seeing no one, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

- ADDITIONAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND DELIBERATIONS

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to adopt the resolution as presented. Seconded by Councilor Pearson and passed on a 9-0 roll call vote.

E. Third and Final Reading of Ordinance – Rezoning of 15 Middle Street

Third and Final Reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10 – Zoning Map 10.5A21A by changing the property with the address of 15 Middle Street from Civic District to Character District 4 and amending Zoning Map 10.5A21B by changing the height requirement area for the property's street frontages on Porter Street and Maplewood Avenue to 2-3 stories (40')

Councilor Perkins moved to pass third and final reading of ordinance as presented, seconded by Councilor Denton.

Councilor Becksted stated he doesn't feel it is appropriate to rezone this to CD4 and that it is spot-zoning. He continued that this will now be a high-usage building with a hotel and restaurant and there are no other CD4 zones in this area. He stated that some things

have been approved by the land use boards even though there was doubt. He stated he is concerned with there being no parking at this site and having it be valet parking and he will be following this through the rest of the process. He concluded stating that the 27 million dollar parking garage was built to subsidize the parking of tomorrow.

Councilor Perkins stated that Maplewood Avenue is in that area and has CD5 zoning which is more intensive. She stated that the parking garage was intended for this type of usage.

Councilor Denton stated that repurposing of the building is a welcome addition.

Councilor Becksted clarified that there are no CD4 properties south of this building.

Councilor Roberts stated he feels this is a good use of this building and that we cannot force the Salvation Army to continue in this building.

Councilor Raynolds spoke about the comments regarding the parking garage stating that the city does build garages for this type of purpose as it is more cost and space efficient way of controlling parking. He stated it is not a giveaway to businesses and we do not want parking lots next to every business.

Councilor Becksted stated he was one of 3 speakers who spoke opposed to the parking garage stating that this was not supposed to subsidize businesses.

Motion passed on an 8-1 roll call vote. Councilor Becksted voted opposed.

VII. APPROVAL OF GRANTS/DONATIONS

- A. Acceptance of Donation from Micum Davis – Cornerstone Tree Care to the City Tree Trust - \$610.00

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to accept the donation of \$610.00 from Micum Davis of Cornerstone Tree Care for the City Tree Trust, seconded by Councilor Dwyer.

Councilor Pearson asked what is the circumstance for this donation.

City Manager Bohenko explained that Mr. Davis and Cornerstone Tree Care donate their services every Arbor Day to various areas in the City and also donate matching funds to the City Tree Trust. He stated he is proud to say we have been a “Tree City USA” for 19 years.

Mayor Blalock stated we have great “Tree Guys” in the city who are very knowledgeable and dedicated and not only do they do pro-bono work, they also give demonstrations, etc.

Motion passed.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Perkins moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Pearson.

Councilor Becksted stated that he would like to ensure that the City Manager will be approving the signage for Babe Ruth at the field as this is important to their funding. City Manager Bohenko stated yes he will be approving the signage and has only required that the signs are uniform in color.

Motion passed.

- A. Request for License to Install Projecting Sign for James McSharry & Joel Harris owner of Dos Amigos Burritos, LLC d/b/a Mr. Kim's for property located at 107 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*

- B. Request for License to Install Projecting Sign for Lia Cote owner of Lia Gormley Fine Jewelry for property located at 18 Ladd 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*

- C. Letter from Chris Curtis, The Music Hall requesting permission to close Chestnut Street for the Telluride by the Sea Film Festival on Friday, September 20, 2019 through Sunday, September 22, 2019 ***(Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power)***

- D. Letter from Mike Young, Portsmouth Babe Ruth requesting permission to place 15 outfield signs on the outer perimeter fencing facing inwards towards Leary Field beginning on June 1, 2019 through August 30, 2019 (***Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power***)
- E. Request from Girls on the Run New Hampshire to hold the Portsmouth 5k on Saturday, June 1, 2019 at the Pease Tradeport (***Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power***)

IX. PRESENTATION & CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

- A. Email Correspondence

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to accept and place on file. Seconded by Councilor Pearson and voted.

- B. Letter from Ben Anderson, Prescott Park Arts Festival requesting permission to host a Food Truck Festival on Saturday, August 10, 2019 and temporarily closing Marcy Street between Court Street and Hancock Street

City Manager Bohenko stated that Ben Anderson approached him with this idea and he is asking that if the Council approves the request, that it only be closed up to Mechanic Street and not Hancock Street, but he is not making a recommendation either way regarding approval.

Mayor Blalock stated there has been some pushback on this and wonders if there is another way to have a Food Truck Festival without closing the street.

Councilor Pearson suggested holding it on Peirce Island.

Councilor Denton suggested using the parking lot near the bridge.

Councilor Pearson moved to suspend the rules to allow the Council to address Ben Anderson regarding his request. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby and voted.

Mr. Anderson explained that they have been wanting to do this for many years and now seemed like a good time. He stated they are looking at August 10th as a tie-in to the Matinee of Beauty and the Beast.

City Manager Bohenko asked if they could do the event in the parking lot instead. Mr. Anderson stated yes. City Manager Bohenko stated he feels this would be a good way to try it out the first year.

Councilor Becksted suggested Water Street.

Mayor Blalock stated that Water Street is used by other entities such as the Gundalow Company.

City Manager Bohenko stated he agrees with Mayor Blalock and will figure out a configuration.

Councilor Becksted asked if this will come back to the City Council.

City Manager Bohenko stated no.

Councilor Becksted stated he wants a report back.

Councilor Perkins stated she feels the proposal should be left alone and not be in the parking lot as there would be more of a festival feeling in the street.

City Manager Bohenko stated he will work with Mr. Anderson.

Councilor Denton moved to refer to the City Manager with power with guidance to hold event in another location and not to close Marcy Street, seconded by Councilor Pearson.

Mayor Blalock passed the gavel to Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Mayor Blalock stated this is a great idea but there has been some pushback against closing Marcy Street. He stated he understands Councilor Perkins' point, but doesn't want it to affect other entities and this is a good way to try it the first year.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby returned to gavel to Mayor Blalock.

Motion passed.

- C. Letter from Mark Puffer, PretiFlaherty regarding Gosling Road Fuel Line Crossing License Agreement

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to refer to the City Manager power. Seconded by Councilor Dwyer and voted.

X. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

A. CITY MANAGER

- 1. 145 Brewery Lane Easements and Deeds

Councilor Denton recused himself from this item and left the dais.

City Attorney Sullivan explained why this issue is being presented in this manner, stating as part of the approval process for a site plan at 125 – 155 Brewery Lane, which includes a 92-unit, 4-story residential apartment building with a building footprint of 18,430 square feet., the applicant is required to submit new deed easements to the City for the community spaces. Furthermore, the developer must relocate the sewer line currently crossing the property, because its current location interferes with the proposed apartment building. Similarly, the drainage easement from Plaza 800, owned

by the Griffin Family Corporation, must be relocated. He stated that there are various pieces to this which are outlined in the City Manager's comments.

City Manager Bohenko further explained that the sidewalks will have access easements to the city and will be maintained by the City. He stated that they will also be insured under the city's liability coverage.

Councilor Dwyer stated she is concerned with how the public will know which spaces are considered community spaces and which are private in these developments and feels that there should be signage accordingly.

Planning Director Walker stated that there are no signage requirements during the Planning Board review but agrees it is a good idea.

Councilor Roberts asked if this will affect traffic on Brewery Lane.

Planning Director Walker stated there will be no parking on one side of the street so it will not affect traffic flow.

Councilor Roberts moved to authorize the City Manager the authority to negotiate, discharge and extinguish the following:

- ***Any outstanding easements which may interfere with the proposed development, as approved by the Planning Board;***
- ***Any easements that might be necessary to allow the development of 125-155 Brewery Lane as outlined in attachments 1-4 prepared by Portsmouth West End Development, LLC and as recommended by the Planning Board***

Seconded by Councilor Pearson and voted. Councilor Denton abstained.

2. Report Back Re: 27 Thaxter Road Involuntary Lot Merger

Planning Director Walker explained that this doesn't have to go before the Planning Board but is good to do because it allows a public hearing and notification to abutters. She reviewed the Planning Board process stating the Planning Board held a public hearing on this request at its April 18, 2019 meeting. At that time, the Board voted to recommend that the City Council restore the lots to their premerger status with the stipulation that Planning Department Staff meet with one of the abutters to go over her concerns raised during the public hearing. After meeting with Ms. Jennings, the Planning Department staff is recommending restoring the lots to their premerger status of two distinct lots (after the garage was constructed in the 1940s.)

Councilor Becksted stated he feels more digging needs to be done on this and he doesn't know the cost of going through this process versus going to the Board of Adjustment to divide the lot.

Councilor Dwyer stated that the intention of the law and legislature was to bend over backwards to unmerge lots. She stated she appreciates what Ms. Jennings presented, but the compromise would be to merge 2 lots instead of 3 based on the intent.

Councilor Dwyer moved to restore the two involuntary merged lots at 27 Thaxter Road to their pre-merger status, seconded by Councilor Reynolds.

Councilor Becksted reiterated he is uncomfortable with this without more analysis.

Councilor Roberts asked if the concern is that this will create a buildable lot.

Councilor Walker stated this is not doing away with the zoning requirements and it will not be a buildable lot. She stated they would still need to go through the land-use approval for the lot-line revision.

Motion passed on a 6-3 roll call vote. Councilors Denton, Becksted and Mayor Blalock voted opposed.

Mayor Blalock called a brief recess at 8:55 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

3. Proposed Charter Amendments

City Attorney Sullivan reviewed the 2 proposed amendments and the process to move forward to put them on the November 5, 2019 Municipal ballot.

Councilor Dwyer asked for clarification as to why this only addresses filling the Police Commission vacancies.

City Attorney Sullivan explained that is the only Commission addressed by the Attorney General.

Councilor Denton stated that unrelated to these amendments, what is the timeline for submitting petitions for other ballot questions.

City Attorney Sullivan stated it would be the same timeline. He stated that any proposals, whether petitions or from the City Council, will need to be not later than the June 17th Council agenda in order to meet the 45 day deadline required for review by the State. He then addressed the confusion surrounding the issue of the McIntyre Building petition stating that it was reported that a petition would compel the Council to put it on the ballot, but it would only compel the Council to vote on putting it on the ballot.

Councilor Becksted asked for clarification regarding the intention of the Police Commission vacancy question and if it will also allow the Commission to meet with only 2 members until the vacancy is filled.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby asked about getting the Keno initiative on the ballot as well as there is a petition drive going on for that issue.

City Attorney Sullivan stated that the previous City Council voted to not put the Keno issue on the ballot but they could be compelled to vote on the issue again if a petition is presented. He stated they would also need to meet the deadline.

Mayor Blalock clarified that the previous Council voted to not put the Keno question on the ballot, but it was not a yes or no vote to Keno itself.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby asked for a report back regarding the Keno issue.

Councilor Dwyer moved to establish a public hearing on proposed Charter Amendment #2, Police Commission Vacancies, on June 17, 2019 City Council meeting, and further, vote on Charter Amendment #2 to be placed on the November 5, 2019 Municipal Ballot no later than the June 17, 2019 City Council meeting. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby and voted.

Councilor Denton moved to establish a public hearing on proposed Charter Amendments #1 Compensation of City Councilors on June 17, 2019 at the City Council meeting, and further, vote on Charter Amendment #1 to be placed on the November 5, 2019 Municipal ballot no later than the June 17, 2019 City Council meeting, seconded by Councilor Raynolds.

Councilor Dwyer stated she is agnostic about the result of this, but is concerned with the wording and that this will draw negative attention from the public.

Mayor Blalock explained that the City Council meeting calendar is approved annually.

Discussion ensued regarding clarification that this is regarding regular City Council meetings which are defined in the City Council rules as occurring the first and third Mondays of each month which usually totals 22 meetings per year. The Council is currently paid for 20 meetings per year.

Councilor Denton moved to amend by striking the second sentence in its entirety, seconded by Councilor Raynolds.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby suggested amending the amount from \$1,500.00 to \$1,650.00.

Councilor Denton and Councilor Raynolds agreed to withdraw motion to amend.

Councilor Denton moved to amend by keeping the second sentence and changing the amount from ~~Fifteen Hundred (\$1,500.00) Dollars~~ to Sixteen Hundred Fifty (\$1,650.00) Dollars during any calendar year, seconded by Councilor Pearson. Motion passed on an 8-1 vote, Councilor Roberts voted opposed.

Main motion as amended passed unanimously.

Councilor Dwyer stated that the issue mentioned by Councilor Becksted regarding the Police Commission being able to meet with 2 Commissioners still needs to be addressed and asked if this could be done by Council policy prior to the Charter Amendment.

City Attorney Sullivan stated if the Charter amendment passes the Council can make a policy, but if it does not, then they cannot as the Charter is currently written.

City Manager's Informational Items:

1. Upcoming FY20 Budget Work Sessions

Councilor Denton asked City Manager Bohenko to reach out to the Director of Market Square Day and asked that they find options to the balloon arch as balloons are bad for the environment.

Councilor Becksted moved to suspend the rules to move up item XI.D.1. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby and voted.

D. COUNCILOR PEARSON

1. City Options to Obtain Carey Cottage

Councilor Pearson stated that May is Historic Preservation Month and acknowledged the many different aged speakers who spoke in favor of saving Carey Cottage from demolition. She continue that she is looking for how the Council feels about the issue and the option of partnering with a non-profit group as has been done with a number of other properties in the City of Portsmouth and is a win/win. She asked that in tandem with the conversations with the Forest Society, that the City Manager explore options and resources to acquire the building and a non-profit partnership.

City Manager Bohenko stated we are still waiting to hear more from the Forest Society as they are in talks. He stated he and staff have discussed what would happen if it doesn't work out, but he feels that we should let the process play out. He concluded we are prepared to move if we have to.

Mayor Blalock agrees with City Manager Bohenko stating he has met with the Forest Society twice and they have indicated they do have some options, but he also agrees that this needs to be saved at all costs.

Councilor Dwyer stated that it would be helpful to review the criteria set previously regarding infrastructure stabilization and the minimum cost required. She stated that we also don't own this particular building which is different than the other buildings referred to previously.

B. MAYOR BLALOCK

1. Appointment to be Considered:
 - Reappointment of Cyrus Beer to the Historic District Commission
 - Reappointment of Martin Ryan to the Historic District Commission

The aforementioned appointments were considered and will be voted at the June 3, 2019 City Council meeting.

2. Appointments to be Voted:
 - Appointment of Jeffrey Mattson as an Alternate to the Building Code Board of Appeals – term to expire July 1, 2024.
 - Reappointment of Margot Doering as an Alternate to the Historic District Commission – term to expire June 1, 2022.
 - Reappointment of Reagan Ruedig to the Historic District Commission – term to expire June 1, 2022.
 - Reappointment of Jonathan Wyckoff to the Historic District Commission – term to expire June 1, 2022.
 - Reappointment of Kory Sirmaian to the Recreation Board – term to expire June 1, 2022.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to approve the aforementioned appointments. Seconded by Councilor Becksted and voted.

C. COUNCILOR ROBERTS

1. Parking & Traffic Safety Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the May 2, 2019 meeting

Councilor Roberts stated that these minutes have not yet been approved by the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee.

City Manager Bohenko stated that these can be accepted pending approval by the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee.

Councilor Roberts moved to approve and accept the May 2, 2019 Action Sheet and Minutes of the Parking & Traffic Safety Committee meeting pending approval by the committee, seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Councilor Roberts reviewed an item of interest in the minutes was the approval of metered parking on Raynes and Vaughan Streets to take effect after the AC Hotel opens.

Motion passed.

Councilor Perkins asked for an update on the Neighborhood Parking Pilot Program.

City Manager Bohenko stated that his office did receive the petition last week and he will be meeting with the City Clerk and Parking Director regarding the confirmation of the signatures and then will report back to the Council.

D. COUNCILOR PEARSON

1. City Options to Obtain Carey Cottage (*previously considered*)

E. COUNCILOR DENTON

1. Proposed Rule Change – Rule 7 Order of Business

Councilor Denton moved to accept the proposed attached Rule 7 Order of Business amendment to take effect at the June 17, 2019 City Council meeting, seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby.

Councilor Denton explained the goal of the rule change and cited the example this evening of the Carey Cottage issue under Councilor Pearson's name and that people were waiting in the audience for this to be discussed. He stated this will be a pilot and will take effect starting the meeting of June 17th.

Councilor Becksted stated he is okay with the rule change, but similar to what was done this evening, the Council can suspend the rules to take things up out of order.

Motion passed.

2. Destination Electric Initiative

Councilor Denton explained that Destination Electric is meant to highlight the availability of electric car charging stations and the businesses who support electric vehicles. He stated that there is no cost for participating in the program and businesses get free publicity online throughout the summer. He stated that the city offers electric vehicle charging stations at City Hall, the High-Hanover and Foundry Place garages.

XI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Denton stated he has distributed a letter of response from the Joint Task Force regarding the resolution on off-shore wind turbines previously passed by the City Council and sent to the Governor.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Becksted moved to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby and voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Valerie A. French, CNHMC
Deputy City Clerk