

TO: JOHN P. BOHENKO, CITY MANAGER

FROM: VALERIE A. FRENCH, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

RE: ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL AT MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015, EILEEN DONDERO FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, ONE JUNKINS AVENUE, PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

PRESENT: MAYOR LISTER, ASSISTANT MAYOR SPLAINE, COUNCILORS SHAHEEN, KENNEDY (8:50 P.M.), LOWN, MORGAN, SPEAR AND THORSEN

ABSENT: COUNCILOR DWYER

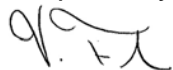
1. At 6:30 p.m., an Anticipated “Non-Meeting” with Counsel was held Re: Property Negotiations– RSA 91-A: 2, I (b). After Non-Meeting adjourned, in Council Chambers, Mayor Lister announced that the issue will back brought back to the September 21, 2015 Council meeting for a public vote.
2. Presentation – Update of Gateway and Islington Street Project – Nancy Carmer, Economic Development Manager and Peter Rice, Director of Public Works gave an update of the Market Street Gateway Project and Islington Street Improvement Action Plan.
3. Public Comment Session. There were 4 speakers: Harold Whitehouse (Reappraisal, Senior Exemption), John O’Leary (Water Irrigation Meters), Arthur Clough (Transparency) and George Dempsey (Webber Case)
4. Public Hearing and 2nd reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 10 as follows:
 - (1) Amend Section 10.440, Table of Uses, by adding a new use #10.30 – Short-term vacation rental”, modifying the standards for use #10.50 – “Hotel or motel”, and combining “conference hotel” and “conference center” into a single use;
 - (2) Insert a new Section 10.837.20 – Short-Term Vacation Rentals;
 - (3) Amend Article II – Site Development Standards to establish an off-street parking requirement for short-term vacation rental; and
 - (4) Amend Article 15 – Definitions, by revising the definitions of “Bed and Breakfast” and adding new definitions for “Short-term vacation rental” and “Transient”

Public Hearing was held with 18 speakers.
Voted on a 5-3 roll call vote to table second reading and refer to a Work Session with an invitation to Senator Martha Fuller Clark and other State legislators. Councilors Lown, Spear and Mayor Lister voted opposed.
5. Acceptance of Grant for Household Hazardous Waste Collection – **Voted** to accept and expend a \$5,801.00 DES grant for the purpose of household hazardous waste collection events and authorize the City Manager to execute any documents which may be necessary for this grant contract.

6. **Voted** to suspend the rules to bring forward City Manager Item #2 for Action (including Written Communication Item D).
7. Report Back Re: Request from Patricia L Russell and Burton J. Russell for Restoration of Involuntarily Merged Lots at 65 Mendum Avenue under RSA 674:39-aa (and Letter from Attorney Bernard Pelech regarding aforementioned request) - **Voted** to suspend the rules to allow Attorney Pelech to address the Council. **Voted 7-1** to approve the unmerging of involuntarily merged 4 lots at 65 Mendum Avenue under RSA 674:39-aa. Councilor Kennedy voted opposed.
8. First Reading of Annual Omnibus Ordinance Change, Chapter 7, Vehicles, Traffic and Parking – **Voted** to pass first reading and schedule a public hearing and second reading of the proposed Ordinance at the September 21, 2015 City Council meeting, as presented.
9. Consent Agenda – **Voted** to adopt the Consent Agenda.
 - A. Letter from Zhana Morris, The Music Hall, regarding Parking Meter Permit Requests for the Music Hall's 2015-2016 Season (**Anticipated action – move to refer to the City Manager with power**)
10. Letter from Attorney Francis Bruton III of Bruton LLC regarding Nathan Aviezri Revocable Trust, request to unmerge lots at 75 Monroe Street – **Voted** to refer to the Planning Board* for report back. ***Amended 09/10/2015**
11. Letter from Gerald Zelin regarding Proposed Zoning Amendments Regulating Short-term Rentals, hotels, and motels by adding a prohibition on gambling at hotels and motels – **Voted** to refer to the Planning Board for a report back.
12. Letter from James and Catherine Lamond regarding Short-term Vacation Rentals and Bed and Breakfasts – proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance – **Voted** to accept and place letter on file.
13. **Voted** to suspend the rules to allow the meeting to go past 10:00 p.m.
14. Request to refer to the Planning Board proposed Easements for a Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Along North Mill Pond – **Voted** to authorize the City Manager to refer to the Planning Board the proposed request for easements for report back to the City Council.
15. City Manager Informational Item #5 – Report Back Re: Whistleblower - **Voted** to refer the 1995 policy adopted by the City Council to the Police Commission, Fire Commission and School Board and request the policy be adopted by those entities.
16. Appointments to be Considered – Appointment of Richard Winstanley to the Cable Television and Communications Committee; Jolanda Fannin to the Library Board of Trustees; Reappointment of Ernestine Greenslade to Library Board of Trustees; and Reappointments of Ronald Cypher, Ted Gray Jr., and Harold Whitehouse to the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee were considered and will be voted at the September 21, 2015 City Council meeting.

17. Appointment to be Voted – **Voted** to appoint Kathleen Bergeron to the Citywide Neighborhood Steering Committee with term to expire 04/01/2018.
18. Work Sessions – a Work Session to discuss Options Re: Irrigation Meters was set for Monday, September 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. and a Work Session to discuss Solid Waste and Recycling was set for Monday, November 23, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.
19. Council Retreat - Mayor Lister announced that the Council Retreat set for October 3, 2015 will be held in January 2016 once a new Council is in place.
20. Proposal for an Elected Charter Commission – Assistant Mayor Splaine requested the City Attorney bring back a summary of approaches and steps necessary to form a Charter Commission or a Charter Committee along with a timeline.
21. Prescott Park Arts Festival Performance Schedule (Not on the Agenda) – **Voted** to instruct the Prescott Park Arts Festival that for the 2016 season no evening performance should be scheduled during the week before the end of the school and that no evening performance during the week shall be performed after school begins.
22. Parking and Traffic Safety Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the July 9, 2015 meeting – **Voted 8-1** to approve and accept the action sheet and minutes of the July 9, 2015 Parking and Traffic Safety Committee meeting. Councilor Kennedy voted opposed.
23. Strategic Plan for long-term use of Prescott Park – **Voted** to authorize the Prescott Park working group to conduct a strategic plan for the long-term use of Prescott park to include all appropriate stakeholders.
24. Prescott Park Stage Relocation – **Voted 6-2** to authorize the City Manager to proceed with the land use reviews regarding the Prescott Park Arts Festival's proposed stage relocation with final approval by City Council before stage is built. Councilors Kennedy and Morgan voted opposed.
25. Request to Extend Report Back from the Blue Ribbon Committee on Sagamore Creek until December 21, 2015 – Voted to extend the report back from the Sagamore Creek Blue Ribbon Committee to December 21, 2015.
26. Adjournment – **At 11:05 p.m., voted to adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted by:



Valerie A. French,
Deputy City Clerk