

MEETING – TOWN COUNCIL

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Roll Call

Councilor Herlihy – Present
Councilor Burgess – Present
Councilor Wilkins –Present
Councilor Littlefield – Present
Councilor Hanslip – Absent with Notice
Vice-Chair Mastraccio – Present
Chairman Walsh - Present

Minutes - Regular Meeting: June 26, 2012

Motion to table by Vice-Chair Mastraccio, Seconded by Councilor Herlihy, unanimous agreement

Chairperson's Report/Town Council Sub-Committee Reports

- 1) Councilor Littlefield updates on Charter Commission which will be holding its final meeting and will report to Town Council on July 24, 2012
- 2) Vice-Chair spoke concerning the School Building Committee - narrowing the selection process
- 3) Councilor Littlefield reports that the Economic Growth Council has hired a consultant concerning branding of the town of Sanford

Town Manager's Report

Acting Manager Nimon reports that Governor Lepage was in town that morning for a job creation workshop. It was well attended and good ideas came forth.

Communications/Presentations

NONE

Public Participation

- 1) Mr. Fred Smith expressed concern about the response to banners that he placed on his car for the Independence Day parade. He stated that derogatory remarks were made. Chairman Walsh stated that he was aware and steps had been taken to address the issue.

2) Mr. Bernard Normand spoke of his belief that fireworks laws were not adequately enforced, mentioning that he called the police several times. Vice-Chair Mastraccio voiced understanding and indicated that enforcement was a difficult issue.

Public Hearings

The Town Council will take public comment on the following:

1. To discuss a Community Development Block Grant for the 2012 Downtown Revitalization Grant Program in the amount of \$500,000. The funds will be used for the Gateway Park project in the downtown

Acting Town Manager Nimon summarized the process thus far and indicated that steps still remain leading up to completion.

Chairman Walsh reported a letter had been received which will be turned over to the Acting Town Manager and made available to Councilors.

Public comment was received from the following:

Mr. Pat Fagan who questioned the valuation of properties involved and the use of the term “blighted”.

Mr. Fred Smith voiced his opposition to the park and his view that it will go through. He doesn't believe the park is a good decision money-wise.

Mr. Bernard Normand questioned whether the grant will include the rocks below the dam and the overgrown trees. Chairman Walsh stated that he believes it will be included.

Mr. Bilodeau would like the improvements to include the River Street area near the intersection. Chairman Walsh voiced awareness of those concerns and indicated that a plan is in the works.

Ms. Heidi Garber, Ms Stephanie Wilkins, and Mr. Hazen Carpenter voiced support for the park and the hope that it would strengthen business and family life. Mr. Hazen Carpenter voiced the hope that the Trails Committee could be involved in planning.

Consent Agenda

Old Business

12-96.08 The Town Council hereby ordains amendments to the Town of Sanford General Assistance Ordinance. (This item must be read on two separate days. This is the first reading).

No comments from the public. Vice-Chair Mastraccio made motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Littlefield. Unanimous Agreement.

New Business

NONE

Council Member Comments

Councilor Herlihy showed her new IPAD; the school has gone paperless. Also, she commended Sherry Lord for her efforts in putting headings in the bookmarks of the meeting agenda.

Councilor Burgess complimented the holiday fireworks put on by the town. He also thanked the speakers tonight for participating.

Councilor Wilkins – nothing

Councilor Littlefield drove over the Mousam Falls Bridge on his way to the meeting and could visualize the brand new view that is coming. He voiced the wish that all could visualize the impact these new changes will have.

Vice-Chair Mastraccio stated that the Independence holiday concert was lovely. She also emphasized that “blight” was not a term that is defined by the council and they will not be categorizing properties throughout the town as “blighted”.

Chairman Walsh received a visit from Lorraine Sullivan who voiced her pleasure and gratitude at the Sullivan Walkway.

Vice-Chair Mastraccio indicated that the unveiling of the new stairway will be coming and the public will be notified.

Future Agenda Items

NONE

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7.44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bette M. Hernandez
Executive Assistant to the Fire Chief