

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
City Council of the City of Bath, Maine
Wednesday, August 1, 2001 7:00pm
City Council Chambers, Bath City Hall

Present: Councilors Banks, James, Blake, Wyman, Hayden, Tibbetts, Rogers, Reed and Chairman Hall.

Also in attendance were the Finance Director - Greg L'Heureux, City Solicitor - Roger Therriault and City Clerk - Mary White.

Chairman Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance and City Clerk White called the Roll.

William Cutlip of 1492 Washington Street introduced an exchange student, Makoto Konishi, from Suita City, Japan that he was hosting for the month of August. There was a presentation of gifts by Makoto Konishi from Suita City to the City of Bath.

C. Public Hearings: 7:00 PM #261

1) Ordinance: Chapter 17. Vehicles and Traffic, Add Article 3A. Towing of Vehicles (second passage).

Motion by Councilor Reed, second by Councilor Rogers to put this Ordinance on the floor for discussion.

City Solicitor Therriault gave an update on the wording changes that had been made to this Ordinance.

Motion by Councilor Reed, second by Councilor James to accept the amended wording as presented by the City Solicitor.

VOTE on Amended Wording to Ordinance:

Yeas: Banks, James, Blake, Wyman, Hayden, Tibbetts, Rogers, Reed

Nays: None

The Amended Wording Passed Unanimously. 8-0

Thomas Day, lawyer representing Jack Withers, spoke in regards to the wording regarding go-jacks.

Chuck of Sanford's Towing spoke in favor of the use of go-jacks.

Roland Labbe of Labbe & Sons' Towing and Repair spoke against the use of go-jacks. Mr. Labbe presented a go-jack for viewing by Council.

Chairman Hall closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilor James, second by Councilor Blake to amend the Ordinance, Section 17-125, Paragraph 1, third line by deleting the words "go-jack, dolly" from the Ordinance.

VOTE on Amendment to Ordinance:

Yeas: James, Blake, Wyman, Hayden, Tibbetts, Rogers, Reed

Nays: Banks

Amendment to Ordinance Passed. 7-1

VOTE on Amended Ordinance:

Yeas: Banks, James, Blake, Wyman, Hayden, Tibbetts, Rogers, Reed

Nays: None

Ordinance Passed Unanimously (second passage). 8-0

Chairman Hall stated that the amended Ordinance would go into effect in 21 days.

A copy of the amended Ordinance is on file in Agenda Materials for August 1, 2001 in the City Clerk's Office.

D. Consent Agenda: 7:37 PM #1087

2) Under the Consent Agenda, Councilor Reed made a motion to accept the minutes for the July 11, 2001 Council Meeting, which was seconded by Councilor Rogers.

VOTE on Consent Agenda:

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

Consent Agenda Passed Unanimously.

E. Time Devoted to Residents to Address the City Council: 7:38PM #1099

No one from the public spoke at this time.

F. Ordinances, Resolutions and Orders: 7:39PM

Item F3 - Approving Wage Opener #1119

Chairman Hall read the following Order:

ORDER APPROVING WAGE REOPENER

WHEREAS, the current Bargaining Agreement between the City of Bath and the Bargaining Unit representing the Wastewater Treatment Plant/Public Works Department/Cemeteries and Parks Department employees requires that the parties meet and bargain a new wage scale for the third year of the Contract beginning July 1, 2001, and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to a wage adjustment for the last year of the Bargaining Agreement and a one-time adjustment in vacation time,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Bath that the wage scales in effect for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2000 and running through June 30, 2001 be amended by adding 1% to all wages levels on said scales, effective July 1, 2001 in accordance with the wage scales attached hereto as Schedule A and Schedule B. In addition, the City shall grant to all Bargaining Unit employees, only for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001 and running through June 30, 2002, additional vacation time of Forty (40) hours per employee.

Motion by Councilor Reed, second by Councilor Banks to put this Order on the floor for discussion.

VOTE on the Order:

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

VOTE: Order Passed Unanimously 8-0

Item F4 - Order: Ordering Repair of Broken Sewer Line at 1115 Washington Street

Chairman Hall pulled this item from the Agenda.

G. Petitions & Communications 7:43 PM #1232

Rick Tetrev, Bath-Brunswick Chamber of Commerce Director, spoke regarding the possible base closures and how that may affect Brunswick Naval Air Station. He explained strategies that could be used by the Base Closure Committee and area citizens and businesses.

H. City Manager's Report: 8:01 PM #1922

Finance Director Greg L'Herueux gave an update on the street improvement program and asked the public to be patient with the work crews

I. Committee Reports: 8:06PM #1986

Chairman Hall announce that James Kempf had resigned from the Community Forestry Committee resulting in an opening on that committee and anyone interested in serving should submit an committee application.

J. Old Business: 8:07 PM #2018

There was no Old Business.

K. New Business: 8:07 PM #2022

K-5) Appointment: Two members to the Old Bath Customs House Board of Directors. Terms to expire 8/2004.

Candidates:

Edward True

John Voorhees

Sandra Blake

Herbert Kresser, Jr.

Councilor Banks representing the Nomination Committee nominated Edward True and John Voorhees to be appointed to the Old Bath Customs House Board of Directors. There were no other nominations.

VOTE on Appointments to the Old Bath Customs House Board of Directors:

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

VOTE: Appointments Passed Unanimously 8-0

K-6) Appointment: One member to the Bath Zoning Board of Appeals. Terms to expire 9/2003.

Candidate:

Sandra Blake

Councilor Banks representing the Nomination Committee nominated Sandra Blake to be appointed to the Bath Zoning Board of Appeals. There were no other nominations.

VOTE on Appointment to the Bath Zoning of Appeals:

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

VOTE: Appointment Passed Unanimously 8-0

K-7) Discussion of Posting Buildings in Violation of Codes #2095

A length discussion ensued regarding possible tools that could be used to encourage citizens to correct their code violations.

Councilor James proposed that he, the City Solicitor and the City Codes Officer meet and craft more exacting language to address the fines for removing the signs he had proposed to use as a codes violation corrective tool and then return the document back to Council in a Workshop.

VOTE on Proposal:

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

VOTE: Proposal Passed Unanimously 8-0

The meeting adjourned to Workshop at 8:35 PM with a motion made by Councilor Reed and seconded by Councilor James. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary J. White, City Clerk

Please note: These minutes are not recorded verbatim. A tape recording of the meeting is available for review in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours.