

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
City Council of the City of Bath, Maine
Wednesday, January 30, 2008 6:00 pm
Council Chambers, Bath City Hall

Present: Councilors Cochrane, Omo, Eosco, Pagurko, Winglass and Chairman Wyman

Absent: Councilor Verville

Excused: Councilors Mulligan, Rogers

Also in attendance was the City Manager, William Giroux and City Clerk, Mary White.

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

I. PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance - Authorizing Permanent Financing for Midcoast Health Services Property for the purpose of funding construction, renovations and improvements (second passage) 6:01 PM

ORDINANCE
AUTHORIZING PERMANENT FINANCING

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS/NOTES FOR THE CITY OF BATH, MAINE, IN AN AMOUNT UP TO, BUT NOT TO EXCEED, \$75,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT COSTS TO THE FORMER MIDCOAST HEALTH SERVICES PROPERTY TO SUPPORT THE RENTAL OF NEW SPACE.

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BATH, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That a sum up to, but not to exceed, \$75,000.00 is hereby appropriated for the purpose of providing funding for construction, renovations and improvements to previously unoccupied space at the former Midcoast Health Services property to support new tenants.

Section 2. That, for the purpose of financing the aforesaid appropriation, authorization is hereby given to incur indebtedness by the issuance of bonds/notes of the City of Bath, in an amount up to, but not to exceed, \$75,000.00 under, and pursuant to, the Charter of the City of Bath.

Section 3. That any and all bonds/notes issued pursuant to this Ordinance shall be payable in monthly installments.

Section 4. That the term of any bonds/notes issued under the within Ordinance shall not exceed ten (10) years.

Section 5. That the proceeds of any bonds/notes issued pursuant to this Ordinance shall be used only for those purposes specified in Section 1 above.

Section 6. That any proceeds of the bonds/notes issued not used for the purposes specified in Section 1 shall be applied to repayment of the principal and/or interest of any such bonds/notes.

Section 7. Any suit questioning the validity of this Ordinance shall be barred unless commenced within forty-five (45) days following publication of the Ordinance, said publication in accordance with Section 809 of the Charter of the City of Bath.

Section 8. That the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Chairman of the City Council and the City Manager, shall determine the date or dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate or rates and any other details of each issue of bonds and/or notes issued in anticipation of this permanent financing.

Motion by Councilor Pagurko, second by Councilor Winglass to accept election results.

VOTE:

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 0

Passed unanimously. 5-0

III. Resolution of Support for the “DOWNEASTER”

Chairman Wyman read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE “DOWNEASTER”

This 30th day of January 2008, BATH CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES:

WHEREAS, passenger rail service provides an environmentally sound, safe, all weather transportation choice to travelers; and

WHEREAS, passenger rail service has proven that it results in economic development in the areas which it serves; and

WHEREAS, a rational balanced transportation system provides travelers with transportation choices; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Eastern Railroad in 2008, will begin its fifth season of passenger excursion service between Brunswick and Rockland for the purpose of tourism enhancement and reduction of highway congestion on the Route One corridor in the Mid Coast region; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Eastern Railroad will operate passenger rail service to Augusta from Brunswick upon expansion of the Downeaster passenger rail service northward; and

WHEREAS, the over one and a half million people who have ridden the Downeaster passenger rail service operated since 2001 by Amtrak for Maine’s Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority, as well as the economic benefits associated with that service, clearly demonstrate the viability and vitality of passenger rail service in Maine and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, federal support for the operation of the Downeaster passenger rail service will terminate in 2008;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED that:

1. BATH CITY COUNCIL strongly supports the Downeaster passenger rail service and urges the Maine State Legislature to provide operating support on an ongoing basis for the portion of the costs of the operations of the Downeaster service that are not covered by other revenue sources, which, as proposed by Governor Baldacci’s Task Force on Passenger Rail Funding, can occur without raising tax rates for Maine citizens; and

2. BATH CITY COUNCIL strongly supports the expansion of the Downeaster passenger rail service northward through Yarmouth and Freeport, Maine to Brunswick, Maine, within no more than two years, with further expansion and connections after that time; and

3. BATH CITY COUNCIL strongly supports the continuation of passenger rail service from Brunswick to Rockland via Maine Eastern Railroad, in addition to new service to Augusta and to Androscoggin County via connections with Maine Eastern Railroad.

Motion by Councilor Pagurko, second by Councilor Omo to put this Resolution on the floor for discussion.

VOTE on Resolution:

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 0

Resolution passed unanimously. 5-0

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM with a motion from Councilor Pagurko and a second from Councilor Winglass. All were in favor.

Attest:

Mary J. White, City Clerk

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