

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BATH, MAINE**

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers, Bath City Hall

Present: Councilors Page, Paulhus, Nordmann, Wyman, Comeau, Bauer and Madame Chair Eosco.
Absent: Councilor Omo

Also in attendance were the City Manager – William Giroux, City Solicitor - Roger Therriault and City Clerk - Mary White.

Madame Chair Eosco led the Pledge of Allegiance and City Clerk White called the Roll.

The meeting began with a presentation by RSU #1 Superintendent Patrick Manuel regarding an update of the New High School Project. Mr. Manuel stated that the process was in the beginning phase as the site was still in the process of being finalized and the design was in the very early stage of deciding what was going to be needed/wanted included in the design. He reported the site details should be in place within the next 3 weeks.

C. Consent Agenda 6:20 PM

***1) Minutes of the previous Council Meetings of January 4 and 18, 2017 and J4. (Motion to Accept as Presented)**

Councilor Wyman made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Councilor Paulhus seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

D. Time Devoted to Residents to Address The City Council 6:21 PM

No one spoke at this time.

E. Ordinances, Orders and Resolutions 6:21 PM

2) Ordinance - Changing GA Maximums (2017) per State of Maine (first passage)

Madame Chair Eosco read the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BATH THAT THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BATH, ADOPTED FEBRUARY 2, 1977, AND SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, BE FURTHER AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:
CHAPTER 8A. GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Amend Article II, Section 2.2 to read as follows:

Eligible Person. A person who is qualified to receive general assistance benefits from the municipality according to the standards of eligibility set forth in this ordinance, Maine General Assistance law (22 M.R.S.A. ch. 1161), and Maine Department of Health & Human Services regulations (10-144 C.M.R. ch. 323). If otherwise qualified, “Eligible Person” shall include U.S. citizens; non-U.S. citizens who are lawfully present in the United States as described in 8 U.S.C. § 1621(a)(1)-(3); and non-U.S. citizens who are pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief. Assistance for noncitizens pursuing a lawful process for

immigration relief shall not exceed 24 months beginning with assistance provided after July 1, 2015.(22 M.R.S.A. § 4301(3)). “Eligible Person” does not include a fugitive from justice as defined in 15 M.R.S.A. § 201(4).

Also to delete appendices to the Ordinance dealing with maximums allowances and replace with newly attached allowance summary sheets, schedules and appendices:

Appendix A – Total Allowed GA Maximums

Appendix B – Food Maximums

Appendix C – Housing Maximums

Appendix D – Utilities

Appendix E – Heating Oil

Appendix F – Personal Care & Household Items

Maximums shall be effective as of October 1, 2016.

A complete copy of the Ordinance and Maximums is on file in the Bath City Clerk’s Office at 55 Front Street, Bath, Maine.

Councilor Paulhus made a motion to put this Ordinance on the floor for discussion. Councilor Bauer seconded the motion.

Finance Director Juli Millet gave an overview of the details of the General Assistance Ordinance and Maximums.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Page, Paulhus, Nordmann, Wyman, Comeau, Bauer

NAYS: None

Ordinance passed unanimously. 6-0

Madame Chair Eosco stated second passage of this Ordinance would be on March 1, 2017 at 6:01 PM.

G. Petitions & Communications 6:29 PM

Madame Chair Eosco shared a letter of condolence from the Town of Woolwich to the Bath City Council regarding the passing of Councilor Mitchell.

H. City Manager’s Report 6:30 PM

- **Downtown Lighting Grant**
Michael Peabody explained he had been working on changing the lighting in the downtown to be more efficient. He stated he had been working through the Efficiency Maine Rebate Program to bring down the cost of the project. Mr. Peabody reported that the project included the replacement of 160 lights and the project area was from the bridge to the Hampton Inn and Waterfront Park to High Street. He estimated the rebate would come to around \$8,000 and the project was to be completed by the end of March.

I. Committee Reports 6:37 PM

Councilor Wyman reported that the Finance Committee met and the City Budget was found to be in good shape.

Councilor Bauer reported on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting and said they had a very robust discussion and members were given assignments to complete. She stated the Committee will be meeting every other week.

Councilor Nordmann stated he had attended his first meeting of the Bath Housing Authority Board which was an orientation meeting. He said he wasn't ready to do a report yet but would be bringing one forward in the future.

J. Unfinished Business 6:39 PM

3) Council Letter in Support of Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Madame Chair read the following letter:

CITY OF BATH, MAINE

City Hall, 55 Front Street
Bath, Maine 04530



OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

(207) 443-8332

February 1, 2017

Dave Archambault II, Chairman
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Bldg. 1 North Standing Rock Ave.
P.O. Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

RE: Dakota Access Pipeline


Dear Mr. Archambault,

The City Council of Bath, Maine, wishes to convey the City's solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in its opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline.

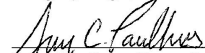
On December 7, 2016, the City Council was presented with a petition signed by 649 registered voters, asking the City Council to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in its opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline. On January 4, 2017, the City Council agreed to draft a letter of support to you regarding this matter.

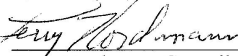
May 2017 bring the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, its members and its lands, peace and a positive resolution to this situation.

Sincerely,
Bath City Council
Bath, Maine



Mari H. Eosco, Madame Chair/Councilor At Large

Gregory Page, Councilor Ward 1


Sean Paulhus, Councilor Ward 2


Terry Nordmann, Councilor Ward 3

Bernard Wyman, Councilor Ward 4


David Comeau, Councilor Ward 5


Susan Bauer, Councilor Ward 6

James Omo, Councilor At Large

Shelly Little of 35 Bedford Street stated the supporters of this cause were very grateful for the City Council's support.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: Bauer, Comeau, Nordmann, Paulhus

NO: Wyman, Page

Passed 4-2

K. New Business 6:47 PM

***4) Annual Appointments to Committees by Council Nominees:**

Student Community Liaison Council – Mari Eosco

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

5) Appointment 1 member to the Bath Housing Authority Board of Directors for a 5-year term to expire in February 2022.

Councilor Wyman nominated Terrance Gray for this position on behalf of the Appointment Interview Committee. All were in favor of the appointment.

6) Appointment 1 member Bath Personnel Service Commission to finish out a term ending January 2018.

Councilor Wyman nominated Brian Hatch for this position on behalf of the majority of the Appointment Interview Committee. All were in favor of the appointment.

7) Appointment 1 member Bath Transportation Committee with a term ending February 2019. Appointment 1 member Bath Transportation Committee with a term ending February 2020.

Councilor Wyman nominated Matthew Hinds for the position with a term ending in 2019 and Robert Oxtan for the position with the term ending in 2020 on behalf of the Appointment Interview Committee. All were in favor of the appointments.

L. Councilor Announcements 6; 49 PM

Councilor Paulhus commented how impressed he was with the well qualified applicants that had been interviewed for the committee vacancies and hoped that those that weren't chosen this time try again as the City needs people like them to help with these committees . He reminded Councilors that the Bath Food Bank is offering them tours of the Food Bank and urged Councilors to take them up on the offer. Councilor Paulhus reported that the Rotary would be holding a "Fill a Bus" event to benefit the Bath Food Bank on Saturday, January 4th at Shaw's and urged everyone to participate in that

Madame Chair Eosco reported that she had the privilege to give the Key to the City and a Proclamation from Council to the crew of the USS Rafael Peralta in recognition of the many hours of volunteering their time to the citizens of Bath including car washes, 5k runs, working with the Bath Area Food Bank and conducting fundraisers and food drives, presenting the colors, flipping the coin and singing the National Anthem during the pre-game ceremony at a Morse High School football game, visits to and working with area nursing homes, and laying new organic mulch at the Bath Area Family YMCA children's playground.

Councilor Page made a motion at 6:54 PM to go into Executive Session to discuss a Poverty Abatement Matter per 36 MRSA §851(2). Councilor Bauer seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilor Page made a motion at 7:14 PM to come out of Executive Session and go back into regular session to take a vote on the abatement matter. Councilor Bauer seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilor Bauer made a motion to grant the abatement. Councilor Comeau seconded the motion.

Vote on Abatement:

YEAS: Page, Paulhus, Nordmann, Comeau, Bauer, Eosco

NAYS: Wyman

Abatement passed. 6-1

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM with a motion by Councilor Bauer, seconded by Councilor Wyman. All were in favor of the adjournment.

Attest:

Mary J. White, City Clerk

Please note: These minutes are not recorded verbatim. A DVD recording of the meeting is available for review in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours by appointment. You can also view them on Townhallstreams.com for up to a year.