

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
City Council of the City of Bath, Maine
Wednesday, August 5, 2020 6:00 PM
Remote Zoom Meeting

Present: Councilor Bailey, Councilor Paulhus, Councilor Nordmann, Councilor Leonard, Councilor DeChant, Councilor Bauer, Councilor Park, Councilor Ambrosino arrived at 6:08on and Madame Chair, Eosco.

Also Present: City Manager Owen, City Solicitor Therriault and City Deputy Clerk Craney

Madame Chair Eosco called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Madame Chair read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS Kindness Day is the dream of Morse High Senior Bryanna Ringrose, to have a day in Bath where everyone could focus on doing small acts of kindness for each other, and with the help of Darreby Ambler it became a reality and has evolved into a well loved annual event, and

WHEREAS this event is currently coordinated by Jennifer McDorr with the help and support from the community of merchants, area non-profits, and individuals, and

WHEREAS the power of kindness lies in every individual and by recognizing, understanding, and actually using this power, we have the ability to send out a positive ripple that may travel for miles, and

WHEREAS anyone, no matter how young or how small, can make a difference in our own community and our world and through acts of kindness, we can promote healthy and positive behaviors, strengthening our community with a celebration of simple kindness that encourages people to tap into their own human spirit, and

WHEREAS the 7th annual Kindness Day will be reimagined for 2020 to adapt to limitations of the Coronavirus pandemic, this important tradition will be city wide with community groups, individuals and businesses celebrating kindness in a socially distant way to continue to fill our city with kindness, love and hope, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that **August 15, 2020** shall be recognized as **Bath Kindness Day** remembering that simple day-to-day acts of kindness enable our community to be a kinder, safer and more secure place to live, work and play and to urge all citizens to participate in spreading kindness, and practicing respect, generosity, patience and consideration of others not just this day, but every day of the year.

Dated this 5th day of August, 2020.

Mari H. Eosco, Madame Chair
Bath City Council

Motion made by Councilor Park to accept as presented, seconded by Councilor Bauer.

Jennifer McDorr explained what the changes would be to Kindness Day, Crowd Free, and City Wide. Kindness Day will also encourage neighbor to neighbor kindness. There will be Facebook page updates as to what is happening throughout town. Councilor Park asked for clarification of time the event will be happening. Ms. McDorr explained that kindness should be done all day and all year but has put a time of 10-2 for those that are setting something up.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Councilors Bailey, Paulhus, Nordmann, Leonard, DeChant, Bauer, Park and Ambrosino

NAYS: None

Passed unanimously, 8-0

Madame Chair introduces City Planner Ben Averill to give an update on the Comprehensive Plan Update

Mr. Averill explains that the Plan is updated every 10 years and is mandated by State Statutes. The last time it was voted on by the Council was September of 2009. The current comprehensive plan can be found on the Planning departments web page as well as the City Website. Hard copies are harder to disseminate but are available as well.

C. Consent Agenda 6:28pm

*1) Minutes of the previous meeting of July 1, 2020 Council Meeting and July 15, 2020 Special Council Meeting (motion to Accept as Presented)

Motion made by Councilor Leonard to accept as presented, seconded by Councilor Park.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Councilors Bailey, Paulhus, Nordmann, Leonard, DeChant, Bauer, Park and Ambrosino

NAYS: None

Passed unanimously, 8-0

Madame Chair asks for public comment, seeing none she introduces City Manager Peter Owen with the City Manager's Report.

G. City Manager's Report: 6:30pm

Mr. Owen explains what the status of the Riverwalk is. The first phase took time with the easements needed and the permits from DEP. It will be up for bid in early spring with a construction timeframe. The easement for the area at the condo association is still in the works and will be working towards for Stage Two in September.

He further explains that due to Covid-19 there has been a hold on staffing new Committees including the Rabies Response Committee. The Adhoc Rabies Response Task Force would include councilors, staff, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the USDA. Madame Chair expressed that this is not a permanent committee, it is just to get the process started. This is just the

planning part. Councilor Leonard and Councilor Paulhus have volunteered to start this beginning committee.

Mr. Owen explained the Safety Incentive Program by MMA. A form needs to be signed and sent back to City Hall to reduce injuries and in turn would be reduce rates.

H. Committee Reports: 6:45pm

Councilor Bailey speaking on behalf of Transportation Committee. The South End Study was interrupted by pandemic but will be back at it. Community Development Committee is working on the parking lot by Goddard's Pond for people to access the trails. Citizen Involvement Day in October will be held. Green Space on Castine Ave is delayed.

Councilor Leonard reports that the Bike and Ped Committee is working with RSU #1 regarding a walking school bus. Bath Water District is working on lifting the moratorium on shut offs during the pandemic.

Councilor Bauer reports that the Library is open, and the compost area near the Skate Park is moving to public works.

Councilor Park announces that the Facilities Committee as part of Morse HS Reuse Project is gathering steam. Great data on two comprehensive plans of Police Department and Fire Department. Forestry Committee on hiatus right now but 2 ash trees have been injected to protect against ash borer. Main Street Bath finding creative ways for bath businesses to promote business.

J. New Business:

2) Appointment of Haley Blanco term to expire 9/2022 to Planning Board

Reappointment of Karla Gagnon term to expire 7/2023 to Economic Development Commission

Madame Chair Eosco asks for any other nominations, seeing none she asks for a roll call vote.

Councilor Park makes motion to accept the nominations, Councilor Leonard seconds.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Councilors Bailey, Paulhus, Nordmann, Leonard, DeChant, Bauer, Park and Ambrosino

NAYS: None

Passed unanimously, 8-0

K. Councilor Announcements:

Councilor Bailey announces the Senior Center Newsletter has information on how to be safe when being out in town. The YMCA has provided 5500 suppers and 2500 breakfasts in July. 175 striker families and 500 affected by the pandemic have been provided food by the Bath Food Bank.

Councilor Leonard RSU #1 tour of the New high school is amazing and thanks them for the tour.

Councilor Park wants to remind residents that if you have not done the census report, please participate.

Councilor Bauer wants to thank Merrymeeting Gleaners for all the food they are giving out as grown food and seedlings.

Councilor Nordmann is thanking the Front Street businesses for hiring striking BIW workers.

Madame Chair announced that the MMA Convention will be virtual and should be investigated. The September Council meeting might be held in person at the Donald Small School and more news will be coming soon.

Madame Chair Eosco asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Councilor Park motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Ambrosino

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Councilors Bailey, Paulhus, Nordmann, Leonard, DeChant, Bauer, Park and Ambrosino

NAYS: None

Passed, 8-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Attest:

Darci L. Wheeler

Darci L. Wheeler, City Clerk