

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BATH, MAINE

Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 6:00 PM

Councilors Present: Julie Ambrosino, Christopher Marks, Mary Ellen Bell, Roo Dunn, Jennifer DeChant (remote) and Caitlin McCorkle

Councilors Absent: Terry Nordmann, Miriam Johnson, and Megan Mansfield-Pryor

City Staff Present: Marc Meyers, City Manager; Darci Wheeler, City Clerk; Juli Millett, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager; Misty Parker, Director of Economic and Community; Andrew Booth, Police Chief; Linda McCourt, Deputy Finance Director; Michael Bethea, Director of IT; and Pete Compagna, BCTV

Marc Meyers, City Manager, gave summary of the budget stating that the proposed FY2025 total budget is \$20,887,129, increasing \$2,008,299. This increase is in the General, Capital and Sewer Funds and is a result of the first payments of voter approved debt for the Road Bond, New Fire Station, and Sewer Bond. They also include salary adjustments to market for public safety employees and significant utility increases.

Chair Bell opened the public hearing at 6:00pm.

John James of 30 Garden Street spoke regarding mil rates and commitment process.

Marc Meyers, City Manager, provided feedback to concerns.

Public hearing was closed by Chair Bell at 6:07pm.

Call to Order: 6:07pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Manager's Report: 6:09pm

Reward and Trophy for the Comprehensive Plan Update to Library Park Fountain

Public Hearing: 6:13pm

CDBG Housing Assistance Grant

New Business: 6:13pm

2024-52) Order: To prepare and post Warrant for the Regional School Unit #1 Budget Validation Election to be held on June 11, 2024

Darci Wheeler, City Clerk, provided a summary of election dates and voter's hours responding to questions and comments from Councilors Marks, and Dunn. No Public comment.

Motion from Councilor McCorkle to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor Dunn. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors Ambrosino, Marks, Dunn, DeChant, and McCorkle.

2024-53) Order: To prepare and post Warrant for the Municipal Election to be held on June 11, 2024

Motion from Councilor Ambrosino to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor Marks. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors McCorkle, DeChant, Dunn, Marks, and Ambrosino

2024-54) Order: To prepare and post Warrant for the State Primary Election to be held on June 11, 2024

Motion from Councilor Marks to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor McCorkle. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors Ambrosino, Marks, Dunn, DeChant, and McCorkle.

2024-55) Order: Registrar of Voter's Hours

Motion from Councilor Ambrosino to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor Dunn. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors McCorkle, DeChant, Dunn, Marks, and Ambrosino

2024-56) Order: Acceptance of Homeland Security Grant

Andrew Booth, Police Chief, provided background on the grant responding to questions and comments from Councilors Dunn, and Marks.

Public comment was made by Ruth Lawson-Stoppa of High Street inquiring about additional costs.

Motion from Councilor McCorkle to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor Marks. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors Ambrosino, Marks, Dunn, DeChant, and McCorkle.

2024-57) Resolution: CDBG Housing Assistance Grant

Misty Parker, Director of Economic and Community, provided background on the grant responding to questions and comments from Councilors McCorkle and Dunn. Seth Parker, Director of Real Estate Development for Bath Housing provided further information.

Public comment was made by John James of Garden Street inquiring about number of bedrooms these housing units would be. It was confirmed that they would be one-bedroom units.

Motion from Councilor Marks to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor Ambrosino. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors McCorkle, DeChant, Dunn, Marks, and Ambrosino

2024-58) Bond Ordinance: Authorizing up to \$517,000.00 of the City's General Obligation Bonds to Finance Miscellaneous Municipal Improvements and the Acquisition of Equipment and Vehicles

Juli Millett, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, provided background on the Ordinance responding to questions and comments from Councilors McCorkle, and Dunn.

There were no public comments. Further council comments were made by Councilor DeChant.

Motion from Councilor Dunn to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor Marks. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors Ambrosino, Marks, Dunn, DeChant, and McCorkle.

2024-59) Ordinance: Supplemental Appropriation to Set Aside Additional Funds in the amount of \$1,091,090.00 for Unanticipated Expenditures

Juli Millett, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, provided background on the Ordinance responding to questions and comments from Councilors Marks, Dunn, and Ambrosino.

There were no public comments or further council comments.

Motion from Councilor Dunn to approve as presented. Seconded by Councilor Ambrosino. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors McCorkle, DeChant, Dunn, Marks, and Ambrosino

Meeting adjourned to workshop at 6:50pm.

Motioned by Councilor Ambrosino and seconded by Councilor Dunns. Chair Bell called for a roll call vote. The order passed with five (5) yeas.

YEAS: Councilors Ambrosino, Marks, Dunn, DeChant, and McCorkle.

Attested:

Darci Wheeler, City Clerk

Please note: These minutes are action minutes. The entire meeting can be viewed at www.cityofbath.com