



City of Concord

City Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 21, 2021

5:30 PM

City Council Chambers
37 Green Street
Concord, New Hampshire

Non-meeting with legal counsel in accordance with RSA 91-A:2, I (b) to be held following the Council meeting.

1. Mayor Bouley called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.
2. Roll Call.

Action: All City Council members were present. Councilor Rice Hawkins arrived at approximately 5:45 P.M.

Present: 13 - Councilor Candace Bouchard, Mayor Jim Bouley, Councilor Byron Champlin, Councilor Nathan Fennessy, Councilor Amanda Grady Sexton, Councilor Fred Keach, Councilor Linda Kenison, Councilor Jennifer Kretovic, Councilor Gail Matson, Councilor Keith Nyhan, Councilor Erle Pierce, Councilor Brent Todd, and Councilor Robert Werner

Late: 1 - Councilor Zandra Rice Hawkins

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes.

June 3, 2021 Finance Committee Draft Meeting Minutes.

Action: Councilor Grady-Sexton moved approval. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

4. Agenda overview by the Mayor.

Public Hearings

- 5A. Resolution fixing and determining the amount of money to be appropriated by the City of Concord for the Fiscal Year 2022, ending June 30, 2022, for the General

Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, Debt Service Funds and Diminimis Accounts.

Action: Council approved having all public hearing items consolidated for discussion purposes.

Mayor Bouley opened the public hearing.

Roy Schweiker, a Concord resident, stated that he was distressed to hear that the Concord Community Center was open during the pandemic because he noted that all facilities and programs were closed or cancelled citywide, and felt that this was untrue. He noted that the Concord Library's WIFI was not accessible from outside of the building, which made it difficult to attend Zoom public meetings or his online courses, during the pandemic. He stated that a small town library in Vermont guaranteed internet streaming within 300 feet of the building, and he felt that Concord should have that same accommodation. He stated his belief that the City should offer free WIFI connections citywide so residents could attend remote online meetings. He also stated that prior to the pandemic, the Library loaned out laptops, but stopped because of COVID-19, and voiced his disapproval over this practice. He also noted his frustrations about the Library magazines and road atlas materials not being available, for over a year, and felt that they could have been sanitized similarly to books. He added that the reduced Sunday hours at the Library were discriminating to Jewish people who were unable to attend on Saturdays. He advocated for the Library to use their winter schedule in the summer. He also noted that the Library did not appear to have the best GREEN practices as they kept their shades open at night for building security. He noted that alternate GREEN security devices could be utilized that could conserve more energy.

Mr. Schweiker commented on the City's leaf pick-up program, noting that since they alternated starting points, the maps and pick-up dates were difficult to interpret and plan for. He proposed that a set schedule be adopted for the varying pick-up segments and be shared so residents could plan accordingly. Mr. Schweiker also spoke on the water and sewer bills, noting his concerns that the City charged everyone a fixed rate for utility connections and usage, but noted that he felt that a variable rate would be more efficient. He noted his concerns on Critical Race Theory, and felt that underprivileged people were being charged the same as privileged people, which a variable rate could fix because it would be based on actual usage.

Mr. Schweiker also spoke on the City's development process and voiced his

concerns about City Staff making million dollar deals without public input on the ground level. He advocated allowing developers to propose project bids or presentations directly to City Council, so that the public and Council members could have input and vote on them, instead of accepting staff deals or recommendations. He requested that the City eliminate the Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services, and Special Projects position and allow more input on project development to be decided by the public.

Jessica Martin, Executive Director of Intown Concord, and Julie Bushaw, Board President of Intown Concord, thanked City Council for their continued support of small businesses and their forward thinking during the pandemic. Ms. Martin spoke about the City events coordinated and hosted by Intown Concord and the various programs and initiatives they sponsored for Downtown businesses. She noted that there was a \$10,000 decrease in grant funding, proposed in the City's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, which matched the amount of City funds Intown Concord spent in Fiscal Year 2021. Ms. Martin noted that the \$10,000 decrease was due to the reduced police detail needed during the 2020 Market Days event. She stated that the \$10,000 decrease in Fiscal Year 2022 would result in a five percent cut to Intown Concord's budget. She noted that the increased outdoor dining spaces for restaurants, reduced the potential space and revenues to be collected from both restaurants and other vendors that they would typically rent booths too, for Market Days. She also noted that, in 2021, the Market Days event would be held in August and then another Market Days event was scheduled for June 2022. Due to the timing of the events, two Market Days events will occur in the City's Fiscal Year 2022 budget period. Ms. Martin advocated that the Market Days event brings in thousands of visitors to the Downtown area, and is critical to merchants in the recovery period of the pandemic, and requested that Council reconsider the proposed decrease in funding.

Councilor Bouchard asked Intown Concord how many Market Days vendors would be displaced as a result of the restaurants' outdoor dining use. Ms. Martin stated that Intown Concord was still working on the calculation, as the spaces were still being measured. She noted that, historically, 180 vendors fit; but they anticipated losing the revenue and space that the Barley House would typically use, as they are currently engaged in outdoor dining. Intown Concord's anticipated loss in revenue was projected at approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000.

Mayor Bouley asked if Intown Concord had considered holding alternative events as some were designed more than others to encourage in-store activity, where

some events just brought people to the Downtown area. He asked if hosting smaller summer events had been considered, which could help increase Downtown foot traffic in a targeted way. Ms. Martin confirmed that she had received similar feedback from her Downtown supporters and that an event refresh was on her priority list. Ms. Bushaw stated that there were plans in the works to partner with the Downtown businesses, like hair salons, to promote their businesses and expand their reach.

Celia Chase, a Friends Program Board Member and Concord resident, stated that the City of Concord had been providing funding each year, in the amount of \$57,000, for the Thompson Street emergency shelter. She noted that over 80 individuals were served in 2021, of which 23 were Concord residents. She stated that there was a \$20,000 decrease in grant funding, proposed by the City, in its Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, and she asked Council to reconsider that budget cut. She stated that the emergency shelter was geared to helping families with children and all the unique circumstances that accompanied families. It was noted that in 2019, \$120,000 in non-City funding was cut from their budget, which resulted in a \$30,000 deficit. Ms. Chase noted that in order to streamline efficiency and reduce spending, they downsized their full time and overnight staffing, but are still operating at a loss. She emphasized that the financial support from the City of Concord was critical and a reduction would significantly impact their operations.

Nancy Paul, Executive Director of the Friends Program, emphasized that the most vulnerable people within the City were the ones who ended up at their shelter. She noted an anticipated need for the shelter's services, as the State's eviction moratorium's end could result in an increase of evictions. She noted that additional staff assistance would be needed to help children who did not flourish during remote learning. She stated that their offered services were more than putting a roof over someone's head, and that it would not be possible to continue to provide any services if their budget was cut any further. She stated that they started their shelter services because the City of Concord had asked them to in 1980. She stated that they responded to the City's call when there was a need to operate the cold weather shelter and pleaded with the City to reconsider the budget cut, so they could continue to respond and be available for the City and its residents.

Councilor Rice Hawkins asked for additional information on the impacts of cutting overnight staffing. Ms. Paul stated that cameras were installed so they could monitor the site remotely at night, but that they were unaware the police had been called to assist on one occasion as the activity occurred out of sight of the camera.

She stated that with on site staff those situations did not escalate. She noted that unauthorized entry through a side window had occurred, but could have been prevented.

Councilor Champlin thanked Ms. Chase and Ms. Paul for attending the meeting. He noted that the Friends shelter could house up to eight families, and asked how many other family shelters existed in Concord or in Merrimack County. Ms. Paul confirmed that no other family shelters existed in Concord and they served Merrimack County as the only physical shelter that was open 24/7. Councilor Champlin asked if the Friends Program received any other funding from other municipalities or from the County. Ms. Paul stated that no funding was received from Merrimack County and that other communities have stated that their Human Services Departments fund their residents. Ms. Paul noted that the State's continuum of care program could result in a Concord resident being housed in Manchester, based on the timing and availability of their shelter needs. She stated that the State program prioritized getting people in a shelter versus getting them in a shelter locally. She noted that the Friends Program could prioritize two families of equivalent service level if calling on the same day, but totally unsheltered families were prioritized over families that were staying with friends.

Councilor Keach asked what other funding sources were received, aside from those received from the State and City of Concord. Ms. Paul stated that some funding came from corporate sponsorships, individuals, foundations, and that service fees of \$10 per night were billed to cities and towns if residents were unable to pay. She stated that the most frequent scenario was that families would complete community service within the program to fund their stay. She noted that during the pandemic, the community service portion was not administered the same way.

Councilor Kenison asked if the number of families needing service, that were turned away because of capacity issues was known. Ms. Paul stated that they could only house four families in their building and four families were housed in a hotel. She noted that the hotel stays were fully funded through COVID-19 funding, not their operating budget. She noted that they received an average of 1,200 calls a year for service, and their turn away call count, could be an average of two to three a day, but could be as high as seven during busier times. Councilor Kenison asked if the turned away families that were put in hotels were funded by the City. Ms. Paul stated that the City's Human Services Department funded different families than the Friends Program and the emergency COVID funded stays were from a different pool of money than the Human Services or Friends operating budgets.

Councilor Kenison thanked them for their good works.

Councilor Kretovic asked for clarification on residency status for purposes of shelter needs. Ms. Paul stated that residency was based on one's last known address. Councilor Kretovic asked hypothetically that if the Town of Bow had \$3,000 in designated funding available to help those in their community in need, but during the pandemic spent \$0, did the Friends Program follow up and ask for their assistance. Ms. Paul said they did not. Councilor Kretovic stated that it seemed logical to reach out to other communities that benefited from the Friends Program services to help fill their budget deficit. Ms. Paul said it was not that they didn't participate in outreach efforts, it was that they did not have the staffing bandwidth to monitor other Town's budget spending. She stated that some other Town's were not good about sharing or publishing public notices to share information. She stated they did their best, but could not keep up with such monitoring or request efforts.

Councilor Rice Hawkins asked for follow up on how the Friends Program worked with the City's Human Services Department. Ms. Paul stated that she was the Executive Director not the Shelter Director, and that they had many levels of operation. She stated that when Concord City staff called and asked for shelter, they were directed to call the shelter to for a spacing and need assessment. She stated that of the families that called them directly, they were evaluated to determine if they fit the State's criteria for need and if there was spacing available. She noted that there was a small number of people who might qualify for hotel stays that were blacklisted from hotels because of previous hotel stay violations. It was noted that the Friends Program worked with City staff to identify any cross over assistance programs and funding options, when available. An example noted was that the shelter could only accommodate people without shelter, whereas the City assisted people who needed help paying rent, etc. She stated both groups often shared referrals as they both managed different aspects of Human Services.

Councilor Fennessy noted that Concord consistently funded the shelter while only utilizing services for 23 out of 80 individuals, and asked if Concord residents received any intake priority due to the City's contributions. Ms. Paul stated that they were only allowed to prioritize families based on like circumstances, based on the States requirements for coordinated care. She stated that in situations where feasible and allowed, they did and would continue to prioritize Concord residents. Councilor Fennessy asked how often Concord residents were prioritized on a weekly basis over other communities within Merrimack County. Ms. Paul stated

that there were multiple occasions per year where priority was given to Concord, but noted that it was rare, as everyone calling had different circumstances.

Mayor Bouley stated that he was sick to his stomach over having the conversation over reducing \$20,000 from people with families needing shelter. He stated that the conversation was crazy, but noted that City Council was responsible for carefully spending tax payer money. He emphasized that Concord was not an entitlement community and every dollar spent came from Concord tax payers. He thanked Ms. Chase and Ms. Paul for their services. He asked what happened to the \$120,000 funding from the State of New Hampshire, as other communities and programs had been recently funded City and Statewide. Ms. Paul stated that they received continued funding from the State of New Hampshire but that the amount decreased due to the State taking a different approach to funding based on "bed nights." She explained the "bed nights" criteria cut down their funding because they had open beds, but could only accommodate families in need and their compositions. She noted that another cut was made to accommodate veterans and long term homelessness versus a family in crisis. It was noted that the State started to look at a "per service" fee that could be invoiced per "bed night," but changed to a flat funding structure. Mayor Bouley asked who they were working with at the State, to which Ms. Paul stated the Bureau of Housing Supports. Mayor Bouley suggested that, on occasions they had empty beds they consider reaching out to the City instead of waiting for a need to be presented. Ms. Paul stated that they would gladly consider doing that and had done so on occasion, but not frequently. Mayor Bouley asked if they had or would consider asking the County for money for shelter. Ms. Paul stated that they had not yet, but would consider it. Mayor Bouley explained that the Merrimack County had added an item for consideration to their agenda to discuss awarding funds to Social Services, that could help groups like the Friends Program. He stated that the Merrimack County could only help if asked. He asked Ms. Paul if she'd be willing to go to the County and ask for additional dollars, to which she said yes.

Councilor Rice Hawkins asked if there was anything the City could do to help their organization or others in anticipation of the upcoming eviction increase expected. Ms. Paul stated that homelessness impacted families, children of all ages and infants. She noted that day care agencies helped provide significant vital care to children experiencing homelessness. She also stated that affordable housing was the major thing needed to help transition families from shelters, but it was becoming harder to do as market rate housing was harder to obtain or fund.

Mary Schuh, a Friends of White Park board member and a Concord resident, stated that her non-profit organization's mission was to support White Park to become a New Hampshire destination for all visitors. She noted that her primary activity since partnering with the City in 2017 was the redesign of the Monkey Around Playground. She noted that the safety and maintenance had become challenging as pieces were becoming hazardous. She noted that they had been working to enlist playground redesigns while engaging in community input and attended to give City Council an update. Ms. Schuh passed out a printed presentation to show Council members the park's design progress and noted that they were ready to begin a major fundraising campaign. She stated that the park's new plans and fundraising efforts could be reviewed on their website: <https://www.friendsofwhitepark.org/>. She noted that they were a year behind schedule because of the pandemic, but noted that they were looking for volunteers, financial contributions, and board membership. Mayor Bouley thanked Ms. Schuh for her presentation and agreed to meet with her offline.

Councilor Champlin asked if there was anything special or unique about this playground. Ms. Schuh stated that it was designed by the Concord community, which made it special and unique. She noted that the 100 percent accessible redesign would allow each and every member of the community to benefit from it and play.

Councilor Bouchard noted that a new material was planned to be used that looked like wood but wasn't. Ms. Schuh confirmed and noted that the faux wood material had a 40 year warranty. Councilor Bouchard asked what the fundraising goal was, to which Ms. Schuh stated \$750,000.

Mayor Bouley closed the public hearing.

- 5B. Resolution for the annual capital closeout and repurposing of capital project funds; together with a report from the Senior Accountant.

Action: Public testimony taken with item 5A.

- 5C. Resolution authorizing and appropriating funds for Fiscal Year 2022, ending June 30, 2022, for Capital Projects and authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes for various Capital Projects more specifically identified in the budget document.

Action: Public testimony taken with item 5A.

- 5D. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1,

Government Organization, Article 1-5, Fees, Fines and Penalties; Schedule I, Water Rates, Water Rate Structure; together with report from the General Services Director. (Public testimony submitted)

Action: Public testimony taken with item 5A.

- 5E. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1, Government Organization, Article 1-5, Fees, Fines, and Penalties, Schedule I, Water Rates, Water/Wastewater Rate Increase; together with a report from the General Services Director.

Action: Public testimony taken with item 5A.

- 5F. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 9, Water, Article 9-1, Waterworks; together with report from the General Services Director.

Action: Public testimony taken with item 5A.

- 5G. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 9, Water, Article 9-3, Sewer Rentals; together with report from the General Services Director.

Action: Public testimony taken with item 5A.

Public Hearing Action

6. Resolution fixing and determining the amount of money to be appropriated by the City of Concord for the Fiscal Year 2022, ending June 30, 2022, for the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, Debt Service Funds and Diminimis Accounts.

Action: Councilor Nyhan moved approval. The motion was duly seconded.

Councilor Champlin stated that based on the conversation with the Friends Program he proposed a motion to restore the \$20,000 to the Friends Program appropriation. Councilor Kenison seconded the motion. Mayor Bouley asked if the motion was only to restore funding to the Friends Program or if it included the McKenna House too as they both involved shelter funding. Councilor Champlin stated that he gladly wished to amend his motion to include a restoration of \$30,000 for both the Friends Program and the McKenna House as the homeless situation was severe, noting that the Friends Program was the only agency to attend the hearing to plead their case. Councilor Kenison seconded the revised motion.

Councilor Rice Hawkins endorsed her support of the amended motion, noting that the homeless situation was severe and was only expected to get worse as eviction moratoriums get lifted.

Mayor Bouley stated that he fully supported the amended motion, but added a caveat to amend and increase the rooms and meals tax revenue on page 52 by \$30,000, to offset the cost of reinstating funding to the Friends Program and the McKenna House. He noted that, on Thursday, the State of New Hampshire held conferences on House Bill 1 and House Bill 2 and included in the proposed budget to change the calculation for the rooms and meals tax. It was noted that the statute stated that 40 percent of that revenue was to be returned to municipalities, but that the Legislature only returned approximately 22 percent. The proposed changes would reduce the 40 percent to 30 percent, but a dedicated fund would be created to go back to cities and towns. He noted that approximately \$50 million would go back to local communities through the rooms and meals tax and believed the extra revenue would cover the \$30,000 budget increase.

Councilor Champlin agreed to amend his motion to include the Mayors proposed rooms and meals tax revenue increase by \$30,000. Councilor Kenison seconded the revised amended motion.

Councilor Bouchard noted that in future Budget reviews a hard review should be considered when looking at the amount of funding appropriated to the Penacook Community Center, as funding had been reduced from \$30,000 to \$20,000. She noted that the services and programming were beneficial to the community, but were regional, and there was an opportunity to seek additional funding from Merrimack County.

Councilor Keach noted that Concord did a lot to subsidize other surrounding communities, without any economic help from them, and that there was opportunity to work with those communities to help fund the shared services. He stated that the downshifting from the State continued and something on the State level needed to change, as it was unfair to absorb \$1 million dollars in retirement cost increases with little notice.

Councilor Kretovic echoed Councilor Keach's comments and noted that the State's increase was \$1 million this year, but had been millions upon millions over the last few years, and had become painfully painful. She stated that people needed to realize on a state level what the tax changes and implications became for local communities. She stated it's tough every year and it didn't appear to be getting any easier.

Councilor Grady Sexton stated that she served on Concord's Public Safety Advisory Board, which is comprised of City Council members and the public. She noted that the Board had taken a year long look into issues of racial equality, transparency, and police accountability immediately following the murder of George Floyd. She stated that while their work continued, they found that the Concord Police Department (CPD) operated under a community policing model, long before it became the desired gold standard for police departments across the country. She stated that CPD had policies that either complied with or exceeded best practices in the field. She added that the CPD remained interested in being a leader in their handling of racial equality, transparency, and police accountability. She noted that she was impressed to see that the Police Chief and his staff were open to working with the community to promote trust, growth and improvement. She endorsed the Police Department's 2022 budget, noting that their goals were to remain as a community oriented department seeking to remain accountable and transparent. She noted that their budget was making an ongoing investment in prevention education efforts, office training, collaboration with social service agencies, and community outreach. She noted that police recruitment would remain selective and deliberate to ensure department diversity and compliance.

Councilor Rice Hawkins thanked Councilor Grady Sexton for her comments and noted that the work continued by a sub-committee of the Public Safety Advisory Board to review the 21st Century Task Force Report. She encouraged anyone looking to engage to join in the review, as the report was full of good resources and information.

Councilor Pierce noted that he remained very impressed with the leadership and everyday actions of the Concord Police and Fire Departments, and thanked Councilor Grady Sexton for bringing it up.

Mayor Bouley stated that he would be voting in favor of the budget and extended a kudos to City Manager Aspell. He noted that the budget was reviewed with a fine-tooth comb and there was not a lot of fluff in it. He noted that the operating budget reflected the great work that all City employees did citywide and commended them for their efforts. He stated that, as a community, there were challenges that needed to be considered regarding funding in order to provide excellent service and responses to community needs. He noted that a new ambulance would eventually be needed in order to keep up with calls for service and a major investment was needed in information technology. He stated that every department had their challenges, but it was the little things that ensured Concord's way and quality of life were maintained.

Councilor Kretovic echoed the Mayor's comments and noted that last year everyone was expecting the un expectable with COVID, but extended her appreciation to City staff for their efforts to keep things open and active during the pandemic. She stated that she was taking Rule 6, and not voting a few items due to conflicts as she was the Chairman on the Board of Directors for the Crisis Center of Central New Hampshire and her husband participated with the Coalition to End Homelessness.

Councilor Grady Sexton noted that she too had a conflict with the Crisis Center of Central New Hampshire, taking Rule 6 on that item.

Councilor Champlin noted that he had a conflict with Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce and would be taking Rule 6 on that item.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

7. Resolution for the annual capital closeout and repurposing of capital project funds; together with a report from the Senior Accountant.

Action: Councilor Nyhan moved approval. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

8. Resolution authorizing and appropriating funds for Fiscal Year 2022, ending June 30, 2022, for Capital Projects and authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes for various Capital Projects more specifically identified in the budget document.

Action: Councilor Kenison moved approval. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

9. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1, Government Organization, Article 1-5, Fees, Fines and Penalties; Schedule I, Water Rates, Water Rate Structure; together with report from the General Services Director. (Public testimony submitted)

Action: Councilor Nyhan moved approval. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

10. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1, Government Organization, Article 1-5, Fees, Fines, and Penalties, Schedule I, Water Rates, Water/Wastewater Rate Increase; together with a report from the General Services Director.

Action: Councilor Matson moved approval. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

11. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 9, Water, Article 9-1, Waterworks; together with report from the General Services Director.

Action: Councilor Nyhan moved approval. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

12. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 9, Water, Article 9-3, Sewer Rentals; together with report from the General Services Director.

Action: Councilor Nyhan moved approval. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

New Business

Unfinished Business

Comments, Requests by Mayor, City Councilors

Action: Councilor Kretovic noted that over 125 years ago the Beaver Meadow Golf Course had been created in the middle of a sheep field in Ward 3. She noted that a tournament would be held on July 4th to celebrate the holiday and the golf course. She indicated that people could sign up online or by calling the Golf Pro Shop.

Mayor Bouley extended his thanks and appreciation to the Finance Department, the Office of Management and Budget, and to all City departments and staff for their efforts to prepare another award-winning budget. He noted that Concord was on its sixth year. He extended his and Council's appreciation to the community, City staff, and first responders for their cooperation and assistance during the pandemic. He stated that the City used unassigned fund balances to help keep the tax rate down, but a balanced budget was needed in the future as the economy improved. He noted that he looked forward to working with the Fiscal Policy Advisory Committee and City staff to continue to improve finances while delivering excellent services to the community. He also confirmed that there was money in the budget for the 4th of July fireworks.

Mayor Bouley also noted that there was a need to have a public hearing for Atlantic Broadband to present their proposal. He asked if the week of July 19th was a possibility, to which several Council members noted they were unavailable. He tabled the discussion until July.

City Clerk Bonenfant reminded everyone that residents in Ward 4 would be voting in a Special Election on July 13th, to fill their vacant Ward Councilor position, at the Boys and Girls Club, located at 55 Bradly Street, between 7 A.M. and 7 P.M. She noted that Absentee Ballots were available in the City Clerk's office for anyone who might be away that day.

Comments, Requests by the City Manager

Adjournment

Action: Councilor Keach made a motion to adjourn. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote. The meeting ended at 7:16 P.M.

Yes: 14 - Councilor Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kenison, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Matson, Councilor Nyhan, Councilor Pierce, Councilor Rice Hawkins, Councilor Todd, and Councilor Werner

Information

A true copy: I attest:

Ashley Hamilton

Deputy City Clerk