



**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2023 AT 7:00 PM
WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL (ROOM 114)
125 STROUDWATER ST.**



I. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm by City Council President Anna A. Turcotte. City Clerk Angela Holmes read the City Council Land Acknowledgement statement into the record.

The Westbrook City Council understands, honors, and acknowledges that the City of Westbrook is located on the traditional and unceded homelands and waters of the Indigenous people of the Presumpscot River. We recognize that the Wabanaki people have been displaced by the advancement of colonization, yet have belonged to this land for countless generations and thousands of years, and their presence continues in Maine to this day.

II. ROLL CALL

City Councilors Present: Michael Shaughnessy (At-Large), David C. Morse (Ward 1, Vice President), Anna A. Turcotte (Ward 3, President), Victor Chau (Ward 2), Jennifer Munro (Ward 5), Claude Rwaganje (At-Large)

City Councilors Absent: Gary Rairdon (Ward 4)

Other City Officials Present: Jerre Bryant (City Administrator), Natalie Burns (City Solicitor), Eric Dudley (Director of Engineering & Public Services), Jennie Franceschi (Director of Planning & Code Enforcement), Michael T. Foley (Mayor), Greg Hamilton (Director of Emergency Communications & IT), Angela Holmes (Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk), Suzanne Knight (Finance Director), Sean Lally (Police Chief), Ellis Ledoux (Executive Assistant), Brandon Mitchell (Student Representative), Makayla Morello (Student Representative)

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Turcotte led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Turcotte stated that unless any objections were received, the minutes would stand as presented. No objections received. The following minutes stand as presented:

March 6, 2023 - Regular Council Meeting

March 20, 2023 - Special Council Meeting

V. MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Mayor Foley read his message into the record. The full text of the Mayor's Message is attached to these minutes.

VI. CITY COUNCIL MESSAGES

President Turcotte opened the floor for City Council messages. Councilors provided the following updates:

- President Turcotte noted that she will miss the April 24, 2023 Council meeting to take her children to Armenia to attend the Armenian Genocide Commemoration events

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE

Student Representatives Mitchell & Morello provided the following updates:

- An Iftar celebration will be held tomorrow at Westbrook High School, providing students an opportunity to try new foods and learn about Muslim culture.
- On Thursday April 6, 2023 there will be a short film at Westbrook Middle School on Social Media & Its Impacts. Panelists will be present to answer questions.
- The National Honor Society hosted a blood drive in late March, and there were 31 donations. Another drive will be held at the Westbrook Community Center on June 19, 2023.
- Next Monday there will be a National Honor Society induction ceremony, where sophomores and juniors with a GPA of 90 or higher will be inducted into NHS.
- On April 24, 2023, a group of juniors will tour the University of Maine Orono campus.
- Spring sports are in full swing. The schedule for sporting events is available on the Westbrook High School Athletics website.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Turcotte opened the floor for the first public comment portion of this meeting. The following individuals spoke: Liz McClellan (37 Pleasant Street)

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business for consideration.

X. ORDERS OF THE DAY (SECOND AND FINAL READING)

Included below are the City Council Orders which require second and final reading.

Order 2023-34. Authorizing Purchase of Sewer Inspection Camera & Trailer

Motion to approve second and final reading of Order 2023-24.

Moved by Vice President Morse, seconded by Councilor Munro.

President Turcotte opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:

None

Motion carried. Orders 2023-34. adopted. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Munro, Rwaganje, Turcotte

Nays: None

Absent: Rairdon

Order 2023-35. Establishing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District #25, Spring Street Apartments Development District

The administration requested that this item be tabled until the City Council meeting held on April 24, 2023, to accommodate the public hearing notice requirements.

Motion to table Order 2023-35 until the City Council meeting held on April 24, 2023.
Moved by Vice President Morse, seconded by Councilor Munro.

Item tabled until April 24, 2023. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Munro, Rwaganje, Turcotte

Nays: None

Absent: Rairdon

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Included below are the Council actions on New Business, which includes business licenses requiring City Council approval, City Council Resolves and Orders receiving first and final reading, City Council Orders receiving the first of two required readings.

Orders (Two Readings Required)

Order 2023-36. Authorizing Award of Bid for Prides Corner Intersection Project

Motion to approve the first of two readings of the legislation.

Moved by Councilor Munro, seconded by Councilor Chau.

President Turcotte opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:

Councilor Shaughnessy, Mr. Dudley

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-37. Authorizing Expenditure for Traffic Signal Work

Motion to approve the first of two readings of the legislation.

Moved by Vice President Morse, seconded by Councilor Munro.

President Turcotte opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:

None

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-38. Authorizing Agreement with Convey911 for 911 Translation & Video Communications Platform

Motion to approve the first of two readings of the legislation.

Moved by Councilor Shaughnessy, seconded by Councilor Munro.

President Turcotte opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:

President Turcotte, Mayor Foley, Mr. Hamilton

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Turcotte opened the floor for the second and final public comment portion of this meeting. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Rwaganje, Mayor Foley, Councilor Munro

XIII. REFERRALS

Motion to replace the referral in the Public Safety Committee entitled "Use of Force Policy Analysis" with an updated & expanded referral entitled "Workshop on Police Department Anti-Racism Efforts."

Moved by Vice President Morse, seconded by Councilor Shaughnessy.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

As noted above, the referral entitled "Use of Force Policy Analysis" was removed from the Public Safety Committee and replaced with the referral entitled "Workshop on Police Department Anti-Racism Efforts."

All other items remain in their City Council Committees for deliberation. No other updates were provided by Committee Chairs.

Committee of the Whole

Residential Landlord Registration

Amending Land Use Ordinance to Expand Medical & Recreational Marijuana Businesses

Comprehensive Ethics Reform

Adopting Policy to Protect Employees' Access to Reproductive Healthcare Services

Facilities & Streets Committee

Austin Street Extension

Public Safety Committee

Workshop on Police Department Anti-Racism Efforts

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:31pm pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405-6(E) for consultation between City Council and the City Solicitor concerning the legal rights and duties of the Council concerning the following issue – when a vendor displays hate group ideology in their imagery, affiliation or actions. This request includes an invitation for the following individuals to attend: Mayor, City Administrator, Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk, City Solicitor, and Police Chief.

Moved by Vice President Morse, seconded by Councilor Chau.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Reconvene. Meeting reconvened at 8:51pm by City Council President Anna A. Turcotte.

City Councilors Present: Michael Shaughnessy (At-Large), David C. Morse (Ward 1, Vice President), Victor Chau (Ward 2), Jennifer Munro (Ward 5), Claude Rwaganje (At-Large), Anna A. Turcotte (Ward 3, President)

City Councilors Absent: Gary Rairdon (Ward 4)

Other City Officials Present: Jerre Bryant (City Administrator), Natalie Burns (City Solicitor), Michael T. Foley (Mayor), Angela Holmes (Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk), Sean Lally (Police Chief)

Motion to adjourn at 8:51pm.

Moved by Councilor Rwaganje, seconded by Councilor Chau.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.



MAYOR'S OFFICE



Mayor Michael T. Foley

2 York Street

Westbrook, Maine 04092

Phone/Fax: 207-591-8110

Email: mayor@westbrook.me.us

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

April 3, 2023

VETERAN'S ACTIVITIES

Our Veterans Coffee & Information Sessions continue at the Westbrook Community Center with our next event on April 13th at 9am. At these sessions our Veteran's Service Officer Arty Ledoux updates veterans on various issues affecting them and we hear stories from those present about their service to our country.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

The second week of April is designated as National Telecommunicators Week. A week set aside to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of our 911 dispatch professionals across the country. We are blessed to have an outstanding team of men and women who provide that service for us right here in Westbrook and I would like to recognize their efforts and service to our great City. These are Westbrook's "first" First Responders, answering the call no matter the circumstance or time of day with professionalism and compassion. Thank you for your dedicated service to the City and our Public Safety Departments

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE & CEREMONY

Just a reminder of our upcoming traditional Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony on Monday, May 29th. The parade will begin at 10am and start at the intersection of Mechanic Street & William Clarke Drive with a ceremony following in Riverbank Park. Those participating are asked to arrive at 9:30am and we hope City Councilors are able to join. We thank the Veterans Services Advisory Committee for their work in organizing this event and we look forward to seeing everyone there as we honor those we have lost in service to our country.

WESTBROOK TOGETHER DAYS

Also a reminder of the annual Westbrook Together Day this year on June 2nd & 3rd. More details will be available on their Facebook Page and we thank the Westbrook-Gorham Community Chamber of Commerce for their partnership and work in organizing this event. We look forward to seeing everyone at these exciting community events!

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS

I will now read a Mayoral Proclamation for National Arab American Heritage month.



**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
APRIL 2023**

WHEREAS, for over a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society: in medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, military service, culture; and

WHEREAS, since migrating to America, men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also setting fine examples of model citizens and public servants; and

WHEREAS, they brought with them to America their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, and diversity in faith and creed that have added strength to our great democracy; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans have also enriched our society by sharing in the entrepreneurial American spirit that makes our nation free and prosperous; and

WHEREAS, the history of Arab Americans in the U.S. remains neglected or defaced by misconceptions, bigotry, and anti-Arab hate in the forms of crimes and speech; and

WHEREAS, Arab American issues, such as civil rights abuses, harmful stereotyping, and bullying must be combated in the forms of education and awareness; and

WHEREAS, they join all Americans in the desire to see a peaceful and diverse society, where every individual is treated equally and feels safe; and

WHEREAS, the incredible contributions and heritage of Arab Americans have helped us build a better nation.

WHEREAS, we have great organizations in our community such as the New England Arab American Organization who help to promote diversity in Westbrook.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael T. Foley, Mayor of the City of Westbrook, Maine do hereby designate the month of April 2023 as National Arab American Heritage Month; in our City of Westbrook, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Westbrook to be affixed this 3rd day of April 2023.



Michael T. Foley, Mayor
City of Westbrook, Maine