



**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021 AT 7:00 PM
WESTBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL
471 STROUDWATER ST.**



I. READING THE CALL FOR A SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Clerk Angela Holmes noted for the record that a Special City Council meeting was called by Mayor Michael T. Foley on October 15, 2021. Notice of the meeting was emailed to City Councilors and posted to the City's website.

II. ROLL CALL

Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by City Council President Gary Rairdon.

City Councilors Present: Michael Shaughnessy (At-Large), David C. Morse (Ward 1), Victor Chau (Ward 2), Gary Rairdon (Ward 4, President), Elliot Storey (Ward 5, attending remotely due to illness), Claude Rwaganje (At-Large)

City Councilors Absent: Anna A. Turcotte (Ward 3, Vice President)

Other City Officials Present: Rosemary Bebris (Library Director), Jerre Bryant (City Administrator), Natalie Burns (City Solicitor), Melanie Fernald (Deputy City Clerk), Michael T. Foley (Mayor), Jo Freedman (Mental Health Liaison), Tressina Germani (Accounting Manager), Greg Hamilton (Director of Emergency Communications), Angela Holmes (Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk), Katherine Kelley (Wastewater Division Manager), Suzanne Knight (Finance Director), Sean Lally (Police Chief), Dena Lebeda (Tax Collector), Arty Ledoux (Director of Operations, Department of Engineering & Public Services), Irlando Lobo (Customer Service Representative), Greg Post (Director of Community Services), Lillian Ranco (Student Representative), Andrew Turcotte (Fire Chief)

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Rairdon led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

September 13, 2021 - Joint Meeting with Westbrook School Committee, Regular City Council Meeting, Committee of the Whole Meeting

October 4, 2021 - Regular City 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.

Mayor Foley invited Chief Lally to the podium to introduce Jo Freedman, and to discuss the new role of Mental Health Liaison in the Westbrook Police Department.

Later on the agenda is the retirement of Police Canine Brook to Officer Benjamin Hall. Mayor Foley invited Chief Lally, Officer Hall, and Brook to the podium. Later in the agenda is a request to transfer the ownership of Brook to Officer Hall.

Mayor Foley presented the Proclamation in Honor of 2021 Friends of the Library Week to members of the Friends of the Walker Memorial Library.

Mayor Foley presented the following awards:

- Employee of the Quarter, 1st Quarter 2021, Cody Johnson
- Manager of the Quarter, 1st Quarter 2021, Suzanne Knight
- Manager of the Quarter, 2nd Quarter 2021, Robyn Saunders

Mayor Foley noted that Kathy Young, Employee of the Quarter for 2nd Quarter 2021, would attend the next meeting to receive her award.

VI. CITY COUNCIL MESSAGES

President Rairdon opened the floor for Council messages. None

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Ranco shared the following items:

- Westbrook High School is fully online due to a fire at the school.
- Students and staff encourage everyone to attend events such as athletics and shows.
- Westbrook High School will be providing flu shots this week to high school students.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Rairdon opened the floor for the first public comment portion of this meeting. The following individuals spoke: None

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

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

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

Order 2021-102. Authorizing Award of Bid and Expenditure of Funds for Lincoln Street Boat Launch.

Order 2021-103. Authorizing Purchase of a 100' E-One Quint.

Order 2021-104. Authorizing Expenditure for New Ambulance.

Order 2021-105. Authorizing Acceptance & Expenditure of Funds & Agreements for Westbrook Community Center Gym Renovation Project.

Order 2021-106. Authorizing the Purchase of Two (2) Police Vehicles from Town of Cape Elizabeth.

Order 2021-107. Authorizing Acceptance & Expenditure of Law Enforcement Phlebotomy Program Implementation Support Funding Grant.

Order 2021-108. Adopting Amendment to MainePERS PLD Plan - Public Safety Dispatchers.

Order 2021-109. Adopting Amendment to MainePERS PLD - Enrollment, Chapter 803.

Order 2021-110. Authorizing Agreement for Parking Garage Winter Maintenance.

Order 2021-111. Approving the 2021-2022 Capital Paving Vendor List.

Motion to approve second and final reading of Orders 2021-102 through 2021-111.

Moved by Councilor Morse, seconded by Councilor Shaughnessy.

President Rairdon asked if any Councilor would like to consider any item separately. No one spoke.

President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke: None

Motion carried. Orders 2021-102 through 2021-111 adopted. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None

Absent: Turcotte

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, and City Council Orders receiving the first of two required readings.

Resolves (One Reading Required)

Resolve 2021-18. Setting the Hours of Voter Registration & Polls for the November 2, 2021 State Referendum & Municipal General & Referendum Elections.

Motion to approve the first and final reading of the legislation.

Moved by Councilor Morse, seconded by Councilor Rwaganje.

President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke: None

Motion carried. Resolve 2021-18 adopted. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None

Absent: Turcotte

Orders (One Reading Required)

Order 2021-112. Authorizing Transfer of Ownership of Police Canine.

Motion to approve the first and final reading of the legislation.

Moved by Councilor Shaughnessy, seconded by Councilor Chau.

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

Mayor Foley, President Rairdon, Councilor Rwaganje, Chief Lally

Motion carried. Order 2021-112 adopted. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None

Absent: Turcotte

Order 2021-113. Amending Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Portland Regarding Spring Harbor Hospital & Spring Harbor Hospital's Center of Excellence for Autism and Developmental Disorders.

Motion to approve the first and final reading of the legislation.

Moved by Councilor Shaughnessy, seconded by Councilor Morse.

President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Councilor Chau, Mr. Bryant, Chief Turcotte

Motion carried. Order 2021-113 adopted. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None

Absent: Turcotte

Orders (Two Readings Required)

Order 2021-115. Authorizing Acceptance & Expenditure of Donation for Police Canine.

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

Moved by Councilor Rwaganje, seconded by Councilor Chau.

President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Mayor Foley

Motion carried. First of two readings approved. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None

Absent: Turcotte

Point of Order. As a point of order, Ms. Holmes noted that Order 2021-114 was skipped during the numbering of the legislation appearing on the agenda this evening. That number will be left unused.

Order 2021-116. Authorizing Municipal Partnership Initiative (MPI) Agreement for Cumberland Mills Paving & Safety Improvements.

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

Moved by Councilor Chau, seconded by Councilor Morse.

President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Mayor Foley

Motion carried. First of two readings approved. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None

Absent: Turcotte

Order 2021-117. Authorizing Brown Street Community Policing Substation Rent Payments.

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

Moved by Councilor Shaughnessy, seconded by Councilor Chau.

President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Mayor Foley

Motion carried. First of two readings approved. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None
Absent: Turcotte

Order 2021-118. Authorizing Rooftop Lease Agreement for Public Safety Radio Equipment & Rooftop Antenna.

Motion to approve the first of two readings of the legislation.
Moved by Councilor Chau, seconded by Councilor Shaughnessy.
President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Mayor Foley

Motion carried. First of two readings approved. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon
Nays: None
Absent: Turcotte

Order 2021-119. Authorizing Interlocal Agreement with Town of Scarborough for Vehicle Maintenance & Repair.

Motion to approve the first of two readings of the legislation.
Moved by Councilor Rwaganje, seconded by Councilor Chau.
President Rairdon opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Mayor Foley, President Rairdon

Motion carried. First of two readings approved. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon
Nays: None
Absent: Turcotte

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Rairdon opened the floor for the second and final public comment portion of this meeting. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Rwaganje, Councilor Shaughnessy, Councilor Chau

XIV. REFERRALS

There were no referrals for consideration.

XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following items remain in their City Council Committees for deliberation. No 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

Facilities & Streets Committee

Austin Street Extension
Sidewalks & Traffic at Haskell Street

Condition of Westbrook Middle School Baseball Field
Traffic Issues on Forest Street

Finance Committee
Creating a Fire Truck Fund

Public Safety Committee
Use of Force Policy Analysis

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no requests for an Executive Session.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:56pm.

Moved by Councilor Chau, seconded by Councilor Rwaganje.

Motion carried. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Shaughnessy, Morse, Chau, Storey, Rwaganje, Rairdon

Nays: None

Absent: Turcotte



MAYOR'S OFFICE



Mayor Michael T. Foley

2 York Street

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

October 18, 2021

MEETING LOCATION & REMOTE OPTIONS

Just a reminder that given the recent fire at Westbrook High School, we are now unsure when we might return to Room 114. Until further notice, all community meetings will take place at the Westbrook Middle School. Our goal is hold meetings in the Performing Arts Center as we are today, to allow the option of hybrid meetings. The hybrid meeting functionality is now available for meeting participants and the public. The instructions are posted along with this evening's agenda. We continue to be grateful for Westbrook Performing Arts Center and its manager Jamie Grant, along with our Creative Services Manager Barry Dodd, for helping us to continue to provide proper technology and meeting facility for the community.

FREE COVID-19 TESTING SITE

We are excited to announce the reopening of our COVID-19 testing site today at the Public Safety Building, 570 Main Street, in partnership with Maine CDC & DHHS. The latest Bureau of Labor Standards Rule requires testing or vaccinations for employers with over 100 employees and the reopening our testing site will provide a valuable regional resource, making it easy for community members & businesses to protect one another with appropriate and free testing. Testing will be conducted by appointment only. More details are available on our website.

HALLOWEEN

Earlier this month, the Westbrook-Gorham Community Chamber of Commerce announced the cancellation of this year's Halloween on Main Street event, given concerns surrounding COVID-19 and current downtown construction. The Chamber intends to partner with Rock Row on another Halloween event and information can be found on their Facebook page.

City Hall regularly receives inquiries around this time of year about Halloween and trick-or-treating. As a reminder, the City does not regulate Halloween activities. We encourage you to look to the CDC for guidance on all seasonal activities as we try to safely navigate the holidays.

VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY

In honor of Veteran's Day, we will be holding our traditional Veteran's Day Ceremony in Riverbank Park. The Ceremony will be held on November 11th at 11:00 AM. We look forward to seeing everyone there as we honor those who have served.

UPCOMING ELECTION

Just a reminder that the upcoming State and Municipal Election will be held on November 2nd and voting will take place at the Westbrook Community Center from 7am to 8pm. Absentee voting is also now available at City Hall during normal hours. To find our more information on the upcoming elections or to request an absentee ballot please visit our website or contact the City Clerk's Office at 207-591-8116.

MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON

We are pleased to introduce Jo Freedman, the City's new Mental Health Liaison, to City Council this evening. City Council approved the inclusion of this brand-new position in this year's budget using American Rescue Plan Act funds to assist the Police Department with the increased number of mental health calls in the City. Our Police Department identified mental health crises as a growing trend in our community. Across the nation Police Departments are turning toward mental and behavioral health professionals to assist with these calls. Jo comes to us from the City of Portland, where she was the mental health clinic for Portland PD. Police Chief Sean Lally joins us this evening, and he is present to expand upon this position's role in our community.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

I will now read the Mayoral Proclamation celebrating Friends of Libraries Week.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

I will now present our most recent quarterly employee recognition and a special retirement.