

**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2018 AT 6:30PM
WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL ROOM 114**

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 6:30pm by Vice President O'Hara.

Councilors Present: Lynda Adams (Ward 5); Victor Chau (Ward 2); Ann Peoples (At-Large); Gary Rairdon (Ward 4); Anna Turcotte (Ward 3); John O'Hara (At-Large/Vice President)

Councilors Absent: Brendan Rielly (Ward 1/President)

Other City Officials Present: Jerre Bryant (City Administrator); Angela Holmes (City Clerk); Michael Sanphy (Mayor)

ANNUAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS

Vice President O'Hara gave the floor to Mr. Bryant to introduce the discussion topic of the evening. Mr. Bryant stated that a committee was formed last year to review health and social service agency funding requests prior to the adoption of the City's FY 2018 budget, and to provide recommendations on funding allocations to the Mayor and City Council. When the committee presented their recommendations to City Council several questions and concerns were raised concerning the decision making process and how funding level recommendations were determined. Prior to reviewing any funding requests for the FY 2019 budget, and in order to facilitate an efficient review process, Mr. Bryant asked the committee to appear before Council to receive guidance on their goals and expectations.

Three documents were distributed to Council members, and are attached to these minutes. The first outlines the FY 2018 slate of committee members (Dr. Bruce Dyer, Michelle York, Caroline Gray and Tarlan Amadov; The second lists FY 2018 grant allocation recommendations, and the third is an email communication from Kathleen O'Neill-Lussier.

Mr. Bryant asked Dr. Dyer to the podium to discuss the process used last year, and to ask any questions the Committee may have of City Council. Dr. Dyer stated that last year the committee met over the period of several months, and interviewed each agency requesting funding. Agencies were asked about residents served, what would happen if funding was not approved at the requested level, and the impact of their work. Dr. Dyer asked for City Council's community priorities in this upcoming funding year.

City Councilors shared the following requests:

- Funding should focus on the following populations/areas of need: (1) immigrants, (2) elderly, (3) at-risk youth, and (4) family support needs.
- The Committee should consider the allocation of funds to new agencies.
- Create a point system to rate agency applications.
- Provide Council with a spreadsheet outlining all their findings and the application scores.

- Provide Council with agency background information (what they do and who they serve).
- Provide historical information on previous years' funding allocations.
- Provide a presentation of all findings and recommendations during the Finance Committee budget deliberations.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:56pm.

Moved by Councilor Peoples, seconded by Councilor Chau.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.