

**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MONDAY MAY 21, 2018
WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL ROOM 114**

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 6:01pm by Committee Chair Rairdon.

Councilors Present: Lynda Adams (Ward 5); Victor Chau (Ward 2); Gary Rairdon (Ward 4/Committee Chair); John O’Hara (At-Large/Vice President); Brendan Rielly (Ward 1/President)

Councilors Absent: Ann Peoples (At-Large); Anna Turcotte (Ward 3)

Other City Officials Present: Jerre Bryant (City Administrator); Natalie Burns (City Solicitor); Jennie Franceschi (Director of Planning and Code Enforcement); Angela Holmes (City Clerk); Michael Sanphy (Mayor); Daniel Stevenson (Economic Development Director)

AMERICAN ROOTS TRAINING PROGRAM

Committee Chair Rairdon invited Mr. Bryant to provide an overview of the proposed program. Mr. Bryant noted that the applicants would give a more detailed presentation. American Roots is interested in moving from Portland to Westbrook, which allows for their current and future growth. American Roots is seeking assistance with their Workforce Training Program.

Mr. Bryant gave the floor to American Roots co-owners Benjamin Waxman and Whitney Reynolds, who provided City Council with an overview of the proposed workforce training program and their request for funding assistance.

The following individuals provided comments and/or questions:

1. Councilor Adams
2. Vice President O’Hara
3. Councilor Chau
4. Mr. Stevenson
5. Mr. Bryant
6. President Rielly

Motion to refer the proposed agreement to City Council for consideration.

Moved by President Rielly, seconded by Vice President O’Hara.

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-2)

Ayes: Councilor Adams, Councilor Chau, Committee Chair Rairdon, Vice President O’Hara, President Rielly

Nays: None

Absent: Councilor Peoples, Councilor Turcotte

DOWNTOWN PARKING PLAN

Mr. Bryant commented that the studies of downtown parking date back to 2006; only some of the recommendations have been put into practice. The downtown business community has expressed concerns about lack of available parking for their patrons and employees. Parking location, availability and signage have been identified as areas needing improvement.

Mr. Stevenson and Ms. Franceschi presented an overview of current public parking locations, conditions and issues. Informational meetings for the public will be held May 29th, June 7th at the Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church and on June 14th at the Walker Memorial Library. Informational leaflets will be distributed throughout the downtown area and shared on the City website and City social media pages.

The following individuals provided comments and/or questions:

1. Councilor Adams
2. Councilor Chau
3. Mr. Bryant
4. Christine Latini, 170 Pierce Street

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:11pm.

Moved by President Rielly, seconded by Councilor Chau.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.