

**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MONDAY JULY 23, 2018
PART 1 & 2
WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL ROOM 114**

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 6:30pm by Committee Chair Rairdon.

Councilors Present: Lynda Adams (Ward 5); Victor Chau (Ward 2); Ann Peoples (At-Large); Gary Rairdon (Ward 4/Committee Chair); Anna Turcotte (Ward 3); John O’Hara (At-Large/Vice President); Brendan Rielly (Ward 1/President)

Other City Officials Present: Jerre Bryant (City Administrator); Natalie Burns (City Solicitor); Steve Goldberg (Police Captain); Ashley Rand (Deputy City Clerk); Michael Sanphy (Mayor)

OUTDOOR DINING & LIQUOR SERVICE

Committee Chair Rairdon invited Mr. Bryant to provide an overview of the proposed outdoor dining and extended liquor service. Mr. Bryant gave an overview of the draft language amendments to the City Code of Ordinances. Recent State Statutory changes allow restaurants to utilize areas that are not adjacent to their businesses as an extension of their dining area. Restaurants would also have the option to extend their liquor license into the extended space. This draft language would enable restaurants to further expand their restaurant space and capacity on a seasonal basis and would create a new and welcoming atmosphere, particularly for restaurants in the downtown area.

The following individuals provided comments and/or questions:

1. President Rielly
2. Mr. Bryant
3. Ms. Rand
4. Ms. Burns
5. Councilor Rairdon
6. Councilor Turcotte
7. Councilor Chau
8. Councilor Peoples
9. Vice President O’Hara
10. Councilor Adams

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

Moved by President Rielly, seconded by Councilor Peoples

Motion carried. (Vote 7-0)

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

Nays: None

RECESS

Motion to recess for Special City Council Meeting.

Moved by President Rielly, seconded by Councilor Turcotte.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

RECONVENE

Committee of the Whole reconvened at 7:43pm.

Councilors Present: Lynda Adams (Ward 5); Victor Chau (Ward 2); John O’Hara (At-Large/Vice President); Ann Peoples (At-Large); Gary Rairdon (Ward 4); Brendan Rielly (Ward 1/President); Anna Turcotte (Ward 3)

Other City Officials Present: Jerre Bryant (City Administrator); Natalie Burns (City Solicitor); Jeannie Franceschi (Director of Planning and Code Enforcement); Steve Goldberg (Police Captain); Ashley Rand (Deputy City Clerk); Michael Sanphy (Mayor)

FARM ANIMALS

Committee Chair Rairdon invited Ms. Franceschi to provide an overview of both the Land Use Ordinance and Chapter 4 Animals & Fowl regarding the City’s regulations relative to keeping farm animals in Westbrook. Ms. Franceschi stated that research was also conducted in other municipalities and University of New England produced a spreadsheet for how much land is needed for each and every farm animal that the City can use as a guide.

The following individuals provided comments and/or questions:

1. Mr. Bryant
2. Councilor Turcotte
3. Councilor Adams
4. President Rielly
5. Councilor Rairdon
6. Ms. Burns
7. Vice President O’Hara
8. Councilor Peoples
9. Councilor Adams

Motion to refer farm animal ordinance back to Administration for review.

Moved by President Rielly, seconded by Councilor Peoples

Motion carried. (Vote 7-0)

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

Nays: None

EVENT PERMIT FEES

Committee Chair Rairdon invited Mr. Bryant to provide an overview of event permit fees. Mr. Bryant stated that this item was referred back to Committee of the Whole when it went for first reading the item was tabled and sent back to committee for discussion. In response to the growing number of events in Westbrook that utilize public land and/or facilities and require services from Public Safety, Public Services and other municipal services, the city staff put together a planning/coordination process whereby event promoters meet with city representative in advance of such event to better planning and coordination. This provides a more structured and consistent handling of such events and has been well received by most individuals and organizations seeking

to hold an event in Westbrook. Larger events and events that utilize public streets (such as parades and road races) make significant use of public safety personnel. The additional services that are required, specifically from police, fire/rescue and public services all represent additional expenses for the city. These expenses are not budgeted and have to be paid by either the event promoter as a cost of the event or by the city (ie property tax payer). It is recommended that the direct expenses be identified for each event and paid for by the event promoter unless a fee waiver is requested and granted vote of the City Council and funding for those expenses are appropriated through the city budget. As for the application fee of \$200, this may represent additional work for city staff, but it does not represent an additional expense and administration would recommend not charging any fee for the event application.

The following individuals provided comments and/or questions:

1. Councilor Rairdon
2. Councilor Adams
3. Councilor Peoples
4. Ms. Burns
5. Councilor Chau

Motion to refer event permit and event permit fees to Legal and Administration for Ordinance language as well as to provide the committee with a comparison of surrounding municipalities event regulations.

Moved by President Rielly, seconded by Councilor Peoples

Motion carried. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Councilor Adams, Councilor Chau, Councilor Peoples, Committee Chair Rairdon, Councilor Turcotte, Vice President O'Hara, President Rielly

Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:45pm.

Moved by Councilor Peoples, seconded by Councilor Adams.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.