



**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023 AT 7:00 PM
WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL (ROOM 114)
125 STROUDWATER ST.**



I. CALL FOR A SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk Angela Holmes noted for the record that a Special City Council meeting was called by Mayor Michael T. Foley on October 12, 2023. Notice of the meeting was emailed to City Councilors and posted to the City's website.

II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by City Council Vice President David C. Morse. City Clerk Angela Holmes read the City Council Land Acknowledgement statement into the record.

III. ROLL CALL

City Councilors Present: David C. Morse (Ward 1, Vice President), Victor Chau (Ward 2), Gary Rairdon (Ward 4), Jennifer Munro (Ward 5), Claude Rwaganje (At-Large)

City Councilors Absent: Michael Shaughnessy (At-Large), Anna A. Turcotte (Ward 3, President)

Other City Officials Present: Ranya Adnan (Student Representative), Rosemary Bebris (Library Director), Jerre Bryant (City Administrator), Mark Bower (Legal Counsel), Eric Dudley (Director of Engineering & Public Services), Michael T. Foley (Mayor), Angela Holmes (Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk), Sean Lally (Police Chief)

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Morse led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

October 2, 2023 - Regular City Council Meeting

VI. 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 members from the Friends of the Walker Memorial Library to the podium to receive a proclamation in honor of Friends of the Library Week.

VII. CITY COUNCIL MESSAGES

Vice President Morse opened the floor for City Council messages. No one spoke.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE

Student Representative Adnan provided the following updates:

- Fall sports are coming to an end.
- The marching band has a final show in Sanford.
- The theater group has a show in the near future.
- A blood drive will take place on October 25, 2023.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business for consideration.

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

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

Order 2023-108. Authorizing Acceptance & Expenditure of Donation and Approving Environmental Assessment Agreement Related to Riverwalk North Project

Motion to approve second and final reading of Order 2023-108.

Moved by Councilor Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Munro.

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

Motion carried. Order 2023-108 adopted. (Vote 5-0-2)

Ayes: Morse, Chau, Rairdon, Munro, Rwaganje

Nays: None

Absent: Shaughnessy, Turcotte

XII. 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 2023-109. Authorizing Agreements for Public Safety Building Low Voltage Lighting and VOC System Replacement

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

Moved by Councilor Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Munro.

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

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-110. Authorizing Agreements for City Hall Second Floor Renovations

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

Moved by Councilor Munro, seconded by Councilor Rwaganje.

Vice President Morse opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Mayor Foley, Mr. Dudley

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-111. Authorizing Agreement for Library Roof Repairs

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

Moved by Councilor Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Munro.

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

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-112. Authorizing Modification to Municipal Partnership Initiative (MPI) Agreement for Route 302, Brook Street & Pride Street Intersection Improvements

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

Moved by Councilor Munro, seconded by Councilor Rwaganje.

Vice President Morse opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Mayor Foley, Mr. Dudley

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-113. Accepting Donation of a Book Drop Box

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

Moved by Councilor Munro, seconded by Councilor Rairdon.

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

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-114. Authorizing Acceptance & Expenditure of a Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant

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

Moved by Councilor Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Rwaganje.

Vice President Morse opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Councilor Munro, Chief Lally

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

Order 2023-115. Acceptance and Expenditure of Donation to purchase a K-9 for the Police Department

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

Moved by Councilor Munro, seconded by Councilor Rairdon.

Vice President Morse opened the floor for comments on the motion. The following individuals spoke:
Councilor Chau, Councilor Rairdon, Councilor Munro
Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice President Morse opened the floor for the second and final public comment portion of this meeting. The following individuals spoke: None

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

Facilities & Streets Committee
Austin Street Extension

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no requests for an Executive Session.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:23pm.

Moved by Councilor Rwaganje, seconded by Councilor Munro.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.



MAYOR'S OFFICE



Mayor Michael T. Foley

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Email: mayor@westbrook.me.us

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

October 16, 2023

VETERAN'S ACTIVITIES

Our Veterans coffee & information sessions have started back up and our next one is on Thursday, November 9th at the Westbrook Community Center in the Spruce Room at 9am. We are excited to again host a Veteran's Day Ceremony on November 11th at 11am to be held at Veterans Rest in Woodlawn Cemetery. We thank the Veteran's Advisory Committee for their work on all these events and hope to see many of you there.

UPCOMING ELECTION

Just a reminder that the upcoming State Referendum Election will be held on November 7th and voting will take place at the Westbrook Community Center from 6am to 8pm. Absentee voting will soon be 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.

HALLOWEEN

The Westbrook-Gorham Community Chamber of Commerce recently announced they will be hosting Halloween on Main Street this year after a multi-year hiatus due to COVID and downtown construction. We are excited this year we'll be able to hold this event with the new Westbrook Common completed and in the future with the Downtown Parking Garage ready to support this exciting community event for years to come! The Westbrook Community Center, Rock Row, and other community organizations are also hosting events this year, please check out their respective Facebook pages or websites for more details.

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 all to use their best judgment to safely navigate this holiday.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

I will now read a proclamation for Friends of Libraries Week.



**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK
OCTOBER 15 – 21, 2023**

WHEREAS, Friends of the Walker Memorial Library raise money that enables our library to move from good to great -- providing the resources for additional programming, much needed equipment, support for children's summer reading, and special events throughout the year; **AND**

WHEREAS, the work of the Friends highlights on an on-going basis the fact that our library is the cornerstone of the community providing opportunities for all to engage in the joy of life-long learning and connect with the thoughts and ideas of others from ages past to the present; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Friends understand the critical importance of well-funded libraries and advocate to ensure that our library gets the resources it needs to provide a wide variety of services to all ages including access to print and electronic materials, along with expert assistance in research, readers' advisory, and children's services; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Friends' gift of their time and commitment to the library sets an example for all in how volunteerism leads to positive civic engagement and the betterment of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael T. Foley, Mayor of the City of Westbrook, Maine do hereby proclaim October 15 – 21, 2023 as "**FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK**" in the City of Westbrook. I urge everyone to join the Friends of Walker Memorial Library and to thank them for all they do to make our library and community so much better.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Westbrook to be affixed.



Michael T. Foley, Mayor
City of Westbrook, Maine