

**City Council Workshop Meeting  
September 19, 2017  
Council Chambers  
7:00 PM**

**COUNCILORS PRESENT**

Councilor Abbott  
Councilor Barnett  
Councilor Bogan  
Councilor Gates  
Councilor Gray  
Councilor Hamann  
Councilor Keans  
Councilor Lachapelle  
Councilor Lauterborn  
Councilor Torr  
Councilor Varney  
Councilor Willis  
Mayor McCarley

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Daniel Fitzpatrick, City Manager  
Blaine Cox, Deputy City Manager  
Terence O'Rourke, City Attorney  
Gregg DeNobile, Resident  
Lou Archambault, Resident  
Angela Mills, Exec. Dir. Rochester Main  
Street Program  
human, Resident  
Craig Davis, Resident  
Rebecca Marshville, Resident

**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor McCarley called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

**2. Public Input**

Mayor McCarley invited members of the public to come forward to speak.

Angela Mills, Executive Director of the Rochester Main Street Program, approached the podium to introduce herself to Council.

Craig Davis, resident and business owner, presented to council "RiverStones Custom Framing" owned by Kris Ebbeson, as the first local business to be showcased in his "Anti-Apathy Project." Mr. Davis reports that Ms. Ebbeson is proud to be a Rochester business owner and has been pleased with the support she has received from both the city and the community.

human, resident, requested clarity from council on the Code

Enforcement Task Force and asked for information regarding the members who comprise said task force, when their meetings occur, and obtaining copies of their meeting minutes.

Gregg DeNobile, resident, expressed concern regarding the City's purchase of the Hanson street parking lot. Mr. DeNobile said he would like to know the financial and development plans for the property. Mr. DeNobile spoke in opposition of the city purchasing more properties.

Mr. DeNobile also inquired about the recent statistical re-do of property values in Rochester as it relates to the tax cap.

Lou Archambault, resident, made a brief presentation in opposition to building a parking structure on Hanson Street. Mr. Archambault addressed concerns that such a structure in close proximity to a police station could be a target for domestic terrorism.

Rebecca Marshville, resident, expressed her desire to help improve the city in a volunteer capacity and requested contact information for a city official to whom she could speak in order to start the process.

### **3. Communications from the City Manager**

#### **3.1. Employee Citations**

City Manager Fitzpatrick presented citations to Mike Riley of Public Buildings and Grounds, Lisa Clark of Public Works and Jennifer Murphy Aubin of Economic Development. They were each recognized for their hard work during the renovation and opening of the new City Hall Annex.

Ginny Gray of the Rochester Tax Collectors office also received a citation for completion of a 4-year training course through the New Hampshire Tax Collectors Association and for receiving her certification.

#### **3.2. New Employees:**

City Manager Fitzpatrick introduced Sonja Gonzalez, Chief Information Officer. Ms. Gonzalez is the first person to hold this position as it is newly created by Council. The Chief Information Officer leads the IT department and computer systems throughout the City.

Jonathan Rice, new Chief Assessor, thanked MaryBeth Walker, Interim Assessor, for getting him up and running in the position and preparing him well. Mr. Rice looks forward to working as the first Chief Assessor in Rochester.

Peter Nourse was welcomed back to Rochester as the Director of City Services after a 2 ½ year hiatus from Rochester Public Works.

#### **4. Communications from the Mayor**

Mayor McCarley reported that council had received a thank you letter from the Make Rochester Great committee for the City's willingness to provide support for the Water Street clean-up. Mayor McCarley praised Make Rochester Great for their hard work and also the Department of Public Works for doing some clean-up after the fact.

Mayor McCarley also announced that the City's newest business, The Rochester Performance and Arts Center, is opening Thursday September 21, 2017 and will have an event from 4:00 PM through 8:00 PM. Mayor McCarley encouraged everyone to attend and check out this beautiful facility.

#### **5. Department Reports**

Councilor Varney inquired about the budget for Host Community Fees. Council Varney noted that the yearly budget for this committee is listed as \$2,000,000 and at this point in the fiscal year they are already at \$724,000. Councilor Varney surmised that at this rate the committee would go well over budget. Finance Director Blaine Cox confirmed that it is likely they will exceed the budget.

#### **6. Other**

No Discussion

#### **7. Non-Meeting/Non-Public**

##### **7.1. Non-Meeting, Consultation with Legal, RSA 91-A:2, I (b)**

#### **8. Adjournment**

Councilor Lachapelle moved to adjourn the Workshop at 7:29 PM. Councilor Bogan seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Givara

Deputy City Clerk