

**City Council Workshop
July 19, 2016
Council Chambers
7:00 PM**

COUNCILORS PRESENT

Councilor Abbott
Councilor Barnett
Councilor Bogan
Councilor Gates
Councilor Gray
Councilor Lachapelle
Councilor Lauterborn
Councilor Keans
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
human, resident

COUNCILORS EXCUSED

Councilor Hamann

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor McCarley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Marcia Roddy, Deputy City Clerk, took a silent roll call. All Councilors were present, with the exception of Councilor Hamann.

2. Public Input

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

Gregg DeNobile, resident, said he read about the lawsuit that the City has filed against Amazon Campground. He expressed his concern that the people who live there could potentially be homeless should the City close down the campground.

human, resident, said that he believes the City Council is copying the Rules of Order from other cities and he cited Dover's and Concord's Rules as examples.

Mayor McCarley closed public input at 7:08 PM.

3. Communications from the City Manager

There was no discussion.

4. Communications from the Mayor

Mayor McCarley said that in the coming weeks she will be having discussions with the City Manager regarding the issue of Rochester and public relations efforts. She has looked at work that was done approximately five years ago concerning a branding project and she feels this should be brought forward and looked at again.

5. Department Reports

Councilor Varney questioned the Planning Department's report regarding the status of the Fairground's zoning. He also questioned the ordinance for accessory apartments and where that discussion is at this point.

Councilor Varney said that the intersection of Flat Rock Bridge Road and Milton Road has become a dangerous intersection and believes that a traffic light should be installed there. He urged the Public Works Committee to discuss this matter at its next meeting.

6. Final Legislative Policy Recommendations

Councilor Lauterborn explained the process regarding legislative process. She said that every two years (always the same year that a new legislature is elected) there are three committees formed that are made up of volunteers from all of the cities and towns in New Hampshire. They are elected officials from the towns and cities. The committees meet approximately three times a year to go over proposals for changes to the State's policies.

There are three groupings and three different policies within each grouping: action, priority, and standing. An action policy means that the New Hampshire Municipal Association staff will write up the proposed legislation, find the sponsors, and then advocate for it. The priority policy means that the Association only gets involved if someone else proposes legislation. Then the Municipal Association gets involved and the staff will advocate for it. The standing policy recommendations are a "look out" or "watchdog" policy to address policies that might not be in the best interest of the cities and towns and

would work to defeat such legislation.

Councilor Lauterborn said that the City Council will need to vote whether they support or do not support the proposed legislation. She said this would need to be on the agenda for the August Regular City Council meeting.

Councilor Lauterborn said that the City Council needs to appoint a representative to attend the Legislative Policy Conference to present Rochester's vote on these policies. She said that anybody can go to the conference, but regardless of how many attend the City only gets one vote. The conference this year will be on Friday, September 23, 2016, at 9:00 AM in Concord.

Councilor Keans asked if there is any other information or background on the specific questions provided. Councilor Lauterborn said that the information provided in the packet is all that is available at this time. Questions can be raised at the conference.

Councilor Gray pointed out that the recommended policy regarding electronic poll books said that it was rejected by the House and that the Secretary of State would like to put together a committee to investigate the matter. Councilor Gray said he will be serving on the committee. Councilor Lauterborn said this program is very strongly supported by the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Association.

7. Other

Councilor Lauterborn said that the New Hampshire Municipal Association used to put on an elected city officials workshop. She said she found it to be very helpful when she was first elected to the City Council. The Association also prepares a handbook that is handed out that contains very useful information specifically for elected officials. She encouraged all of the councilors to attend this year's workshop on September 17, 2016, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM (which will include a continental breakfast). The workshop will include updates on the law for charter communities, a special focus on the Right-to-Know law, and many other questions from other communities. She encouraged all to attend. It is at no charge, but registration is required.

8. Adjournment

Councilor Lachapelle **MOVED** to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 7:25 PM. Councilor Bogan seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous voice vote.

City of Rochester

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Respectfully submitted,

Marcia H. Roddy, CNHDCC
Deputy City Clerk