

**City Council Public Hearing
August 4, 2020
Meeting Conducted Remotely
6:30 PM**

COUNCILORS PRESENT

Councilor Abbott
Councilor Belken
Councilor Bogan
Councilor Gray
Councilor Hainey
Councilor Hamann
Councilor Hutchinson
Councilor Lachapelle
Councilor Lachance
Councilor Rice
Councilor Walker
Deputy Mayor Lauterborn
Mayor McCarley

OTHERS PRESENT

Blaine Cox, City Manager
Katie Ambrose, Deputy City Manager
Terence O'Rourke, City Attorney
Peter Nourse, Director of City Services
Kyle Repucci, Superintendent

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor McCarley called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 PM and read the following preamble:

Good Evening, as Chairperson of the City Council, I am declaring that an emergency exists and I am invoking the provisions of RSA 91-A:2, III (b). Federal, state, and local officials have determined that gatherings of 10 or more people pose a substantial risk to our community in its continuing efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19. In concurring with their determination, I also find that this meeting is imperative to the continued operation of City government and services, which are vital to public safety and confidence during this emergency. As such, this meeting will be conducted without a quorum of this body physically present in the same location.

a.) **Providing public access to the meeting by telephone:** At this time, I also welcome members of the public accessing this meeting remotely. Even though this meeting is being conducted in a unique manner under unusual circumstances, the usual rules of conduct and decorum apply. Any person found to be disrupting this meeting will be asked to cease the

disruption. Should the disruptive behavior continue thereafter, that person will be removed from this meeting. The public can call-in to the below number using the conference code. Some meetings will allow live public input, however you must have pre-registered online, otherwise, the meeting will be set to allow the public to "listen-in" only, and there will be no public comment taken during the meeting. [Public Input Registration](#) (Please note: In order to notify the meeting host that you would like to speak, press 5* to be recognized and unmuted)

Phone number: 857-444-0744

Conference code: 843095

b.) **Public Access Troubleshooting:** If any member of the public has difficulty accessing the meeting by phone, please email PublicInput@RochesterNH.net or call 603-332-1167.

c.) **Public Input:** Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19, the City of Rochester will be taking extra steps to allow for public input, while still ensuring participant safety and social distancing. In lieu of attending the meeting, those wishing to share comments, when permitted, with the City Council (Public Hearing and/or Workshop settings) are encouraged to do so by the following methods:

- **Mail:** City Clerk/Public Input, 31 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH 03867 (*must be received at least three full days prior to the anticipated meeting date*)
- **email** PublicInput@rochesternh.net (*must be received no later than 4:00 pm of meeting date*)
- **Voicemail** 603-330-7107 (*must be received no later than 12:00 pm on said meeting date in order to be transcribed*)

Please include with your correspondence the intended meeting date for which you are submitting. *All correspondence will be included with the corresponding meeting packet (Addendum).*

d.) **Roll Call:** Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by Roll Call vote.

Let's start the meeting by taking a Roll Call attendance. When each member states their name (and/or ward), also please state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law. (Additionally, Council members are required to state their name and ward each time they wish to speak.)

Kelly Walters, City Clerk, called the roll. All Councilors were present. In addition, all Councilors indicated that they were alone in the location from which they were connecting remotely, and/or mentioned whom may be passing through the room on occasion.

2. Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the Rochester School Department in the amount of \$490,000.00 *first reading and referral to public hearing*

Mayor McCarley read the resolution for by title only as follows:

**Supplemental Appropriation to the
Rochester School Department in the amount of \$490,000.00**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER:

That the amount of Four Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$490,000.00) is hereby appropriated as a supplemental appropriation to the Rochester School Department for the purpose of paying costs associated with unanticipated costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. The funding for this supplemental appropriation shall be derived in its entirety from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.

To the extent not otherwise provided for in this Resolution, the Finance Director is hereby authorized to establish and/or designate such multi-year, non-lapsing accounts and or account numbers as are necessary to implement the transactions contemplated in this Resolution.

Mayor McCarley said the School Department has announced that they are returning to "in-person" classes and will need a significant amount of equipment to ensure safety during the pandemic.

Sonja Gonzales, CEO, stated that Ray Barnett, resident is standing by on the vast line.

Mr. Barnett spoke about the meeting agenda and the supplemental appropriation requested by the School Department. *There were some technical difficulties during a portion of comments being made by Mr. Barnett; however, the matter was resolved with a few minutes.*

3. Adjournment

Mayor McCarley **ADJOURNED** the Public Hearing at 6:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Walters
City Clerk