



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of December 7, 2015

**PRESENT: MAYOR WALKER, COUNCILORS-AT-LARGE LAPOINTE & STEARNS
WARD COUNCILORS DUFOUR, IRISH, LINDLEY, SULLIVAN, & HARVEY-
MCPHERSON**

Mayor Walker called the Council Meeting to order.

3. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING MATTERS NOT RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

Maggie Warren represents the Hallowell Area Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee and advised the Council that she would like to submit names of interested people that would like to be on this committee in 2016. She will give the list to the Mayor.

Mayor Walker wanted to recognize for their service and thank two Councilors that did not run for re-election. Councilor Ward Two Lynn Irish has served two years and Councilor Ward Four J. Mark Sullivan has served four years and has chaired the Finance Committee for least two years.

Mayor Walker introduced the new Maine Today/Kennebec Journal reporter Jason Pafundi. He came from the L.A.Times.to serve the Kennebec area.

Mayor Walker introduced and welcomed the new City Intern Brandon Thompson. City Manager Pakulski stated that Mr. Thompson graduated from the UMA Public Administration Program and will be working with all the departments in City Government.

Mayor Walker also welcomed a Messalonskee High School Student, Sophie Libby who is doing a report for class and will be taking notes of the meeting.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Great Hallowell Christmas Parade Permit

Lapointe – Irish – Move to approve permit.

Unanimously approved

B. Victualer’s License & Liquor License

Leah Sampson, the new co-owner of The Maine House, was present with a Victualer’s License and Liquor License application.

Lapointe – Sullivan – Move to approve the Victualer’s License.

The Council questioned if the State Liquor License application was completely filled out and discussion followed.

Lapointe – Sullivan – Move provisional approval of the State Liquor License until the City Manager believes the application is fully completed but if the City Manager has any concerns it will be brought back to the Council.

Discussion continued.

Motion withdrawn

Original motion

Unanimously approved

(Clerk's Note: Although it was the intent of the Council that the new owners of The Maine House receive State approval for their liquor license by signing the application, the original motion did not include the Liquor License. A formal motion could be made at their next Council Meeting.)

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:

Harvey-McPherson – Dufour – Motion to move Item 11 and the Property Committee recommendation from Item 12 up and become Item 7A. Unanimously approved

6. CONSENT AGENDA (Items 6):

- a. City Council Minutes for the November 9, 2015 meeting.
- b. Roll of Accounts for December 7, 2015.
- c. Department/Office Reports: Treasurer, Public Works, Police, Code Enforcement, Fire

Stearns – Lindley - Move acceptance of the consent agenda setting aside the Police Report. Unanimously approved

7. RSU #2 SUPERINTENDENT BILL ZIMA

The Mayor introduced the new RSU #2 Superintendent Bill Zima who was present along with Police Chief Eric Nason to address drug trends in the area. Mayor Walker had this put on the agenda because of concerns that have been addressed to him about increased drug use in the surrounding areas, an alleged stabbing in the cemetery and discussions of downtown behavior. He apologized that he did not pass these concerns along to all the councilors before this meeting. Police Chief Nason stated that they have not identified nor do they know of any hot spots of serious drug use or drug dealings in Hallowell but there are some users in the community. Discussion followed.

RSU #2 Superintendent Zima stated that he has only been superintendent here for four months so he does not know what has happened in the past but since he has been here, he has not seen any drug related incidents come across his desk.

Superintendent Zima thanked the Council for inviting him and he stated that he was excited to work with the community to build opportunities for the kids to do more thinking. He hoped there will be open conversations in the coming year.

Lapointe – Irish – Move to accept the Police Report. Unanimously approved

Discussion followed with Public Works Foreman Buck on several street sites that Summit Natural Gas has dug up in Hallowell.

7A - 11. PUBLIC HEARING: SALE OFFER FOR CITY PROPERTY (Item 11): and Property Committee Recommendation from Item 12:

Mayor Walker opened the Public Hearing.

Mr. Wolfington offered to purchase this non-conforming lot and the Property Committee recommends accepting the offer.

Mayor Walker closed the Public Hearing.

Harvey-McPherson – Lindley - Move acceptance of Harry Wolfington's offer of \$10,000 for the City's tax acquired property on Map 19 Lot 17C. Unanimously approved

8. HALLOWELL WATER DISTRICT COST-SHARING AGREEMENT (Item 8):

Lindley – Irish - Move to approve the radio communication system and power cost-sharing agreement between the Hallowell Water District and the City. Unanimously approved

9. WEB-POSTING OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING AUDIO RECORDINGS AND DRAFT MINUTES (Item 9):

Lindley – Stearns - Move that the City Clerk shall post audio recordings of Council meetings onto the City web page as soon as practical, and shall maintain those recordings on the web page for a reasonable period without unduly burdening webpage bandwidth limitations.

Lindley – Stearns – Amend motion to read “City shall post”. Unanimously approved
Original motion as amended Unanimously approved

Discussion followed:

Lindley – Stearns - Move that the City shall post draft written minutes of Council meetings onto the City web page as soon as practical, and not wait for the monthly packet preceding the next month's meeting. Unanimously approved

10. THIRD READING OF AMENDMENTS TO THE ROAD ACCEPTANCE POLICY (Policy 2015-01)

Stearns – Lindley - Move to approve Third Reading of amendments to City of Hallowell’s Road Acceptance Policy. Unanimously approved

12. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS (Item 12):



- Property Committee
 - Policy on Sale of City Property – Chair Councilor Harvey-McPherson stated the committee will meet with the City Manager before January to compile a list of all City Property before they begin a discussion on a policy on sale of City property.
- Personnel Committee - Code of Conduct draft update – Chair Councilor Lapointe stated the committee will meet before January on the Code of Conduct.
- Finance Committee – Chair Councilor Sullivan drafted a motion that he did not think needed to be acted on tonight. The drafted motion describes how/why the committee recommends improving and modernizing the Capital Improvement Planning Process.
- Stevens School - Mayor Walker stated the committee has not met. The State Bureau of General Services has not publicly stated if the bid has been accepted.

13. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT (Item 13):

City Manager Pakulski asked the Council if they had any questions concerning his written report. Discussion followed on Central Street parking lot.

Lindley – Lapointe - Move to authorize the City Manager and Mayor to negotiate on City’s behalf with owner of properties for proposed Central Street parking lot. Unanimously approved

Lindley – Lapointe – Move to authorize the transfer of funds from the Public Safety Building reserve account to pay for the new doors at the Fire Station. Unanimously approved

Small discussion on one item - The City Manager met with the head of the Hallowell Farmers Market who will approach the City Council in the near future to request changing the location of the farmers market from Granite City Park to the Vaughan Field Park area.

14. MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS/REPORT:

Mayor Walker stated that the Water Street Reconstruction Parking Subcommittee of the Highway Committee has not met yet and Frank O’Hara will be chairing this committee. The original

concept when Frank was asked to chair this was to manage off-street parking and additional parking. The Mayor said long term parking is an issue with or without Central Street parking and additional options have been requested. It was recommended to establish a charge for this committee: Charge - To assist the Highway Committee with parking issues developing from the reconstruction of Water Street and broadening the charge to also look at long term parking solutions that people have complained about for decades.

Mayor Walker stated that he would be appointing another person in January to this committee and tonight would like to appoint Carolyn Manson and Lynn Irish to the Water Street Reconstruction Parking Subcommittee of the Highway Committee.

Lindley – Lapointe - Move to approve the Mayor’s appointments. Unanimously approved

Mayor Walker stated that there had been a discussion about councilors contacting the City Attorney directly and he had asked that councilors not directly contact the City Attorney and was recommending referral of this to the Personnel Committee to draft a policy on Council members contact with the City Attorney.

Meeting adjourned.

Deanna Mosher Hallett,

City Clerk

