

City Council Special Meeting Minutes September 24, 2012 City Council Chambers 7:00 p.m.

Non-public meeting in accordance with RSA 91-A: 2, I (b); consultation with legal counsel to be held at 6:00 p.m.

- 1. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call. Councilors Bennett, Blanchard, Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilors Coen, Grady-Sexton, Keach, Kretovic, McClure, Nyhan, St. Hilaire, Shurtleff and Werner were present. Councilors DelloIacono and Patten were excused.
- 3. Agenda overview by the Mayor.
- 4. Report from Mayor Bouley creating an Ad-Hoc Downtown Complete Streets Improvement Project Committee.

Action: Mayor Bouley provided an overview of the report indicating that there are five points: an analysis of and upgrading of Main Street's underground infrastructure; an analysis of Main Street's above ground infrastructure which considers operations and future costs; to address vehicular, bicycling and pedestrian safety concerns; Main Street's economic development and livability; the overall opportunities that they will have in the future for Main Street. He stated that this work is the result of receiving the TIGER grant this past summer. He noted that the goal is to have a committee of seventeen members stating that he chose people that requested to be on the committee. Mayor Bouley indicated that he found that there were lots of groups that wanted to participate and he thought that one of the ways to handle this is to simply ask that the committee, as they go about their process, be willing to consult with groups asking them for their input. He stated that he tried to include all groups that he could within the report and that if he missed someone, it's not because they were intentionally left off, and that the list is not limited to just the groups listed. He pointed out that Carlos Baia and Ed Roberge will be providing staff support for the committee. In regards to the schedule, he stated that he believes there was some confusion noting that he thought Council could have a public hearing in December and Administration was thinking of having the public hearing in November. He posed to Council that if they were to receive a report from the committee by the middle of November, that they consider having a special meeting on November 26th to have public hearing just on this project. The Council consensus was that it made sense to have a special meeting just on this item.

Councilor Werner wondered if there could be more specific attention to sustainability issues. He stated that it's touched upon within the charge and that the Energy and Environment Committee will be involved and looks forward to a lot of discussion around how they might be able to make sure, moving forward, that they do things in a sustainable manner. He added that the committee should look at other communities that might have had or have had similar opportunities and what have they pursued in terms of sustainability options and initiatives.

Mayor Bouley explained that is what he was trying to get at in the last bullet and strongly encouraged them all to do that and share their findings with the committee. He noted that there are many different points in this project which is going to affect sustainability and the environmental piece. The Mayor indicated that the Energy and Environment Committee should be added to the list.

Councilor Coen pointed out that there are some names of proposed committee members in which he is unfamiliar with and questioned whether Council could receive bios to explain what their interest and background is. Mayor Bouley indicated that he will work with the City Clerk's Office to make sure that Council gets the same information that he received.

Councilor Nyhan moved to accept the report and appoint the committee as outlined. The motion was duly seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.

Comments, Requests by Mayor, City Councilors

Mayor Bouley informed Council of the passing of Grace Walker, a former City Councilor.

In regards to item 4, Councilor Werner asked whether it is known when the committee meetings will begin and whether the meetings will be publicly noticed. Mayor Bouley responded that the meetings will be publicly noticed and believes that it had been suggested that at the end of each meeting, the committee reserves time to hear from the public. He added that it is his hope and belief that the meetings will begin this week.

Comments, Requests by the City Manager

City Manager Tom Aspell indicated that he had spoken to Chris Reinhardt, Concord TV, and asked that they at least tape the committee meetings. Mayor Bouley relayed that is his hope as well and added that it may not be physically possible to cover all of them because he believes that it's going to be the wishes of the committee to break down into some subcommittees so there will be work done outside of the regular scheduled public meetings. He stated that subcommittees are open to the public as well but that there will be multiple meetings.

Adjournment

The time being 7:17 p.m., Councilor Bennett moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.

A true copy; I attest:

Michelle Mulholland Deputy City Clerk