

**City Council Special Meeting
March 16, 2021
Council Chambers
31 Wakefield Street and
Remotely via Microsoft Teams
6:49 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

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor McCarley called the Special meeting to order at 6:49 PM. She had read the following preamble prior to the public hearing which had proceeded this meeting:

Good Evening, as Chairperson of the (City Council, Planning Board, Police Commission, ZBA, etc), 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.)

2. Roll Call

Deputy City Clerk Cassie Givara had taken the roll call prior to the public hearing. All Councilors had indicated that they were present and alone in the location from which they were connecting except for Councilors Abbott and Lachapelle, and Mayor McCarley who indicated there would be others occasionally present at their locations.

3. Resolution Authorizing the Department of Public Works to Submit a New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Transportation Alternatives (TAP) Grant Application in an amount not to exceed \$900,000.00 *first reading and consideration for adoption*

Councilor Lachapelle **MOVED** to **APPROVE** the Department of Public Works to submit a NHDOT TAP Grant application as described in the resolution below. Councilor Walker seconded the motion.

Resolution Authorizing the Department of Public Works to Submit a New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Transportation Alternatives (TAP) Grant Application in an amount not to exceed \$900,000.00

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

That the Department of Public Works is thereby authorized to submit a NHDOT TAP Grant Application in an amount not to exceed Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000.00) to pay for the costs associated with the Portland Street

Sidewalk Project. If the grant is awarded, the City will be required to provide a Twenty Percent (20%) match not to exceed Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00).

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

Councilor Lachance inquired if the grant was though the State of NH. Mayor McCarley confirmed it was a State of NH grant. Deputy City Manager Ambrose stated that the terms of the application requires a letter of support from the Mayor; by authorizing this resolution the Council also authorizes the Mayor to sign this letter of support on behalf of the City of Rochester. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a 13-0 roll call vote with Councilors Hutchinson, Hamman, Abbott, Hailey, Gray, Lachapelle, Bogan, Rice, Lachance, Belken, Walker, Lauterborn, Abbott, and Mayor McCarley all voting in favor.

4. Adjournment

Mayor McCarley **ADJOURNED** the City Council Special Meeting at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Givara
Deputy City Clerk