

**CITY COUNCIL  
ROCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Nonpublic Session Minutes**

**Date:** October 17, 2023

**Motion to enter Nonpublic Session**

Made by: Lachapelle

Seconded by: de Geofroy

**Specific Statutory Reason** cited as foundation for the nonpublic session:

\_\_\_\_\_ RSA 91-A:3, II (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, **unless** the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.*

\_\_\_\_\_ RSA 91-A:3, II(b) *The hiring of any person as a public employee.*

\_\_\_\_\_ RSA 91-A:3, II(c) *Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, **other than a member of this board**, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.*

  X   RSA 91-A:3, II(d) *Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are averse to those of the general community.*

\_\_\_\_\_ RSA 91-A:3, II(e) *Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against this board or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership therein, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled*

\_\_\_\_\_ RSA 91-A:3, II(i) *Consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions, including training to carry out such functions, developed by local or state safety officials that are directly intended to thwart a deliberate act that is intended to result in widespread or severe damage to property or widespread injury or loss of life.*

**Roll Call vote** to enter nonpublic session:

(circle replies below)

|                 |            |    |             |
|-----------------|------------|----|-------------|
| Mayor Callaghan | <u>Yes</u> | No | Not Present |
|-----------------|------------|----|-------------|

|                         |            |    |             |
|-------------------------|------------|----|-------------|
| Deputy Mayor Lachapelle | <u>Yes</u> | No | Not Present |
|-------------------------|------------|----|-------------|

|                    |            |    |             |
|--------------------|------------|----|-------------|
| Councilor Fontneau | <u>Yes</u> | No | Not Present |
|--------------------|------------|----|-------------|

|                      |     |    |             |
|----------------------|-----|----|-------------|
| Councilor Gilman     | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Beaudoin   | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Hamann     | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Malone     | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Larochelle | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Desrochers | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Hainey     | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Gray       | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor Berlin     | Yes | No | Not Present |
| Councilor de Geofroy | Yes | No | Not Present |

#### **Entered nonpublic session**

Time: 6:04 pm

#### **Other persons present during nonpublic session:**

City Manager Katie Ambrose, Superintendent Kyle Repucci, School Board Chair Paul Lynch, School Facilities Director Dave Totty, School Board Member Matt Pappas, School Board Member Matt Beliveau, School Board Vice Chair Sarah Harrington, School Finance Director Samantha Kelly, City Finance Director Mark Sullivan, and City Attorney Terence O'Rourke

#### **Description of matters discussed, and final decisions made:**

##### School Department Proposed Land Purchase

Superintendent Repucci presented an update on the purchase of the parcel (749 Salmon abutting the land purchased to build the new schoolhouse. Repucci stated that the purchase price of \$400k can be taken out of the State School Aid Grant received by the City in conjunction with the project. Mr. Totty then provided an update on how this additional parcel will create a better, safer

overall plan for the new schoolhouse. Totty believes that purchasing the abutting parcel will realize a savings in excess of \$900k.

Councilors Hainey and Fontneau expressed support for the purchase because of the potential of this additional land to alleviate potential traffic backup on Salmon Falls Road. As a secondary matter, Fontneau stated the purchase will also contribute to the visual appeal of the new schoolhouse.

School Board Chair Lynch stated that this new parcel will create a turning lane for the school buses that will alleviate many of the traffic and safety issues.

Councilor Berlin stated that the School fulfilled the task that the Council gave it to buy the land for \$400k or less and that the Council should be obligated to vote in favor of the P & S.

Councilor Gray asked if the School could get more school aid and Repucci said no.

Councilor Beaudoin said this is a solution to a problem we created ourselves.

**Council Action:** Motion by LaChapelle to approve P & S as presented by the School Department,

Seconded by de Geofroy

**Yea:** Callaghan, LaChapelle, Fontneau, Desrochers, de Geofroy, LaRochelle, Hamann, Berlin, Hainey, Gray

**Nay:** Beaudoin, Gilman

**Motion to leave nonpublic session** and return to public session

Made by: Lachapelle

Seconded by: de Geofroy

**Motion:** **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

**Public session reconvened**

Time: 6:24 pm

**Motion made to seal these minutes?** **Yes** No (circle one)

Indefinitely? ☒ Yes No (circle one)

If yes, motion made by: Lachapelle

Seconded by: Desrochers

because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would:

\_\_\_\_\_ Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board.

  X   Render a proposed action ineffective.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pertains to preparation or carrying out of actions regarding terrorism.

**Roll Call Vote to seal minutes:**

(2/3's vote of members present required)

|                         |   |             |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|
| Mayor Callaghan         | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | Not Present |
| Deputy Mayor Lachapelle | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Fontneau      | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Gilman        | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Beaudoin      | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Hamann        | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Malone        | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Larochelle    | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Desrochers    | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Hailey        | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor Gray          | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | Not Present |
| Councilor Berlin        | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |
| Councilor de Geofroy    | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No | Not Present |

**Motion:** **PASSED** / **DID NOT PASS** (circle one)

Time: 6:25 pm

**These minutes recorded by:** Terence O'Rourke, City Attorney