

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

November 19, 2013

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

7:03 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Gray
Councilor Hervey
Councilor Keans
Councilor LaBranche
Councilor Lachapelle**
Councilor Lauterborn
Councilor Reed-Erickson
Councilor Torr
Councilor Varney
Councilor Walker
Mayor Jean

OTHERS PRESENT

City Manager Dan Fitzpatrick
Deputy City Manager Blaine Cox
Danford Wensley, City Solicitor
Jenn Bryant
Bruce Lindsay
Donald Hamann*
Dave Carignan
Jake Collins***
Robert Gates***
Mac Kittredge***

* Councilor Hamann took his seat with the Council members after being sworn in

** Councilor Lachapelle joined the Non-Public meeting at 7:36 PM

*** Councilors-elect Collins, Gates, and Kittredge sat in on the Non-Public meeting

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Jean called the Workshop Meeting to order at 7:03 PM. All Council members were present, with the exception of Councilor Lachapelle, who had been excused.

2. Oath of Office

Danford Wensley, City Solicitor, came forward to administer the Oath of Office to the following newly elected officials:

Donald J. Hamann, City Council, Ward 4, Seat B
Bruce Lindsay, Police Commission, Wards 5 and 6
Jenn Bryant, School Board, Ward 1, Seat A

Councilor Hamann took his seat with the other Council members after being sworn in.

3. Public Input

Dave Carignan, resident, voiced his complaints about the current renovation at the ice hockey rink. He pointed out that the old wooden bleachers had been removed in order to replace a wall. New bleachers have been ordered, but will not be in until after the hockey season. Temporary seating has been put in, but there is not enough to accommodate the usual number of spectators. He said that the temporary seating is too low to see the rink from the seats and people would have to stand to see. Also, they are cold aluminum, not suitable for sitting on in a cold arena.

Mr. Carignan suggested putting in two more sections of bleachers to up the capacity. He said that there are many citizens, parents, and others who would volunteer to assist in putting in the seating. He thought that there could be bleachers borrowed from other venues in town, such as the baseball fields.

Mr. Carignan also pointed out that the "warming room" is gone and that has always been important for some spectators in viewing the hockey games, especially the older folks and grandparents. He strongly urged the Arena Commission to get something like that in place for the upcoming hockey season.

Mr. Carignan asked what has happened to the old wooden bleachers and added that he is disappointed in the planning for the Arena renovation.

Mayor Jean closed Public Input at 7:17 PM.

4. Communication from the Mayor

4.1 Planning Board Transmittal of Chapter 42 Amendments

Mayor Jean indicated the Planning Board DRAFT of the Chapter 42 Ordinance and accompanying color map was provided to each Council member. He said that an online map will be available tomorrow [Wednesday, November 20, 2013], as well as a larger printed map. He urged all of the Council members to familiarize themselves with the plan.

Mayor Jean said that the plan will be reviewed at several of the upcoming City Council meetings. He said they will discuss the items of particular concern first and there will be public input on many occasions. He said there will be another Public Hearing on Chapter 42, as well.

Councilor Lauterborn asked if there is a timeline involved between the Public Hearing and adoption. Mayor Jean said yes, but they will be reviewing two ordinances, the current Chapter 42 as well as the new proposed Chapter 42. The proposed ordinance would be read for the first time, and there would be fourteen (14) days after that for the Public Hearing. Councilor Lauterborn said there should not be a Public Hearing scheduled too soon.

Councilor Varney asked if there is only one version of the plan online. Mayor Jean asked City Manager Fitzpatrick if the website has clearly identified each version on the website so there is no confusion. Councilor Walker said that the new version is there first, with the other iterations and history is there, as well.

4.2 Christmas Parade on December 8, 2013

Mayor Jean said that the Christmas Parade sponsored by the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce will be held on December 8, 2013, at 3:00 PM. He also mentioned the Christmas Tree lighting on Friday, December 6, 2013, at 5:30 PM. The tree will be lit for the first time and he will read "*The Night Before Christmas*." Many downtown business will be open and there will be cookie decorating at the Chamber of Commerce.

6. Communication from the City Manager

None.

7. Department Reports

No discussion.

8. Other

Councilor Lauterborn said she would like to see the matter at the Arena cleared up and hopes that the Arena Commission is involved. Mayor Jean agreed and said that the timing for the renovation was not good. He said that it will certainly be looked at to hopefully come up with a workable temporary solution.

9. Non-Public Session

9.1 Land, RSA 91-A:3 (d)

Councilor Walker **MOVED** to enter Non-Public Session at 7:35 PM. Councilor LaBranche seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Hervey, LaBranche, Varney, Walker, Gray, Laroche, Torr, Hamann, Reed-Erickson, Keans, and Lauterborn, and Mayor Jean all voted yes.

Councilor Lachapelle joined the Non-Public Session at 7:36 PM.

Councilor Walker **MOVED** to exit Non-Public Session at 7:59 PM and to seal the minutes indefinitely. Councilor LaBranche seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

10. Adjournment

Councilor Walker **MOVED** to **ADJOURN** the workshop meeting at 7:59 PM. Councilor Lachapelle seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia H. Roddy

Deputy City Clerk