



Town Council Meeting Minutes



Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Matthew Thornton Room

Chairman Koenig called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Present at the meeting were Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Hunter, Councilor Murphy, Councilor Woods, and Town Manager Paul T. Micali. Councilor Healey was present via telephone.

Pledge of Allegiance

Life Scout Maverick Landry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Upcoming Town Council Meetings:

- Thursday, September 23, 2021, 7:00 PM Regular meeting
- Thursday, October 14, 2021, 7:00 PM Regular meeting
- Thursday, October 28, 2021, 7:00 PM Regular meeting

Come and join the Town of Merrimack this **Saturday, September 11th** at Abbie Griffin Park at 8:30 am as we commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the September 11th attacks. The ceremony is expected to last between 30 – 45 minutes.

Merrimack Parks & Recreation and the Lions Club of Merrimack have teamed up with the American Red Cross to host a Fall Community Blood Drive at Wasserman Park on **Friday, September 24th** from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The American Red Cross is facing a shortage that has led to an "urgent need" for blood donors of all types. If you would like to donate, please visit the Parks & Recreation Department website for details and to register. The website is: www.merrimackparksandrec.org or call 603-882-1046.

The Merrimack Police Department is excited to announce that we have begun scheduling Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) classes for this fall. This woman's self-defense program has been missed and we can't wait to see you all again. The class will be conducted with your safety in mind as well as the safety of our instructors. We will be following any safety protocols that are required at the time of the class. If you know of any females 13 or older who may be interested and feels comfortable attending the classes, it will be four nights, September 21st, 23rd, 28th & 30th from 6-9 pm at the O'Leary Center. Applications can be picked up from Dispatch and must be returned by Friday, September 17th. The class consists of both classroom and physical activity. Any questions please call 603-420-1811 or email ACO Gulino at Hgulino@merrimacknh.gov or Officer Groves at Agroves@merrimacknh.gov. Space is limited and seats will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

Comments from the Press and Public

None.

Recognitions, Resignations and Retirements

None.

Appointments

1. Annual Review with the Heritage Commission

Submitted by Heritage Commission Co-Chair Ralph Gerenz and Co-Chair Chip Pollard

Per Town of Merrimack Charter Section 6-6, at least annually, there should be an annual review with the Heritage Commission. This agenda item is to highlight the commission's significant actions, current projects, anticipated actions, and to raise any concerns the Council should know or could act on.

1 Chip Pollard began the annual review of the Heritage Commission by sharing that they are actively seeking
2 two additional members and three alternates. Currently, the Commission is made up of Co-Chairs Ralph
3 Gerenz and Chip Pollard, three full members, and a Town Council representative. Due to Covid restrictions,
4 the Commission only met a few times earlier this year as they share meeting times with the 275th Committee
5 and felt it was more important that the 275th Committee maintain their meetings for this year due to all the
6 events they had planned. Mr. Pollard then went on to share that currently, the Heritage Commission
7 continues to support the Four Village brochures, having put out over 250 brochures throughout Merrimack.
8 Additionally, they have been cleaning and repairing a lot of the Turkey Hill Graveyard markers, with Anita
9 Creager cleaning and repairing over 200 gravestones so far. Another additional project involves identifying
10 the precise locations of 12 district schoolhouses and selecting a suitable and visible placement for signage for
11 the four villages and five fire stations, including the active ones. The Commission has also been assessing the
12 classic roads, which are public roads that the town does not have an obligation to maintain. They are also
13 working with the Merrimack Historical Society to utilize social media to educate individuals on Merrimack's
14 rich historical heritage.

15
16 For concerns, Mr. Pollard addressed Merrimack's rapid development and how this will impact historical
17 heritage, such as loss of historical structures. The Commission plans to work with the Planning Board to
18 address these concerns. Councilor Woods wanted to highlight the importance of the Commission and the
19 importance of the work they do for the town. Vice Chair Rothhaus agreed with Councilor Woods, thanking
20 Mr. Pollard and the Heritage Commission for their commitment to preserving the history in Merrimack.

21 22 **2. Matthew Thornton Grave Marker / Wreath Laying Ceremony Presentation**

23 *Submitted by NH Society Sons of the American Revolution Committee Co-Chair Robert M. Walsh*

24 The Town Council to be presented with the details of the proposed upcoming grave marking and
25 wreath laying ceremony for Matthew Thornton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, scheduled
26 to be held on Sunday, November 7, 2021 at 1:00 PM.

27
28 NH Society Sons of the American Revolution Committee Co-Chair Robert M. Walsh discussed the plan for
29 the ceremony on November 7th, sharing that they will have about 100 people present in colonial garb,
30 including the state color guard which will fire a musket salute. He then invited a member of the Town
31 Council to attend and give greetings on behalf of the Council. This event will be open to the public, and they
32 will be publicizing the event to encourage people to attend and learn the history and its importance to the
33 town.

34
35 Town Manager Paul Micali raised concerns over parking, asking Mr. Walsh if he has talked to the
36 surrounding businesses in the area to see if their lots can be used for parking, in which Mr. Walsh said they
37 have not yet, but he is open to any suggestions the Council will recommend tonight. The Council then
38 offered up the names of several businesses in the immediate area who may be able to accommodate for
39 parking.

40 41 **Public Hearing**

42 **1. Public Hearing - Consideration of Changes to Chapter 92 of the Merrimack Town Code**

43 *Submitted by Town Council Chair Tom Koenig and Vice Chair Finlay Rothhaus*

44 The Town Council will hold a public hearing to consider the acceptance of recommended changes to
45 Chapter 92, Amusement Devices, of the Merrimack Town Code, pursuant to Charter Article V.

46
47 Chairman Koenig provided a brief summary, stating that this hearing is to discuss changing the total
48 amusement devices in an establishment from a maximum of 25 to a maximum of 30. This has the approval
49 and acceptance from the Police Department, and Chairman Koenig wanted to clarify that amusement devices
50 refers to pinball-style game machines, not gambling devices.

1
2 The public hearing was then opened at 7:23pm and closed at 7:24pm.
3

4 **MOTION made by Vice Chair Rothhaus and seconded by Councilor Harrington to move this**
5 **modification forward to the Consent Agenda at the next Town Council meeting.**
6

7 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

8 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
9 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

10 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**
11

12 **Legislative Updates from State Representatives**

13 State Representative Maureen Mooney was present to discuss three items tonight:
14

- 15 1. There was a letter dated September 1, 2021 from the Department of Environmental Services to Saint
16 Gobain; This letter highlights how DES has given St. Gobain 30 days to come up with a plan for
17 long-term operation and maintenance of wells 4 and 5, which is directly related to the subject matter
18 of retained House Bill 478 that was filed almost 1 year ago. She is pleased to see movement for this
19 Bill and looks forward to seeing what comes of the 30 day deadline.
- 20 2. The filing period for the House is next week, and the filing period for the Senate is in October for two
21 weeks.
- 22 3. The Merrimack Citizens for Clean Water, some state representatives, and two Counselors met for a
23 discussion on possible legislation related to water for next year and she looks forward to seeing what
24 comes of that.

25
26 Councilor Murphy wanted to thank Ms. Mooney for all her hard work and being proactive for the needs of
27 Merrimack.
28

29 **Town Manager's Report**

- 30 • The Planning Board granted conditional approval for the development of 50 Robert Milligan
31 Parkway at their September 7 meeting. A nearly 325,000 square foot warehouse distribution facility
32 is proposed for the parcel, which has been identified as an economic development priority parcel in
33 the 2013 Town Master Plan. No specific tenant/tenants have been identified at this point, but the
34 site is being developed by prominent Boston based real estate development firm Trammell Crowe.
35
- 36 • Throughout the fall, Merrimack TV will be covering 10 regular home games of the MHS Tomahawks
37 LIVE on channel 21 and streaming online. Select games from the varsity football, boys and girls
38 soccer, and volleyball teams will be featured, community volunteers have stepped up to provide play
39 by play commentary. Visit merrimacktv.com for details. LIVE AWAY game coverage can be found
40 at nhccm.org/network - Merrimack TV is a member station of the New Hampshire Coalition for
41 Community Media.
42
- 43 • Roundabout Project Update: Utility work is nearing completion which allows our contractor to
44 remobilize to the site to complete the work on the roundabout. In order to facilitate the work and to
45 expedite the construction a detour will be in place between the hours of 8:30 AM and 2 PM for the
46 next two weeks. During other working hours, expect one-way alternating traffic. At night there will
47 be 2-way traffic with the lanes delineated by cones and barrels. The pavement will be removed so
48 travel will be over gravel. Traffic could also be diverted to Turkey Hill Road instead of Baboosic
49 Lake Road. Please continue to use caution through the work zone.

- Merrimack has been notified that our proposed 3,600 Linear Feet of sidewalk project along Daniel Webster Highway ranked #8 out of 34 applications and has been recommended to receive funding through the Governor’s Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) in the ten year plan. Final Approval is anticipated in June 2022. Funding for the project will be part of the 2023-2032 State of NH Ten Year Plan and will be available starting in October, 2022. Our project is anticipated to cost \$1.25 million with \$1 million coming from the Federal Grant. The project would add sidewalk from the Chamberlain Bridge south toward the 360 plaza on the west side of the road.
- The Highway Division is currently working on our “Mill and Fill” Program. This program helps to preserve the condition of our roads by grinding up the most deteriorated portions of roadways and paving in a new course of pavement to prevent potholes from forming during freeze/thaw cycles. This program works in conjunction with our paving program to continue to improve the overall condition of Merrimack’s public streets. Some of the streets included in this years’ program include Erik, Joppa, Pilgrim, Everest, Back River Road and Front St.
- The Equipment Maintenance Division is working to perform inspections and related repairs on the 77 Town owned vehicles that require State stickers by the end of September.
- Wastewater Phase III Update: Construction activities on the project are underway including upgrading the sludge storage tanks, and completing field verifications of the facility to facilitate ordering of new equipment early to avoid schedule impacts due to supply issues.
- The final late Thursday evening at the Transfer Station for this year is on September 30.
- The Transfer Station and Wastewater facilities will be closed to the public on Wednesday, September 22 for employee training.

Consent Agenda

None.

Old Business

1. Appointment of Trustee of Trust Funds

Submitted by Town Council Chairman Tom Koenig and Vice Chair Finlay Rothhaus

The Town Council to consider the appointment of Patricia Heinrich as a Trustee of Trust Funds to fill John “Jack” Balcom’s term until the April 2023 election, pursuant to Charter Article 6-2 and RSA 31:22.

Chairman Koenig shared that they have received one applicant, Pat Heinrich, to fill Mr. Balcom’s spot, and it is up to the Council to now decide if they want Ms. Heinrich to fill the spot. He then shared that Ms. Heinrich has been involved in various aspects of Merrimack, such as the school district and library, and is well known by people in town. Councilor Harrington shared that she is thankful Ms. Heinrich is interested in this position, stating that she believes it’s important that someone heavily involved and well known in the town get appointed. Both Councilor Hunter and Vice Chair Rothhaus agreed with Councilor Harrington that Ms. Heinrich is an excellent candidate for this position.

MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Woods to appoint Patricia Heinrich as a Trustee of Trust Funds to fill John “Jack” Balcom’s term until the April 2023 election, pursuant to Charter Article 6-2 and RSA 31:22.

1
2
3 ***A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:***

4 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
5 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

6 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**
7

8 Ms. Heinrich was present at the meeting and was sworn in immediately by Chairman Koenig.
9

10 **2. 20th Anniversary of September 11th Proclamation**

11 *Submitted by Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Casparius*

12 The Town Council to consider a proclamation commemorating the 20th anniversary of the September
13 11th attacks, to be read at the ceremony on Saturday, September 11th.
14

15 Town Manager Paul Micali discussed the consideration of the below proclamation submitted by Parks and
16 Recreation Director Matthew Casparius, stating that the town wants to honor the first responders and citizens
17 lost on September 11th.
18

19 **Town of Merrimack, New**
20 **Hampshire**
21 ***Proclamation***
22 **September 11, 2001 “A Day to**
23 **Remember”**

24 **Whereas**, the unprovoked attacks of September 11, 2001 upon America by foreign terrorists have thrust
25 the United States, and other countries, into a war it never envisioned, militarily or diplomatically; and
26

27 **Whereas**, the challenges facing all the civilized people of the world as they relate to the war on terrorism
28 will not end until those fanatics responsible are eliminated or brought to justice; and
29

30 **Whereas**, America is fully committed to ensure that our freedom remains unfettered and sovereign for all
31 generations, now and forever; and
32

33 **Whereas**, world opinion needs to remain focused upon the eradication of these inhuman acts perpetrated
34 around the globe; and
35

36 **Whereas**, one way to accomplish this is to NEVER FORGET that those innocent victims did not die in
37 vain; and
38

39 **Whereas**, America can fight back by reminding the World that the deaths of these people will always be
40 remembered and they will be forever loved; and
41

42 **Whereas**, a noble and appropriate way to accomplish this is through the Annual Commemoration; and
43

44 **Whereas**, this Commemoration should be held each September 11th throughout the land to include:

- 45 * The promotion of global peace and goodwill;
- 46 * The demonstration of America’s resolve and perseverance to win the war on terrorism;
- 47 * The advancement of responsible citizenship;
- 48 * The encouragement of patriotism and love of country; and

1 * The poignant remembrance of those innocent victims who died on September 11, 2001, as heroes, one
2 and all;

3
4 Now therefore be it resolved, as the Town Council of Merrimack, NH, we are issuing this proclamation to
5 memorialize those men, women and children who lost their lives; and

6
7 Be it further resolved, that this proclamation be publicized for all to see and know that the citizens of
8 Merrimack remember with eternal respect those whose lives were suddenly without cause, pointlessly
9 taken from them on September 11, 2001.

10 May they forever rest in peace and abide in our
11 memories Dated this 11th day of September, 2021

12
13 **MOTION made by Vice Chair Rothhaus and seconded by Councilor Murphy to move the**
14 **proclamation commemorating the 20th anniversary of the September 11th attacks, to be read at the**
15 **ceremony on Saturday, September 11th.**

16
17 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

18 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
19 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

20 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**

21
22 After voting, there was a brief discussion on the agenda for the ceremony.

23
24 **New Business**

25 **1. Eagle Scout Service Project Presentation**

26 *Submitted by Life Scout Maverick Landry*

27 The Town Council to be presented with Life Scout Maverick Landry's proposed Eagle Scout Service
28 Project to replace the current American flag disposal receptacles with new, patriotically decorated
29 boxes for the American Legion, the VFW and the Merrimack Transfer Station.

30
31 Life Scout Maverick Landry proposed replacing the current trash bins that are labeled for US flag disposal
32 with a patriotically designed box that will be about 3 feet high and will replace the exact spot of the former
33 bins. He would like to place two at the transfer station, one at the VFW, and one at the American Legion.
34 Mr. Landry then shared that these bins will be a square base box with a slanted ceiling that opens up with a
35 bin on the inside to collect the flags for disposal. Chairman Koenig asked for the significance in having flag
36 disposal bins, in which Mr. Landry stated that the American flag is not supposed to be disrespected in any
37 way, meaning that any flag with tears or rips needs to be taken down immediately and disposed of properly.
38 The VFM and American Legion currently have a system of collecting and retiring these flags, and Mr.
39 Landry will be joining them for the Veteran's Day flag disposal with all the flags he collects in these new
40 bins to help them dispose of the flags properly. Councilor Hunter asked Mr. Landry where he came up with
41 this idea, in which Mr. Landry shared that he saw the current boxes and wanted to create a more patriotic and
42 clean area for the flags to be disposed in. The Council then shared thanks to Mr. Landry for taking on this
43 project and treating the flags with utmost respect. Chairman Koenig then asked Mr. Landry to share some
44 details of his plans, such as timing and how he plans on paying for this. Mr. Landry shared that he will be
45 hosting a carwash fundraiser with his troop at St. James church. They will be accepting donations that he will
46 put towards materials for constructing the boxes, and he plans to have the build done by October so he can
47 host a small flag drive before the retirement ceremony in November.

1 **MOTION** made by Councilor Hunter and seconded by Councilor Healey to approve Life Scout
2 **Maverick Landry’s proposed Eagle Scout service project to replace the current American flag disposal**
3 **receptacles with new, patriotically decorated boxes for the Merrimack Transfer Station.**
4

5 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

6 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
7 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

8 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**
9

10 **2. Donation Acceptance from Spraying Systems Company for the Merrimack Police Department**

11 *Submitted by Captain Kenneth MacLeod*

12 The Town Council to consider the acceptance and expenditure of a donation in the amount of
13 \$500.00 from Spraying Systems Company to the Merrimack Police Department to be used toward
14 community programs in Town, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15.

15
16 Captain Kenneth Macleod briefly shared that this donation would be used towards any of the police
17 department’s community-based programs, such as the RAD class, PAC program, Coffee with a Cop, k9
18 programs, etc.
19

20 **MOTION** made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Hunter to accept and expend
21 **the donation in the amount of \$500.00 from Spraying Systems Company to the Merrimack Police**
22 **Department to be used toward community programs in Town, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter**
23 **Article 8-15, and furthermore to approve the Town Manager to sign any necessary documents.**
24

25 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

26 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
27 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

28 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**
29

30 The Council and Town Manager thank the Spraying Systems Company for their donation.
31

32 **3. Donation Acceptance from the Digital Federal Credit Union for the Merrimack Police**
33 **Department**

34 *Submitted by Captain Kenneth Macleod*

35 The Town Council to consider the acceptance and expenditure of a donation in the amount of \$5,000
36 from Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU) to the Merrimack Police Department to provide programs
37 and services that make a difference in the community, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article
38 8-15.
39

40 Captain Macleod briefly shared that this donation would be utilized for any programs that can benefit the
41 community, similar to the above donation.
42

43 **MOTION** made by Councilor Hunter and seconded by Councilor Woods to accept and expend the
44 **donation in the amount of \$5,000 from Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU) to the Merrimack Police**
45 **Department to provide programs and services that make a difference in the community, pursuant to**
46 **RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15, and furthermore to approve the Town Manager to sign any**
47 **necessary documents.**
48
49
50

1 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

2 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
3 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

4 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**

5
6 The Council and Town Manager thank DCU for their donation.

7
8 **4. Chapter 193 – Updated Welfare Guidelines [First Reading]**

9 *Submitted by Welfare Administrator Patricia Murphy*

10 The Town Council to consider the recommended proposed amendments to Chapter 193, Welfare
11 Guidelines, of the Merrimack Town Code, pursuant to Charter Article V.

12
13 Welfare Administrator Patricia Murphy began her presentation by sharing that the last amendment to the
14 guidelines was in November 2017, and since then new laws have been updated, added, and corrected.
15 Additionally, Basic Need Allowable Expenses have been updated, along with modernizing and updating
16 guidelines to adhere to town policies. She then shared the following law changes and updates:

- 17 ➤ NH Public Utilities Commission change of rules, p.25: changed the word “current” to “average”
18 regarding utility usage for billing.
- 19 ➤ RSA 165:4-c new 7/2021- Right to Apply even when there is no eviction, p.10: added phrasing to
20 clarify that applicants do not need to provide proof of eviction before applying for aid.
- 21 ➤ RSA 165:27 Automatic Assignment for Funeral Directors from person’s account, p.32 & 33:
22 assigned a new value to what funeral directors can pull out from an individual’s account to put
23 towards funeral costs.
- 24 ➤ RSA 661-B:25 added to explain Overseer of the Poor duties with an unclaimed body, p.33: added
25 wording to explain the process of turning over an unclaimed body to the welfare office.
- 26 ➤ RSA 165:31 (III) Age 5 requirements to have to do Local Welfare Work Program. Correction to
27 Guidelines to update age from give to one years old for Job Search Requirement, p.21.
- 28 ➤ RSA 165:20 correction of wording from “shall” to “may” in trying to reimburse from other
29 municipalities, p.39.
- 30 ➤ Updating Vehicle Payment Allowance from “reasonable” to up to a maximum of \$350/month, p.26.
 - 31 ○ Ms. Murphy briefly clarified this, stating that there is a difference between what they will pay
32 out in assistance and what they allow as expenses, meaning what people can use their income
33 and resources to pay for. For example, they don’t pay car payments, but they can allow for
34 individuals to have that car payment to put towards their basic needs.
- 35 ➤ Update p.26: Maintenance Allowance for non-food from per month: this is for items such as
36 toiletries and personal hygiene or cleaning products. This has not been updated since 2010, and with
37 inflation these amounts need to be updated. Ms. Murphy is recommending a 21% adjustment based
38 on calculations.
 - 39 ○ Head of Household- \$47.30 to \$56.29
 - 40 ○ Each individual in Household- \$17.20 to \$21.65
- 41 ➤ Updating Disbursement of Assistance to allow for other forms of payments when vouchers are not
42 allowed or appropriate based on Town of Merrimack Finance Policies, p.30.
- 43 ➤ Updating Check Payment requirements for Tax Identification requirements for IRS, p.31.
- 44 ➤ Definitions of Housing for Emergency Shelter, Non-Permanent Non Tenancy Housing, Permanent
45 Tenancy Housing, Transitional Housing and Tenant or Tenancy on pages 2 and 3.
- 46 ➤ Standard of Need updated with these new definitions, pages 23-24.
- 47 ➤ When timely action is required for client’s non-compliance submission for Fair Hearing, for Welfare
48 to make a Formal Notice Decision, changing “working” days to “business” days on pages 1, 5, 8, 9,
49 & 14.

- Case Record Retention of Records per RSA 41:46 Merrimack Retention of Records, p. 35.
- Flexibility for Welfare Administrator in determining the process of interviews, reviewing applications, and making decision, pages 11, 14, & 15.
- Use of Pending and Emergency Decisions, p.14.
- Interpretation of RSA 165 with the wording “relieved” and “maintained”, p.19.
- Hearing area instead of listening area for confidential information, p.15.
- Modernization of documentation with addition of debit card accounts, p.18.
- Explanation of what is an adult student as “18 years old or over”, p.21.
- Explanation of net income for self-employed, p.29.
- Fuel Assistance updated to actual name of LIHEAP (Low Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program), p.29.

After Ms. Murphy’s presentation, Mr. Micali wanted to let the Council know that these updates have been vetted by legal counsel and they all comply with state laws and state RSAs.

MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Woods to accept and move to the Public Hearing the proposed amendments as presented to Chapter 193, Welfare Guidelines, of the Merrimack Town Code, pursuant to Charter Article V.

A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:

7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.

0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0

5. American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Private Well Owners Discussion

Submitted by Town Councilor Nancy Murphy

Discussion and proposed consideration to use American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds for private well owners.

Councilor Murphy discussed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, sharing that this is an option for funding for contaminated private wells. Since 2016, many efforts have been made to make drinking water safer, but private well owners have been left out of any help for this as DES does not have any legislative authority over private wells. To help aid this and provide filtration for their home, Councilor Murphy reached out to a number of people at DES to find out what can be done for private well owners. She shared that the town of Londonderry has a PFAS task force that the Town Council created that received a \$500,000 grant to provide \$500 rebates to impacted well owners in their town through the drinking water and groundwater trust fund, which is a special project assistance program. Councilor Murphy then stated that the Council could apply for this, but there are a number of steps to complete and a lengthy time frame before receiving the funding. Instead, she has spoken with Erin Holmes, NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund Administrator, and Amy Rousseau, NHDES PFAS Response Administrator and PFAS Remediation Loan Fund Administrator, to propose that wells that do not fall within the Consent Decree radius apply for the PFAS Remedial Loan Fund. This grant would allow for public water or a point of entry for safe drinking water for individuals impacted by PFAS. She then shared that the town is eligible for a consolidation study, which would not cost the town but rather NHDES would pay for an engineer to come and do a cost study analysis to determine whether the town should request connections to public water, point of entry, or a combination of both based upon the access to public water.

After some discussion, the Council decided to take some time to review the documents presented and speak with the individuals at DES to get a better understanding of this potential opportunity and determine if they want to proceed with this option.

1
2 **MOTION made by Councilor Hunter and seconded by Vice Chair Rothhaus to table this discussion on**
3 **the PFAS funding for private wells to the September 23rd meeting.**

4
5 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

6 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
7 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

8 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**

9
10 **Minutes**

11 Approve the minutes from the following Town Council meeting:

12 ♦ August 19, 2021

13
14 **MOTION made by Councilor Woods and seconded by Councilor Harrington to approve the minutes**
15 **of August 19, 2021 as presented.**

16
17 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

18 **6 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Hunter, Councilor**
19 **Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

20 **0 Nay Councilor Healey abstained. MOTION CARRIES 6-0-1**

21
22 **Comments from the Press**

23 None.

24
25 **Comments from the Public**

26 None.

27
28 **Comments from the Council**

29 Town Manager Paul Micali wanted to amend his Town Manager's report to include an update on the angels
30 monument for Abbie Griffin Park that was previously presented at a Town Council meeting by the TEARS
31 Foundation. He shared that this project is moving forward, and the anticipated unveiling date is September
32 25th.

33
34 **Adjourn**

35
36 **MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Hunter to adjourn the meeting.**

37
38 *A Roll Call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:*

39 **7 Yea: Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor**
40 **Hunter, Councilor Murphy, and Councilor Woods.**

41 **0 Nay MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**

42
43 The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

44
45
46 Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer Steagald