

STATE OF MAINE

COUNTY OF YORK

CITY OF SACO

The following are minutes of the Council Meeting held on Feb. 20, 2007.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – On Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at 8:17 p.m. a Council Meeting was held in the City Hall Conference Room.
- II. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS** – Mayor Johnston conducted a roll call of the members and determined that the Councilors present constituted a quorum. Councilors present: David Tripp, Leslie Smith, Jr., Ronald Morton, Ronald Michaud, Arthur Tardif, Eric Cote and Christopher Jacques.

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes were not presented this evening.

V. **GENERAL:**

VI. **AGENDA ITEMS:**

A. **(Public Hearing)** Code Amendment Personnel §34

The Personnel Ordinance is being revised, and the following amendments are recommended:

- new revised federal and state language that addresses the Family Medical Leave;
- a new section addressing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the workplace,
- inserting the new Maine law that addresses Leave for Victims of Domestic Violence,
- amending the payment in lieu of health insurance to \$1950 to have it the identical to the unions,
- eliminating the section on Tool Allowance since we no longer have a Garage Foreman,
- and finally the remaining amendments are housekeeping improvements to the ordinance.

The Personnel Committee as well as the Department Heads have reviewed these proposed amendments and have no quandary with the changes.

The full text of Chapter 34 Personnel may be found in the minutes of Feb. 5, 2007.

Councilor Morton moved, Councilor Michaud seconded, to open the Public Hearing on the document titled, ‘Code Amendments to Chapter 34 Personnel Ordinance, dated January 22, 2007’. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

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There being no comments from the public Councilor Morton moved, Councilor Michaud seconded, to close the Public Hearing and that the City of Saco hereby sets the Second and Final Reading of the document titled, 'Code Amendments to Chapter 34 Personnel Ordinance, dated January 22, 2007' for March 5, 2007. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

B. Anti-Idling Policy

The purpose of this policy is to inform all City employees of the need to eliminate unnecessary vehicle idling in order to reduce the cost of the City operations and to reduce emissions created by City vehicles.

Councilor Tardif moved, Councilor Tripp seconded, that it be Ordered that the City Council refer the document titled "Anti-Idling Policy, dated February 20, 2007" to the Saco Energy Committee for evaluation and recommendation. Further move to approve the Order. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

B. -2 Preserve America Resolution

The Preserve America Community designation program is a federal initiative to recognize communities active in promoting historic preservation, heritage tourism and local culture. Saco appears to readily qualify for the designation. If the City achieves the threshold designation, it might qualify for a grant program later.

"Be it Ordered that the City Council adopt the 'City of Saco, Maine City Council Resolution Supporting Preserve America Community Designation' and authorize Mayor Johnston to sign said Resolution on behalf of the City of Saco. Councilor Jacques moved, Councilor Smith seconded, to move the motion as written. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

C. Simpson Road Bridge Project Authorization and Amendment

Initially, the Simpson Road Bridge was planned as an historical restoration project using grant funding for the Maine Department of Transportation. The original budget for the restoration was \$750,000 and the local share was 50% or \$375,000. During the preliminary engineering by the MDOT, the scope and cost to restore the bridge escalated to in excess of \$1,200,000 with the City needing to fund the difference of \$825,000.

As a result of MDOT's decision, the city prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a design build project for the replacement of the bridge. Three bids were received.

Be it ordered that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to sign a contract with Technical Consultants, Inc. (TCI) for the design and construction of the Simpson Road Bridge for a cost not to exceed \$596,690.00.

Be it further ordered that the City Council Authorize the City Administrator to transfer \$250,000 from the Capital Account "overlay" to Undesignated Fund Balance.

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Be it further ordered that the City Council authorize the City Administrator transfer \$250,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 to Account number 10670-550910-03827, Simpson Road Bridge.

Councilor Tripp moved, Councilor Smith seconded, to move the motion as written. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

D. Retain Architectural Service for Downeaster Train Station

The 2001 construction of the parking lots and platform for the Downeaster prepared a serviced site for a station, in anticipation of the construction of a two-story building with an approximately 5000 square foot footprint.

On February 5, 2007, at the Council Workshop, the Council reviewed the possibility of getting architectural services on board quickly, and asked the staff to develop a proposal with the architecture firm which worked with the Public Works Department on their design for a new building. Architect Michael Lassel of Lassel Architects PA partnered with engineers Hoyle Tanner on the project.

Lassel has designed a train station in Germany, and all of the designers in his firm are certified in “green” architectural practices. The firm estimates that this initial phase would cost between \$25,000 and \$20,000. This phase would lead to Council selection of a schematic design before it authorizes detailed design development and preparation of bid specifications.

Be it Ordered that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to contract with Lassel Architects PA of South Berwick for schematic design of a passenger train station, not to exceed \$29,000, funding from the Amtrak Expense Account #30100/500910.

Councilor Cote moved, Councilor Tripp seconded, the main motion as written. The motion passed with six (6) yeas and one (1) nay. Councilor Tardif voted in the negative.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Accept Saco Fire Department “Station Location Analysis”

Accept the “Saco Fire Department Station Location Analysis, November 2006” prepared by the Saco Fire Department;

B. Errors & Omissions Abatement: Map 13, Lot 3

Grant an Errors and Omission abatement in the amount of \$216.26 to account 013-003-000-000;

C. Confirm Mayor’s Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals: Shawn Marsh

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Confirm the Mayor's appointment of Shawn Marsh to the Zoning Board of Appeals, for a five- year term to expire on January 2012.

Councilor Smith moved, Councilor Jacques seconded, the motion as written. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Smith moved, Councilor Michaud seconded, to adjourn. The motion passed with seven (7) yeas. TIME: 8:25 p.m.

ATTEST _____
Lucette S. Pellerin, City Clerk