

**RECORD OF REGULAR MEETING  
ELLSWORTH CITY COUNCIL**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 8, 2021**

**TIME: 7:00 PM**

**PLACE: ELLSWORTH CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT: BLANCHETTE, GRINDLE, HAMILTON,  
KAPLAN, LYONS, MILLER, AND PHILLIPS.**

**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:**

**KEY SPEAKERS PRESENT: CITY MANAGER GLENN MOSHIER AND HEIDI  
GRINDLE.**

In accordance with An Act To implement Provisions Necessary to the Health, Welfare and Safety of the Citizens of Maine in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, as enacted to read: Sec G-1 1 MRSA §403-A Public proceedings through remote access during declaration of State of Emergency due to COVID-19, the meeting will be held live at 1 City Hall Plaza in the City Hall Council Chambers with only the allowable number of participants according to the Governor’s executive orders. Citizens may email questions and public comments on the public hearing agenda items as well as other items this evening to Chair Dale Hamilton at [dhamilton@ellsworthmaine.gov](mailto:dhamilton@ellsworthmaine.gov) prior to and throughout the duration of the meeting. The meeting will be broadcast live on the City of Ellsworth, Maine Facebook page and YouTube Page; as well as recorded and made available live on Spectrum Channel 1303.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ellsworthme>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofEllsworthMaine>

*Call to Order.*

Chair Hamilton called the regular meeting of the Ellsworth City Council to order at 7:00 PM.

*Pledge of Allegiance.*

All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Chair Hamilton held a moment of silence in honor of the young lives lost from the communities of Gouldsboro and Sullivan this past weekend.

*Rules of Order.*

The meeting was conducted under Robert’s Rules of Order and other rules adopted at the November 9, 2020 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Ellsworth City Council. After being recognized by the Chairman, a person may speak not more than three (3) minutes on any one item on the agenda. In addition, the person may speak not more than two (2) minutes in rebuttal.

*Adoption of minutes from the following meeting (s) of the Ellsworth City Council:*

*11/16/2020 Regular Council Meeting.*

*12/21/2020 Regular Council Meeting.*

**Call to Order.**

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Moment of silence  
was held.**

**Rules of Order.**

**Approved - Adoption  
of minutes from the  
11/16/2020,  
12/21/2020, and**

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GRINDLE.**

*01/05/2021 Special Council Meeting.  
01/11/2021 Regular Council Meeting.*

*On a motion by Phillips, seconded by Blanchette, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve adoption of minutes from the 11/16/2020, 12/21/2020,  
and 01/11/2021 Regular Council Meetings, and the 01/05/2021 Special Council  
Meeting as presented.**

*City Manager's Report.*

Glenn Moshier, City Manager reminded the public that City Hall will be closed on Monday, February 15 in honor of the President's Day holiday. The trash schedule will not be impacted by this holiday. The Ellsworth Public Library will be sponsoring the annual Ellsworth Open House event. This will be a virtual event held on March 18, 2021 starting at 6:30 PM. For more information, a link is available at [www.ellsworth.lib.me.us](http://www.ellsworth.lib.me.us). Moshier explained he has been working with Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital in an effort to start a vaccination clinic in Ellsworth. The goal is to organize a clinic that can serve between 800 – 1,000 patients a day. Currently, Northern Light Maine Coast can process approximately 250 patients a day in Ellsworth and an additional 100 in Blue Hill. At this time, a stand-alone site separate from the hospital is estimated to serve additional people in a more efficient manner. Several sites in Ellsworth are being explored for this purpose. It has been made a priority to ensure that the most vulnerable and thus the most in need of the vaccination within the community are not left out of this process. The current system in place is very difficult for them to maneuver through in order to get signed up to receive a vaccination. Ways to prioritize or at least give some priority to Ellsworth residents through this process is being explored as well. Moshier provided an update on the HCTC Feasibility Study. A meeting was held earlier in the week with Oak Point; they are the company that has been contracted to complete the study. Oak Point has met with many of the faculty and staff affiliated with the current HCTC facility. The next step in the process is to reach out to additional staff, the local business community leaders for some insight into the local industry needs, and then they will report back to the group in early March.

*Committee Reports.*

- *Recreation Commission.* Councilor Miller noted at the Recreation Commission meeting they discussed the Bike/Pedestrian Trail as it exists

**01/11/2021 Regular  
Council Meetings,  
and the 01/05/2021  
Special Council  
Meeting as  
presented.**

**City Manager's  
Report.**

**Committee Reports.**

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GRINDLE.**

now. The Commission was wondering if it could be maintained during the winter as well; they questioned whether the plow could be used. Miller spoke with Lisa Sekulich, Public Works Director who reported she is looking into this possibility and plans to speak with Glenn Moshier, City Manager about it as well. Moshier explained he discussed this possibility with Sekulich and there are some concerns with the weight of the equipment and the potential for creating frost heaves or damaging the surface. Sekulich is researching the original language within the contract to confirm there were no regulations included that would exclude the City from performing this work. Research is needed to be sure the MDOT did not include language that would prohibit this type of work. If there are not any restrictions that prevent this type of cleanup and maintenance, then this additional work could be explored further. The only other restrictions involve prioritizing this among the other storm cleanup activities especially within the Downtown and High Street areas. Another area of concern is the liability piece as it relates to ensuring the snow is cleared, the ice is removed, and necessary sanding takes place so that the surface is not slippery and treacherous. Moshier saw these as minor hurdles that need to be addressed; however, should be something that can be completed.

- *EMS Committee:* Councilor Kaplan stated the next steps regarding EMS is obtaining legal guidance on the contract that Northern Light has presented. Currently, there is no service agreement to be entered into until July. At that time the goal is to negotiate a better deal. Kaplan noted John Partridge has mentioned the possibility of selling some used EMS equipment; no decisions have been made on this option. The Committee discussed making an appointment with John Partridge to look at the van.
  
- *Capital Planning Committee:* Chair Hamilton stated a notice has been advertised seeking interested individuals who may want to serve on the Capital Planning Committee. Last year, the Committee was derailed by COVID; however, the Council would like to pull that Committee back together for the purpose of reviewing capital requests that make up the five year Capital Plan. The goal of the Capital Planning Committee is to review the items within this plan so that when the plan comes before the entire Council there is some additional vetting of those items. Hamilton encouraged interested citizens to send an email to the City.

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GRINDLE.**

- *Crosswalk Committee:* Chair Hamilton noted the Ad-Hoc Crosswalk Committee was the committee formed to discuss and hopefully reach a consensus-based recommendation around the request to alter the crosswalk. There were a couple of meetings with the goal of achieving a consensus on recommendations to be brought back to the City Council. The recommendations would include criteria that potentially could have been developed to make this project work. It was evident in the second meeting that the Committee would not be able to arrive at a consensus. Rather than continuing with the same discussion repeatedly; this Committee was disbanded. Information was provided and presented to the Committee in terms of rules, State and Federal regulations around sidewalks, and the local Ordinances. At this time, that process and the Committee have been disbanded. There were some recommendations coming out of this Committee meeting.

*Citizens' Comments.*

Gary Fortier, Ellsworth resident presented an update as a member of the Green Ellsworth Committee; see attachment #1 for his complete comments. Chair Hamilton inquired if the initiative relating to the Union River also included the Dam. Fortier explained it deals with the entire watershed (Dam, Park, the Harbor, and all the way down through to Trenton).

*Presentation of Awards.*

There were no presentations to award this month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*Council Order #122004, Request of the Facilities Manager to award a contract for purchase and complete installation of a 60KW propane Generator at the Union River Center of Innovation. (Tabled at the December 21, 2020 Regular Council meeting).*

Councilor Phillips reviewed the components of the request that have been changed since the December Council meeting. Based on his experience in the field, he noticed the size had been reduced which met the required amperage; however, the missing piece this month is the research pertaining to a diesel self-contained unit. See attachment #2 for the complete request and estimates pertaining to the amended

**Citizens' Comments.**

**Presentation of Awards.**

**Unfinished Business.**

**Approved - Tabling action on Council Order #122004, Request of the Facilities Manager to award a contract for purchase and complete installation of a 60KW propane Generator at the**

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request this evening. Phillips noted the reason that would be of interest is within these bids there is a price included for a fuel tank. This adds to the cost of the project. With a diesel unit it would be stand-alone unit including the tank. This type of unit would take away the need and cost of a tank. Based on the physics of it, the diesel unit works better in many ways because of the mass of the engine and the way it performs during load shifts. Phillips felt the cost of this type of unit would be less expensive. He was in favor of tabling this item again; he estimated approximately \$4,000 to \$5,000 could be saved.

*On a motion by Phillips, seconded by Blanchette, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve tabling action on Council Order #122004, Request of the Facilities Manager to award a contract for purchase and complete installation of a 60KW propane Generator at the Union River Center of Innovation. (Previously tabled at the December 21, 2020 Regular Council meeting)**

*Council Order #122005, Discussion and action on EMS Services within the City of Ellsworth. (Tabled at the December 21, 2020 and January 11, 2021 Regular Council meetings).*

Glenn Moshier, City Manager confirmed an EMS committee meeting was held to discuss the next steps regarding the service agreement with Northern Light Medical Transport (NLMT). There is another vendor Moshier is communicating with; more information on this will be brought back to the Committee and ultimately the full Council at a later date. The consensus of the EMS Committee was that Moshier should reach out to NLMT to re-engage in negotiating a service agreement; once an agreement is reached on the terms of the agreement and the deliverables, as well as the cost, then the service agreement will be vetted through the City Attorney. The final service agreement terms will be vetted to be sure the City is satisfied with the agreement, and the parameters of the agreement. The future goal would be to bring that service agreement back to the full Council for formal action. This evening Moshier is not requesting formal action on the service agreement. Moshier will be meeting with NLMT on Thursday to discuss this topic.

*On a motion by Blanchette, seconded by Kaplan, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve tabling action on Council Order #122005, Discussion and action on EMS Services within the City of Ellsworth and the Emergency**

**Union River Center of Innovation. (Previously tabled at the December 21, 2020 Regular Council meeting)**

**Approved - Tabling action on Council Order #122005, Discussion and action on EMS Services within the City of Ellsworth and the Emergency Medical Services Agreement. (Previously tabled at the December 21, 2020 and January 11, 2021 Regular Council meeting).**

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*Medical Services Agreement. (Previously tabled at the December 21, 2020 and January 11, 2021 Regular Council meeting).*

CONSENT AGENDA

*CONSENT AGENDA: All items with an asterisk (\*) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.*

*Council Order #022100, Request of the Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector to release properties redeemed during the 30 day redemption period ending January 15, 2021 through Quit-Claim Deeds (the complete list is available in the City Clerk's Office) and authorize the City Manager to release said properties through Municipal Quit-Claim Deeds.\**

See attachment #3 for the property information on parcels redeemed during the 30 day redemption period ending January 15, 2021.

*Council Order #022101, Request of the City Manager to appoint a representative and alternate to the Maine Service Center Coalition. \**

The names of a representative and alternate were not provided this evening.

*On a motion by Blanchette, seconded by Miller, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve the consent agenda as presented.**

NEW BUSINESS

*Public hearing and action on the issuance of Business License (s):*

*Colonial I, LLC d/b/a Colonial Inn, 321 High Street, for renewal of a City Lodging House License.*

The staff reports the premises are in compliance with required codes and ordinances necessary to issue the requested licenses.

**Consent Agenda.**

**Approved - Consent agenda as presented.**

**Approved – Council Order #022100, release properties redeemed during the 30 day redemption period.**

**Approved – Council Order #022101, appoint representative and alternate to Maine Service Center Coalition.**

**New Business.**

**Approved - Colonial I, LLC d/b/a Colonial Inn, 321 High Street, for renewal of a City Lodging House License.**

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**KEY SPEAKERS PRESENT: CITY MANAGER GLENN MOSHIER AND HEIDI  
GRINDLE.**

Public hearing was opened.

There were no public comments.

Public hearing was closed.

*On a motion by Phillips, seconded by Kaplan, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve the request of Colonial I, LLC d/b/a Colonial Inn, 321 High Street, for renewal of a City Lodging House License.**

*Atlantic Coast Inn, 200 High Street, for renewal of a City Lodging House License.*

The staff reports the premises are in compliance with required codes and ordinances necessary to issue the requested licenses.

Public hearing was opened.

There were no public comments.

Public hearing was closed.

*On a motion by Blanchette, seconded by Kaplan, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve the request of Atlantic Coast Inn, 200 High Street, for renewal of a City Lodging House License.**

*Ell Gov's, LLC d/b/a Governor's Restaurant, 253 High Street, for renewal of a City Class C License (Victualer/Liquor) and renewal of a State Restaurant (Class III and IV) Malt and Vinous Liquor License.*

The staff reports the premises are in compliance with required codes and ordinances necessary to issue the requested licenses.

Public hearing was opened.

There were no comments.

Public hearing was closed.

**Approved - Atlantic Coast Inn, 200 High Street, for renewal of a City Lodging House License.**

**Approved - Ell Gov's, LLC d/b/a Governor's Restaurant, 253 High Street, for renewal of a City Class C License (Victualer/Liquor) and renewal of a State Restaurant (Class III and IV)**

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**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:**

**KEY SPEAKERS PRESENT: CITY MANAGER GLENN MOSHIER AND HEIDI  
GRINDLE.**

*On a motion by Kaplan, seconded by Blanchette, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve the request of Ell Gov's, LLC d/b/a Governor's  
Restaurant, 253 High Street, for renewal of a City Class C License  
(Victualer/Liquor) and renewal of a State Restaurant (Class III and IV) Malt and  
Vinous Liquor License.**

*Siam Sky LLC d/b/a Siam Sky 2, 78 Downeast Highway for renewal of a City Class  
C License (Liquor and Victualer) and renewal of a State Class III and IV  
Restaurant Malt and Vinous Liquor License.*

The staff reports the premises are in compliance with required codes and ordinances  
necessary to issue the requested licenses.

Public hearing was opened.

There were no comments from the public.

Public hearing was closed.

*On a motion by Blanchette, seconded by Kaplan, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve the request of Siam Sky LLC d/b/a Siam Sky 2, 78  
Downeast Highway for renewal of a City Class C License (Liquor and Victualer)  
and renewal of a State Class III and IV Restaurant Malt and Vinous Liquor  
License.**

*Sanjeeva Abeyasekera d/b/a Serendib, 2 State Street, for renewal of a City Class C  
License (Victualer/Liquor) and renewal of a State Restaurant (Class III and IV)  
Malt and Vinous Liquor License.*

The staff reports the premises are in compliance with required codes and ordinances  
necessary to issue the requested licenses.

Public hearing was opened.

There were no comments.

**Malt and Vinous  
Liquor License.**

**Approved - Siam Sky  
LLC d/b/a Siam Sky  
2, 78 Downeast  
Highway for renewal  
of a City Class C  
License (Liquor and  
Victualer) and  
renewal of a State  
Class III and IV  
Restaurant Malt and  
Vinous Liquor  
License.**

**Approved - Sanjeeva  
Abeyasekera d/b/a  
Serendib, 2 State  
Street, for renewal of  
a City Class C  
License  
(Victualer/Liquor)  
and renewal of a  
State Restaurant  
(Class III and IV)**

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**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:**

**KEY SPEAKERS PRESENT: CITY MANAGER GLENN MOSHIER AND HEIDI  
GRINDLE.**

Public hearing was closed.

*On a motion by Phillips, seconded by Kaplan, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve the request of Sanjeeva Abeyasekera d/b/a Serendib, 2 State Street, for renewal of a City Class C License (Victualer/Liquor) and renewal of a State Restaurant (Class III and IV) Malt and Vinous Liquor License.**

*Discussion on the FY 22 Budgeting process. This will be a discussion only item with no action taken focusing on announcing a budgeting informational panel discussion event, encouraging public participation, and announcing a Capital Planning Committee, in addition to other components of the process. (Sponsored by Chair Hamilton)*

Chair Hamilton explained this item is designed to let the public know that on February 17, 2021 at 6:00 PM an educational session regarding the development of the City budget will be held. This panel discussion will be televised and broadcast in the normal formats as well as a zoom platform will be available for the public to use when taking part in the discussion. The focus will be on aspects of the budgeting process including both the City portion and the School part; a concentration will be on setting the stage and answering questions about how the budget is developed. As the budgeting process moves forward this will allow the community to be a little bit more informed. This is not a session on the actual costs or items that will be included in the upcoming budget, no projections will be made on the future mil-rate; there will not be a discussion on the actual parts of the budget. Those discussions will take place later within the budgeting process. The true purpose of the panel discussion is to answer questions on the budgeting process itself. This includes how parts of the budget are impacted in terms of the different funding sources that are received, not just from the local taxes but also State revenue sharing, and educational funds. The Chamber of Commerce will join the panel to speak on impacts to the local businesses as they relate to the COVID pandemic.

**Presentation only; no formal action taken or required.**

*Presentation on the Ellsworth Bike/Ped Trail Feasibility Study – Final Report. (Sponsored by Councilor Blanchette).*

**Malt and Vinous  
Liquor License.**

**Presentation only; no  
formal action taken  
or required.**

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GRINDLE.**

Councilor Blanchette explained VHB the company that was hired by the State in partnership with the City of Ellsworth on the bike pedestrian path extension has completed their study. They have made their recommendation on an extension of the paved path from Birch Avenue to a new pedestrian crossing at High Street in front of Shaw's. Blanchette explained based on VHB's recommendation the majority of the project will be on the west side of the track. The City will be holding a public meeting on February 25, 2021 at 6:00 PM to receive input from the citizens, ideas they may have, and to answer questions. Recommendations that come out of this meeting will be provided to the State for their consideration and approval. The link to the final report is on the City's website in preparation for the meeting later this month. <https://www.ellsworthmaine.gov/government/city-projects/2020-bicycle-pedestrian-trail-connectivity-feasibility-study/>

**Presentation only; no formal action taken or required.**

*Adjournment.*

*On a motion by Grindle, seconded by Blanchette, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve adjournment at 7:30 PM.**

**A TRUE COPY**

**ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
HEIDI-NOËL GRINDLE**

**Approved -  
Adjournment at 7:30  
PM.**