



Town Council Regular Session

June 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Town Council Chambers

MINUTES

1. 6:00 PM Non-Public Session Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a),(c) - Personnel

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to seal the Non-Public Meeting Minutes indefinitely, because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this Council.

Second: **Councilor Dornblut**

Vote: **Unanimously Approved (7-0-0)**

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Conley convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Councilor White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Present: Council Chair Katanna Conley, Council Vice-chair Brian Ward, Councilor Scott Blackstone, Councilor Joe LaMattina, Councilor Colin White, Councilor Sonke Dornblut, Councilor Justin Glazebrook.

Staff Present: Town Manager Stephen Fournier, Environmental Services Director Sean Greig, Library Trustees, Joan DeYoreo, Lisa Zhe, Nicole Benson, Recording Secretary Wendy Chase.

4. Public Forum

Chair Conley opened the public forum at 7:01 PM.

Chair Conley closed the public forum at 7:01 PM.

5. Town Council to Consider Acceptance of Minutes

a. May 21, 2025 Non-public Sealed Minutes

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve the May 21, 2025 Non-public Sealed Minutes.

Second: **Councilor LaMattina**

Vote: **Motion Passed (6-0-1)** Councilor White abstained because he was not present at the May 21st meeting.

b. May 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve the May 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes as written.

Second: **Councilor LaMattina**

Vote: **Motion Passed (6-0-1)** Councilor White abstained because he was not present at the May 21st meeting.

6. Report of the Town Manager

a. June 4, 2025

- **Tax Rate Correction:** The Town finalized an agreement with the NH Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) to correct a \$1.86 million overstatement in projected non-tax revenues, which had led to an under-calculated 2024 tax rate. The town portion of the tax rate has been adjusted to \$2.19 per \$1,000 of assessed value for the 2025 June issue tax bill. The tax bills will be mailed tomorrow.
- **Charter Commission** - The Commission elected Toni Weinstein as Chair, Phil Nazzaro as Vice-chair, and Chris Hawkins as Secretary,
- **Senate Bill 297:** The NH House Commerce Committee unanimously recommended SB 297 as Ought to Pass with Amendment. The amendment represents a strong compromise that distinguishes between assessable and nonassessable public risk poll models and assigns appropriate regulatory oversight.
- **Goal-Setting Session:** The goal-setting session with Primex will be June 25th at 6PM in the Town Hall Auditorium.
- **Summer Schedule:** The Town Council summer meeting schedule is July 16th and August 20th at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers.

Town Manager Fournier said the tax rate correction information is on the website and residents received an email explaining the situation.

Councilor Dornblut commented that the new website is good; it's more responsive.

7. Committee Reports

Councilor Glazebrook reported on the June 3rd Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission meeting:

The Arts & Garden Tour is Saturday, June 21st at 10 AM to 3 PM. It is a self-guided tour and the reception will be from 3-5 PM. The Art Walk will be a day event with local artists set up along Main Street from 10 AM to 6 PM. 10% off food at local restaurants will be distributed during the day.

8. Old Business

9. Resolutions/Ordinances in the 2nd Reading

a. Resolution #2024/2025-41- Library Feasibility Study

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve Resolution #2024/2025-41- Library Feasibility Study

Second: Councilor Dornblut

Discussion: Town Manager Fournier said that the Library was not part of the town's feasibility study two years ago. They are doing their own. Library Trustee DeYoreo explained that they placed the study out to bid and interviewed three firms. They chose Lasalle Architects.

Vote: Unanimously Approved m(7-0-0)

10. Resolutions/Ordinances in the 1st Reading

- a. Resolution # 2024/2025 - 42 - Water Rate increase
Chair Conley read Resolution #2024/2025-42 into the record.
- b. Resolution 2024/2025-43 Vehicle Purchase 2025 Chevrolet Tahoe
Chair Conley read Resolution #2024/2025-43 into the record.
- c. Ordinance # 2024/2025-1 – Proposed Amendments to Chapter 32 *Zoning*
Chair Conley read Ordinance #2024/2025-1 into the record in title only. The full ordinance is available on the website. www.newmarketnh.gov

The public hearing will be at the June 18th meeting at 7:00 PM. Chair Conley encouraged the public to look at the proposed amendments to the Ordinance.

11. New Business/Correspondence

- a. Correspondence to the Town Council
- b. Closing Comments by Town Councilors
Councilor LaMattina said State Representative Toni Weinstein will be hosting a Legislative Listening Session on Monday, June 9th, at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Auditorium. The public is invited to attend.

Councilor Blackstone remarked that he attended the annual ReConnect on May 29th at the Mill Space. It was a well-attended and successful event.

- c. Next Meeting

- i. June 18, 2025

12. Adjournment

Chair Conley adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Chase
Recording Secretary