



Town Council Regular Session

May 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Town Council Chambers

MINUTES

1. **6:30 PM Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II(e) Pending or threatened litigation and RSA 91-A:3,II(I) Consideration of legal advice**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Chair Conley convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Councilor Blackstone 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 Sonke Dornblut, Councilor Justin Glazebrook.
Staff Present: Finance Director William Tappan, Environmental Services Director Sean Greig, Recording Secretary Wendy Chase.
Excused: Councilor Colin White.
4. **Public Forum**
Chair Conley opened the Public Forum at 7:01 PM.

Chair Conley closed the Public Forum at 7:01 PM without public comment.
5. **Town Council to Consider Acceptance of Minutes**
 - a. May 7, 2025 Non-public Meeting Minutes
Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve the May 7, 2025 Non-public Meeting Minutes as written.
Second: **Councilor LaMattina**
Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**
 - b. May 7, 2025 Draft Minutes
Motion: **Brian Ward** made a motion to approve the May 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes as written.
Second: **Councilor LaMattina**
Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**
6. **Town Council to Consider Nominations, Appointments, Elections, and Resignations**
 - a. Geraldine Bresnahan - Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission - Term Expiration April 2027

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve the appointment of Geraldine Bresnahan as an Alternate member to the Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission with a Term Expiration of April 2027.

Second: **Councilor Dornblut**

Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**

7. Report of the Town Manager

a. Department Reports - April 2025

b. Report of the Town Manager

Finance Director Tappan read Town Manager Seve Fournier's report into the record.

FY25 Expenses and Revenues Report: the operating budget is 79% spent. General Fund spending is currently at 72% of the budget, or \$7.48 million, compared to 69% at this time last year. The increase is due to higher-than-expected costs for part-time fire salaries, roadway construction, and fire equipment maintenance. Revenues are on target.

Nine members of the Charter Commission were elected on May 13th (Special Town Election): Toni Weinstein, Phil Nazzaro, Christopher Hawkins, Daniel Smith, Russell Simon, Alvin Zink, John Bentley, Patrick Reynolds, Scott Blackstone. The Committee will have an organizational meeting to elect officers and determine their schedule for meetings on May 27th.

Timberland Boot: Timberland got its start in Newmarket. The Abington Shoe Company launched the original Timberland 8" Boot in 1973. A sculpture of the boot will be installed near the Mill where they were originally made.

Councilor Blackstone commented that it's great that the Police Department is fully staffed.

Chair Conley praised the Library and Rec Department on the events they are offering.

8. Committee Reports

Councilor Ward reported on the Newmarket300 May 14th Meeting and the May 13th Budget Committee Meeting:

There was a representative from Tiger Hose No 1 present to explain how the townspeople had to volunteer to pump the water from the Tiger Hose truck during fires. The Newmarket300 website is online. The Memorial Day Parade is May 30th at 5:00 PM beginning at the Library.

The Budget Committee reviewed the town and school budgets. The school had a surplus and is using it to establish a water bottle filling station at the school. Superintendent Todd Allen explained two legislative bills. Senate Bill 101 and House Bill 771. If the Bills pass, it would allow all New Hampshire schools to offer open enrollment, which would impact the budget greatly. If Newmarket students enrolled in

another town's school, Newmarket would have to pay the tuition fee for each student to those other schools. If students from other communities enrolled in Newmarket schools, other communities would pay tuition to Newmarket, but more students require more staff and services.

Councilor Dornblut reported on the May 14th Public Transportation meeting:

The Committee will keep public transportation, road technology, parking infrastructure and way-finding signs as standing agenda items.

Coast Route 7 On Demand is operating even though funding was in jeopardy. They wish to expand the service and are looking to include the senior residents in town.

Councilor Glazebrook announced that the Library Trustees voted unanimously not to pursue the mural art project at the Library.

9. Old Business

10. Resolutions/Ordinances in the 2nd Reading

- a. Resolution # 2024/2025-40 - Designation of Authority for Water State Revolving Fund

Motion: **Councilor Ward** made a motion to approve Resolution # 2024/2025-40 - Designation of Authority for Water State Revolving Fund

Second: **Councilor Dornblut**

Discussion: Environmental Services Director Greig explained that the Town Manager is given the authority to apply for disbursements and loan applications. He is requesting a "blanket designation of authority" so that he may apply for loans without going through individual resolutions so applications may be made in a more timely manner. This doesn't give authority to approve projects without Council approval through resolutions.

Vote: **Unanimously Approved (6-0-0)**

11. Resolutions/Ordinances in the 1st Reading

- a. Resolution #2024/2025-41- Library Feasibility Study
Chair Conley read Resolution #2024/2025-41 into the record.

12. New Business/Correspondence

- a. Correspondence to the Town Council
There was no correspondence to the Council.
- b. Closing Comments by Town Councilors
Councilor Ward thanked everyone who volunteered for Cemetery cleanup day; it was a success, and he hopes to continue the tradition each year.

Councilor Blackstone thanked Town Engineer Lindsay Butler for her very interesting talk at turtlefest.

Chair Conley thanked Councilor Ward for coordinating Cemetery Cleanup Day and appreciated all the volunteers who helped make it successful. She also gave a "shout out" to Media Manager Tim Cremen for putting out a good newsletter each week.

c. Next Meeting

i. June 4, 2025

13. Adjournment

Chair Conley adjourned the meeting at 7:27 PM without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Chase
Recording Secretary