

Kittery Town Council
January 8, 2024

1. Call to Order

Chair Spiller called the meeting to order.

2. Land Acknowledgement & Introductory

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

Councilors present- Councilor Bragg, Councilor Mason, Councilor Clark, Councilor Stevens, Vice Chair McGuire and Chair Spiller

Councilors not in attendance- Councilor Hamm (Military leave)

5. Agenda Amendment and Adoption

Chair Spiller casts one vote in favor of adoption as presented.

6. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager reported on the Presidential Primary Election, Coastal Flooding and Storm Survey and Walker/Wentworth Sidewalk Project.

Upcoming Dates:

Absentee Ballot Applications Available

Town Offices Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day – January 15

Route 1 Feasibility Study Input Session – January 24

Dog License Renewal Deadline – January 31, 2024

Councilor Stevens asked if the request for photos for Coastal Flooding was put on social media accounts.

Town Manager responded yes.

7. Acceptance of Previous Minutes

- October 23 – Regular Meeting
- November 13 – Regular Meeting
- November 27 – Regular Meeting

- December 11 – Regular Meeting

All were in favor of accepting as presented.

8. Interviews for the Board of Appeals and Planning Board- None
9. All items involving the town attorney, town engineers, town employees or other town consultants or requested offices. - None
10. PUBLIC HEARINGS
11. DISCUSSION
 - a. Discussion by members of the public (three minutes per person)
 - b. Response to public comment directed to a particular Councilor
 - c. Chairperson's response to public comments

Chair Spiller read an email from Suzanne Courage Johnson where she asked Kittery Conservation Commission to make a law to protect wetlands from development. She also reported that there should be more control over the number of dogs using Fort Foster. Ms. Johnson also asked that the park be made strictly for people and not dogs to preserve the Fort and wildlife.

Chair Spiller responded to the email.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None
13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Donations/gifts received for Council disposition.

(010124-01) The Kittery Town Council moves to accept a donation from William & Judith Smart in the amount of \$150.00 to be deposited into the George Smart Santa Fund, account #1372.

Move to accept the donation by Vice Chair McGuire, seconded by Councilor Clark.

Motion passes
6-0-0

- b.(010124-02) The Kittery Town Council moves to adopt the 2024 Annual Goals.

Move to adopt 2024 goals by Councilor Clark, seconded by Councilor Bragg.

Chair Spiller read a statement from Councilor Hamm where he noted concerns about increasing affordable housing and housing inventory, funds to increase housing reserve fund, to increase cell service in Kittery Point and to budget for a fulltime fire department.

Chari Spiller and Town Manager responded.

Councilor Clark thanked Chair Spiller and the Climate Adaptation Committee for their work and believes Council should have a biannual meeting to stay informed.

Chari Spiller responded.

Motion passes

6-0-0

- c. (010124-03) The Kittery Town Council moves to approve an application from Millenium Running for their annual Eastern States Road Race event to be held on March 17, 2024.

Move to approve application from Millenium Running by Councilor Stevens, seconded by Councilor Clark.

Motion passes

6-0-0

- d.(010124-04) The Kittery Town Council moves to reappoint Maribeth Girard to the Kittery Community Center Board of Trustees for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2026.

Move to reappoint by Councilor Clark, seconded by Councilor Bragg.

Motion passes

6-0-0

- e.(010124-05) The Kittery Town Council moves to appoint Jeff Thomson to the Capital Improvement Plan Committee for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2027.

Move to appoint Jeff Thomson by Councilor Stevens, seconded by Vice Chair McGuire.

Motion passes

6-0-0

- f. (010124-06) The Kittery Town Council moves to appoint Priscilla Ford to the Housing Committee for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2027.

Move to appoint Priscilla Ford by Chair Spiller, seconded by Councilor Bragg.

Motion passes
6-0-0

g.(010124-07) The Kittery Town Council moves to appoint Barry Hayes to the Shellfish Committee for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2027.

Move to appoint Barry Hayes by Councilor Clark, seconded by Councilor Bragg.

Motion passes
6-0-0

h.(010124-08) The Kittery Town Council moves to discuss a petition for a request for a sewer extension on Rogers Road.

Move to discuss by Chair Spiller, seconded by Councilor Stevens.

Chair Spiller stated that she believes they need more information on this before being able to make an informed decision. She asked the Town Manager to prepare a report on the possible cost and other possible issues.

14. COUNCILOR ISSUES OR COMMENTS

Councilor Clark stated that he will not be at the next meeting because he will be on vacation.

Councilor Bragg congratulated the winners of the York region 2023 recipients.

Vice Chair McGuire thanked the Department of Public Works as well as the Police Department for their hard work in the latest storm.

15. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a. Communications from the Chairperson
- b. Committee Reports

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

17. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn by Councilor Bragg, seconded by Councilor Stevens.

All were in favor of adjournment.

Submitted by Jennifer Wheeler

Disclaimer: The following minutes constitute the author's understanding of the meeting. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, the minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of comments at the meeting, but a refer to the video of the meeting on the Town of Kittery website.