

**Kittery Town Council
Regular Meeting
November 14, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Lemont called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Introductory: Chairperson Lemont read the introductory.
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairperson Lemont led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Oath of Office to Newly Elected Officials: Chairperson Lemont asked Nicole Maurice, Town Clerk, to administer the oath of office to the newly elected officials.

Ms. Maurice administered the oath of office to Cyrus Clark, Judith Spiller and Jeffrey Thomson.

5. Roll Call: Answering the roll were: Councilors Judy Spiller, Jeffrey Pelletier, Jeffrey Thomson, Cyrus Clark, Matthew Brock, Vice-Chairperson Charles Denault and Chairperson Kenneth Lemont.

6. The Kittery Town Council moves to elect a Chairperson for the ensuing year.

Chairperson Lemont turned the meeting over to the Town Manager, who said they will move on to the election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council.

Town Manager Amaral read from Roberts' Rules, and stated in accordance with what has been standing practice, opened the floor for nominations for Chair.

COUNCILOR PELLETIER MOVED TO NOMINATE COUNCILOR JUDY SPILLER AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE KITTERY TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING YEAR, SECONDED BY COUNCILOR THOMSON.

Town Manager Amaral asked if there were any other nominations for Chair, and seeing none, closed the nominations.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR, 7-0. MOTION CARRIES.

7. The Kittery Town Council moves to elect a Vice-Chairperson for the ensuing year.

Town Manager Amaral opened the floor for the nominations for Vice-Chair.

COUNCILOR LEMONT NOMINATED COUNCILOR MATT BROCK AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF THE KITTERY TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING YEAR, SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DENAULT.

Town Manager Amaral asked if there were any other nominations for Vice-chair, and, seeing none, closed the nominations.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR, 7-0. MOTION CARRIES.

Town Manager Amaral said the process is closed.

Chairperson Spiller recognized Councilor Thomson.

Councilor Thomson said that seven of us are in by the casting of ballots, which determined who does the work and who falls short, perhaps for another day. He said last Tuesday, a gentleman who served the Town of Kittery, fell a little short.

Councilor Thomson said that Councilor Dennett will be known and remembered as the "Dean" of "shall's" and "wills". He said that Mr. Dennett served a very distinguished role for over 29 ½ years.

Councilor Thomson said at times, none of us here agreed with Mr. Dennett, and, at other times, all of us agreed with him. He said that he has served with Mr. Dennett the longest and he will certainly miss his sage wisdom among us and thanked him for his 29 ½ years of service.

Chairperson Spiller thanked Councilor Thomson and said that they all share that sentiment.

8. Agenda Amendment and Adoption: Chairperson Spiller asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda, and seeing none, cast one vote in favor of its adoption as presented.

9. Town Manager's Report:

Town Manager Amaral offered her congratulations to the new Councilors and returning Councilor and welcomed them. She also congratulated and thanked Town Clerk Nicole Maurice and her election team for a wonderfully ran election. She said the turnout was significant and despite the rain and the mud, there were lines but the due diligent efforts of the could be seen with them helping people and answering questions.

Town Manager Amaral said one of the improvements made by Ms. Maurice was getting out the unofficial results before midnight so people could have the answers to the referendum questions before they went to bed. She said this will continue for future elections.

Town Manager Amaral also thanked the Community Center staff for their support as well as the Police Dept. for directing traffic.

Town Manager Amaral said there are vacancies on Town Boards and Committees and encouraged residents interested in getting involved and having time to manage the commitment, to volunteer. She said to check out the website or to see the Town Clerk to apply for one of the boards.

Town Manager Amaral said she has provided a quarterly report update on the 2018 goals for the Town Council and herself.

Town Manager Amaral said they are implementing the parking amendments and launched the Foreside survey at the polls. She said to keep sending in your responses to the survey.

Town Manager Amaral said she is working with the School Committee and Supt. Waddell on the FY'19 budget trying to increase funding from the State to increase revenue for the 2020 budget.

Town Manager Amaral said the Master Plan draft is being developed as part of the CIP program and Council will see it this winter.

Town Manager Amaral reported that the Rice Library Committee received 9 proposals for design and are busy reviewing them and interviewing candidates.

Town Manager Amaral said they are prioritizing staff safety and their MOD rate will be going down. She said the MOD rate is the rate insurance companies use which is put on the rates, based on the number of risk factors.

Town Manager Amaral said it is early but they are watching revenue activity for Quarter 1 of FY'19 and the Homestead Exemption is coming in higher. She said it is a little more than \$63,000 over budget projections and is higher than last year. She said it is based on what our assessment ratio so right now it is an 85% assessment rate ratio. She said as that goes down, the Homestead Exemption goes down.

Town Manager Amaral said that the excise tax is up and the Code Enforcement Officer fees are coming in as what was projected. She thought expenditures will be okay for the end of the fiscal year, but she is nervous about that at all times. She said at this time, everything seems to be on track.

Town Manager Amaral said she built into the budget \$200,000 over for salt and snow operations, so if they have a milder winter, this can loosen the constraints on the budget. She said the Police Dept. will be at budget but they have hired three new Police Officers, who are going to the Academy while working, so they are paying for that.

Town Manager Amaral said the Sewer Dept. is doing well and that the Town Council had adopted new rates in June. She said they are already seeing revenue getting the Sewer Fund in the black.

Town Manager Amaral said she submitted the town's appeal to FEMA flood rates. She said she reported on this a few meetings ago so hopefully they will adjust the maps accordingly. She said Council had directed the Town Manager in 2014 to get donations and they have sent an incentive report to those who donated.

Town Manager Amaral said she has been meeting with Jessa Kellogg, Resource Protection Officer, the Conservation Commission and the Kittery Land Trust to address the conditions of Legion Pond and will be developing a strategy on how to resolve the issue.

Town Manager Amaral reminded everyone that the Holiday Parade is on Saturday, December 1st at 3:00 pm.

Chairperson Spiller asked if there were any questions.

Councilor Thomson said, through the Chair to the Town Manager, with the election just gone by and the next one almost two years away, he wanted to know if the town could possibly create a second voting site. He said they could divide the list by the alphabet, because there was a lot of waiting on line and problems with parking.

Councilor Thomson said if they continue with one site, is it possible for the poll workers to park elsewhere and have the KCC shuttle bring them back and forth to the Community Center. He said the field took quite a hit, as you know, and there were a lot more voters.

Chairperson Spiller asked the Town Manager to reply to how many absentee ballots were issued?

Town Manager Amaral looked to the Town Clerk and Ms. Maurice replied about 1700.

Chairperson Spiller said almost half of the residents voted.

Ms. Maurice responded that it was about one-third.

Chairperson Spiller asked if there were any other questions?

Councilor Lemont said to follow up on the comment about "Gourmet Alley" as it is called, Route 1, he received numerous calls about the flags disappearing. He said they are put up not only to make the town look nicer, but also to honor our veterans who served our country so we can have our freedom. He said they disappeared around Halloween and it bothers him that some people will stoop so low.

Councilor Lemont said he does not know if anything can be done, but there must be some way to get the word out that it is not appropriate to take down the flags.

Chairperson Spiller said she promised the Board of Appeals she would put in a special appeal to the residents to apply for the Board of Appeals. She said it was over a year ago when she sat in this chair so it feels comfortable. She put in a pitch if anyone is interested in joining the Board of Appeals there are two vacancies and it is a very interesting Board and terrific people are on the board.

10. Acceptance of Previous Minutes: September 24, 2018

Chairperson Spiller asked for any corrections to the minutes and some were noted. She asked Vice-Chair Brock if he would handle the motion on these minutes, since she was not present at that meeting.

Vice-Chairperson Brock said he would cast one vote to approve the minutes of Sept. 24th as amended.

11. Interviews for the Board of Appeals and Planning Board: none

12. All items involving the town attorney, town engineers, town employees or other town consultants or requested officials. – none

13. PUBLIC HEARINGS: none

14. DISCUSSION:

a. by members of the public

Chairperson Spiller asked if anyone wished to speak they may do so at this time, but please respect the three-minute timeframe.

Gerry Burns, 6 Wallingford Square, said he will speak briefly on the referendum question last week. He said in 2016 the citizens voted overwhelmingly for legalization, in 2017 the overwhelming majority voiced their approval of recreational marijuana and in 2018, the non-binding referendum it was voted to have retail marijuana stores in town.

Mr. Burns believed that the citizens have voiced their opinion quite clearly and asked the Town Council, Town Planner and Town Manager to begin the process of creating licensing standards for recreational marijuana in town, using the State regulations and recommendations of Kittery's marijuana workshop. He said that the Town Planner has the necessary guidelines to craft changes to the ordinance.

Shaye Robbins, 402 Haley Road, Kittery Point, spoke about Frank Dennett and thanked him. She said she will miss him on the Town Council and is looking forward to see how they will replace his role on the Town Council. She said she voted for him many times and noticed his attention to detail with everything from spelling and grammar on minutes to budgets and liquor licenses.

Ms. Robbins said when he is spoken about on the Committees that she has been on, she always felt that Mr. Dennett would listen to whatever the Committee would bring forward, note the corrections, but never

block what the Committee was doing. She said he would say they should go back and they can improve this.

Ms. Robbins wished to welcome the returning Council members. She said she does follow Mr. Burns' comments via Facebook and that, a few moments ago, the new Town Councilors took an oath, which included following the laws of the United States constitution. She said as Mr. Dennett had pointed out, when Council discussed marijuana, what was the definition so they could prohibit it in the Land Use code. She said they will be facing this on a State level, medical marijuana caregivers, but asked how do they address this on the town level?

Ms. Robbins said, along those lines, with the non-binding referendum, asked what is the difference, and how are they going to handle binding versus non-binding. She addressed Councilor Clark and said she knows he is a medical marijuana caregiver. She wanted to know, moving forward, how he would handle the technical and conflict of interest rules relating to marijuana.

c. Chairperson's Response to Public Comments:

Chairperson Spiller said she would address the comments made about Frank Dennett, and then the marijuana issue. She said they will all miss former Councilor Dennett's expertise and that he was the parliamentarian on Council. She said she will nominate Councilor Thomson to fill that role, Mr. Dennett's attention to detail will be challenging.

Chairperson Spiller said they are all aware and yes, the town did support the non-binding referendum question on marijuana. She said they could ignore it, but that would be unwise. She asked the Town Manager to look back to about one and one-half years ago when the ordinance was passed prohibiting the sale of retail marijuana. She said the Town Planner had heard testimony from a group associated with York Hospital and maybe they could bring them back. She said she does not want the town to assume the extra burden of enforcement and cost associated with marijuana. She said sometime in January, Council will need to have a workshop.

Chairperson Spiller said that she, as well as the Vice-Chair, will be meeting with the Town Manager to discuss a strategy. She said they will address the conflict of interest when it comes up. She asked Councilor Clark if he would like to comment?

Councilor Clark said that everyone should know that it is a slow-moving thing and he just sat down with his lawyers in Portland to see when recreational marijuana would be implemented and see a storefront and it will likely be 2020 later in the year.

Councilor Clark said that if Council would be voting, he would abstain himself from voting or on being on any committee, if he was going to do something in Kittery. He said he has plans for an operation in Portland, and it has been in the works for a long time. He said he is looking out for his business interest, just as anyone would, but that is not the reason why he is on this Town Council.

Chairperson Spiller asked if any other Councilors wanted to speak?

Vice-Chairperson Brock thought that it is important to respect the will of the voters, even though it is non-binding. He said that this is a democracy and this was put out to vote, but he has concerns like enforcement and cost. He said there are a lot of issues that the Town Council will need to grapple with and they will be proceeding slowly. He said he does advocate having a workshop.

Vice-Chairperson Brock addressed the citizens and said your public officials are responsive and are listening, but let us move forward and take the time and try to get it right.

Councilor Thomson agreed, saying this is a slow-moving train on this matter and he has been watching what is going on in Massachusetts. He said they have to recognize that every new legislator and Governor may decide to tweak it and it was passed in the last session, but the bottom line is they would have to vote to opt in.

Councilor Thomson asked Chairperson Spiller if that was correct and she responded yes.

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

16. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Donations/gifts received for Council disposition. – none
- b. (110118-1) The Kittery Town Council moves to approve the disbursement warrants.

Chairperson Spiller asked Councilor Denault if he reviewed the Town and Sewer payables and were they in appropriate order.

Councilor Denault replied that they were.

Chairperson Spiller asked Councilor Pelletier if the School payable was in appropriate order and Councilor Pelletier responded that they are.

Chairperson Spiller read the amounts: Town = \$341,753.59; Sewer = \$12,594.61 and School = \$603,566.21 for a total of \$957,914.41.

COUNCILOR THOMSON MOVED THAT THE DISBURSEMENT WARRANTS BE PAID AS READ, SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DENAULT. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR, 7-0, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIES.

- c. (110118-2) The Kittery Town Council moves to discuss Council Rules for the ensuing year.

Chairperson Spiller said we have last year's version before Council. She suggested instead of "10th" newly revised it would be moved to "11th" edition that is online.

Councilor Thomson said he did not have a copy of the existing rules in his packet and asked if they could perhaps act on this at the next meeting?

Chairperson Spiller said typically they discuss it and we would vote at the following meeting.

- d. (110118-3) The Kittery Town Council moves to discuss appointment of Council members to ongoing Council Committees.

Chairperson Spiller asked if everyone got a copy of list. She said there are a couple of vacant spots, one is on the CIP Committee.

Councilor Denault said he would like to do that.

Chairperson Spiller suggested first, continuing with the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee and secondly, suggested adding another representative to the committee, a generic chair of the Council. She said they do not meet on a regular basis, maybe 2 -3 times a year, just to make sure and get a general sense, they are moving in the right direction.

Town Manager Amaral said that was discussed a number of times before the plan was finalized and it was agreed not to have a Committee going forward, but rather to adopt an action plan to decide what steps need to be taken.

Chairperson Spiller said several members of the present Committee were part of that and they all said the Committee should continue, so she was sort of at a loss.

Vice-Chair Brock thought, as representative on the Committee, at this point, he would be in favor of continuing the Committee, at least to have a clear path going forward on how the plan will be implemented.

Chairperson Spiller said the last Comprehensive Plan, people put a lot of time and work into it and she did not think anyone opened it. She said it is a substantial document and the Committee could at least guide the process and decide that it would be implemented, and if they do not need a Committee, we could either extend it or disband, but she would be reluctant to do that at this point.

Chairperson Spiller asked if there was any further discussion?

Councilor Thomson asked the Town Manager, through the Chair, after the town vote last week, will the Committee be getting together again, yes or no?

Town Manager Amaral replied no, there are no plans finalized and they did not include the Committee going forward.

Councilor Pelletier suggested that the Chair and the Town Manager put this on your list of things to discuss and come back to Council with a recommendation on how to proceed. He said there are benefits in both directions.

All Councilors were in agreement.

Councilor Thomson asked if they were leaving Councilor Brock as representative for the purpose of adopting this list?

Chairperson Spiller replied yes, and we can add another name.

Chairperson Spiller said the Kittery Community Center Board of Directors has a vacancy.

Councilor Thomson said that needed to be corrected because Councilor Pelletier was appointed in March and he believed that the appointment term goes to March 31, 2021.

Councilor Pelletier said that is how he saw it.

Councilor Denault asked if they skipped something?

Chairperson Spiller said she was waiting for people to mention what they wanted or if they wanted to step off as they go down the list. She said they will go by Committee.

Councilor Lemont wanted to continue serving on the Economic Development Committee.

Educational Scholarship Committee – Councilor Pelletier and Councilor Denault.

Trustees of the Trust Fund is the Chair.

Chairperson Spiller said she did discuss with the Vice-Chair him stepping aside and she would take over his spot, on the Kittery Open Space Advisory Committee.

Vice-Chair Brock said that would okay, he has other Committees that he is serving on.

Councilor Lemont said he wanted to step down from reviewing the disbursement warrants and let the new member be on.

Councilor Clark said he would step into Councilor Lemont's slot.

Chairperson Spiller asked Councilor Clark if he wanted the first slot for reviewing the Disbursement Warrant for Town Expenses. Councilor Clark agreed.

Councilor Pelletier said he is fine remaining first in line to review the School Warrants.

Chairperson Spiller said she would like to stay on the York River Study Committee.

Chairperson Spiller said that Councilor Brock and Councilor Thomson are on the Taylor Building Committee; Councilor Denault and Councilor Pelletier are on the Library Building Committee.

Chairperson Spiller asked the Town Manager if the work of the Transition Committee is still ongoing?

Town Manager Amaral responded yes, they hope to be completed by the end of the fiscal year. She said she would like Council to consider letting Mr. Beers continue as representative on it, because of all the work that has gone into it and the short period of time remaining.

Council agreed to let Mr. Beers continue as representative.

Chairperson Spiller asked if they needed to vote on it?

Councilor Thomson replied they usually have a clean copy prepared for them and they vote on it at the next meeting.

e. (110118-4) The Kittery Town Council moves to approve a request from Burrito Betty's and The Blue Mermaid to park their Mobile Units at the Kittery Premium Outlets #4 on Friday, November 23, 2018.

Chairperson Spiller said permission from the property owners and copies of the Victualers' licenses have been provided in Council's packets.

COUNCILOR THOMSON MOVED THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM BURRITO BETTY'S AND THE BLUE MERMAID TO PARK THEIR MOBILE UNITS AT THE KITTERY PREMIUM OUTLETS ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018, SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PELLETIER. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR, 7-0, MOTION CARRIES.

f. (110118-5) The Kittery Town Council moves to authorize the Town Manager to close departments, with the exception of essential personnel, the day after Thanksgiving, November 23, 2018, with the understanding that employees will use their personal accumulated time.

COUNCILOR THOMSON MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO CLOSE DEPARTMENTS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL, THE DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING, NOVEMBER 23, 2018, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING EMPLOYEES WILL USE THEIR PERSONAL ACCUMULATED TIME, SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PELLETIER.

Chairperson Spiller asked if the Transfer Station would be open on Friday, and the Town Manager replied no, but it will be open Saturday.

ALL WERE IN FAVOR BY A VOICE VOTE, AYE, 7-0. MOTION CARRIES.

g. (110118-6) The Kittery Town Council moves to schedule a public hearing on Title 16 Land Use and Development – Shoreland and Resource Protection Overlay Zone amendments on December 10, 2018.

Chairperson Spiller asked if they wanted to have a workshop before the public hearing. She said they could determine a workshop and put that on the agenda as well on the 26th.

Town Manager Amaral said that the Parks Commission would also like to discuss fees on November 26th. She wanted to know if Council wanted back to back workshop or put it on another day before the 10th?

Councilor Thomson suggested next Monday, the 19th?

Chairperson Spiller said they could have a workshop on November 19th at 5 pm.

Town Manager Amaral replied that she would reach out to the Planning Board to see if they would be available for that.

COUNCILOR THOMSON MOVED THE TOWN COUNCIL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON DECEMBER 10TH ON AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 16 LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT – SHORELAND AND RESOURCE PROTECTION OVERLAY ZONES, SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PELLETIER. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR, 7-0, MOTION CARRIES.

h. (110118-7) The Kittery Town Council moves to authorize the Town Manager to make application for financial assistance under the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, Public Law 88-578 for development of Phase 2 of Emery Field Improvements and authorizes the Town Manager to enter into an agreement between the Town of Kittery and the State of Maine upon Federal approval of the above-identified project.

Chairperson Spiller asked the Town Manager if she would like to mention anything.

Town Manager Amaral responded yes, the Renovation Project. She said the Town Council approved Phase 1 in 2015. She said this included making improvements to the parking as well as expenditures rebates on repairs to the existing Recreation Building and construction of a new building. She said they are looking to complete the path around the park and repairs to the Basketball court.

Town Manager Amaral said the total cost would be \$609,000 for the construction and they can receive \$300,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. She said in terms of meeting the other pool, there is money available in the Open Space fund and the CIP fund. She said every year Council votes to transfer money from unencumbered surplus and they can do that to match funds in order to get access. She said the current application is due on Friday.

COUNCILOR THOMSON MOVED THAT THE TOWN MANAGER BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE SAID APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ACT, PUBLIC LAW 88-578, FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PHASE 2 EMERY FIELD IMPROVEMENTS AND TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE STATE OF MAINE UPON FEDERAL APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT. COUNCILOR DENAULT SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chairperson Spiller asked if there was any discussion.

Councilor Lemont wanted to know how many phases are there for this project, and who do we anticipate using this field?

Chairperson Spiller asked the Town Manager to address the questions.

Town Manager Amaral said Phase 1 is the construction of the playing field for Lacrosse and Soccer and they also have adult regulars who use it. She said overall, it is likely they would like three phases, and may have a basketball court and a playground.

Chairperson Spiller wanted to know about whiffle or pickleball, it is fast-growing, or racquet sports.

Councilor Thomson said, as a follow up, he does know people who play pickleball. He said it is growing in Kittery and it would be nice to have a facility like that in the summer months.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH SEVEN VOTING IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIES.

i. (110118-8) The Kittery Town Council moves to authorize the release of funds in the amount of \$1,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) as approved by the voters at the June 12, 2018 Town Meeting, and to deposit said funds into account #101740-68427 Expense Self-Insurance Claims, to cover the cost of the deductible for an insurance claim.

COUNCILOR THOMSON MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000 FROM UNASSIGNED FUNDS AS APPROVED BY THE VOTERS AT THE JUNE 12, 2018 TOWN MEETING AND TO NOTE THAT THERE IS NOTHING IN THAT ACCOUNT NUMBER 101740-68427, EXPENSE SELF-INSURANCE CLAIMS TO COVER THE COST OF THE DEDUCTIBLE FOR AN INSURANCE CLAIM, SECONDED BY COUNCILOR PELLETIER. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIES.

17. COUNCIL COMMENTS / ISSUES:

Chairperson Spiller started with Councilor Lemont and asked if he had any comments.

Councilor Lemont said, in his capacity as Chair, a letter was sent to himself, the Town Manager, Chair of the Port Authority and the Harbor Master from the Chair of the Conservation Commission regarding the clean-up on Crescent Beach indicating that the lobstermen using tie wraps is a serious problem. He said the Town Council could come up with a solution to this issue and address this problem. He said he would give the letter to the Town Manager.

Councilor Lemont congratulated Chairperson Spiller on her new leadership role and said he looked forward to working with her.

Councilor Denault asked about the Boston Cane award. He said he knows they are not at that point yet, but he wanted to be ready when it comes.

Councilor Pelletier welcomed the new Councilor and said welcome back to Councilor Thomson and Chairperson Spiller and he looked forward to a productive year. He hoped they were all up for the challenges going forward.

Vice-Chair Brock said the Kittery Workforce Coalition put on a two-day workshop on Affordable Housing at 25 Walker Street and are looking to use that as a model. He said it was well-attended and they had bankers, 3-4 architects and landscapers. He said this is a quality professional group who are in the process of preparing a report for the town. He said they hopefully will have something to present to the Town Council after January 1st. He said he would like Council to consider what action they will take moving forward on this item.

Vice-Chairperson Brock appreciated the vote of the Council making him Vice-Chair and welcomed Judy Spiller as the new Chair. He said he is looking forward to mastering the procedural intricacies of Council practice and thanked Council for their support.

Councilor Thomson said the way Christmas falls next month, he wants to try to have one meeting in December and suggested possible ways to that that. He said they have a workshop with the School Committee to discuss the annual budget and they offered to have a workshop prior to their regular meeting on December 4th. He wanted to know if it was possible to have the municipal budget workshop prior to the December 10th meeting.

Councilor Thomson wanted to know where do we go from here regarding the Comprehensive Plan? He said they have a checklist for the first year under the new Comprehensive Plan Committee with Council and various Boards starting to pursue.

Councilor Thomson wanted to know the status of John Paul Jones Park. He said he put a message out to Representative Rykerson regarding the process for the park to be turned over to the town but wanted to know if it starts all over again or can Gov. Mills sign a conveyance deed to turn the park over?

Councilor Thomson said he would like to have a workshop with members of DOT to talk about the speed limits and the roads getting beaten up.

Councilor Thomson said he would like some discussion on owners of vacant rentals since that issue is coming to a head.

Chairperson Spiller asked if Councilor Thomson was suggesting a budget workshop on December 4th.

Councilor Thomson responded it usually takes about 30 minutes.

Chairperson Spiller said she will be on her annual trip to Haiti but they have a very capable Vice-Chair who can run the meeting instead.

Vice-Chair Brock asked if this is a workshop?

Councilor Thomson replied yes, they sit down and get some sense from Town Council what our hope will be for the budget package.

Vice-Chair Brock asked if they knew if the School Committee would be available for the workshop?

Councilor Thomson responded no, they do not.

Chairperson Spiller asked the Town Manager to work with Supt. Waddell to see if that is an option. She said December 10th will be a budget workshop and a workshop with the Parks Commission on November 26th.

Chairperson Spiller said there will be a workshop on November 19th with the Planning Board and Town Manager and asked what are you looking for in that workshop?

Councilor Thomson said the Town Council goals would be part of it, but he would like not to be Christmas Eve.

Town Manager Amaral said she does not usually work on the goals until January after she works on the CIP plan.

Chairperson Spiller said this Fall, the #1 issue is congestion and speeding from the Shipyard, which is a major problem. She said those are the times people are speeding on our roads. She asked if there was a way they could look at State Road with DOT – from the traffic circle to the malls. She said people are going to fast, the speed limit goes from 25 to 35 mph but some people are going 45 mph.

Chairperson Spiller said that short term rentals is a growing issue and thought it would be useful for us to look at that.

Chairperson Spiller said in her year of exile, they spoke about transparency on Council. She said what is there not to see unless you are not looking. She said they will ramp up periodic communication to the public from what they were doing. She said the town does a good job but, in her opinion, when it comes to communication, more is better.

Chairperson Spiller congratulated her fellow Councilors and welcomed Councilor Clark. She asked Councilor Thomson how many years has it been that he has served on Council.

Councilor Thomson responded 21 years.

Chairperson Spiller said she had a very helpful conversation with Councilor Lemont the other night and thanked him.

18. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS: none

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

20. ADJOURNMENT:

COUNCILOR PELLETIER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:20 P.M. SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DENAULT. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR, 7-0. MOTION CARRIES. MEETING ADJOURNED.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Boggiano
Recording Secretary

Approved 1-14-19