

MINUTES OF THE EYES ON 30 COMMITTEE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
October 25, 2023 – 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:	Councilor Nancie Cameron, Chair Councilor Richard Michaud Planning Board Representative Jason Barry Jenne Holmes City Manager Bob Belmore
Others Present:	Mayor Dana Hilliard
Staff present:	Director of Planning & Community Development Michelle Mears Finance Director Scott Smith Deputy City Clerk Ammy Ramsey

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Committee Chair Cameron called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

APPROVE PAST MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2023

*Jenne Holmes made a motion to accept the June 21, 2023 minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Jason Barry and passed 5-0.*

REVIEW PAST ESTABLISHED GOALS

Chair Cameron stated at the previous meeting the Committee discussed three areas of the identified goals by the Committee to be achieved by 2030, and would like to discuss the next attainable goals.

The Committee discussed the possibility of initiating a City-wide clean-up effort, or a clean streets program. Jason Berry mentioned working with the City Code Enforcement for knowledge of the current ordinances and policies that are already in place. Chair Cameron mentioned that this could be part of the Don't Trash Somersworth group she has mentioned at a previous meeting.

Jason Berry also mentioned an energy efficient goal could be looked into as there are some discussions concerning a solar farm currently for the City. City Manager Belmore mentioned that a new Committee has been established to work with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, and this group is going to work on planning and energy goals for the City. Manager Belmore also mentioned the City Council just passed a Resolution to execute the Joint Powers Agreement of the Coalition, and if this Committee has any recommendations, the information can be passed along. Manager Belmore also added that the City has done energy audits for City buildings and has switched to LED street lighting. Finance Director Smith stated that the City just received a grant to do an energy audit for the Water Treatment Plant. Manager Belmore added that the Fire Department also received an energy grant during phase 1 of the fire station construction and the City is submitting an energy grant for phase 2 to receive additional funds.

Director Mears mentioned that the site plan was updated recently to add regulations for charging stations, and the Zoning Ordinance was updated for solar arrays.

There was some discussion pertaining to establishing goals that are attainable for the City by 2030 while considering what the City may look like with population, resident needs, and environment.

Jason Berry mentioned considering what the City can do for growth of residential units, and he feels the City has taken a step towards that with the 85 Elm Street proposal. Another consideration would be safety and inclusion and what this Committee can do to help with those items. Jason Berry also mentioned the homeless population and what we can do to address that situation, and lastly looking into the safety of the City and what can be done to improve those concerns.

Mayor Dana Hilliard mentioned that the safety of the Community should not be constructed around one incident and that we do have a safe Community. The City has taken steps to express concern around that one incident but we are not defined around that.

Mayor Dana Hilliard also mentioned that diversity is important and expressing diversity can be done in many different ways. The City has done that by the billboard that was just completed, the support of the Indonesian Festival, and the flags that are flown at Citizen's Place. Mayor Hilliard suggested having educational workshops, bringing in guest speakers, and requesting books in the library about diversity.

Chair Cameron mentioned adding Don't Trash Somersworth program to help with cleaning up around the City. Jason Berry inquired about how the City would enforce cleaning up the City. Manager Belmore stated that he is not sure what more can be done because there are already things in place such as the blue bag program, ordinances and codes, adopt a spot, and a City wide clean up day. Chair Cameron will look into the specifics and come back with more information to the next meeting.

#### DISCUSS ADDITIONAL GOALS

Chair Cameron stated the next item to talk about is Recreation and Library goals concerning new programming for seniors, using the schools as a community center, recreation, park improvements, parks and recreation facilities, and SYC. Chair Cameron stated that the senior walking program has started and they are hoping to expand that and add other senior programs.

Chair Cameron mentioned doing a boat and kayak launch map, and a walking trail at Malley Farm. Jason Berry inquired about any walking trails out towards Sunningdale Drive. Director Mears stated that there are trails out there, and there was some discussion pertaining to signage and the homeowner's association. Manager Belmore mentioned that all trails are listed on the Recreation page of the City's website.

Chair Cameron stated she was approached by some residents inquiring about senior events happening by Bartlett Avenue area. Manager Belmore stated that the Recreation Department is collaborating up with the Housing Authority to use the Flanagan Senior Center to offer a Christmas senior program.

There was some discussion pertaining to educational programs that have been or are currently being offered at the library.

#### CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE

Chair Cameron stated that the next two months of meetings for the Eyes on 30 Committee will be scheduled on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, and December 27, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

There were no miscellaneous items discussed.

#### ADJOURNMENT

*Councilor Michaud made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jenne Holmes and passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Ammy Ramsey, Deputy City Clerk