



The Claremont City Council will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

AGENDA (Revised 2nd)

- 6:30 PM 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 6:32 PM 2. ROLL CALL
- 6:34 PM 3. AGENDA CHANGES
- 6:35 PM 4. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
Minutes of August 12, 2026, City Council Meeting(s)
- 6:37 PM 5. MAYOR'S NOTES
A. Proclamation 2026 Business of the year – Mikros Technologies
- 6:42 PM 6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
A. General Remarks
- 6:45 PM 7. CITIZEN'S FORUM
- 8. NEW BUSINESS (*Times are estimates and subject to change*)
- 7:00 PM *A. Mikros Technologies Presentation (City Manager/Director of Planning and Development)*
- 7:30 PM *B. Resolution 2027-17 AARP Grant Acceptance – Public Hearing (City Manager/Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation)*
- 7:40 PM *C. Interim City Manager-Hour/Compensation Discussion (City Council)*
- 7:45 PM 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 7:50 PM 10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND DIRECTIVES
- 7:55 PM 11. CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
- 8:00 PM 12. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE: Claremont City Council's next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

The Claremont City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Girard at 6:30 p.m.

Members of the Council present:

Ward I Councilor Andrew O'Hearne
Ward II Councilor William Greenrose
Ward III Councilor Christopher Irish
Assistant Mayor Debora Matteau
At-Large Councilor Christopher Cogswell
At-Large Councilor Wayne Hemingway
At-Large Councilor William Limoges
At-Large Councilor Nicholas Koloski
Mayor Dale Girard

Also present:

Rick Bergeron, Interim City Manager

AGENDA CHANGES

Mayor Girard removed Item F from the agenda.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

A motion was made by Councilor O'Hearne and seconded by Assistant Mayor Matteau to accept the minutes of the July 14, 2026, City Council meeting.

Voice vote:

O'Hearne – yes

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau– yes

Koloski – yes

Limoges - yes

Contemporaneous meeting notes for use with other resources in preparation of draft minutes
MEMBERS – PERSONS appearing – BRIEF DESCRIPTION – DECISIONS. RSA 91-A:2.

Hemingway – yes
Irish - yes
Girard – yes
Motion carried 9-0

A motion was made by Councilor Greenrose and seconded by Assistant Mayor Matteau to accept the minutes of the July 22, 2026, City Council meeting.

Voice vote:
O’Hearne – yes
Cogswell – yes
Greenrose – yes
Matteau– yes
Koloski – yes
Limoges - yes
Hemingway – yes
Irish - yes
Girard – yes
Motion carried 9-0

MAYOR’S NOTES

Parks and Recreation will be hosting an All Out Trail Run this Saturday at Moody Park starting at 9am.

Parks and Recreation will be hosting a movie night on the Visitor’s Center Green sponsored by Kiwanis club.

Back to School Festival will be held Saturday August 22, 2026.

Senior Center will host their annual car show on Saturday August 29, at the Claremont Motorsports Speedway.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Interim City Manager Bergeron reported working closely with staff to fill vacancies.

Councilor O’Hearne asked for a moment of silence for Micheal Richmond who recently passed away.

APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Contemporaneous meeting notes for use with other resources in preparation of draft minutes
MEMBERS – PERSONS appearing – BRIEF DESCRIPTION – DECISIONS. RSA 91-A:2.

Mayor Girard asked for the attendance of boards and committees to be looked into and reach out to those with lack of attendance to gauge their interest in continuing.

Claremont Arts, History and Culture Preservation Commission.

A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Matteau and seconded by Councilor Greenrose to appoint Christine Hawkins to seat 6 of the Claremont Arts, History and Culture Preservation Commission.

Voice vote:

O’Hearne – yes

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau – yes

Koloski – yes

Limoges - yes

Hemingway – yes

Irish - yes

Girard – yes

Motion carried 9-0

Francis Tolles Home Board of Trustees

Councilor O’Hearne suggested appointing the Tolles Home seats after the Tolles Home By-Laws item under New Business, Council agreed by consensus.

Establish Motorsport Ad-Hoc Committee

The Council discussed establishing a Motorsports Speedway Ad Hoc Committee. Recommended by the Licensing Board using the members of the Licensing Board, and a Councilor. Council discussed whether one Council representative would be sufficient, Councilor Irish expressed interest in serving and Councilor Cogswell suggested that a citizen also be included.

Councilor Hemingway supported having two Councilors on the committee and expressed interest in serving.

Assistant Mayor Matteau noted that there are two components to the Speedway issue and that the City has spent considerable time discussing process without addressing the underlying zoning concerns and noted that the Speedway is pre-existing nonconforming use and that the City needs to ensure whatever direction it goes in is properly enforced.

Contemporaneous meeting notes for use with other resources in preparation of draft minutes
MEMBERS – PERSONS appearing – BRIEF DESCRIPTION – DECISIONS. RSA 91-A:2.

Councilor Greenrose questioned whether an ad hoc committee would improve efficiency or slow the process. Manger Bergeron stated that the intent was to improve efficiency and the process.

A motion was made by Councilor Irish and seconded by Assistant Mayor Matteau to establish Motorsports speedway ad hoc committee consisting of the Licensing Board, Councilor Irish, Councilor Hemingway, Fire Chief, and a citizen, the ad hoc committee will sunset when the ordinance is completed.

A motion was made by Councilor Irish and seconded by Assistant Mayor Matteau to move the question.

Roll call:

O’Hearne – yes

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau– yes

Koloski – no

Limoges - no

Hemingway – yes

Irish - yes

Girard – yes

Motion carried 7-2

Roll call:

O’Hearne – no

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau– yes

Koloski – no

Limoges - no

Hemingway – no

Irish - yes

Girard – no

Motion Failed 4-5

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

The Commission will start meeting again and by consensus Council agrees.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Nicole Dermody, owner of Style House on Pleasant Street, spoke to the Council regarding concerns about the public bench located outside their business and the condition of the planters along the street. Ms. Dermody noted the bench has become a gathering area and is creating an environment that is not appropriate in front of a professional business. She asked the City to consider moving the bench to another location.

Ms. Dermody also expressed concerns about interactions and incidents occurring outside the business and asked the Police Department to take a more proactive approach. She requested clarification on what laws and ordinances apply to people congregating on a public bench and what businesses are legally able to do when this becomes an ongoing issue.

Ms. Dermody noted that the City has invested significant funds in the revitalization of Pleasant Street and said the condition of the planters, which are neglected and full of weeds, does not reflect that investment. She asked the City for accountability and a clear plan to address the bench, maintain the planters, explain the applicable laws and ordinances, and provide a better process for businesses dealing with ongoing issues outside their establishments.

Kelly Gillette of Style House Salon spoke to the Council about ongoing concerns outside the business and referenced two recent incidents involving public intoxication and domestic violence and expressed frustration with the lack of follow-up after the business contacts the Police Department. Ms. Gillett asked what the appropriate procedure is when a business calls to report an incident, including whether an officer should follow up directly with the business, and noted being told to call and document incidents, but it feels as though nothing is happening and that no one cares.

Ms. Gillett emphasized that the business owners believe in Pleasant Street and wants to see the area succeed, but the situation is creating problems for their clients and affecting the business environment. Ms. Gillett referenced a letter from another salon owner who ultimately relocated her business and comments from the director at TLC regarding moving the public bench and asked the City to consider relocating it to help address the ongoing concerns.

Molly Tremblay, Ward I, Director of a childcare center on School Street noted having the same issues as the salon and mentioned the center cannot keep families because of criminal activity, and shared concerns for a lack of response from the Police Department.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Koloski noted that Attachment B was not related to salary. He stated that he did not see a conflict and was comfortable remaining for the discussion, as he had recused himself previously.

By consensus Council agreed.

Director Thibodeau explained Merit System changes to Attachment B.

A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Matteau and seconded by Councilor Greenrose to pass Ordinance #648 to a third and final reading.

Council continued to discuss the proposed changes. Councilor O'Hearne raised concerns about the Merit System being presented by the Human Resources Director. Councilor Irish expressed concern about Council reviewing the ordinance line by line, characterizing it as unnecessary interference. Councilor Koloski stated that ordinances should be clear noting that the language should remain understandable years from now. Assistant Mayor Matteau agreed that clear ordinance language is important.

Roll call:

O'Hearne – no

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose - yes

Matteau– no

Koloski – no

Limoges - no

Hemingway – no

Irish - yes

Girard – no

Motion Failed 3-6

NEW BUSINESS

PILOT - Kearsarge Claremont, LLC

Manager Bergeron stated this contract may not be in the best interest of the City, and suggests removing the item. By consensus Council Agrees.

Tolles Home By-Laws

Contemporaneous meeting notes for use with other resources in preparation of draft minutes
MEMBERS – PERSONS appearing – BRIEF DESCRIPTION – DECISIONS. RSA 91-A:2.

Mayor Girard brought up residency requirements, and stated that, based on other boards, any Claremont resident should have the opportunity to serve on a Claremont board, and then explained when a seat expires on other boards, it simply expires, the person does not serve until another appointment is made.

Assistant Mayor Matteau agreed with the sentiment. O'Hearne suggested reconsidering Section 1.2, noting that the seat was previously designated as a City Manager seat. The Council reached a consensus not to make that change.

Councilor Koloski suggested requiring two resident members so that there would still be enough members to conduct business if two members were recused. Mayor Girard stated that he was comfortable with the structure used two years ago.

Karlaine Livingston and Larry Johnson Ward, 3 Tolles Home, spoke in support of having residents serve on the board.

A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Matteau and seconded by Councilor Greenrose to approve the proposed by laws as presented with changes to 1.1 and add (2) residents of Frances J. Tolles Home, and 1.3 each trustee shall be appointed for three years and to strike rest.

Roll call:

O'Hearne – yes

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau – yes

Koloski – yes

Limoges - yes

Hemingway – yes

Irish - yes

Girard – yes

Motion carried 9-0

APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES CONTINUED

Frances J. Tolles Home Board of Trustees

A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Matteau and seconded by Councilor Greenrose to appoint the current sitting residents Larry Johnson to seat 4, and Bette Pfenning to seat 6 of the Frances J. Tolles Home Board of Trustees.

Contemporaneous meeting notes for use with other resources in preparation of draft minutes
MEMBERS – PERSONS appearing – BRIEF DESCRIPTION – DECISIONS. RSA 91-A:2.

Voice vote:

O’Hearne – yes

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau– yes

Koloski – yes

Limoges - yes

Hemingway – yes

Irish - yes

Girard – yes

Motion carried 9-0

A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Matteau and seconded by Councilor Koloski to Appoint Keith Raymond to Seat 5, and Molly Tremblay to Seat 7 of the Frances J. Tolles Home.

Voice vote:

O’Hearne – yes

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau– yes

Koloski – yes

Limoges - yes

Hemingway – yes

Irish - yes

Girard – yes

Motion carried 9-0

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Resolution 2027-13 Byrne Foundation Grant Acceptance – Public Hearing

Shaun Laplante presented Resolution 2027-13 and is requesting the Council accept the award of \$10,000 from the Byrne Foundation to support Claremont youth sports programs.

A motion was made by Councilor Irish and seconded by Councilor Limoges to accept Resolution 2027-13.

Contemporaneous meeting notes for use with other resources in preparation of draft minutes
MEMBERS – PERSONS appearing – BRIEF DESCRIPTION – DECISIONS. RSA 91-A:2.

Councilor Irish read Resolution 2027-13 into the record.

Mayor Girard opened a public hearing, no one spoke. Mayor Girard closed the public hearing.

Roll call:

O'Hearne – yes

Cogswell – yes

Greenrose – yes

Matteau– yes

Koloski – yes

Limoges - yes

Hemingway – yes

Irish - yes

Girard – yes

Motion carried 9-0

LWCF Residual Funds Repurposing Discussion

Manager Bergeron explained that the CSB Community Center has approximately \$170,000 remaining from its Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant. Community Center staff identified several potential projects for the remaining funds.

The proposed projects and estimated costs were reviewed, including two playground structures, bathroom improvements, a parking lot safety net, tennis and pickleball court lighting, and softball field lighting.

Manager Bergeron stated that the City's recommendation was to use the available funds for Items 4, 5, and 6: ADA-compliant bathrooms, parking lot safety net, and tennis and pickleball court lighting. By consensus Council agrees to use the funds towards ADA compliant bathroom, pickleball court lights, and use the remaining funds on softball field lighting at Veteran's Park.

Resolution 2027-14 Use of Fund Balance – Capital Improvements

Manager Bergeron stated these are time sensitive projects, and would like them completed before winter weather.

**A motion was made by Councilor Limoges and seconded by Councilor Greenrose
Accept Resolution 2027-14 amending the second paragraph by removing *City Hall* wording.**

Councilor Limoges read resolution 2027-14 into the record.

Contemporaneous meeting notes for use with other resources in preparation of draft minutes
MEMBERS – PERSONS appearing – BRIEF DESCRIPTION – DECISIONS. RSA 91-A:2.

Mayor Girard opened a public hearing.

Elizabeth Cram, Ward I questioned if the Library Roof was vetted through the HDC. Manager Bergeron stated this will be on the next HDC agenda.

Mayor Girard closed the public hearing.

Council then agreed to have the City Manager bring back the resolution after meeting with the HDC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Cogswell reported the EPA steering committee discussed Lead and Arsenic in soil. Procurement Policy is moving forward on how to do calculations for RFPs.

Assistant Mayor Matteau stated the Planning Board approved a solar array at the Senior Center.

Councilor Koloski noted the Arts committee exhibits at Visitors Center will be around fire prevention week and the history of the Fire Department, fundraising continues for the eagle.

Councilor Limoges mentioned the CDA entered into contract for bookkeeping services and held discussion on EIN, property management/development.

Councilor Hemmingway stated the Zoning Board denied a density variance and will be conducting a site visit for porch addition.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND DIRECTIVES

Assistant Mayor Matteau would like the bench moved on pleasant street, a plan for the planters, and would like the Police Chief to comment on the concerns that the downtown businesses brought up.

Councilor Irish would like more police presence on Pleasant Street, and raised concerns with Cat Hole parking, cars racing in that area.

Councilor Greenrose mentioned the pollinator garden was cut down, and going forward there should be a boarder and possibly signage.

Councilor Hemmingway shared concern for E-bikes.

Councilor Koloski shared concerns for the following:

- E-Bikes
- Lack continuity for planters
- Asset management and warranty recording
- Heart of Claremont Bricks
- A dead Tree in front of Jenkins Dance
- Downtown Street lights plan
- Dead tree in front of the hobby store
- Old banner in front of Police Department
- Flower beds on Pleasant Street
- Would like to see a mowing map or contracted services map
- A Council Member on the Parks and Recreation Commission
- Cigarette disposals and the lack of being emptied and maintained.

CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:51 p.m., a motion was made by Councilor O’Hearne and seconded by Councilor Limoges to adjourn.

Voice vote:

Irish – yes

Hemingway – yes

Limoges – yes

Koloski – yes

Matteau – yes

Greenrose - yes

Cogswell – yes

O’Hearne - yes

Girard – yes

Motion carried 9-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Julia A. Bizzarro
Clerk to the Council



Parks and Recreation Department
152 South Street
Claremont, NH 03743
(603) 542-7019

Memo:

To: City Manager, Mayor, Assistant Mayor and City Council

From: Shaun Laplante, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

Date: 8/19/26

Re: Acceptance of \$15,000 AARP Community Challenge Grant – Monadnock Park Pavilion Project

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to request City Council approval to accept **\$15,000 in grant funding from the AARP Community Challenge Grant** for the construction of a new pavilion at Monadnock Park.

Project Overview

The grant funds will be used toward the construction of a **16' x 24' wooden pavilion** located between the existing concession stand and playground at Monadnock Park.

The pavilion will provide a permanent covered gathering space for families, park visitors, youth sports participants, and community events. Its location near the playground and concession stand will make it easily accessible and provide much-needed shade and shelter within one of the park's most heavily utilized areas.

Additional Funding

When reviewing the scope of the project, it became clear that the total cost of constructing the pavilion would exceed the **\$15,000 available through the AARP Community Challenge Grant**.

To address the funding gap, I presented the project to the **Claremont Kiwanis Club** and requested their assistance in completing the project. Kiwanis has agreed to **pledge the remaining funds necessary to complete the pavilion**, allowing the City to move forward with the project without requiring the remaining construction costs to be funded through the Parks & Recreation operating budget.

Recommendation

I respectfully request that the City Council **accept the \$15,000 AARP Community Challenge Grant** and authorize the funds to be used toward the construction of the 16' x 24' wooden pavilion at Monadnock Park.

With the AARP grant funding and the additional funding pledged by Kiwanis, this project represents a strong partnership between the City and community organizations and will provide a lasting improvement to Monadnock Park for residents and visitors.

Requested Action:

Approve the acceptance of **\$15,000 from the AARP Community Challenge Grant** for the Monadnock Park Pavilion Project.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaun Laplante
Assistant Director
Claremont Parks & Recreation

Kiwanis[®]

International

Claremont Kiwanis Charities, Inc.
P.O. Box 615
Claremont, N.H. 03743

Club Officers

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Michael Dewey

madewey0808@gmail.com

President-Elect

John Hall

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Treasurer

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Past President

Judy DiPadova

Club Directors

Luke Avery

Sarah Barrette

Scott Bouranis

DJ Chabot

Kevin Corliss

Anthony DiPadova

Ann Dewey

Tanya Hinkley

Chad Thurber

Dear Members of the Claremont City Council,

My name is Hillary Walsh, and I am writing to you in my capacity as the Secretary for Claremont Kiwanis Charities.

Recently, Shaun Laplante, Assistant Director/Superintendent of Recreation Programs at the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center, presented a proposal to our Board of Directors requesting sponsorship for a new pavilion at Monadnock Park. Our board is highly supportive of this project and has formally voted to sponsor the remaining balance of the pavilion's cost. This commitment is contingent upon the City Council's approval of the pending \$15,000 AARP grant.

We look forward to partnering with the city on this community enhancement.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Hillary Walsh

Secretary, Claremont Kiwanis Charities

We are a 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization. Federal Tax ID #26-3371471

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to



changing the world one child and one community at a time.

RESOLUTION 2027-17

AARP Community Challenge Grant

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Claremont, New Hampshire, after a public hearing duly noticed, that

WHEREAS the Claremont Parks and Recreation Department (CPRD) would like to accept a grant from the AARP Community Challenge Grant in the amount of \$15,000.00 to be used toward the construction of a 16' x 24' wooden pavilion to be located between the concession stand and playground at Monadnock Park; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council hereby authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the \$15,000.00 AARP Community Challenge Grant for the intended purpose of constructing the pavilion at Monadnock Park (with no impact on the tax rate); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager or his designees are hereby authorized to execute all documents and undertake all actions as may be required to implement this resolution. *(Majority Vote Required)*

Dated this 26th day of August, 2026, the City of Claremont, County of Sullivan, State of New Hampshire.

AYES _____

ABSENT _____

NAYS _____

ABSTAIN _____

CERTIFICATION

I, Julia A. Bizzarro, the undersigned officer, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Claremont, New Hampshire, at a meeting, duly noticed, and held on August 12, 2026.

Julia A. Bizzarro, Clerk to the Council