



City of Haverhill  
City Council Minutes  
Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Virtual

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Present – President Barrett, Councillors LePage, Bevilacqua, Michitson, Sullivan, Jordan, McGonagle, Daly O’Brien and Macek.

City Clerk – Linda L. Koutoulas

President Barrett read the following statement: This meeting of the Haverhill City Council is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the “COVID-19 Virus”.

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor’s Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible *physical* location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely and live so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. This meeting will not have public comment although people are on-line to speak on some items.

**Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Baker issued an Emergency Order temporarily suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20. Public bodies otherwise governed by the OML are temporarily relieved from the requirement that meetings be held in public places, open and physically accessible to the public, so long as measures are taken to ensure public access to the bodies' deliberations "through adequate, alternative means."**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of minutes of prior meeting  
The minutes were approved Yeas 9, Nays 0
4. Assignment of the minutes review for the next Meeting  
Councillor Michitson was assigned the minutes
5. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL  
On motion of Councillor Daly O’Brien with second from Councillor Macek to nominate Melinda Barrett. On motion of Councillor Bevilacqua to nominate himself with no second.  
Nominations closed. Yeas 8, Nays 0, Abstain 1 (Bevilacqua)
6. ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL  
On motion of Councillor Macek with second from Councillor Daly O’Brien to nominate Colin LePage.  
Nominations closed. Yeas 9, Nays 0
7. Communications from the Mayor  
Mayor Fiorentini requests to give (COVID-19) crisis update  
Mayor Fiorentini reported the average case per day is 55, positivity rate 11% and we are in red zone. The biggest problem is family gatherings and people are ignoring the rules. The city received a little more than \$5M in CARES ACT funding that was supposed to be used by December 30<sup>th</sup>. The rental assistance program prevented over 200 families from being on the streets. Money was spent on food shelters and the biggest expense was for schools. On December 27<sup>th</sup> Congress extended deadline to spend the money for one year. There was no extra money given. He is reviewing the use of the remaining funds. A new Haverhill One Fund is being established to assist people. He gave an update on the 2 vaccines – Pfizer and Moderna. Walgreens and CVS are contracted to give vaccines. For more information on the vaccines visit state website. The state will be setting up drive in clinics to vaccinate first responders and this will start January 11. The state will run these centers. City’s job is to implement state plans – we can’t change them. He encouraged the public to take the vaccine.  
PLACED ON FILE
8. Communications from Councillors to introduce an individual(s) to address the council:
9. Public Participation - Requests under Council Rule 28
10. Communications and Reports from City Officers and Employees:
11. Utility Hearing(s) and Related Order(s):
12. Hearings and Related Orders:

**13. Appointments:**

Confirming Appointments:

Non-Confirming Appointments:

Mayor submits the following 2021 subordinate officers reappointments; appointments to expire December 31, 2021:

Alicia McOsker, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes, for one year  
William Cox, City Solicitor, for one year  
Allison Heartquist, Mayor's Chief of Staff, for one year  
Shawn Regan, Mayor's Office Communications Director  
Lisa Yarid Ferry, Mayor's Executive Assistant, for one year  
Alan DeNaro, Lock-Up Keeper, for one year  
Luis Santiago, Soldiers' Relief and Burial Agent, for one year  
Michael Stankovich, Tree Warden, for one year  
Michael Stankovich, Gypsy Moth Control Superintendent, for one year  
Michael Stankovich, Fence Viewer, for one year  
Michelle Cannon, Poundkeeper, for one year  
Karin Devlin, Inspector of Animals, for one year  
Thomas Bridgewater, Inspector of Buildings, for one year.

PLACED ON FILE

Yeas 9, Nays 0

1

Mayor appoints the following to serve on the Mayor's Task Force on Public Health; appointments to expire December 31, 2021:

Dr. William Goodman, CMO & VP Medical Affairs for Holy Family Hospital  
Craig Jesiolowski, President, Holy Family Hospital  
Richard Napolitano, Senior Vice President, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center  
Mary Connolly, Haverhill Public Health Nurse  
Rafael De La Cruz, 125 Fountain Street, Haverhill and Greater Lawrence Family Health Center  
City Councilor Mary Ellen Daly O'Brien, 66 Webster Street, Haverhill  
Carmenza Bruff, 55 Thomas Avenue, Haverhill and Harvard School of Public Health  
Sarah Weiser, 3 Richmond Street, Haverhill and Pfizer  
Nomsa Ncube, 67 Washington Street, #102-P, Haverhill, Community Activist  
Keith Boucher, 512 Washington Street, Haverhill, MakeIT Haverhill and Community Activist  
Dr. Garrett Bomba, Chief Physician Executive, Pentucket Medical Center

PLACED ON FILE

Yeas 9, Nays 0

1B

Mayor appoints the following members of the Plug Pond Advisory Committee; appointments to expire January 22, 2023:

Andrew Herlihy, Chairman, Director of Community Development Block Grant Office  
Vincent Ouellette, Director, Human Services Office  
Rob Moore, Haverhill's Environmental Health Technician  
Mark Sheehan, Haverhill Trails Coordinator  
City Councilor Thomas Sullivan, 77 Longview Street, Haverhill  
Margot Regan, 82 Keeley Street, Haverhill  
Margaret Duffy, 40 South Chestnut Street, Haverhill  
Benjamin Delaware, Director, Recreation Department  
Shelby Trocki, 5 Burke Street, Haverhill  
Bronwyn Crocker, 80 Brandy Brow Road, Haverhill  
Nate Robertson, 54 Highland Avenue, Haverhill  
Fred Clark IV, 15 Lincolnshire Drive, Haverhill  
Colleen Hamel, 1 Forest Acres Drive, Apt. B, Haverhill  
Suzanne Gates, 580 Main Street, Haverhill  
Isabelle Alice Claps, 25 Locust Street, Apt. 302, Haverhill  
Michael Valvo, 262 Mill Street, Haverhill  
Jennifer Lavalley, 8 South Pearson Street, Haverhill  
Alden Watters, 115 South Riverview Street, Haverhill  
Kristin A. Cripps, 5 White Avenue, Haverhill  
Joe Gajewski, 160 East Broadway, Haverhill  
Kimberly Jarman, Esq., 12 Highland Avenue, Haverhill

PLACED ON FILE

Yeas 9, Nays 0

1C

**14. Petitions:**

Applications Handicap Parking Sign

Michelle Roldan-Schena for 123 Cedar st – *renewal*

GRANTED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

2

Katelyn LaMarche for 23 Nichols st, Apt 1 - *new*

REFERRED TO ENGINEER

Yeas 9, Nays 0

2B

**15. Motions and Orders**

**16. Ordinances (File 10 days)**

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE**

**CHAPTER 240**

**An Ordinance Relating to Parking**

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Haverhill that the Code of the City of Haverhill, Chapter 240, as amended, be further amended by ADDING the following in §240-85 Schedule B: Parking

Restrictions and Prohibitions:

LOCATION	REGULATION	HOURS/DAYS
Fifth Avenue	No Parking	24 hours

In front of No. 75 except for  
1-24 hour handicap parking space  
At No. 75 Fifth Avenue

PLACED ON FILE for at least 10 days

Yeas 9, Nays 0

3

**17. Communications from Councillors:**

Communication was received from Council President Barrett and Council Vice President LePage requesting to discuss Haverhill Speaks

MS. AUBRIE CAMPBELL GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF HAVERHILL SPEAKS. THIS IS AN ASYNCHRONOUS PLATFORM THAT ALLOWS THE PUBLIC TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE COUNCIL AGENDA PRIOR TO SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING. VIEWERS CAN COMMENT AND POSE QUESTIONS TO COUNCILLORS.

PLACED ON FILE

4

Communication was received from Councillor Mary Ellen Daly O'Brien requesting to discuss the new "No Parking" signage next to the Trinity Church on White st

COUNCILLOR DALY O'BRIEN INFORMED THAT SHE HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY THE PASTOR OF TRINITY CHURCH ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE NEW SIGNAGE SINCE THEY DO NOT HAVE OFF STREET PARKING. THEY WERE NOT INVOLVED OR INFORMED PRIOR TO THE DECISION TO ELIMINATE PARKING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF WHITE STREET.

REFERRED TO TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Yeas 9, Nays 0

4B

Communication was received from Councillor Bevilacqua requesting to discuss the lack of proper sidewalk snow removal in downtown Washington st, days after the storm and the impact to both residents and businesses

COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA SHOWED 2 PHOTOS OF THE DOWNTOWN AREA 5 DAYS AFTER THE STORM AND VOICED HIS CONCERN ABOUT CITY'S APPROACH TO SNOW REMOVAL. DISCUSSION FOLLOWED ABOUT LANDLORD'S RESPONSIBILITY TO REMOVE SIDEWALK SNOW AND USE OF APPROVED PRIVATE CONTRACTORS

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA TO SEND LETTER TO MAYOR AND APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENTS CITING CONDITIONS AND REQUESTING BETTER SNOW REMOVAL PLAN

Yeas 9, Nays 0

4C

Communication was received from Councillor Bevilacqua requesting to recognize the outstanding effort of HC Media staff during this past year, despite trying conditions

COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA AND OTHER COUNCILLORS LAUDED THE EFFORTS OF THE HC MEDIA STAFF DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. HC MEDIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DARLENE BEAL, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS MATT BELFIORE AND PRODUCTION ASSISTANT CASSIE ELLSON SPOKE ABOUT OVERALL PROGRAMING.

PLACED ON FILE

4D

Communication was received from Councillor Bevilacqua requesting a discussion about development of a website listing enabling an orderly registering by those who wish to receive the coronavirus vaccine

COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA SUGGESTED THE CITY CREATE A WEBSITE OF THOSE WISHING TO RECEIVE THE VACCINE WITH KEY INFORMATION. COUNCILLOR MICHITSON REFERENCED AN ARTICLE FROM THE WASHINGTON POST DESCRIBING THE VACCINATION PROCESS IN COLORADO

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DALY O'BRIEN TO REFER THIS MATTER TO THE MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Yeas 9, Nays 0

4E

**18. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting:**

Document 26-I: Mayor submits loan order for \$586,555.00 to fund Plug Pod Public Enhancement Project

ORDERED: That Five Hundred Eight Six Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty Five Dollars (\$586,555) is appropriated to fund the Plug Pond Public Enhancement Project, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor (see document for complete text)

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

26I

**16. RESOLUTIONS and PROCLAMATIONS:**

**17. Council Committee Reports and Announcements:**

**18. Documents referred to committee study**

**19. Long term matters study list**

Meeting adjourned 8:45 o'clock P.M.

Yeas 9, Nays 0

Attest: Linda Koutoulas  
City Clerk