



City of Haverhill

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer St, Room 202

Virtual and In-Person Meeting

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

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
Minutes of the August 11 and August 17 meetings were approved Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1
- 4. Assignment of the minutes review for the next Meeting
Councillor Jordan was assigned the minutes

Councillor Macek joined the meeting remotely

- 5. Communications from the Mayor:
- 6. Communications from Councillors to introduce an individual(s) to address the Council:
- 7. Public Participation- Requests under Council Rule 28
- 8. Communications and Reports from City Officers and Employees:
Communication from William Pillsbury, Jr., Community Development Director, requesting approval of Resolution authorizing Mayor to submit FY 2021 (Program Year 2020) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for the City
MR. PILLSBURY INFORMED THAT THIS YEAR THEY RECEIVED 5% INCREASE IN FUNDING. THE AMOUNT IS \$1,038,000. EMPHASIS IS IN NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION IN MT. WASHINGTON AND ACRE AREA. HE CITED PROGRAMS THAT RECEIVED CDBG FUNDS.
PLACED ON FILE 87

Councillor McGonagle informed that he would abstain from voting

Resolution of the City Council of Haverhill, Massachusetts, Authorizing the Mayor to submit the amended consolidated plan for the Community Development Block Grant Program, including all understandings and Assurances contained therein (see document for complete text)
ADOPTED Yeas 8, Nays 0, Abstain 1 87B

Communication from William Pillsbury, Jr., submitting Documents related to State Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP Program) relative to an expansion, investment & job creation project for Broco Oil at 81 Hale st
MR. PILLSBURY INFORMED THAT THIS IS THE FORMER HAVERHILL SALVAGE PROPERTY. IT WAS SOLD TO BROCO OIL. BROCO OIL INTENDS TO ACQUIRE, OCCUPY AND REHABILITATE THE EXISTING FACILITY AT 81 HALE AND 0 HALE STREET. FIFTEEN NEW JOBS WILL BE CREATED AND THEY WILL IMPROVE THE RAIL. THE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) IS FOR 5 YEARS. IT STARTS AT 25% REDUCTION IN TAXES AND DROPS DOWN TO 0%. THE TOTAL AMOUNT IS UNDER \$4,000.00.
PLACED ON FILE 53B

Councillor Bevilacqua informed that he would abstain from voting

Resolution of the City Council of Haverhill, Massachusetts Authorizing the Mayor to submit all required documents to the EDIP Program – TIF for Broco Oil (see document for complete text)
ADOPTED Yeas 8, Nays 0, Abstain 1 53BB

9. Utility Hearing(s) and Related Order(s)
Hearings and Related Orders:

10. Appointments:
No Schedule

11. Petitions:
Petition from Attorney Migliori for “Frosty Nug Haverhill LLC” requesting Special permit to operate an adult use Marijuana Establishment at 1181 Boston rd; Assessor’s Map 732, Block 777, Lot 2
COUNCIL HEARING SEP 29 2020 Yeas 9, Nays 0 88

Councillor Bevilacqua left the Chambers

Applications Handicap Parking Sign:
Leroy Landry for 63 6th Avenue (*denied by Police Dept*)
NOT GRANTED Yeas 0, Nays 8, Absent 1 4K

12. Motions and Orders
No Schedule

13. Ordinances (File 10 days)
No Schedule

14. Communications from Councillors:
Communication was received from Council President Barrett announcing that there will be a City Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 PM in the Theodore Pelosi Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Haverhill
PASSED Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1 86E

Councillor Bevilacqua returned to Chambers

Communication was received from Council President Barrett and Councillor LePage requesting a discussion pertaining to the utilization of UV-C disinfection fixtures in public buildings
COUNCILLOR LEPAGE GAVE A POWERPOINT PRESENTATION BASED ON AN ARTICLE FROM THE BOSTON GLOBE DATED JULY 26 2020, ON THE CONCEPT OF UTILIZING UV-C AND FAR UVC LIGHTING FIXTURES TO AID IN DISINFECTING AIRBORNE INFECTIOUS GERM PARTICLES WITHIN ENCLOSED SPACES.
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR LEPAGE WITH SECOND FROM COUNCILLOR DALY O’BRIEN TO REFER TO ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE, MAYOR AND MAYOR’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND STUDY Yeas 9, Nays 0 86F

Communication was received from Councillor McGonagle requesting to have the Traffic and Safety Committee review a request for “No Parking Monday-Friday, 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM” signage in front of 42 Hancock st
REFERRED TO TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE Yeas 9, Nays 0 86G

Communication was received from Councillor John Michitson requesting to refer a request for a “No Thru Way” sign at the entrance of Wedgewood Drive to the Traffic & Safety Committee
REFERRED TO TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE Yeas 9, Nays 0 86H

Communication was received from Councillor Daly O’Brien requesting improving Covid-19 tracing capabilities
COUNCILLOR DALY O’BRIEN DESCRIBED HER EXPERIENCE GOING TO RESTAURANTS OUT OF TOWN AND THEIR PROCESS FOR CONTACT TRACING WHICH WAS THE USE OF A LOG BOOK INDICATING CUSTOMER TIME OF ARRIVAL, FIRST NAME OF PARTY WITH CONTACT NUMBER. ACCORDING TO MASSACHUSETTS SAFETY STANDARDS FOR RESTAURANTS, THE LANGUAGE STATES RESTAURANTS “SHOULD” MAINTAIN AND SHE IS SUGGESTING THAT HAVERHILL ADOPT THE USE OF “SHALL” MAINTAIN.
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR DALY O’BRIEN WITH SECOND FROM COUNCILLOR JORDAN TO SEND LETTER TO INSPECTIONAL SERVICES AND BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH) SEEKING THEIR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
LETTER TO INSPECTIONAL SERVICES & BOH Yeas 8, Nays 1 (Bevilacqua) 86I

Communication was received from Councillor John Michitson requesting to address Covid-19 information and data needed for citizens and leaders to make decisions
COUNCILLOR MICHITSON GAVE A POWERPOINT PRESENTATION ON “CITIZENS’ COVID DASHBOARD” *. HE WANTS CITIZENS TO HAVE MOST RECENT DATA ON COVID TO MAKE

INFORMED DECISIONS. THE DATA COMES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH. HE REVIEWED THE CITY OF REVERE'S WEBSITE AND WANTS TO REPLICATE THAT TYPE OF INFORMATION FOR HAVERHILL. MAYOR FIORENTINI INFORMED THAT THE CITY DOES NOT HAVE THE IN-HOUSE CAPABILITY FOR A HAVERHILL DASHBOARD ALTHOUGH HE LIKED THE WAY THE DATA WAS PRESENTED BY REVERE. THE MAYOR UPDATES THE COVID DATE ON THE WEBSITE.

COUNCILLOR MICHITSON WILL SEND PRESENTATION TO MAYOR 86K

Communication was received from Councillor Bevilacqua requesting Police Department review traffic speeding on Concord Street in vicinity of schools and the need for additional traffic safety signage.

REFERRED TO TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE Yeas 9, Nays 0 86K

15. Unfinished Business From Preceding Meeting:

Document 71-J: Mayor Fiorentini gives his recommendation to restore \$1M that was taken from stabilization back into stabilization and submits the following Orders: *All tabled from August 11th*
MAYOR FIORENTINI ASKED FOR THE ORDER TO BE WITHDRAWN
PLACED ON FILE 71J

Document 71-K: Order: As part of FY2021 Budget the sum of \$1,000,000 be appropriated from additional Unrestricted Local Aid and transferred to Stabilization *Related communication from Mayor requesting to withdraw Order*

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR LEPAGE WITH SECOND FROM COUNCILLOR JORDAN TO WITHDRAW THE ORDER

MOTION TO WITHDRAW PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 71K

Document 71-L: Order: As part of the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget the sum of \$10,000 be appropriated from additional Unrestricted Local Aid and transferred to the following accounts:

Constituent Services for Over Time \$5,000
Mayors Salaries \$5,000

PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 71L

Document 71-M: Order- As part of the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget the sum of \$130,000 be appropriated from additional Unrestricted Local Aid and transferred to the following accounts:

Highway Expenses for roadway/sidewalk maintenance \$50,000
Highway Expenses for lease payment of mini excavator \$55,000
Street Marketing Expenses \$25,000

PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 71M

Document 71-N: Order- As part of the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget the sum of \$450,000 be appropriated from additional Unrestricted Local Aid and transferred to the following accounts:

Capital Projects Budget Line Item \$350,000
Salary Reserve Budget Line Item \$100,000

PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 71N

Document 71-O: Order- As part of the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget the sum of \$400,000 be appropriated from additional Unrestricted Local Aid and transferred to the following capital account:

Sidewalk and Street Repairs and Improvements \$400,000

PRESIDENT BARRETT ASKED THE MAYOR TO LOOK INTO THE SO. PROSPECT STREET INTERSECTION AS PLANS ARE ON FILE FOR THIS PROJECT. COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN ASKED THE MAYOR TO PAVE LONGVIEW STREET AS THE STREET IS IN DEPLORABLE CONDITION.

PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 71O

Document 71-P: Order- As part of the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget the sum of \$40,000 be appropriated from additional Unrestricted Local Aid and transferred to the following accounts: City Clerk Salaries \$40,000

PASSED Yeas 8, Nays 0, Abstain 1(Bevilacqua) 71P

Document 26-E: Bond Order – for Sewer System Cleaning Truck

ORDERED: That Five Hundred Four Thousand Dollars (\$504,000) is appropriated to acquire a sewer system cleaning truck, 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) *Related communication from Robert Ward Deputy DPW Director*

MR. WARD INFORMED THAT THE TRUCK IS 15 YEARS OLD AND THIS IS THE MOST HEAVILY USED PIECE OF EQUIPMENT FOR CLEANING AND FLUSHING OUT SEWER MAINS. IT ONLY HAS ABILITY TO FLUSH AND CAN'T VACUUM DEBRIS OUT. A CONTRACTED OUTSIDE VENDOR IS USED TO REMOVE DEBRIS. IN A 5 YEAR PERIOD \$168K IS SPENT PER YR. FOR THIS VACUUM UNIT. THE TRUCK WILL VACUUM AND FLUSH LINES.

PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 26E

Document 69-J: Communication from Councillor LePage requesting a status update on the Matrix study regarding the “Organization of our Facilities Maintenance Dept” as previously requested
MAYOR FIORENTINI STATED THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW A RECOMMENDATION LETTER FROM MATRIX AT THEIR MEETING ON AUGUST 27. HE WILL HAVE THE DIRECTOR COME TO THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO GIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TABLED TO SEPT 15 2020 COUNCIL MEETING Yeas 9, Nays 0 69J

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR MCGONAGLE WITH SECOND FROM COUNCILLOR DALY O’BRIEN TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO PRESENT THE MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD JULY 22 2020.
RULES SUSPENDED Yeas 9, Nays 0 48D

COUNCILLOR MCGONAGLE READ THE MINUTES INTO THE RECORD AND MOTIONED TO SEND ALL REQUESTS FOR ORDINANCES TO ENGINEERING.
PLACED ON FILE
REQUESTS FOR ORDINANCES REFERRED TO ENGINEER Yeas 9, Nays 0 48D

- 16. RESOLUTIONS and PROCLAMATIONS:
- 17. Council Committee Reports and Announcements:
- 18. Documents referred to committee study
- 19. Long term matters study list

Meeting adjourned 9:17 o’clock P.M. Yeas 9, Nays 0

Attest: Linda Koutoulas
City Clerk

*Doc. 86-J – Presentation of Citizens’ COVID-19 Dashboard