



**CITY OF HAVERHILL  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM**

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

**In-Person/Remote Meeting**

Present – President Barrett, Councillors LePage, Bevilacqua, Michitson, Sullivan, Jordan, Daly O’Brien

Remote – Councillors McGonagle and Macek

City Council Administrative Assistant – Laurie A. Brown

City Clerk – Linda L. Koutoulas

**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. 18. 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**

MOTION TO APPROVE 8/10/2021 MINUTES BY COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN, SECOND JORDAN

PASSED YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1(MACEK)

MOTION TO APPROVE 8/17/2021 MINUTES BY COUNCILLOR JORDAN, SECOND BEVILACQUA

PASSED YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1(MACEK)

**4. ASSIGNMENT OF THE MINUTES REVIEW FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

COUNCILLOR DALY O’BRIEN ASSIGNED MINUTES

**5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:**

5.1. Mayor Fiorentini submits Salary Ordinance and 1<sup>st</sup> Contract for *Dispatchers Group* 83-B

5.1.1. Ordinance re: Salaries – *Dispatchers Group* File 10 days

Motion by Councillor Bevilacqua, Second Daly O’Brien

PASSED PLACED ON FILE Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1(Macek) 21-D

5.2. Communication from Mayor Fiorentini regarding Housing Task Force which has its first meeting September 20<sup>th</sup> and asks for a report by December 2021. Accordingly, he requests that the Ordinance for Inclusionary Zoning be tabled until December 2021

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, Second Bevilacqua

PASSED TABLED TO DECEMBER 2021 Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1(Macek) 83-C

**6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS TO INTRODUCE AN INDIVIDUAL(S) TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:**

6.1. Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requests to introduce Bobby Brown, Secretary Treasurer *Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council* to discuss *United Way/MVCLC/MVCC* Food and diaper Drive on Saturday, September 25 to benefit *Sacred Hearts Food Pantry* etc.

Bobby Brown gave information on upcoming Food and Diaper Drive. Saturday, 9/25/21 from 9am to noon at City Hall. Sacred Hearts food pantry stressed need for diapers and food; diaper sizes most needed are 4-6 but all sizes welcome.

Councillor Bevilacqua encourages all to come and donate. 7-X



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6.2. Council President Barrett request to introduce the Walk for Peace VIP Team so they can announce their annual Walk for Peace. The event will take place Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021 and everyone is invited.

VIP (Violence Intervention and Prevention) having 14<sup>th</sup> annual Walk for Peace on Saturday, October 2, 2021 at GAR Park from 11-3; will have signs from previous walks but encourage to bring your own sign to promote peace; walk is rain or shine; free t-shirts to first 250 youths; once walk is complete celebration will be at GAR park with DJ, music, games, BBQ with Haverhill Police on the grill. Still looking for sponsors, best way to contact is through email: [cire109@aol.com](mailto:cire109@aol.com). 7-Y

**7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- REQUESTS UNDER COUNCIL RULE 28**

**8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:**

**9. UTILITY HEARING(S) AND RELATED ORDER(S):**

9.1. Document 84; Mass Electric Co dba National Grid requests permission for Pole location on Research Drive; Plan 30346085

9.1.1. Document 84-B: Order – grant National Grid Pole location on Research Drive; Plan 30346085

President Barrett opened the Utility Hearing.

David Boucher, National Grid presenting remotely. Diagram for the petition has been provided. Zero Research Drive has a new customer going in. It is an underground area and unfortunately cannot provide temporary service with the utilities that exist. Asking before building for their permanent service is temporary pole line and wires. Asking for new pole #83-6, approximately 150 ft. from existing pole #83-5; then 110 ft further from that a new pole #83-7. On those two poles will run electric lines and provide temporary power to Zero Research Drive until permanent services are in. Usually, a time period of one year or less.

President Barrett asked if anyone would like to speak in favor: No one spoke.

President Barrett asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition: No one spoke.

President Barrett closed the hearing.

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second by Councillor Jordan

PASSED Yeas 8, Nays 0, 1 Absent (Macek)

9.2. Document 85; Mass Electric Co dba National Grid requests underground electric conduits for 21-27 Washington st; Plan 29456312

9.2.1. Document 85-B: Order – grant National Grid underground electric conduits for Washington st; Plan 29456312

President Barrett opened the utility hearing.

David Boucher, National Grid presenting remotely. Customer at 21-27 Washington Street has a service they want to upgrade and increase the amperage. Unfortunately, the lines that are going there now are not big enough for customer to get that upgrade



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unless we provide bigger cables going into the handhole. Propose to install approximately 66 ft. of two sets of 500 CU secondary cable in customer installed 3-4" conduits from existing manhole to new heavy duty manhole in order to provide electric service to 21-27 Washington Street.

President Barrett asked if anyone would like to speak in favor: No one.

President Barrett asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition: No one.

President Barrett closed the hearing.

Motion by Councillor Sullivan and second by Councillor Daly O'Brien

Councillor Bevilacqua has no objections but would like motion to include that National Grid notify the residents and businesses should the street be closed during work.

President Barrett asked National Grid to notify city so a Robo call can be made to residents and businesses if street needs to be shut down.

David Boucher agreed they would contact city if the entire street is shut off.

Councillor Sullivan has no objections to amend motion, Councillor Daly O'Brien seconds

PASSED AS AMENDED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

9.3. Petition from Mass Electric Co dba National Grid and Verizon New England requesting hearing for joint pole location for new solar field at 1050 Hilldale av

Hearing October 19<sup>th</sup>

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Bevilacqua

PASSED HEARING OCTOBER 19, 2021

Yeas 9, nays 0

88

**10. HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:**

10.1. Document 74; William Pillsbury Jr; Economic Development & Planning Director requests hearing for Zoning Amendment to City Code Chapter 255 and submits Zoning Ordinance *Recommendation from Planning Director and Planning Board to move forward with a modified version of inclusionary housing ordinance and include all City department reports as part of the board's decision and notice of decision*

10.1.1. Document 74-B; Ordinance re: Amend City Zoning Ordinance Chapter 255 by adding: 8.3 Inclusionary Zoning – All housing projects in City shall require a minimum of 10% of all units to be affordable as a condition of approval

*Related communication from Mayor Fiorentini requesting that the Ordinance be tabled until December 2021*

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Daly O'Brien

TABLED TO DECEMBER 2021 (\*see also item 5.2)



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10.2. Document 86; Petition of Attorney Robert Harb for owner/applicant *Mazraany Construction Inc.* for CCSP 21-13 for a 7-unit multi-family dwelling (to be sold as condominiums) at 125-129 Kenoza av consisting of 4 lots

*Comments are included from Department heads*

Attorney Robert Harb, 17 West Street, Haverhill. Submitted a letter today for a request for a continuance. Reason being, it has come to my attention that there are still some neighbors that have concerns about the project. I am hoping the Council will share with me those neighbors so we can meet with them live to discuss and perhaps redesign the project. Will take time to redesign, first time asking for a continuance, asking for November 2021 date.

Motion by Councillor Daly O'Brien, second by Councillor Sullivan

Councillor Bevilacqua has no objections but asked for a specific date, either November 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>

Motion amended by Councillor Daly O'Brien for continuance to November 9, 2021, second by Councillor Sullivan

PASSED AS AMENDED

Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1 (Macek)

**11. APPOINTMENTS:**

11.1. **Confirming Appointments:**

11.1.1. *Cultural Council* – Mary Rees Gould expires Sept 21 2024

To Be Confirmed

Motion by Councillor Bevilacqua, second Jordan

CONFIRMED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

13-1

11.2. **Non-Confirming Appointments :**

11.2.1. *Housing Task Force:*

Nate Robertson, Community and Economic Development Planner for the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

Tracy Fuller, Regional Executive Director, Haverhill YMCA/ Plaistow Community YMCA

Haverhill City Councillor William Macek, 227 Concord Street, Haverhill

Richard MacDonald, Health & Inspectional Services Director

Attorney Robert Harb

Francis Bevilacqua, 62 Danforth Court, Haverhill

Jered Stewart, President & CEO at Bethany Community Services, Inc.

Reverend Kenneth Young, Pastor, Cavalry Baptist Church

These are non-confirming appointments which take effect immediately



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Motion by Councillor Jordan, second Daly O'Brien

PASSED PLACED ON FILE      Yeas 7, Nays 0, Abstain 2 (Bevilacqua, Macek)    87-B

**11.3. Resignations:**

**12. PETITIONS:**

12.1. Petition from Attorney Michael Migliori for owner/applicant Sixty-Six Merrimac-Hav, LLC requesting to *continue hearing* scheduled on October 5<sup>th</sup> for Special Permit, Fox Hollow, Over 55 Age Restricted Development at 66 Merrimac Road until December 14 2021

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Daly O'Brien

President Barrett asked if someone present representing the petitioner. No one answered.

Councillor Bevilacqua asked that it not be December 14 meeting because just before Christmas. Asked motion be amended to meeting on December 7, 2021.

Councillor Sullivan has no objections, Second by Daly O'Brien

PASSED AS AMENDED heard December 7,2021    Yeas 9, Nays 0      68-B

12.1.1. Application for Special Permit from Attorney Robert Harb for Owner/applicant WHC Haverhill, LLC; for property at 190 North av to reduce 127 beds at long term facility (Nursing Home) from 127 beds to 26 beds and convert the former 101 beds to 41 Assisted Living beds to be used for Assisted Living Memory care. The building is pre-existing and no exterior changes would occur – all renovations would be interior.  
Hearing October 26<sup>th</sup>

Motion by Councillor Michitson, second Daly O'Brien

PASSED WILL BE HEARD October 26, 2021    Yeas 9, Nays 0      89

**12.2. Applications Handicap Parking Sign**

**12.3. Amusement/Event Applications:**

12.3.1. Application from BOLD Media, Holtsville, NY requesting permit for *Drive-thru only Holiday Light Show*, November 18-December 31, at Crescent Farms, 1056 Boston rd    *Department approvals/comments are included*

Matthew Glazer, New York. Presenting remotely for event. Last year families looking for things to do with their family that was enjoyable and safe; enormous number of positive responses; provided wonderful service to families throughout the region; implemented stricter ticketing restrictions; and have new show with 300 displays. This year after consulting with Haverhill Police number of



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recommendations including police details and implemented stricter ticketing restrictions.

Motion to approve with the conditions of the Police, Fire, and all Department heads by Councillor Sullivan, second Jordan

President Barrett asked how many do you book in an hour? Mr. Glazer didn't have exact number but believed last year about 250 an hour.

Barrett confirmed that company will work with the Police to mitigate traffic issues.

PASSED with conditions of Police, Fire and all Dept. heads      Yeas 9, nays 0    48-G

**12.4. Tag Days:**

12.4.1. *HHS Girls Crew, September 24, 25 & 26*

Motion by Councillor Daly O'Brien, second Jordan

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0    52-I

**12.5. One Day Liquor License:**

**12.6. Annual License Renewals:**

12.6.1. **Hawker Peddlers License 2021 - Fixed location**

12.6.2. **Coin-Op License Renewals 2021**

12.6.3. **Drainlayer License for 2021 - with City Engineer approval**

12.6.3.1.      Peter Holland – *renewal*

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Daly O'Brien

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0    81-B

12.6.4. **Christmas Tree Vendor**

12.6.5. **Taxi Driver Licenses for 2021**

12.6.6. **Taxi License**

12.6.7. **Junk Dealer License**

12.6.8. **Pool Tables**

12.6.9. **Sunday Pool**

12.6.10.      **Bowling**

12.6.11.      **Sunday Bowling**

12.6.12.      **Buy & Sell Second Hand Articles**

12.6.13.      **Buy & Sell Second Hand Clothing**

12.6.14.      **Pawnbroker license**

12.6.15.      **Fortune Teller**

12.6.16.      **Buy & Sell Old Gold**

12.6.17.      **Roller Skating Rink**

12.6.18.      **Sunday Skating**

12.6.19.      **Exterior Vending Machines**

12.6.20.      **Limousine/Livery License/Chair Cars:**

12.6.20.1.      Maureen Callahan, 1 Livery, 57 Laurel av – *renewal*      44-D

12.6.20.2.      John Jalbert, 7 Limousines, 102 Hale st – *renewal*      44-E

12.6.20.3.      Moris G Arias, 1 Livery, 28 Gale av – *new*      44-F

Motion by Councillor Bevilacqua, second Daly O'Brien

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0



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**13. MOTIONS AND ORDERS:**

13.1. Order – Transfer \$10,600 from Water-Engineering Expense, *Inspection Fees* to the *Water-Engineering Salary* Account in order to add more seasonal employee hours

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Daly O’Brien

PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 10-N

13.2. Order - Authorize payment of bills from previous /current fiscal year as listed:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Account</u>
Apple Inc.	\$ 500.00	School Department
MGR Electrical Contracting	\$ 414.50	School Department
Schwaab Inc.	\$ 48.25	City Clerk
Toshiba Business	\$ 366.00	City Clerk
Harpers Payroll Service	\$ 925.33	Treasurer Department
Benevento Concrete Corp	\$ 264.00	Wastewater Department
Grainger	\$ 117.81	Fire Department
BSC Group	\$ 1,211.00	Water-Engineering
Comcast Government	\$28,500.00	Mayor
Employee Reimbursement	\$ 236.88	Public Works Admin
North Mechanical Service	\$ 2,238.72	Police Department
Haffner's Energy Group	\$ 876.00	Police Department
Greenman-Pedersen Inc.	\$ 911.76	Consulting - Water St.

**TOTAL \$ 36,610.25**

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Daly O’Brien

PASSED Yeas 9, Nays 0 18-FF

**14. ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS)**

14.1. Ordinance re: Departments – Amend Chapter 32, Article XI. Health Department

*Related communication from City Solicitor William Cox Jr. File 10 days*

Motion Councillor Bevilacqua, second Jordan

PASSED PLACED ON FILE Yeas 9, Nays 0 90

**15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS:**

15.1. Communication from Councillor Michael McGonagle requesting to discuss the safety concerns with exiting 70 Washington st and asks this be referred to Traffic & Safety Committee

Resident has concern about new striping and setbacks coming out of 70 Washington St. and would like to send to Traffic & Safety



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Motion by Councillor McGonagle, second Sullivan  
PASSED REFER TO TRAFFIC & SAFETY      Yeas 9, nays 0      63-X

- 15.2. Communication from Councillor Michael McGonagle requesting the removal of a handicap parking space at 11 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, as it is no longer needed

Motion Councillor McGonagle, second Bevilacqua  
PASSED      Yeas 9, Nays 0      63-Y

- 15.3. Communication from Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requesting to discuss Hispanic Heritage Month and recognize the positive impact that Hispanic Americans have made to this Country, State and our City

Councillor Bevilacqua: Hispanic Heritage month is September 15 to October 15. It was created to recognize the positive impact Hispanic Americans have made to our county, state, and city. This year's theme is Hispanic Heritage and Hope. Simply wanted to recognize and say thank you.      63-Z

- 15.4. Communication from Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requesting to propose an amendment to the Council's rules and regulations regarding posting of agenda items

Councillor Bevilacqua motions that as the Council President prepares the Council agenda and proposes to add another Councillors name to an agenda item, the Council President first contacts the Councillor to ensure no objection, second Michitson  
PASSED      Yeas 5, Nays 4 (Sullivan, Daly O'Brien, Macek, Barrett) 91

- 15.5. Communication from Councillor Michitson requesting to address Digital Equity funding opportunities

Councillor Michitson: Attended the Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF) digital equity coalition meeting on September 15, 2021. City in process of ensuring proper installation standards are met and initiating a development agreement with SiFi Networks to install commercial fiber optic network at no cost.

Recommend the city work with ECCF and MAPC to leverage ARPA, EBB and private foundation funds to lower barriers for adoption and lower monthly price to \$0 target for individuals and families

Motion by Councillor Michitson to forward information to Mayor, second Bevilacqua  
PASSED      Yeas 9, Nays 0      91-C

- 15.6. Communication from Councillors Michitson and Jordan seeking an update on status of allocation of \$500,000 to non-profits for youth activities and mental health services lead in youth mental health illness and substance abuse due to COVID

Councillor Michitson has questions from organizations as to what the process is going to be to get some of the \$500K allocated to non-profits for youth activities and mental health services and asks Andrew Herlihy if he can give background.





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Andrew Herlihy: I hear your concerns; been a little slow and confused as to how to go about this work; committed to doing this in this fiscal year; going to pick up pace to do more quickly; just received an application form from the Treasury to give to nonprofits to use to apply. We are in receipt of ARPA funding. At least the first slug of it. We are being very deliberate about it. I will come back with plan for the **\$500K** in next couple of weeks or month on how we intend to allocate these funds; still awaiting final rule from Federal government which should be published this month.

Michitson: If an organization wants to be proactive, can they contact you?

Andrew: yes, want to be fair and get right funds to the right organizations.

CARES Act was a frenzy with no time to plan. ARPA funds gives us more time to plan, looking at long range approach and long-lasting investments.

Councillor Jordan wants to make sure that all \$500K is used for projects, youth services, substance abuse, mental health – all things that were greatly exasperated due to the pandemic.

Andrew Herlihy: I will come back before the council by end of year with an update of the 5.3 million CARES Act spending update. Received a refund so have about \$800K left to spend  
91-C

- 15.7. Communication from Councillor Jordan to provide a River Ruckus update and a reminder about the closing of Washington Street in downtown on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 am until 3 pm

Councillor Jordan: Team Haverhill's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual River Ruckus is this Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. A correction on the time when Washington will be closed is 9 am to 4 pm. There will be signage to have cars off Washington before 9 am. Free all-day parking at the MRVTA garage. Vaccination clinic from noon to 3 pm. Walking tours, music, etc. Fireworks takes place at 8 pm

**16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEDING MEETING**

**17. RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

**18. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor LePage would like to make folks aware that World Suicide Prevention Day was September 10<sup>th</sup>. It's a time to remember those affected by suicide, to raise awareness and focus efforts on directing treatment to those who need it the most. Suicide Prevention month is September. If you want to know more go to #BeThe1To. September is also National Recovery Month. This Saturday is a recovery walk of new establishment to help folks. Ray of Light Recovery Café located on Merrimac Street.

**19. DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE STUDY**

**20. LONG TERM MATTERS STUDY LIST**

**21. ADJOURN**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN SECOND JORDAN**

**ADJOURNED 8:56 PM**

**YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1**