



City of Haverhill
City Council Minutes

Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, Room 202
4 Summer Street

Present – President Michitson, Councillors Barrett, Vargas, McGonagle, Bevilacqua, LePage, Daly O’Brien, Macek and Sullivan.
City Clerk – Linda L. Koutoulas

1. Opening Prayer
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
4. Assignment of the minutes review for the next Meeting
Councillor LePage was assigned the minutes

COUNCILLOR DALY O’BRIEN REQUESTED A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES OF THE TRAGEDY ON A NEW YORK CITY BIKE PATH.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR MCGONAGLE TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO INTRODUCE AN ORDINANCE FOR HANDICAP PARKING AT 6 JOHN STREET.

RULES SUSPENDED Yeas 9, Nays 0 114C

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE CHAPTER 240
An Ordinance Relating to Parking

6 John Street – Establish Handicap Parking (see document for complete text)
PLACED ON FILE for at least 10 days Yeas 9, Nays 0 114C

MAYOR FIORENTINI REQUESTED TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON THE STORM. THERE ARE STILL 6,000 CUSTOMERS WITHOUT ELECTRICITY. HOPEFULLY, BY TOMORROW POWER WILL BE RESTORED. CITIZENS CENTER IS OPEN FOR THOSE WHO NEED SHELTER. CALL POLICE DISPATCH FOR A RIDE IF NEEDED.

5. Communications from the Mayor

Communication from Mayor Fiorentini announcing that he and the City Auditor Charles Benevento will address the City Council to provide an update on free cash, capital needs and the tax rate.

A SUMMARY OF MAYOR’S UPDATE INCLUDED THAT DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE HAS CERTIFIED \$10MILLION IN FREE CASH. HE RECOMMENDED TAXING BELOW THE LEVY AND RETURNING \$1MILLION TO TAXPAYERS. NEXT YEAR THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWER RATES. AVERAGE INCREASE WILL BE \$150 IF WE GIVE NOTHING BACK. IF \$500K IS RETURNED THEN IT WOULD BE \$84 INCREASE. IF \$2.4MILLION IS RETURNED THEN THERE WOULD BE 0% INCREASE. POSSIBLE USES FOR FUNDS INCLUDE \$2.4MILLION HALE DEBT IN THE EVENT CITY DOES NOT RECEIVE MONEY FROM STATE; \$4-6MILLION FOR NEXT YEAR’S BUDGET; PAY FOR CRITICAL DEPARTMENT NEEDS; INVEST IN LONG TERM CAPITAL NEEDS AND HIRING OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN MANAGER

COUNCILLOR LEPAGE REMINDED THE CITY OF THE \$600K IN UNACCOUNTED FUNDS HE IDENTIFIED LAST YEAR THAT BECAME FREE CASH THIS YEAR. SUGGESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS INCLUDED REPLACEMENT OF DISPATCH RADIOS FOR FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS, ADD ADDITIONAL POLICE OFFICERS IN HIGH CRIME AREAS, MARKETING HAVERHILL, GIRLS SOFTBALL PLAYING FIELDS, PURCHASE OF FIRE APPARATUS*

PLACED ON FILE Yeas 9, Nays 0 11-0

6. Communications and Reports from City Officers and Employees

Communication from Stephen Gullo, Board of Assessors announcing the *FY2018 Tax Classification Hearing* for Tuesday, November 14 2017

HEARING TO BE HELD NOV 14 2017 Yeas 9, Nays 0 118

7. Utility Hearing(s) and Related Order(s)

8. Hearings and Related Order

- 8.1. Doc. 113 - Petition from Attorney William Barron representing applicant RB Asset Management, LLC for project for the premises at 127-133 Merrimack st; located in the Waterfront District Zone WD-C; consisting of a six story building with 42 residential units and one commercial unit on the ground floor; *Comments from City Departments are included*

LETTER FROM APPLICANT REQUESTING TO CONTINUE TO DEC 5 2017

HEARING TO BE HELD DEC 5 2017 Yeas 6, Abstain 3 (Barrett, McGonagle, Bevilacqua), Nays 0 113

9. Public Participation- Requests under Council Rule 28

No Schedule

10. Appointments:

Confirming Appointments :

Lauren Muise, 57 Monument st to the Haverhill Historic Commission, effective immediately to expire December 31 2018

CONFIRMED Yeas 9, Nays 0 1M

Alejandro Zayas, 1253 River st to the Cultural Council, effective immediately to expire
December 31 2018
CONFIRMED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

1N

Non-Confirming Appointments:

No Schedule

11. Petitions:

Petition from Beverly Donovan/Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce announcing the *Downtown Haverhill Christmas Stroll*, to take place on Saturday, December 2, from 2:00 to 6:00 pm; and has several related requests including to have the *Event Permit Fee* waived; *Conditional approvals from Police, Building & Health Departments*

MELISSA SEAVEY, EVENTS COORDINATOR, SPOKE ABOUT THE STROLL. THIS YEAR'S THEME WILL BE THE GRINCH AND MERRIMACK STREET WILL BE INCLUDED. THE BOARDWALK WILL BE USED.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN TO GRANT REQUESTS AS STATED IN OCT 17 2017 LETTER TO COUNCIL

GRANTED WITH ALL CONDITIONS AS STATED BY DEPARTMENT HEADS & EVENT FEE WAIVED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

119

Applications:

No Schedule

Annual License Renewals:

Hawker/Peddler:

Thomas Clark – new applicant; requesting to sell hotdogs, sausages, tonic and water at Columbus Park, 12 months; Sunday 10:00AM to 9:00PM and Thursday – Saturday 12 midnight to 2:00AM

Police recommend hours of 2 pm – 12 am; Monday – Sunday

MR. CLARK STATED HE WAS REQUESTING MONDAY THRU WEDNESDAY, 11AM TO 4:00PM OR 11:00AM TO 5:00PM AND THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 12MIDNIGHT TO 2:00AM, NO SUNDAYS

COUNCILLOR MACEK SUGGESTED STARTING WITH THE HOURS THE POLICE APPROVED AND WORK WITH POLICE TO CHANGE HOURS AS REQUESTED

LICENSE GRANTED FOR 2:00PM-12:00AM WITH CONDITIONS

FROM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Yeas 7, Abstain 1(Barrett) Nays 1(Bevilacqua)

9C

12. Motions and Orders

13. ORDINANCES (File 10 days)

No Schedule

14. Communications from Councillors

Communication was received from Council President Michitson and Councillor Vargas requesting to introduce the Mass Innovation Nights in Haverhill event planned for January 17 2018

PRESIDENT MICHITSON INFORMED THAT THE INNOVATION NIGHT IN HAVERHILL WILL BE HELD AT UMASS LOWELL, HARBOR PLACE, ON JAN 17 FROM 6-8PM. HE GAVE THE BACKGROUND ON THIS CONCEPT WHICH WAS STARTED IN 2009. A HAVERHILL COMPANY, BOUNCE IMAGING WAS SELECTED AS A WINNER. THEIR 3D CAMERA BALL IS MANUFACTURED IN HAVERHILL BY LIGHTSPEED MANUFACTURING. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ENTREPRENEURS, INVESTORS, COMPANIES ACROSS THE STATE TO NETWORK. BEV DONOVAN, PRESIDENT, GR. HAVERHILL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE , SPOKE ABOUT THEIR INVOLVEMENT WITH MASS INNOVATION NIGHTS. THE CITY AND LOCAL BUSINESSES ARE SPONSORING THIS EVENT WHICH IS IN HIGH DEMAND. GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO MARKET/PROMOTE CITY.

PLACED ON FILE

Yeas 9, Nays 0

110V

Communication was received from Councillor Sullivan requesting to introduce Melissa Seavy, Events Coordinator, *Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce* to discuss the *Christmas Stroll* and the waiving of fees MELISSA SEAVEY, EVENTS COORDINATOR , SPOKE ABOUT THE STROLL. THIS YEAR'S THEME WILL BE THE GRINCH AND MERRIMACK STREET WILL BE INCLUDED.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN TO GRANT REQUESTS AS STATED IN OCT 17 2017 LETTER TO COUNCIL

GRANTED WITH ALL CONDITIONS AS STATED BY DEPARTMENT HEADS & EVENT FEE WAIVED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

110W

Communication was received from Councillor Macek requesting a discussion on the need for the appointment of a Master Plan Review Committee in order that an updated Master Plan be enacted to establish future goals and planning for the City

COUNCILLOR MACEK INFORMED THAT THE LAST MASTER PLAN WAS DONE IN 1990.

COUNCILLORS MACEK AND BEVILACQUA EXPRESSED INTEREST IN BEING ON A NEW MASTER REVIEW COMMITTEE AS THEY WERE BOTH INVOLVED WITH PREVIOUS PLAN AND INPUT SHOULD BE SOUGHT FROM THE COMMUNITY.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR MACEK TO SEND LETTER TO MAYOR TO ESTABLISH A MASTER PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE.

Yeas 9, Nays 0

110X

Communication was received from Councillor Macek requesting a discussion in regards to the need to address local regulations relative to Recreational Marijuana
COUNCILLOR MACEK INFORMED THAT 100 COMMUNITIES HAVE IMPOSED BANS/
MORATORIUMS ON RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA. HAVERHILL HAS TAKEN NO ACTION
OR REVIEW ON HOW BEST TO REGULATE SALE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA USE.
SEEKING TO ADDRESS LOCAL REGULATIONS ON SALES.
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR MACEK TO REFER TO ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE
REFERRED TO ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE Yeas 9, Nays 0 110Y

Communication was received from Councillor Macek requesting a discussion to formally propose that a review be made to seek to expand Commercial and Industrial Zoning areas
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR MACEK TO SEND LETTER TO MAYOR Yeas 9, Nays 0 110Z

Councillor Vargas left the chambers

Communication was received from Councillor Barrett requesting an update on the maintenance of the Rep. Dempsey boardwalk and the Mayor James Fiorentini rail trail
COUNCILLOR BARRETT STRESSED THE NEED FOR SIGNAGE ABOUT DOGWASTE ON THE
BOARDWALK AND TO PROVIDE WASTE RECEPTACLE WITH BAGS. THE MAYOR SUGGESTED
ADDITIONAL TRASH BARRELS FOR THE RAIL TRAIL.
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BARRETT TO SEND LETTER TO MAYOR Yeas 8, Absent 1 120

Communication was received from Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requesting a discussion regarding Haverhill residents speaking at City Council meetings.
COUNCILLOR MACEK INFORMED THAT THERE ARE 4 WAYS IN THE CITY COUNCIL RULES
& REGULATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE AT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND
COUNCILLOR LEPAGE READ RULE 2A INTO THE RECORD STATING THAT IT WAS THE SAME AS
COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA'S MOTION.
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA THAT ANY TAXPAYER, CITIZEN, TENANT,
RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF HAVERHILL IS PERMITTED TO SPEAK ON ANY MATTER BEING
DISCUSSED AT A PUBLIC MEETING OF HAVERHILL CITY COUNCIL ELECTED BY THE
TAXPAYERS, CITIZENS OF HAVERHILL
NO SECOND, MOTION FAILED
PLACED ON FILE Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1 120B

Communication was received from Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requesting a street light at the Primrose Street school bus lot
COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA INFORMED THAT SCHOOL MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR
REQUESTED LIGHTS BE INSTALLED DUE TO DARKNESS WHEN DRIVERS PICK UP/DROP OFF
BUSSES.
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA TO SEND LETTER TO SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
TO INSTALL LIGHTS AT THE BUS LOT AREA Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1 120C

Communication was received from Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requesting recognition of Dale Rogers, Dana DeFranco and Cheryl Folk for the American Dog Show, Bradford Common
ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA TO TABLE TO FUTURE DATE Yeas 8, Absent 1 120D

15. Unfinished Business of preceding Meetings

Document 44-D – Bond Order

ORDERED: That \$1,172,700 is appropriated to pay costs of window replacement and masonry repairs at the Police Station, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and 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. Any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less and such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 or the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

FURTHER ORDERED: That in connection with the issuance of bonds or notes of the City pursuant to this Order, the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the appropriate officials of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (see document for complete text)
PASSED Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1 44D

Document 110-N

Communication from Councillor Sullivan requesting to introduce a representative from the *Department of Children and Families (DCF)* to discuss the *Foster Care Recruitment Program*
DCF REPRESENTATIVES BRENDA FITZGERALD, SUSAN TUCK, NIA GROSSMAN, AND PAM NEWCOMB ATTENDED AND SPOKE ABOUT THEIR SERVICES. THERE ARE 6-9,000 CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE STATEWIDE. HAVERHILL OFFICE SERVES 1,095 CHILDREN, 180 CHILDREN ARE IN HAVERHILL FOSTER CARE. THEIR NEED IS FOR HOMES TO SERVE ADOLESCENTS 12 AND OLDER. THEY HAVE PARTNERED WITH HAVERHILL PUBLIC LIBRARY, YMCA, HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL, GRANITE UNITED CHURCH AND WILL BE WORKING WITH HAVERHILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS. A COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR DEC 5TH AT THE HAVERHILL PUBLIC LIBRARY. COUNCILLORS OFFERED SUGGESTIONS FOR COMMUNITY

Document 114

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE

CHAPTER 240

An Ordinance Relating to Parking

38 Hall Street. – Establish Handicap Parking (see document for complete text)

PASSED

Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1

114

16. Resolutions And Proclamations

Proclamation – *Extra Mile Day*; November 1 2017

ADOPTED

Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1

14J

17. Council Committee Reports and Announcements

Councillor Daly O’Brien announced the Haverhill Council on Aging Craft Fair, Sat, Nov 4, from 9-1PM.
Also, annual Greek Church Festival Nov 3 & 4, on Winter St.

Councillor LePage announced the Veterans Alliance Breakfast, Sunday, Nov. 5, from 9-11AM at Amvets,
576 Primose St. Event is free to veterans and seniors.

Councillor Macek announced the next council meeting is scheduled for Nov. 14 due to municipal and state
elections on Nov. 7.

18. Documents Referred To Committee Study

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 o’clock P.M.

Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 1

Attest: Linda Koutoulas
City Clerk

*Doc. 11-O – Handout from Mayor Fiorentini – FY16 Average Tax/Levy Examples; Handout from
Councillor LePage – Update on Free Cash, Capital Needs and the Tax Rate

*Doc.110-N – Handout from Mass.Dept. of Children and Families informational packet