



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 7:00 PM

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

In-Person/Remote Meeting: <https://meet.google.com/ofn-zckt-uuz>

Present: Councilors Basiliere, Diodati, Sullivan, Ferreira, Michitson Lewandowski, Toohey, and Rogers

Remote: None

Absent: Councilors Jordan, McGonagle and LePage

City Clerk: Kaitlin M. Wright

Asst. City Clerk: Rose Leonard Flynn

- 1. OPENING PRAYER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:**

April 7, 2026:

COUNCILOR ROGERS STATED SHE REVIEWED THE MINUTES AND FINDS THEM IN ORDER, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

April 14, 2026:

COUNCILOR BASILIERE STATED HE REVIEWED THE MINUTES AND FINDS THEM IN ORDER, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

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

PRO-TEM PRESIDENT SULLIVAN ASSIGNED THE MINUTES TO COUNCILOR DIODATI

- 5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:**

5.1. Mayor Barrett submits an Order to authorize the acceptance of easements on Locke St. and Locust St

5.1.1. Order - That the City Council votes to authorize the Mayor to accept, purchase, take by eminent domain or otherwise acquire, permanent easements in, over, upon, through, and under a portion of the land of certain parcels located off of Locke Street and Locust Street in the City of Haverhill, Massachusetts. Said easements are shown as "UTILITY EASEMENT OVER TAX MAP 304, LOT 59-17," containing 2,737 square feet more or less, and "UTILITY EASEMENT OVER TAX MAP 304, LOT 59-4," containing 1,098 square feet more or less, on the plan entitled "UTILITY EASEMENT PLAN FOR CITY OF HAVERHILL OVER LANDS OF RICE PROPERTIES LIVING TRUST (TAX MAP 304, LOTS 59-4) & AHSC ESSEX STREET ASSOCIATES LLC (TAX MAP 304, LOT 59-17) LOCKE STREET & LOCUST STREET HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS," and dated September 8, 2025, appended hereto ("Plan") for sewer and drainage utilities purposes;

And further to authorize the Mayor to execute any and all documents and to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this vote. 30-a

THIS REQUIRES A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She urged the council to approve this order. She brought up the early morning fire at 14-17 Stevens Street. She noted crews contained the blaze and continue monitoring hotspots, most roads have reopened. She praised the quick response, and thanked responders and public. She noted I am sure there will be more to follow in the coming days.



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Robert Ward addressed the council. He noted this order authorizes the Mayor to accept an easement between Locke Street and Locust Street for drainage pipe as part of phase ii of the CSO separation project. The property owners have already signed the easement, so the city only needs to accept it.

COUNCILOR TOOHEY, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

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

Councilor Diodati requests to introduce Susan S. Hatfield, Ph.D., *Curriculum Supervisor for Fine and Performing Arts* in the Haverhill School District to inform and invite everyone to the Haverhill Public Schools Citywide Arts Show, scheduled for May 14, 2026 5-h

Ms. Hatfield invited the community to the May 14th city-wide student art show at the high school. She noted this will feature visual art and live performances, with an opening reception from 4-7PM on the 14th.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- REQUESTS UNDER COUNCIL RULE 28:

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

Angel A. Perkins, *City Auditor & Chief Financial Officer*, submits the revenue and expensive reports through March 2026 3-g

Councilor Toohey reviewed year-to-date budget reports through March 31, noting that legal expenses appear under budget and asking whether there may be year-end savings. Solid waste and recycling were also discussed as potentially showing a surplus, though the Mayor explained this is largely due to timing and contract cycles. The Mayor and Angel Perkins added that a budget freeze was implemented to address a snow and ice deficit, and that underspending in some departments—often due to staffing gaps or delayed expenses—may help offset overruns elsewhere. Councilor Lewandowski noted that the Auditor’s Office tracks attorney work and billing for review, while the Mayor emphasized that the current legal arrangement is cost-effective compared to other communities with in-house counsel. Councilor Basiliere expressed support for the spending freeze.

COUNCILOR BASILIERE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

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

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:

11. APPOINTMENTS:

11.1. Confirming Appointments:

Planning Board, Wilfredo Perez - 89 Washington St Unit 3b, expires April 30, 2031 24-e

VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

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11.2. Non-Confirming Appointments:



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Lisa DeMeo, *Tree Warden*, expires December 31, 2026

24-g

COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

11.3. Constables

11.4. Resignations

12. PETITIONS:

12.1. Applications Handicap Parking Sign: *with Police approval*

12.2. Amusement/Event Application: *with Police approval*

EVNT-26-10 - Kalyn Ryll for *Haverhill Education Foundation* requesting to hold Kids Fest from 12:30 to 4:30 PM on May 16th at *Haverhill High School* at 137 Monument St 29-g

Kalyn Ryll and Jen Arndt told the council that the Haverhill Education Foundation is bringing back KidsFest on May 16 at the high school, with interactive activities highlighting local figures. The event aims to inspire students, build community pride, and offer a fun local option for families.

COUNCILOR FERREIRA, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON

PASSED

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EVNT-26-8 - Lynn Peterson for *Trinity Episcopal Church* requesting to hold BBQ and Community Resource Fair from 12:00 to 3:00 PM on Sunday May 31st at *Trinity Episcopal Church* at 26 White St 29-h

COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

EVNT-26-9 - Alexandra Dimou for *Ladies Philoptochos Society Elpis* requesting to hold Designer Bag Bingo event from 5:30 to 10:00 PM on May 21st at *Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church* at 154 Winter St and seeks approval of One Day Bingo license 29-i

VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

12.3. Auctioneer License:

12.4. Tag Days: *with Police approval*

12.5. One Day Liquor License –with HPD approval

12.6. ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS:

12.6.1. **Hawker Peddlers License- Fixed location** – *w/Police approval*

12.6.2. **Coin-Op License Renewals** – *with Police approval*

12.6.3. **Christmas Tree Vendor** – *with Police approval*

12.6.4. **Taxi Driver Licenses:** *with Police approval*



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- 12.6.5. **Taxi/Limousine License** *with Police approval*
- 12.6.6. **Junk Dealer /Collector License** - *with Police approval*
- 12.6.7. **Pool/Billiard**
- 12.6.8. **Bowling**
- 12.6.9. **Sunday Bowling**
- 12.6.10. **Buy & Sell Secondhand Articles** *with Police approval*
- 12.6.11. **Buy & Sell Secondhand Clothing** *with Police approval*
- 12.6.12. **Pawnbroker license** - *with police approval*
- 12.6.13. **Fortune Teller** *with - Police approval*
- 12.6.14. **Buy & Sell Old Gold** – *with Police approval*
- 12.6.15. **Roller Skating Rink**
- 12.6.16. **Sunday Skating**
- 12.6.17. **Exterior Vending Machines/Redbox Automated Retail, LLC**
- 12.6.18. **Limousine/Livery License/Chair Cars** *with Police approval*

13. MOTIONS AND ORDERS:

- 13.1. Mayor Barrett submits the following orders to authorize budget transfers:
Order- that \$475,950 will be transferred from fiscal 2025 certified free cash to fund the second of three transfers to the FEMA/Covid-19 Special Revenue Fund to address its deficit 31-a

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She noted the city is repaying about 1.5 million dollars owed to the federal government due to prior improper spending. This is the second installment and the final payment will be paid next year. Councilor Rogers asked what happened with the spending. The Mayor confirmed the prior administration used restricted funds for purposes that were not allowed under the rules, creating an obligation to repay the federal government.

VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR BASILIERE
PASSED YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

- 13.1.1. Order – that \$360,000 will be reallocated from the following capital projects to a general street and sidewalk improvement capital fund 31-b

- #3500000.422.5832.04 Winter & White Street Sidewalks \$300,000
- #3500000.422.5832.02 Washington & Wingate Parking Lots \$50,000
- #3500000.422.5832.03 Sidewalk Brick Replacement \$10,000

Mayor and Councilor Ferreira discussed funds from an unbid sidewalk project (Winter and White) are being redirected to other city sidewalk and street work this season due to time constraints. The (Washington and Wingate) needs more funding than originally estimated, so it will be reevaluated. The Mayor noted these will stay on the radar.

COUNCILOR BASILIERE TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
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Order – that \$92,000 is transferred from capital project fund #3416301 Parking Lot Paving, and \$4,000 is transferred from #341630 Crowell School Windows to fund fire alarm panels at Bradford and Silver Hill School, totaling \$96,000 31-c

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She stated funds will be shifted from parking lots and window repairs to fix higher priority fire alarm systems. Councilor Michitson asked which parking lots were paved. Mayor noted quite a few the School Department improved last year.

COUNCILOR FERREIRA TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR BASILIERE
PASSED YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

13.1.2. Order – that \$96,000 is transferred from #3416301 Crowell School Windows to fund coil cleaning for the HVAC projects underway at Golden Hill, Pentucket Lake, and Silver Hill Schools 31-d

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She noted this is straightforward. This will keep our HVAC running cleanly.

COUNCILOR BASILIERE TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI
PASSED YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

13.1.3. Order – that \$17,657.44 will be transferred from fiscal 2025 certified free cash to the Waterways Revolving fund in accordance with MGL c.60B, which states that 50% of boat excise collections shall be credited to the municipal waterway fund. This transfer is for fiscal years 2022-2025. 31-e

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She stated the money was not set aside to the waterway funds and this is correcting this issue.

COUNCILOR DIODATI TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
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13.1.4. Order – that \$1,290,928 will be transferred from various general fund appropriations to fund FY 2026 operating expenses 31-f



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Transfer to: (Budget/Deficits)		Transfer from: (Budget Surplus)	
Council Salaries	\$ 3,200.00	Salary Reserve	\$ 890,928.00
Mayor Salaries	\$ 17,850.00	Budget Reserve	\$ 400,000.00
Assessor Salaries	\$ 8,265.00		
Purchasing Salaries	\$ 2,560.00		
Legal Salaries	\$ 950.00		
Human Resource Salaries	\$ 11,950.00		
Fire Salaries	\$ 411,147.00		
Snow & Ice Removal Salaries	\$ 129,257.00		
Veterans Salaries	\$ 2,487.00		
North Shore Essex Tech Assessment	\$ 67,942.00		
Sick Leave Buyback	\$ 310,639.00		
Vacation Buyback	\$ 4,315.00		
General Liability Insurance	\$ 22,004.00		
Snow & Ice Removal Expenses	\$ 298,362.00		
	\$ 1,290,928.00		\$ 1,290,928.00

COUNCILOR BASILIERE TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
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14. ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS):

15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILORS:

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEDING MEETING:

16.1. Ordinance re: Vehicles and Traffic: Amend Ch 240, be further Amended by ADDING the following to § 240-85 schedule B: Parking Restrictions and Prohibitions: 10-j

<u>Location</u>	<u>Regulations</u>	<u>Hours/ Days</u>
Temple St:		
In front of #101	No Parking (except for 1-24 hour handicap parking space)	24-Hours

Filed on April 15, 2026

VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI
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16.2. Ordinance re: Vehicles and Traffic: Amend Ch 240, be further Amended by ADDING the following to § 240-85 schedule B: Parking Restrictions and Prohibitions: 10-k

<u>Location</u>	<u>Regulations</u>	<u>Hours/ Days</u>
Pentucket St:		
In front of #24	No Parking (except for 1-24 hour	24-Hours



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handicap parking space)

Filed on April 15, 2026

COUNCILOR BASILIERE TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

17. RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

18. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

19. DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE STUDY:

20. LONG TERM MATTERS STUDY LIST:

21. ADJOURN:

MOTION BY COUNCILOR BASILIERE TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI

PASSED

YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, MCGONAGLE AND LEPAGE)

ADJOURNED: 19:50