



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 7:00 PM

**Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting**

Present: President Sullivan, Councilors Basiliere, LePage, Ferreira, Michitson, Rogers, Hobbs Everett
and Lewandowski

Remote: None

Absent: Vice President Jordan, Councilors Toohey and McGonagle

City Clerk: Kaitlin M. Wright

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

July 22, 2025:

COUNCILOR MICHITSON STATED HE REVIEWED THE MINUTES AND FINDS THEM IN ORDER.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON TO PLACE ON FILE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

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

August 5, 2025:

COUNCILOR FERREIRA STATED SHE DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO REVIEW THE MINUTES.

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

PRESIDENT SULLIVAN ASSIGNED THE MINUTES TO COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

- 5.1. Mayor Barrett and Councilor Ferreira wish to introduce Salvatore Lupoli from The Lupoli Companies to provide an update on the Merrimack St development project

12-7

Mayor Barrett provided an update on the Merrimack Street redevelopment project, noting steady progress. The parking garage is nearly finished and expected to open by January. Construction of the new Pentucket Bank has begun, and Onyx has been contracted to build the public plaza. The Lupoli Companies continue to develop plans for additional commercial and residential space. Morgan Pierson of Lupoli Companies shared renderings and emphasized the company's commitment to a community-focused development. He confirmed residential and commercial construction is moving forward and praised collaboration with the city. Councilor Ferreira raised questions about ongoing communication with the public, integration of the Heights food program with the food hall (which is still happening), community use of space, and housing affordability. Morgan Pierce supported the idea of community use and confirmed a project website will be launched. Gary Armstrong, Lupoli Companies estimated the residential portion will take 24 months to complete and confirmed no affordable housing units are planned. Councilors Michitson and Lewandowski expressed concern that the commercial portion has been reduced from the original plan, which the Mayor acknowledged. President Sullivan inquired about the public plaza timeline, which will be completed in phases along with the residential and commercial buildings. Councilor Ferreira also suggested better communication for residents.

- 5.2. Mayor Barrett submits an Order for the City Council to accept a \$80,000.00 gift as follows:

- 5.2.1. Order – that the City Council on behalf of the City votes to accept a gift of \$80,000.00 from Salvatore Lupoli and *The Lupoli Companies* to be used exclusively by the Haverhill Fire



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Department to maintain the fourth firefighter on Engine Three at
the Water Street Station 35-R

Mayor Barrett and Fire Chief O'Brien addressed the council and thanked Sal Lupoli for his generous donation. Mary Lupoli stated the Lupoli Companies are grateful and happy to do this for the city. Councilor Michitson asked on behalf of Vice President Jordan what happens when the \$80,000 funding for the position runs out and whether it is in the budget. The Mayor and Chief responded that the city would find a way to continue to fund it and it is in the budget. Councilor Lewandowski stated this is supplemental money in order to maintain that staffing.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI
PASSED YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, TOOHEY AND MCGONAGLE)

15.1 President Sullivan and Councilor Lewandowski request an update
from the City Engineer regarding Amesbury Line Rd and
Merrimac Rd intersection improvements and request Sgt. Lynch
to present the most recent accident and speeding statistics and
offer his thoughts on the conceptual plan 33-P

Councilor Lewandowski stated this intersection has serious safety issues, including blind spots, speeding and cross traffic that doesn't stop. Crashes have occurred there before. She shared photos and a video to show the dangers and urges action to improve safety.

John Pettis, City Engineer, addressed the council. In 2024, safety concerns led to a traffic study, which found it doesn't meet the criteria for a four-way stop or signal. Low traffic volume and crash data don't justify changes,

Joe Johnson, Mclure Engineering addressed the council. He stated the intersection doesn't meet state traffic volume thresholds for signals, so it's not eligible for state funding. Councilor Lewandowski asked if the city would consider putting a light there. The Mayor stated she cannot commit to that but could do intersection improvements such as shrinking the intersection down. Councilor Lewandowski suggested a couple of cones be put out to get people's attention. The Mayor agreed.

Sgt. Kevin Lynch, Police Department addressed the council. He noted from 2009, 26 crashes at the intersection were mostly due to driver error and distraction. Councilor Ferreira feels four way stop signs work to control traffic. She questioned if ordinance updates need to be done to place more stop signs. Sgt. Lynch noted the warrants for stop signs he also noted possibly a lighted stop sign on Merrimac Rd. He stated the protocol about notifying Whittier Vo-Tech students about speeding.

Amanda Coburn of Merrimac Rd addressed the council. She stated thank you for addressing the safety concerns at the intersection. As a resident I've witnessed numerous accidents and near-misses many of which go unreported. Despite recent signage and markings visibility, speeding and confusing traffic patterns remain serious problems. I would urge further action such as relocating poorly positioned signs, reducing speed limit to 25 MPH and considering additional traffic calming measures to improve safety.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR FERREIRA TO SEND THIS TO TRAFFIC AND SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE ALSO LOOKING FOR INFORMATION AS WELL AT SUBCOMMITTEE ABOUT WHAT OUR LOCAL STRATEGIES ARE FOR TRAFFIC AND SAFETY AS WELL AS LOOKING INTO THESE INTERSECTIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI



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5.3. Mayor Barrett submits an Order for the City Council to accept a gift of land as follows:

5.3.1. Order – that the City Council on behalf of the City votes to accept a gift of land known as *First Nations Park* (the “Park”) located at 15 Railroad Ave in the City of Haverhill (Map 711-4-1 and Map 711-4-2A) from the Haverhill Parks Foundation. Consistent with the purpose of the donation, the City of Haverhill accepts the Park with all improvements thereon for use as a public park

35-S

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She noted that the city is taking formal ownership of the First Nations Park, originally tied to the Procopio buildings through a special permit. While the committee was created as placeholder due to Brownfields concerns, the city has always been responsible for maintenance. This step formalizes what’s already been the true.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR HOBBS EVERETT

PASSED

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

5.4. Mayor Barrett submits an Order to accept MGL c.40, sec. 17 to allow the City to install and operate a school bus violation detection monitoring system

5.4.1. Order – that the City of Haverhill accepts the provisions of the G.L. c. 40, sec. 17 allow the City to install and operate a school bus violation detection monitoring system on a school bus to enforce violations pursuant to sec. 14 and 14C of c. 90, and to enter into an agreement with a private vendor or manufacturer to provide a school bus violation detection monitoring system, including the installation, operation, and maintenance of such systems, on each bus within its fleet whether the school bus is owned or leased

Related communication from City Solicitors, Lisa Mead and Michael Reilly

94-A

Mayor Barrett informed the council that the city is beginning the process of installing cameras on school buses to catch drivers who illegally pass when the stop arm is out. A vendor will review the footage, police will confirm violations, and tickets will be issued accordingly. The city will fund the installation through the general fund and expects ticket revenue to cover costs. The program will include all city school buses, including those operated by NRT. Councilor Ferreira asked if other communities would benefit from the use of this equipment if the buses go to other towns. Mayor indicated these buses are



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here for a while in Haverhill during the day. Councilor Lewandowski noted that fines start at \$250 for a first offense and increase to \$600 and possible jail time for repeat offenses.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

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

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

6.1. Councilor Ferreira requests to introduce Kenneth Navarro who is requesting a Home Rule Age Waiver petition for the position of Fire Fighter in the City of Haverhill

6.1.1. Home Rule Petition – Authorizing Kenneth Navarro to take the Civil Service Exam for the position of Fire Fighter in the City of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement 85-B

Kenneth Navarro addressed the council. He stated he is seeking an age waiver petition to become a firefighter.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR FERREIRA, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

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

6.2. Councilor Lewandowski requests to introduce William (Rob) Cargill who is requesting a Home Rule Age Waiver petition for the position of Fire Fighter in the City of Haverhill

6.2.1. Home Rule Petition – Authorizing William (Rob) Cargill to take the Civil Service Exam for the position of Fire Fighter in the City of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age Requirement 85-C

Rob Cargill addressed the council. He stated he is seeking an age waiver petition to become a firefighter.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

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7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- REQUESTS UNDER COUNCIL RULE 28

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

8.1. Kaitlin M Wright, City Clerk, submits Election Warrant for the 2025 Municipal Preliminary Election in Ward 4 and Ward 6 to be held on Tuesday, the Ninth day of September 2025 from 7 AM to 8 PM 20-T



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8.2. Christine Webb, *City Assessor*, submits the abatement report for the month of July 2025 20-U

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

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8.3. Angel A. Perkins, *City Auditor & Chief Financial Officer*, submits the revenue and expense reports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, as well as the reports for the first reporting period of fiscal 2026 20-V

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

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8.4. William Pillsbury, *Economic Development and Planning Director*, requests a hearing for confirmation of Council vote on July 1, 2025, and resubmits an Ordinance regarding a Zoning Amendment – Floodplain Overlay District (Chap 255:9.1) **Heard by Planning Board on June 11, 2025, and originally heard by Council on June 17, 2025, and approval granted on July 1, 2025**

8.4.1. Document 68 - Ordinance re: Zoning – Amend Chapter 255 – Delete section 9.1 in its entirety and replace with new section 9.1, to provide required updates to the City's Floodplain Overlay District Ordinance (FODO)

Hearing September 16th

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

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

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

10. HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:

11. APPOINTMENTS:

- 11.1. Confirming Appointments
- 11.2. Non-Confirming Appointments:
- 11.3. Constables
- 11.4. Resignations



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12. PETITIONS:

- 12.1. **Applications Handicap Parking Sign:** *with Police approval*
- 12.2. **Amusement/Event Application:** *with Police approval*
- 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 for 2024: with Police approval**
 - 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 Second Hand Articles with Police approval**
 - 12.6.11. **Buy & Sell Second Hand 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. Order – pay bills of previous years and authorize payment from current year departmental appropriations as listed:



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<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Account</u>
MGR Electrical	\$471.00	Highway Dept.
LSE	\$2,011.12	Fire Dept.
True Green Capital	\$936.13	Police Dept.
True Green Capital	\$1,036.50	Police Dept.
Comcast	\$34.94	Highway Dept.
Comcast	\$31.56	Highway Dept.
Biorem	\$1,910.00	Water/Wastewater
AAA Pump Services, Inc.	\$1,665.59	Wastewater

Total: \$8,096.84

10-J

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS

PASSED

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

14. ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS):

- 14.1. Ordinance: re: Vehicles and Traffic; Handicap parking, 17
Mount Vernon St File 10 Days 11-J

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

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- 14.2. Ordinance: re: Vehicles and Traffic; No Parking on South
Webster St, for 10' length each in front of walkways adjacent to #41,
63, and 77 (Haverhill Housing) File 10 Days 49-E

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON

PASSED

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- 14.3. Ordinance: re: Vehicles and Traffic; Amend Ch. 240, sec 85,
Schedule B: Parking Restrictions and Prohibitions, as amended, and
Ch. 240, sec 88, Schedule E: City Parking Lots, as amended, be further
amended as follows: that on street parking space in front of 116
Washington St, just east of the existing handicap parking spot, be
changed to 15-minute time limit and that the permit parking in the
Washington-Wingate Parking lot be for those with resident or
employee permits, as opposed to being for those with resident parking
only, as has been the case since 2020. File 10 Days 49-F



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15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILORS:

15.1. Moved to beginning of agenda 33-P

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEEDING MEETING:

16.1. Document 93 - Ordinance relating to vehicles and traffic:
Amend Ch. 240, sec 85, Schedule B: Parking Restrictions and
Prohibitions, as amended, and Ch. 240, sec 88, Schedule E: City
Parking Lots, as amended, be further amended as shown in Central
Business District Parking Map dated 8/17/2011, as last revised on
7/28/2025

filed August 6th, 2025

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS
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16.2. Document 31-F - Mayor Barrett submits the *Memorandum of
Agreement for the AFSCME Group*

16.2.1. Document 31-F - Memorandum of Agreement between
the City of Haverhill and the *AFSCME Group*

filed August 6th, 2025

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI
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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 VICE PRESIDENT LEWANDOWSKI TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR FERRIRA
PASSED YEAS 8, NAYS 0, ABSENT 3 (JORDAN, TOOHEY AND MCGONAGLE)

ADJOURNED: 20:38