



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES –**

Tuesday, July 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/foa-vxtz-weq>

Present: Councilors Jordan, Diodati, Sullivan, Ferreira, Michitson, Lewandowski, Toohey, McGonagle and LePage

Remote: Councilor Rogers

Absent: Councilor Basiliere

City Clerk: Kaitlin M. Wright-Esposito

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

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

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

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

PRESIDENT JORDAN ASSIGNED THE MINUTES TO COUNCILOR DIODATI

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

5.1. Mayor Barrett wishes to present a citation to Lindsay Paris, *HC Media Director of Creative Operations*, on receiving the 2026 National First Place Hometown Media Award for Best Community Media News Magazine for the Haverhill Journal 11-j

Mayor Barrett and President Jordan congratulated Lindsay Paris and presented citations on behalf of the Mayor and the City Council.

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

6.1. Councilors Basiliere and Ferreira wish to introduce Matt Webel to share information about the Book Buddy program 5-n

Matt Webel addressed the council. He gave an update on the Book Buddy program, a volunteer led literacy initiative serving 575 third grade students across seven Haverhill schools. He highlighted the program's growth, community support, recent grant funding and positive impact on student reading, writing and literacy skills. He noted registration is open for the coming school year. Councilors praised the program.

6.2. President Jordan wishes to recognize Lindsay Paris, *HC Media's Director of Creative Operations*, on receiving the 2026 National First Place Hometown Media Award for Best Community Media News Magazine Program for the Haverhill Journal 5-0

moved up with item 5.1

6.3. Councilor Ferreira wishes to introduce Mark Lipman to announce the return of the Vagabond Poetry Caravan to Haverhill following its tour of North America and a related community event 5-p

Mark Lipman addressed the council. He noted he had just completed a 25,000-mile poetry bus journey that connected Haverhill with communities across the country. He invited the public to the free return of further poetry event on Sunday at 2PM at the Whittier Birthplace.



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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 Esposito, *City Clerk*, submits an order to amend the City Clerk fee schedule

8.1.1. Order – Amend City Clerk Fee Schedule to increase fees for
notarizing documents 34-a

Councilor Diodati stated it looks like other communities to notarize documents charge around \$5.00. City Clerk Wright Esposito stated it sometimes takes us longer to notarize a document than for-us-to-issue a vital record. Mayor noted after the City Clerk polled other clerks around the state this did not seem overly aggressive.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN FOR PASSAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 9, NAYS 1 (DIODATI), ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

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

9.1.**Doc 7-G** Petition from National Grid, requesting a joint pole location for Lowell Ave
WR # 31284889

President Jordan opened the hearing.

Dave Boucher, National Grid, 1101 Turnpike Street, North Andover addressed the council. He noted the Fire Department raised concerns about clearance. National Grid will relocate the pole to the public way as shown on the plan.

President Jordan asked if anyone would like to speak in favor.

Charles Palmisano (10 Jefferson Court, Newburyport, MA) legal counsel for Pentucket Bank stated the bank does not oppose the project but requested advance notice of any work that could interrupt power to the bank. Mr. Boucher responded that if the transformer is replaced or upgraded and a power outage is required, the bank will be notified in advance. He added that the transformer serves only the bank. In response to a question about timing, Mr. Boucher said the work would be scheduled as soon as possible, weather permitting, and recommended coordinating with the project's commercial business representative for a more specific timeline.

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

President Jordan closed the hearing.

Councilor McGonagle clarified that Pentucket Bank's attorney will coordinate with the project's designated contact to ensure the bank receives advance notice of any work so that its operations are not impacted.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN FOR APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR FERREIRA

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

9.2.**Doc 7-H-** Petition from National Grid, requesting to install underground facilities for
Lowell Ave WR #31284889

President Jordan opened the hearing.



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Dave Boucher, National Grid, 1101 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA addressed the council. He stated this is the underground part of the equation. The pole that you just passed we want the rights to go underground and into the property.

President Jordan asked if anyone would like to speak in favor.

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

President Jordan closed the hearing.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN FOR APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR FERREIRA

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:

- 10.1. **Doc 21-D - CCSP-26-3-** Attorney Jonathan Stark-Sachs for Maryam Salehi-Ala-Yamin requests approval to operate “Mariam’s Cottage” a family run bed and breakfast at 421 East Broadway allowed with a special permit in the RR (Rural Residential) zoning district and seeks to host small-scale weddings and similar outdoor events of up to 50 guests packaged with overnight stays

Continued from June 30, 2026

City Clerk Wright Esposito addressed the council. She noted that the office received a communication from the applicant’s attorney requesting that this hearing be continued until August 25, 2026.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED TO CONTINUE TO AUGUST 25, 2026

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

11. APPOINTMENTS:

12. PETITIONS:

- 12.1. **CCSP-26-7 –** Matt Silva for Sterling Commonwealth Builders requests approval to demolish existing single-family residence and construct three (3) attached townhouse condominium units on a single parcel at Marshland St in the RH (Residential High) Zone. Each unit is proposed to contain three (3) bedrooms, 2 and one-half bathrooms, and an attached two-car garage

Hearing for September 15, 2026

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

- 12.2. Petition from National Grid, requesting the installation of underground facilities for Middlesex St WR# 31310074

7-i

Hearing for August 25, 2026

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE

PASSED

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

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

12.5. **Auctioneer License:**

12.6. **Tag Days:** *with Police approval*

12.6.1. **TAGD-26-11** – *Riverside Bradford Baseball, July 31, August 1, and August 2, 2026* 14-k

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

12.7. **One Day Liquor License –with Police and License Commission approval**

12.8. **ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS:**

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

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

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

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

12.8.5. **Taxi/Limousine License** *with Police approval*

12.8.6. **Junk Dealer /Collector License** - *with Police approval*

12.8.7. **Pool/Billiard**

12.8.8. **Bowling**

12.8.9. **Sunday Bowling**

12.8.10. **Buy & Sell Secondhand Articles** *with Police approval*

12.8.11. **Buy & Sell Secondhand Clothing** *with Police approval*

12.8.12. **Pawnbroker license** - *with police approval*

12.8.13. **Fortune Teller** *with - Police approval*

12.8.14. **Buy & Sell Old Gold** – *with Police approval*

12.8.14.1. **GOLD-26-2** – *Maria Turchi for In A Blue Moon, 99 Merrimack St* 38-a

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

12.8.15. **Roller Skating Rink**

12.8.16. **Sunday Skating**

12.8.17. **Exterior Vending Machines/Redbox Automated Retail, LLC**

12.8.18. **Limousine/Livery License/Chair Cars** *with Police approval*

13. MOTIONS AND ORDERS:

14. ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS):



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- 14.1. 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-o

LOCATION	REGULATION	HOURS/DAYS
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<i>93 White St</i>	<i>No Parking</i>	<i>24 hours</i>
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*(except for 1 24- hour
handicap parking space)*

File 10 days

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

- 14.2. Ordinance re: Vehicles and Traffic; Amend Ch 240, be further amended by **DELETING** the following to § 240-85 schedule B: Parking Restrictions and Prohibitions: 40-a

LOCATION	REGULATION	HOURS/DAYS
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<i>40 Central St</i>	<i>No Parking</i>	<i>24 hours</i>
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*(except for 1 24-hour
handicap parking space)*

File 10 days

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILORS:

- 15.1. Vice President Michitson submits the summary of minutes and recommendations of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held on July 7, 2026 for acceptance and approval 18-v

Vice President read the summary of minutes into the record.

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)



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15.2. Vice President Michitson wishes to announce the Planning and Development subcommittee meeting on Monday, August 24, 2026 at 6PM in Room 202, City Council Chambers 18-w

Vice President Michitson stated this will be a continuation of the July 7, 2026 meeting. He noted the next day is the council meeting where the full council will take it up and if it is ready we will vote and if not, we will probably continue.

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEDING MEETING:

17. RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

18. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Councilor McGonagle noted there will be a public safety committee meeting tomorrow at 6PM discussing E-Bike and E-Scooter safety

19. DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE STUDY:

20. LONG TERM MATTERS STUDY LIST:

21. ADJOURN:

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (BASILIERE)

ADJOURN:19:53