



CITY OF HAVERHILL

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM

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

In-Person/Remote Meeting

Present – President Jordan, Councillors Barrett, Bevilacqua, Sullivan, Michitson, Lewandowski, McGonagle, Rogers, and Toohey
City Clerk – Kaitlin Wright

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

Motion by Councillor Rogers to approve minutes, second Councillor Toohey

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

4. ASSIGNMENT OF THE MINUTES REVIEW FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Councillor Toohey assigned the minutes.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

5.1. Mayor Fiorentini will address the City Council relative to the Haverhill Housing Trust Fund and submits a related Order for approval 9-E

5.1.1. Order- City of Haverhill hereby accepts provisions of G.L. Chapter 44, Section 55C, relative to establishing a Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund, a copy of which is attached and incorporated herein

Mayor Fiorentini addressed the Council stating the demand for housing is more than houses available. The city has a shortage making rents higher, people becoming homeless, moving out of the city. Propose two steps to address crisis the inclusionary zoning ordinance and allowing developers to buy out donating to the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Councillor Barrett

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

31

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

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- REQUESTS UNDER COUNCIL RULE 28

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

8.1. City Clerk, Kaitlin M Wright, requests to share with the Council the winners of the 2023 Top Dog Contest

Clerk Wright announced the winners of the Top Dog Contest; (1) Max, (2) Ginger, and (3) Bruno. 10-G

8.2. City Clerk, Kaitlin M Wright requests approval of following items, all pending Board of Registrars approval:



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1. 2023 Election Calendar (attached)
 2. Preliminary Election date - September 12, 2023
 3. Opt-in of in-person early voting for all elections this year
 4. Proposed location listed be designated as a polling place in Haverhill for all Elections this year, requesting to change Ward 1, Precinct 1 from Somebody Cares, 358 Washington st to Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, 10 Reed st-with change only for 2023 elections
 5. List of 2023 poll workers (attached)

Motion by Councillor Bevilacqua, second Councillor Rogers

PASSED

All in Favor

10-H

8.3. John Pettis, City Engineer submits Handicap Ordinances as follows:

- 8.3.1. Ordinance re: Vehicles & Traffic, Add Handicap parking, 8 Baldwin st
File 10 days

Motion by Councillor Bevilacqua, second Councillor Barrett

PASSED Placed on File

All in Favor

15-B

- 8.3.2. Ordinance re: Vehicles & Traffic, Delete Handicap parking at 92 Margin st & 36 Bellevue av
File 10 days

Motion by Councillor Barrett, second Councillor McGonagle

PASSED Placed on File

All in Favor

15-C

8.4. Council President Jordan requests to introduce Superintendent Margaret Marotta and Tracy Fuller from the Haverhill YMCA to discuss the PASS program - Positive Alternative to School Suspension, an alternative therapeutic program for middle and high school students who have been suspended for non-violent handbook offenses

Tracy Fuller and Dr. Marotta addressed the Council outlining the PASS program and need for funding in order to keep it going. Funded through HPS and have applied for funding through DPH and asking for funding from the Opioid Settlement to sustain the program.

Motion by Councillor Barrett to send a letter to the State Delegation for funding, second Councillor Bevilacqua

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

19-H



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8.5. Abatement report from Christine Webb, Assessor for month of February 2023

Motion by Councillor Bevilacqua, second Councillor Toohey

PASSED

All in Favor

11-C

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

10. HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:

- 10.1. Document 21: Petition from Mayor Fiorentini, City of Haverhill requesting Zoning Hearing to amend the Code of the City of Haverhill, Chapter 255 for Inclusionary Zoning
- 10.2. Document 21-B: Ordinance re: Zoning- Inclusionary Zoning filed January & February 2023

Favorable approval of newest version from William Pillsbury, Planning Director

Related communication from Andrew Herlihy, Division Director, Community Development Dept

President Jordan opened the hearing.

Mayor Fiorentini made comments on Inclusionary Zoning in item 5 since they are related.

President Joran asked if anyone would like to speak in favor?

Jane Hucks, 1 South Maple Avenue, addressed the Council. Explained this is work force housing, people want to stay where they work and to raise their children. Here tonight with people Merrimack Valley Project, Haverhill chapter and we all support more affordable housing in our cities.

Alice Mann, 51 Leroy Avenue, stated this is not low-income housing which we also need, but this is based on range from HUD. Not happy with the buyout portion, smaller developers may need some accommodations, but larger developers shouldn't be allowed. Believe there should be a requirement to build units at some level.

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

President Jordan closed the hearing.

Motion by Councillor McGonagle, second Councillor Barrett

Councillor McGonagle stated percentage should be based on regular unit cost and a ratio of that. Mayor's point is valid but if offer an opt out, developer may go elsewhere.



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Motion by Councillor McGonagle to refer to a committee for discussion, second Councillor Michitson

Councillor Barrett suggests sending to Administration and Finance Committee, Councillor McGonagle agrees.

Councillor Barrett states it is a nice working document but there is so much need, not sure if it addresses those in most need. Want to make sure this does not hurt growth or to hurt effective change.

Councillor Bevilacqua has concern it will impact adverse to what we want to do. Not sure if any towns around have a similar ordinance. Inflation will continue to rise and not sure if fee will turn a developer off.

Andrew Herlihy stated looked at what other communities charged and tried to go with the lower end of the scale to try and remain attractive to developers. Land is difficult to find for affordable housing developers in Haverhill. Have to look at private developers to help with problem.

Matt Hennigan, Community Development, addressed the Council stating inclusionary zoning is adapted to what best fits your community and it is up to us to decide what is best fit for Haverhill. Some communities don't allow buyouts, need to look at both sides.

Councillor Toohey stated going to A&F is a great step. Guidelines are tightening dramatically causing financial burden on developers and cannot penalize the developers willing to invest in our community. Buyout concern is real, other approved projects asked developer for one or two more affordable units on a 230 unit and they could not do it. Look forward to working with colleague in committee to figure out.

Mayor Fiorentini stated this ordinance transfers authority from the Mayor's office to the City Council. The way affordable housing works now is a developer comes in and I tell them what to do in order to get my support. Now City Council has the authority. This is a fair balance and support sending to committee.

President Jordan stated original motion by Councillor McGonagle to approve was withdrawn.

Motion to send to A&F Committee by Councillor Barrett, second Councillor Michitson
PASSED *Yeas 9, Nays 0*

11. APPOINTMENTS:



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11.1. **Confirming Appointments:**

- 11.1.1. Central District Parking Commission - Salvatore Defranco, 7 Kimball Hill
dr - to expire March 7 2026 To be Confirmed

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Councillor Rogers

PASSED Confirmed

All in Favor

20-C

11.2. **Non-Confirming:**

- 11.2.1. Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, Commissioner.: Christine
Lindberg

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Councillor Bevilacqua

PASSED Placed on File

All in Favor

1-F

11.3. **Resignations:**

12. PETITIONS:

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

- 12.2. **Amusement/Event Application** - *pending Police approval**

- 12.2.1. Erin Padilla for Creative Haverhill, for outdoor art gathering event, at
351 South Main st, May 11th, 6 pm to 9 pm

Motion by Councillor Michitson, second Councillor Sullivan

PASSED

All in Favor

29-D

- 12.3. **Auctioneer License:**

- 12.4. **Tag Days:** *with Police Approval*

- 12.5. One Day Liquor License: Pending updated insurance information

- 12.5.1. James Carbone, Beer & Wine license for Tattersall Event, 542 North
Broadway, July 27th, 5 pm to 9 pm

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Councillor Barrett

PASSED

All in Favor

32

12.6. **Annual License Renewals:**

- 12.6.1. **Hawker Peddlers License 2023 - Fixed location** – *with approvals*

- 12.6.2. **Coin-Op License Renewals** - *pending Police approval*

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

- 12.6.4. **Taxi Driver Licenses for 2022:** *with Police approval*

- 12.6.5. **Taxi/Limousine License** *with Police approval:*

- 12.6.6. **Junk Dealer License** *with Police approval*



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- 12.6.7. Pool Tables
 - 12.6.8. Sunday Pool
 - 12.6.9. Bowling
 - 12.6.10. Sunday Bowling
 - 12.6.11. Buy & Sell Second Hand Articles *with Police approval*
 - 12.6.12. Buy & Sell Second Hand Clothing
 - 12.6.13. Pawnbroker license
 - 12.6.14. Fortune Teller - *pending Police approval*
 - 12.6.15. Buy & Sell Old Gold
 - 12.6.16. Roller Skating Rink
 - 12.6.17. Sunday Skating
 - 12.6.18. Exterior Vending Machines/Redbox Automated Retail, LLC
 - 12.6.19. Limousine/Livery License/Chair Cars *with Police approval*

13. MOTIONS AND ORDERS:

- 13.1. Order- transfer \$35,600.00 from Refuse Collection & Disposal Salaries account to Refuse Collection and Disposal Equipment to fund purchase of a replacement truck

Motion by Councillor Michitson, second Councillor Sullivan

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

7-K

- 13.2. Order - appropriate \$110,000 from Comcast Capital Funds to Building Maintenance Capital for upgrades and improvements to the City Council Chambers

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Councillor Barrett

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

7-L

- 13.3. Order-Authorize payment of bills of previous years and to further authorize the payment from current year departmental appropriations as listed:

| Vendor | Amount | Account |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| AAT | \$2,235.00 | Highway |
| Bobcat of Boston Inc(3) | 1,214.19 | Water Dept |

Motion by Councillor Sullivan, second Councillor Barrett

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

23-B

14. ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS)

15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS:



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16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEDING MEETING:

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 Councillor Sullivan, second Councillor Lewandowski

PASSED

All in Favor

Adjourned 22:43 PM

****Additional Materials – Amended Agenda***

*Mayor Fiorentini requests for the Center of Public Safety Management's Jose Pozzo to address the Council at the Tuesday, March 7, 2023 City Council meeting,. Mr. Pozzo will give an overview of the CPSM's Haverhill Fire/EMS Data Analysis Study.

Joe Pozzo, Senior Manager of CPSM, presented to the Council remotely.

CPSM conducted an extension study of the Haverhill Fire Department and prepared a report highlighting areas of concern and recommendations. CPSM highlighted 23 recommendations including a financial liaison, Assistant Chief position, training officer, additional fire apparatus', new fire and maintenance, and additional staffing to name a few (see report for complete details).

Chief Robert O'Brien addressed the Council giving his representation of the study. He stated most of the recommendations are what they have been asking for, for years. Additional fire fighters (four to Water Street), additional ladder truck, upgrading stations, hiring an assistant chief, new station near Broadway for coverage of Ayers Village area, not relying on mutual aid, etc.

Councillor comments included listing needs in a five-year plan, need for forth person at Water Street, need for facility on 97/Broadway to house equipment, rescue company and maintenance facility, hiring of an assistant chief, acquiring an additional ladder truck, mutual aid concerns, additional staffing, research state/federal funding possibilities.

Motion by Councillor Michitson to send to Public Safety Committee, second Councillor Barrett

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0

9-F

Motion by Councillor Michitson to send a letter to the state delegation to look into viability of acquiring state land on Broadway for new facility, second Councillor Toohey

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0