



**CITY OF HAVERHILL  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Tuesday, August 5, 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, Toohey, Rogers, McGonagle and Lewandowski

Remote: Councilor Hobbs-Everett

Absent: Vice President Jordan

City Clerk: Kaitlin M. Wright

**1. OPENING PRAYER**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING**

COUNCILOR MICHITSON STATED HE WILL REVIEW THE MINUTES AND HAVE THEM FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

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

PRESIDENT SULLIVAN ASSIGNED THE MINUTES TO COUNCILOR FERREIRA

**5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:**

5.1. Mayor Barrett submits an Order for the City Council to accept a  
\$200.00 gift as follows: 35-0

5.1.1. Order – that the City Council on behalf of the City votes to  
accept a gift of \$200.00 for the Luau Luncheon at the *Citizens  
Center* from Wingate Residences at Haverhill, to be used by the  
*Council on Aging Department* 35-00

Mayor Barrett addressed the council and thanked Wingate Residences for their donation.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

5.2. Mayor Barrett submits an Order for the City Council to accept a  
\$80,000.00 gift as follows: 35-P

5.2.1. Order – that the City Council on behalf of the City votes to  
accept a gift of \$80,000.00 from Joseph P. Faro and *Tuscan  
Development* to be used exclusively by the Haverhill Fire  
Department to maintain the fourth firefighter on Engine Three at  
the Water Street Station 35-PP

Mayor Barrett and Fire Chief O'Brien addressed the council and thanked the Faro Family for their generous donation.

Deanna Gaiero from Joseph's Restaurant stated she is very happy to do this for the city.

Councilor Rogers asked if this is for an existing fourth firefighter. This is not adding someone on. Chief O'Brien confirmed that is correct.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)



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5.3. Mayor Barrett submits for approval and endorsement, the Project Agreement for the DiBietto Watershed Land Protection Project 12-X

5.3.1. Endorsement of the City Council to authorize the Project Agreement for the DiBietto Watershed Land Protection Project 12-XX

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. The city in partnership with Greenbelt, water department and the conservation team, has been identifying and protecting key parcels of land to help maintain the watershed.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

5.3.2. Authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to execute the contract in the Project Agreement for the DiBietto Watershed Land Protection Project 23-I

5.3.2.1. Contract – Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program Project Agreement 23-II

*Related communication from Robert E. Moore, Jr., Environmental Health Technician*

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

5.4. Mayor Barrett submits the *Memorandum of Agreement for the AFSCME Group*

5.4.1. Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Haverhill and the *AFSCME Group* File 10 Days 31-F

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

5.5. Mayor Barrett wishes to introduce Clay Boothby and Yasmine Sadoudi from Merchant McIntyre & Associates and Grant Writer, Kerry Fitzgerald, to provide an update on the various state and federal grants they are currently working on for the City 12-y

Clay Boothby from Merchant McIntyre and Associates addressed the council, highlighting the firm's 3.5-year partnership with the city to align local priorities with federal funding opportunities. He reported a strong 6:1 return on investment, with federal funds supporting key projects such as upgrades to Winnekenni Park, Safe Streets for All initiatives and trail improvements. We are still hunting for dollars for the Locke Street separation, downtown redevelopment with \$1 million in pending funding. We also have pending Route 125 for safety improvements and



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also the RAISE grant. He emphasized the importance of using strategic language in grant applications to stay competitive amid shifting federal priorities.

Councilor Michitson asked if the city has started planning for the new fire station in terms of money we are going to get. The Mayor noted we are still waiting for the federal government to release the site.

Councilor Rogers asked about the Locke Street separation, if we already have started a loan process will they still give money after that. Clay Boothby stated they will. That project is so large and there are different phases of it. Councilor Lewandowski talked about the community meetings for the RAISE grant and also if there was money for rebuilding animal shelters. She asked if there would be more of those meetings that were held previously for the RAISE grant. The Mayor noted we have done that component with the meetings. We will apply again in November. Clay Boothby stated as far as the animal shelter is concerned, there is none on the federal side. Councilor Ferreira asked how the Mayor's Office handles all the grant opportunities. Mayor stated we try to have everybody go through Kerry.

Kerry Fitzgerlad addressed the council. She noted that since December 2023 she submitted 43 grant applications and of that 24 she has heard back from. The approved proposals have brought 5.5 million in funding for Haverhill. She noted to date for every \$1 the city has spent on grant development; it has received \$43.30 in awarded funding. Councilor LePage asked if she has any involvement in the schools. Kerry stated no she does not.

**5.6. Mayor Barrett submits an Order for a home rule petition to increase the Civil Service age to 40 years old for qualified firefighters and police officers**

**5.6.1. Order – Home Rule Petition to authorize the Mayor of the City of Haverhill to submit special legislation to establish the maximum age requirement for original appointment to the position of firefighter or police officer**

85-a

Mayor Barrett informed the council that both the police and fire chiefs support adjusting the age requirement to expand the applicant pool, while maintaining all existing physical, mental, and professional standards. Chief Pistone noted a significant decline in the number of applicants over the years, and Chief O'Brien agreed, adding that the fire department loses many qualified candidates. Councilor McGonagle clarified that no other standards would change apart from the age requirement.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**5.7. Mayor Barrett submits two orders relative to the Haverhill Landfill requesting authorization to execute two agreements between the City of Haverhill and Amrize Northeast Inc.**

**5.7.1. Order – Relating to Authorization for the City to accept an easement from Amrize Northeast Inc., on behalf of the city 23-j**

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She noted they closed out the southern mound and are now obligated to cap the northern mound. Unlike the southern mound, the northern mound will be capped flat and can be used for soccer, lacrosse and field hockey fields.

Robert Ward, DPW Director, presented easement agreements. This easement agreement will allow the city to construct and maintain an access drive and also includes access to the northern mound of the former landfill for



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recreational purposes, as well as stormwater management easement on the southern mound. He detailed the terms of the easement.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

- 5.7.2. Order – Relating to Authorization to enter into a contract or contracts in excess of three years - for services related to the capping, closure, and ongoing maintenance of the City of Haverhill Municipal Landfill

23-K

*Related communication from Robert E. Ward, DPW Director*

Robert Ward, DPW Director, addressed the council. The Amended and Restated Cost Sharing Agreement updates prior agreements between the City and Amrize related to the closure and long-term maintenance of a jointly owned landfill, originally established under a 1999 DEP consent order. He detailed the agreement about responsibilities between the city and Amrize.

Councilor LePage asked if the city is sharing a pilot fee at least 20 years? Robert Ward stated yes, 20 years. They pay a pilot fee to the city for the solar fields. They also pay a lease fee to the city and Amrize. Councilor Michitson asked if the city received what they wanted in negotiations, Robert Ward confirmed he believes they did.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

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

- 6.1. Councilor Toohey requests to introduce Anthony Morales who is requesting a Home Rule Age Waiver petition for the position of Police Officer in the City of Haverhill

13-W

- 6.1.1. Home Rule Petition – Authorizing Anthony Morales to take the Civil Service Exam for the position of Police Officer in the City of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement

13-WW

Anthony Morales addressed the council. He stated he is seeking an age waiver petition to become a fire fighter.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY, SECOND BY COUNCILOR BASILIERE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- REQUESTS UNDER COUNCIL RULE 28**

**8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:**

- 8.1. Kaitlin M Wright, City Clerk, requests approval to designate the City Clerk's Office (Room 118) as the Early Voting location for the



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preliminary municipal election only; and announces the Early Voting schedule and other pertinent preliminary election information 20-S

City Clerk Kaitlin Wright addressed the council. She stated she is requesting to temporarily move early voting for the September 9<sup>th</sup> preliminary election to Room 118. She noted that staff will serve as election workers, and the basement location will be used in November.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

City Clerk Kaitlin Wright noted early voting for the preliminary election will take place in the City Clerk's Office from September 2<sup>nd</sup> – September 5<sup>th</sup> 8AM-4PM. Voters unable to vote in person may request a vote by mail ballot by 5PM on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The deadline to register to vote is Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 5PM. Election Day voting for wards 4 and 6 is on September 9<sup>th</sup> 7AM-8PM at the six polling locations.

**8.2. EROM 25-11; John H Pettis, City Engineer, submits a request to open the following street:** 59-I

**8.2.1. Order permission to excavate at 102 South Prospect st to install 2-wire test stations on gas main** 59-II

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**8.3. EROM 25-12; John H Pettis, City Engineer, submits a request to open the following street:** 59-J

**8.3.1. Order permission to excavate at 203 Lawrence st to repair a grade 2 gas leak** 59-JJ

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**8.4. EROM 25-13; John H Pettis, City Engineer, submits a request to open the following street:** 59-K

**8.4.1. Order permission to excavate at 10 Pleasant View Ave for the installation of a sewer main extension to service a new home** 59-KK

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

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

**10. HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:**



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- 10.1. Document 87; CCSC 25-1; Ryan Walsh requests to keep 2 storage containers for longer than 6 months on his property at 558 Amesbury rd

*Continued from July 22, 2025 meeting*

**President Sullivan opened the hearing.**

Ryan Walsh requested to keep his containers indefinitely on the current side of his property, citing easier access and elevation above the flood zone. President Sullivan confirmed the request and noted the formal process, despite low audience attendance.

**President Sullivan asked if anyone would like to speak in favor. No one spoke.**

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

**President Sullivan closed the hearing.**

**MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE FOR PASSAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE**

Councilor Lewandowski asked Ryan Walsh to confirm that he intended to keep the container on-site for 12 months, as stated in his application. Walsh explained they are making home improvements to help sell the house and expect to need the container for about a year. Based on this, Councilor Lewandowski proposed adding a condition to limit the approval to one year before the council votes.

**MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI THAT WILL BE FOR A YEAR ONLY, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE**

Councilor Ferreira raised concerns about the container location due to floodplain issues and suggested, based on Rob Moore's comments, they be moved to the southwest corner. President Sullivan asked if she wanted to motion with that condition.

**Councilor Ferreira stated I will make that motion.**

**Councilor Basiliere stated I second that.**

President Sullivan noted Michelle Buckley had her hand raised but then received no response, then asked the City Clerk to repeat the motions.

City Clerk Wright stated yes, before I do can you repeat the second on the relocation of the containers.

President Sullivan stated Councilor Basiliere.

City Clerk Wright stated so the first that I have is that the storage container is allowed on the property for one year and after one year the applicant would have to reapply that was by Councilor Lewandowski with a second by Councilor LePage.

President Sullivan stated hold on. Ryan, did you have something you wanted to say again.

Ryan Walsh stated I just wanted to respond to the movement of the storage containers.

President Sullivan stated if you'd like to respond go ahead the motions are being made, and we will be voting on this shortly.



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Ryan Walsh asked to respond to the proposed condition of moving the storage containers. He explained that relocating them to the southwest corner would damage his yard, delay his home sale, and be impractical due to lack of access. He offered to move them slightly uphill and lay rocks to address floodplain concerns. Councilor Ferreira asked what was stored inside, expressing concern about potential environmental risks. Walsh clarified the containers hold landscaping materials, motorcycle parts, and pavers—no engines, oil, or hazardous items—and they won't be used for moving the house.

President Sullivan asked do you want to stay with your motion?

Councilor Ferreira trusts the containers are secure and will be removed after the sale but is still uneasy about their current placement.

President Sullivan stated so you want to keep your motion, and we will take a vote on it.

Councilor Ferreira stated I think I would like to keep my motion and understanding that the moving is hard but also understanding you've got plenty of time ahead of you to throw some grass seed down or conservation mix or whatever you need to do in that area that will grow lovely and quickly for that space if this motion passes. I would like to stay with it.

President Sullivan stated Madam Clerk can you please call the roll to approve the two containers with the conditions.

City Clerk Wright stated we will have to vote on the first condition for the one year only time period.

**MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI THAT THIS WILL BE FOR A YEAR ONLY, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE**

City Clerk Wright: Councilor Basiliere-yes, Councilor Hobbs Everett-yes, Councilor Michitson-yes, Councilor Ferreira-yes, Councilor Lewandowski-yes, Councilor Toohey-yes, Councilor McGonagle-yes, Councilor LePage-yes, Councilor Rogers-yes, President Sullivan-yes.

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**President Sullivan stated that passes.**

City Clerk Wright stated the next motion is to relocate the storage containers to the southwest corner of the lot.

**MOTION BY COUNCILOR FERREIRA TO RELOCATE STORAGE CONTAINERS TO THE  
SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE LOT, SECOND COUNCILOR BASILIERE.**

City Clerk Wright: Councilor Basiliere-yes, Councilor Hobbs Everett-yes, Councilor Michitson-no, Councilor Ferreira-yes, Councilor Lewandowski-yes, Councilor Toohey-yes, Councilor McGonagle-yes, Councilor LePage-no, Councilor Rogers-no, President Sullivan-no.

YEAS 6, NAYS 4, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**President Sullivan stated that passes.**

President Sullivan stated now on the item itself with the conditions.

**MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE FOR PASSAGE WITH CONDITIONS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE**

City Clerk Wright: Councilor Basiliere-yes, Councilor Hobbs Everett-yes, Councilor Michitson-yes, Councilor Ferreira-yes, Councilor Lewandowski-yes, Councilor Toohey-yes, Councilor McGonagle-yes, Councilor LePage-yes, Councilor Rogers-yes, President Sullivan-yes.

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**President Sullivan stated that passes.**



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President Sullivan told Ryan he can keep the containers but must move them to the southwest corner. He suggested Ryan check with department heads to see if slight adjustments in placement are possible. If approved, Ryan can request an amendment to the location.

10.2. Document 5; William Pillsbury, Economic Development and Planning Director, requests Zoning Amendment – Battery Energy Storage Systems *continued from June 3, 2025*

10.2.1. Document 5-B; Ordinance re: Zoning – Add a new section 7.9 Battery Energy Storage Systems *filed Jan 9, 2025*  
*Related communication from City Solicitor Lisa Mead to continue the hearing until September 30, 2025*

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED TO CONTINUE TO 9/30/25 YEAS 9, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN), ABSTENTION 1 (ROGERS)

## 11.APPOINTMENTS:

11.1. Confirming Appointments

11.2. Non-Confirming Appointments:

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*

12.2.1. Document 26-W; EVNT 25-21; Anthony Pepe for *Food Truck Festivals of America, LLC*; requesting to hold a food truck and craft beverage Festival, October 25<sup>th</sup> at *Kimball Farm*, 791 East Broadway from 11 am to 6 pm *continued from July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

President Sullivan stated we have been postponing this for weeks hoping there would be resolution down at the farm with various issues that appear to be violations, whether it is wetlands or other matters on the farm right now. There is investigations going on at various levels into the owner of the farm to try to figure out what is going on there and what can be done to remedy the issues that are there. The applicant for this particular event which would be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> has been very patient and waiting for us to make a decision and through no fault of his own we have had to postpone taking up this matter so I would advise that we do take this matter up tonight and we take a vote on this so we can give the applicant of that event a final decision in the event that he either can or cannot use that location. Does anyone else want to speak on this matter this evening?

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR FERREIRA

FAILED EVENT PERMIT - DENIED

YEAS 1, NAYS 9, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)





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12.3. **Auctioneer License:**

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

12.4.1. TAGD-25-16; *HHS Boy's Crew Team*, September 19<sup>th</sup>,  
20<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> 8-P

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

12.4.2. TAGD-25-17; *HHS Wrestling Team*,  
October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 8-Q

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

12.5. **One Day Liquor License –with HPD approval** *has License  
Commission approval, pending event application 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**



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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: 10-F

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Account</u>
SFE Energy	\$56.72	Fire Dept.
MTWFA	\$25.00	Highway Dept.
Comcast Business	\$7,871.34	Information Technology
Benevento	\$628.85	Highway Dept.
Toshiba	\$52.00	Planning
LSE Fund	\$2,200.81	Fire Dept.
State Affairs	\$390.00	Mayor's Office
Dennis K. Burke	\$6,186.91	Various Depts
Dennis K. Burke	\$2,151.15	Various Depts

Total: \$19,562.78

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**14.ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS):**

- 14.1. 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

File 10 days 93

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEPAGE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**15.COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILORS:**

- 15.1. Councilor Michitson wishes to announce that Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School is receiving \$931,000 in a state



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grant to support training programs for 100 students preparing for  
careers in high-demand trades 33-0

Councilor Michitson noted that Whittier Vo-Tech received a grant to fund a summer program offering hands on vocational training and job placement for students and adults, creating alternative career pathways in high demand trades.

**16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEEDING MEETING:**

16.1. Ordinance relating to vehicles and traffic: Add handicap  
parking at 1 Lincoln st *filed July 24<sup>th</sup>* 11-I

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE  
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN)

**17.RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:**

**18.COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Happy Birthday to Councilor Basiliere

**19.DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE STUDY:**

**20.LONG TERM MATTERS STUDY LIST:**

**ADJOURN:**

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR FERREIRA  
PASSED YEAS 10 NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (JORDAN) **ADJOURNED: 20:36**