

City of Haverhill **City Council Minutes** Tuesday, November 12, 2019 Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, Room 202 **4** Summer Street

Present - President Michitson, Councillors Sullivan, Bevilacqua, Barrett, LePage, Jordan, Macek, Daly O'Brien, and McGonagle. City Clerk - Linda L. Koutoulas

Yeas 9, Nays 0

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting The minutes were approved
- 4. Assignment of the minutes review for the next Meeting Councillor Sullivan was assigned the minutes
- Communications from the Mayor 5.

Communication from Mayor Fiorentini submitting a report dated September 24, 2019, from Fire Chief William F. Laliberty, concerning the work being done at the Water Street Fire Station

CHIEF LALIBERTY INFORMED ABOUT THE CONDITIONS OF THE INTERIOR OF THE WATER STREET STATION DUE TO ROOF LEAKS AND THE IMPACT OF THE LAST STORM ON OCT.16. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR A PLAN TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS AT THIS STATION AND OTHER STATIONS. COUNCILLORS THAT HAD VISITED THE STATION EXPRESSED THEIR SHOCK AND OUTRAGE WITH THE CONDITION OF THE STATION. THE CHIEF INFORMED THAT THERE ARE NO STATE FUNDS OR GRANTS TO ASSIST WITH RENOVATIONS. COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA SUGGESTED LOOKING INTO CDBG FUNDS TO PAY FOR AN ASSESSMENT. TIM CARROLL, UNION PRESIDENT, ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL ABOUT LOW MORALE.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION TO NOV. 19 COUNCIL MEETING WHEN MAYOR IS PRESENT WITH SECOND FROM COUNCILLOR LEPAGE. On motion for passage, the yeas and nays were as follows:

Yeas – Councillors Bevilacqua and LePage

Nays - Councillor Sullivan, Barrett, Jordan, Macek, Daly O'Brien, McGonagle and President Michitson 7

NOT PASSED

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR MACEK TO SCHEDULE MAYOR/COUNCIL CONFERENCE ON NOV. 20 OR 21 WITH SECOND FROM COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN TO DISCUSS WATER STREET FIRE STATION Yeas 9, Nays 0 200

6. Communications and Reports from City Officers and Employees:

Communication from Christine M. Webb, City Tax Assessor announcing that the Tax Classification Hearing for Fiscal Year 2020 will be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 in the Haverhill City Council Chambers at 7:00 P.M Yeas 9, Nays 0 114

HEARING SCHEDULED FOR NOV. 19, 2019

- 7. Utility Hearing(s) and Related Order(s)
- 8. Hearings and Related Orders
- 9. Public Participation- Requests under Council Rule 28
- **10.** Appointments:

Confirming Appointments Non-Confirming Appointments:

11. Petitions:

Petition from Chief Edward Mitchell, Executive Director of the Veterans Northeast Outreach Center requesting that the petition filed by the Veterans Center for modification of property at 10 Reed st to allow for congregate living of 10 homeless veterans and scheduled for a hearing on November 19, 2019 be withdrawn at this time

ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN TO WITHDRAW REQUEST FOR HEARING (Doc. 109) Yeas 9, Nays 0 109B **REQUEST TO WITHDRAW GRANTED**

Applications Handicap Parking Sign:		
John Ohannesian for 7 South Summer st – rer	newal	
RENEWAL GRANTED	Yeas 9, Nays 0	16Z
Keith Joyce for 103 Summer st – new		
REFERRED TO PLANNING	Yeas 9, Nays 0	115
Amusement/Event Applications:		
Analization from Daniel Planneds, Sr. Chainne	n fan Canta Danada Cammittaa annaan	

Application from Daniel Plourde, Sr. Chairman for Santa Parade Committee announcing annual VFW Santa Parade to be held Sunday, November 24th, at 1:00 pm with location to be Rte. 125 Bradford to Basiliere Bridge, left onto Merrimack st to the Boys/Girls Club on Emerson st; also requests all fees be waived; Approvals with comments are included from various City Departments **GRANTED & ALL FEES WAIVED** Yeas 9, Nays 0 116

Hawker Peddlers License 2019 Paul Abare to sell Christmas tre			03 River st; November	22nd
thru December 24th; Sunday – Saturday GRANTED	; 8:00 am to 10:00 pm	Yeas 9, Nays 0		56H
Milton Russell to sell Christmas		erhill Elks, 24 Su		Brd
thru December 24th; Monday – Friday; GRANTED	12 noon to 8:00 pm and	Saturday & Sund Yeas 9, Nays 0	day; 10:00 am to 6:00 p	om 56I
12. Motions and Orders: ORDERED: That the sum of \$221,500 department – Police Salaries in order to PASSED		-	-	
ORDERED: That in accordance with C the previous years and to further authori listed below:				
Vendor	<u>Amount</u>		Account	
Taylor Rental	\$ 140.00		Citizen Center	
Shoe City Hardware Georgetown Building Supply	\$ 29.29 \$1,107.24		Highway/Brightside Wastewater	
Brox Industries (2)	\$ 588.75		Wastewater	
PASSED		Yeas 9, Nays 0		32E
ORDERED: That the sum of \$1,106,15 from the final state aid "Cherry Sheet"	0 be appropriate to Edu	cation Expenses.	To reflect the new incr	ease
PASSED		Yeas 9, Nays 0		117
ORDERED: To see if the city/town wil recommendation of the Mayor a lease p Veterans' Memorial Skating Rink Depa the City and that the payments are to co (see document for complete text) PASSED	urchasing agreement for rtment shall be authoriz	cone Zamboni 55 ed to enter into su	2C Ice Resurfacer – that ich agreement on behal	at
	1 and be also seen to a Course		44 Section 21C	(1
ORDERED: To see if the city/town will authorize, under General Laws Chapter 44, Section 21C, upon the recommendation of the Mayor, a lease purchase financing agreement for the acquisition of Six (6) new SPED Vans and the School Dept is authorized to enter into such agreement on behalf of the City and that the payments are to come from the existing School Department Expense Budget (see document for complete text) <i>Related communication from Mayor also submitting proposed lease</i>				
PASSED		Yeas 9, Nays 0		21E
13. Ordinances (File 10 days) MUNICIPAL ORI An Ordinance Rel	DINANCE ating Vehicles and Traff	CHAPTER 240)	
Be it Ordained by the City Council of the 240, as amended, be further amended by and Prohibitions:	ne City of Haverhill that	the Code of the C	•	
Mill Street Along the north and east sides of the Vietnam Veterans' Park at 111Mill Street	Time limited 30 min	24 hrs		
Mill Street	No Parking	24 hrs		
Along the west side of the Vietnam Veterans' Park at 111 Mill Street PLACED ON FILE for at least 10 days		Yeas 9, Nays 0		28B
- -		, ,		
14. Monthly Report Abatement report from Christine WPLACED ON FILE	ebb, Assessor for month	n of October 2019 Yeas 9, Nays 0)	19K
15. Resolutions and Proclamations				
16. Communications from Councillors:				

Communication was received from Council President Michitson, and Councillors Barrett and McGonagle requesting to introduce Mt. Washington neighborhood citizens' request to organize a task force of City-wide stakeholders to curb the continued gun violence in the community MS. ALLISON HEARTQUIST, CHIEF OF STAFF, INFORMED THAT THE MAYOR'S PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCED A DEC 5TH MEETING AT 458 WASHINGTON ST (SOMEBODY CARES NEW ENGLAND) AT 6:30PM. MS. JOANNA DIX ASKED FOR A LONG-TERM STRATEGY TO ADDRESS POVERTY AND HEALTH CRISIS. DEPUTY CHIEF HAUGH SPOKE ABOUT OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH UTEC, GANG TASK FORCE, STATE, COUNTY AND LOCAL AGENCIES TO ADDRESS GANG ISSUES. THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM ACT RAISED THE JUVENILE AGE

FROM 18 TO 21 WHICH HAS UNINTENED CONSEQUENCES. GREG CROTEAU, UTEC, GAVE AN UPDATE OF THEIR WORK WITH HIGH RISK YOUTH AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT. DEPUTY CHIEF WAS ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFFING. HE INFORMED THAT THEY ARE BUDGETED FOR 109 AND THEY ARE DOWN TO 87. IT IS A CONSTANT EFFORT TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN OFFICERS. THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM POSES A PROBLEM. THE EXAM IS HELD EVERY 2 YEARS IN MARCH AND RESULTS ARE RELEASED IN OCTOBER. ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR BEVILACQUA TO SEND LETTER TO LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION ASKING THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM SYSTEM BE REVIEWED TO SEE IF EXAM COULD BE ADMINISTERED ANNUALLY OR SEMI-ANNUALLY Yeas 9, Nays 0 112I Communication was received from Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requesting to recognize Lt. Lance Powell who was presented with a Lifesaving Award from Mass. Police Association LT. POWELL INFORMED ABOUT A SITUATION IN AUG 2018 WHEN HE WAS WORKING AN EVENING POLICE DETAIL. HE ADMINISTERED CPR TO A PERSON, SAVING HIS LIFE CITATION PRESENTED PLACED ON FILE Yeas 9, Nays 0 112K Communication was received from Councillor Timothy Jordan requesting to introduce Ron Mills to discuss Common Ground MR. RON MILLS, DIRECTOR-COMMON GROUND, INFORMED THAT THEY ARE IN TRANSITION AND HAVE BEEN OPERATING OUT OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH. THEIR NEW LOCATION WILL BE AT 194 WINTER ST. THEY HAVE BEEN IN THE CITY FOR 8 YEARS. THEY PROVIDE EMERGENCY NEEDS FOR LOW INCOME INDIVIDUALS WITH FOOD, MEALS AND CLOTHING. HE GAVE STATISTICS FOR FOOD DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEER HOURS. MR. MILLS DESCRIBED THE PROGRAMS THAT THEY RUN AND PLANNED PROGRAMS AT THEIR NEW LOCATION AND THE PROBLEMS WITH GETTING THE NECESSARY PERMITS. COUNCIL SUGGESTED HE WORK WITH ALLISON HEARTQUIST AND RICHARD MACDONALD. PLACED ON FILE Yeas 9, Nays 0 112L Communication was received from Councillor Joseph Bevilacqua requesting a discussion regarding Boxford rd speeding **REFERRED TO TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE** Yeas 9, Nays 0 112M Communication was received from Councillor Thomas Sullivan requesting a portion of Winnekenni Park be designated officially as "Meditation Meadow" COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN INFORMED THAT THIS IS THE AREA WHERE THE PEACE MONUMENT WAS DEDICATED LAST YEAR ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN TO ALLOW THE OFFICIAL DEDICATION OF THIS AREA WITH A SIGN "MEDITATION MEADOW" BE ERECTED Yeas 9, Nays 0 112N Communication was received from Councillor LePage requesting to introduce Nicholas Golden to discuss the senior citizen property tax exemption in Haverhill MR. NICHOLAS GOLDEN INFORMED ABOUT THE RESEARCH HE HAD DONE REGARDING THE ELDERLY CLAUSE 41C EXEMPTION. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE CITY ALTER 41C EXEMPTION FROM \$500 TO \$1,000 AND CHANGE ELIGIBILITY AGE FROM 70 TO 65. THERE ARE INCOME CRITERIA FOR THIS EXEMPTION ON MOTION OF COUNCILLOR LEPAGE TO SEND EMAIL TO ASSESSOR INQUIRING ABOUT DIFFERENT SCENARIOS FOR REVIEW AT THE UPCOMING TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING Yeas 9, Nays 0 1120 17. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting **18.** Council Committee Reports and Announcements Councillor McGonagle announced the Public Safety Committee meeting scheduled for Nov. 13 at 7:00 pm in the Council office to discuss group homes. Councillor Barrett announced the Citizen Outreach Committee meeting scheduled for Nov. 14 at 7:00 pm in the Council office to discuss winter parking ordinance and broadband. Meeting adjourned 9:32 o'clock P.M. Yeas 9, Nays 0

> Attest: *Linda Koutoulas* City Clerk

*Doc. 112-L – Handout from Ron Mills – Common Ground Newsletter