



CITY OF HAVERHILL

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 PM

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

In-Person/Remote Meeting

Present – President Sullivan, Councilors Hobbs Everett, Michitson, Ferreira, Jordan, Lewandowski, Toohey, LePage, and Rogers

Absent – Councilors Basiliere and McGonagle

City Clerk – Kaitlin M. Wright

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Michitson offered kind words and a moment of silence for Michael Woelfel who passed away on May 1, 2024.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

Motion by Councilor Michitson to approve April 30th, second Councilor Jordan

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0, Absent 1

4. ASSIGNMENT OF THE MINUTES REVIEW FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Councilor Hobbs Everett assigned the minutes.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

5.1. Mayor Barrett submits amended *Chapter 70 Officers and Employees, Article XI*

Constables of the City of Haverhill of the City of Haverhill and recommends approval

File 10 days

Motion by Councilor Jordan, second Councilor Toohey

PASSED placed on file

All in Favor

2-O

5.2. Mayor Barrett wishes to introduce Public Works Director Robert Ward to give an update

on the infrastructure and repaving of Primrose St

2-P

Mayor Barrett appeared before the Council to give an update on Primrose Street.

Robert Ward, DPW Director, appeared before the Council. The construction on Primrose Street includes a larger water and sewer main and drain, it is also part of the CSO separation project (over 10 years). It also includes the work done by National Grid on gas lines which originally pushed out the paving a year. Paving started today with milling. Complete reconstruction of road and sidewalks from Lancaster Street to 9th Avenue. Then Lancaster to Winter Street was temporarily paved last fall and will be repaved in 3-4 years after CSO project.

Councilor Ferreira asked about tree cuts/wells, crosswalk repainting and is there a way to sign up for updates by phone or text.

Robert Ward stated they will leave tree wells and the city has a tree grant that will plant trees, the crosswalks will be repainted and Everbright is the robocall system you can sign up for.



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Councilor Jordan asked when the project will be done and if National Grid covers costs when they dig up the street.

Robert Ward stated the project should be done in mid-September and they try and work with National Grid at the same time, but they send a check for the value of work done would have cost if they are working separately.

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

6.1. Councilors Michitson and LePage wish to introduce City Finance Director, Angel Perkins, for status on the FY2025 City Budget. *Related communication from City Auditor, Angel Perkins* 31-H

Councilor Michitson stated Angel has been leading the Mayor's initiative to better factor in long term planning into our budget as well as weekly decision making. We have challenges over the next 5-10 years and taking the long-term approach is the way to address these issues.

Angel Perkins, City Auditor and CFO, appeared before the Council to share the progress made so far in the FY25 Budget process. The Mayor's initiative from the beginning was to have a more collaborative and more transparent budget process. Hoping this budget process is going to be smooth, have already sent out the balanced budget, full budget books should be ready by May 17th with hearings the following week and then Council final vote for adoption for June 4th. A PowerPoint presentation outlining the FY25 City Budget was given.

Councilor comments included concern of depleting the reserve, question on ARPA earmarks deadline, encouraging budget, no longer deferring maintenance to schools and buildings, refreshing concept of collaboration and transparency.

President Sullivan asked if a summary could be given of ARPA earmarks, etc. during budget hearings.

6.2. Council President Sullivan wishes to introduce John Carnes, who would like to discuss the completion of sidewalks and safety upgrades on Broadway from Silver Birch Lane to Methuen 31-I

John Carnes, 1002 Broadway, appeared before the Council urging for installation of sidewalks on Broadway from Silver Birch to the Methuen line.

Robert Ward, DPW Director, rough estimate for sidewalks from Silver Birch to Methuen line would be \$1.1 million for one side of the road. Funding options would be a betterment assessment which would be a 50/50 shared cost between the residents and the city. ARPA money was used for the lower section of Broadway, which was within the QTC area, the prime



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area for spending of ARPA money. The QTC area is downtown, does not include Bradford, is on the north side of river stopping around Mill Street and goes up top of hill on Broadway around Lowell Ave, then northerly through the Avenues but not all the way through. MassDOT will be paving Broadway from Silver Birch to the Methuen line starting in a few weeks. They said no to sidewalks.

President Sullivan asked if Mayor Barrett could make it a priority to find funding for sidewalks for this area.

7. **HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:**

- 7.1. Document 44, CCSP 24-4, Special Permit request for Flexible Development from Attorney Migliori for applicant JR Builders Inc to develop 50 acres of land at 0 Broadway off Emma Rose cir to create 26 residential single-family homes on 20 acres of land and provide dedicated open space on land remaining, about 30 acres, deeded to the City of Haverhill

Comments are included from City Departments, see attached communications from Economic Development and Planning Director, William Pillsbury, Jr. and Community Development Director, Andrew Herlihy, traffic study from applicant available to view on OpenGov portal or in City Clerk's office

Clerk Wright announced in receipt of communication from Attorney Migliori to continue to June 4, 2024.

Motion by Councilor Toohey to continue, second Councilor Michitson

PASSED to be continued to June 4th Yeas 9, Nays 0, Absent 2

8. **APPOINTMENTS:**

8.1. Non-Confirming

- 8.1.1. *Harbor Commission: Francis Pelosi, 33 Hyatt ave expires 4/30/2026*

Motion by Councilor Jordan , second Councilor Toohey

PASSED

All in Favor

5-N

9. **PETITIONS:**

- 9.1.1. EVNT-24-7, Michael Rossi for the Greater Haverhill Arts Association for the Annual Greater Haverhill Arts Association Arts Festival (Outdoor Exhibit and Sale of Art) on September 7th at the Bradford Common at 10 Church st from 9 am to 3 pm

Motion by Councilor Jordan, second Councilor Lewandowski

PASSED

All in Favor

42-F



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9.1.2. EVNT-24-13, Dustin MacIver for the Haverhill Garden Club for the Haverhill Garden Club's annual plant sale on May 18th at Bradford Common at 10 Church st from 6 am to 12 pm

Motion by Councilor Michitson, second Councilor Rogers

PASSED

All in Favor

42-G

10. MOTIONS AND ORDERS:

10.1. Order – authorize payment of bills from the previous fiscal years and to further authorize the payment from current year departmental appropriations as listed:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Account</u>
Waystone Health and Human Services	\$309.38	Mayor's Office
Ecofin	\$1,627.92	Public Property
Ecofin	\$2,332.15	Public Property
Ecofin	\$1,629.62	Public Property

Motion by Councilor Jordan, second Councilor LePage

PASSED

Yeas 8, Nays 0, Absent 2, Abstain 1 (Hobbs Everett)

23-C

10.2. Order – transfer \$380,000 to Sewer Rehab and Repair Expenditures Account from the following accounts: Principal Long-Term debt (\$200,000), Interest on Long Term Debt (\$100,000), Mass Abatement TR Admin Fee (\$40,000), and Wastewater Vehicles and Equipment (\$40,000) to be used to clean up the Upper Siphon and part of the Bradford Interceptor

Motion by Councilor Michitson, second Councilor Jordan

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0, Absent 2

27-B

10.3. Order – transfer \$175,000 from Principal on Long Term Debt Account to the following accounts: Legal Fees and Consulting (\$100,000), Water Admin-Vehicle Expense (\$45,000), and Meter Expense and Supplies (\$30,000) to pay for unforeseen costs related to engineering services, land purchases, fuel and repairs for vehicles and equipment, and replacing water meters and meter interface units (MIU) for remote meter reading

Motion by Councilor Jordan, second Councilor Rogers

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0, Absent 2

27-C



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11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS:

11.1. Councilor Michitson wishes to address urgent trends in equity impacting training and job needs in Haverhill

Councilor Michitson has information still being gathered and would like to place on file.

Motion by Councilor Michitson to place on file, second Councilor Jordan

PASSED Placed on file

All in Favor

31-J

11.2. Councilor LePage recommends approval of the *Ordinance Re: Officers and Employees – Article IV City Solicitor* with the recommended changes as discussed at the April 22, 2024 Administration and Finance Meeting and the April 30, 2024 City Council meeting

Councilor LePage stated this is a continuation from last meeting where we were not able to get all paperwork corrected in time. Section 70-39 added after “Mayor” “or City Council”.

Additionally, in section 70-44 second sentence says “Mayor or City Council” and last sentence says “Mayor or City Council” which is what was discussed at the A&F meeting.

Motion by Councilor LePage to order and approve Ordinance as amended, second Councilor Rogers

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0, Absent 2

12-N

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEEDING MEETING:

12.1. Document 11-C: Ordinance re: Vehicles and Traffic – Delete handicap parking for 83 Blossom st, 30 Lancaster st, and 42 Allen st and add handicap parking at 12 Jackson st
filed April 23, 2024

Motion by Councilor Jordan, second Councilor Toohey

PASSED

Yeas 9, Nays 0, Absent 2

13. ADJOURN :

Motion by Councilor Jordan, second Councilor Lewandowski

PASSED

All in Favor

Adjourned 19:57