



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Tuesday, July 8, 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, Hobbs Everett, Jordan, Michitson, Toohey, Rogers, McGonagle and Lewandowski

Remote: None

Absent: None

City Clerk: Kaitlin M. Wright

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

COUNCILOR BASILIERE STATED HE REVIEWED THE MINUTES AND FINDS THEM IN ORDER.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR BASILIERE TO PLACE ON FILE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE

PASSED

YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

4. ASSIGNMENT OF THE MINUTES REVIEW FOR THE NEXT MEETING

PRESIDENT SULLIVAN ASSIGNED THE MINUTES TO COUNCILOR HOBBS EVERETT

12.4.1 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 25th at *Kimball Farm*, 791 East Broadway from 11 am to 6 pm *continued from June 24, 2025*

President Sullivan stated I have been advised by our Inspectional Services Department as well as our Legal Department that the investigation into issues surrounding the farm are still ongoing and there are no final results yet. I have been asked if someone would offer a postponement of this item until August 5th.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED TO POSTPONE UNTIL AUGUST 5TH

YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

5.1. Mayor Barrett submits an Order for City Council to accept a \$150.00 gift as follows: 35-N

5.1.1. Order – that City Council on behalf of the City votes to accept a gift of \$150.00 for the Ice Cream Social at the *Citizens Center* from Wingate Residences at Haverhill, to be used by the *Council on Aging Department* 35-NN

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

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS

PASSED

YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0



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5.2. Mayor Barrett submits for approval an Order to Declare Certain Real Property available for Disposition pertaining to the room in City Hall currently occupied by the HTM Credit Union 84

5.2.1. Order – declare certain real property available for disposition, known as 4 Summer st, Haverhill City Hall, Room 3 84-B

Mayor Barrett addressed the council. She stated HTM Credit Union has rented the space for many years. We recently had it appraised and will begin negotiations with them.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

5.3. Mayor Barrett and Councillor Basiliere request to discuss the completion of the upgrades to the *Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Millbrook Place* 12-P

Mayor Barrett and Councilor Basiliere thanked the committee and Representative Andy Vargas for supporting the upgrades to Millbrook Place highlighting the improved memorial, expanded gardens and ongoing care.

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

6.1. Council Vice President Jordan Requests to introduce Katie Cook and Nomsa Ncube from the *Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce* to talk about their upcoming golf tournament being held on September 8th at the *Bradford Country Club* 13-S

Katie Cook and Nomsa Ncube addressed the council. Katie noted that the Chamber will be holding a golf tournament on September 8th and a volunteer fair on September 16th from 4-7PM at Riverside Church. Non-profits can host a table, and residents are invited to learn about volunteer opportunities in the city. She also noted that a citywide events calendar launches soon and hopes the city will support by maybe adding how to add information to the calendar in the event permit applications. You can find more information at HaverhillChamber.com or email Katie@haverhillchamber.com.



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- 6.2. Councillor Basiliere and Ferreira request to introduce Matt Webel to share information about the *Book Buddies* program 13-T

Matt Webel addressed the council. He stated Book Buddies launched in 2021 to support 3rd grade literacy during the pandemic by pairing students with community members who send developmentally appropriate books and handwritten letters three times a year. The program has grown year after year. It fosters a love of reading and encourages letter writing and connects kids with caring adults.

Councilors Ferreira, Jordan and Michitson praised the program and noted they would love to get involved or are already involved.

- 6.3. Councillor Lewandowski requests to introduce Nick Santos who is requesting a Home Rule Age Waiver petition for the position of Police Officer in the City of Haverhill 13-U

- 6.3.1. Home Rule Petition – Authorizing Nick Santos to take the Civil Service Exam for the position of Police Officer in the City of Haverhill notwithstanding the maximum age requirement 85

Nick Santos addressed the council stating he is seeking an age waiver requirement to take the Police Officer exam.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- REQUESTS UNDER COUNCIL RULE 28

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

- 8.1. EROM 25-4; City Engineer, John Pettis requests approval to open the roadway at 29 Washington st, to install a 4" Fire Service and a 2" Water Service 59-C

- 8.1.1. Order- approve request to excavate at 29 Washington st 59-CC

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

- 8.2. EROM 25-7; City Engineer, John Pettis requests approval to open the roadway at 235 Essex st, to repair a grade 1 gas leak 59-D

- 8.2.1. Order- approve request to excavate at 235 Essex st 59-DD

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0



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- 8.3. EROM 25-6; City Engineer, John Pettis requests approval to open
151 Brook st to repair a grade 2 gas leak 59-E
8.3.1. Order - approve request to excavate at 151 Brook st 59-EE

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

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

- 9.1. Document 44-B; Petition from National Grid & Verizon for joint
pole location at Vine and Winter st
9.1.1. Document 44 -BB; Order-grant approval for joint pole
location at Vine and Winter st

President Sullivan opened the hearing.

David Boucher, 1101 Turnpike Street, North Andover addressed the council. He stated I am here tonight to petition you for one new pole as shown on the diagram that we provided on Vine Street (pole 1-50). 8 Vine Street is a brand new building with 6 units. It is located at 8 Vine Street where it meets 101 Winter Street.

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, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT TOOHEY
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

10. HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:

- 10.1. Document 5; William Pillsbury, Economic Development and
Planning Director, requests Zoning Amendment – Battery Energy
Storage Systems *continued from June 3, 2025*
10.1.1. Document 5-B; Ordinance re: Zoning – Add a new
section 7.9 Battery Energy Storage Systems *filed Jan 9, 2025*
Communication to continue the Hearing until August 5, 2025

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE
PASSED TO CONTINUE TO AUGUST 5TH YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0, 1 ABSTENTION (ROGERS)



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- 10.2. Document 74; Zoning Hearing request from Christine Kwitchoff for the Citizens to Keep Amesbury rd a Residential Neighborhood, requesting to reassign the zoning of the following 3 contiguous parcels of land/properties from their current zoning of Commercial Highway to **Residential Medium**:
230 Amesbury rd, Parcel #465-4-1
240 Amesbury rd, Parcel 465-4-4
250 Amesbury rd, Parcel 465-4-3

William Pillsbury, Economic Development Planner and Director concurs with actions of the Planning Board and recommends approval of the rezoning amendment as presented

President Sullivan opened the hearing.

Christine Kwitchoff, 14 Colby's Lane addressed the council. She noted she submitted a petition with 170 signatures of residents of Haverhill (67 residents of Haverhill Benchmark Senior Living) in favor of rezoning 230, 240, 250 Amesbury Road to RM. She emphasized the area's existing residential character. She considers this a logical step in supporting housing in the community.

President Sullivan asked if there was anyone who would like to be the spokesperson for the opposition. Is there anyone who is opposed to this who would like to speak?

Prescott White, current owner of 230 Amesbury Road. He strongly urges the council to vote against the proposed rezoning. He emphasized the property has been abandoned since the water service ended in 2011 and is no longer viable for residential use under city code due to 13 years of vacancy. Located less than a quarter mile from I-495 the parcel offers ideal accessibility for commercial development. He noted a local business owner Brian Corso who is struggling to find suitable space for his expanding company. Rezoning the land to residential would have a minimal impact on the housing shortage. He stated the planning director has stated opposition to multifamily at this location. He urges the council to support the city's economic growth.

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

Those who spoke in favor were Linda Sanchez, 240 Amesbury Road, Mary Girard, 254 Amesbury Road, Scott Kachakian, 205 Amesbury Road (submitted pictures to the clerk of the wildlife in the area). They all want to keep the neighborhood character the way it is now.

President Sullivan asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition.

Brian Corso, 203 Center Street, Groveland, MA (business address Hale Street). He raised issues that he is actively trying to expand his company. He noted they have outgrown the property. He read his email that he submitted to the council.



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President Sullivan closed the hearing.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE FOR PASSAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

Councilors Basiliere, Lewandowski, McGonagle, Rogers, Michitson, Jordan, Toohey, Sullivan all shared their perspectives on the rezoning and expressed a consensus that having a commercial building on that site would severely change the character of the neighborhood. They felt the owner after filing the ANR plan had a commercial freeze on the property for 3 years. If the owner wanted to put something commercial on that lot, he has 3 years to do so. It was noted that the city supports economic development but does not consider this area suitable for commercial use.

William Pillsbury, Planning Director, answered councilors' questions.

Councilor Toohey asked what starts the 3-year clock on the commercial zoning from the ANR filing? William Pillsbury, Planning Director, stated it starts tonight (3 years from today).

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE FOR PASSAGE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

President Sullivan stated Madam Clerk will you please call the roll to accept the zoning change to residential.

Madam Clerk: Vice President Jordan-yes, 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.

11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT

President Sullivan stated that passes.

11.APPOINTMENTS:

- 11.1. **Confirming Appointments**
- 11.2. **Non-Confirming Appointments:**
- 11.3. **Constables**
- 11.4. **Resignations:**

12.PETITIONS:

- 12.1. Petition from National Grid and Verizon NE, #31121049
requesting joint pole location on Broadway Hearing July 22nd 86

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

- 12.2. CCSC 25-1; Ryan Walsh requests Hearing to grant permission
to have 2 storage containers on his property for longer than 6 months at
558 Amesbury rd Hearing July 22nd 87



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- 12.3. **Applications Handicap Parking Sign:** *with Police approval*
- 12.4. **Amusement/Event Application:** *with Police approval*

12.4.1. Document 26-W; EVNT 25-21; moved to beginning of
agenda

- 12.5. **Auctioneer License:**

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

12.6.1. *Haverhill Elite Cheer, July 25, 26, 27* 8-N

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

12.6.2. *Riverside Bradford Cooperstown Team Dirty Birds, July
11,12,13* 8-O

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS
PASSED YEAS 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

- 12.7. **One Day Liquor License –** *with License Commission & HPD
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 for 2024: with Police approval**

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

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

12.8.6.1. JUNK 25-4; Michael Malvers for *Haverhill Steel*
at 114 Hale st 17-F



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- 12.8.7. **Pool/Billiard**
- 12.8.8. **Bowling**
- 12.8.9. **Sunday Bowling**
- 12.8.10. **Buy & Sell Second Hand Articles** *with Police approval*
- 12.8.11. **Buy & Sell Second Hand 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*
- 12.8.15. **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:

- 13.1. Order – Amended Loan Order - \$15,500,000 for Phase 1 Locke Street CSO Separation and Water System Improvements
related communication from Robert E Ward, DPW Director
File 10 days

19-E

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
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13.2 Order – Transfer \$1,486,650.00 from various general fund appropriations to fund FY 2025 operating expenses as listed: 30-F

Transfer to: (Budget Deficits)	
Mayor Salaries	\$ 12,500.00
Assessor Salaries	\$ 6,800.00
Treasurer/Collector Salaries	\$ 33,500.00
Purchasing Salaries	\$ 2,000.00
Purchasing Expenses	\$ 6,000.00
Legal Salaries	\$ 1,000.00
Legal Expenses	\$ 30,000.00
Human Resources Expenses	\$ 1,500.00
MIS Salaries	\$ 12,300.00
Public Health Salaries	\$ 27,800.00
North Shore Tech Assessment	\$ 38,100.00
Public Works Admin Salaries	\$ 750.00
Public Works Parking Salaries	\$ 100.00
Public Works Snow & Ice Salaries	\$ 38,300.00
Public Works Snow & Ice Expenses	\$ 962,000.00
Citizen Center Salaries	\$ 12,000.00
Veterans Services Salaries	\$ 3,600.00
Recreation Salaries	\$ 21,600.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 149,000.00
Sick Leave Bank	\$ 5,800.00
Retiree Medical Claims	\$ 32,000.00
General Liability Insurance	\$ 90,000.00
\$ 1,486,650.00	

Transfer from: (Budget Surplus)	
Mayor Expenses	\$ 79,800.00
Auditor's Office Salaries	\$ 25,000.00
Human Resources Salaries	\$ 15,000.00
MIS Expenses	\$ 160,000.00
Police Salaries	\$ 403,500.00
Public Works Highway Salaries	\$ 200,000.00
Public Works Waste Recycling Expenses	\$ 290,000.00
Public Works Fleet Maint Salaries	\$ 30,000.00
Public Works Park Dept Salaries	\$ 80,000.00
Public Works Street Lighting	\$ 80,000.00
Veterans Benefits	\$ 90,000.00
Public Library Salaries	\$ 30,000.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 3,350.00
\$ 1,486,650.00	

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

Councilor Toohey asked questions about the snow and ice budget and also had questions about the Police salaries and Veterans Benefits. Angel Perkins, City Auditor answered his questions.

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY

PASSED PERKINS; 11, NAYS 0, ABSENT 0

14. ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS):

15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILORS:

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEEDING MEETING:

Mayor Barrett submits Orders for Salaries and Longevity for Administrative/Professional Positions and Non-union Employees for FY 2026:

16.1.1. Document 82; Order-Longevity -
Administrative/Professional Positions and Non-union Employees

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MICHITSON, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN

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20.DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE STUDY

- Thursday night lives start this Thursday at Bradford Common opening act starts at 6:00PM
- President Sullivan reminded everyone that we are on our summer schedule and the next meeting is July 22nd.

21.LONG TERM MATTERS STUDY LIST

22.ADJOURN:

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT JORDAN TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI
PASSED YEAS 11 NAYS 0, ABSENT 0 **ADJOURNED: 20:50**