



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM

**Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting**

Present: President Jordan, Councilors Michitson, Diodati, Sullivan, Ferreira, Lewandowski, Toohey, McGonagle and Rogers

Remote: Councilor Basiliere

Absent: Councilor LePage

City Clerk: Kaitlin M. Wright

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

COUNCILOR FERREIRA STATED SHE REVIEWED THE MINUTES AND FINDS THEM IN ORDER, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

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

PRESIDENT JORDAN ASSIGNED THE MINUTES TO VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

5.1. Mayor Barrett wishes to introduce the new City Engineer, Lisa DeMeo 10

Mayor Barrett introduced Lisa DeMeo, City Engineer. Lisa DeMeo addressed the council. She stated she is excited to be here.

5.2. Mayor Barrett wishes to introduce Police Chief Wayne Tracy and Officer Desiray Caracoglia to discuss the new Police Department comfort dog, Max 1p

Mayor Barrett introduced Officer Caracoglia, Chief Tracy and the new comfort dog Max.

5.3. Mayor Barrett submits an order to accept a gift of \$500.00 dollars for the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon at the Citizen's Center from Haverhill Bank to the Council on Aging Department 4c

5.3.1. Order- That the City Council on behalf of the City votes to accept a gift of five-hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon at the Citizen's Center 1q

Mayor Barrett thanked Haverhill Bank for their generous donation to the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon at the Citizen's Center.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR ROGERS, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

5.4. Mayor Barrett submits the following Ordinances:

5.4.1. Ordinance: amend Chapter 216 – Snow and Ice Removal, to further authorize enforcement 1qq

File 10 Days

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN TO PLACE ON FILE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR ROGERS

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)



CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting

5.4.2. Ordinance: amend Sections 1-16 of Article 1, Chapter 1 – General Provisions to increase the fines for violations of Chapter 216

File 10 Days

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI

PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

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

- 6.1. Councilor Sullivan wishes to introduce Assistant City Clerk Rose Leonard-Flynn and recognize Rose and her crew as the 2025 Nationwide Spirit of Strides Team of the Year for their fundraising efforts on behalf of the American Cancer Society 18g

Mayor Barrett and Councilor Sullivan congratulated Rose on her and her team's accomplishments and presented citations on behalf of the Mayor's Office and City Council Office.

- 6.2. Councilors Lewandowski and Basiliere wish to introduce Meredith Charlesworth and Lisa MacDougall of the Haverhill Exchange Club to speak regarding the upcoming 24th annual Rick Barry St. Patrick's Day Breakfast 18h

Meredith Charlesworth, Lisa MacDougall and Ron Carpentino addressed the council. Meredith stated all are welcome please invite your friends. The breakfast will be held on March 17th at the Haverhill Country Club.

- 6.3. President Jordan and Councilor Lewandowski wish to introduce Matt Belfiore from HC Media to provide an update on a new partnership with Haverhill Bank which will cover the cost of close captioning for Haverhill City Council and School Committee meetings 18i

Matt Belfiore addressed the council. He noted due to the declining funding from Comcast; HC Media has sought alternative revenue to sustain closed caption services. He stated Haverhill Bank agreed to sponsor closed captioning for the year and will be recognized at the start and end of public meetings. City Councilors were grateful for their sponsorship.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- REQUESTS UNDER COUNCIL RULE 28

- 7.1. Rodney Wood wishes to address the City Council regarding the ongoing drought situation and how it has affected his well as he lives on Crystal Lake 2b

Rodney Wood (126 Crystal Lake Road) addressed the council. He noted he has been a resident for 48 years on Crystal Lake Road. He described ongoing issues with his well running low since pumping began 24 years ago. Although he has never had problems before, his well has occasionally gone dry and has worsened over the past three years, forcing him to haul water from family members and other sources. He asked if putting the well on East Broadway would help Crystal Lake and Robert Ward stated it would take the stress off of having to pump Crystal Lake. Councilor Basiliere asked if any water professional has ever classified the well as groundwater under the influence of surface water. He acknowledged he had heard the term. Councilor Ferreira asked Robert Ward how private well owners can report water issues, and he stated they can contact the water treatment plan. President Jordan



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM**

**Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting**

stated there is a lot of people looking into what we can do. Rodney asked if it was possible to get water. Robert Ward stated give us a call tomorrow.

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

- 8.1. Christine Webb, *City Assessor*, submits monthly abatement report for the month of February 2026 3e

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

- 8.2. **EROM -26-1-** Lisa DeMeo, *City Engineer*, requests approval to open the roadway for the new construction/ restaurant to relay/ upgrade approximately 30 ft existing 1 inch low pressure plastic service line with 2 inch due to added load, at 242 Winter St; which requires National Grid to excavate in the right of way

- 8.2.1. Order – approve request to excavate at 242 Winter St 23a

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

- 8.3. **EROM-26-2-** Lisa DeMeo, *City Engineer*, requests approval to open the roadway for a new gas service for a 2-family home, at 218 Broadway; which requires National Grid to excavate in the right of way 23b

- 8.3.1. Order – approve request to excavate at 218 Broadway

MOTION BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

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

10. HEARINGS AND RELATED ORDERS:

11. APPOINTMENTS:

11.1. **Confirming Appointments – Reappointments:**

- 11.1.1. *Board of Registrars of Voters*, Mary Ellen Daly O'Brien, 28 Lilac Ln, expires March 3, 2029 24a

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

- 11.1.2. *Haverhill Cultural Council*, Maria Elena Arata, 9 Clinton Street Unit 6, expires December 31, 2026 24b



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting**

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

- 11.2. **Non-Confirming Appointments:**
 - 11.2.1. *Haverhill Conservation Commission*, Ted Becker, 49 Rutherford Avenue, expires December 31, 2027 12d

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

- 11.3. **Constables**
- 11.4. **Resignations**
 - 11.4.1. *Conservation Commission*, Lisa DeMeo - effective February 19, 2026

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

12. PETITIONS:

- 12.1. **Applications Handicap Parking Sign:** *with Police approval*
- 12.2. **Amusement/Event Application:** *with Police approval*
- 12.3. **Auctioneer License:**
- 12.4. **Tag Days:** *with Police approval*
- 12.5. **One Day Liquor License –with HPD approval**
- 12.6. **ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS:**
 - 12.6.1. **Hawker Peddlers License- Fixed location – w/Police approval**
 - 12.6.1.1. **FIXD-26-1** – John Soraghan for Winnekenni Area/Route 110 to sell cutlet sandwiches, chicken and pork, water, soft drinks, and chips from 11 AM to 3 PM starting April 6, 2026 17b

City Clerk Wright noted she spoke with Inspector Mark Tolman yesterday and this would need to be pending a submission of a fixed location mobile food permit with the Inspectional Services Department.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN TO MOVE FOR PASSAGE WITH THAT CONDITION, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

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



CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting

12.6.5.1. **TLLB-25-5**; Adelson Augustin for *Legrand Services, LLC*,
30 Arch St, 1 vehicle 25a

MOTION BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

- 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**
- 12.6.18. **Limousine/Livery License/Chair Cars with Police approval**

13. MOTIONS AND ORDER:

- 13.1. Mayor Barrett submits a loan order amendment for the Phase 2 Locke Street CSO Separation and Water System Improvements
 - 13.1.1. Loan Order- Appropriate \$18,570,700 to finance the Phase 2 Locke Street area sewer, drain and water system improvements 26a

File 10 Days

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

14. ORDINANCES (FILE 10 DAYS):

- 14.1. Ordinance re: Vehicles and Traffic; Amend Ch 240, be further amended by ADDING the following to § 240-85 schedule B: Parking Restrictions and Prohibitions:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>	<u>HOURS/DAYS</u>
<i>Blaisdell St: In front of #9</i>	<i>No Parking (except for 1 24-hr handicap parking space)</i>	<i>24-Hrs</i>

10e
File 10 Days



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting**

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI
PASSED

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILORS:

- 15.1. Council Vice President Michitson would like to address Governor Maura Healey’s announcement that all Massachusetts residents now have access to artificial intelligence and career certificate training programs at no cost through the Grow with Google program 18j

<https://aihub.masstech.org/massachusetts-ai-hub-interest-form>

Vice President Michitson announced a new statewide initiative from the Healy Driscoll administration that provides free access to Google AI and career certificate programs for Massachusetts residents through December 31, 2027. The initiative aims to help workers qualify for high growth jobs with potential salaries of \$60,000 to \$96,000. It will support economic development by building a local AI-skilled workforce, helping manufacturers adopt AI tool. The program also provides vocational alternatives for students who cannot access technical schools. A local workshop through the Chamber of Commerce is being planned in the coming weeks. The Mayor noted the link will be available on the city website.

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF PRECEDING MEETING:

- 16.1. **Doc 107-A**– Ordinance re: Boards and Commission- Article XX
Agricultural Commissions

Continued from January 27, 2026

Councilor Lewandowski stated due to an error, we need to give public notice. President Jordan stated based on Atty. Mead’s recommendation this will be ready to vote on March 24th.

MOTION BY COUNCILOR LEWANDOWSKI, SECOND BY COUNCILOR TOOHEY
PASSED TO CONTINUE TO 3/24/26

YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

- 16.2. **Doc 1-M** - Mayor Barrett submits an order to enter into a lease agreement for the lease/purchase of a Command Vehicle for the Fire Department

- 16.2.1. Order- That the City Council authorizes the Mayor to enter into a lease agreement for the lease purchase of a 2026 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Fire Department for a period of three years, but in any event not in excess of the useful life of the property to be purchased, to be procured on such terms and conditions as the Mayor deems in the best interest of the City; and to authorize the Mayor to take all actions necessary to administer and implement such agreement

THIS REQUIRES A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

Continued from February 24, 2026



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting**

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN TO APPROVE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR MCGONAGLE
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

16.3. **Doc 19-A-** Mayor Barrett submits a Memorandum of Agreement of the Animal Control/ Mechanic/ Bldg. Craftsman Custodian / Custodian Union Group (Teamsters Local #170)

16.3.1 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Haverhill and the Animal Control/Mechanic/Bldg. Craftsman Custodian/ Custodian Union Group (Teamsters Local #170)

Filed February 11, 2026

Continued from February 24, 2026

MOTION BY COUNCILOR SULLIVAN FOR PASSAGE, SECOND BY VICE PRESIDENT MICHITSON
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)

16.4. **Doc 1-N** - Mayor Barrett wishes to introduce DPW Director Robert E. Ward to discuss continuing drought conditions

Continued from February 24, 2026

moved to beginning of meeting

Robert Ward addressed the Council and reviewed his PowerPoint presentation through slide nine. He reported that Haverhill remains in a critical drought zone under the city's local scale and is designated at a Level 2 drought statewide. A drought watch began in November 2024, and a drought emergency declared on December 18, 2025, remains in effect, with mandatory water conservation measures continuing. Robert Ward noted the relatively small number of water usage requests associated with new multi-unit residential development and explained that the current snowpack will not reverse the approximately two-and-a-half-year rainfall deficit. He stated that the city would need roughly 3-4 inches of rain per month for six months to recover the estimated 750 million gallons below reservoir capacity. Councilor Basiliere asked whether above-average rainfall would be required and inquired about long-term drought trends. Councilor Ferreira asked about average daily household water use, to which Robert Ward responded that it is approximately 100 gallons per day per home, though it varies. Councilor Toohey asked about leak monitoring and unaccounted-for water; Robert Ward stated the city's rate is about 3-3.5 percent annually, which is considered very good, and noted that the city conducts regular leak detection and daily meter monitoring. Councilor Lewandowski discussed strengthening penalties for drought violations and suggested exploring the creation of a formal water conservation advisory group.

- 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 COUNCILOR SULLIVAN TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DIODATI
PASSED YEAS 10, NAYS 0, ABSENT 1 (LEPAGE)



**CITY OF HAVERHILL
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. Council Chambers, 4 Summer st, Room 202
In-Person/Remote Meeting**

ADJOURNED: 20:51