

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PEABODY CITY COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**

PRESENT COUNCILLORS: GOULD, ROSSIGNOLL, MANNING-MARTIN, PEACH, WELTON, MCGINN, GAMACHE, DAIGLE, AND MELVILLE

ABSENT COUNCILLORS: O'NEILL AND TURCO

An in-person and remotely held meeting of the Peabody City Council opened with a moment of silent prayer after being called to order by City Council President Ryan Melville.

Salute to the American Flag.

COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – OPEN MEETING LAW STATEMENT: THIS MEETING IS BEING TELEVISED LIVE ON CABLE CHANNEL 9 AND BEING TAPED BY PEABODY ACCESS TV, AND ALSO BEING RECORDED BY OUR CITY COUNCIL STENOGRAPHER.

P604-22 COUNCILLOR GOULD – MOVE TO receive and approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 8, 2022.

(Unanimous)

**HEARINGS**

P605-22 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 1 from Atty. John Keilty, on behalf of JG Backland Realty Trust, 190R Newbury Street, regarding Special Permit; Request to continue.

(Unanimous)

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE**

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**

P606-22 COUNCILLOR WELTON – Reporting for the Human Services Committee – The Human Services Committee met earlier this evening. Present for the Committee was myself as chair, Councillor Manning-Martin, Councillor Peach, Councillor Rossignoll, and sitting in for Councillor O'Neill was Councillor Gould. Also present was Councillor McGinn, Councillor Gamache, Councillor Daigle, and Councillor Melville. The meeting was held to follow up on a request made from Councillor Melville that the Veterans Agent forward updates of the Veterans Tax Abatement Program to the Human Services Committee. Veterans Agent Steve Patten was able to join and discuss the veteran's shuttle service that is currently being provided through this office. The request was to allow for an additional increase for a tax abatement program for those volunteer drivers, many of which are retired veterans. Also discussed this evening was a question raised by Councillor Manning-Martin with Veterans Agent Patten regarding the condition of the vehicles that are used by that program. It was brought to light that there is one vehicle that is in dire need of service and will most likely need to be replaced. The committee asked Veterans Agent Patten to do some further investigation as to how much money he may need to acquire a new vehicle. That led to further discussion about potential fundraising opportunities to assist with those efforts. Through that discussion Veterans Agent Patten had also wanted to underscore that citizens of Peabody can make donations to a 501(c)(3) account that has been set up for veterans, and donations can be made through their tax bill as well as their water and sewer bills. Additionally, he requested that if there are retired veterans within the City of Peabody that are interested in driving, they are looking for four to five additional drivers. The mayor's remarks were that on November 11<sup>th</sup> the veterans breakfast will be

returning once again this year and forthcoming advertisement will occur. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P607-22 COUNCILLOR WELTON – Reporting for the Human Services Committee – MOVE TO adopt Chapter 59, Section 5N, of the Massachusetts General Law allowing veterans in exchange for volunteer services to have their tax bill reduced to an amended amount up to \$1,500.00.

(Carried 9-0; Councillor O'Neill and Councillor Turco absent)

## **MUNICIPAL SAFETY COMMITTEE**

### **SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**

P608-22 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – The Municipal Safety Committee met earlier this evening. Present for the Committee were myself as chair, Councillor Gamache, Councillor Gould, Councillor Rossignoll, and Councillor Welton. Also present were Councillor Daigle, Councillor McGinn, Councillor Peach, and Councillor Melville. The item on the agenda was the traffic and safety issues at the intersection of Lowell, King, and Endicott Street put forward by Councillor Daigle to be reviewed. A member of the public, Rosemary Bevins of Augustus Street, gave a resident's perspective. She pointed out the visibility issue with the light that just can't be seen, and something needs to be done as soon as possible to fix the visibility issue. Through Councillor Daigle, the Fire Department had some recommendations about moving the traffic light. The Police Department, again through Councillor Daigle, noted that these are the oldest set of lights in the city and to renew them would be expensive and complicated. They offered some suggestions about moving the arms and cables to address the visibility issue. The issue of tree pruning was mentioned that might offer a quick short-term solution to address the fact that drivers cannot see the light coming up to the intersection from one direction. Bob LaBossiere, Director of Public Works, addressed a lot of these issues, pulled a lot of things together, and is coming up with some short- and long-term solutions to include grant funding possibilities to address the timing and delays; and he's also going to reach out to the tree department to immediately take care of trimming the trees in that area. The subject of this matter, given that we need a long-term solution, will remain in committee. (Report Received)

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**

P609-22 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – The Finance Committee met earlier this evening. Present for the Committee were myself as chair, Councillor Gamache, Councillor Gould, sitting in for Councillor Manning-Martin was Councillor Rossignoll, and sitting in for Councillor Turco was Councillor Welton. Also present this evening were Councillor Peach, Councillor Daigle, and City Council President Melville. There were two items on the agenda. The first item was a transfer of funds fire salaries in the amount of \$171,869.00 and fire overtime in the amount of \$42,981.00. This was presented to the committee by His Honor the Mayor with an explanation that the transfer request was to cover the retroactive payment totaling \$214,050.00 for the Fiscal year 2022 portion of the 2 percent cost of living salary adjustment for all members of the Fire Department, Local 925, and the Fire chief. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P610-22 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – MOVE TO approve the following transfer, as submitted by His Honor the Mayor, under date of August 30, 2022:

<b><u>FROM:</u></b>		<b><u>TO:</u></b>	
Salary Reserve Account		Fire Salaries	
100-01320-51925-2022	\$193,200.00	100-02200-51110	\$171,869.00
100-01320-51925	<u>\$21,650.00</u>	Fire OT	
		100-02200-51130	<u>\$42,981.00</u>
Total:	\$214,850.00		\$214,850.00

(Carried 8-0; Councillor O'Neill and Councillor Turco absent; Councillor Manning-Martin recused)

P611-22 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – The next item on the agenda was a transfer of funds for cable fund expense in the amount of \$18,021.67 and \$4,004.00. This is a routine matter whereby funds that are brought in by a cable provider, in this case RCN, are transferred to the City that are earmarked for Peabody Access Television. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P612-22 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – MOVE TO approve the following transfer, as submitted by His Honor the Mayor, under date of August 30, 2022:

<b><u>FROM:</u></b>		<b><u>TO:</u></b>	
Receipts Reserved Cable Fund		Cable Fund Expense	
270-0000-33017	\$18,021.67	270-0000-53007	\$18,021.67
270-0000-33017	\$4,004.82	270-0000-53007	\$4,004.82

(Carried 9-0; Councillor O'Neill and Councillor Turco absent)

### **MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS**

P613-22 COUNCILLOR ROSSIGNOLL – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-B communication from Brian P. Barrett, Assistant City Solicitor, regarding Response to Charter motions made June 28, 2022, and refer to the Committee of the Whole.

(Unanimous)

P614-22 COUNCILLOR PEACH – MOVE TO request a handicapped sign across the street from 28 Harris Street, and that an ordinance be drafted and advertised on the same.

(Unanimous)

P615-22 COUNCILLOR PEACH – MOVE TO request that the Public Services Department install “No Parking Here to Corner” signs at the intersections of Fulton Street/Walnut Street and Fulton Street/Tremont Street.

(Unanimous)

P616-22 COUNCILLOR WELTON – MOVE TO request that the Public Services Department install a “Dead-end Street” sign at the corner of Bowditch Street and Druid Avenue.

(Unanimous)

P617-22 COUNCILLOR WELTON – MOVE TO request that the Public Services Department install a “No Parking Here to Corner” sign on both sides of Alexandra Street, 20 feet from the intersection with Lynnfield Street.

(Unanimous)

P618-22 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-C communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Additional Bond Order-Welch School Renovation Project; \$3,458,193 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P619-22 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 9-B Block Party-5-8 Glen Drive - October 2, 2022, subject to all papers being in order.

(Unanimous)

P620-22 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-A communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding City Proclamation honoring September 2022 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month; Response to Council Motion P562-22.

(Unanimous)

P621-22 COUNCILLOR DAIGLE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-B communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Contract for Emergency Ambulance Service between Atlantic Ambulance Service division of Cataldo Ambulance Service, Inc., and the City of Peabody; Response to Council Motion P559-22.

(Unanimous)

P622-22 COUNCILLOR DAIGLE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-A communication from Atty. Nicholas J. Scobbo, Jr., 125 High Street, Suite 2611, Boston, regarding Notice of Filing, Public and Evidentiary Hearing, and Request for Comments: Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company – DPU 22-104.

(Unanimous)

P623-22 COUNCILLOR DAIGLE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-C communication from Dr. Josh Vadala, Supt. of Schools, regarding ESSER III budget for FY23; Response to Council Motion P558-22.

(Unanimous)

P624-22 COUNCILLOR DAIGLE – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules Item 9-A Banner Request - St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church, 5 Paleologos Street, subject to all papers being in order.

(Unanimous)

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR**

Previously received.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND OTHERS**

Previously received.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES**

Previously received.

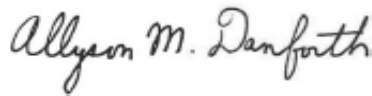
**UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE PRECEDING MATTER**

None.

MOVED: MOVE TO adjourn. Regular meeting of the Peabody City Council adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

SUBMITTED TO HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

RETURNED BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022



ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk)

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

His Honor the Mayor re: City Proclamation honoring September 2022 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month; Response to Council Motion P562-22

His Honor the Mayor re: Contract for Emergency Ambulance Service between Atlantic Ambulance Service division of Cataldo Ambulance Service, Inc., and the City of Peabody; Response to Council Motion P559-22

His Honor the Mayor re: Additional Bond Order – Welch School Renovation Project; \$3,458,193  
Atty. Nicholas J. Scobbo, Jr., 125 High Street, Suite 2611, Boston, re: Notice of Filing, Public and Evidentiary Hearing, and Request for Comments: Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company – DPU 22-104

Brian P. Barrett, Assistant City Solicitor, re: Response to Charter motions made June 28, 2022

Dr. Josh Vadala, Supt. of Schools, re: ESSER III budget for FY23; Response to Council Motion P558-22

**BANNER:**

St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church, 5 Paleologos Street

**BLOCK PARTY:**

5-8 Glen Drive – October 2, 2022