

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PEABODY CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 13, 2025

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

ABSENT COUNCILLORS: ROSSIGNOLL

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 Julie K. Daigle.

Salute to the American Flag.

COUNCILLOR DAIGLE – 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.

P107-25 COUNCILLOR GOULD – MOVE TO receive and approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 27, 2025.
(Unanimous)

HEARINGS

P108-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-E communication from Gabriel Albisu, Engr III Cslt-Outside Plant, Verizon, regarding Verizon Petition - Prospect St, Peabody, MA – 4A0XN9N, request to withdraw without prejudice, subject to all papers being in order.
(Unanimous)

A public hearing was duly held on the application submitted by NH Signs, 151 Newbury Street, Peabody, MA. Mr. Fred Pineault, 66 Gold Ledge Avenue, Auburn, NH, and Mr. Robert DePesa 3 Zaloga Way, Middleton, MA, appeared to speak on behalf of the application. No one appeared to speak in favor. No one appeared to speak in opposition.

P109-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Peabody that the application submitted by NH Signs, 66 Gold Ledge Avenue, Auburn, NH, for a Special Permit to install one 10'x16' single-sided full color electronic message center at 151 Newbury Street, Peabody, MA, as filed in accordance with Sections 6.1, 11.4.8, and 15.7 of the Peabody Zoning Ordinance be approved based on the following reasons and subject to the following condition:

Reason: The City Council has determined that the application as submitted and approved meets the general requirements of Section 6.1 of the Peabody Zoning Ordinance, specifically, 6.1.2 which satisfies a desirable local need, that its design and appearance will not be injurious to the established or future character of the vicinity and the neighborhood, and that said approval is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Peabody.

CONDITION:

1. Per Peabody Zoning Ordinance 11.5.2 (B)(3), A message board sign for an electronic message board sign, such as those announcing special events or sales, is permitted as part of the design of the freestanding sign, provided the sign size, including the message board, does not exceed the maximum allowed. The individual signs shall be of similar style and design. Electronic message board signs shall not exceed thirty (30) percent of the base sign area. The message on the electronic message board sign shall not scroll or flash and shall alternate on not less than a fifteen-second cycle. The messaging shall be limited to advertising services offered at the site after business hours of operation. Lighting of the sign will be subject to ambient adjustments and shall provide for an automatic dimming apparatus. No advertising for any business not located upon the premises shall be

conducted, with the only exception being if the sign is utilized as part of Peabody public services announcement program. No change in the message shall constitute a public safety or traffic hazard in the judgment of the building inspector.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Rossignoll absent)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Public Services Committee

March 13, 2025

P110-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO – Reporting for the Public Services Committee – We had a Public Services Committee requested by Councillor Rossignoll, who unfortunately could not make it tonight. All Councillors were present, with the exception of Councillor Rossignoll, who had a prior engagement that he had to make. With that being said, the discussion was with Republic Waste regarding issues that they had, which were more significant in the prior year than they are this year. Appearing for Republic was Brian Skehan, General Manager, and Daniel Higgins, Regional Sales Manager. The Council was pretty inclusive of every question we could possibly ask about trash. The majority of the Council seemed in favor of changing over to receptacles, but the understanding is that the City is under contract for at least one year with five option years to remain after that, which are pretty beneficial to the City so that's something that we as a Council will address and hopefully can get moving over the next year or so. I really don't have anything more. I could go over each and everything, but the meeting just took place an hour ago, so I'm not going to do that. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P111-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 4 from Daniel Higgins, Regional Sales Manager, Republic Services, regarding Solid Waste & Recycling Collections Road to Service Consistency Thru Automation presentation.
(Unanimous)

P112-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO – Reporting for the Public Services Committee – The only request of Republic was to forward a list of contacts for working hours and after hours to councillors in the event that there were issues with trash and Mr. Skehan has volunteered to send that information along to all councillors.
(Report received)

Industrial & Community Development Committee

March 13, 2025

P113-25 COUNCILLOR PEACH – Reporting for the Industrial & Community Development Committee – We met this evening to discuss one item on our agenda, which was the proposed zoning for accessory dwelling units, which is a result of a state law that was passed last year. Mr. Bellavance from Community Development had submitted example language for consideration, but on Tuesday of this week model zoning was presented by the State with more clarification on the details of the law so we took the approach as a council to discuss what we'd like to see, what concerns we have. Mr. Bellavance and his team are going to work off that model zoning and come back to the council and the committee with more clarification and more solid language based off the model zoning language presented by the State. All councillors were present except Councillor Rossignoll. Several councillors had questions and comments just regarding the direction we'd like to go as a City regarding ADU's in general, what to do with our existing FALA's, and spoke about short-term rentals and the benefit or lack of benefit thereof to allow them with this new law. I anticipate getting some language from Community Development in the next month so we can schedule an additional meeting as we are in a timeline as the State law was put into effect on February 2nd. So I'm not going to go into all the details of the things we talked about, but I anticipate another committee meeting coming up shortly with more solid language and feel the general approach of the council was to be more strict than lenient and allow for challenges as needed. (Report received)

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

P114-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 9-A Taxi Driver License: Alfred Hendrickson - License 13, subject to all papers being in order.
(Unanimous)

P115-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, the following Item 9-B Entertainment License (Renewal for 2025), subject to all papers being in order:

Jade's Restaurant, 4 Bourbon Street
Outback Steakhouse, 300 Andover Street

(Unanimous)

P116-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 9-C Banner: International Festival Committee, 24 Lowell Street, subject to all papers being in order.
(Unanimous)

P117-25 COUNCILLOR PEACH – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-B communication from Councillor Julie Daigle regarding Center School Community Meeting.
(Unanimous)

P118-25 COUNCILLOR PEACH – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 1 from Sharon Cameron, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, regarding the Center School annex and refer to the Joint Ad Hoc City Council/School Committee.
(Unanimous)

{10-A, 1 Nancy Avenue}

P119-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Peabody that An ordinance Amending Section 19-93 entitled "Restricted parking" of the Code of the City of Peabody be adopted as advertised and read.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Rossignoll absent)

{10-B}

P120-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Peabody that An Ordinance Amending Section 2-13 entitled "Salary of the Mayor" of the Code of the City of Peabody be adopted as advertised and read
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Rossignoll absent)

P121-25 COUNCILLOR HIGGINS – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-C communication from Jarrett Temple, Regional Environmental & Land Manager, 35 Village Road #703, Middleton, MA, regarding Holcim-NER, Inc. - 2024 Annual Report, distribute to all pertinent departments, and refer to the Ad Hoc Committee on Aggregate Industries.
(Unanimous)

P122-25 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-A communication from Councillor Anne Manning-Martin regarding Davis Group Shelter Safety Audit and refer to the Municipal Safety Committee.
(Unanimous)

P123-25 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-D communication from Chief John Dowling, Fire Department, regarding Emergency Response totals for Holiday Inn, 1 Newbury Street; Extended Stay America, 200 Jubilee Drive; SpringHill Suites, 43 Newbury Street, (Response to Motion P65-25) and refer to the Municipal Safety Committee.

(Unanimous)

P124-25 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-F communication from Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk, regarding Response to Motion P96-25 (Center School renovation project) and refer to the Joint Ad Hoc City Council/School Committee.

(Unanimous)

P125-25 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 2 from Sharon Cameron, Director of Health and Human Services Department, regarding City Council request (Response to Motion P65-25) relative to Holiday Inn, 1 Newbury Street; Extended Stay America, 200 Jubilee Drive; SpringHill Suites, 43 Newbury Street, and refer to the Municipal Safety Committee.

(Unanimous)

P126-25 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 3 from Thomas St. Pierre, Building Commissioner, regarding Holiday Inn, 1 Newbury Street; Extended Stay America, 200 Jubilee Drive; SpringHill Suites, 43 Newbury Street (Response to Motion P65-25) and refer to the Municipal Safety Committee.

(Unanimous)

P127-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-A communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Brooksby – Recreation Improvements \$193,624.36 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P128-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-B communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – CPC – Cemetery Rest-Old South \$3,920 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P129-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-C communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Community Preservation Act Open Space \$1,000,000 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P130-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-D communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Community Preservation Act Open Space \$24,734.81 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P131-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-E communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfers of Funds – CPC Land Acquisition Golf Course 132.45 Acres \$270,000; CPC – Land Acquisition DiBiase 76.3 Acres \$400,000 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P132-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-F communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Cable Fund Expense \$188,287.88 and refer to the Finance Committee.
(Unanimous)

P133-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-G communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfers of Funds – Cable Fund Expense \$13,157.62; \$2,923.92 and refer to the Finance Committee.
(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 8:50 p.m.

SUBMITTED TO HIS HONOR THE MARCH 18, 2025
RETURNED BY HIS HONOR THE MARCH 18, 2025



ATTEST: _____
(Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk)

COMMUNICATIONS:

- His Honor the Mayor re: Transfer of Funds – Brooksby – Recreation Improvements \$193,624.36
- His Honor the Mayor re: Transfer of Funds – CPC – Cemetery Rest-Old South \$3,920
- His Honor the Mayor re: Transfer of Funds – Community Preservation Act Open Space \$1,000,000
- His Honor the Mayor re: Transfer of Funds – Community Preservation Act Open Space \$24,734.81
- His Honor the Mayor re: Transfers of Funds –
 - CPC – Land Acquisition Golf Course 132.45 Acres \$270,000
 - CPC – Land Acquisition DiBiase 76.3 Acres \$400,000
- His Honor the Mayor re: Transfer of Funds – Cable Fund Expense \$188,287.88
- His Honor the Mayor re: Transfers of Funds - Cable Fund Expense \$13,157.62
\$ 2,923.92

- Councillor Anne Manning-Martin re: Davis Group Shelter Safety Audit
- Councillor Julie Daigle re: Center School Community Meeting
- Jarrett Temple, Regional Environmental & Land Manager, 35 Village Road #703, Middleton, MA re: Holcim – NER, Inc. – 2024 Annual Report
- Chief John Dowling, Fire Department, re: Emergency Response totals for 3 hotels (Response to Motion P65-25)

Gabriel Albisu, Engr III Cslt-Outside Plant, Verizon, re: Verizon Petition – Prospect St, Peabody, MA – 4A0XN9N (Request to withdraw)

Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk, re: Response to Motion P96-25 (Center School renovation project)

TAXI DRIVER LICENSE:

Alfred Hendrickson – License 13

ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE: (Renewal for 2025)

Jade's Restaurant, 4 Bourbon Street

Outback Steakhouse, 300 Andover Street

BANNER:

International Festival Committee, 24 Lowell Street