

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PEABODY CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 22, 2020

PRESENT COUNCILLORS: WELTON, MOUTSOULAS, GOULD, CHAREST,
MANNING-MARTIN, TURCO, O'NEILL, MELVILLE, MCGINN, AND ROSSIGNOLL

ABSENT COUNCILLORS: SASLAW

An in-person (City Council only) 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 Thomas J. Rossignoll.

Salute to the American Flag.

COUNCILLOR ROSSIGNOLL – 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.

HEARINGS

P452-20 COUNCILLOR WELTON – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-B communication from Scott Crooker, 126 Farrell Road, Lynn, regarding Request for withdrawal of Special Permit without prejudice, subject to all papers being in order.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Human Services Committee
October 22, 2020

P453-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – Reporting for the Human Services Committee – We had two guests this evening joining the Human Services Committee chaired by myself, joined by members: Councillor Charest, Councillor Gould, Councillor Melville, and Councillor Moutsoulas. All of the other members that are here this evening were also in attendance. We had Veterans Agent, Steve Patten, join us to give us an overview of all the services being provided to our veterans throughout the year and, specifically, throughout the pandemic. He said that some services have been reduced, specifically, the ride-share program due to our veterans and the volunteer drivers feeling uneasy about going out, given the COVID pandemic and that created a notice of a need for, perhaps, younger volunteers -- anywhere from two to three – if there are any out in the community that feel that they can provide that service that are less susceptible than the current volunteers that are an older generation of folks that provide those, Steve Patten would be happy to take your phone call or an email for anyone that is willing to offer to drive our veterans and participate in that program to get them to some of their services that would be helpful. He also mentioned that the disability claims had dropped off, but they are picking back up and they are meeting people by appointment so that throughout the pandemic our veterans' needs have been met and Steven Patten and his assistant, Lee Leavitt, have been doing a great job making sure that they're getting their services; so we thank them for that. Also, Steven Patten mentioned at our Human Services meeting was the need for housing for our veterans. He has some irons in the fire and some ideas that he's working on to work with Community Development in hopefully providing some veterans' housing for our Peabody residents here in Peabody. So that was a report of progress from the Veterans Service Agent for the services provided to our veterans throughout the past year and, in particular, during the pandemic.

We also had Jarrod Hochman, a school committee member and director of the No Child Goes Hungry in Peabody program. He gave a presentation on all the work that that program has been doing. It is a program that is pretty much all volunteer-driven and provides 2,319 meals to children throughout the year. That would be the number of students that are on free and reduced lunch, which is 40 percent of our student population in the City of Peabody. So there's quite a need that has been ongoing, but it's certainly been highlighted throughout the pandemic because the children weren't receiving their meals at school. So as with everything with the pandemic, everyone had to, kind of, evolve and rethink things and provide services differently and this program No Child Goes Hungry in Peabody has certainly been doing that again all run by volunteers with a lot of help from different divisions and departments throughout the

City has also been helping out down at the Haven from Hunger and Citizens Inn, who donate the space and a lot of help and manpower down there as well. Two needs that were emphasized that are not being met throughout their program is they have to borrow vehicles and vans to transport large quantities. I think it was 45,000 pounds a week of food to get it from, say, the Boston Food Bank back to Peabody, and then to be disseminated throughout the City of Peabody predominantly in Wards 2, 3, 4, and 5, which is again done by volunteers in their private vehicles. There are about 25 volunteers that do that each Friday. Also, given that it's a program run by volunteers and the emphasis is to get the food to the children, there is an administrative need there to help with the paperwork and filing and searching for grants and things of that nature; so we did have a good discussion on some ideas on how to assist No Child Goes Hungry to find that help and meet that need and fill that gap. So we had a great discussion. With both of those programs and both of the gentlemen presenting it was clear that we have a great community with wonderful people who volunteer and reach out to people in need in our city and it's one of the things that makes Peabody great. So I just wanted to thank those two gentlemen for joining us this evening and for everything that they do. And for those of you at home if you want to volunteer with either of these programs or if you have any ideas to help out with any of those issues, please contact either Jarrod Hochman of No Child Goes Hungry in Peabody or Steven Patten, the Veterans Agent, through the City of Peabody. That is a report of progress. (Report received)
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

Industrial & Community Development Committee
October 22, 2020

P454-20 COUNCILLOR GOULD – Reporting for the Industrial & Community Development Committee – We met this evening and in attendance was myself as chair, Councillor McGinn, Councillor O'Neill, Councillor Charest, and Councillor Melville. Also participating was the rest of the council: Councillor Welton, Councillor Manning-Martin, Councillor Turco, and yourself President Rossignoll. We had two issues tonight. One was subsidized housing; the other was the Peabody Housing Production Plan, and they kind of morphed in together. It started off with Mr. Bellavance telling us about the number of units that we currently have as housing stock, which is 22,135. In order for us to meet the 10 percent threshold, we need 107 more housing units. Mr. Bellavance gave us a lot of insight into our subsidized housing numbers. He then introduced Ms. Karen Sunnarborg. She gave an overview of affordable housing numbers in the Housing Production Plan that she has put together as they relate to the state guidelines and how they affect Peabody. Ms. Sunnarborg gave the details of the existing housing stock and percentage of income spent on housing. The recommended percentage of income, rather, was 30 percent, but we have a number of folks that are spending upwards of 30 percent and some as high as 50 percent, which is astronomical in her terms. Mr. Bellavance answered a number of questions, as did Ms. Sunnarborg. Councillor Manning-Martin expressed the urgency to have a complete valid housing plan of which we all agree. We have set a time frame of two weeks for the committee to submit any questions/concerns to Mr. Bellavance so we can move forward on updating and having a very solid Housing Production Plan. That is a report of progress. (Report received)
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

P455-20 COUNCILLOR GOULD (Co-motion with Councillor Moutsoulas) – MOVE TO request that the Police Department take control of the gate at 65 North Central Street, which enters in the Pulaski Street industrial park, to make sure it is locked at all times, except for public safety emergencies.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P456-20 COUNCILLOR CHAREST – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-G communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding 15 King Street Property and request that any response the Mayor receives from Hemisphere Development be forwarded to the City Council.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P457-20 COUNCILLOR CHAREST – MOVE TO request that the Public Services Department inspect all of the sidewalks in every school zone for the entire city and submit a report to the City Council.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P458-20 COUNCILLOR CHAREST – MOVE TO request that the Police Department take notice of vehicles illegally parking on sidewalks.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P459-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-A communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding the following and refer to the Finance Committee:

Transfers of Funds:

Historical Preservation Reserve Fund; \$110,964.00

Community Housing Reserve Fund; \$110,964.00

Open Space Reserve Fund; \$110,964.00

Transfers of Funds:

Open Space Reserve Fund; \$110,964.00

Historic Preservation Reserve Fund; \$27,741.00

Community Housing Reserve Fund; \$27,741.00

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P460-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-B communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Community Preservation Act Open Space; \$400,000.00 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P461-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-C communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Community Preservation Act Admin; \$10,000.00 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P462-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-D communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Cemetery – Capital Improvement; \$157,750.00 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P463-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-E communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds – Preservation Tannery I Affordable Units; \$100,000.00 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P464-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-A communication from Councillor Anne Manning-Martin regarding PMLP/Verizon.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P465-20 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 9-A Utility Contractors License - USA Excavating, Inc., 100 Sophia Lane, Bridgewater, MA, subject to all papers being in order.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P466-20 COUNCILLOR TURCO (Co-motion with Councillor Welton) – MOVE TO request that the City Clerk release all Executive Session minutes with regard to the proposed cellphone tower at 161 Lynn Street, also known as Michael's Limousine.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P467-20 COUNCILLOR TURCO (Co-motion with Councillor Welton) – MOVE TO request that ordinances be drafted and advertised under Section 19-126 for “Stop” signs at the intersection of Gedney Drive and Tsitsinos Drive and at the intersection of Vieira Drive and Tsitsinos Drive.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P468-20 COUNCILLOR TURCO- MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-F communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Verizon Pole Locations.

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P469-20 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-H communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Olio, 43 Main Street, Extend Days of Operations and request that the City Clerk send a letter to the permit holder of Special Permit 4-2018 to provide a clarification to conditions. Saturday hours of operation may be utilized for the Sundays of Memorial Day, Labor Day and Columbus Day weekends. Saturday hours of operation plus one hour may be utilized for New Year’s Eve regardless of what day of the week on which New Year’s Eve falls. Saturday truck hours and loading/unloading hours shall apply for Memorial Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day and New Year’s Day.

(Carried 9-0; Councillor McGinn voted present; Councillor Saslaw absent)

P470-20 COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 1 from His Honor the Mayor regarding Request to approve continuation of Peabody’s outdoor dining initiative from November 1, 2020 to April 1, 2021, and take the following matter out of the Committee of the Whole and refer to this Regular Meeting:

*“P409-20 COUNCILLOR SASLAW – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-E communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Extension of Outdoor Dining and refer to the Committee of the Whole.
(Carried 11-0)”*

(Carried 9-0; Councillor Saslaw and Councillor Moutsoulas absent)

P471-20 COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – MOVE TO amend the expiration date from November 1, 2020, to April 1, 2021, for the Temporary Outdoor Dining Regulations and Temporary Outdoor Dining Agreement.

(Carried 9-0; Councillor Saslaw and Councillor Moutsoulas absent)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

Previously received.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND OTHERS

Previously received.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES

Previously received.

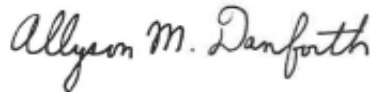
UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE PRECEDING MATTER

None.

MOVED: MOVE TO adjourn. Regular meeting of the Peabody City Council adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

SUBMITTED TO HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, OCTOBER 26, 2020

RETURNED BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, OCTOBER 26, 2020



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

COMMUNICATIONS:

His Honor the Mayor re: Transfers of Funds:

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His Honor the Mayor re: Transfer of Funds – Preservation Tannery I Affordable Units;
\$100,000.00

His Honor the Mayor re: Verizon Pole Locations

His Honor the Mayor re: 15 King Street Property

His Honor the Mayor re: Olio, 43 Main Street, Extend Days of Operation

Councillor Anne Manning-Martin re: PMLP/Verizon

Scott S. Crooker, 126 Farrell Road, Lynn, re: Request for withdrawal of Special Permit without
prejudice

UTILITY CONTRACTORS LICENSE:

USA Excavating, Inc., 100 Sophia Lane, Bridgewater, MA