



## MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

59 COURT STREET

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

JANUARY 6, 2020 AT 5:00 PM

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chamber, Municipal Building, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA at 5:00 PM.

The City Clerk called the roll. All thirteen Councilors were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilor Beltrandi, President Pro Tempore.

The President Pro Tempore asked if anyone, other than Channel 15 was recording the meeting and if so to state whether it is an audio or video recording and whether the recording is being live streamed. No one responded.

Councilor Harris nominated Councilor Bean for President for 2020.

Councilor Flaherty nominated Councilor Morganelli for President for 2020.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That nominations for President for 2020 be CLOSED.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: That each Councilor nominated give a brief speech as to why they want to be President.

Councilor Bean informed the Council that he has served as President four times and he is the longest serving Councilor in the room. He is approachable and inclusive to everyone. He is not afraid to discuss tough votes and vote on tough votes. He is able to control meetings while being firm with residents. He has chaired every committee and knowledgeable of the process. He will create a pipeline for information to flow to the new Mayor. He acknowledged that the Council gets bogged down with Council rules and that he would bring any questions regarding the rules directly to the Law Department. He acknowledged that some of Council rules need to be changed. He acknowledged that as far as a priority list that Westfield needs to be known as business friendly community and that there needs to be a new Police Station and a new Westfield High School. He informed the Councilors that his door would always be open even if he disagrees with the issue.

Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that as President would respect everyone, City Officials, residents and Councilors. He acknowledged that he has integrity and has never done anything to compromise his integrity. He is honest and that last December he was accused of being a liar and that is simply not true. He informed the Council that he will run an efficient meeting. He acknowledged that he has the support of the new Mayor Humason to serve as President. He would work with the Mayor to get the budget out in a timely manner

and that this is his fourth term as Councilor and would like to serve as President.

Councilor Allie informed the Council that when he was first on the Council he was impressed that the Council President rotated every year and he would like to see that continue and that the dimension of respect is important with a fairly divided Council.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he is at the start of his 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> year as a Councilor and agreed that the Council President should be rotated on a yearly basis as done in the past. He acknowledged that past Presidents have done an excellent job. He informed the Council that the role of President is limited and that the President's only role is to conduct the meeting and appoint committees and liaisons, it is not a role of the speaker of the house. The President and all Councilors have equal rights in speaking and voting and that all Councilors can talk to the Mayor. He acknowledged that both Councilors nominated for President are fine candidates but he would be supporting Councilor Morganelli.

The vote for President for 2020 resulted as follows:

James Adams	Bean
Dan Allie	Morganelli
Brent Bean II	Bean
John Beltrandi III	Bean
Michael Burns	Bean
Ralph Figy	Bean
Dave Flaherty	Morganelli
Cindy Harris	Bean
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Morganelli
Kristen Mello	Morganelli
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Morganelli
William Onyski	Bean
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Bean

The President Pro Tempore declared the President for 2020 as Councilor Bean.

Councilor Bean assumed the Chair.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was  
VOTED: That the vote for President for 2020 be unanimous.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	No
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	No
Kristen Mello	No
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	No
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes

The President declared the motion LOST.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was  
VOTED: That the rules of the Council be adopted for 2020.

Councilor Flaherty offered a motion, which was duly seconded, to adopt the rules of the Council as is and to also refer them to Charter and Rules Committee for edits. Councilor Figy informed the Council that Charter and Rules Committee is an ad hoc committee and expires at the end of every year and that Legislative and Ordinance can handle edits to the rules. President Bean informed the Council that it is his job to set the committees and this motion should wait until after the committees have been set. Councilor Flaherty withdrew his motion.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was  
VOTED: That the 2019 Items in Committee be transferred to the 2020 Committees.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was  
VOTED: That record of the meeting of December 19, 2019 be ACCEPTED.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Brian Hoose, 60 Arnold Street. He informed the Council that he had addressed the Council in the past relative to the dangerous situation with crosswalks on Elm Street and Franklin Street and suggested if the riser could be painted with fluorescent paint to make it more visible.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was  
VOTED: That the appropriation of \$300,000.00 from Community Preservation Account (CPA) Undesignated account #2410-340000 to CPA Cross Street Playground (Recreation) account #24101770-580400-5308 be REMOVED FROM THE TABLE.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was  
VOTED: That the sum of \$300,000.00 be appropriated from Community Preservation Account (CPA) Undesignated account #2410-340000 to CPA Cross Street Playground (Recreation) account #24101770-580400-5308 (CPA funds have been certified ).

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	No
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes

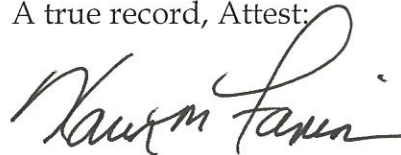
Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the playground project has been in the works for a few years and this is authorizing the transfer of the money for the project and the project has been approved by the State. He informed the Council that there were questions regarding the land and that the Law Department has verified that there is no need for an executive session and there is no litigation on this parcel. Councilor Allie questioned if there were specific questions asked of the Law Department regarding Article 97. Councilor Figy informed the Council that he relayed Mr. Smith's concerns to the Law Department and also to Mr. Smith's attorney. Councilor Allie expressed his concern that the City has violated Article 97 and therefore has not fulfilled its obligation. He informed the Council he supports the playground but will vote against this because of the violations of Article 97. Councilor Allie offered a motion, which was not seconded, to request the School Department return the property back to the Park and Recreation Department. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he will support the appropriation of the CPA money because that is the matter before the Council but that he would like the Law Department to come before the Council either in open session or executive to address any legal issues pertaining to the land. Councilor Mello questioned if the funds are not appropriated now would it stall the project and if appropriated now and not needed what happens to the funds. President Bean informed the Council that the project would get stalled if not appropriated and that if the funds are not needed they will go back to the CPA. Councilor Allie requested to put a request to the School Committee to transfer the property back. Councilor Figy informed the Council that this has been requested before and it doesn't work that way, it's only the Mayor that can ask for surplus land. Councilor Sullivan raised a point of order. He informed the Council that the only question on the floor at this time is the transfer of the money; not requests for transfers or questions for the Law Department.

Councilor Figy thanked the citizens that have already dropped off their Christmas trees at the designated sites and informed everyone that the drop off sites will continue until January 15<sup>th</sup> and there will be no curbside pickup.

President Bean announced he will have the Committee/Liaison assignments and the seating assignments by Friday (January 10, 2020).

At 5:28 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

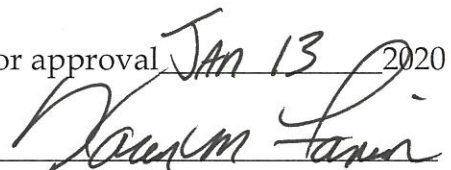
A true record, Attest:

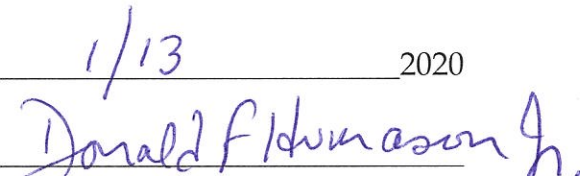


Karen M. Fanion  
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval Jan 13 2020  
  
Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

1/13 2020  
  
Donald F. Humason, Jr., Mayor