MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
59 COURT STREET  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
JANUARY 16, 2020 AT 7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chamber, Municipal Building, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA at 7:00 PM.

The City Clerk called the roll. Councilor Figy was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cub Scouts Pack 108.

The President 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.

Under “Public Participation” the Councilors were addressed Mr. Bill Parks, CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Westfield. He informed the Council that the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Westfield is eligible for a $1,000,000.00 grant from Early Education and Out of School Time (EEOST) Capital Fund for the expansion to the building to increase the number of slots for early education, after school care and for the performing arts center. He informed the Council that the building is on School Department property and the School Department, at its October 21, 2019 meeting, approved the proposal for additional property at 28 West Silver Street. And he is now requesting Council support of the Resolution that is on tonight’s Agenda to amend the lease between the City and the Boys and Girls of Greater Westfield. The urgency of the request is because the grant application is due January 22nd, 2020. Councilor Allie questioned if the application is sent in by the deadline does it keep Westfield in the running. Mr. Parks informed the Council that it does keep Westfield in the running and Westfield is one of eight.

Under “Public Participation” the Councilors were addressed Mr. Andrew Miller, 82 South Maple Street. He informed the Council that there is a lot of truck traffic on the Cowles Bridge even though there are signs for no truck traffic. Councilor Onyski advised Mr. Miller that this is a Traffic Commission issue and that they meet quarterly and to contact the Police Department to get on the Agenda.

Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that a Grant in the amount of $12,000.00 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Office of Grants and Research to the Police Department to support the Traffic Enforcement program for FFY 2020 be ACCEPTED. Councilor Flaherty abstained due to a business relationship.
The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was
VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that a Resolution entitled “A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE LEASE BETWEEN THE CITY OF WESTFIELD MASSACHUSETTS AND THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF GREATER WESTFIELD” be ADOPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, it was
VOTED: That items 3., 4., 5., 6. and 7. under “Communications from the Mayor” be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. Councilor Allie questioned if item 7. should go to Legislative and Ordinance Committee. President Bean informed the Council that he is ok with item 7. going to Finance Committee.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

3. Appropriation of $200,000.00 from Fire Department, Ambulance Designated account within the Ambulance Receipt Reserved Fund account #2100-340000 to Fire Department, Ambulance Overtime account #21002310-513000.

4. Appropriation of $12,537.31 from Free Cash to Police, Motor Vehicle account #12100000-585001.
5. Appropriation of $34,395.00 from the Police Department Special Towing and Storage of Motor Vehicles account #2400-330210 to Police Department account for Towing and Storage account #24210714-585001.

6. Appropriation of $40,000.00 from the Peg Undesignated fund to Peg Access & Cable Fund, Purchase of Services account #21106940-520000, per agreement between Westfield State University and the City of Westfield signed October 2019.

7. Submitting a Resolution authorizing a funding agreement with the Westfield Redevelopment Authority (WRA) to allow the WRA to access funds budgeted for FY2020 to advance the Elm Street Urban Renewal Project.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was
VOTED: That item 8. under “Communications from the Mayor” be read by the Clerk and
REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

8. Submitting a Resolution accepting drainage easements to the properties located at 74 Crescent Circle, 68 Crescent Circle and 62 Crescent Circle.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the City Properties Committee, it was
VOTED: That an Order to petition the General Court for authorization to transfer land on Cross Street from "Park" to "General Municipal" purposes (5/3/12) be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the City Properties Committee, it was
VOTED: That the item assign ownership of a city-owned parcel on Church to an appropriate Department (3/16/17) be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the City Properties Committee, it was
VOTED: That the item City Properties Committee be requested to account for and evaluate all City owned Real Estate that the evaluation include improved and unimproved parcels and to outline and gather input on maximizing currently utilized parcels and provide recommendations on parcels in blocks to liquidate, improve, and maximize value with the intent of returning parcels to the tax rolls (1/18/18) be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the item is a good concept but it has sat in Committee long enough and it may be resubmitted at a later date.

A CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING was held on an application submitted by Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) for the storage of 10,000 gallons gasoline and 10,800 gallons diesel to be located at Massachusetts Turnpike Westbound MM 41/Sgt. T.M. Dione Way to be used at the Maintenance Depot/State Police Barracks. Mr. Eric Main and Mr. Gary Sunder both from Mass DOT were present to represent the application. Mr. Sunder informed the Council that this a reapplication and the tanks have been there for years, but due to the DOT taking over the property there was a bit of confusion of how and/or if the tanks were licensed properly, therefore, a new application was submitted. He informed the Council that the application did not correctly state the gas storage. The correct amounts are 10,000 gallons of gas in an underground tank, 1,000 gallons of diesel in an aboveground tank.
and 138 gallons of diesel in an aboveground tank. The tanks are inspected every year, including an inspection by a 3rd party. Councilor Mello questioned how old are the tanks. Mr. Main informed the Council that they were manufactured in 1981 and are double-walled with alarms in place to detect any leakage. Councilor Mello questioned the life time of the tanks. Mr. Main informed the Council that the tanks can last forever as long there is no corrosion and that if there was any corrosion it would be discovered during inspections. Councilor Onyski requested that Mr. Main again state the amount of gas storage as the application has some cross outs on it and it is unclear. Mr. Main again informed the Council that there are 10,000 gallons of gas in an underground tank, 1,000 gallons of diesel in an aboveground tank and 138 gallons of diesel in an aboveground tank.

With no others appearing to be heard and upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was VOTED: That the Public Hearing be CLOSED and the application be REFERRED TO THE LICENSE COMMITTEE.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the application for marijuana establishments to be 500 feet from a park that is currently in Zoning, Planning and Development Committee will be reaching its expiration of 90 days prior to the next City Council meeting and that he will look into the details in more depth and that there may be a need for a Special Council meeting prior to the next regular meeting.

Councilor Allie informed the Council that Veterans will be honored at the Lincoln Breakfast to be held February 15, 2020 at East Mountain Country Club and that all Veterans are invited.

Councilor Sullivan request to refer back to the public participation of Mr. Andrew Miller and upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, it was VOTED: That the matter of truck traffic on Cowies Bridge be REFERRED TO THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION.

Councilor Flaherty announced that the Penguin Plunge will be January 25th, 2020 at Hampton Ponds at 1:00 PM. Mr. Rick Barry addressed the Council and informed him that he has been participating in the Penguin Plunge for the past 15 years and encouraged everyone to attend, plunge and/or make a donation which goes to the Children’s Museum.

At 7:29 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A true record, Attest:

[Signature]
Karen M. Fanion
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

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Presented to the Mayor

For approval  Jan. 24  2020

Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor

Jan. 27  2020

Donald F. Humason, Jr., Mayor