



MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL

59 COURT STREET
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
JANUARY 23, 2024 AT 7:00 PM
RESCHEDULED FROM JANUARY 18, 2024

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

The Clerk called the roll. Councilors Figy and Sullivan were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Beltrandi.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was
VOTED: That the reading of the record of the meetings of December 21, 2023, January 2, 2024 Inaugural Meeting and January 4, 2024 be ACCEPTED.

Councilor Morganelli called for a "Moment of Silence" to remember two Navy SEALs, Special Warfare Operator 2nd Class Nathan Gage Ingram and Special Warfare Operator 1st Class Christopher J. Chambers. He shared that Christopher Chambers attended Westfield High School and led the swim team to a state championship in 2004. In 2012, he enlisted in the Navy and graduated with seal qualifications and Westfield will be forever grateful for his service. Councilor Morganelli asked for prayers for the families of the two heroes during their time of mourning.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was
VOTED: Under immediate consideration that the sum of \$199,250.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (1000-359000) to the Technology Center Purchase of Service Account (11550000-520011) for the purchase of endpoint cybersecurity software for a period of 36 months.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Karen Fanion	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Absent

James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane shared that in April of 2023, the City of Lowell had a cyber-attack that affected both the school and city side. It took the city 12 weeks to recover. The average recovery costs for such an attack are 4.5 million dollars. She stated that the FBI put out an alert that cities must be on guard against attacks, noting that IT Manager Lenore Bernashe informed her that there were 600 attempts during the previous week. The appropriation of \$199,250.00 will protect the city by providing endpoint cybersecurity software. This includes antivirus and anti-malware endpoint protection as well as a 365/24/7 security operation center that will monitor the city system. She explained that cyber-security software has been appropriated from Free Cash for the last 15 years. Budgeting for the expense every year would cause the IT budget to spike dramatically. In addition to the savings from budgeting for three years at a time, the city will save \$25,250.00 if they purchase the software prior to January 30, 2024, the cause for immediate consideration. Councilor Adams asked if the city has always had cybersecurity. Councilor Matthews-Kane replied that the city currently has cybersecurity software that is set to expire in June.

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was VOTED: That items 2., 3., 4., 5., 6., and 7. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

2. Appropriation of \$123,940.14 from the Free Cash account (1000-359000) to the Technology Center Purchase of Service Account (11550000-520011) for the replacement and upgrade of infrastructure equipment that will assist in identifying and protecting the municipality's data, including sensitive information.
3. Appropriation of \$289,111.24 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Account (20510515-485400) to be used for purposes identified in the settlement agreements.
4. Transfer of \$200,000.00 from the Fire Department Ambulance Undesignated Account (2100-34000) to the Ambulance Overtime Account (21002310-513000) to cover overtime costs for the remainder of FY24.
5. Transfer of \$18,876.00 from the Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport FT Hourly Employee Account (11990000-511100) to the Purchase of Service Account (11990000-520000) for airport signage improvements in compliance with Westfield Sign Ordinance requirements.
6. Transfer of \$322.00 from the Department of Public Works Wastewater Division Supplies FY24 Account (67004400-540000) to the Supplies FY23 Account (67004400-540000) to cover an outstanding invoice.
7. Transfer of \$35.00 from the Police Department Purchase of Service FY24 Account (12100000-520000) to the Purchase of Service FY23 Account (12100000-520000) to

cover an outstanding vehicle inspection charge.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was

VOTED: That item 8. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

8. Submitting a Resolution for the acceptance of a Gift donation in the amount of \$915.00 from Hutghi's at the Nook to the Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation Division, for improvements to the Department's skatepark.

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was

VOTED: That item 9. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

9. Submitting itemized expenditures for completed and in progress ARPA Projects as of January 9, 2023.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: That items 10. through 37. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

10. Submitting the appointment of John Leary, Jr., 47 Broad Street, as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire in February, 2027, replacing Barbara Taylor.
11. Submitting the appointment of Eric L. McDowell, 38 Lindbergh Boulevard, as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire in February, 2027, replacing Elizabeth Boucher.
12. Submitting the appointment of Jacqueline M. McDowell, 38 Lindbergh Boulevard, as a member of the Cultural Council for a term to expire November, 2025, replacing Eric McDowell.
13. Submitting the appointment of Dr. Brian P. Sutton, 47 Stephanie Lane, as a member of the Fire Commission, for a term to expire in February, 2027, replacing C.Lee Bennett.
14. Submitting the reappointment of William Gonet, 29 Cardinal Lane, as a member of the Airport Commission for a term to expire in February, 2027.
15. Submitting the reappointment of John P. Morizio, 432 Montgomery Road, as a member of the Board of Assessors for a term to expire February, 2027.
16. Submitting the reappointment of Thomas Pereira, of 150 Hillside Road as a member of the Board of Public Works for a term to expire February, 2027.
17. Submitting reappointment of Rene Laviolette, 7 Victoria Circle as a member of the Board of Registrars for a term to expire February, 2027.

18. Submitting the reappointment of Thomas Johnson, 121 Reservoir Avenue as a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities for a term to expire February, 2027.
19. Submitting the reappointment of Andrea Pianka, 32 Yeoman Avenue as a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities for a term to expire February, 2027
20. Submitting the reappointment of David Doe, 46 Tekoa Terrace as a member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire February, 2027.
21. Submitting the reappointment of Ed Finnie, 295 Munger Hill Road as a member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire February, 2027.
22. Submitting the reappointment of Joseph Giffune, 49 Colony Drive as a member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire February, 2027.
23. Submitting the reappointment of Edward R. Ekmalian, Jr., 12 Crestwood Circle as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire February, 2027.
24. Submitting the reappointment of Eileen Rockwal, 5 Blueberry Ridge as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire February, 2027.
25. Submitting the reappointment Trudy Knowles, 4 Noble Avenue as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire in February, 2027.
26. Submitting the reappointment Cynthia Bronson, 53 Jefferson Street, Apt 3, as a member of the Historical Commission for a term to expire in February, 2027.
27. Submitting the reappointment of Patrick P. Murphy, 254 Montgomery Road, as a member of the Westfield Housing Authority, for a term to expire in February 2029.
28. Submitting the reappointment of Adam E. Roman, 419 Southwick Road, Unit Q69 as a member of the Municipal Light Board for a term to expire in February, 2026.
29. Submitting the reappointment of Ted Dobek, 883 Main Street, Agawam MA, owner of Circuit Coffee at 22 Elm Street, Westfield, MA to the Off-Street Parking Commission for a term to expire in February, 2027.
30. Submitting the reappointment of Joseph A. Golio, 109 Wildflower Circle as a member of the Off-Street Parking Commission for a term to expire February, 2027.
31. Submitting the reappointment of Kenneth Gustafson, 9 Michael Drive as a member of the Off-Street Parking Commission for a term to expire February, 2027
32. Submitting the reappointment of Jane DeBarbieri, 54 Lindbergh Boulevard as a member of the Parks & Recreation Commission for a term to expire in February, 2027.
33. Submitting the reappointment of Douglas A. Morash, 7 Gloria Drive as a member of the Parks & Recreation Commission for a term to expire February, 2027.
34. Submitting the reappointment of Richard A. Sypek, 60 Cardinal Lane as a member of the Police Commission for a term to expire February, 2027.
35. Submitting the reappointment John Niedzielski, 28 Heritage Lane as a member of the Water Commission for a term to expire February, 2027.
36. Submitting the reappointment of Richard K. Sullivan, III, 9 Toledo Avenue as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire February, 2027.

37. Submitting the reappointment of Christine Webster, 39 Blue Sky Drive as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire February, 2027.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND OTHER PAPERS

38. Upon motion of Councilor Morganelli, it was

VOTED: That the petition of Devcon Shops, LLC (an affected landowner) to amend the Zoning Ordinance at 4-40.2 to allow, by special permit, vehicular access to non-residential lots other than across their frontage be REFERRED TO ZONING, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE and PLANNING BOARD and that a Public Hearing be scheduled for the next practicable date.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Legislative and Ordinance Committee

39. Upon motion of Councilor Onyski for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was

VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT REGARDING VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER WITH THE TOWN OF MONTGOMERY" be ADOPTED.

All in favor, voice vote.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Onyski shared that the Resolution would allow the Mayor to enter into an agreement to provide Veteran Services to the town of Montgomery. The initial point of contact for veterans will continue to be the Montgomery Veterans Office. That office will work with Veterans Director Julie Barnes on Chapter 115 benefits for the veterans. The agreement is \$2,317.95 per year, for renewal for up to ten years. Councilor Onyski stated it was a win for both communities. Councilor Adams echoed Councilor Onyski and noted that Westfield Veterans Director Julie Barnes does a great job. Councilor Onyski read the Resolution in its entirety.

MOTIONS, ORDERS OR RESOLUTIONS

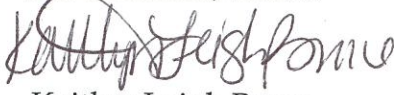
40. Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was

VOTED: to allow flag incinerators on city properties, Chapter 7 - Fire Prevention and Protection, Sec. 7-1. - Fire pits, chimineas, outdoor fireplaces be REFERRED TO THE LAW DEPARTMENT AND CITY PROPERTIES.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean shared that there was an Eagle Scout who wanted to put a flag incinerator on city property for his Eagle Scout project. He stated that the scout had been working on the project for 6-8 months and still did not have answers on how to proceed. Councilor Allie informed Council that an Eagle Scout project has to be completed before the scout's 18th birthday and requires Congress approval. Councilor Bean stated that if the city did not want to proceed with an incinerator, they would be able to let the Eagle Scout know so he

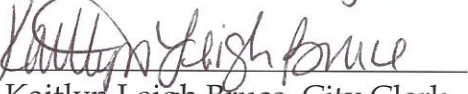
could switch his project.


At 7:21 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was
VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A true record, Attest:

Kaitlyn Leigh Bruce
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval February 2, 2024

Kaitlyn Leigh Bruce, City Clerk

2-2 2024

Michael A. McCabe, Mayor