



MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
FEBRUARY 18, 2021 AT 7:00 PM

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the City of Westfield CITY COUNCIL will be conducted via remote participation. Specific information can be found on the City of Westfield website at www.cityofwestfield.org. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so by tuning into Channel 15 or Channel 12 or online at westfieldtv.org or online at Youtube.com - Westfield Community Programming Channel. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the City's website an audio recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Access information for the meeting is as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://cityofwestfield-org.zoom.us/j/82032632683?pwd=K29MN2tjMG1qbTRVeDJaNWJPT3dUdz09>

Webinar ID: 820 3263 2683

Passcode: t*J.K3cJ

Dial by your location: 1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 820 3263 2683

Passcode: 05166213

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Bean.

The Clerk called the roll. Councilor Morganelli was absent.

Councilor Sullivan requested a "Moment of Silence" in honor of Kevin Harraghy, a former City Councilor, who passed away this past week.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was
VOTED: That the reading of record of the meeting of February 4, 2021 be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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.	Absent
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

President Bean asked if there was anyone present on the phone or online to speak at Public Participation. There was no one present to speak.

Under "Public Participation" Councilor Flaherty submitted a letter from Roz Gwozdz, 18 Second Ave (138 Root Road), Hampden Village relative to trucks traveling on Root Road.

At this point Councilor Morganelli arrived at the meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That items 2., 3. and 4. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

2. Requesting acceptance of a Grant in the amount of \$4,700,000.00 to the Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport from MassDevelopment for the Rehabilitation of Taxiway Sierra/ Apron Project. There is no local match.
3. Requesting acceptance of a Grant in the amount of \$200,000.00 to the Department of Public Works Water Division from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to reimburse the City for the costs of designing and permitting PFAS treatment projects for Wells 1, 2, 7 and 8.
4. Transfer of \$10,100.00 within the Airport Department from Full-Time Hourly Employees account #11990000-511100 to Purchase of Services, account #11990000-520000.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to allow IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION of a Bond Order in the amount of \$700,000.00 for infrastructure upgrade for the Western Avenue Phase II project.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Councilor Sullivan, for the Finance Committee, informed the Council that at the last Finance Committee meeting the request for an appropriation of \$700,000.00 from Free Cash to the Department of Public Works, Water Division for the upgrade of water infrastructure on Western Avenue to work in conjunction with the Western Avenue Phase II project was discussed. He explained that the issue was the funding source and that the DPW, Water Division is an enterprise fund and it makes good financial sense to have the funding source come from that fund, not Free Cash. The bond will come due in 2023 and at that time the fund may have the funds. It was the recommendation of Finance Committee to request the Mayor to submit this new communication for a bond order and to table item 13 on the Agenda (the appropriation of \$700,000.00 from Free Cash under Finance Committee report) in case the bond order does not go through. The purpose of the immediate consideration is because the City must tell the State how the City will pay for its 20% match of the project. He informed the Council that the motion will be for first reading of the bond order tonight and then second reading and final passage at the March 4th, 2021 meeting, then there is a 20 day appeal period, which will make the end of March deadline. Councilor Flaherty whole-heartily agreed with Councilor Sullivan's process and the funding source. Councilor Burns also agreed.

Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, it was
VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that a Bond Order entitled "A BOND ORDER FOR WATER IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO PHASE 2 OF THE WESTERN AVE PROJECT" (\$700,000.00) be given first reading by title only.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

The Order was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, it was

VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

The meeting returned to regular order.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was

VOTED: That item 6. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE LICENSE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

6. Submitting a Resolution to amend the Heka Incorporated Host Community Agreement to extend the deadline an additional six months to September 19, 2021.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilors Burns and Onyski informed the Council that they are abstaining due to a professional conflict. Councilors Burns and Onyski left the meeting.

At this point Councilors Burns and Onyski returned to the meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was

VOTED: That the street acceptance petitions for Angelica Drive (Ward 4) and Day Lily Lane (Ward 1) submitted by City Planner Jay Vinskey be REFERRED TO BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, CITY ENGINEER, PLANNING BOARD, CITY ENGINEER and LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that he is abstaining on the next two items due to a personal conflict, as his wife is the seller's real estate agent relative to the land purchase and his brother works for the Boys and Girls Club. Councilor Sullivan left the meeting

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$628,458.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (#1000-359000) to School Department, Purchase of Land and Building/Capital account #50082720-580000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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.	Abstained
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council the appropriation will allow the School Department to purchase the properties at 129 and 131 Franklin Street as part of the Franklin Avenue School project. The process is in the feasibility study portion at this time, with options to either remodel or rebuild. Councilor Morganelli questioned why the appropriation is being done prior to the final plan. Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the MSBA requires the acquisition of the land in order to continue on with the different options. Councilor Adams questioned if the appropriation includes the demolition of the houses if that is the final plan. Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that it does not include demolition.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$62,405.20 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Undesignated (FY21) account #24101770-580000 to the CPA Boys and Girls Club Playground (Recreation) account #24101770-580400-5311.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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.	Abstained
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

At this point Councilor Sullivan returned to the meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$350,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (#1000-359000) to Stabilization account #8303-392000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$306,000.00 be appropriated from the Department of Public Works, Water Division Undesignated account #6800-359000 to the Department of Public Works, Water Division, as follows:

\$240,000.00 to Purchase of Services, account #68004500-520000

\$10,000.00 to Supplies, account #68004500-540000

\$40,000.00 to Overtime, account #68004500-513000

\$16,000.00 to Gasoline, account #68004500-548001

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the appropriation to overtime is to replenish the account from December cuts, the purchase of services is for environmental work and off duty police and for supplies and gasoline.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$50,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (#1000-359000) to Community Development Department, Cross Street Playground Renovation account #11820000-585005.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the appropriation is to reconstruct the parking lot.

Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, for the Finance Committee, it was

VOTED: That the appropriation of \$700,000.00 from Free Cash (#1000-359000) to Department of Public Works, Water Division, Construction account #68004500-589200 be TABLED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that this item be tabled at this time and once the bond order request of \$700,000.00 is passed through all readings, this item will be removed from committee.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$73,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (#1000-359000) to Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Recycling Division, as follows:

\$65,000.00 to Purchase of Services, account #14340000-520000

\$8,000.00 to Supplies, account #14330000-540000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that recycling is a new expense item for the City and at budget time the whole amount was not known and this appropriation will finish out the current fiscal year.

Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$8,500.00 be appropriated from Department of Public Works, Stormwater Division Undesignated account #6850-359000 to Department of Public Works, Stormwater, Purchase of Services, account #68504550-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that appropriation is to run cameras, pipes and other professional services related to the Williams Riding Way flood control pump station on the Wielgus property.

Upon motion of Councilor Mello, it was VOTED: That to request the appearance of Water Department personnel to provide updates on PFAS testing and reporting and be referred to Mayor, Water Department, and Natural Resources.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The President declared the motion LOST.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Mello informed the Council that there has not been an update since August. Councilor Burns, liaison to the Water Department, informed the Council that he met with the Mayor and Heather Stayton from the Water Department and they will be discussing this at the next Water Commission meeting and that if Councilor Mello has questions she should call the department directly therefore he will be voting no on the motion. Councilor Harris agreed with Councilor Burns. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the Water Department promised to put out monthly reports and that has not happened. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that he supports the motion and that Wards 1 and 6 want answers. Councilor Allie questioned if a Councilor has a question do the questions have to be submitted to the Mayor in advance. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that the matter should be dealt with at a Water Commission meeting. Councilor Onyski agreed with Councilor Beltrandi and added that if the questions are not answered at the Water Commission meeting then bring the Commission into a Council meeting. Councilor Mello informed the Council that the topic in the email she received (copy on sharefile) will not be a topic at the Water Commission and that she believed this was the chain of command to request a department to come before the Council. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that per Section 26 of the Charter this is the proper process per paragraph 2 to request a department come before the Council. Councilor Harris informed the Council that having the matter discussed at a Water Commission meeting and again at a Council meeting is redundant and that after the Water Commission if the Council is not satisfied with the answers then have it brought back to Natural Resources Committee. Councilor Mello informed the Council that the dates on the emails are from December and the Water Commission did not address anything on in at their January or February meetings.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the above lost motion be RECONSIDERED at the first Council meeting after the Water Commission meeting.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: To investigate the recently proposed Teacher Early Retirement Incentive program's impacts on Westfield's budget at <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/SD1111>; this is a local option that requires approval of the City Council and be REFERRED TO LONG RANGE FINANCE COMMITTEE, PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT and SCHOOL FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE and it was further voted upon motion of Councilor Sullivan to add the MAYOR to the referral list.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The President declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that this bill will allow teachers to add 5 years of service or age for retirement. The goal of the bill is to have the higher paid teachers retire and replace them with younger, lower salaried teachers. He informed the Council that with this early retirement there will be increased costs for health care, increases in severance payments and that the City needs to know all of the true costs before making a decision on the local option. Councilor Adams informed the Council that this bill may never go through and it's a lot of work to do for something that may never happen. Councilor Mello informed the Council that she would hope the goal would be to look at the numbers to find the optimal point as to what makes sense. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the School Committee and the City Council need to know the impacts prior to voting on it and that there is no harm in doing the research and making recommendations to Senator Velis and Representative Pease as they look at the bill. Councilor Sullivan reiterated that at this time it is just a bill and it has not passed and that the only reason a previous early retirement worked was because the City did not hire back those positions that someone retired from. He informed the Council he would support the motion, even though it was widely premature and requested that the Mayor be also added to the referral list because it's a big obligation for the City. Councilor Flaherty agreed with Councilor Sullivan to add the Mayor to the referral list. Councilor Harris informed the Council that she would be a no vote because it's a huge political and union issue and if the State makes a decision then at that time look at it. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that if Councilor Flaherty is willing to do the work to be

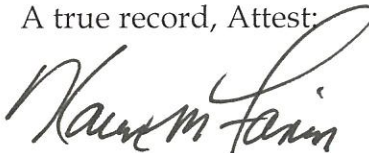
proactive instead of reactive he would support the motion. Councilor Mello informed the Council that if the research is done then recommendations can be given on the bill. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that if it comes to fruition efforts will be made to communicate with Senator Velis and Representative Pease.

At 8:23 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

A true record, Attest:

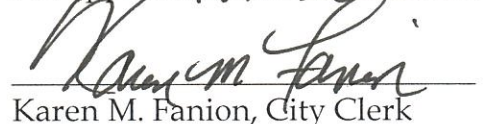


Karen M. Fanion
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

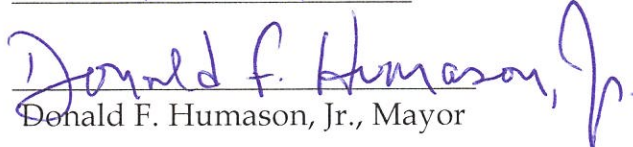
Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval Feb. 25 2021


Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

Feb. 26 2021


Donald F. Humason, Jr., Mayor