



MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL

59 COURT STREET

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

APRIL 06, 2023 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 by President Beltrandi.

The Clerk called the roll. Councilor Morganelli was 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 meeting March 16, 2023 be ACCEPTED.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Carmel Steger, 60 Wood Road, Chair of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail (CGRT). She informed the Council that the CGRT crossing at Shaker Road has been pointed out by riders as a high risk collision zone. The Board has recommendations and would like to set a meeting with City Officials. In addition they have a proposition for a sani-can in the Shaker parking lot, similar to the Southwick Rail Trail.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Chris Steger, 60 Wood Road, Board Member of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail. He extended an invite to the Council to the grand opening for the downtown section of the multi-use path on June 17th.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Jonathan McHatton, 42 Arnold Street, Board Member of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail. He spoke about the new Massachusetts Vulnerable Road Users Law that was passed on the state level on April 1st. He stated that drivers will need to provide a "safe passing distance" of at least 4 feet when passing vulnerable road users. Mass DOT will be putting up signage to this effect across the Commonwealth and will work in collaboration with municipalities to do so on public roadways.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Bob Hamel, 44 Wildflower Circle, Board Member of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail. He invited the Council to two upcoming events: the Annual Ride of Silence on May 17th, a worldwide event honoring anyone killed or injured as a bicyclist and the Annual Mayor's Ride on May 24th, which coincides with the opening of the downtown segment of the CGRT.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Jessica Britton, 26 Casimir Street. She stated when public bodies in Massachusetts allow public to comment, they can't stop someone from speaking if they don't like what is being said. She shared her frustrations with the Planning Board meeting held earlier that week.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Anna Kerkhoff, 17 Heritage Lane to speak in opposition of Ordinance Section 4-31- Dogs and/or cats at large prohibited; leashing required; fine.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was
VOTED: That items 1., 2., 3., 4., 5. and 6. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read the Agenda as follows:

1. Requesting Acceptance of a Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division to the Westfield Barnes Regional Airport to partially fund a feasibility study for the Taxiway B project.
2. Appropriation of \$198,746.70 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to The Police Department Purchase of Service Account #12100000-520000 to fund capital improvements to the Police Station.
3. Appropriation of \$68,289.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to the Technology Center Replacement Equipment Account #11550000-587000 to fund the replacement of 65 desktops and monitors located primarily in City Hall.
4. Appropriation of \$5,939.00 from Free Cash Account (1000-359000) to the Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation Purchase of Service Account #16300000-520000 to repair the flagpole at Park Square.
5. Transfer of \$30,000.00 within the Airport Department from the FT Hourly Account #11990000-511100 to Replacement Equipment #11990000-578000 for upgrades to the airport-wide security camera system.
6. Transfer of \$15,000.00 from the Public Communications FT Salary Account #12250000-511000 to the Fire Department Overtime Account #12200000-513000 to fund staffing at the Westfield International Airshow taking place May 13-14, 2023.
Finance

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was
VOTED: That items 7. and 8. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

The Clerk read the Agenda as follows:

7. Submitting a Confirmatory Order of Discontinuance for a portion of Union Street, so called, as a City Way.
8. Submitting a Resolution to Apply for, Accept and Expend a Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Division of Conservation Services' Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (Land) Grant Program for the Tekoa Narrows Conservation Area.

9. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the Mayor's objections to Resolution 3151, entitled "Appointing Authority to Set Salary" be placed on file and to schedule an override vote at the next City Council meeting. All in favor, voice vote.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to act upon items received at tonight's meeting. Councilors Flaherty and Matthews-Kane OPPOSED.

10. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: That submitting a change to the job description for the Department of Public Works Director be REFERRED TO PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE. Councilor Burns OPPOSED

Prior to the vote Councilor Harris stated that the item would not be discussed in committee and that it would come back out for the entire Council to discuss. Councilor Burns asked the Councilors to reconsider immediate consideration, noting how long the City Council, Board of Public Works and Water Commission have been working on this.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: That items 11., 12., 13., 14., 15., 16. and 17. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read the Agenda as follows:

11. Submitting the appointment of Kenneth Gustafson, 9 Michael Drive as a member of the Off Street Parking Commission for a term to expire in February, 2024, replacing John Regan.
12. Submitting the appointment of Ed Finnie, 295 Munger Hill Road as a member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire February, 2026, replacing Alex Fagnand.
13. Submitting the reappointment of Lenore Bernashe, 100 South Street, Granby MA as Information Technology Manager for a term to expire July 6, 2026.
14. Submitting the appointment of Seth Barber as a member of the Youth Commission for a term to expire February, 2026.
15. Submitting the appointment of Teagan Chisholm-Godshalk as a member of the Youth Commission for a term to expire February, 2026.
16. Submitting the appointment of Jack Knapik as member of the Youth Commission for a Term to expire February, 2026.
17. Submitting the appointment of Thomas Knapik as member of the Youth Commission for a Term to expire February, 2026.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to act upon items received
at tonight's meeting.
All in favor, voice vote.

18. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: Under immediate consideration that the request for permission to serve beer and
wine and to waive the "open container" regulation in the Central Street Parking Lot, for the 5th
Annual Whip City Brewfest, on Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM be
APPROVED.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

19. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was
VOTED: That item 19. under "Reports of City Officers" be read by the Clerk and be
REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read the Agenda as follows:
Purchasing Director Tammy Tefft, 371 College Highway, Southamptn, MA submitting a
request for reappointment for a term to expire July 4, 2026.

20. Upon motion of Councilor Onyski , it was
VOTED: That item 20. under "Reports of City Officers" be read by the Clerk and be
REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read the Agenda as follows:
First Assistant City Solicitor Shanna Reed submitting the following Ordinance amendments as
requested by Sergeant Mejias, Chair of the Traffic Commission: Chapter 17-115 Parking
Prohibited at all times on certain streets by adding Kellogg Street, West Side from Orange
Street, beyond Belmont Street to the base of the dike; Chapter 17-73 Stop Intersections
Designation by adding the following: Foss Street, northbound at Lawton Avenue, Angelica
Drive, westbound at Northwest Road and Old Quarry Road, eastbound at Northwest Road.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND OTHER PAPERS

21. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That a Public Hearing be scheduled at the earliest practicable date for the application
submitted by Camile Hannoush, Inc., 99 Springfield Road, Suite 2, Camile A. Hannoush
(owner), applying for Junk Dealer and Junk Collector licenses.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

22. PUBLIC HEARING on a petition for a zoning amendment submitted by Councilor Onyski to amend the zoning ordinance at Sec. 4-121 to exempt certain fixtures from the exterior lighting standards. Councilor Onyski, Ward 6 read the proposed amendment aloud *“Replacement of an existing fixture (installed prior to May 1, 2023) owned by the City, municipal utility, or public housing authority which results in an equal or lesser illumination level, glare and trespass, and which is made to comply with the intent of this section to the extent reasonably practicable, as commensurate with the scope of such replacement actions.”* He stated that he would be making an amendment to include every light in Westfield. He informed the Council that on December 21, 2017 the City Council approved the existing Lighting Ordinance based on the recommendation of the Planning Board. In November of 2022, Westfield Gas and Electric (WGE) installed lights at the Moose Club, the lights were found to be out of compliance by the Building Department and the lights were removed by WGE. In 2023, a motion was made to review the Lighting Ordinance and referred to Zoning Planning and Development as well as Legislative & Ordinance. There were discussions in the committee meetings but a Public Hearing was required to change the Ordinance. He informed the Council that WGE rents lights, which he didn’t believe was known at the time the Lighting Ordinance was approved in 2017. He added that the WGE wasn’t consulted by the City Council or the Planning Board. He stated that there are roughly 603 lights with 300 different accounts throughout the City that are rented to the City, businesses and residents. Light bulbs can be changed but if one of the light fixtures gets damaged, or needs to be changed to LED lighting, it must be done in compliance with the Lighting Ordinance. The current regulation would require more light poles to effectively light parking lots or a waiver from the Planning Board. He stated that the current ordinance also affects private businesses and homes throughout the City, not just WGE. He stated that the Ordinance was created with the best intentions but there is a lot wrong with it. He agreed that ignorance of the law isn’t an excuse but wanted to work towards finding a solution. He stated that this was a chance to make the community welcoming to small businesses. Councilor Flaherty referenced a lighting diagram (Appendix A) asked if the old lights could be replaced with new lights that have baffles that keep the light from going up above 90 degrees and can be narrowed similar to photo studio lights. If that was possible, he thought it may be more cost effective than putting up new stanchions. Westfield Gas and Electric General Manager Thomas Flaherty and Electrical Inspector Mike Jasmin approached the podium. Mr. Flaherty replied that the current lights were not downward facing and they may be able to try to fabricate side pieces but typically the fixtures are made to broadcast light out for safety and security. Inspector Jasmin confirmed, explaining in detail why it wouldn’t work for the current fixtures. Councilor Matthews-Kane read aloud the existing Lighting Ordinance and asked if WGE flood lights meet the

following standards:

-All outdoor lighting shall be directed downward with full cut-off fixtures. Light dispersion above a ninety-degree or horizontal plane above the fixture is prohibited.

-No outdoor fixture shall cause light trespass beyond the site's side or rear property line, or onto a property opposite the street/front lot line, in excess of the following limits.

-Exterior lighting shall be designed, installed, directed and maintained to minimize viewing of the lighting element from any neighboring residential property, by way of orientation, shields, baffles, landscape screening or other mechanisms.

-Maximum fixture height (as measured above finished grade) shall be 16 feet if located in the C.O.R.E., Commercial A, Broad Street Mixed or Court Street Mixed Districts; or if located in, or within 100 feet of, any residential district. Maximum height in all other areas shall be 30 feet.

Mr. Flaherty confirmed that they did not. Councilor Matthews-Kane questioned if the list given to Council was accurate. Councilor Mello stated she went through the data and made some corrections, there were slightly over 209 separate locations. She suggested collecting stakeholder information and working together on creating a program to bring everyone into compliance rather than amending the ordinance. Inspector Jasmin suggested looking at other Lighting Ordinances and highlighted Northampton, MA for some guidance. He informed the Council that there are many lights, not just WGE lights that are out of compliance. Councilor Mello spoke in opposition of exempting light pollution. Councilor Allie stated that the plan needs to address light pollution as well as cost effective solutions and agreed that the WGE and the Building Department should have been involved in 2017. He questioned if they could remove the date and create an exemption that would allow for WGE to make repairs or replace lightbulbs and fixtures. Mr. Flaherty stated that would work for WGE. Councilor Bean asked for a ballpark number of costs associated with bringing lights into compliance. Inspector Jasmin stated he was given a cost estimate from an electrician who was looking to put in parking lot lighting at 74 to 80 Franklin Street. The cost was \$35,000-\$45,000.00. He stated he would recommend changing the wording and grandfathering in existing lights and work on a correcting the Ordinance. Councilor Mello questioned an exemption and how that would help the close to 10,000 lights to be less pollutant. She asked if rather than changing the ordinance, they could take a step back and collect data. Councilor Allie noted the last time the Ordinance was discussed, it took months. He suggested an exemption for lights to get fixed and for all stakeholders working to put together something comprehensive. Inspector Jasmin stated that Lighting Ordinances in other communities allow existing lights until they have to be renovated, then they are required to conform to new standards. Councilor Flaherty stated that the Lighting Ordinance was created to try and reduce pollution and address concerns. He agreed that they can't put the burden on the businesses. He suggested looking into Green Energy Grants as well as State and Federal Government funding. He stated the City has a problem enforcing ordinances. He spoke against light pollution and believed the whole Ordinance should be looked at, not just this one edit. Councilor Adams stated it would cost him \$100,000.00 to repave his parking lot to fix his lights, noting that the State owned street lights do not have to comply with the Lighting Ordinances. He stressed the importance of safety and that both safety and pollution could be discussed but noted that there were developers looking for answers. He believed WGE should be given an exemption to fix existing lights now. Councilor Mello asked how many enforcement actions had taken place. City Building Superintendent Carissa Lisee replied since 2017 there have been two. Mr. Flaherty added

that Westfield Gas and Electric removed both lights. Councilor Figy commended the Planning Board for one of the conditions on a recent application that after hours, lights would go out and be on motion detectors. Inspector Jasmin stated that they do make motion sensors for these parking lots lights.

President Beltrandi opened the Public Hearing up to the public.

Kimberly Hatch, 28 Cleveland Ave, informed the Council that she has been a professionally trained photographer for over 20 years and discussed different elements and variables of how light spreads. She shared that she has light sensitivity and agreed that the Lighting Ordinance should be changed. She believed LED lights should be taken into account separately, voicing her concerns about health and safety risks posed by LED street lights. She suggested when looking into the Ordinance, alternative options such as shields, diffusion, and changing directions of the lights should be considered.

Rich Roy, 55 Saint James Ave, stated that he agreed that parking lots have to be lit for customers and safety but spoke in opposition of overly lit, bright LED Flood lights in parking lots.

Roland Lussier, 14 Holland Ave, stated that behind his home, there is a light that stays on in an unused parking lot. He thought the direction of the lighting and light intrusion on dwellings should be addressed as the Lighting Ordinance is looked at.

Merritt Andrews, 14 Spring Street, stated that he lives 300' from the light at the Moose Club that was discussed earlier. He described the changes the light brought to his day to day life roughly 4 months ago and stated that after complaints, an adjustment was made to the reflector. He stated he lives downtown and the lights forced him to pull down shades, blanking out the neighborhood. He stated with the new lights there was more brightness in his neighborhood; but with the shades down, they had fewer lookers. He questioned which was safer. He added that it was interesting to him that no-one spoke about individuals or families, rather about industries, hospitals and factories, suggesting the solution may require two parts.

Kris Hedblom, 27 Holland Avenue, stated the Lighting Ordinance was written to help with the safety for public and help keep the light at a comfort level for people affected by light distribution. She stated Councilor Figy spoke at the Planning Board meeting requesting low profile lights with fences, allowing businesses to have lights needed for safety. His requests leaned towards the community and she hoped the WGE and businesses could consider that approach as well. She shared negative effects that LED lights have on human and animal health.

Joyce Andrews, 14 Spring Street, informed the Council she originally brought forth the complaint because they couldn't use their kitchen and the flood lights went into the bedrooms of her rental properties. She thanked Councilor Matthews-Kane for getting the light removed.

Julian Fleron, 27 Holland Avenue, stated that the costs to businesses had been addressed but the cost to residents and their quality of life should also be taken into consideration, noting the light that shines into the back of the houses on Holland Ave. He urged the Council that rather than grandfathering in the lights that they fix the Ordinance the right way.

Hailey Rivers, 19 Lockhouse Road, informed the Council that she previously lived in Hawaii, working for Hawaii Volcanoes National Park to bring their lighting up to code with Dark Sky International Association standards. She stated spending a little more money to protect the night sky as a resource, is an investment and important to make a plan for future generations. She suggested coming up with a plan to support local residents and businesses. Rather than changing the Ordinance, change the approach. She stated that there needs to be forgiveness while people take time to come up to code.

Mary Ann Babinski, 114 Rogers Ave, stated that the Lighting Ordinance was put into place due to light pollution that was impacting the quality of life of residents. She encouraged everyone to look at www.darksky.org and educate themselves on light pollution and human health. She stated that all the stakeholders needed to get together to figure out how long everyone needs to get up to code and to discuss enforcement.

James Lowenthal, Northampton, MA, a Professor of Astronomy at Smith College and President of the Massachusetts Chapter of the International Dark Sky Association informed the Council of lighting options available and offered to take the Council on tours of the lighting at Smith College. He stated that Westfield is one of 50 cities or towns in Massachusetts with a Lighting Ordinance. He stated that the light pollution level anywhere in the world can be found on www.lightpollutionmap.info. Westfield is number 10, which means that the night sky is 10 times brighter than a dark sky. He agreed there is no consensus on whether or not light provides more safety. He provided resources to the Council showing that light pollution can have devastating consequences for human health interfering with circadian rhythms and to wildlife as they require darkness at night to survive. He stated that it's estimated that 3 billion dollars is spent sending light into the sky and that it is entirely possible to get safety without light pollution. He informed the Council that International Dark Sky Week is April 15-22nd and that the Dark Sky Bill is pending in Massachusetts State Legislature.

Donna Wiemen, 15 State Street, shared that she wears sunglasses all the time because she has post-concussion syndrome which causes photo sensitivity. She echoed the spillover effects of lights on the ecosystem, idea of using motion sensor lights as well as the importance of enforcement.

Jessica Britton, 36 Casimir Street, questioned why it wasn't enforced and what enforcement would look like going forward.

Mary Beal, 61 Wood Road, stated that she has had one light on her property for 46 years and she hopes City Council will not take it away.

Carissa Lisee, Westfield Building Superintendent stated that the answer as to why it wasn't enforced was because the Building Department didn't know about the lights until it was brought to their attention in July of 2022. She stated that lights that were being installed didn't meet the Ordinance and that is why the Public Hearing is happening.

President Beltrandi opened the Public Hearing up to anyone who wanted to speak in favor of the application. Thomas Flaherty, WGE General Manager stated he was in favor of working with the City and Inspectors to solve the problem. Councilor Onyski read an email into the record from Ronald Schortmann, Jr., 26 Hillcrest Circle, in support of the amendment

to the Lighting Ordinance.

President Beltrandi opened the Public Hearing up to anyone who wanted to speak in opposition of the application. Kimberly Hatch, Richard Roy, Mary Ann Babinski and Hailey Rivers spoke in opposition of the amendment to the Lighting Ordinance. Councilor Allie stated that he is a member of the Dark Sky Observatory and spoke briefly on light pollution. He stated they need a plan to address the issues with the three entities involved and people with expertise. He noted that it's going to take time and stated that they should keep the Public Hearing open. He suggested a motion for exemption with a sunset clause so WGE could get lights fixed while they work together to come up with alternatives but was in opposition of the amendment on the floor. Councilor Onyski stated that it was good to hear all sides of the story and what is being presented is the ability to replace lights that are burning out with equal or lesser light. He stated that they could fix the problems on Holland Ave. He stated he was not against coming up with a City wide plan to change out all of the lights to compliant lights but didn't believe it should be tied to this. He referenced an Ordinance regarding bonfires that took two years to complete and stated that this needed to be fixed sooner rather than later to address safety. He stated what was proposed didn't add to any ongoing light pollution and he believed that they could resolve issues brought up and work together to come up with a citywide plan that can make a change. Councilor Matthews-Kane spoke in opposition of the amendment to the Lighting Ordinance. She stated that she is willing to find a better plan but grandfathering in all of the lights isn't the plan. She thanked everyone for coming and for their powerful and eloquent words. Councilor Mello spoke in opposition of the amendment to the Lighting Ordinance. She stated that after she plotted out the data, most of the homes being effected are Environmental Justice Neighborhood. She stated that 95 of the locations only have 1 light, it's not impossible and can be done one step at a time. She stated that she is a no because the amendment would not be tied to the working group with a sunset clause. Councilor Figy stated that he's learned a lot through this process. He was in favor of the amendment to keep things going but was in agreement that the whole Ordinance needed to be looked at for possible improvements. He thanked the Building Department for coming up to staff which helps with code enforcement.

With no others appearing to be heard and upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was VOTED: That the Public Hearing REMAIN OPEN until the next regular meeting of the City Council.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That a 10 minute RECESS be DECLARED.

At 9:50 PM, the meeting was called back to order by President Beltrandi.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee

23a. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the Successor Agreement between the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Council 93 Local 1676 Foremen Union and the City of Westfield be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that they would bifurcate the vote. He shared that Personnel Director Anne Larkham stated that they're looking to change some of the language to gender neutral language on a local level but the state titles will remain until they are changed. City Auditor Vicki Moro also attended the Finance Committee meeting and stated the yearly increases would be as follows: Year 1 would be an increase of \$28,591.94, Year 2 would be an increase of \$25,981.83 and Year 3 would be an increase of \$23,066.67. Year 1 includes an additional \$1,600 for OT on call pay. All three years includes an additional \$1,000 in lieu of a clothing allowance. All three years also includes a 2% increase.

23b. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$12,189.02 from the General Fund Reserve for Future Salary Increases (19500000-519999) be appropriated to the Department of Public Works Land and Natural Resources FT Salary account (14990000-511000) in the amount of \$4,010.18 and to the Highway FT Salary account (14210000-511000) in the amount of \$8,178.84.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that all the money needed has been set aside for future salary increases. He thanked the City Auditor and Mayor for doing these motions at once as previously requested.

24. Upon motion of Councilor Bean for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 from the State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG) to the Department of Public Works, Wastewater Division for the construction of a new Operations Building at the Water Recovery Facility be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote Councilor Bean informed the Council that Item 24.and 25. were linked. This Grant will help the City finish the water sewer project off of Union Street that began in 2019 when they did the air quality test. There is a 20% match which is included in the Bond. Councilor Sullivan added that this was an earmark from Congressman Neal in the Federal Budget.

25. Upon motion of Councilor Bean for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Bond Order entitled "A BOND ORDER FOR CONSTRUCTING A NEW OPERATIONS BUILDING AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY" (in the amount of \$3,250,000.00) be given first reading by title only.

The Order was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Bean: That the Order be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean stated that the Bond is for the total cost but when the Grant comes through, the \$1,000,000.00 will be deducted. He thanked Deputy Superintendent Jeff Gamelli and Acting DPW Director Fran Cain for the thorough presentation. He added that Mr. Gamelli has done a lot with the Department and continuously been diligent about finding grants.

26. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$130,000.00 from Free Cash Account (1000-359000) be appropriated to the Department of Public Works Highway Division Supplies Account #14210000-540000 for upgrades for standard roadway structures.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the cash advance is for future roadwork. When roads are repaved, the City replaces the roadway structures needed for sewer and utility holes. The city reuses these structures when they can but most

must be replaced. These structures have a 3-4 month lead time so they need to be ordered now. Acting DPW Director Fran Cain estimates the city will need 50-100 for roadwork this year.

Legislative and Ordinance Committee

27. Upon motion of Councilor Onyski for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That requesting acceptance of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Westfield and City of Northampton regarding the integrated bike share system, ValleyBike be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE.

All in favor, voice vote.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Onyski stated that the people who owned the bike share company were making changes to the contract in Northampton which affected the contract with Westfield. Councilor Sullivan supported the work of the subcommittee. He informed the Council that there has been an infusion of dollars on a regional level by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

Personnel Action Committee

28. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Kate Phelon, 150 Hillside Road as a member of the Airport Commission for a term to expire in February, 2026 be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Kate Phelon was first appointed in 2020. She was the Director of the Greater Westfield Chamber of Commerce for 10 years. Since becoming an Airport Commissioner she has worked with the Airport Manager on marketing materials for trade shows and conventions, and car magnets to promote the Airport. She created a new lobby directory listing all tenants in the terminal building. Networking at various functions to promote Westfield Barnes Regional Airport resulted in it becoming the preferred Airport for the Big E entertainment vendor. She created a Channel 15 TV show called "In the Air, On the Air". She established an Airport Marketing Working

Group with Airport Tenants that meet monthly to help market the Airport, and worked with that group in selecting a clothing line of merchandise to sell. She created the Friends of Barnes Airport, a 501 (C3) non-profit to promote business at the Airport through events and sale of merchandise. Councilor Onyski added that Ms. Phelon does a fantastic job on the commission and brings a lot of enthusiasm and marketing experience.

Prior to voting on Items 29 through 31, Councilor Harris stated that all Youth Commission applicants are interviewed by Youth Commission Advisor McLean, the names are sent to the Mayor for approval, and then sent to the City Council for confirmation vote. City Councilors receive information on applicants from the City Clerk, but the public vote is on names only because they are minors.

29. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Finn Chisholm-Godshalk to the Youth Commission for a term to expire in February, 2026 be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

30. Upon the motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Jillian Battles to the Youth Commission for a term to expire in February, 2026 be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

31. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Lincoln VanHeynigen to the Youth Commission for a term to expire in February, 2026 be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Ad Hoc Charter Review Committee

32. Upon motion of Councilor Bean for the Ad-Hoc Charter Review Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion to recommend submission of the Amended Version of Charter of the City of Westfield to the House and Senate for processing as a Special Act REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

All in favor, voice vote.

License Committee

33. Upon motion of Councilor Figy for the License Committee, it was VOTED: That the applications submitted by MJ's Buy Sell Trade, 24 North Elm Street, Michael Ventrice (owner) for Junk Dealer and Junk Collector Licenses be APPROVED.

All in favor, voice vote.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that as stated that Mr. Ventrice has tried different business ventures at this location and thinks this would be a good use for the building.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

34. Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the City Properties Committee it was VOTED: That an Order Transferring Care, Custody, Management and Control of the Skate Park property on 28 West Silver Street (behind Westfield Middle School) from the School Committee to the Parks and Recreation Commission be REMOVED FROM THE TABLE. All in favor, voice vote.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to allow for immediate consideration of item 34. All in favor, voice vote.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the City Properties Committee it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration that the Order Transferring Care, Custody, Management and Control of the Skate Park property on 28 West Silver Street (behind Westfield Middle School) from the School Committee to the Parks and Recreation Commission be given first reading and it was further voted that the Order be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

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

35. Upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was VOTED: That an Ordinance, entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, APPENDIX B-ZONING, ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 3, 1987" (To expand the demolition delay for properties of historical significance by extending the wait time for the issuance of a demolition permit from 90 days to 180 days) be given second reading and be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

36. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Bond Order, entitled "A BOND ORDER FOR HVAC UPGRADES TO THE BLOWER SLUDGE PROCESSING BUILDING AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY." be given second reading and be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

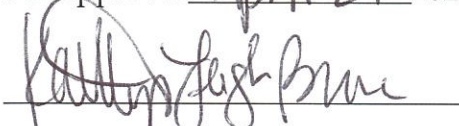
At 10:13PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A true record, Attest:

Kaitlyn Leigh Bruce
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

For approval April 21 2023



Kaitlyn Leigh Bruce, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor

4-21 2023



Michael A. McCabe, Mayor