



MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
59 COURT STREET  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
APRIL 21, 2022 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 Onyski.

The Clerk called the roll. Councilors Beltrandi, Figy and Flaherty were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That the record of the meeting of April 7, 2022 be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Tina Gorinatti, Executive Director of the Council on Aging. She spoke in support of the Resolution recognizing June 2022 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month. She informed the Council that many LGBT Seniors do not feel safe and have not had support they needed and the proposed Resolution will give them this support. She referenced a breakfast she had prior to COVID that encouraged Pride Month with the Pride Flag on the stage and she did not know how it was going to turn out because she did not have the support community and that the proposed Resolution will give community support. She informed the Council that all employees of the Senior Center have received training on sexual orientation

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Kelsey Emmitt 32 Allen Ave. She spoke in support of the Resolution recognizing June 2022 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month. As a member of the LGBT community, she informed the Council that Westfield can be both supportive and ignorant of the LGBT community. June is pride month because June 28, 1969 was when the Stonewall Uprising occurred in NY and June 26, 2015 same-sex marriage was legalized in the US. She informed the Council there are misconceptions and lack of information relative to the LGBT community and the Resolution is not about grooming, it's about supporting everyone in the community.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was VOTED: That item 1. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE CITY PROPERTIES COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

1. Requesting acceptance of a gift of a bench donation from Sonia Pease on behalf of the Elm Pizza family members in memory of a coworker to be placed at Women's Temperance Park.

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was VOTED: That items 2., 3. and 4. 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. Transfer of \$497.55 within the Police Department from FY22 Part Time Hourly, account #1293000-511110 to FY21 Part Time Hourly, account #12930000-511110 to cover step raises not paid in FY 2021 to Traffic Control Supervisors
3. Transfer of \$429.10 from the Department of Public Works, Highway Division from the FY22 Purchase of Services, account #14210000 520000 to FY21 Purchase of Services, account #14210000-520000 for a prior year bill.
4. Transfer of \$3,602.04 from Department of Public Works, Water Division, FY22 Purchase of Services, account #68004500-520000 to FY21 Purchase of Services, account #68004500-520000 for a prior year bill.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was VOTED: That items 5., 6., 7. and 8. 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:

5. Submitting the reappointment of Diane Snow, 13 Country Club Drive, as a member of the Board of Assessors for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2025.
6. Submitting the reappointment of Attorney Meghan R. Bristol to the position of Assistant City Solicitor for a three-year term to expire May 15, 2025.
7. Submitting the reappointment of Attorney Shanna Reed as First Assistant City Solicitor for a three-year term to expire May 1, 2025.

8. Submitting the reappointment of Carissa Lisee as Superintendent of Buildings for a three-year term to expire the first Monday of May, 2025.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: That items 9. and 10. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE LICENSE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

9. Requesting approval for permission to serve beer and wine and to waive the "open container" regulation on Elm Street, from School Street from Main Street to Franklin Street, on Saturday, May 21, 2022 from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM for the Run Westfield Flat Fast 5K.
10. Requesting approval for permission to serve beer and wine and to waive the "open container" regulation in the Central Street Parking Lot on Saturday, June 4, 2022 from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM for the Whip City Brewfest. H

#### REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

11. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: That the annual Junk Dealer and Junk Collector License Renewals for 2022 submitted City Clerk Karen Fanion be REFERRED TO LICENSE COMMITTEE.

#### PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND OTHER PAPERS

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was

VOTED: That items 12. and 13. under "Petitions, Remonstrances, and Other Papers" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE ZONING, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, PLANNING BOARD and LAW DEPARTMENT and schedule a Public Hearing at the earliest practicable date.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

12. R Levesque Associates Inc. submitting a Zone Change petition for Lockhouse Development, LLC c/o Joseph Kelley, for 0 Lockhouse Road (parcel 230-18-1A) from current Business A (BA) & Residence C-1 (RC-1) to entirely Residence C (RC).
13. Hometown Structures, 627 Southampton Road, Westfield, Andrew Kurtz, Representative, submitting a petition for a zoning amendment at 627 Southampton Road, current zoning Industrial A and Business A to all Industrial A. A public hearing is required.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

##### Finance Committee

14. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Grant in the amount of \$20,150.00 from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to the Westfield Emergency Management Agency to be used by June 30, 2022 be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the grant will be used for the purchase of emergency equipment and supplies which have been approved by MEMA. The match was budgeted in the FY22 expenditures. Councilor Mello commended the Emergency Management Director and Purchasing Director for their help in this grant.

15. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Grant in the amount of \$5,502.00 from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to the Westfield Emergency Management Agency for the extended deadline for unused funds from an FY20 grant which needs to be used by June 30, 2022 be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the grant was originally for \$15,500.00 of which \$9,998.00 was used, therefore, the amount of \$5,502.00 is the unused amount that needs to be used by June 30, 2022. It will be used for the purchase of tires for the Emergency trailer, a storage pod for the Police Department and various other expenditures which are all eligible purchases.

16. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Grant in the amount of \$59,800.00 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and the Department of Homeland Security to the Police Department for a virtual training simulator be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that the grant will be used to purchase an Apex Officer Training system. He explained that it's not exactly a grant as it was money that was secured by Senator Velis and earmarked for the training system. The training system will be used for training in de-escalation and other real-world scenarios.

17. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$200,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (1000-359000) to the Engineering Department, Construction account #14110000-589200 for new pavement on Union Street.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that the appropriation will be used to partially fund the paving for Union Street entire length. It will include milling and overlay. It will start in July after the Water Department replaces some infrastructure. Councilor Allie commented that there are some parts of Union Street that the road has washed

out around drains which is problematic. Councilor Mello asked for clarification on where the paving will be as the communication says from Springdale Road signal light to Springfield Road. Councilor Sullivan explained that that was the original plan but has now been changed to include all of Union Street.

18. Upon motion of Councilor Bean, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$14,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (1000-359000) to Council on Aging, Purchase of Services account #15410000-520000 for estimated last quarter of FY22 gas and electric costs.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean informed the Council that the appropriation will be used for the increase in gas and electric bill that will be due in the last quarter of FY22 that was not forecast during budget time.

19. Upon motion of Councilor Bean, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$9,000.00 be transferred within the Police Department, from Full Time Hourly account #12100000-511100 to Intergovernmental account #12100000-560000 for the tuition of three officers to attend the Western Mass Police Academy.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean informed the Council that the appropriation will be used for the tuition for three officers to attend the Western Mass Police Academy and that after they graduate they will refund the money through their paychecks.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

20. Upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was VOTED: That an Order entitled "AN ORDER ESTABLISHING A REVOLVING ACCOUNT ENTITLED "OFF STREET PARKING LOT MAINTENANCE COSTS ACCOUNT", replacing a previously adopted order be given second reading by title only.

The Order was given second reading by title only and upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was

VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

21. Upon motion of Councilor Adams, it was VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, ADOPTED JUNE 17, 1993" (Amending Chapter 16- Streets and Sidewalks by adding Article VI: Complete Streets sections) be given second reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given second reading by title only and upon motion of Councilor Adams, it was

VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

22. Upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was

VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, ADOPTED JUNE 17, 1993" (Amending Chapter 17-115 No Parking Pearl Street and Linden Avenue) be given second reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given second reading by title only and upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was

VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

23. Upon motion of Councilor Adams, it was

VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, ADOPTED JUNE 17, 1993" (Amending Chapter 2, Section 2-5 - Wards and Section 2-6 - Precincts by deleting the sections in their entirety and inserting in place thereof the amended Wards and Precincts as a result of the redistricting which became effective December 31, 2021) be given second reading by title only.



The Ordinance was given second reading by title only and upon motion of Councilor Adams, it was

VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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
John Beltrandi III	Absent
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Absent
Cindy Harris	Yes

#### MOTIONS, ORDERS OR RESOLUTIONS

24. Councilor Mello, along with Councilors Figy, Matthews-Kane, and Sullivan submitted a Resolution recognizing June 2022 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month. Councilor Mello informed the Council that it has been read through by the Law Department and it is ok. She informed the Council that per Councilor Figy it does not need to go to the Legislative and Ordinance Committee. It recognizes June as Pride Month and since the Council does not have any care or custody of flag poles, it invites those that do have care and custody of a flag pole to fly the Pride flag during June. The intent of the Resolution is to show support from the community for a group that has been traditionally marginalized and/or discriminated against at a time that is historically appropriate. Councilor Allie question why the City should support a Resolution for June as Pride Month when there are several other organizations and awareness groups that are recognized in June (list attached) and questioned what is the equality in recognizing one and not others. He informed the Council that anyone can bring awareness of any group or organization but there is no Resolution dedicated to any other particular group. He mentioned that freedoms have been fought for and have become "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all". Councilor Matthews-Kane spoke in support of the Resolution and that it is reaching out to a group to make them feel safe. It is not asking to fly a flag. Councilor Sullivan spoke in support of the Resolution and that the corner office already supports most other organizations and groups listed by Councilor Allie and ultimately this Resolution will be sent to the corner office. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that he would support Resolutions of any other groups or individuals that may come forward. Councilor Adams spoke in favor of supporting it for a week, but didn't think it needed a full month and that he would support other causes for a week also. Councilor Mello informed the Council that there is no other Pride week it is always Pride Month, therefore, the Resolution was written like that. She informed the Council that the LGBTQIA+ community has fought for their freedoms also and deserve to feel safe. They

are our neighbors and family. Councilor Allie commented that the Resolution is not tied to any particular event and it's just a feel good Resolution. Councilor Morganelli questioned why there isn't a flag raising, like has been done in previous administrations, and why is it being done this way this year asking the City Council to support a Resolution. Councilor Sullivan replied that the Mayor controls what flies on the flag poles in front of City Hall and since there was controversy last year about the gay pride flag flying at City Hall this was the approach taken this year to have Resolution supporting the flying of the flag and the Mayor can choose what he wants to do about flying the flag at City Hall and if he disagrees with the Mayor's actions on it, he will respect his decision. Councilor Mello addressed Councilor Allie's comment that the Resolution does not do anything. She informed the Council that the flag ordinance is still being debated in the Supreme Court and a flag can only be flown if the government speaks and the Resolution covers those that have the ability and want to fly the flag. She reiterated that Tina Gorman, Council on Aging Executive Director, informed the Council that many LBGT Seniors do not feel safe and have not had support they needed and this Resolution supports them. It's saying that the Council supports its community and it's a stand up measure. Councilor Allie reiterated that the Resolution is not connected to an event and that the Council supports all of its residents. Councilor Morganelli noted that there are three Councilors that are not here tonight that should be part of the vote. He informed the Council that the Council does not stop free speech and the Council does not tell the School Committee what to do and if children are not feeling safe, that is up to the School Committee and Superintendent. He agreed with Councilor Allie that the Resolution does not do anything and that the City recognizes many different groups and this one should not be singled out. Councilor Onyski informed the Council he feels that the Resolution should be referred to Legislative and Ordinance Committee and that he text Councilor Figy and he is ok with the Resolution going to Legislative and Ordinance Committee and it is important to discuss further and have the absent Councilors weigh in.

Upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was

VOTED: That the Resolution recognizing June 2022 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

25. Upon motion of Councilors Matthews-Kane (and Figy), it was VOTED: That the matter 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 REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE, LAW DEPARTMENT and HISTORIC COMMISSION.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the proposal is to expand the already in place demolition delay from 90 days to 180 days. Discussion involved items 25. and 26. together. Councilor Allie questioned the difference between items 25 and 26. Councilor Matthews-Kane explained that the City already has a demolition delay ordinance and this proposed amendment would expand that time and item 26 is relative to a list that already exists of homes on the historical register and the amendment would allow homeowners to apply to have their home put on the list if it meets all the criteria. Councilor Matthews-Kane explained that the home on Broad Street that was turned into Easthampton Savings bank was part of the demolition delay and Easthampton Savings chose not to demo it and negotiated with the City. And there was also a home on East Silver Street that was a historical home and went through the delay process and it was not torn down as the owners worked with it to add to the existing structure. Councilor Adams informed the Council that he would not want to cripple a homeowner to have to wait for an additional six months. Councilor Bean spoke in support of adding the extra time to the demolition delay process. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that he is not sure where he stands on this at this time. He explained that he would only be in favor of adding homes to the historical list if it was at the request of the homeowner. And that he would not be in favor if the process was any other way. Councilor Harris informed the Council that as a homeowner of an 1860 home she agrees with Councilors Sullivan and Adams. She added that she would like to hear Councilor Beltrandi's perspective on the matter as he is in the building business. Councilor Allie agreed with Councilors Adams and Sullivan and agreed the property owners rights need to be protected. Councilor Matthews-Kane reiterated that it would be voluntary of the homeowner to be added to the historic list and that it would be written into the ordinance.

26. Upon motion by Councilor Matthews-Kane, (and Figy), it was VOTED: That the matter to allow homeowners to apply to have their property added to the Historical Registry maintained by the Historical Commission for Westfield's demolition delay with the following criteria: houses would have to be over a hundred years old, requests must be initiated by the homeowner, and the Historical Commission must find the property to be historically significant following a public hearing at an annual meeting, be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE, LAW DEPARTMENT and HISTORIC COMMISSION. Discussion was held during item 25.

27. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was VOTED: That the ordinance be amended to add two additional handicapped spaces on the northeastern corner of Holland Avenue to accommodate the increased demand for said parking at the Westfield Women's Club and that the matter be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT. Refer to L&O. Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the Traffic Commission and Commission on Citizens with Disabilities also supports it.

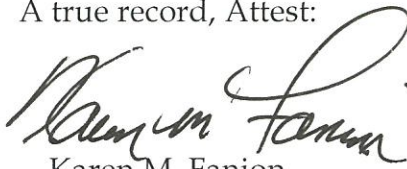
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Morganelli thanked everyone that came out to the recently held Ward 1 community meeting and all the departments such as Police, Fire, Airport, Council on Aging, Flood Control that came with their information and handouts.

Councilor Mello announced that the PFAS report recently came out and it should be a budgetary priority.

At 8:13 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN

A true record, Attest:



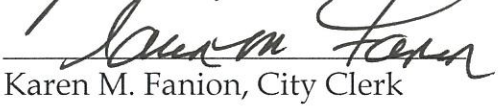
Karen M. Fanion  
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

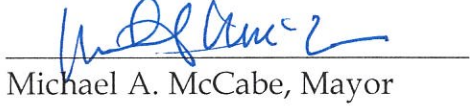
Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval April 29 2022

4-29 2022

  
Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

  
Michael A. McCabe, Mayor