



MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

TELECONFERENCE

WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 21, 2020 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 online at westfieldtv.org. 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.

In the absence of President Bean and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: That Councilor Beltrandi be elected as President Pro Tempore.

The City Clerk called the roll. Councilor Bean was absent. All other Councilors were present remotely.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, it was VOTED: That record of the meeting of May 7th, 2020 be ACCEPTED.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the Grant in the amount of \$69,000.00 from the FAA CARES Act to the Airport Department to fund airfield markings on Runway 2-20 (there is no local share) be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the sum of \$500.00 be transferred within the Health Department from Purchase of Services account #15100000-520000 to Overtime account #15100000-513000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

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

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows

3. Requesting permission to be allowed to transfer money between departments and within departments and also between personal services and expenses for the purpose of expediting transfers and eliminating the need to carryover over payments into FY21.

Councilor Flaherty requested that the limit of the transfers be \$5,000.00. Councilor Figy informed the Council that this will be discussed in committee.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That item 4. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and
REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

4. Appropriation of \$16,621.49 from Free Cash to Emergency Management P/T Salary account #12910000-511010

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was
VOTED: That item 5. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and
REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

5. Submitting a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Westfield authorizing the Mayor to execute a development with Wal-Mart for extension of sidewalks.

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.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was
VOTED: That the reappointment of Christine Gorman, 51 Carriage Lane, West Springfield, MA as Executive Director of the Council on Aging for a term to expire July 7, 2023 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that the Senior Center is a lifeline for our Elder Population, not only providing a safe place to connect with others in a social aspect, but a source for counseling, medical care, and life skills to help them navigate this world, such as computer skills and tax preparation, fire prevention and personal safety, and other important legal information which affects their everyday life. Director Gorman, without guidance, figured out how to help the Seniors, without warning, as the Government shut down everything due to the Pandemic, who were literally cut off from all those services, including food and companionship and their lives abruptly changed. Many Seniors rely on this place heavily as many are alone, some challenged, and this place is their life. Director Gorman with her outstanding staff immediately instituted a lunch drive-thru

providing Seniors with food. She is so sensitive to their needs and quickly realized many were desperate for human contact, so she has set up a system where they stop their car a few times in line to communicate, even if briefly, with a staff member before culminating in obtaining their take-home food. She has set up a caring phone contact system so the staff checks members to be sure they are safe - counseling of all sorts is still provided by phone and she, with Mr. Peter Cowles' assistance has set up a series of programs including exercises on Public Television. It's not by any means the same, but it provides a way to show our Senior population that Westfield cares about them during these difficult times. She and her staff often hear during her food lines and telephone calls how upset the Seniors are when they have had friends or spouses pass away, and of course, there is little closure due to no gatherings. Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Gorman has been running the department for the past 12 years and knows the needs of all/or most who visit the center. She restructured the department to be more efficient, and updated all job descriptions with the Personnel Dept., including designating the very important position of Outreach Coordinator. She accomplished obtaining, without cost, a Nurse from Baystate Noble for six hours a week to provide help at our Center. She provides important information to Seniors via radio and Public Television on issues affecting this population such as public health issues, senior housing options, Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia, Fire Safety, avoiding financial fraud, nutrition, fitness, legal issues, and chronic illness and treatment options. Services and programs offered at the Council on Aging are discussed as are Community programs, services and events. The Companion Program, which helps our City's frailest and most vulnerable adults, was enhanced including lockboxes with the Fire Dept. and Westfield Rotary, so Emergency Personnel could enter quickly. Senior Safety Officer Mark Carboneau, loved by all, who is housed at the Center (Our City is the 1st to do this), helps our Seniors in regards to scams and a myriad of other scenarios. The AARP Tax Program has grown tremendously to help 500 adults at this Center. Evening Programs, including concerts and special educational and legal issues were expanded along with workshops on health, responsible gambling, and transportation programs. Ms. Gorman supervises student interns from Westfield State's Sociology and Nursing Departments, Springfield College's interns in Rehabilitation and Disabilities and Holyoke Community College. New programs include Diabetes Support Group, Senior Theater including Intergeneration Theater with the Boys and Girls Club, Genealogy, and Heaven's Angels who sew Angel gowns out of donated wedding dresses for newborns who never made it home from the hospital. Funding for COA Programs is secured with several grants Director Gorman writes and applies for annually, including State Formula Grant, Community Block Grant, Sarah Gillette Services, and Senior Safe Grant from the State Department's Fire Department. Ms. Gorman serves on the Mass. Association of Councils on Aging since 2008 as Regional Representative and on Baystate Noble Hospital's Community Advisory Board. Planning forward, Ms. Gorman asked the Council on Aging Board to form a Strategic Planning Subcommittee to develop a blueprint for programs and services during the next three years, which should be complete soon.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was
VOTED: That the appointment of Joseph P. Gadbois, 20 Deer Path Lane as a member of the Traffic Commission for a term to expire April 29, 2023, replacing Brian Boldini, be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Gadbois has a Civil Engineering Degree from UMass. From January 1985 until June 2018, he was first, an Assistant to the Resident Engineer, then Resident Engineer and Construction Supervisor on numerous projects for Mass DOT. Projects Include:

- The Reconstruction of Boston Road in Springfield
- I91 over East St. Bridge replacement in Easthampton
- The Twin Bridge Replacement on Route 20 here in Westfield - and reconstruction of Main and Broad Streets here in Westfield.

Although retiring in June 2018, pursuing home remodeling and fishing, Mr. Gadbois expressed his willingness to serve on this commission. In his Westfield projects over the many years he worked closely with our great Police Department and knows our Engineering and DPW departments, all which have representatives on this Commission. We are fortunate to have him step up and offer his expertise. Lastly, speaking for all of the Council, thank you to Brian Boldini for your service. Councilor Burns also thanked Brian Boldini for his years of service to the Traffic Commission.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$6,000.00 be appropriated from the Reserve for Unforeseen Account #19500000-570900 to the City Clerk Department, Election Personnel account #11610000-512410.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote Councilor Figy informed the Council that the appropriation is for Election Personnel needed for the Special State Election (Senate seat) that was held May 19th, 2020. He informed the Council it was a very well run election and was held only at the Westfield Middle School due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He informed the Council that it was well planned, the flow of the voters was efficient, there were safety measures in place and he has heard only positive comments from the voters. He gave kudos to City Clerk Karen Fanion and her staff on a very well run special election.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$2,100.00 be transferred within the Personnel Department from Continuing Ed Incentive account #11520000-570700 to Other Personal Services account #11520000-516000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the appropriation is for protective footwear for the Foreman and WMEA 40 hour groups, per contractual obligation.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$20,000.00 be transferred within the Airport Department, as follows: \$7,560.00 from Full Time Hourly account #11990000-511100 and \$12,440.00 from Part Time Hourly Employee account #11990000-511110 to Purchase of Services account #11990000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the appropriation is for a transfer case for a 1996 Oshkosh H Series Truck which is a key piece of equipment for the airport.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$625.00 be appropriated from Reserve for Unforeseen account #19500000-570900 to the following Weights and Measurers accounts: \$475.00 to Stipend account #12440000-519060 and \$150.00 to Travel Stipend account #12440000-519061.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the appropriation is for additional duties for the Sealer of Weights and Measurers per the Intermunicipal Agreement with Southwick.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the 2020 Depreciation appropriation for the Gas and Electric Department in the amount of \$5,356,644.00 submitted by General Manager of the Westfield Gas & Electric, Anthony Contrino be ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE per voice vote.

Councilor Flaherty requested that this matter be held until Council Bean is present because he usually has concern's on the matter. Councilor Figy informed the Council that it's a straight forward vote and no need to hold it up.

Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, reported that the petitions for street acceptance for Devon Terrace, Gloria Drive, Hillary Lane, Nancy Circle, Frank Circle, Rachael Terrace and Hillcrest Circle is a three-part process - the layout Orders, the Resolution accepting the release deeds and an Order of Appropriation needed to record the deeds. He informed the Council that the petitions requesting acceptance as City ways were forwarded to DPW, Planning and Engineering for their review and approval. All departments gave their approval on all of the above streets, therefore, layout Orders were created. Next every signature on the petitions had to be notarized releasing the edge of homeowner's property to the centerline of the street to the City. The Orders now need to have first reading with a public hearing and second reading and final passage at the next City Council meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That Orders accepting and laying out Devon Terrace, Gloria Drive, Hillary Lane, Nancy Circle, Frank Circle, Rachael Terrace and Hillcrest Circle, so-called, as City Ways be given first reading by title only.

The Orders were given first reading by title only and upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was

VOTED: That the Orders be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Mello questioned if all the private property being deeded to the City is up to code relative to stormwater issues. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that all the departments that needed to have signed off on the City accepting the property. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that it is important that the streets being accepted are up to par because now the City's responsibility to take care of the streets beyond the regular plowing and sanding and that the acceptance of more City streets means more Chapter 90 money from the State. He questioned if all are on City sewer and water. Councilor Onyski informed the Council it is not relevant to the acceptance if they are or are not on sewer and water and that the extra Chapter 90 money is not significant. The significance is a building lot that cannot be built on until it's a public road and that the City will get \$7,000.00 a year in taxes if it's able to be built on. Councilor Figy thanked Councilor Onyski for pursuing this matter and that legislation that was passed a few years ago that was thought to have taken care of the acceptance of several streets really did not work.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RELEASE DEEDS" be ADOPTED. The Resolution was read in its entirety by Councilor Onyski.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That Order entitled "AN ORDER APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF NINETEEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY (\$19,750.00) DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF

RECORDING RELEASE DEEDS TO BE ABLE TO ACCEPT CERTAIN STREETS AS PUBLIC WAYS" be given first reading by title only.

The Order given first reading by title only and upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

Upon motion of Councilor Burns, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WESTFIELD AND THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" for the work on Route 20 (Springfield Road) Traffic Signal Improvement Project be ADOPTED per voice vote.

The Resolution was read in its entirety by Councilor Onyski.

Upon motion of Councilor Burns, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WESTFIELD AND THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" for the Safety Improvement Project on Southwick Road (Cowles Bridge) be ADOPTED per voice vote.

The Resolution was read in its entirety by Councilor Onyski.

Councilor Burns informed the Council that due to this project there were some changes that needed to be made to traffic and needed Ordinance changes as follows.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, ADOPTED JUNE 17, 1993" (Chapter 17 Section 17-93 Left Lane must turn left: Southwick Road, northbound at approximately sta 06+58R and Mill Street, southbound at Southwick Road) be given first reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was VOTED: That the Ordinance be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, ADOPTED JUNE 17, 1993" (Chapter 17 Section 17-94 Right Lane must turn right: Mill Street southbound at Southwick Road) be given first reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was VOTED: That the Ordinance be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

Upon motion of Councilor Adams, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion to establish a Special Purpose Schools of Westfield Stabilization Fund REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

Councilor Adams informed the Council that the item was left in committee because it did not have a title of the account and the purpose of what the money was to be used for. He informed the Council that the Superintendent and the City Auditor were at the subcommittee meeting and they did not support having this account established and did not see a need for it. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the motion was made due to a conference call in

which the Superintendent thought it was a good idea because it was a mechanism to keep surplus money from the current budget in the school department for next year's budget and that the purpose could be for any capital project. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he will look at it and edit it for a more specific purpose.

Upon motion of Councilor Adams, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That the following items be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE because they have already been passed. (They were brought out of the ZPD committee and now need to be removed from the L&O committee.)

- Second Reading and Final Passage: Petition for a Zoning Amendment at Section 1-10.2 to give broader authority to the Building Department to require more detailed information (specifically site grading) as part of the building permit process submitted by the Planning Board (#C-256-20).
- Second Reading and Final Passage: Petition for a Zoning Amendment petition submitted by the Planning Board to amend Section 4-90 to strengthen regulation of marijuana establishments by requiring special permit if within 500 feet of a park (#257-20).

Upon motion of Councilor Adams, for the License Committee, it was VOTED: That the application submitted by Kantany, LLC (Big Y) for a gas storage license at 330 East Main Street for the storage of 20,000 gas in one tank underground, 12,000 gallons gas in one underground tank, 8,000 gallons diesel in one compartment tank and above ground containers of 20# propane be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Mello informed the Council that she received the information she requested on the fire suppression system and expressed her concerns that if there is less than 2% of a component it does not have to be listed and that in other cities there is a foam that is released during a fire and that baking soda could be deadly in high quantities if released during a fire and for those reasons will not support the approval of the gas tanks. Councilor Beltrandi thanked Councilor Mello for her concerns but informed the Council that the vote is on the storage of fuel in the gas tanks and that the fire suppression system has

already been voted on by other Commissions. Councilor Morganelli expressed his support of Councilor Mello's concern. Councilor Flaherty also spoke in support of Councilor Mello's good points and her concerns but informed the Council that he will support the project because with today's technology the tanks are safe and he is not concerned with ruptures.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That Ordinance No 1567, Article 2, section 37, "persons requesting appropriation, ordinances, etc. to make a statement" be revised and be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That Ordinance No. 1567 Article I, Section 27(a)(2) be revised and be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

Councilor Morganelli asked Councilor Figy to explain the motion. Councilor Figy informed the Council it's to bring the Council rules up to current practice.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to act upon a motion on tonight's Agenda.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, and Councilors Adams, Burns, Harris, Bean, Sullivan, Onyski, Beltrandi, Flaherty and Matthews-Kane, it was
VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION TO PERMIT A MURAL TO BE PAINTED ON CITY PROPERTY" (on the Taylor Street overpass of the Rail Trail) be ADOPTED by voice vote. Councilor Figy read the Resolution in its entirety.

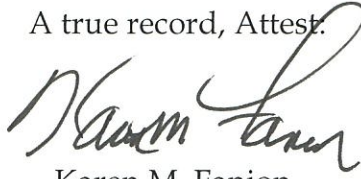
Councilor Matthews-Kane thanked Councilor Figy for allowing her to make changes to the verbiage of a great Resolution making it better and stronger. She informed the Council that the neighbors of the area will be involved in developing the mural and it echoes the work of City Engineer Mark Cressotti of incorporating historical remembrances of particular areas when being developed.

Councilor Beltrandi, President Pro Tempore, acknowledged all Veterans and thanked them for their service and especially acknowledged Gold Star Daughter Councilor Harris for the service of her family. And even though the Memorial Day parade is being cancelled due to COVID-19 all Veterans are truly appreciated.

Councilor Harris thanked Councilor Beltrandi for his kind words.

At 8:16 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was
VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A true record, Attest.

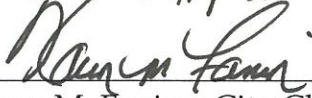


Karen M. Fanion
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

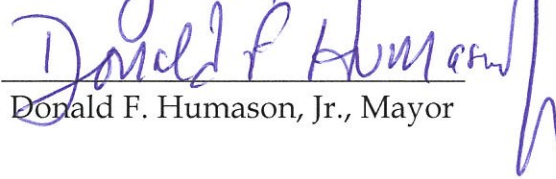
Approved by the Mayor

For approval MAY 28 2020



Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

May 29 2020



Donald F. Humason, Jr., Mayor