

MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 59 COURT STREET
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
JUNE 17, 2021 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 Bean.

The Clerk called the roll. Councilor Adams was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was
VOTED: That the reading of record of the meeting of June 2, 2021 be ACCEPTED and it was further voted upon motion of Councilor Mello that on item 16. Roll call vote, she was a no vote and it was
VOTED: That the minutes of June 2, 2021 be ACCEPTED AS AMENDED.

1. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That the City Council enter into Executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation regarding In Re: Aqueous Film-Forming Foams Products Liability Litigation MDL No. 2:18:-mn-2873-RMG, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. It is intended the City Council return to open session at the conclusion of the executive session.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

After the Executive Session, the meeting was called back to order at 7:25 PM

Under Public Participation, the Council was addressed by Carmel T. Steger, 60 Wood Road, Chair of the Friends of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail. She spoke in favor of the motion of Councilors Matthews-Kane, Beltrandi and Figy to add the additional umbrella name New Haven & Northampton Canal Greenway to the current name of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail as it will help the City, at no cost, for marketing and to apply for funding. She also addressed the Council relative the Main Street bridge that was installed in March and a request from Don Weilgus of the Westfield Purple Trail Association to name that bridge the Westfield Purple Heart Bridge. She informed the Council that all of the bridges that have been installed have all been part of a 12 year plan of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail. The Columbia Greenway Rail Trail history encompasses the immigrants that built the canals and also the Native Americans are part of the history. The Rail Trail has installed historical signs informing the public of its the history. She informed the Council that she has met with Mr. Don Weilgus about offering other suggestions to honor of the Purple Heart Association, but they were unwilling to make a compromise. She requested the Council to be thoughtful about naming any of the bridges especially because the Rail Trail is not complete. Mr. Jonathan McHatton, 42 Arnold Street, Director of Planning and Development of the Friends of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail addressed the Council. He informed the Council that the bridge is not yet complete and the community has not had an opportunity to experience the bridge and what it represents to the community and therefore it is premature to name it at this time. Mr. Paul Cacolice, 29 Westwood Drive, Board Member of the Friends of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail addressed the Council. He informed the Council that he has had conversations with Mr. Weilgus and offered suggestions to name other structures or a mural along the Rail Trail which would have much more visibility. He informed the Council that the Main Street bridge is not part of the Purple Heart Trail and what would be more appropriate would be the Elm Street bridge in which the Purple Heart Trail runs beneath it or the Great River bridge. He informed the Council that he is not sure why the Purple Heart Association wants the Main Street bridge to be named the Purple Heart Trail.

Under Public Participation, the Council was addressed by Mr. Tim Matthews-Kane, 81 Court Street. He informed the Council that he is a Veteran, but is addressing the Council as a citizen. He informed the Council that he has had friends killed while serving in the military, however is advocating against naming the Main Street bridge the Purple Heart Bridge. He applauded Mr. Weilgus' efforts to bring awareness to the military and its Veterans, but that this is not the place. There are other tributes to Veterans in Westfield such as Stanley Park, Parker's Park and the Purple Heart Trail. The Rail Trail has been in existence for 12 years of planning and the vision of those plans should not be shifted at this time. He informed the Council that too much military/Veteran presence may cause more of a divide of military/Veterans and civilians. He requested the Council not to support the naming of the Main Street bridge the Purple Heart bridge.

Under Public Participation, the Council was addressed by Councilor Mello. She informed the Council that she received a 6-page letter from Jane Okscin, from the Westfield Taxpayers Association relative to water production and increase in billing and the point of the

letter was to request the Natural Resources Committee to look into the matter, therefore, upon motion of Councilor Mello, it was

VOTED: That the letter be placed on file and the matter be REFERRED TO NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE and upon motion of Councilor Morganelli, it was

VOTED: That the motion be amended to also include to be REFERRED TO WATER COMMISSION.

Councilor Harris was opposed.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Flaherty questioned if the association is looking to change the new water rates and if so there is a window of time in which they can do that but as a Councilor he cannot advise them on the process.

2. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that a Grant in the amount of \$73,910.00 from the MassDOT to the Airport Department for the storm water pollution prevention plan and spill prevention control countermeasures update be ACCEPTED. The local share of \$3,890.00 is in Airport department FY2021 budget.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

3. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the sum of \$34,985.15 be transferred within the Department of Public Works, Highway Division, Equipment/Vehicles account #14210000-585001 to Storm Water Division Equipment/Vehicles account #68504550-585001 for the purchase a vehicle for Storm Water Division to perform daily tasks.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

4. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the sum of \$1,500.00 be transferred within the Department of Public Works Water Division, Purchase of Services account #68004500-520000 FY21 to Water Division, Purchase of Services account #68004500-520000 FY20 for a prior year bill.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the prior year bill was for PFAS testing and that the lab changed ownership and therefore caused a delay in the processing of the bills.

5. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the sum of \$125,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (10000-359000) to Planning (Community Development), Purchase of Services account #11750000-520000 for the Master Plan Study for the City of Westfield.

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	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Absent
Dan Allie	No
Brent Bean II	Yes

President Pro Tempore, Councilor Figy declared the motion LOST (needs unanimous vote for immediate consideration).

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the funding for the Master Plan was cut by the Mayor to balance the budget, therefore this is an attempt to get the project going by using Free Cash. Councilor Flaherty thanked the Mayor for supporting the Master Plan and it's appropriate to use Free Cash. Councilor Onyski questioned if this is the final cost. Councilor Figy informed the Council that the final cost is not known but based on other communities that have done a Master Plan, \$125,000.00 seems to be the cost. Councilor Mello informed the Council that the last Master Plan was done before she was born and spoke in support of it. At this point President Bean relinquished the Chair to Councilor Figy. Councilor Bean informed the Council that he is not convinced that a contract can be signed before the end of the fiscal year because do not know who the vendor is and there has been very little conversation on the Council side relative to a Master Plan. He expressed his concern of using Free Cash and not having someone in place for the contract and that there are a rack of master plans in departments that are not being taken advantage of and that this is being rushed. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that it has been talked about and was taken out of the budget last year. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission will be the vendor and the person that will do it is someone that knows the City as he was a former employee of the City. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that announcing that Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is the vendor is putting the cart before the horse. Councilor Allie agreed with Councilor Bean and that the last master plan called the Elm Street Development had projects in it that no contractor could pull off and the master plan needs to have projects that can work. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the Elm Street Development project is a different animal. The master plan is required to be done by the Planning Department and it contains information relative to demographics, zoning, where people live, housing, government funding sources and much more information. Councilors will have the opportunity to participate in the development of the document and it is an important and appropriate thing to do. And if Pioneer Valley Planning is not the vendor the then another vendor can be chosen. Councilor Bean informed the Council that that is concern that the vendor is unknown and the scope and content of the project is not known. He expressed his concern that it's immediate consideration and does not want to kill it with a no vote, but that he has concerns.

Councilor Morganelli concurs with Bean and Flaherty and it's one of those things that you have to spend money to come up with a plan. Councilor Bean reiterated that the Councilors have to communicate with the Planning and will support it.

Councilor Bean resumed the Chair at this point.

6. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That an amendment to FY22 Budget submitted by the Mayor relative to the Health Department budget be REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that a line item was omitted in the Health Department budget and that the net effect on the budget is zero.

7. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That Resolution in anticipation of a Grant from the Department of Conservation and Recreation for the Columbia Greenway Northward Extension Study in the amount of \$61,500.00 to the Engineering Department be REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE. The local match of \$15,500.00 is contained in the FY22 Engineering budget.

8. Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was

VOTED: That the request to surplus the Fire Department's Sackett Street Facility be REFERRED TO CITY PROPERTIES COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: That items 9., 10. and 11. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

9. Submitting the reappointment of Richard Salois, 220 Russellville Road, as a member of the Planning Board, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2026.
10. Submitting the appointment of Edward Ekmalian, Jr., 12 Crestwood Circle as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2024, to fill a vacancy.
11. Submitting the appointment of Joseph Golio, 109 Wildflower Circle, as a member of the Off Street Parking Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2024, to fill a vacancy.

12. A CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING was called to order on a petition submitted by Albert E. Bessette, Jr. Right of Way Manager of Verizon requesting permission to place one (1) pole numbered T.54S/E.66-84 on the southwesterly side of Shaker Road at a point approximately 995 feet southeasterly from the centerline of Country Club Drive to provide support to the existing pole line. With the petitioner unable to be present and upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was

VOTED: That the Public Hearing be CONTINUED to the July 1st, 2021 City Council meeting.

13. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum \$14,711.77 be transferred within the Police Department from Full Time Salary account #12100000-511000 to Equipment Vehicles account #12100000-585001.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that transfer is for a replacement administrative vehicle.

14. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$45,000.00 be transferred within the Department of Public Works from Solid Waste Recycling Division to Waste Collection Division as follows: \$13,000.00 from Full Time Hourly account #14340000-511100 to Purchase of Services account #14330000-520000; \$20,000.00 from Purchase of Services account #14340000-520000 to Purchase of Services account #14330000-520000; \$12,000.00 from Supplies account #14340000-540000 to Purchase of Services account #14330000-520000.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that the transfer is necessary to for the increased expense of the weekly residential waste collections.

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

VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT REGARDING DISPATCH SERVICES WITH THE TOWN OF SOUTHWICK" be ADOPTED.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Onyski informed the Council that Southwick will be joining Westfield as a regional dispatch center. And with Westfield being a regional dispatch center there will be close to a million dollars available in grants for support, development and for fiber connections to Southwick. The timeline is about 18 months. The State is waiting for the Resolution and Agreement as it is needed by the end of the fiscal year. Southwick is excited to join. Councilor Burns informed the Council that eventually this will happen and why not have Westfield take the lead and others may join also. Councilor Flaherty agreed that it is a financial homerun. Councilors Onyski and Mello praised the efforts of the Public Safety Communications Director Nina Barszcz. Councilor Onyski read the Resolution in its entirety.

16. 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, APPENDIX B-ZONING, ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 3, 1987" (amendment at Sections 1-10.1,3; 1-40.6, 4-10.3; 1-50.3,9; 6-10.4,5 relative to strengthen/codify wording regarding enforcement; extend permit validity) be given first reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was

VOTED: That the Ordinance be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

17. 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, APPENDIX B-ZONING, ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 3, 1987" (update definitions at Article II/2-20, Article III/various and Article IV/various) be given first reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was

VOTED: That the Ordinance be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

18. Upon motion of Councilor Burns, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That the Petition (C-262-21) for Zoning Amendment submitted by the Zoning Board of Appeals for an update on non-conforming situations at Article II/4-10, Article III/3-91.2 and Article III/3-92.2 REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

19. Upon motion of Councilor Burns, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That the Petition (C-260-21) for a Zoning amendment submitted by the Zoning Board of Appeals to update the definition of family and related/affected residential living arrangement matters at Sections 2-20, 3-40.3 (1) and 3-50.3 (1) REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

20. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of William Carellas, 16 Wildflower Circle, as a member of the Planning Board (At-Large) for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2026, be CONFIRMED.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Carellas is Chair of the Planning Board since 2019. He was first appointed to this Board in March 2015 by Mayor Knapik. He also had served for 2 years earlier during the Varelas Administration. Mr. Carellas is the owner of Carellas Insurance Agency, West Springfield and thus does everything a

business owner needs to do. He was very involved in the Westfield Soccer club being the founder, coach and President of that entity, and currently is the Soccer Coach at St. Mary's High School. He has a B.A. in Economics and Political Science from the University of Rochester, NY. Mr. Carellas is a lifelong resident of Westfield and at his last reappointment in Sept. 2016, Councilor Onyski stated that he had worked with Mr. Carellas when he was on the Planning Board and recommends him. Chair states, Councilors any comments, or you can make them at the Full Council Meeting or a motion to vote on reappointment. Councilor Sullivan stated that Mr. Carellas progressively looks into the future for Westfield citing the bicycle commuting as an example that he shows his commitment to the City and that he is a great reappointment. Councilor Figy agreed with those comments.

21. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Raymond St. Hilaire, 120 Old Stage Road, as a member of the Planning Board (Ward 6) for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2026.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. St Hilaire is the Ward 6 member of the Planning Board initially appointed 01/2012 as an Alternate (now called associate), and then appointed full member 03/2017 by Mayor Brian Sullivan. He is an active member of our Community and participated in many Hampden Ponds Meetings regarding the rehabilitation of Hampden Ponds Park. A military leader, he works for the Department of Defense since 2004 including preparing and maintaining aircraft maintenance records and historical documents. He has been the Union Steward since 2004, Army Aviation Flight Facility #2, Westfield, mediating discussions between employee and employer representatives to reconcile differences, negotiated collective bargaining agreements and advising on labor relations policies. He was Vice President of Victory 4 Veterans helping to raise \$250,000.00 for Veterans at our Holyoke Soldiers Home. He served in Iraq supervising soldiers, establishing protocols for preventative maintenance procedures for MEDEVAC Aircraft and worked closely with crew members in an extremely dangerous environment. He believes it's his obligation to our City to serve it, as he does our country. Chair states, thank you for your service, Mr. St Hilaire to our Country. Councilors Figy and Sullivan both reiterated 'Thank you for your service'.

22. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Philip McEwan, 153 Western Avenue, as a member of the Planning Board (Ward 3) for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2023 be CONFIRMED.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. McEwan was the Chair of this Board for many years and although Mr. Carellas is chair now, Mr. McEwan is like E.F. Hutton his vast knowledge and Historical data that can only come with being on this Board since 1989 – 30+ years. An accomplishment of service to our City, of which “Thank you for your dedication”. He still is employed also at Marcus Printing and along with the wealth of information he has in regards to this board, of which not only this Board benefits, but all of our citizens do, as he provides insight, and works on their behalf, as the Ward 3 member he looks forward to continuing to serve our City on this Board.

23. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Barbara Taylor, 150 Hillside Road, as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2024 be CONFIRMED.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Taylor was first appointed in 2015 and then reappointed, and shared with the Mayor that she enjoys being on this Board and hopes to continue as a member. Sharing her thoughts and ideas as it pertains to our Senior Population during this past difficult year for our seniors, with them not being able to gather at the Center for any of their activities, and all the years that preceded that still had issues that had to be addressed in this population's everyday life, is important to her. She is the Treasurer for this Board in which she reviews the COA Budget prior to submission to the Council. She is an active participant in the Senior Center's classes, educational programs, and volunteers in the Annual Senior Options event. She is a wonderful asset to the Board, has served on several subcommittees, and Council on Aging and Senior Center Director Tina Gorman highly recommends her reappointment. Councilor Sullivan stated that she is obviously a great addition. Councilor Figy stated that she is important to the Board (he is the Senior Center/Council on Aging Liaison) and added that she had taught his children in school.

24. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Jane Magarian, 131 Llewellyn Drive as a member of the Planning Board (Ward 4) for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2022 be CONFIRMED.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Magarian is the Ward 4 member of this Board initially being appointed in 2012. She taught in the Westfield School System for over 10 years recently retiring in 2015. Before that she was Vice President of Magarian Development LLC, NH, involving custom homes and communities. She has a B.A. in economics and a Master's Degree in Education. She states it's a pleasure to serve our City on this Board and looks forward to continuing to serve on this Board.

25. Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Bryan Forrette, 43 Flynt Street, Palmer, as Director of Facilities Management for a term to expire May 31, 2024 be CONFIRMED.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Forrette was first hired in June 2015, Mr. Forrette has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering, maintains a MA Construction Supervisors License and is OSHA qualified. At last reappointment 09/18 we reviewed all the projects he had oversight and/or performed work on, which was significant – worked on Hangar 2, Police Station Renovations, Fire Headquarters sprinkler installation, City Clerk's vault renovation, replacement of boilers at schools, Bullen's Field Bleacher Renovation and light replacement, repairs to playfields and concession stands at multiple City properties. The Green Communities Grant he worked on was approximately \$267,000.00 and \$31,000.00 in G+E rebates. He worked on the PEG Studio at WTA and earlier had worked on City Hall renovations and repairs. These past 3 years Major projects overseen by Mr. Forrette include City Wide Emergency Power Generator Services – maintenance and repair contract
Curt Wide HVAC Repair maintenance and repair services contract
City Wide Plumbing maintenance and repair services contract
City Wide Elevator maintenance contract
Work at the Police Department replacing air conditioners
Fire Station Headquarters, Generator Replacement, and Fire Station #3 Elevator
Westfield High School gym roof renovations – design and construction phase
Westfield High School pool renovation – design phase
City Wide Building Management system upgrade – design phase
New Westfield Elementary School Building Committee
Westfield H.S. stairwells, hallways, cafeteria and Munger Hill and Paper Mill Schools resulting in Westfield G+E rebates of \$46,234.00 into the General Fund and \$10,000.00 into the General Fund from the Green Communities Grant for Administration Costs for project procurement and management completed by the Director of Facilities. The Green Communities Grant totaling approximately \$370,000.00 procured from new LED lighting throughout City Properties at schools, Highway garage, Barnes Airport Terminal Building and WTA gym. Councilor Figy stated that Mr. Forrette brought more in with the grants than his salary, and also noted that the job description of this job, unlike the Advancement Officers job, is 3 years appointment, so it does not run concurrent with the Mayor's 2 year terms, answering Councilor Sullivan's concern on a 2024 appointment ending date.

26. Councilor Flaherty, for the City Properties Committee, offered a motion, which was duly seconded for a first reading of an Ordinance for flag flying on City property. He informed the Council that the goal is to have an Ordinance on file with rules for the City relative to flying auxiliary flags on City property according to government speech which is different from free speech. He reviewed the contents of the Ordinance which describes what a City flag pole is, what types of flags can be flown such as the American flag, historical American flags, State flag, City flag or sports flags and that anything else is an auxiliary flag. That auxiliary flags can only be flown at the discretion of the Mayor, but may not be commercial, offensive, support prejudice, criminal, religious, political, relate to any family or person, obscene or hateful. Auxiliary flags can only be flown at facilities with two or more flagpoles, can never be flown on the same flagpole as the American flag, cannot fly on official holidays, may not exceed the size of the American flag in the cluster, boards/commissions and the City Council may suggest auxiliary flags but that the Mayor is under no obligation to accept the suggestions. There is no by right assumption that the Mayor will fly an auxiliary flag and that is the way it has historically been handled. There will be a form developed by the Mayor for the public to offer suggestions of auxiliary flags. And there will be a feedback form that will give feedback to the Mayor relative to auxiliary flags that have been flown and it's for feedback only. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that there were suggestions in the committee to list flags that could not be flown but it was deemed that would be discriminatory in mind therefore all terms in the ordinance are generic and leaves the discretion solely with the Mayor. The ordinance was based on an ordinance from Boston and New Jersey that was suggested by Councilor Morganelli who was the proponent of the ordinance. Councilor Allie thanked the Committee and the law department for their work on this because at this time there is no process or protocol for an auxiliary flag. Councilor Mello thanked the Committee for the work on this and acknowledged the fundamental need to distinguish the difference between free speech and government speech. She expressed her opposition to section 2-11 (i) and that section 2-11 (k) and (l) are redundant. She expressed her general uneasiness of the whole ordinance and the ambiguity with the grey area of words historical and offensive and would like more information on that. Also the speed in which the ordinance is being proposed. There has not been time to speak to the taxpayers. And Councilors have not been able to review a process in which Park and Rec have adopted and it is currently in effect. As a public records request, there was no evidence found that anyone has been denied a request to fly a flag on the Green. That the timing is horrendous. The request for an ordinance is after the flying of the Progress Pride flag and with the month of June being pride month the LGBTQ community has not been able to participate in committee meetings and therefore, upon motion of Councilor Mello, it was

VOTED: That the first reading of the flag ordinance be TABLED until after July 1st, 2021.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The President declared the motion to table LOST.

Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that as the liaison to the Park and Rec Committee, there was a request to fly a flag on the City's Green, and it did not matter what the flag was for, it was his belief that the Green is for official City business. So upon being at the Park and Rec Commission meeting, it was learned that there was no ordinance on what flags can be flown on city property and the proposed ordinance gives discretion to the Mayor as to what flags can be flown as has always been the process. He expressed his concern that a request to fly a flag on the Green was being requested of the Park and Rec Commission and they do not have the authority to grant flag flying permission. They have the authority to grant permission for events and signage on the Green. Councilor Morganelli disagreed with Councilor Mello's perspective on the timing of the proposed flag ordinance. Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that she in general supports having an ordinance because likes to have a clear process and voted to table the issue in order to think about it and wanted more time for any suggestions. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that it's about timing and the motion to table was to just wait until after July 1st, 2021. And that he would not support a first reading tonight. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that all the work on the ordinance was done in open session. He received a letter from the Pride community and those suggestions were included and testimony from the Park and Rec was included. He informed the Council that he is appalled by some of the offensive comments he has received relative to the committee working on this ordinance. He informed the Council that political division means geographical division not political party division and that requests from City employees and the public was separated to make it a clear process. And that the proposed ordinance is adding on to Section 11-72 which designates postings need permission from the Mayor.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was
VOTED: From the prevailing side, RECONSIDERATION be given to TABLE the first reading of the flag ordinance to July 1st, 2021.

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

27. Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the City Properties Committee, it was VOTED: That the discussion naming Main Street Rail Trail bridge the Westfield Purple Heart Trail REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

28. Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the City Properties Committee, it was VOTED: That the discussion relative to community gardens on city owned land (Airport Noise Mitigation) REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

29. Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was VOTED: To send a communication to the Mayor asking him to reconsider doing a firework celebration for the City of Westfield.

30. Upon motion of Councilors Figy and Adams, it was VOTED: That to revise Sec 2-256-c to allow C O A meetings to be held at the Senior Center, and be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

31. Upon motion of Councilors Matthews-Kane, Beltrandi and Figy, it was VOTED: To add the additional umbrella name New Haven & Northampton Canal Greenway to the current name of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail and be REFERRED TO CITY PROPERTIES COMMITTEE AND LAW DEPARTMENT.

32. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that a budget amendment request (as a resolution) per Code of Ordinances Section 7-48(c)(10) allows Ambulance Funds to be used for "costs and expenses related to the operation of the municipal ambulance service as appropriated by the mayor and approved by the city council" and that a request that the Mayor submit FY22 budget amendments to the Ambulance budget as follows: be REFERRED TO THE MAYOR.

Intergovernmental transfers of:

1. \$15,400 per ambulance employee for the estimated cost of FY Healthcare for ambulance employees (to Healthcare line item).
2. 7.5% of ambulance employee earnings (that is considered income for pension purposes) to cover the normal service cost of Pensions (see recent PERAC valuation report) related to FY ambulance employee earnings (to Contributory Retirement line item).
3. 8% of ambulance employee earnings to cover the estimated normal service cost of Retiree Healthcare benefits (estimated based on recent OPEB report) attributable to the the current FY budget (to OPEB Liability Trust Fund).
4. 1.45% of ambulance earnings to cover the cost of Medicare for ambulance employees (to Medicare line item).
5. 25% of the fully-loaded cost of the Public Safety Communications Department (approx \$295k) to reimburse for the costs associated with "ambulance" calls (to Public Safety Communications Dept, Healthcare, Contributory Retirement, OPEB Liability Trust Fund, and Medicare).

These types of chargebacks are allowed, and are common with our "enterprise" accounts. This should free up some money for the general fund that could be used to address priorities that were cut during the budget process, reduce the tax increase, reduce the use of Free Cash for operating expenses, or increase funding for long-term obligations such as OPEB.

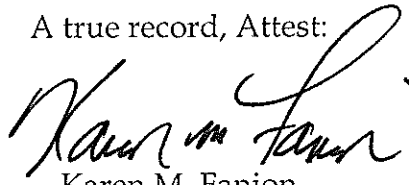
The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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	Absent
Dan Allie	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the above suggestions have been discussed with the Mayor and Auditor. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that he does not think it is a good idea to bankrupt the ambulance fund, but that he will not vote no on the immediate consideration.

At 9:22 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was
VOTED: To ADJOURN.

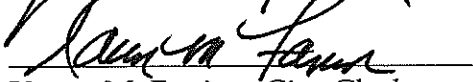
A true record, Attest:



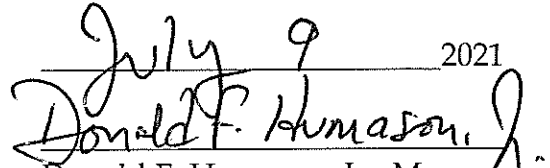
Karen M. Fanion
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

For approval July 8, 2021


Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor

July 9, 2021

Donald F. Humason, Jr., Mayor