



**MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL**  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE  
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
NOVEMBER 05, 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](http://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](http://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.

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

The City Clerk called the roll. All thirteen Councilors were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was

VOTED: That reading of the record of the meeting of October 15, 2020 be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: That item 1. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

1. Submitting the appointment of Mr. Robert Bishop of Colorado Springs, CO to the position of Personnel Director for a three year term from the date of the appointment.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That items 2., 3., 4., 5. and 6. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

2. Transfer of \$110.90 from the Highway (FY21) Judgment account #14210000-576000 to Highway (FY20) Judgment account #14210000-576000 for a prior year claim.
3. Appropriation of \$2,365.04 from the Health Department, Purchase of Services account #15100000-520000 to Nurses, Full Time Salary account #15220000-511000.
4. Appropriation of \$26.00 from Health Department, In-State Travel (FY21) account #15100000-571000 to Health Department, In-State Travel (FY20) account #15100000-571000 for a prior year bill.

5. Appropriation of \$936.00 from Sanitary Landfill, Purchase of Services account #14390000-520000 to Sanitary Landfill, Full Time Hourly account #14390000-511100.
6. Requesting approval of the City Council of the City of Westfield from the Treasurer Department requesting the remaining balance on Bond Order 2724 be rescinded as the project for which the bond order was passed has been completed and the amount of \$40,000.00 remains unborrowed.

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

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

7. Submitting a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Westfield authorizing an increase in the Municipal Lien Certificate Fee from \$25 to \$50, effective January 1, 2021.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: That item 8. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

8. Submitting the appointment of Kate Phelon, 150 Hillside Road, as a member of the Airport Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of March, 2023, replacing Kimberly Cameron.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was

VOTED: That the application submitted by Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport, Chris Willenborg, Airport Manager for a Special Permit pursuant to Zoning Ordinance Section 3-170.7 - Change of Use - Water Resource Protection to temporarily store up to 280 empty trailers for up to six months at 0 Airport Industrial Park Road, Map 72R, Lot 64 located in Airport District, overlay Water Resource be REFERRED TO THE LICENSE COMMITTEE and that a Public Hearing be scheduled at the next regular meeting of the City Council (pursuant to applicable posting requirements).

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD" accepting a donation of \$60,410.00 from Eversource Energy for road repairs on Oakdale Avenue be ADOPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that donation is for the damage done by Eversource for the total repaving of Oakdale Avenue.

Upon motion of Councilor Adams, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, with no recommendation, it was VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD" authorizing approval for the Mayor to sign an Adult-Use Host Community Agreement (HCA) with RC Retail, LLC, 265 Union Street be ADOPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The President declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Adams informed the Council that the location is to the left of Party Plus, it is zoned properly and is in line with other host agreements, but there are dates in the agreement that are open ended but should have specific dates. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that he will abstain due to a personal conflict. Councilor Burns informed

the Council that he will vote no due to the location and there may be a traffic issue. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he will be a no vote as he is on all recreational drug use matters. Councilor Mello questioned if there would need to be a traffic light at that location. Councilor Adams informed the Council that that was not presented with the facts and that the application will need to go before the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission and any other Commissions that may be needed. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that he is a no vote as well for the same reasons as Councilor Flaherty. Councilor Figy informed the Council that it's a host agreement, not the whole agreement and that it has to go before the Cannabis Control Commission, it is a good location, the voters of Westfield voted for legalization of medical and recreational marijuana and the City has four licenses to give out despite the personal reasons of individual Councilors. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that it does have to go before the Planning Board, it is zoned properly, and the public will have an opportunity to be heard. Councilor Flaherty questioned if the property is in the flood plain and if so there would be restrictions. Councilor Bean informed the Council that the plan is not at that point yet to deal with restrictions due to the flood plain. Councilor Mello expressed her concern that medical patients have access to the facility and if a light is needed who would pay for it. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that those are the items that would have to go into the agreement. Councilor Allie informed the Council that expressed his concern with another light in that location because a light has recently been installed at Springdale Road and Union Street. Councilor Figy informed the Council that the Planning Board would require a traffic study. Councilor Adams informed the Council that he will not vote for anything to do with selling or growing of marijuana.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That the Conservation Restriction, submitted by (former) Conservation Coordinator Karen Leigh, to be co-held by the City of Westfield and Franklin Land Trust for property at 466 Montgomery Road, grantor Robert A. Baker, approved at the September 24, 2019 Conservation Commission meeting be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Onyski, informed the Council that this matter has been going on for a while, it is 41.67 acres of land, the CPA approved the \$189,000 for the purchase

of the property, the restriction will be held by the Franklin Land Trust with the secondary holder the City.

Upon motion of Councilor Adams, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, with no recommendation, it was VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD" authorizing approval for the Mayor to sign an Adult-Use Host Community Agreement (HCA) with Hidden Hemlock, LLC, 109 Apremont Way be ADOPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

The President declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Adams informed the Council that the location is the former Berkshire Industries to be used for a grow facility of 5,000 sq ft which is a tier 1 which is the smallest amount. He informed the Council that the application is being submitted by brothers who have already received confirmation from the Cannabis Control Commission in another City but there was a problem with that facility and now this is a transfer of that license.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Eleanor Meyer, 54 Llewellyn Drive as a member of the Off-Street Parking Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that for this reappointment along with the reappointment of John Reagan to the Off-Street Parking Commission and the reappointment of James R. Murphy Jr. to the Conservation Commission they were all holdovers and therefore their reappointment dates will expire in February, 2021 and it is the Mayor's intent to reappoint them all for another full term of three years to expire in 2024 and the Mayor will send in a subsequent letter to amend the terms.

Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Meyer is the Chairperson for the Off-Street Parking Commission since her appointment in 2016. Her compassion for helping Westfield is quite evident when she talks about wanting to be part of the revitalization of downtown and making visiting our small businesses easily accessible for all. She believes it is very important for the City to work with small businesses in town and her part is that this Commission makes sure there is parking downtown for those businesses, meshing with other organizations and Westfield State University. She is the Secretary for the Westfield high School Pathways Campus. Previously, she was the Lead Preschool Teacher at Roots Learning Center and their Summer Camp Director. She was Board member and President at Amelia Park Children's Museum, was Board Member and Secretary for the Foundation for Education, was a Co-Organizer of Westfield into the Arts and in past years was quite involved Juniper Park Elementary School and the YMCA. Lastly, for over 10 years she cared for our Citizens in Long Term Care and Rehabilitation.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of John M. Regan, 83 Eastwood Drive as a member of the Off-Street Parking Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021 be CONFIRMED.



The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Regan is the General Manager for Ferguson Enterprises in Chicopee which includes day to day operations and scheduling. He is the asset an inventory Manager controlling all assets in the district which includes 20 branches in New England. Prior to that he worked at F.W. Webb Company in Springfield in outside sales and inside commercial estimating which involved visiting customers on a day to day basis showing new products, taking orders and design, pipe and valve fitting quoting and at United Plumbing Supply in Springfield in Sales and as a Manager, involved in all aspects of the heating business. All these positions involve communication and negotiation skills. Mr. Regan is a lifelong Westfield resident. He went to American International College in Springfield and New England Institute of Technology in RI and is an asset to this Commission.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of James R. Murphy, Jr., 6 Crawford Drive, as a member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire on the first Monday of February, 2021 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Murphy is an outstanding member and Vice-Chair of this important commission for over 25 years. He is an active participant on this Commission and at the meetings asks pertinent questions and offers suggestions to improve projects and get better protections of wetlands, when reviewing projects. In the past, he had substantial paperwork responsibilities such as working to craft bonding language which would allow the commission to bond for projects, ensuring projects complied with their permits, wetlands are protected, and reducing lawsuits. This was in collaboration with the Mayor, Council and Law Department. He attends ongoing education from the MA Association of Conservation Commissioners and has attained extensive knowledge on State, Local and Federal Laws, jurisdiction and permits, soil and erosion, rare and endangered species, impacts of laws on property owners, the City and environment, site inspections, wetland values and functions, and working with City Departments. As the City grows, this Commission strives to fairly administer the Mass Wetlands Act and City of Westfield Ordinance 1109. Mr. Murphy is a Westfield Business owner specializing in engineered components to the original equipment manufacturing market place focusing on instrumentation, medical equipment, industrial devices and communication. He also volunteers at the Westfield Soup Kitchen. His knowledge and experience is a huge asset to this commission, along with his compassion and realistic outlook. Councilor Onyski stated he goes to many of these meetings and he is a great asset and the City is lucky to have him. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that he has dealt with Mr. Murphy for many years on both sides of the table and he is always fair and is an asset to the City. Councilor Allie echoed Mr. Beltrandi's comments.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Alexander Gearing, 44 Hillcrest Circle, as a member of the Board of Public Works for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2023, replacing Jack Campaniello, who chose not to renew his term, be CONFIRMED. The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Gearing was present at the Personnel Action Committee and that Mr. Gearing stated that he is deeply passionate about local government. He believes his skills and work experience could contribute to this Board in a positive manner. He has a B.S. in Finance from American University in

Washington, D.C. and worked at Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation in Washington as a Financial Assistant in preparing company reports for federal case work and has experience as a marketing strategist for a tech-based company. He is employed by Kurtz Incorporated of Westfield, operating heavy equipment in a fast-paced and often dangerous environment, in which personal composure is of the utmost importance, while working with skilled employees in the trades. He is OSHA 10 Certified and accomplished in computer programs. His college degree in Finance and actual hands-on work for a variety of MA state and private jobs (no City conflicts) gives him a unique set of skills which gives him understanding of the jobs Public Works is involved in – both from the finances involved and the actual work of the Public Works personnel. Councilor Harris added additional information for the Councilors and public as follows: As we know City Hall has been closed due to the pandemic so in person attendance of meetings isn't possible. Mr. Gearing, since becoming interested in this Board has watched the meetings and reviewed their minutes. Mr. Gearing states that the DPW should follow all laws governing their actions on all matters. In regards to projects involving the City and State Mr. Gearing believes the City and State should work together in a cost-efficient and cost-effective manner. Day to day functions like snow removal and maintenance process is the Superintendent's purview. As the Chair, Councilor Harris provided the following information on the process of appointing a DPW Superintendent. The Superintendent is determined by the joint Commission of the Board of Public Works and the Water Commission which have met and a screening Committee has been established. This position is posted for 30 days and then applicants are reviewed. The process now has produced 2 finalists. The Board of Public Works and Water Commission will be asked to look at these resumes and charged with ultimately voting for whom they believe is in the best interest of Westfield. Councilor Harris thanked Mr. Gearing for offering to serve the City and it is because of citizens like Mr. Gearing that the City has great Commissions and Boards. Councilor Onyski stated he highly recommends Mr. Gearing and that he is a stand-up person and he is glad to see a younger person taking interest in this position. Councilor Figy stated he is glad to see a hands-on-experience person, as well as highly educated. Councilor Beltrandi expressed he was impressed with Mr. Gearing's resume' and is happy to have younger applicants for Boards/Commissions. Councilor Adams agreed and he thanked Mr. Campaniello for his many years of service on the Board. Councilor Bean also agreed that it is nice to have younger applicants. Mr. Flaherty informed the Council that Mr. Gearing was a Boy Scout a long time ago and that he is a wonderful person, but was not so sure that he has the skills and the experience for such a critical role that a DPW commissioner will have right now for picking a new DPW director, but believes he will grow into the position. Councilor Onyski expressed his concern that Councilor Flaherty's comments may be unfair to the applicant. Councilor Sullivan also thanked Mr. Campaniello for his many years of service to the City.

President Bean asked if there were any announcements from the Councilors.

Councilor Figy thanked everyone for their donations of turkeys. He especially thanked Raymakkers for their donation of 100 turkeys.

Councilor Mello thanked City Clerk Karen Fanion, the City Clerk's office staff and the many election workers for all their many hours and hard work for a safe and secure election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

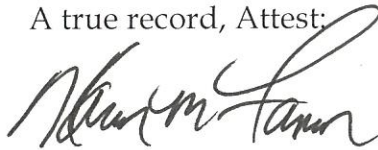
Councilor Burns wished hall Veterans a Happy Veterans Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

At 7:55 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

A true record, Attest:

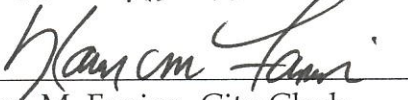


Karen M. Fanion  
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

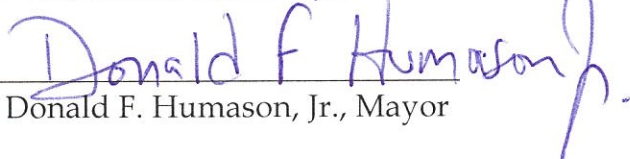
Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval Nov. 18 2020

  
Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

Nov 19 2020

  
Donald F. Humason, Jr., Mayor