



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WALLACE J. PUCHALSKI MUNICIPAL BUILDING
212 MAIN STREET, NORTHAMPTON
Northampton, MA

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra. At 7:12 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

At-Large Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra	At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight
Ward 1 Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr.	Ward 5 Councilor Alex Jarrett
Ward 2 Councilor Karen Foster	Ward 6 Councilor Marianne LaBarge
Ward 3 Councilor James B. Nash	Ward 7 Councilor Alisa F. Klein
Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe	

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

At 7:12 p.m., Councilor Sciarra convened the regular meeting. She announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing
None.

Updates from Council President & Committee Chairs

Updates from Council President & Committee Chairs

Councilor Sciarra announced the appointments to council subcommittees and multi-member bodies as follows:

<u>Legislative Matters</u>	<u>Finance</u>	<u>Community Resources</u>
Councilor Dwight, Chair	Councilor Sciarra, Chair	Councilor Nash
Councilor Maiore	Councilor Quinlan	Councilor Thorpe
Councilor Thorpe	Councilor LaBarge	Councilor Jarrett
Councilor Sciarra	Councilor Thorpe	Councilor Foster

City Services

Councilor LaBarge
Councilor Foster
Councilor Quinlan
Councilor Maiore

Transportation and Parking Commission

Councilor Nash
Councilor Foster

Energy and Sustainability Commission

Councilor Jarrett
Councilor Maiore

Disability Commission Liaison

Councilor LaBarge

Youth Commission Liaison

Councilor Dwight

Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors

Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors

As former chair of the Transportation and Parking Commission (TPC), Councilor Nash announced that members will take up two items related to the creation of long-term parking in the downtown area at next week's meeting. The ordinances involve the creation of additional long-term parking on Bridge Street near Historic Northampton and on Pleasant Street near Northampton Bicycle.

	<p>The meeting will be Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 4 p.m.</p> <p>Councilor Jarrett informed residents that the Mayor's office has released an analysis of barriers to affordable housing and opportunity in Northampton ["Unlocking Opportunity/An Assessment of Barriers to Housing Choice in Northampton"] under the direction of the Northampton Housing Partnership. Of course, cost of housing is a large impediment but a lot of other barriers are identified. He recommended that everyone interested in affordable housing review the document.</p> <p>The Proposition 2 ½ override forum in Ward 5 will be held on Wednesday, February 4, 2020 at the Florence Civic Center from 7 to 9 p.m., he added.</p> <p>And, School Committee representative Dina Levi and he will be holding general listening sessions in Ward 5 at various locations such as businesses and the library and welcome invitations to places residents think it would be good for them to come.</p> <p>The 4th annual Pioneer Valley Women's March will take place this Saturday in Springfield, Councilor Maiore reminded. Organizers are excited to have formed a network with folks in the region and to be rotating to different communities in future years to promote regional unity. A pre-rally program with Springfield city councilors starts at 11 a.m. at Northgate Plaza, and, at 12 p.m., participants will march to city hall where there will be a short but dynamic program of incredible speakers. This year's theme is 'Unity Across Communities.' An activist fair with 30 participating organizations will be held inside city hall all afternoon.</p> <p>Councilor Quinlan congratulated Coach Messer and the Northampton Girls' basketball team for a terrific win against Central High.</p> <p>Citizen Police Academy dates have been announced, and it will run on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. from February 8, 2020 to March 28, 2020, Councilor Sciarra reported. It is a great program to really understand that department and everything that happens there.</p>
<p><u>Communications & Proclamations from the Mayor</u></p>	<p><u>Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor</u> Mayor Narkewicz congratulated new members on their election. Last night was the first of several scheduled town hall meetings to discuss the Proposition 2 and ½ override around the city. Next week, the meeting will be January 22, 2020 at 7 pm. in the Little Theater at the high school. The Mayor's office has set up a special webpage with lots of information including copies of the presentation. The page has a calculator that allows people to see exactly what the impact of the \$2.5 million proposed override would be on their property. He hopes people will take the time to come out and join this important conversation.</p>
<p><u>Resolutions</u></p>	<p><u>Resolutions</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Presentations</u></p>	<p><u>Presentations</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Consent Agenda</u></p>	<p><u>Consent Agenda</u> Councilor Sciarra reviewed the items on the consent agenda. She explained that all items on the consent agenda are expected to be approved without discussion in a single vote but that any item may be removed for separate consideration upon request. Councilor Dwight moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilor Nash seconded.</p> <p>Councilor Jarrett requested removal of the minutes of December 19, 2019.</p> <p>Councilor Sciarra reviewed the remainder of the consent agenda. The motion carried 9:0 by voice vote.</p> <p>The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda:</p>

B. 20.013 Appointments to Various Committees - for referral to City Services

Board of Assessors

David Murphy, 78 North Elm Street, Northampton

Term: January 2020 - June 2023

To fill a newly created seat

Planning Board

Melissa Fowler, 87 Chesterfield Road, Leeds

Term: January 2020 – June 2021

To fill the unexpired term of Mark Sullivan

A. Minutes of December 19, 2019

Councilor Jarrett noted that, beginning on page 676 of the minutes, there are a number of orders approved with the notation "Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled." All of them had two readings and he doesn't believe any rules were actually suspended, so he questioned the reason for the notation.

Administrative Assistant Laura Krutzler said she had asked the same question when she originally began working for the council. She was told that the notation had appeared in City Council minutes since the 1800's and that the City Clerk did not feel comfortable with her removing it but she did not receive a complete explanation for its presence. Councilor Sciarra said they would keep working on getting an explanation for this convention.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the minutes of December 19, 2019. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by voice vote.

Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting

At 7:27 p.m., the City Council recessed for the Committee on Finance meeting. The Committee on Finance adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The City Council reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

Financial Orders (on 1st reading)
20.007 Order to Appropriate CPA Funds for Historic Preservation of Parsons House and Shepherd Barn - 1st reading
20.008 Order to Appropriate CPA Funds to Purchase 105 Acres at Former Pine Grove Golf Course - 1st reading

Financial Orders (on 1st reading)

20.007 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds for Historic Preservation of Parsons House and Shepherd Barn - 1st reading

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

See minutes of February 6, 2020 for second reading.

20.008 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds to Purchase 105 Acres at Former Pine Grove Golf Course - 1st reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Councilor Dwight moved to suspend the rules to allow a second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by voice vote.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, January 16, 2020
Upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee

20.008 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds to Purchase 105 Acres at Former Pine Grove Golf Course

Ordered, that

WHEREAS, The Northampton Conservation Commission and Office of Planning & Sustainability submitted a Community Preservation Act application for purchase of 105 acres within the Rocky Hill Greenway at the former Pine Grove Golf Course;

WHEREAS, The parcel includes more than half a mile of Nashawannuck Brook riparian area, is part of a wildlife corridor, abuts existing protected areas in the Rocky Hill Greenway, and presents a myriad of opportunities for climate change adaptation, natural communities restoration, and recreation;

WHEREAS, the project meets the goals of the Sustainable Northampton Plan, Northampton Community Preservation Plan, and Open Space, Recreation and Multi-use Trail Plan to protect open space, provide for passive recreation, and protect heritage landscapes;

WHEREAS, CPA funds will provide a match for a state Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity grant;

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2019, the Northampton Community Preservation Committee voted unanimously to recommend that \$250,000 in Community Preservation Act funds be used to support this project.

Ordered, that

That \$250,000 be appropriated from Community Preservation Act funding to the Northampton Conservation Commission and Office of Planning and Sustainability for the Nashawannuck Riparian Restoration Project. And, that the grantee meets the conditions approved by the Community Preservation Committee, the Mayor, and City Council.

Specifically, \$172,000 is appropriated from the CPA Open Space Reserve (account #2344930-359931), and \$78,000 is appropriated from the CPA Undesignated Reserve (account #2344930-359930).

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

20.009 Order to Appropriate CPA Funds for Affordable Home on Glendale Road - 1st reading

20.009 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds for Affordable Home on Glendale Road - 1st reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Maiore seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

See minutes of February 6, 2020 for second reading.

20.010 Order to Appropriate CPA Funds to Community Builders for North Commons Project - 1st reading

20.010 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds to Community Builders for North Commons Project - 1st reading

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded.

He was part of the Northampton Housing Partnership while this project was moving along, Councilor Jarrett related. He really likes this project because of the open space close by, access to public transportation and easy walk to town. One of the disappointments of Village Hill is the lack of commercial development of businesses that would provide services to its residents. As they start to build sufficient density he thinks additional development may start to happen as businesses need that density to be commercially successful. The significant percentage being made affordable is really great.

The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

See minutes of February 6, 2020 for second reading.

20.011 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds to NHA for Hampshire Heights Playground - 1st reading

20.011 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds to NHA for Hampshire Heights Playground - 1st reading

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Maiore seconded.

This is another project he worked on while on the Housing Partnership, Councilor Jarrett advised. He wanted to speak of the need for playgrounds to be accessible and local. One of the things he heard on the campaign trail from people who grew up in Northampton was how there used to be

neighborhood schools and neighborhood children used to be able to walk to them without transportation and play on the playgrounds. They have consolidated schools to save money and consolidate resources, but he thinks they really need to bring back local, walkable play areas where children can play and get to without transportation. The Hampshire Heights playground will also be available to neighborhood children such as those living at Hathaway Farms, he noted. It is a step forward to correcting the inequities in public housing, he suggested.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to a vote, and it passed unanimously 9:0.

See minutes of February 6, 2020 for second reading.

<u>Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)</u>	<u>Financial Orders (on 2nd reading):</u> None.
---	---

<u>Orders</u>	<u>Orders</u> None
---------------	-----------------------

<u>Zoning Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>20.004 Ordinance to Rezone Eight Conz Street Parcels from NB to CB</u> <u>20.005 Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map on Old South Street and Clark Avenue</u> <u>20.006 Ordinance to Amend Zoning Map to Add New Smart Growth Overlay District at Laurel Street</u>	<u>Zoning Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>20.004 An Ordinance to Rezone Eight Conz Street Parcels from NB to CB</u> <u>20.005 An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map on Old South Street and Clark Avenue</u> <u>20.006 An Ordinance to Amend Zoning Map to Add New Smart Growth Overlay District at Laurel Street</u> Councilor Dwight moved to move them as a group and refer them all to Planning Board and Legislative Matters. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by voice vote.
---	---

<u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>20.012 Ordinance Relative to Demolition Review for Historically-Significant Buildings</u>	<u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>20.012 An Ordinance Relative to Demolition Review for Historically-Significant Buildings</u> Councilor Dwight moved to refer the ordinance to Legislative Matters. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by voice vote.
--	---

<u>Ordinances</u>	<u>Ordinances</u> None.
-------------------	----------------------------

<u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) & Study Requests</u>	<u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) and Information Study Requests</u> None
---	---

<u>Motion to Adjourn</u>	Upon motion made by Councilor Nash and seconded by Councilor Foster, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m. Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council
--------------------------	---