



Roll Call

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CONDUCTED AS AN ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING
Northampton, MA

A regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by City Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra. At 5:04 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

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| 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 Rachel Maiore |
| Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe | |

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

Councilor Sciarra announced that the meeting was being held via remote participation and audio and video recorded.

Public Hearings
Public Hearing - 20.048 National Grid/Verizon New England Pole Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition #25763215 - two petitions)

Public Hearings
Continuation of a Public Hearing (from June 4, 2020) on 20.048 National Grid/Verizon New England Pole Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition #25763215 - two petitions)

Councilor Sciarra said that, unless there is an objection, she'd like to change the order of the agenda to take the pole petition first. The public hearing was continued when first opened on June 4, 2020, because she did not see a National Grid representative present.

Councilor LaBarge moved to open the public hearing. Councilor Maiore seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Councilor Sciarra read the memo from the DPW.

National Grid representative Lisa Ayres described the proposed work. National Grid is proposing to install a new pole (Pole #71) to guy the wires going down Park Hill Road to the solar field. There is currently no way to guy wires from the existing pole on the corner of Park Hill Road and Glendale Road so they have to install a new pole. Without the new pole, the utility would have to place a stub pole across the street pretty much in a neighbor's driveway. As part of the work, Pole #64 will be relocated slightly to move it out of a resident's yard and closer to the street.

Poles #61, #62 and #63 will support the wires running along Park Hill Road to the solar field. The overhead wires will end before the solar field because electric service will go underground from there into the site.

She is aware of the public shade tree issue, Ms. Ayres confirmed. If the poles are approved, National Grid's arborist will attend a public shade tree hearing. As for all utility poles, workers will apply for a trench permit prior to installation.

Brian Thumpayil of Syncarpha Capital, developer of the solar array, said Syncarpha will be sure to address all of the DPW's conditions and hold a tree hearing to obtain approval for removal of any public shade trees.

Councilor Sciarra asked if anyone wished to speak in opposition.

Mimi Odgers of Glendale Road said she had some concerns about the number of shade trees being taken down and didn't know if they were going to be replaced. She shared that a number of trees were removed in connection with another development on Glendale Road and were not replaced.

Ms. Ayres said she understands there is going to be some removal of trees (she is aware of one on Park Hill Road) but knows some locations only require trimming and not removal of full trees. If there is a removal, National Grid has to replace it with another tree and money is allotted in the budget for this purpose. Workers are using what's called Hendrix cable which is kept very tight with a claw, and that minimizes the trimming that has to be done.

	<p>Councilor LaBarge said she is very happy to hear just one tree is proposed to be removed on Park Hill Road since a large number of trees were taken down for a development a year ago. She wants to make sure there is a follow-up about the trees.</p> <p>Ms. Ayres confirmed that their arborist will go to a public shade tree hearing.</p> <p>Councilor Dwight moved to close the hearing. Councilor Maiore seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.</p>
<p><u>Discussion of Placing Possible Parameters on Public Comment</u></p>	<p><u>Discussion of Placing Possible Parameters on Public Comment</u></p> <p>Due to the unprecedented number of people queued up to speak and the extremely long agenda, Councilor Sciarra asked fellow councilors if they wanted to set parameters on the length of public comment. While public comment is a defining aspect of their meetings, at least a quorum of councilors have asked her about the possibility of suspending or limiting public comment tonight, she said. She cannot unilaterally suspend the rule requiring public comment as it is a standard agenda item, but a two-thirds majority of the council can vote to suspend any rule, she reminded. It is also possible for the council to set a limit on the overall time allowed, she confirmed.</p> <p>Members discussed, with several councilors saying they would be in favor of limiting public comment but not suspending it. Councilor Nash moved to limit public comment to two hours. Councilor Quinlan seconded.</p> <p>Councilor Jarrett offered a friendly amendment to extend the time to two and a half hours.</p> <p>Councilor Nash noted that the council president has the authority to shorten or extend the time allotted for each individual comment. If individual comments are limited to two minutes, they could probably accommodate all of the speakers in two hours, he suggested.</p> <p>Councilor Sciarra said she would be happy to limit comments to two minutes or a minute and a half. Councilor Foster said she would be in favor of limiting comments to two minutes, and Councilor Quinlan agreed. Councilor LaBarge said she supported both ideas. "I think two minutes is adequate," she said.</p> <p>Councilor Jarrett's friendly amendment was not accepted by the motion makers, so Councilor Sciarra called the motion to limit public comment to two hours to a vote. The motion passed 6:3 by roll call vote with Councilors Dwight, Jarrett and Maiore opposed.</p> <p>Councilor Sciarra announced that the council would recess for public comment. The council recessed at 5:37 p.m. The City Council reconvened at 7:44 p.m.</p> <p>Councilor Jarrett requested a seven-minute recess. The Council recessed at 7:44 p.m. and reconvened at 7:56 p.m.</p>
<p><u>Public Hearing Concerning the Northampton Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY2021-FY2025</u></p>	<p><u>Public Hearing Concerning the Northampton Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY2021-FY2025</u></p> <p>Although the next item on the agenda was the public hearing on the Capital Improvement Program for FY2021-FY2025, Councilor Sciarra proposed changing the order of the agenda to first take up the proposed joint framework for review and reform of policing and community safety and the FY2021 budget, since most members of the public were present for these discussions.</p> <p>There being no objection, she proceeded to Updates from Council Presidents and Committee Chairs and Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements from Councilors.</p>
<p><u>Updates from Council President/ Committee Chairs</u></p>	<p><u>Updates from Council President and Committee Chairs</u></p> <p>Councilor LaBarge announced that the City Services Committee meeting of July 6th is cancelled.</p>
<p><u>Recognitions and</u></p>	<p><u>Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors</u></p>

One-Minute Announcements by Councilors

Councilor Quinlan recognized the passing of Mike Ahearn, former Councilor for Ward 4, and offered condolences to his family.

Councilor Maiore recognized all of those who have reached out to her and other councilors and thanked them for their dedication and level of knowledge. Although she hasn't been able to respond to everyone, she has listened to them, read their emails and heard what they had to say, she assured. She thinks the council knows that it is a movement and not a moment. She asked everyone present not to go away but to stick with them through the days ahead.

Councilor LaBarge similarly thanked all the residents who have called. She has received 2,000 emails and 435 phone calls, and her phone has been ringing off the hook. She shared her outrage at the killing of George Floyd and discomfort with the reinforced police presence at Saturday's protest along with her determination that Northampton be a role model for other cities throughout Massachusetts. She expressed the opinion that they should look at reinstating a time limit on meetings since it's not healthy for any of them to be there at 3:30 in the morning.

Councilor Foster let residents know that the Kiwanis have stepped up to provide vegetarian meals and baked goods for people downtown until the churches are back in service. She recommended it as a volunteer option for anyone looking for a concrete way to help.

Communications & Proclamations from the Mayor Presentation by Mayor & Council President on Proposed Joint Framework for Review & Reform of Policing & Public Safety

Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor Presentation from the Mayor and Council President on Proposed Joint Framework for Review and Reform of Policing and Community Safety

Mayor Narkewicz read the document entitled, "Northampton Policing Review Commission, a Joint Special Commission of the Mayor and City Council" aloud.

At the last meeting, she and the mayor committed to working together on next steps toward meaningful police reform, including shifting health and safety services out of that department, Councilor Sciarra reminded. Some councilors asked for greater specificity as to the form this process would take, so they agreed to work together this past week to put forward a more concrete proposal.

She and the mayor talked Friday and met on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, twice on Wednesday and again today, she related. Both she and the mayor worked many, many hours both together and separately. She thanked him for his collaboration.

They decided on a joint commission that could look holistically at policing and community safety since real reform takes examination from both a big-picture overview and a granular level, she reported. Next, they discussed how best to structure the commission. Based on the immense community interest and continued call for resident participation, they decided on a 15-person commission composed primarily of citizen members with a minimum of a majority representation by those most affected by the policies, structures and laws under review.

They discussed at length the possibility of separating an area for review and recommendation by a commission convened solely by the city council but ultimately decided that a joint commission empowered to look at the issue in toto was stronger than having parallel processes with two separate bodies exploring the same issue. The latter would either be duplicating work or would hinder the commission by removing a key area of reform from its review, they discussed.

It is her hope that the commission's report will have recommendations for either actionable items or areas where further work is needed. From that data-informed position, the council can begin to put forward ordinances, or, if needed, convene a select committee for further work in that area. It is a very ambitious timeline and a lot of work, but this is a moment for informed but decisive action, she suggested. A key objective was making the commission's recommendations available for incorporation into the FY2022 budget.

Members asked questions and shared initial reactions to the proposal.

In response to a question from Councilor LaBarge about why the full council wasn't involved in the mayor and council president's decision-making, Councilor Sciarra reminded her that the council actually tasked the two of them with development and presentation of a proposal.

Now is the opportunity for councilors to propose modifications or ask for changes, Councilor Dwight pointed out. They charged the mayor and council president to essentially draft a proposal to address residents' concerns. If Councilor LaBarge has recommendations for change, they can discuss those and incorporate them into the document if all agree. They are now in the process of doing that work, he clarified.

Councilor Nash thanked Mayor Narkewicz and Councilor Sciarra for their hard work in creating a process from scratch. He appreciates the long list of items included for review but the fact that discussion/review is not limited to those items. He asked if action is needed from the council to enact the joint commission or if it is something the mayor and council president can do.

The executive branch forms ad hoc committees or commissions all the time to study issues, Mayor Narkewicz noted.

According to the document, the review process for appointment will be determined by each appointing body, Councilor Sciarra explained. The council could have a conversation about how to proceed, she elaborated.

He for one is pleased to have a format for moving forward, Councilor Nash commented.

Councilor Maiore admitted to feeling a little overwhelmed by Councilor Dwight's statement that now is the time to make recommendations since the council is seeing the document for the very first time and has such a full agenda. The agenda lists it as a presentation so she didn't know it would be the time to propose amendments. She asked if there would be an opportunity for them to look it over and come back with changes. She also asked if the proposal includes funding.

Councilor Sciarra referred to the document's statement that "the Mayor shall file a financial order with the City Council to fund consulting or staff support." The council could hold a special meeting to discuss the proposal at greater length, she confirmed.

They tried to be very aggressive with the timeline in order to recognize the immediacy of people's concerns. In fact, he's concerned it may be too aggressive, Mayor Narkewicz shared. They set the last meeting of the calendar year as the deadline for a preliminary report and March as the deadline for the final report. The date by which the body should be impaneled and start its work is just after Labor Day, allowing a time frame of just three months to review some very complex issues.

Councilor LaBarge said she also would like the opportunity to discuss the proposal again and to look more closely at the language.

The council did task the mayor and Councilor Sciarra with presenting a proposal and she wanted to recognize the enormous amount of work and thought that went into that process, Councilor Foster shared. She sees many of the things she was looking for. She has gotten a lot of feedback from people who believe the council needs to work without the mayor so she wanted to publicly state her belief that 'real change comes when we have the buy in of people who can effect that change.' For that reason, it is important to her that it be a joint council-mayoral process. The council is actually appointing more people than the mayor and she is pleased to see strong representation from people of color, she noted. She is happy that the timeline is intended to result in a report before the next budget thereby taking advantage of the immediacy of this moment. She also appreciates that there is a commitment to dedicating city resources to the process because she believes that is critical to its success.

She recognizes the need for a meeting to discuss the council's process for making appointments and appreciates other councilors' calls for another chance to offer input, so she appreciates however that happens, Councilor Foster continued. An opportunity to serve in this way on such an important undertaking in their community needs to be shared very widely and through non-traditional channels. She made a personal commitment to make sure that people who might not normally have access to information from the city have access to notice of this opportunity to serve.

They have heard unequivocally from a number of people speaking to the urgency and pushing

them to be bold, Councilor Dwight observed. In point of fact, they charged both the council president and the mayor with crafting something regardless of how the budget vote shakes out. Everyone seems to be in favor of reducing the role of police. The rebuilding process can involve either blowing things up or dismantling them. The dismantling process involves salvage as well and allows for modification and adjustments when problems arise. He took very seriously the offers of help and participation as they stood out from past calls to action. It is the first time he's heard requests to participate and be involved and requests to inform, make suggestions and recommendations. In all recent municipal elections, only a fraction of people voted and that's historically been true. There's been an enormous amount of engagement in this process that was formerly nonexistent. It's there to exploit and use and to work to effect to actually help them be bold, he suggested.

Embedded in the proposal is the ability for members to define themselves and their process and what they expect to do. They cede this to them because they are soliciting information from people who have unique and personal information they don't share. The thrust is to create a group to work promptly and fast with the objective of dismantling the current structure for public safety and reimagining it - something no other community has done. It roughly parallels what Minneapolis is now doing, he conceded. He offered his thanks. Irrespective of how the vote on the budget turns out, it is a critical step forward and he is grateful for the efforts. Given the pressure and timeline, the effort reflects that they have heard what is being said often and loudly.

After additional questions and comments, Councilor Maiore respectfully repeated her request to continue the conversation to a special meeting, and Councilors Thorpe and LaBarge voiced support. Members agreed to schedule a special meeting for Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 5 p.m.

Financial Orders (on 2nd reading) 20.065 Order to Approve FY2021 General Fund Budget - 2nd reading

Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)

20.065 An Order to Approve FY2021 General Fund Budget - 2nd reading

Councilor Sciarra repeated her intention to change the order of the agenda to take **20.065 An Order to Approve FY2021 General Fund Budget** next. There was no objection.

Councilor Jarrett repeated that he has a conflict of interest due to a pre-existing contract with the city in which he has a financial interest. The City Council will be removing the single line item pertaining to this contract for separate discussion to accommodate his participation, he advised.

Councilor Dwight moved to put adoption of the FY2021 General Fund budget (not the order itself) on the floor for discussion. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Councilor Dwight moved to divide the question to separately consider the \$38,000 line item in the Central Services Parking Maintenance budget for the Pedal People contract. Councilor Nash seconded. The motion passed 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Jarrett recused.

Councilor Jarrett read a prepared statement. The last few days, he rode around his ward asking people what they thought about the police budget, he read in part. The stories he heard are complex, but most relate to mental health issues, addiction, lack of housing and domestic violence. These are issues he believes people other than the police would be better equipped to handle in most circumstances with better outcomes for all concerned. Despite good intentions, he thinks police in this country and Northampton function as a tool to manage the inequities of society, which produces injustice for those who are poor, non-white or socially-marginalized. The NPD is known as a model department and does valuable work each day. It is functioning just as a police department should, and that is part of the problem. There are limits to policing and what they are asking police to do. They ask them to be experts in fields that they are not and to do jobs where the presence of armed officers actually makes situations worse. He thinks a different solution is needed to their problems in addition to police reform.

He believes a 35% or even 50% reduction in the police force is an achievable goal given the number of calls the department receives that could be answered by alternatives to policing and research that shows that investing in the human needs of the community reduces the need for policing. The goal is not just to respond to crises in the moment but to seek prevention through community investment. He is really glad the Northampton Policing Review Commission (NPRC) is part of these plans.

He proposed talking about what a reduction would mean for this next fiscal year. He has spoken about not wanting to rush the process and wanting a plan to be in place, but he presented the following reasons for reducing the budget now:

- ❖ It would hold the mayor and themselves accountable. Government policy is usually reactive and not proactive. Yes, they are reacting to recent events but that's because these events have catalyzed a huge number of people to take action on problems they've had for a long time. They have to be proactive and push the issue forward; that's how change has usually happened in other communities.

He understands the NPRC timeline is long but he is also confident they could take some steps sooner, he shared. This is a moment in history where they have support to make bold change, and these moments don't come too often.

What will fall out if they reduce policing? He doesn't think it will be the responses to emergencies or major crimes. He thinks it will be some of the building or property checks, the response to minor crimes, the checking up on people who are hanging out, etc. The police can't fix most of their social problems - drugs, for example. Some of the apartment complexes in his ward have extensive problems with drug dealing and the police aren't able to fix that. Why do people deal and use drugs? Let's put resources into solving those problems, he suggested.

- ❖ They are in a period of economic contraction. There are many unknown additional costs related to COVID and a likely decrease in state funding; they are going to have to make cuts and decide where they should come from.
- ❖ This budget already cuts over 17 positions in other departments and they know more are likely coming.
- ❖ They as a council need to retain their power in this process. This is the time they have budgetary power, so he think it's their responsibility to hold that power, especially in a moment such as this. Reducing now will insure that the process moves; the reductions could be gradual throughout the year and the mayor could always ask for more money.

He can't in good conscience support a cut of the size some are requesting without alternatives in place. There are too many unknowns, and he is not willing to risk public safety and the future of this movement in Northampton. If the cut is too large and something happens, it will immediately be pointed to as a failure of that cut. He has looked at the size of their force in relation to many other college towns with tourism and a similar distribution of calls. He thinks they should have a conversation about a 15% cut and what this would mean in terms of freeing up money for the many other needs in the city. They will need near consensus to pass anything tonight so he is putting this forward in a spirit of collaboration. Regardless of what happens, he is committed to moving this forward with input from all members of the community.

Councilor Dwight asked if that was a motion.

No, not at this time, Councilor Jarrett said.

Councilor LaBarge asked Attorney Seewald for clarification of his response to an emailed question from a resident as to whether the city could legally reduce wages promised in a collective bargaining agreement if 'economic exigencies' exist.

Councilor LaBarge read aloud Attorney Seewald's response as follows: "I've consulted with the city's labor counsel and in short, the cited provision should not be used to defund one department and not others. The dire financial issue is not a police issue, it's a citywide issue, and cutting only one department to meet that economic exigency will be seen as a pretext to make changes without bargaining and will not fare well at the Department of Labor Relations."

She asked if it is his legal opinion that they can make cuts to one department but not others. If it is his legal opinion that they can cut departments individually, she asked him to please cite the legal authority he is relying on.

The proposal was to defund the step raises without bargaining, and the proponent cited an NLRB publication that said bargaining could be limited, or that it is a defense to limited bargaining, when there is financial exigency, Attorney Seewald explained. If there is a financial exigency that would

require cutting contractually-obligated wages, that needs to be bargained, he stressed. Cutting step wages in one department claiming financial exigency would not fare well at the Department of Labor Relations because it's not a *police* economic exigency, it's a city-wide exigency. "If you're going to be cutting step raises you better be doing it across the board and not pick one department," he observed. This is actually a defense to failure to sufficiently bargain a change.

"You can cut the budget absolutely. That's absolutely you're right," he affirmed. "What the mayor can't do is defund the raises that were already bargained without further bargaining." The council can cut the budget and leave the Mayor to determine how to allocate remaining funds, he clarified.

Councilor LaBarge asked if he is saying that the city can only legally reduce wages promised in its contract with the NEPBA police union if there are economic exigencies.

No, he is not, Attorney Seewald responded. He is saying the defense of economic exigency is not available to cut step raises in one department. All the council can do is reduce line items in the budget, then the mayor will decide how to proceed. The council does not get to decide what is cut in each line item or how the mayor reallocates those funds.

In response to further questioning from Councilor LaBarge, he stressed that line items can be cut in any departmental budget. He is not saying that the council cannot cut the budget in one department; he is saying the mayor cannot withhold step raises due to financial exigency. The mayor cannot unilaterally decide not to pay bargained raises and claim financial exigency. "You are limited to cutting line items in the budget," he reiterated. "You can cut as many line items in the budget as you wish to cut as a council."

Councilors took turns sharing their thoughts on the budget process and the reform proposal put forward by the mayor and council president. Councilor Quinlan admitted to being a little overwhelmed by the volume of public comment and apologized for his inability to respond personally to each one. He thinks the mayor and council president's proposal addresses complaints he's heard about recent police conduct, in particular, the use of pepper spray and the presence of a tank and dogs at a peaceful protest. The process gives residents "a chance to look at how we really expect our police to behave. I am asking for much better transparency and a clear code of conduct with accountability," he stated.

Councilor LaBarge read the following prepared statement: "I understand that thoughtful change needs time to be implemented successfully. I solidly support that our mayor moved quickly in creating an oversight board for the police and a committee designed to reshape policing in Northampton. We need to condemn police brutality, racial profiling and excessive use of force. We don't have to view everyone as a threat. I feel clearly some serious changes in policy, practice and culture are indicated. That would include replacing police department responsibilities with more qualified professionals such as social workers when a policeman or policewoman retires from the police force. There's no doubt that we need to reimagine what it would look like to get the right responder to the right situation at the right time. Each program needs to be adaptive and to reflect its community. As an example, Northampton is not a large city, and its diversity of residents could benefit from a pilot program or Cahoots model. I have researched the Cahoots model as an example; it has been used in several states. Another suggestion is to have a support team-assisted response put in place by our city. In response to Councilor Foster, Chief Jody Kasper said, 'there's just not a lot of other resources out there, so I would love to have a full-time mental health outreach worker, a civilian who can provide those services and connect people with the other services that they need.' A committee can and should create models to handle public safety without relying on police who have been inappropriately given responsibility for responding to many social problems. As a city we need to look to the future. We need to make our city a model of public safety and support. We all need to work together to make our city a safer, more humanitarian place to live and grow with respect, dignity and equality."

Councilor Foster expressed appreciation to the numerous residents who have reached out, saying she recognizes the incredible courage it takes to stand up and request change from systems impacting them. She gets that reform from within is not what they are seeking. Setting up a police review commission is the beginning of the work of review from the outside. To her, it is a recognition that the challenge is with policing as an institution and not with Chief Kasper and individual officers. She is excited about a move toward a system where a 911 call is routed

appropriately so someone experiencing a mental health crisis, addiction or another condition they've come to criminalize receives a humane and appropriate response. It's important to note that she has talked to a number of people providing social services in the downtown area who have seen and appreciated sensitive responses by the police.

Councilor Foster did take callers to task for speaking out about caring for the community and supporting the most vulnerable while brushing off concern that a large caravan of protestors descending on councilors' homes this past week had frightened her children. And yet, she said she agrees with the goals and the big picture of the protesters. She did see that last year the police actually returned about \$500,000 to the General Fund. One thing that concerns her is that an unintended consequence of a budget cut is that the most recent hires are women and people of color, so those would likely be the personnel lost.

She would support Councilor Jarrett's proposed 15% cut with the recognition that it will hold them accountable to progress and to change, she stated. Similar to Councilor Jarrett, she can't in good conscience support something that is going to gut the very department currently fulfilling tasks, despite near unanimous agreement that many are not appropriate. For that reason, she would also support a smaller cut.

Councilor Nash said that, by and large, he supports the nine demands delivered by protestors on the steps of City Hall during a demonstration a week and a half ago and wants to see them handed off to the commission to be explored and discussed. "The demands I find very doable, and I support those," he affirmed.

What he struggles with is the idea of making cuts without a clear plan for providing services. As a human service professional, one of his primary tasks is attending meetings to figure out what services are needed to support an individual. "We are making a plan for a community," he noted. He is just really uncomfortable making cuts without a clear plan for replacing services.

Councilor Dwight thanked Councilor Foster for her remarks and said he also very much appreciated Councilor Jarrett's statement. He offered to move the 15% cut.

He went on to eloquently express his conviction that the movement they are witnessing goes beyond the budget. Irrespective of whether the cut is 0.28%, 15%, 35% or 50%, the objective is to change what it means to police and be policed, since the very concept of policing was predicated and developed to support one class of people at the expense of all the others.

"We are in a year of financial hardship in our city and our country," Councilor Maiore reminded. She expressed the opinion this actually makes it an ideal year to make significant changes to the police department budget. They know more cuts are coming and she doubts they are done with cutting Northampton's budget this year. Northampton resident Anthony Paik, a Sociology professor at the University of Massachusetts, examined the association between town and city population and police size and estimated cities with populations like Northampton typically have 55 average police officers. Northampton has 65 full-time officers with an average salary of \$64,082. That's potentially \$640,820 in excessive salaries.

They've heard a lot of testimony and she appreciates people sharing their traumatic experiences. Ultimately, this to her is not a referendum on the quality of the NPD. They've heard how they do a lot of jobs other people can do; they've heard how the system itself is embedded with racism and violence and really isn't cut out to keep them safe.

Northampton has been a leader in the area, and they need to lead on this. Now is the time to fund the recommendation of the panhandling report to establish a multi-disciplinary de-escalation team. "We need change, not reform." There's no evidence that reforms like implicit bias and de-escalation training and body cameras are actually preventing negative outcomes or significantly changing anything. Resources in the community bring down the crime rate; not the police. What results in a low crime rate is many things, including social services, resources and prevention.

She takes potential layoffs very seriously, she stressed. She is uncomfortable. It's not easy, but as elected leaders it's their job to make difficult decisions. Ultimately it's not their money, it's the people's money and the people's will. A resident brought up a key point – what evidence do they have that their current level of funding and investment in the police is working? They do know it's

not cost-effective to have police officers do the job of mental health professionals, social service workers and school administrators. She reminded fellow councilors that this not a forever budget; it is a budget for a pandemic year when travel, tourism, prospective visitors and returning students are all expected to be way down. "We can amend the budget at any time; the mayor can come back to us at any time," she reminded.

"I believe that 35%, 50%, these are achievable goals," she said. She concluded by asking fellow councilors a series of rhetorical questions:

- ❖ Are they confident that the police budget as it is right now is cost-effective for the City of Northampton?
- ❖ Are they confident that it is serving all of the people of Northampton?
- ❖ What do they think is the right size for the Northampton police budget?

Councilor Thorpe said he's heard conflicting requests from Ward 4 residents: calls to defund the police by 35% or 50% along with calls to support the police and their funding. "I'm a person who likes to have a plan and likes to have things set out," he confided. This committee that's been proposed seems like the perfect way to dive into this subject, reimagine policing and move forward. For him, it's really about having a comprehensive framework.

Councilor Sciarra quoted Alex Vitale, author of the book "The End of Policing," as saying, "I'm certainly not talking about any kind of scenario where tomorrow someone flips a switch and suddenly there is no police. What I'm talking about is a systematic questioning of the role police currently undertake and attempt to develop evidence-based alternatives so that we can dial back our reliance on them. And my feeling is that this encompasses the vast majority of what police do. We have better alternatives for them."

That is not only what they are proposing but what they are committed to doing and ready to do, she stressed. She is not saying a large cut isn't warranted or possible or the right thing to do. She is saying that to do it without a plan for the services being removed isn't fulfilling their responsibility. Councilors have heard the plan she and the mayor worked on this past week. It has a fast timeline and puts those most directly affected in charge of a process that will engage in that systematic questioning and make recommendations for evidence-based alternatives. That feels to her like the 'reform and change from the outside' Councilor Foster referenced, she concluded.

Discussion continued, with Councilor Maiore pointing out that 17 positions are being cut across the city. In terms of losing services, there's no plan for replacement of those services. They have no plans for the other cuts, so "why are we kind of favoring this?" She wondered about making a plan for progressive cuts in successive years as some had mentioned.

However, the council doesn't have the ability to talk about next year's budget until an order for it has been presented, Councilor Quinlan noted.

Councilor Jarrett explained the odd position councilors are in as far as voting. Five votes are required to pass an amendment, but six affirmative votes are needed for approval of the budget order from councilors other than him since he has to recuse himself. Essentially seven people would have to vote yes [to amend the budget]. This is why he spoke of them needing near consensus and why he wanted to keep having this conversation before making a motion. If he makes a motion and only five people vote affirmatively, it would fail to meet the six or seven, and there wouldn't be any change.

He is hearing that there wouldn't be enough votes for a 15% cut. He asked if there is consensus on a lower amount for which there would be enough votes. "If we call the question, we could be in a situation where it would not pass," he observed.

If he makes a motion and they vote on it, they would essentially have a sense of the council's will without defeating the measure and while still allowing for another amendment to be made, Councilor Dwight countered. The fact is, they can't technically debate it until it's on the floor. He appreciates his concern, but he doesn't think the vote is in jeopardy by proposing the amendment and voting on it. In that regard, it would be his inclination at this point to offer as an amendment the 15% reduction in the police line item, Councilor Dwight proposed.

Councilor Jarrett reminded him that in order to make the motion he would need to specify the exact numbers. He is still concerned, he said.

Councilor Dwight withdrew his motion and said he would wait until Councilor Jarrett is prepared to make the motion if he is so inclined. "I defer to you," he announced.

Councilor LaBarge strenuously insisted it is not the time for the city to purchase hybrid cruisers.

Councilor Sciarra reminded Councilor LaBarge that it is within her power to make that line item cut.

A 15% reduction will require an over \$1 million cut to the budget, Mayor Narkewicz interjected. Certainly the cars are one item but, as they know, almost 90% of the budget is in the PS line item so that's obviously where the bulk of the cuts have to come. Eliminating the entire OM and OOM budgets is still not a 15% cut. He thinks councilors have to understand what that number is and what is necessary to achieve it, and he and Chief Kasper are there to explain.

Regarding the idea that they don't have a plan for the other reductions, the budget was their plan and the budget message explained the plan and why certain layoffs happened in certain budgets. "The plan I presented is the 1,500 page budget," he asserted.

Councilor Maiore said she didn't mean to imply that the mayor didn't have a plan; it wasn't a critique of his budget. She thinks they each need to take a moment before making a motion and think about what that number is for them. For her, it's 20%.

Councilor Jarrett moved to cut the OOM police budget by \$146,252 - the entirety of the OOM budget - \$77,041 from OM and \$758,658 from PS. Councilor Dwight seconded.

Councilor Jarrett verified that the percentage cut is 14.65% for a total reduction of \$981,951.

Members proceeded to debate the amendment.

Councilor Dwight offered the opinion that Councilor Jarrett's reasoning is sound. Whatever amount they cut, they're not actually discussing the real consequences or the real value, it's more of an expression, a gesture of acknowledgment that they hear the public outcry. Part of the problem is they don't know the exact consequence of the cut; how it plays out in real time in the real world. One thing worth considering is that there are currently three candidates of color in the police academy about to come on line; three remarkable candidates with very sophisticated understanding of the challenges and the concerns that to be honest he has not seen reflected in most of the previous interviews in which he has participated. The rules of collective bargaining are last in first out. They would lose them so that's worth considering. It won't necessarily deter him from making the cuts, but they should understand the consequences. These are all very difficult decisions. They are going to be hard and it's their responsibility to know just how hard. This is the difference between being an activist and being a legislator. They really are obliged to consider the impacts. Referring to Councilor Maiore's 20% proposal, the numbers at this point become somewhat arbitrary, he acknowledged.

Councilor Maiore noted that there is also an impact to continuing as they are. By continuing not to make a fundamental change, they are impacting people all the time.

Councilor LaBarge asked how many positions they are looking at cutting.

He would defer to the mayor and chief in terms of an actual number, but a proportional number would be 9.22, Councilor Jarrett said.

Mayor Narkewicz said he would like Chief Kasper to have an opportunity to speak since they are proposing a very significant cut to her budget.

Using Councilor Jarrett's proposal of a \$758,658 cut to PS, that's pretty much all people, Chief Kasper advised. Using an average salary of \$60,000, that would be 12.6, or approximately 12 to 13 positions. Police are required by contract when doing layoffs to start with the most junior members, she confirmed. The department has 45 patrol officers to cover the city in combination

with five detectives. Five recruits are in the academy and there is one vacancy so that's 39 officers available to police the city of Northampton. If the council cuts 12, they're talking about substantial changes to the way the department operates. Many of their calls require a two-officer response – domestic violence, serious calls. She said she appreciated everyone who's spoken and has listened to every word of it.

"These arbitrary numbers feel very arbitrary without us really having an understanding of impact," she commented. This impacts so many things in their department – operations, reliance on mutual aid, changes in policy. "We are not prepared in two weeks to cut 13 of our staff and still provide the city with the same level of services," she cautioned.

"It feels like we're taking this step as a city without thoughtfully moving through it," she observed. She has acknowledged that there are problems in the system and been willing to collaborate on finding solutions. But at whatever time of night this is after all this deliberation, throwing around numbers of 15%, 30% or 50% feels very sudden without thoughtfully discussing the impact it's going to have and how they're going to provide services to the city.

In a halting voice, Councilor Jarrett said he knew he would certainly disappoint a number of people but he had to be honest with himself. He feels the need for more time to think and he will withdraw the motion, he announced.

Following withdrawal of the motion, animated discussion continued for another 45 minutes. Councilor Maiore continued to press for decisive action to reduce the budget. Moments of pivot are never easy and it's always possible for the mayor to come back to them with a request for an additional appropriation, she noted.

However, if they make a decision to lay off staff he doesn't know how he would come back to them and undo that, Mayor Narkewicz countered. He agreed wholeheartedly with Chief Kasper that making a cut in personnel of this significance with 12 or 13 days left in the fiscal year is very challenging. He is committed to having a conversation and putting in place a committee to study these issues and come up with recommendations, he repeated.

The process of hiring an officer takes anywhere from 12 to 16 months since it involves six months of training at the academy and four months of field training in addition to interviews, medicals and physicals, Chief Kasper elaborated. The city would be losing a lot of money and investment it's just made in the officers presently at the academy. If the council were to come back and decide to rehire officers, it would take a year and a half to get them on the street, she noted.

Councilor Nash suggested the idea of a hiring freeze so that the city could gradually lose officers through attrition rather than losing recruits due to graduate from the academy. However, Mayor Narkewicz explained that hiring freezes are generally implemented when the city runs out of money in the middle of a fiscal year. If the city is presented with a budget cut, it will have to lower the number of staff as of July 1st to match the budget in place.

Councilor Foster raised concern about the city's reputation as an employer, saying she's been a little surprised by the relatively cavalier attitude expressed toward the idea of police officers losing their jobs. In trying to explain what reform looks like, she has used the phrase, 'meaningful, substantive change,' she shared. Meaningful, substantive change has the buy-in of the community and buy-in of people implementing the change. "There are many voices and many stakeholders here that need to be centered." Her conscience is telling her she has to listen to them all.

Councilor Sciarra reminded members that the previous motion was withdrawn. They are having somewhat of a theoretical discussion since there is no longer a motion on the floor, she said.

Councilor Jarrett said he withdrew his motion before because he wasn't able to think in that moment. He still thinks it's worth making a reduction for all the reasons he mentioned. For him to feel comfortable, he is thinking of making a smaller proposal.

Councilor Dwight asked if the mayor would consider building benchmarks for reduction into the proposal for the NPRC for more elaborate discussion at the special meeting Tuesday, i.e. – target numbers for reducing the police force by a certain percentage over a year, two years or three, thus allowing natural attrition to occur and giving the current officers at the academy an

opportunity to come on line.

This is kind of getting into the work of the commission in looking at comparative staffing and service levels and making recommendations as to the size of the force, Mayor Narkewicz pointed out.

He is suggesting that a positive move toward reduction in the size of the force be embedded in the plan, Councilor Dwight explained. It is very unlikely that the commission is going to recommend there be an expansion or even a stabilizing of the size of the police department, he elaborated. His hope is that commission members presume that the size will be redefined. He is wondering if this assumption could be embedded in the plan and administrators could start planning for a systematic reduction in the size of the force. It would essentially be a given built into the commission's charge.

In asking the commission to review various issues, they tried to use objective language [with no predetermined outcome], Mayor Narkewicz responded. If a more specific goal is preferred, it certainly could be part of their charge.

Councilor Dwight asked if he would be prepared if asked by this council to incorporate language on Tuesday to indicate that there be an end goal of a reduction in the size of the force and a reduction in funding, regardless of other recommendations.

This is a joint process between the mayor and the city council, so if that's something the council wants the commission to look at, they could certainly do so, Mayor Narkewicz confirmed. One of the things they could be asked to examine is a reduction in staff, he acknowledged.

With all due respect, it felt a touch like Councilor Dwight's last question might be leaving them in a box, Councilor Foster observed. Studying what they want public safety to look like in their community incorporates police but it involves much more. What they're talking about as an end goal is clearly policing that is much more limited. However, "re-envisioning public safety is also going to take an investment," she noted. While the end goal is a reduction in policing as they know it, public safety and how they care for the community is actually expected to grow.

They are talking about reducing the mission of the police department, but at the same time he presumes the goal is to change and modify the professional services offered in the name of public safety, Councilor Dwight agreed. They will have to invest in an expanded, less martial structure of public safety, he acknowledged. The change in the fire department involved a deep investment, he pointed out. The fact is, the whole culture has changed.

He would like to go back to the thought that it would be helpful for them to free up money, Councilor Jarrett volunteered. If they reduce the police budget, the money will be available to fund other programs. He stated his perception that there is not sufficient agreement around a 15% cut and said he is running some numbers on a 5% reduction. If someone thinks a higher number would be better, he would be open to that as well, he said.

Councilor Maiore said she could make a motion to look at the equivalent of 10%. Councilor Jarrett offered to calculate the necessary figures. After a moment, he said a 10% cut would translate into \$146,252 from OOM, \$48,279 from OM and \$475,426 from PS.

Councilor Maiore reminded those present that the average force for a city Northampton's size is 55 and they are at 65.

Councilor Maiore moved to reduce PS by \$475,426, OM by \$48,279 and OOM by \$146,252 (effectively, to cut the police budget by 10%).

In response to a question from Councilor LaBarge, Councilor Jarrett said the total reduction is \$669,957, and a cut of \$475,426 would translate into about eight police officers.

Councilor Jarrett seconded.

Councilor Nash announced that he is not going to support this motion. They need time to develop a plan, he reiterated. Right now, he is not comfortable with just eliminating this amount of money

from the budget.

Councilor Jarrett said he would argue that now's the time to be brave and to consider bringing the department down to the size of other comparable cities in a time when they're not going to be seeing the tourism and/or the students. It's freeing up money that could be well spent in other places and probably could be used in other places. It's taking the bold change of the moment and trusting they will be fine as a city. He said he would vote yes.

Councilor Dwight called the question. It passed on a roll call vote of 6:3 with Councilors Nash, LaBarge and Thorpe opposed.

Councilor Sciarra announced that the motion passed.

After learning there were three votes in opposition, Councilor Jarrett asked Councilor Sciarra to explain the options for reconsideration. Councilor Sciarra read the applicable council rule.

Councilor Jarrett moved to reconsider. Councilor Dwight seconded.

The only new information is that the amended budget will not pass because are three votes against it and he must abstain, Councilor Jarrett presented. Therefore, there are only five votes in favor of the budget order.

However, it's not safe to presume that everyone who voted down the amendment will act to vote down the amended budget, Councilor Dwight noted. While some may oppose the amendment, they may realize that if they don't pass the budget, the mayor's budget becomes law.

Attorney Seewald clarified that the requirement that additional information be presented does not apply to majority reconsideration, only minority reconsideration. Councilor Jarrett is in the majority.

Without comment from those who voted in the minority, he thinks it is too important to leave the final outcome to chance, Councilor Jarrett said. He thinks they should reconsider, vote it down and propose something smaller others might support.

Councilor Maiore requested a recess. The council recessed at 11:56 p.m.

The council reconvened at 12:05 p.m.

Upon reconvening, Councilor LaBarge said, "we're at 10% which I think is low. I don't think it's really progressive enough." She expressed her understanding that it would involve laying off six officers, and Councilor Sciarra said she believed that was the estimate that had been given.

Councilor Jarrett said the estimate was eight officers if the cut is absorbed by uniformed personnel only.

Councilor Jarrett withdrew his request for reconsideration, saying he's going to trust that people will vote to pass the budget.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to adopt the FY2021 General Fund budget as amended [with the \$38,000 line item removed] to a vote and it passed 8:1 with Councilor Nash opposed by roll call vote.

Councilor Jarrett recused himself from consideration of the Pedal People contract.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the \$38,000 Pedal People contract. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Jarrett recused.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve 20.065 An Order to Approve the FY2021 General Fund budget in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the amendment [10% cut to the police budget] for purposes of the order. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion carried 8:0 by roll call

vote with Councilor Jarrett recused.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to approve order 20.065 to a vote, and it passed 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Jarrett recused.

Councilor Sciarra announced that 20.065 passed as amended.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 10, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.065 An Order to Approve FY2021 General Fund Budget

Ordered, that

the sum of \$94,561,718 which is the full amount necessary for the Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund Budget (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), be appropriated for the purposes stated, provided that the appropriation for Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School shall be used solely for the purposes of meeting net school spending as defined by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and no funds so appropriated shall be transferred to any account or expended for any purpose that would not be included in the calculation of net school spending. To meet this appropriation, \$1,392,873 will be raised and appropriated from Parking Meter Receipts Reserved, \$1,042,826 from Sewer Enterprise Funds, \$577,268 from Water Enterprise Funds, \$83,466 from Solid Waste Enterprise Funds, \$341,407 from Storm Water Enterprise Funds, \$15,776 from Community Preservation Act Administrative Funds, \$20,932 from the Reserve for Police Station Debt Service, \$52,418 from the Fiscal Stability Stabilization Fund and \$91,034,752 will be raised and appropriated.

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS
FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDER**

	Personal Services	Ordinary Maintenance	Other Than Ordinary Maintenance	FY 2021 Total Expenditures
GENERAL FUND				
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
CITY COUNCIL	140,393	55,500	0	195,893
MAYOR	416,456	16,442	0	432,898
AUDITOR	363,230	5,280	0	368,510
ASSESSORS	189,870	123,350	0	313,220
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	377,918	276,435	0	654,353
LEGAL SERVICES	0	275,000	0	275,000
HUMAN RESOURCES	299,684	37,050	0	336,734
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	374,370	678,510	0	1,052,880
CITY CLERK / REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	300,243	32,525	0	332,768
PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY	376,443	59,200	0	435,643
CENTRAL SERVICES	709,046	1,046,160	0	1,755,206
	<u>3,547,654</u>	<u>2,605,452</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,153,106</u>
PUBLIC SAFETY				
POLICE	5,474,836	555,965	0	6,030,801
PARKING DIVISION - ENFORCEMENT	182,601	12,200	0	194,801
PUBLIC SAFETY COMM CENTER	672,310	49,341	0	721,651
FIRE RESCUE	5,636,486	529,430	210,000	6,375,916
BUILDING INSPECTOR	449,216	26,200	0	475,416
PARKING DIVISION - MAINTENANCE	234,509	269,198	90,000	593,707
	<u>12,649,958</u>	<u>1,442,334</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>14,392,292</u>
EDUCATION				
SMITH VOCATIONAL & AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL	0	0	0	9,006,705
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	0	0	0	32,162,012
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>41,168,717</u>
PUBLIC WORKS				
ADMINISTRATION AND ENGINEERING	238,033	34,800	0	272,833
STREET GENERAL HIGHWAY	724,987	383,400	420,000	1,528,387
STREET SNOW AND ICE CONTROL	131,000	369,000	0	500,000
FORESTRY, PARKS AND CEMETERIES DIVISION	897,348	272,450	150,000	1,319,798
	<u>1,991,368</u>	<u>1,059,650</u>	<u>570,000</u>	<u>3,621,018</u>
HUMAN SERVICES				
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	348,906	98,710	0	447,616
SENIOR SERVICES	195,412	46,264	0	241,676
VETERANS SERVICES	213,645	655,983	0	869,628
	<u>757,964</u>	<u>800,957</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,558,921</u>

	Personal Services	Ordinary Maintenance	Other Than Ordinary Maintenance	FY 2021 Total Expenditures
CULTURE AND RECREATION				
FORBES LIBRARY	1,202,214	189,030	0	1,391,244
LILLY LIBRARY	269,630	81,807	0	351,437
RECREATION	311,681	33,500	0	345,181
ARTS AND CULTURE	65,173	16,250	0	81,423
	<u>1,848,698</u>	<u>320,587</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,169,285</u>
DEBT SERVICE				
MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS	0	3,591,700	0	3,591,700
INTEREST ON MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS	0	882,212	0	882,212
	<u>0</u>	<u>4,473,912</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,473,912</u>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS				
CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT SYSTEM	6,559,443	0	0	6,559,443
PENSIONS: NON-CONTRIB. & OPEB	332,000	10,000	0	342,000
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	684,360	0	0	684,360
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	103,935	10,000	0	113,935
GROUP MEDICAL INSURANCE	11,576,432	15,000	0	11,591,432
LIFE INSURANCE	55,000	0	0	55,000
EMPLOYEE TAXES	942,500	0	0	942,500
UNUSED SICK LEAVE	180,000	0	0	180,000
	<u>20,433,670</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,468,670</u>
CAPITAL PROJECTS & MISCELLANEOUS				
CAPITAL PROJECTS	0	0	0	0
GENERAL LIABILITY FUND	0	76,200	0	76,200
PROPERTY & AUTO INSURANCE	0	309,397	0	309,397
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES LIABILITY INSURANCE	0	70,200	0	70,200
RESERVE FOR PERSONNEL	100,000	0	0	100,000
TRANSFER TO FISCAL STABILITY STABILIZATION FUND	0	0	0	0
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND	0	0	0	0
	<u>100,000</u>	<u>455,797</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>555,797</u>
TOTAL GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION				94,561,718
NON-APPROPRIATED USES				
RESERVE FOR ABATEMENTS & EXEMPTIONS		550,000		550,000
OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED		27,122		27,122
CHERRY SHEET OFFSET RECEIPTS		1,411,645		1,411,645
STATE ASSESSMENTS - CHERRY SHEET		3,641,594		3,641,594
	<u>0</u>	<u>5,630,361</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,630,361</u>
TOTAL BUDGET PLAN - GENERAL FUND				100,192,079

Passed two readings and enrolled.

Public Hearing Concerning the Northampton Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY2021-FY2025

Public Hearing Concerning the Northampton Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY2021-FY2025

Councilor Sciarra read the legal notice.

Councilor Dwight moved to open the public hearing. Councilor Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. The public hearing was opened at 12:22 a.m.

This is the five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) required by charter for FY2021 to FY2025, Mayor Narkewicz presented. He would essentially describe it as a roadmap for all the city's capital needs over the next five years. He always likes to emphasize that the CIP is not actually the funding or the borrowing order but is the plan that outlines the projects. It describes 104 projects across the city and school department as well as four enterprise funds totaling \$96,202,245. Capital projects by definition are projects that cost over \$10,000 and generally have a useful life of five years or more. These are not recurring expenses so they primarily rely on one-time money such as free cash and capital stabilization or, in the case of enterprise funds, revenue generated by the enterprises themselves. As indicated earlier in the year, the program was delayed - first, because of the uncertainty related to the override and then, within a week, because of uncertainty around the COVID-19 shutdown and associated economic disruption. They ended up making significant reductions in the scope of the capital program for FY2021 and pushing a number of projects off into out years or taking them off the program altogether. In terms of the scale of that reduction, they scaled it back by over \$2.5 million from what was originally projected because of some of the uncertainty. They were unsure about the amount they would need to retain in reserves and also unsure about whether some projects would even be viable. They really tried to focus on critical needs: life safety related projects, infrastructure-related projects such as city or school IT and some building projects that had been deferred but for which the timing is now good. As examples, he pointed to some of the projects on parks and rec facilities since summer programs are cancelled. He offered to answer questions about individual projects once they get into deliberations.

Mayor Narkewicz described the process for assembling the CIP: departments submit their capital requests (individual CIP forms are found in the back of the plan) and the Mayor's office appoints an ad hoc committee including a member of the city council to make recommendations as to the prioritization of different projects. He works with the finance director to look at the city's borrowing capacity in terms of its debt schedule, anticipated free cash and other sources used to fund the program. It is a constantly updated program because the charter requires that they do this process every year. New projects may come on and some projects fall off or get completed. They typically follow behind with actual financial orders to implement the program.

He noted a unique aspect of this year's plan; one of the funding sources they rely on for a small portion of capital projects is the operating budget. There are no cash capital projects in the FY21 program; it was one of the areas where they tried to free up savings because of the economic uncertainty, revenue shortfall and decision to delay implementation of the override for a year. The opening pages of the plan set forth metrics for how administrators decide to draw from various stabilization accounts as well as information about the city's debt capacity and adherence to best practices set forth by the Department of Revenue (DOR) and to its own internal policies.

He drew attention to one change; access to free cash goes away after June 30th until free cash is recertified in late November by DOR, he explained. Typically a big chunk of the CIP is funded from free cash. Asking to fund from free cash would have required them to request two readings on free cash orders tonight. As a work around, they have an order asking to move money from free cash into capital stabilization, which doesn't go away after June 30th. This preserves those funds in capital stabilization by moving them from one fund to another. It is a slight change from past practice because of the fact that the capital plan got pushed so late in the fiscal year. He thanked Susan Wright who, in addition to creating the operating budget, had to pivot to creating this heavily-revised CIP. He also thanked department heads who participated in the CIP process and members of the ad hoc advisory committee.

Councilor Sciarra asked if anyone from the general public would like to speak to the CIP. Hearing none, she opened the floor to questions and comments from councilors.

Councilor Quinlan thanked Mayor Narkewicz for the presentation. He noticed this is where most of the money is set aside for vehicle replacement. Through the sustainability plan they have talked about electric and hybrid vehicles and their importance to the community. He wondered if any consideration was given to acquiring hybrid or electric school buses.

The school committee did have a conversation about that very issue and worked with the transportation director to explore it, Mayor Narkewicz confirmed. Unfortunately, right now, technology around electric school buses is such that they are prohibitively expensive. The Town of Amherst went through a conversation about that and, because of the extreme cost, opted to wait until the technology becomes more affordable. It is definitely on the radar of the school committee but they opted not to pursue it this year. They are opting to buy some smaller vans which is a little bit of a savings and not as intensive in terms of gas and carbon use. "I can assure you that that is something that is on the radar of the school committee but is not something that is viable this year," he concluded.

Superintendent Provost mentioned that he is looking at various scenarios for reopening and anticipating the cost of PPE as between \$400,000 and \$500,000. He asked if that is something that would be financed through the CIP.

They are working jointly with the schools on costs related to reopening and he knows they have identified some grant funding that is coming to the city, Mayor Narkewicz advised. They are going to try to utilize as much of their CARES grant funding as they can for that and think that's going to be able to cover a lot of the initial allotment needed. They are putting in orders but still don't have clear guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) as to what school opening is going to look like. They could come back to reserves but the main purpose of the CARES grant is to support COVID-related expenses.

With regard to DPW projects, she understands from Director LaScaleia that the city wasn't able to put some traffic-calming plans out to bid because of the way COVID disrupted the timeline, Councilor Foster related. As she was talking to residents about what's going well for them and

what they'd like to see changed or improved, the #1 concern she heard was concerns around walkability and traffic improvements in their neighborhoods. In looking at the budget for next year, she sees \$25,000 for traffic-calming measures, \$175,000 for sidewalks and \$1.5 million for street resurfacing. As they move forward, she would like to be part of a conversation around the city's mindset as far as how it spends its transportation dollars. She voiced her perception that things like sidewalks that are passable in the wintertime and accessible to people in wheelchairs contribute greatly to overall quality of life.

The mayor acknowledged this as an excellent point. The city has tried to be very aggressive and has been successful in applying for Safe Route to School grants, Complete Street grants, Mass-Works grants, etc. There has been a change in mindset, he acknowledged. It used to be traffic-calming was sort of an afterthought; engineers now design traffic-calming into some for their road reconstruction projects. Some of the money seen allocated for paving is actually intended for that purpose. They do use the separate traffic-calming line item but some paving projects (North Farms Road, for example, a contract signed last week) also incorporate traffic-calming features. Mobility, walkability and supporting non-motorized sources of transportation definitely needs to be part of the equation, he agreed.

Councilor Jarrett said there is conflicting information in the report. Page 16 lists sidewalks and traffic-calming as having zero funding while later these categories are listed as having \$75,000 and \$25,000. He asked which is correct.

Director Wright clarified that the color-coded sheet has zero for traffic-calming in FY2021 and \$25,000 in FY22, FY23, FY24 and FY25. The detail sheets, or CIP - 2's, requested \$25,000 for each of five years. Project request sheets were submitted back in October. Because of the financial issues the city is facing, they cut back the capital plan. The CIP - 2's represent the requests but the narrative and appendices A and B reflect amounts recommended by the mayor, she explained.

Councilor Jarrett said he understands the need to reduce in this time but traffic-calming and sidewalks are an important part of the city's transportation planning. Traffic calming has numerous benefits, including reducing damage to roadways. To zero-fund these items seems a little short-sighted, he observed.

Some traffic-calming is being accomplished through other projects, such as the North Farms Road (NFR) and Bridge Road reconstruction work, Mayor Narkewicz assured. There are three or four flashing solar signs on the NFR project in addition to new crosswalks.

On pg. 13, there is a blank line in the description of a Central Services – NPS project with a price tag of \$3.5 million, Councilor Jarrett pointed out.

It's the JFK Middle School roof replacement project, Director Wright said. The line must have disappeared when the document was printed. The school will be seeking MSBA grants to offset that cost.

Councilor LaBarge noted that, a year ago, Dr. Provost told her that the Ryan Road school bathroom was going to be renovated for handicapped compliance. What happened with that? She asked. There are two children who have to use that bathroom with a hooyer lift. They are looking at a situation where either child using that lift is at risk, she asserted. She's seeing that the price went up to \$230,000 and it's not scheduled until FY2022.

This is a project they've been trying to do some engineering on and it was just not at a point that it could be advanced in FY2021, Mayor Narkewicz explained. It is definitely on the radar; it's on the plan but not at a point where it could be advanced. "We are aware of the project, I have talked to Principal Madden about it," he confirmed. Given the situation, they've had to make decisions about where to place projects and how to time them.

Mayor Narkewicz pointed out some exciting projects. As part of the city's commitment around climate change and climate resiliency city officials have made a commitment to moving fully away from fossil fuels for heating municipal buildings. They moved from oil to gas seven or eight years ago but now recognize the need to move fully away from fossil fuels. Some engineering studies are included to begin the work of looking at the city's heating plants and heating systems to see

what it would cost. The CIP also includes funding for a study for municipal broadband.

There being no further comments, Councilor Dwight moved to close the public hearing. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Resolutions
20.064 Resolution in Response to Most Recent Killings of African-Americans - 1st reading

Resolutions
20.064 A Resolution in Response to the Most Recent Killings of African-Americans - 1st reading

The resolution was previously introduced and read under 'New Business,' Councilor Sciarra advised.

Councilor Dwight said he would ask that this item be moved to their meeting in July in the interests of time and since there is obviously new information that could be added. The sponsors agreed to take the item off tonight's agenda.

See minutes of August 20, 2020 for first reading.

20.066 Resolution to Adopt the Capital Improvement Program for FY2021-FY2025 Submitted to City Council on May 29, 2020 - 1st reading (two readings required)

20.066 A Resolution to Adopt the Capital Improvement Program for FY2021-FY2025 Submitted to City Council on May 29, 2020 - 1st reading (two readings required)

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

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

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

The following resolution passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, _____ June 18, 2020

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz _____

20.066 A Resolution
to Adopt the Capital Improvement Program for FY2021-FY2025
Submitted to City Council on May 29, 2020

Resolved, that

The City Council hereby adopts the Capital Improvement Program for FY2021-FY2025 submitted by the Mayor on May 29, 2020, in accordance with the Charter of Northampton, Massachusetts, Article 7 Finance and Fiscal Procedures, Section 7-5: Capital Improvement Program.

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

20.076 Resolution Establishing a Select Committee on Legislative Approaches to Public Safety - 1st reading

20.076 A Resolution Establishing a Select Committee on Legislative Approaches to Public Safety - 1st reading

Councilor Sciarra read the resolution aloud.

Councilor Jarrett moved to approve the resolution in first reading. Councilor Maiore seconded.

As sponsors, they developed the proposal before they knew at all what was going to be in the Northampton Policing Review Commission, Councilor Jarrett related. Many of the elements of

that commission look really great to him. Its timeline is a little longer. He would like them as a council to make legislative decisions much sooner than that. He thinks they have a responsibility to fully understand what they can and cannot do as a legislative body. Although Northampton's charter is a strong mayor format, there is debate over whether the council can set general policy for the executive branch to carry out. They certainly have the ability to enact ordinances that apply to everyone in the city, including city staff. He respects the opinion of the city solicitor but also believes they have the right to other legal opinions around this. The council has an independent responsibility to review budgetary options. He sees a select committee as something that could complement the policing review commission by focusing on legislative options. It may be that they could revise it a little to avoid duplication. He would ask that they move it forward and continue to think about it, especially after Tuesday's special meeting.

Councilor Maiore agreed with the idea of the select committee being a complement to the joint commission with the executive branch. There is a lot of work to be done to transform their public safety system, and there is a reason the city has a city council - to bring in the will and voice of residents more clearly and balance the role of the executive branch. She thinks it is critical that the city council have a role in the process, explore specifically the role of council in reimagining public safety and demonstrate a balance of power to residents. She would suggest that fellow councilors vote yes and not close this opportunity, knowing it is only the first reading and not a final vote. "Let's keep this option alive until we can look at it a little deeper and with fresher eyes," she urged.

Councilor Dwight said he would be fine with this but he is particularly concerned that it actually is redundant. It's difficult enough to properly staff one committee let alone two. He thinks a select committee would be a good idea to actually put into effect recommendations that come out of the joint commission. He is prepared to vote in favor of it with the stipulation that it be reconsidered so that it does not duplicate processes. Everything Councilor Maiore described as the value of the select committee also applies to the joint committee. It would be his request to the sponsors that they recraft it with fresh eyes so that it does indeed serve as a complement that amplifies the work of the joint commission.

As stated in her presentation, she and the mayor spent a great deal of time discussing whether a subsection could be carved out and given to a council select committee and whether that made sense, and she explained the reasons they decided against it, Councilor Sciarra reiterated. It's being framed by the sponsors as having more power than the joint commission, but that is not the case as the two bodies would have the same amount of council representation. The council select committee would not have a larger voice or representation. The joint commission would be a joint commission. It would be reporting to the council with the mayor present. She worked very hard to have significant council influence and representation and, as has been noted, the council gets more appointees than the mayor does. "I want the council to own it," she stressed.

She is very concerned about duplicating the effort but she is most concerned that if the commission feels they can't look at law and ordinance, it is going to make their job very hard because they're being tasked to look at this holistically.

Councilor Nash said he appreciates the resolution. For him, it is more of a timing thing as they have a special meeting to discuss the NPRC next week. He liked the idea suggested by Councilor Dwight of passing this in first reading. His one thought is changing the timeline so it more matches up with the commission. He's compiling lots of information that he is hoping to bring to the commission. The commission needs to be the first step. But this is really important and he appreciates the work that's gone into this.

Councilor Maiore thanked Councilor Sciarra for representing them so well. Part of the issue is that she hadn't seen the outline for the joint commission before tonight. She would be more comfortable having a chance to look at it. She doesn't mean to say it would give them more power, but in a time when residents are questioning city government somewhat, it shows more independence and more of a balance of power.

Councilor Jarrett said he doesn't want to make a decision to withdraw the resolution at this time. He would rather have more time to think about it and, after Tuesday's meeting, consider adjusting or revising it.

Councilor Sciarra suggested sponsors could do what she and Councilor Dwight did with their resolution and simply defer it to the July meeting, and Councilor Jarrett and Maiore agreed.

Councilor Jarrett withdrew his motion to approve the resolution in first reading and instead asked that the resolution be moved to the July meeting.

See minutes of July 9, 2020 for first reading.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda
 Councilor Sciarra reviewed the items on the consent agenda.
Councilor Dwight moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Maiore seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.
 The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda:
 A. Approve Pole Petitions with conditions recommended by the DPW - 20.048A and 20.048B (Both Petition #25763215), National Grid/Verizon New England Pole Petition for Park Hill Road (two separate petitions, same #)
 B. 20.050 Appointment of Jonathan Flagg as Building Commissioner
 C. 20.077 Petition for Annual Second Hand Dealer Licenses
 Renewal Licenses for the following:
 Electric Eye Records, 52 Main St., #6
 Petitioner: Andrew Crespo

Roz's Place, 6 Bridge Street
 Petitioner: Timothy Salvo

Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting

At 1:22 a.m., the City Council recessed for the Committee on Finance meeting. The Committee on Finance adjourned at 2 a.m. The City Council reconvened at 2 a.m.

Financial Orders (on 1st reading pending Finance review)
20.067 Order to Appropriate Approximately \$1 Million from Free Cash to Capital Stabilization - 1st reading
 Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Quinlan seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

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

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

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
 MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 18, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.067 An Order to Appropriate Approximately \$1 Million from Free Cash to Capital Stabilization

Ordered, that

\$ 1,002,633 be appropriated from the FY20 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) to Capital Stabilization Fund.

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

20.068 An Order to Appropriate Balance of Bond Premium for Replacement Doors for SVAHS Building A - 1st reading

20.069 An Order to Authorize Borrowing \$640,000 for New Fire Truck - 1st reading

20.070 An Order to Appropriate \$1.22 Million from Capital Stabilization for Various Capital Projects - 1st reading

20.071 An Order to Appropriate \$25,000 from Cemetery Trust and Income for Cemetery Restorative Work - 1st reading

20.072 An Order to Appropriate \$46,000 from PEG Access and Cable Related Fund to IT for Various Projects - 1st reading

20.073 An Order to Reprogram \$75,908 from MSBA School Projects to SVAHS Gym Lockers - 1st reading

20.074 An Order to Reprogram Ryan Road School Cafeteria Funds to NPS Projects - 1st reading

20.075 An Order to Purchase Land on Boggy Meadow Road to Add to the Broad Brook-Fitzgerald Lake Greenway - 1st reading

20.078 An Order to Authorize King Street Corridor Improvements Right of Way Acquisition - 1st reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve orders 20.068, 20.069, 20.070, 20.071, 20.072, 20.073, 20.074, 20.075 and 20.078 as a group in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

See minutes of July 9, 2020 for second readings.

20.068 Order to Appropriate Balance of Bond Premium for Replacement Doors for SVAHS Building A - 1st reading

20.069 Order to Authorize Borrowing \$640,000 for New Fire Truck - 1st reading

20.070 Order to Appropriate \$1.22 Million from Capital Stabilization for Various Capital Projects - 1st reading

20.071 Order to Appropriate \$25,000 from Cemetery Trust and Income for Cemetery Restorative Work - 1st reading

20.072 Order to Appropriate \$46,000 from PEG Access and Cable Related Fund to IT for Various Projects - 1st rdg

20.073 Order to Reprogram \$75,908 from MSBA School Projects to SVAHS Gym

Lockers - 1st rdg
20.074 Order to
Reprogram Ryan
Road School
Cafeteria Funds
to NPS Projects -
1st reading
20.075 Order to
Purchase Land
on Boggy
Meadow Road to
Add to the Broad
Brook-Fitzgerald
Lake Greenway -
1st reading
20.078 Order to
Authorize King
Street Corridor
Improvements
Right of Way
Acquisition - 1st
reading

Financial Orders
(in 2nd reading)

Financial Orders (in 2nd reading)
20.054 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget - 2nd reading
20.055 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Water Enterprise Fund Budget - 2nd reading
20.057 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Stormwater and Flood Control Enterprise Fund
Budget - 2nd reading
20.058 An Order to Approve FY2021 Revolving Funds - 2nd reading
20.059 An Order Authorizing Acquisition and Establishment of a Municipal Light Plant -
2nd reading
20.061 An Order to Rescind Borrowing Authority - 2 Votes - 2nd reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve orders 20.054, 20.055, 20.057, 20.058, 20.059 and 20.061 as a group 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 June 4, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.054 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget

Ordered, that

the sum of \$6,177,500 which is the full amount necessary for the Fiscal Year 2021 Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), be appropriated for the purposes stated and to meet said appropriation, \$5,134,674 is to be raised from sewer receipts and \$1,042,826 shall be allocated to indirect costs.

SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND				
Sewer General Sanitary				1,051,250
Sewer Treatment				2,217,734
Sewer Debt				209,235
Sewer Interest				61,804
Sewer Indirect Costs				1,042,826
Sewer Transfer to Capital Projects				1,594,651
Sewer Reserve				-
TOTAL SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND				6,177,500

20.054 Order to
Approve FY 2021
Sewer Enterprise
Fund Budget -
2nd reading

Passed two readings and enrolled.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 4, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.055 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Water Enterprise Fund Budget

Ordered, that

the sum of \$6,945,000 which is the full amount necessary for the Fiscal Year 2021 Water Enterprise Fund Budget (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), be appropriated for the purposes stated and to meet said appropriation, \$6,367,732 is to be raised from water receipts, \$577,268 shall be allocated to indirect costs.

WATER ENTERPRISE FUND					
Water General					2,949,566
Water Debt					1,684,863
Water Interest					262,190
Water Indirect Costs					577,268
Water Transfer to Capital Projects					1,471,113
Water Reserve					-
TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE FUND					6,945,000

Passed two readings and enrolled.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 4, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.057 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Stormwater and Flood Control Enterprise Fund Budget

Ordered, that

the sum of \$1,996,486 which is the full amount necessary for the Fiscal Year 2021 Stormwater and Flood Control Enterprise Fund Budget (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), be appropriated for the purposes stated and to meet said appropriation, \$1,655,079 is to be raised from Stormwater and Flood Control receipts and \$341,407 shall be allocated to indirect costs.

Stormwater and Flood Control ENTERPRISE FUND					
Storm Drains					496,415
Flood Control					200,248
Stormwater and Flood Control Debt					35,000
Stormwater and Flood Control Interest					3,850
Stormwater and Flood Control Water Indirect Costs					341,407
Stormwater and Flood Control Transfer for Capital Projects					919,566
Stormwater and Flood Control Reserve					-
TOTAL STORM WATER AND FLOOD CONTROL ENTERPRISE FUND					1,996,486

Passed two readings and enrolled.

The following order passed two readings:

20.055 Order to Approve FY 2021 Water Enterprise Fund Budget - 2nd reading

20.057 Order to Approve FY 2021 Stormwater and Flood Control Enterprise Fund Budget - 2nd rdg.

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 4, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.058 Order to Approve FY2021 Revolving Funds - 2nd reading

20.058 An Order to Approve FY2021 Revolving Funds

Ordered that, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2 the city shall vote the limit on the total amount that may be expended from each revolving fund established by Chapter 16 of the City Ordinances.

Fund Number	Name of Fund	Annual Spending Limit
2420	Energy and Sustainability Revolving Fund	\$150,000
2416	Hazmat Revolving Fund	\$85,000
2419	DPW Public Works Construction Services Revolving Fund	\$85,000
2408	Senior Services Transportation Revolving Fund	\$100,000
2428	Senior Services Activities Revolving Fund	\$150,000
2433	Senior Services Food Services Revolving Fund	\$90,000
2440	Senior Services Publications Revolving Fund	\$35,000
2406	Athletic League Fees Revolving Fund	\$200,000
2405	JFK Family Aquatic Center	\$120,000
2422	NPS Transportation Revolving Fund	\$200,000
2452	SVAHS Farm Revolving Fund	\$100,000
2435	Tourism Directional Sign Program Revolving Fund	\$10,000
2436	Public Health Nursing Program Revolving Fund	\$30,000
2410	James House Revolving Fund	\$85,000
2439	Sharps Disposal Program Revolving Fund	\$15,000
2442	Fire Alarm Monitoring Program Revolving Fund	\$60,000
2443	DPW Reuse Committee Revolving Fund	\$15,000

Passed two readings and enrolled.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, June 4, 2020

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz

O-20.059 AN ORDER AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council approved a two-phase market study and comprehensive feasibility study of municipal broadband as part of the FY2020-FY2024 Capital Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Northampton is about to award a contract for the aforementioned two-phase study; and

WHEREAS, if based on the results of those studies the City of Northampton decides to implement municipal broadband, the city would be required to establish a Municipal Light Plant in accordance with M.G.L. c. 164, § 35; and

WHEREAS, establishment of a Municipal Light Plant under section 35 first requires two separate approval votes of the City Council by a two-thirds majority in two separate fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of not unnecessarily delaying a future potential municipal broadband project, it would be prudent to complete the first of those two required approvals in fiscal year 2020 ending June 30, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordered, the City Council authorizes in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 164 of the General Laws and in accordance with the rules, regulations and orders of the Department of Public Utilities and the Department of Telecommunications & Cable, a municipal lighting plant for all purposes allowable under the laws of the Commonwealth, and more particularly for the establishment a municipal broadband system for the City of Northampton. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any documents necessary to effectuate this Order.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 4, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.061 An Order to Rescind Borrowing Authority - 2 Votes

Ordered, that

the City Council rescind the following orders because such borrowing authority is no longer necessary:

Order 19.081: \$650,000 of borrowing authority authorized under the loan order approved on June 20, 2019 to acquire land formerly known as the Pine Grove Golf Course as the borrowing authority is no longer needed.

Order 18.159: \$625,000 of borrowing authority authorized under the loan order approved on September 20, 2018 for improvements at the Florence Recreation Fields as the borrowing authority is no longer needed.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

20.059 Order Authorizing Acquisition and Establishment of a Municipal Light Plant - 2nd reading

20.061 Order to Rescind Borrowing Authority - 2 Votes - 2nd reading

20.056 Order to Approve FY 2021 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Budget - 2nd reading

20.056 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Budget - 2nd reading

Councilor Jarrett disclosed that he has a conflict of interest and would recuse himself.

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

Councilor Quinlan presented calculations showing that, based on the budgeted increase from \$110,000 to \$210,000 combined with the reduction in hours of the landfill, the gatekeepers and security line item reflects an increase in the hourly amount budgeted for these employees from \$35.61 to \$112 an hour, or 315% from FY2020 to FY2021.

"This is an enterprise that's under some stress here and a 315% increase in the cost of labor to run this is a lot," he opined.

Finance Director Wright clarified that there is more than one person on during all of those hours. Gate keepers earn \$13.50 an hour, she said. They have more than one gatekeeper working.

His point wasn't that someone was making \$35 an hour, his point was that the city is spending \$35 an hour to run the landfill this year and next year it is spending \$112 an hour, Councilor Quinlan explained.

The details they've budgeted for are primarily because of the COVID pandemic, Director Wright countered. They need people to social distance at the landfill. If the situation changes, they can certainly cut that back. They have had two gatekeepers quit recently because of the abuse they take from residents. The details add quite a bit of order. If the COVID situation changes, they can definitely cut back on those details, she assured.

The motion passed 7:1 by roll call vote with Councilor Quinlan opposed and Councilor Jarrett recused.

The following order passed two readings:

**City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS**

In City Council June 4, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.056 An Order to Approve FY 2021 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Budget
Ordered, that

the sum of \$795,326 which is the full amount necessary for the Fiscal Year 2021 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Budget (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), be appropriated for the purposes stated and to meet said appropriation, \$439,534 is to be raised from solid waste receipts, \$83,466 shall be allocated to indirect costs, and \$272,326 to be made available from the Retained Earnings Balance of the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund.

TOTAL SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND				
Solid Waste Transfer Station				711,860
Solid Waste Direct & Indirect Costs				83,466
TOTAL SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND				795,326

Passed two readings and enrolled.

Orders

Orders
None

<u>New Business</u>	<u>New Business</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 Dwight and seconded by Councilor LaBarge, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 a.m. The motion carried unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council

NORTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC COMMENT RECORD SHEET

June 18, 2020

The Northampton City Council recessed for public comment at 5:37 p.m.

NAME	ADDRESS	SUBJECT
Jose Adastra	Ward 7A	In favor of redirecting \$ from police to social service programs
Letitia Wood	155 Pleasant Street	thinks police should do a different interview; wants this resolved
Chris Landry	Ward 3	asked how resolution squares with fact that officer alleged to have made racist statements on duty in charge of hiring & promotions
Emily Coffin	Ward 1	defended last night's protests; urged cc to cut police budget
Becca Steinquist	Florence	urged not to defund police more than \$200,000; NPD has taken steps to increase diversity; further cut would make less diverse
T. Wilmot	Northampton	sympathetic to law enforcement but understands origin and function of American police; NPD trained with Arpaio who bragged about running "concentration camps"
Seanna T-P	Ward 3	Police paramilitary organization tasked with addressing theft but majority of theft committed is wage theft perpetrated against undocumented immigrants & others who dare not contact police
Gillian Love	Ward 4	asking city council to adopt 50% cut to police
Hayley Nicholas	Ward 2	budget cut of 0.28% is complete insult; have duty to protect black population; cut 50% now, BLM
Al Simon	Ward 1	cutting police without ability to reallocate \$ makes no sense; encouraged formation of joint committee to recommend reform
Patrick Waite	Ward 1	defund police and disarm of military-style equipment; re-invest in social services and community
Brian Zayatz	Hadley	are not radical fringe or vocal minority, have popular support. Protestors willing to put in time to create alternatives to policing
Sascha Bratton	Northampton	need to escape circular logic that can't fund alternatives because don't have alternatives; mayor has power to form new agency
Felix O'Connor	Ward 3A	scholars of abolition & transformative justice have been calling for defunding police for decades; idea reaching broader audience
Arvid Nelson	Ward 2	horrified by George Floyd killing; thinks police reform great but big leap of logic between that and defunding; urged caution
Chris Kitzmiller	Ward 3A	police suffer from egregious mission creep; don't need trained officer to install car seats or direct traffic
Isadora Reisner	Turners Falls	re: comment that movement is moving too quickly; argued time is now
Daniel Cannity	Ward 4	questioned whether budget reflects N'hamp's values; police budget 2nd biggest after education; defund/disband
Mimi Odgers	Ward 6	asked council to table resolution until after budget action

NORTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC COMMENT RECORD SHEET

June 18, 2020

NAME	ADDRESS	SUBJECT
Lene Enten	Ward 2	asking council to cut police budget by 50%
Steve O'Neill		not able to unmute
Christina Giro Corliss	Ward 7	echoed call to defund police and cut budget by 50%
Jasper		echoed call to defund police dept. by 50%
David Kris	Northampton	accused councilors of contempt for protestors; will work to make them lose election if don't support 50% budget cut
Sophie Leavitt	Ward 2	N'hamp in perfect position to explore alternatives to policing if don't are ignoring wishes of constituents
Ashwin Ravikumar	Amherst	50% cut moderate proposal; biggest stumbling block towards liberation is not the klansmen but the white moderate - MLK
Briar Lake	Montague	in favor of 50% cut and supports full abolition
Jake Carroll		defund NPD, defund them now, defund by 50%; urged council to use power vested in them to oppose mayor
Harrison Green	Easthampton	cutting public comment dereliction of duty to provide process; demands defunding now with or without alternatives in place
Cori Stenning Barnes	Ward 3	budget cuts to police should be at least 50%
Grace Rountree		in favor of 50% cut to police
Jesse Hassinger and Amy Francaes	(Ward 4)	played music
Ezekiel Baskin	Northampton	echoed calls to defund; acknowledged council's inability to reallocate \$; urged to pass resolution directing mayor to allocate funds to social services
Keith Parzek	Ward 4	has not heard of injuries or deaths in NPD custody; NPD has reputation of being progressive; asked to look at facts on performance
Rachel Weber	Criminal defense atty.	added voice to chorus calling for 50% reduction in NPD budget
Studies show treatment of blacks at every stage of criminal justice system worse than whites.		
Jake Wise	Ward 1	supports 50% defunding
Anthony King		police system cannot be reformed; those with courage to replace it will receive their support; others will be replaced
Celina Della Croce	Ward 5	thinks proposal to cut police budget insufficient; asked to work towards defunding by cutting police budget 50% now
Bob Van Ferdinand Wilson	Ward 3	challenged council and mayor to find a way to get to 50%, whether by cutting 12% a year or otherwise
Simona Miller	Ward 2A	re: reforming vs. refunding; history has proved time and again that police cannot be reformed

NORTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC COMMENT RECORD SHEET

June 18, 2020

NAME	ADDRESS	SUBJECT
Stacy Weston	Ward 3	advocated reallocating \$ from 50% police budget cut to development of low-income housing
Richard Hendricks	Ward 3	clinical social worker. Compared defunding police to closing of Belchertown State School and Northampton State Hospital; concern was fate of residents; seize the moment
Rowan Lufton	Ward 6	fully supports immediate 50% cut; defunding police in itself an act of harm reduction
Jake Meginsky	Ward 3	calls to defund police 50%; asked to commit to banishing police union in Northampton
Ya-ping Douglass	Turners Falls	read quotes from NYT article related to objections to integration; Implied were parallels between opposition to bussing and opposition to police defunding
Noah Kassis	Youth Comm. Chair	read excerpt from YC statement: YC stands in solidarity with BLM movement; advocates divestment in police
Jordy Rosenberg	Ward 3	In favor of cutting police budget
Blair Gimma	Easthampton	asked to please defund police by 50%; sang original song to tune of "The Times They Are A-Changing"
Alex Hornbeck	Ward 2	in favor of 50% cut
Mikaela Thiboutot	Ward 1	echoed demand for 50% decrease in police budget as first step in movement toward abolition
Alexandra Cassoutsell	Ward 6	moved from FL and shocked by massive size of police force; Urged to cut police budget in half and move toward abolition with replacement with more inclusive force
Sarah Weber	Ward 1	echoed call for 50% decrease; re: call to look at track record, people on call have spoken to personal experiences with NPD
Joshua Strassman	Amherst	addressed contention that there's not much council can do to challenge power of Northampton police union
Sarah White	Ward 3	re: track record of NPD; fact that asked question showed hadn't been listening to hours of testimony; in favor of full defunding
Kathleen Rose	Northampton	takes pride in fact that n'hamp embraces and uplifts LGBTQ population; would like city to be lighthouse to all vulnerable populations; supports abolishment, 50% cut good start
Brian Campedelli	Northampton	can't believe idea of eliminating police entirely; brother in car accident on Rt. 66 & police kept alive 22 minutes until EMS got there; when daughter collapsed, NPD 1 st on scene
Becky Seifried	Ward 3	demanding 50% reduction in NPD budget and reallocation of funds to social services, youth support, affordable housing
Jo Florence	Ward 6A	in support of police, city benefits from very well-trained and funded police dept.; they are the reason for low crime rate
Bo Clark	Hadley	callers have investigated NPD for them and given hours of personal testimony; do not see commitment to this tangible change
Tara Orzolek	Ward 4	Passing resolution is insulting, useless, empty gesture if don't defund police

