Online Meeting via Teleconference

Meeting Date: May 21, 2020

Note: The Finance Committee Meeting will take place during the City Council Meeting as announced. The City Council Meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:05 pm.

1. Meeting Called To Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval Of Minutes From The Previous Meeting
   A. Minutes Of May 7, 2020
      Documents:
      05-07-2020_finance committee minutes.pdf
4. Financial Orders
   A. 20.052 An Order Authorizing Acquisition Of Easements For Drainage Improvements On Rocky Hill Road (Route 66)
      Process note: Two readings are respectfully requested to accommodate a deadline for FEMA funding. Signatures of the City Council are needed on an Order of Taking to be recorded at the registry.
      Documents:
      20.052 an order authorizing acquisition of easements for drainage improvements on rocky hill road-route 66.pdf
      20.052 ice pond hmgp application.pdf
      20.052 rocky hill road order of taking.pdf
5. New Business
   - Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.
6. Adjourn

Contact: G-L Sciarra at glsciarrana.gov or 413-570-3133
On line Zoom Teleconference Meeting

Meeting Date: May 7, 2020

Note: The Finance Committee Meeting took place during the City Council Meeting as announced. The City Council Meeting began at 7 p.m.

1. **Meeting Called To Order:** At 8:18 p.m., Councilor Sciarra called the meeting to order.

2. **Roll Call:** Present were committee members Gina-Louise Sciarra (Chair), Marianne LaBarge (Vice-Chair), Michael J. Quinlan, Jr. and John Thorpe. Also present from the City Council were William H. Dwight, Alex Jarrett, Karen Foster, Rachel Maiore and Jim Nash.

3. **Approval of Minutes From The Previous Meeting**
   A. **Minutes of April 16, 2020**
      Councilor Quinlan moved to approve the minutes of April 16, 2020. Councilor Thorpe seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

4. **Financial Orders**
   A. **20.049 An Order for FY2020 Budget Transfers**
      Councilor Sciarra read the order, reviewing the proposed transfers.

      Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Thorpe seconded.

      Typically this time of year they generally would be looking at the snow and ice account to true it up, so two of the larger transfers are items they would normally see, Mayor Narkewicz reminded. Other proposed transfers are projections to get them through the end of the year. Obviously, they are seeing a lot of overtime directly attributable to the COVID-19 crisis. The public health department is working seven days a week and the public health director and public health nurse are probably working 60 to 80 hours a week. Also, as part of collective bargaining agreements, there is language relating to states of emergency. People working remotely from home are being paid regular time, but, in cases where employees have to go in and work during states of emergency, they are paid time and a half. That is why they are seeing overtime in departments that would not usually earn overtime, such as the auditors and collectors’ offices. Some of these functions can’t be done remotely. Checks that have to be processed or cut to pay bills have to be...
done on premises. They’ve tried to be judicious in authorizing work on-site. This is their attempt to true up budgets to cover what they think will be potential overtime for the rest of this year.

Councilor Dwight asked about the longevity payment for the auditor’s office.

Longevity payments are contractually required when employees reach certain thresholds of service, Mayor Narkewicz explained. After the budget passed last year, there were some changes to longevity amounts. This expense would be there whether there was COVID19 or not. The out of grade pay is because the principal assessor is on medical leave so the assistant assessor is essentially acting as the assessor.

Councilor Jarrett asked how many of the transfers are COVID-related and whether they will be eligible for reimbursement.

That is the key, Mayor Narkewicz confirmed. They are keeping very close track, he assured. Anything that’s related to COVID19 will be eligible for 70% reimbursement. The city has a very sophisticated tracking system and a dedicated staff person keeping very detailed records (Josh Shanley in Fire Rescue). They will do their best to seek as much reimbursement as possible.

Administrators don’t know when reimbursement will be received. For some past disasters it has taken two or three years to realize reimbursement. He corrected himself that reimbursement is 75%/25%. The motion passed unanimously 4 Yes, 0 No by roll call vote.

5. **New Business**
   None.

6. **Adjourn**: There being no further business, Councilor LaBarge moved to adjourn. Councilor Quinlan seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote of 4 Yes, 0 No. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

   *Contact: G-L Sciarra @glsciarra@northamptonma.gov or 413-570-3133*
City of Northampton

Massachusetts

In City Council, May 21, 2020

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Office of Planning and Sustainability

20.052 AN ORDER AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF EASEMENTS FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROCKY HILL ROAD (ROUTE 66)

WHEREAS, Rocky Hill Road (Rte. 66) east of the intersection of Ice Pond Drive needs significant drainage improvements; and

WHEREAS, the locus sufficiently threatens the highway to qualify for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant,

WHEREAS, the City has been short-listed for the FEMA Grant to fund such drainage improvements; and

WHEREAS, in order to be eligible for such Grant and in order to perform such drainage improvements, the City must acquire an easement over certain property on the north side of Rocky Hill Road shown as “Lot 29 – Non Building Lot for Culvert Maintenance” on a plan of land entitled “Definitive Subdivision Plan Prepared for The Community Builders, Inc.,” dated December 16, 2002, revised May 19, 2003 and May 21, 2003, and recorded in the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 196, Page 70; and

WHEREAS, Lot 29 is owned in fractional shares by 20 of the lot owners in the Ice Pond Subdivision and by the original developer, TCB Hospital Hill, LLC; and

WHEREAS, by securing the FEMA grant and performing drainage improvements, the City is undertaking improvements that will significantly limit the landowners’ liability for potential damage to the highway.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED,

The City Council hereby authorizes the acquisition by purchase, gift, eminent domain, or otherwise of easements over that parcel of land shown as “Lot 29 – Non Building Lot for Culvert Maintenance” on a plan of land entitled “Definitive Subdivision Plan Prepared for The Community Builders, Inc.,” dated December 16, 2002, revised May 19, 2003 and May 21, 2003, and recorded in the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 196, Page 70, for the purpose of drainage improvements on Rocky Hill Road (Rte. 66). No appropriation is needed for this acquisition. Nothing herein shall be deemed to otherwise relieve the fee holders of Lot 29 or other responsible parties from their obligation to maintain and repair drainage structures thereon so as to protect the integrity of the highway.
MEMA-DCR Grant Sub-Application
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
HMGP-4372-MA
HMGP-4379-MA

Ice Pond Resiliency Improvements
Northampton, Massachusetts

July 12, 2019
Sub-Applicant:
City of Northampton, MA
Office of Planning & Sustainability
210 Main Street, Room 11
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
1350 Main Street, Suite 1400 | Springfield, MA 01103
413.726.2100

Damages to Rocky Hill Road (State Route 66) caused by uncontrolled overflow from Ice Pond
April 16, 2007
Photo credit: Northampton DPW
Photo 3. Rocky Hill Pond Brook as it enters the Ice Pond’s low-level outlet, showing excessive accumulations at the debris rack two days following overtopping of embankment and damages to Rocky Hill Road (April 18, 2007; NDPW)

Photo 4. Damages to Rocky Hill Road following embankment overtopping at Ice Pond (April 16, 2007; NDPW)
ORDER OF TAKING

The undersigned, being the duly elected and sitting members of the City Council of the City of Northampton, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting under the authority of and in accordance with the provisions of General Laws of the Commonwealth, as from time to time amended, and more particularly Chapter 79, and pursuant to the Order of the Northampton City Council, a true copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, does hereby take a perpetual easement on, over, and under the parcel referenced below for and on behalf of the Inhabitants of the City of Northampton. The purpose of the taking hereunder is to enter the parcel on foot and with equipment to inspect, construct, repair, and replace drainage structures and elements, and generally to perform drainage improvements to avoid erosion of Rocky Hill Road (Route 66).

The easement hereby taken is on, over and under that certain parcel on the north side of Rocky Hill Road shown as “Lot 29 – Non Building Lot for Culvert Maintenance” on a plan of land entitled “Definitive Subdivision Plan Prepared for The Community Builders, Inc.,” dated December 16, 2002, revised May 19, 2003 and May 21, 2003, and recorded in the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 196, Page 70. The parcel taken hereunder is more particularly bounded and described as set forth on Exhibit B, attached hereto.

The City awards nominal damages to the fee holders of Lot 29 as set forth in Exhibit C, attached hereto, inasmuch as the site sufficiently threatens the highway to qualify for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant, and the City, through the FEMA grant, will be performing drainage improvements that will significantly limit the landowners’ liability for potential damage to the highway. Nothing herein shall be deemed to otherwise relieve the fee holders of Lot 29 from their obligation to maintain and repair drainage structures thereon so as to protect the integrity of the highway.

[THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We, the City Council of the City of Northampton, have executed this Order of Taking this _____ day of May, 2020.

WITNESS TO ALL:

CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, MA

__________________________
Gina-Louise Sciarra
AT-LARGE COUNCILOR

__________________________
William H. Dwight
AT-LARGE COUNCILOR

__________________________
Michael Quinlan, Jr.
WARD 1 COUNCILOR

__________________________
Karen Foster
WARD 2 COUNCILOR

__________________________
James Nash
WARD 3 COUNCILOR

__________________________
John Thorpe
WARD 4 COUNCILOR

__________________________
Alex Jarrett
WARD 5 COUNCILOR

__________________________
Marianne L. LaBarge
WARD 6 COUNCILOR

__________________________
Rachel Maiore
WARD 7 COUNCILOR

CERTIFICATE OF THE CLERK
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, MA

I, Laura Krutzler, the Clerk of the City Council of the City of Northampton, MA, hereby certify that the attached Order of Taking of certain easements located in Northampton, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, was executed on May____, 2020, by Gina-Louise Sciarra, William H. Dwight, Michael Quinlan, Jr., Karen Foster, James Nash, John Thorpe, Alex Jarrett, Marianne L. LaBarge, and Rachel Maiore, who as of that day, were and are the duly elected members of the City Council of the City of Northampton, MA.

Signed this _____ day of May, 2020.

____________________________________
Laura Krutzler
Clerk to City Council
City of Northampton, Massachusetts
EXHIBIT A
CITY COUNCIL ORDER
EXHIBIT C
TITLEHOLDERS AND LIENHOLDERS