

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, May 20, 2021

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz, Planning & Sustainability, and the Conservation Commission

21.271 An Order to Authorize Conservation Commission to Acquire Massachusetts Audubon Society Conservation Restriction

WHEREAS, the *Open Space, Recreation, and Multi-Use Trail Plan: 2018-2025* recommends preservation of ecologically valuable land and filling gaps between protected lands within the Connecticut River Greenway; and

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Audubon Society has an agreement to purchase 16.5 acres in the Meadows, adjoining land already permanently protected as part of Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, in exchange for \$2,000 contribution to the purchase price, to be provided from the Community Preservation Act Conservation Fund already on-hand, the Massachusetts Audubon Society will grant the City a conservation restriction on the property; and

WHEREAS, the project will advance the City's partnership with MassAudubon to provide public access in the Meadows, create and maintain grassland bird habitat and protect ecologically valuable floodplain forest;

Ordered, that

The Conservation Commission is authorized to acquire for conservation and passive recreation purposes, as provided by MGL Chapter 40, §8C, any fee, easement or conservation restriction as defined in MGL Chapter 184, §31 or any other interest in the above land and any immediately adjoining land; that the City Council hereby accepts such conservation restrictions; that the Conservation Commission is authorized to accept conservation restrictions on any land so acquired, with such related restrictions and agreements as the City determines are agreeable.

