



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

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**Announcement of Audio/Video Recording**

A regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra at 7 p.m. Councilor Sciarra announced that the meeting was being held by remote participation and audio and video recorded.

Councilor Sciarra explained the procedure she would use in conducting public comment and opened the floor to public comment.

**Public Comment**

For the next hour and 40 minutes, the council accepted public comment. (See Public Comment Record Sheet for names and topics of people making public comments.)

**Roll Call**

At 7:41 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             |                                      |

**Public Hearings  
Announcement of Public Hearing on 21.197 National Grid/Verizon Petition for Installation of Underground Conduit on Damon Road**

**Public Hearings  
Announcement of Public Hearing on 21.197 National Grid/Verizon Petition for Installation of Underground Conduit Damon Road (Petition#23303524)**

Councilor Sciarra made the following announcement:  
Per M.G.L. Ch. 166, Section 22, the Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7:05 p.m.** on National Grid/Verizon New England's petition to install underground conduit on Damon Road (Petition #23303524). Instructions for accessing the hearing may be found on the May 6, 2021 City Council agenda to be posted on the city website ([www.northamptonma.gov](http://www.northamptonma.gov)) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City Council will hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

**Public Hearing on 21.200 National Grid/Verizon Pole Petition for Warner Street (Petition#30293688)**

**Public Hearing on 21.200 National Grid/Verizon Pole Petition for Warner Street (Petition#30293688)**

Councilor Sciarra read the legal notice.

Councilor Dwight moved to open the public hearing. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. The hearing was opened at 8:43 p.m.

National Grid representative Lisa Jasinski explained that the utility is just looking for permission to set a pole on Warner Street to bring electric service to two new homes.

Councilor Sciarra asked if anyone wished to speak.

Rue Walther of 16 Warner Street asked if the petition is for a pole or a cell tower.

Ms. Jasinski confirmed it is for a utility pole.

Councilor Dwight commented that it is appropriate to note that DPW engineer Felix Harvey has signed off on the petition without any conditions.

Councilor Maiore said someone moving into one of the new units was concerned about the utility pole potentially blocking their windows.

Ideally, National Grid wanted to center the pole in between the houses but, because of the presence of water lines, they were unable to, Ms. Jasinski explained. [Utility poles have to be five feet away from water lines.] They had to move it but it lines up with the edge of the house and is not in front of one of the picture windows, she assured.

	<p>Councilor Quinlan moved to close the public hearing. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. The hearing was closed at 8:48 p.m.</p> <p>Councilor Dwight moved to approve the pole petition for Warner Street. Councilor Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.</p>
<p><u>I</u> <u>Updates from Council President/ Committee Chairs</u></p>	<p><u>Updates from Council President and Committee Chairs</u> The Community Resources Committee will be meeting April 26, 2021 to take up the zero lot line ordinances, Councilor Nash confirmed. Members will also be considering language that has been adopted in other communities such as Burlington, MA requiring setbacks around cell phone towers.</p>
<p><u>Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors</u></p>	<p><u>Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors</u> Since the City Council passed a resolution advocating for funding for a new Holyoke Soldier's Home, he wanted to call to their attention the fact that, today in the state house, legislators unanimously (160:0) passed a \$400 million bond bill to fund a new soldiers' home in Holyoke, Councilor Quinlan reported. The bill is on to the senate.</p> <p>Councilor LaBarge said she wanted to acknowledge the Department of Public Works (DPW), particularly Director Donna LaScaleia and Administration Manager Cindy Quinn. "You can call her; you get responses back in five or ten minutes." She has gotten so many compliments on her responsiveness. We have some elegant, elegant workers in the City of Northampton, she commented.</p> <p>She also thanked the Northampton area League of Women's Voters. On Sunday, there was a wonderful celebration of 100 years of women's right to vote. She thanked Maggie Riddle and other league members who made it a delightful day.</p> <p>Councilor Sciarra said 'hear, hear.' The "She Shapes History" exhibit commemorating the suffragists who fought for women's right to vote is still up in downtown Florence, she noted.</p> <p>The City Services Committee met with the Mayor a couple of weeks ago to discuss the appointment process, Councilor Foster related. She drew attention to the fact that there are around 20 openings to serve on city boards and commissions posted on the city website <a href="http://www.northamptonma.gov">www.northamptonma.gov</a>. It is a real opportunity for Northampton residents to get involved in city government, and she urged anyone interested to take a look.</p>
<p><u>Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor</u></p>	<p><u>Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor</u> Mayor Narkewicz announced that the city has received a generous pledge of \$200,000 from Smith College towards the resilience hub project. He has been meeting with President McCartney and talking to her about the importance of this project. She knows the city has been working on it with community stakeholders and applying for grants for architectural studies for three plus years and that one of the biggest challenges is assembling funds for its purchase. He is grateful to Smith College for realizing the importance of this project and wanting to support it and wanted to publicly acknowledge this contribution.</p> <p>In another late-breaking announcement on the same subject, the Mayor said he signed an option today on a specific property in downtown Northampton that he thinks has great potential to be the future home of the resilience hub, the current Roundhouse building. City officials have been doing due diligence and looking at various properties in and around Northampton. The option he signed is for no consideration and gives the city the opportunity to do a thorough inspection/review of the building, including an environmental assessment. They believe it could be a great location not only because of its proximity to downtown and potential space for the kinds of amenities and services they hope to provide but also for its proximity to the municipal campus. The Smith College announcement is important, as is the vote councilors will take tonight on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, as the funding will be important if they move forward to exercising that option and negotiating a purchase and sale agreement.</p> <p>Councilor Sciarra said that is excellent news. It's hard to imagine a better location for a day</p>

center and place to connect people to needed services.

Obviously, he will come back to the council if they reach the point of an actual purchase. The option basically says that the owner agrees not to sell the property in the next 120 days.

Mayor Narkewicz reiterated that city officials have been working on this project since before policing reform efforts, and they view it as separate and distinct from work being done around police reform. He is in no way substituting or conflating it with the recommendations of the Northampton Policing Review Commission NPRC report. He does not intend for it to be a department of the city and certainly not one that would subsume a Department of Community Care, he stressed.

**Resolutions**  
**21.231 Resolution**  
**Declaring a**  
**Climate**  
**Emergency**

**Resolutions**  
**21.231 A Resolution Declaring a Climate Emergency – 2nd reading**

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the resolution in second reading. Councilor Jarrett seconded.

Councilor Foster offered the clarification that, while the resolution is to clearly call out and declare the existence of a climate emergency, she wanted to acknowledge and give credit to the work of past councils for using this term in a previous resolution, particularly the resolution in support of the Green New Deal.

The community has already made the commitment that all decisions and policies from here on in should be informed by the city's commitment to its carbon neutral goal and by acknowledgement and recognition that they are in a state of emergency, Councilor Dwight pointed out. That should be an impetus in all future conversations. He wanted to reinforce the fact that that commitment is embedded in this resolution.

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

**The following resolution passed two readings:**



**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In the City Council, April 1, 2021*

Upon the Recommendation of: Councilor Karen Foster  
Councilor Rachel Maiore  
Councilor Alex Jarrett

**R-21.231**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, in a world facing the extreme challenges of rapid climate change, Northampton residents understand the importance of protecting the Earth and its inhabitants; can envision a better, sustainable future; and can create and execute bold plans for a prosperous economy and a thriving community; and

WHEREAS, progress toward this future is underway in Massachusetts, which is among national leaders on climate initiatives with over 100,000 jobs in the state's clean energy sector<sup>1</sup> and named a top energy efficient state for the past decade by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy; and

WHEREAS, Northampton has an engaged City government and has undertaken a number of important steps on climate and the environment, (such as the Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan and the Climate Resilience and Regeneration Plan), such that the City is well placed to implement the critical transition away from fossil fuels and to advance a robust, carbon-free, equitable economy and the improved health and quality of life that will result; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2016, world leaders from 175 countries recognized the threat of climate change and the urgent need to combat it by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep warming "well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels" and to "pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C" and Mayor David J. Narkewicz committed to the Paris Accord on behalf of Northampton; and

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<sup>1</sup>O'Brien, Kelly J. "Clean energy jobs top 100,000 for first time in Mass., according to new report," *Boston Business Journal*. Dec. 15, 2016. <https://www.bizjournals.com/boston/news/2016/12/15/clean-energy-jobs-top-100-000-for-first-time-in.html>

WHEREAS, marginalized populations in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and worldwide, including people of color, immigrants, indigenous communities, low-income individuals, people with disabilities, and the unhoused are already disproportionately affected by climate change, and will continue to bear an excessive burden as temperatures increase, oceans rise, and natural disasters worsen; and

WHEREAS, nearly 400 cities, districts and counties across the world collectively representing over 34 million people have recently declared or officially acknowledged the existence of a global Climate Emergency, including over 20 Massachusetts cities and towns such as Boston, Lexington, Acton, and 11 towns on Cape Cod; and

WHEREAS, declaring the climate crisis as an emergency is a crucial first step for aligning residents around the urgency of the global climate breakdown; and

WHEREAS, declaring that the climate crisis is an emergency demonstrates that our government agencies acknowledge that addressing climate change will require an emergency response at emergency speed; and

WHEREAS, the crisis caused by climate change also presents a major opportunity to invest in healthy energy, transportation, land-use, and agriculture systems that will deliver both immediate and sustained benefits to all and reduce future risks from climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Northampton affirms that human activity caused the climate crisis and that fossil fuels are the primary cause;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton hereby declares that a Climate Emergency threatens our city, state, and nation, as well as humanity broadly, and that a mobilization to meet this challenge is both a moral imperative and an unprecedented opportunity to stabilize the climate, remedy environmental harms, create clean-energy jobs, and improve human lives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Northampton City Council call on City government and staff and all Northampton civic groups, businesses, and residents to commit to a climate mobilization effort to bring net City-wide carbon emissions to zero no later than the year 2050, though we advocate for increased state and federal assistance so that we can aim for carbon neutrality by 2030;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Northampton’s climate mobilization should also: (1) accelerate adaptation and resilience strategies in preparation for intensifying local and global climate impacts; (2) continue to protect trees, forests, and other open spaces because of their ability to draw carbon out of the atmosphere and store it; (3) protect the habitats and corridors of wildlife that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change; and (4) ensure that the costs of such mobilization efforts do not unfairly burden those who are economically or socially disadvantaged and that the benefits of a realized, sustainable future accrue to all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrative Assistant to the City Council shall send a copy of this Resolution to Representative Lindsay Sabadosa and Senator Jo Comerford, as well as Governor Charles Baker, DOER Commissioner Patrick Woodcock, and the Co-Chairs and Vice Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy, Senators Mike Barrett and Mark Pacheco and Representatives Jeffrey Roy and Paul Mark.

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Passed two readings and enrolled.

21.233 Resolution to Revise Council Rules and Committees – 1st reading

21.233 A Resolution to Revise Council Rules and Committees – 2nd reading  
Unless there was an objection, Councilor Sciarra stated her intention to defer discussion on this resolution to later in the meeting since it just pertains to the council.

Presentations  
2020 Special  
Committee for  
Review of  
Ordinances - Final  
Report

Presentations

2020 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances - Final Report

The 2020 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances presented its final report. Committee Chair John Thorpe thanked city councilors for allowing committee members to come before them and acknowledged the work of fellow members Councilor LaBarge, Councilor Nash, Megan Paik and Jeff Napolitano. The committee met under the supervision of city solicitor Alan Seewald and held 15 meetings by Zoom. Members solicited input from the public, city councilors and all city departments and received testimony from the Office of Planning and Sustainability (OPS), the Northampton Housing Partnership (NHP) and members of the public. The committee adopted the charge embedded in **20.107 A Resolution in Support of Actions to Combat the Public Health Crisis of Systemic Racism**, he advised. He especially thanked OPS Director Wayne Feiden, Community Development Planner Keith Benoit, NHP member Carmen Junno and others who contributed during public comment.

Members took turns recalling some of their more memorable discussions, highlighting various recommendations of the report and discussing the process that led to their conclusions.

Councilor Nash said it is the last section of the report that is really meaningful to him because it represents the ongoing work that they as a council and a city need to continue to work on. In the last section, the report gets into thorny details around such things as notification for zoning map changes and cars getting towed that actually impact people in their contact with city government. "We need to keep poking away at those particular items," he urged.

Member Paik drew attention to Exhibit C, ordinances recommended for further study. The section is organized by priority, she noted. The first priority is changing the frequency of charter review. Currently, charter review is conducted by the city in years ending in 9 with the most recent review done in 2019. The Northampton charter guides the city's structure and operations and delineates the powers of the executive and legislative branches of government. In the course of getting to know local ordinances, how they interact with state statutes and what is within the very limited powers of the City Council, they were reminded that ordinances are very time and resource intensive to conceptualize, build coalitions for, draft and bring to a vote. They also are very limited in scope and, once on the books, rely on the discretion of the executive office to enforce and interpret. They are facing an impending change of administration with a turnover in council, and this year has particularly ignited a surge of civic participation nationally. There is enormous power vested in the executive office which they've seen play out in detrimental ways at the state and federal levels.

Charter review is an opportunity for city residents in partnership with their electeds to reassess the checks and balances and levers of influence and power in local government, Member Paik noted. She really would like to find more ways to promote transparency and inclusivity and collaboration in solving the social problems of their residents. One of the first topics for further study in the 2019 charter report was diversification of city government. She feels like that would be a great, maybe essential starting point for the next review commission.

Councilor Nash reviewed other recommendations for further study, including shifting rental fees from tenants to landlords and towing vehicles during snow emergencies. Member Paik explained how the subject of towing led to a lively discussion since members heard testimony of how renters are sometimes disproportionately impacted by fees associated with towing, especially ones that don't have designated parking spaces. Councilor Dwight shared his reflections on the city's handling of parking restrictions; historically, there was a blanket parking ban between the months of November and April and vehicles were not allowed to park on city streets. The idea of a snow emergency was introduced more recently. The first snow of the season is unfortunately, when most people learn about these rules. The tows become much less after the first one. The first is excruciating and, he thinks, inequitable and unjust. He commended the committee for its efforts to analyze the ordinances and policies of the city to determine inequities.

"I think you guys did laudable work," he shared. The biggest ongoing, unremitting debate that has always occurred in Northampton is around parking, he observed. Member Paik is the first person to advance it as a social justice discussion and he is very grateful for that.

A question from Councilor Maire led to discussion of some of the tension that accompanied the

committee's work. Councilor Maiore asked members what could have made it easier to distill the equity lens while looking at these ordinances. What in the process do you see that could go differently or better in terms of distilling the equity question? She asked.

Honestly, it has not been an entirely smooth road and they have had their share of disputes over the guardrails, Member Paik reported. The city solicitor took a very 'interventionalist' approach to their work, she alleged. He actually discouraged them from veering away from talking about things under the legislative purview. At points, he questioned the linkage between ordinance review and their discussions of systemic racism. It was a little bit of a rocky start in that their charge was created out of a council resolution but the supervising attorney wanted them to abide by what was written in the ordinance which had no mention of systemic racism.

She originally proposed changes to the ordinance creating the Ordinance Review Committee. Attorney Seewald said in their penultimate meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup> that if he were going to recommend reviewing a document it might be the charter, because the ability of the council to pass ordinances is limited.

Attorney Seewald, who was present on the call, said he would like to put some context into his attempts to supervise the committee. He has to disagree to a certain extent with Member Paik. He was not dissuading the commission from addressing impacts on historically-marginalized communities; he was trying to focus the committee on ordinances. Ordinances under our charter are somewhat limited and much of the authority is vested with the executive. As he sat here tonight, he heard a lot of discussion about what should be on the website. That's not ordinance, that's executive; the executive controls the website. He fully supported their attempts to look at ordinances but had to constrain the committee to focus on ordinances. They are all concerned about the impacts of all kinds of policies on marginalized communities, but this wasn't about all kinds of policies, it was about ordinances. There was a lot of education about the nature of an ordinance and the limits of the council's authority to pass ordinances and to control the day-to-day operations of government.

"I didn't try to be unduly restrictive on the committee and I don't believe that I was," he concluded.

Councilor LaBarge said she thinks the attorney guided them the best he could. It's a learning process. She learned what they can do in the legislative vs. executive side of government, and she thanked him for that.

Member Paik said she respectfully disagreed. They do always start with ordinances and in their exploration of their implications, they touch on other ways to remedy problems. "When we talk about zoning I didn't think it was out of line to mention how intergenerational wealth equity is related," she said. "To me, I find it relevant."

Discussion continued, with Member Napolitano saying he leans more toward Member Paik's perception of what happened. A lot of what they did was limited by an interpretation of the relative power of the executive vs. legislative branch, he suggested. They even had a bit of debate about what exactly an ordinance is. He thinks that led to the committee restricting the scope of what it recommended or thought it was appropriate to recommend, he volunteered.

Councilor Nash noted they are seeing the diversity of thought present on the committee. Each time they tackled things they were pushing boundaries and considering a whole range of ideas, he shared. As they can see, Attorney Seewald held them to the task of ordinances, but discussion leaked outside of ordinances.

Councilor Maiore said she'd like to see some structural changes next time. She doesn't think these ideas should have to leak out, she thinks they should be centered. She doesn't think there was a misunderstanding of what an ordinance is, she thinks there was disagreement around the process. She sees how this was set up and the role Attorney Seewald appropriately played, but, in the future, she suggested not having someone there whose role is to constrain and supervise.

However, if they are talking about modifying and altering ordinances, it is important that a city solicitor be present, Councilor Dwight pointed out.

She didn't say he shouldn't be there, she just said he should play a different role, Councilor Maiore clarified.

Their hope is that in all the city's processes and procedures, elected officials maintain this lens of examining the unintended disparate impacts of their work on the marginalized communities of Northampton – communities of color, lower income, disabled, etc. - Member Paik reiterated. She said she appreciated the opportunity and experience and has learned quite a bit about how their city government works.

Councilor Sciarra thanked the committee for its report and thanked Member Paik and Member Napolitano in particular for their participation.

Member Paik said she really hopes the city takes seriously the recommendations of these special committees that are formed and spend this much time and this many resources to bring forth thoughtful recommendations. It is not costless to the residents who serve on these committees, she reminded.

<p><u>Recess</u></p>	<p><u>Recess</u>  <b>The City Council took a brief recess at 10:20 p.m. The City Council reconvened at 10:28 p.m.</b></p>
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<p><u>Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting</u></p>	<p><b>At 10:28 p.m., the City Council recessed for the Committee on Finance. The Committee on Finance adjourned at 11:35 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>The City Council reconvened at 11:35 p.m.</b></p>
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<p><u>Financial Orders (On 2<sup>nd</sup> reading)</u>  <u>21.237 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash \$400,000 to Animal Control Facility – 2nd reading</u></p>	<p><u>Financial Orders (On 2<sup>nd</sup> reading)</u>  <u>21.237 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash \$400,000 to Animal Control Facility – 2nd reading</u></p> <p>Councilor Sciarra took this item out of order on the agenda because numerous audience members were present for its discussion.</p> <p>Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor Dwight seconded.</p> <p>As the order outlined, this is to provide additional supplemental funding to a previously funded capital project to help cover the full design and estimated construction cost for an animal control facility, Mayor Narkewicz explained. As he described at the last meeting, the city sought money for this much needed facility and has been on somewhat of an odyssey to find a site for it. Final site designation is still subject to hiring a designer and going through the design process and all the required permitting and site plan review with the Planning Board.</p> <p>As with a previous site that was considered, he has been in touch with the ward councilor and has committed to holding a neighborhood meeting on site before anything is submitted to the Planning Board. Once they have had an opportunity to create a design they will have a meeting with the neighbors and give them an opportunity to understand the plans and provide feedback. This order is to complete the necessary funding. He doesn't really want to spend funds on hiring a designer if they don't have the total funding for the project.</p> <p>He has talked about a specific site but it is obviously subject to a process that lies ahead of the city council appropriation. Suffice it to say that they need the facility. Wherever they end up building it, these funds would provide them with what they need to construct it.</p> <p>Councilor Nash expressed his understanding that the council is appropriating money for plans and construction but not actually designating a location.</p> <p>Obviously, they would have to have more in-depth study of the actual location, Mayor Narkewicz confirmed. The design shared at the last meeting simply consisted of a schematic of the facility dropped onto a map of the site. The city would engage designer services to develop a site plan to address issues such as wetlands and stormwater run-off. He wants to be upfront that they</p>
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are looking at a particular site, but until they go through the design and site plan review process, [it will not be finalized]. There could be prohibitive changes that would potentially keep it from being a viable site, he noted.

Councilor Nash asked if the design was site specific or if it was just a generic design.

The design was developed considering the needs of the city in terms of size, number of calls, necessary capacity, etc., Mayor Narkewicz said. They came up with the need for eight kennel spots for four dogs, a cat room and a quarantine area for dogs that need to be kept separately. Central Services Director David Pomerantz and the animal control officer toured similar facilities. They have been using this basic design in their search for potential sites. They've looked at privately-owned properties, city-owned properties, Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School and other schools sites, regional sites, etc.

Councilor LaBarge asked if she just heard the mayor say that he had looked at all of the Smith Vocational properties.

He has had extensive conversations with Superintendent Linkenhocker about possible locations on Smith Vocational's campus, he confirmed. With the need for eventual replacement of some of the school's older buildings and possible future building plans and space considerations for the school itself, there is not a place to support it at this point.

Mayor Narkewicz reviewed the range of sites that have been considered, including two spots at the closed landfill, the DPW property at 125 Locust Street and privately-owned parcels. Some of the parcels were cost-prohibitive or didn't have access to sewer or water. In previous discussions around one privately-owned site, concern was expressed by residents about the city enriching a private land owner. The message then was clear that the city should try to find a publicly-owned parcel if possible. The bottom line is they need construction funding no matter where they build the facility, the mayor concluded.

Councilor LaBarge referred to a parcel on Route 66 across from the jail. She expressed her understanding that it is state-owned.

It's a state-owned parcel in permanent conservation status and so is unavailable, the mayor clarified. Other parcels mentioned tonight are either conservation land or in APR status.

Councilor LaBarge asked about an open field above the jail.

He had a conversation with Sheriff Cahillane about potential space at the jail, Mayor Narkewicz confirmed. In the end, given the constraints of the site, questions as to whether, as a regional house of corrections, it might be expected to house a regional animal control facility, and the need to go through the state Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM), it was considered overly complicated.

Councilor LaBarge asked how much land is actually needed.

Mayor Narkewicz said it is not a large building, approximately 2,000 square feet. They were looking at a one-half to one-acre site. Obviously, it depends on the location and topography. The city owns parcel B at the state hospital and it was specifically designated for use as a future municipal facility. They've already used part of it for a recreational facility, Ellerbrook Field, but it would be cost-effective because the city already owns the land.

Councilor Jarrett thanked the mayor for answering some of his earlier questions by email. He asked the status of the state property adjacent to the DPW property at 125 Locust Street. He expressed his understanding that, at one point, it was being considered as a site for the recycling center.

The property is owned by MassDOT and is a 21E site, Mayor Narkewicz said. He met with state representatives a year or so ago when they began clean-up of the property. The idea of moving the recycling center there came out of a design seminar at Smith College and was never a formal proposal since the city did not have possession of the property; it was really an academic exercise.

MassDOT has been slowly doing a remediation of the property. Lots of materials were stored there over time and there was a landfill on the property. The buildings have pretty significant issues and, to make it even more challenging, a stream runs through the property. MassDOT has told him their plan is to remediate it, appraise it and then sell it for commercial use. They are still very much involved in the 21E process.

The landfill was previously a dumping site for street sweepings and other materials. It is really not a site the city has any imminent control over since it is still controlled by MassDOT. He gets lots of questions about it.

As far as the main DPW yard on Locust Street, it is an active operational yard with a transfer station, salt sheds, mechanic bays and a fuel depot. Poor soil conditions have made it challenging to site a storage building there. Most of the hill was created by dumping fill over time. At the end of the day, there is just not space there to support a kennel without impeding existing operations.

The DPW director would be thrilled if they closed the transfer station and put a kennel there but that's obviously not feasible either, he continued. They did look extensively there and at other DPW facilities including water department facilities, Spring Grove Cemetery, etc. They searched every nook and cranny but there wasn't space available to support it.

He had great hopes for the landfill but there were issues with DEP regulations around the monitoring wells and disturbing the soils, plus there are no utilities there.

Getting back to this site, Councilor Jarrett said he has reviewed the zoning and been hearing concerns from abutters. It is a URB zone which pretty clearly wouldn't allow such a facility if it weren't a municipal facility. He asked the mayor if he could speak to the concerns of residents around noise. He did a little research in terms of recommended distance from residences for this type of facility. Some other municipalities have 300 foot setback and complete soundproofing requirements so there is essentially no noise at the lot line. That is the primary concern to be addressed in any residential zone, he suggested. It's really about the noise and barking of dogs.

When they hear about a kennel, people might picture a commercial boarding facility, Mayor Narkewicz said. In terms of size, at maximum the kennel would have slots for eight dogs with two to three dogs at a time on the low end of the spectrum. It is a closed facility with a small outdoor run area outside each of the kennels. Dogs would only be let out in a controlled manner and would certainly never be left outside overnight. Most of the time they would be inside the kennel itself.

The design is for a net zero building. By definition, it will be well-constructed and very well-insulated, which will have the added benefit of good sound control. As mentioned, it will be fenced. They will look at other features of the site which could provide some additional sound attenuation such as natural barriers, even using the slope of the hill. The idea that you're going to be able to hear barking from it at all hours of night; that's certainly not what they would want. They feel confident that it will be constructed in such a way that it will be tight from both an energy perspective and a sound perspective.

He hears and understands the concerns, he assured. This used to be Ward 4, so, as the former Ward 4 councilor, he represented the area and understands the challenges the neighborhood faces. "I would be committed to working with them" to address those concerns, he pledged.

Councilor Jarrett referred to decibel limit restrictions in the zoning ordinance and asked if these would still apply even though it is a municipal facility.

Mayor Narkewicz confirmed that is true. He is getting into site plan review territory, he noted.

Councilor Foster thanked the mayor for spending time on the phone this week. She has heard quite a few concerns from neighbors. As he noted, it is a neighborhood that has absorbed quite a lot of change through the process of developing the old state hospital. She echoed the concern about noise and named additional concerns about lighting and traffic as well as around aesthetics. Right now, it is a beautiful open field.

She confirmed they had spoken about insuring that there would be a neighborhood meeting before going to the Planning Board. She visited the Franklin County animal shelter last week and, similarly, no employees are on site there from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. She suggested the possibility of additional care and oversight in Northampton being provided by volunteers. There are newer facilities in Belchertown, Southwick and Amherst and she has committed to visiting those and learning more about ways to mitigate neighbors' concerns.

Mayor Narkewicz stressed that the facility is not open to the public and only municipal staff would be allowed in the facility. In terms of traffic, they are not building a big parking lot. Other than required exit or emergency lighting, they don't plan on having outdoor lighting; he assumes it would just be downlighting of some sort on the building. The building has a covered porch for loading and unloading of animals. It is really meant to be a quiet, private, nonpublic facility.

At Councilor Foster's request, Mayor Narkewicz clarified the limitations on the use of the property. By an act of legislature and by deed, the parcel is limited to municipal use. It can't be used for housing. It would probably have to go back to the legislature to accommodate other types of development.

Councilor Dwight reminded those present to keep in mind the social equity aspect of decision-making they discussed earlier in the meeting. He felt uncomfortable when the jail was brought up as being equivalent to the landfill as if incarcerated men wouldn't mind since they're being punished anyways. That made him very uncomfortable. The fact is, dogs and dog ownership is a dimension of privilege. He wants them to remember where their privilege lies and how it informs how they consider and debate this question. He will be voting for the \$400,000 appropriation, he volunteered.

Councilor LaBarge clarified that she was talking about a property across the street from the jail and further down on an open field.

Councilor Quinlan thanked everyone in the conversation, the mayor for being extremely thoughtful about it and Councilor Dwight for putting a fine point on feelings similar to ones he's been having. Nobody in the city wants to feel like they're getting run over without having a chance to comment, whether it's a paving project or a new facility in their neighborhood. Everybody wants to feel like they can speak their mind and be heard. He is grateful for all the thoughtfulness going into this conversation. He does support this because he thinks it is an essential investment for Northampton.

Where ever it ends up being located, this facility is absolutely needed, Councilor Nash agreed. He is interested in having the sound aspect addressed in any design and thinks it is important to consider some kind of outdoor run space. At the Franklin County shelter, dogs will sometimes stay there for several weeks at a time, so he would hope there would be a space for an animal to stretch its legs and run around a bit. He supports appropriating the funds.

Councilor Jarrett asked Councilor Foster if she feels comfortable moving forward with the appropriation.

Councilor Foster said she feels like this is one of those situations where they need a lot more information and that's what this appropriation will allow. She feels comfortable that they are appropriating funds for plans to be drawn and a site to be considered, knowing that they can't move forward without an appropriation. As they've discussed, it is a need for Northampton. She recognizes that, by committing these funds, they are not committing this particular location to be the host of the facility. She hears and understands the neighbors' concerns.

Drawing up plans in a way to see if they can mitigate the concerns feels like a logical next step, she concluded.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

**The following order passed two readings:**

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**21.237 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash \$400,000 to Animal Control Facility**

*Ordered, that*

the sum of \$400,000 be appropriated from the FY2021 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) to be added to the appropriation for the construction of an Animal Control Facility by Central Services originally funded in the FY2018 – FY2022 Capital Improvement Program.

**Passed two readings and enrolled.**

**Resolutions**  
**21.233 Resolution to Review and Revise the Rules and Committees of the City Council - 2nd reading**

**Resolutions**  
**21.233 A Resolution to Review and Revise the Rules and Committees of the City Council - 2nd reading**

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the resolution in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Councilor Sciarra said she is proposing to take the last three paragraphs and condense them into a single paragraph as follows:

“Now therefore be it resolved that the City Council of Northampton: requests that the Council President appoint a select committee made up of three city councilors and two community members to review the Council Rules and Council Committees and present their recommendations to the City Council for deliberation and vote before the end of the current term.”

Councilor Dwight/Councilor LaBarge accepted this as a friendly amendment to their motion.

Members discussed whether the proposed composition of the committee was appropriate to its charge. Councilor Jarrett asked the appropriate way to indicate interest in serving on the select committee.

Councilor Sciarra said she would accept interest in any way they chose to indicate it to her. She is aware some councilors have just come off other committees and others have not yet done additional committee work, so she will take this into consideration. As Councilor Dwight said, these will be public meetings and she thinks all councilors should be engaged and involved to the extent they want to be.

Councilor Dwight spoke to his reasons for bringing this forward. As members of the City Council, councilors have developed a nuanced and sophisticated understanding of what it means to work in the collaborative process of governance. His hope is that even candidates running for office will participate in these conversations so they understand this too. His hope is that in the process of developing, massaging and creating these rules, incumbents will pass on this historic legacy knowledge and candidates interested in running might have a better understanding of the circumstances in which they will be governing. He literally does not have a dog in the fight other than to see Northampton governed in the most efficacious way.

The motion to approve the amendment passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Members voted unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote to approve the resolution as amended.

The following resolution passed two readings:



**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In the City Council, April 1, 2021*

Upon the Recommendation of:      Councilor William Dwight

**21.233 A Resolution to Review and Revise the Rules and Committees of the City Council**

*Whereas*, the City Council of Northampton, on a regular basis and as the need arises, must review and revise the rules that prescribe the processes by which the body shall deliberate; and

*Whereas*, the City Council must also periodically reconsider and evaluate the Committees of the Council to determine how they may best serve the Council; and

*Whereas*, the COVID 19 pandemic required significant changes in the way the Council convenes and conducts its business; and

*Whereas*, the Open Meeting Law of the Commonwealth requirements continue to evolve in meaningful ways as the Council conducts its business remotely via a changing technology; and

*Whereas*, the City Council of Northampton abides by and upholds the principles and the spirit of open government; and

*Whereas*, some Council rules have been rendered outdated and void by recent decisions by the Attorney General and the Governor in order to allow safe participation and continuity in government;

*Now therefore, be it resolved that:* the City Council of Northampton requests that the Council President appoint a select committee made up of three city councilors and two community members to review the Council Rules and Council Committees and present their recommendations to the City Council for deliberation and vote before the end of the current term.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

Councilor Sciarra reviewed the items on the consent agenda, offering to remove any item for separate discussion upon request. Councilor Dwight moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda:

- A. Minutes of March 4, 2021 and March 18, 2021
- B. 21.206 Appointment of David Whitehill to the Planning Board, positive recommendation, City Services Committee - 4/5/2021

Planning Board

**David Whitehill** (Full Member), 60 Washington Avenue, Northampton

Term: March 2021-June 2022

*To fill the term of resigned full member, Alan Verson*

- C. 21.210 Appointment to Planning Board - positive recommendation, City Services Committee - 4/5/2021

Planning Board

**Samuel Taylor** (Full Member), 245 North Street, Northampton

Term: July 2020-June 2023

*Reappointment*

- D. 21.245 Petitions for Secondhand Dealer Licenses

Renewal Licenses for:

Antiques Corner, 81 Loudville Road

Applicant: Louis M. Farrick

Cumberland Rare Books, 9 1/2 Market Street

Applicant: Hosea Baskin

Electric Eye Records, 52 Main Street, #6

Applicant: Andrew Crespo

Norman E. Menard, 25 Garfield Avenue

Applicant: Norman E. Menard

Roz's Place, 6 Bridge Street  
Applicant: Timothy Saldo

Sassy Pants Vintage & Used Clothing, 2 Conz St., Unit 2  
Applicant: Kathleen Molongoski

The Family Jewels, 56 Green Street  
Applicant: Richard J. Stone

E. 21.246 Petitions for Pool Table Licenses – Packards  
Renewal Licenses for:

Packards, 14 Masonic Street  
Weekday and Sunday Pool Table Licenses  
Applicant: Robert E. McGovern

F. 21.247 Petitions for Junk Dealer Licenses  
Renewal Licenses for:

Norman E. Menard, 25 Garfield Avenue  
Applicant: Norman E. Menard

Richard & Sharon Huntley, 254 Easthampton Road  
Applicant: Richard Huntley

Financial Orders  
(on 1st reading  
pending Finance)  
21.244 Order to  
Acquire and  
Amend Easements  
at the Mill River  
Greenway-Smith  
College - 1st  
reading  
21.248 Order to  
Appropriate CPA  
Funds for Historic  
Northampton  
Collections  
Storage  
21.249 Order to  
Appropriate  
\$120,000 in CPA  
Funds Toward  
Habitat Housing  
on Burts Pit Road  
21.250 Order to  
Appropriate  
\$14,500 in CPA  
Funds to Lilly  
Library Stair  
Repair Project -  
21.251 Order to  
Appropriate  
\$70,000 in CPA  
Funds for Historic  
Preservation Plan  
21.252 Order to  
Appropriate  
\$21,250 in CPA  
Funds for Damon  
House/Shepherd  
Barn Project  
21.253 Order to

Financial Orders (on 1st reading pending Finance review)  
21.244 An Order to Acquire and Amend Easements at the Mill River Greenway-Smith  
College - 1st reading  
Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Thorpe seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.  
See minutes of May 6, 2021 for second reading.  
21.248 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds for Historic Northampton Collections Storage  
- 1st reading  
21.249 An Order to Appropriate \$120,000 in CPA Funds Toward Habitat Housing on Burts  
Pit Road - 1st reading  
21.250 An Order to Appropriate \$14,500 in CPA Funds to Lilly Library Stair Repair Project  
- 1st reading  
21.251 An Order to Appropriate \$70,000 in CPA Funds for Historic Preservation Plan - 1st  
reading  
21.252 An Order to Appropriate \$21,250 in CPA Funds for Damon House/Shepherd Barn  
Project - 1st reading  
21.253 An Order to Appropriate \$60,000 in CPA Funds for Mill River Greenway Beach  
Project - 1st reading  
21.254 An Order to Appropriate \$50,000 in CPA Funds to the Affordable Housing Fund -  
1st reading  
Councilor Dwight moved to approve the CPA orders (21.248, 21.249, 21.250, 21.251, 21.252, 21.253 and 21.254 as a group in first reading. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.  
See minutes of May 6, 2021 for second reading.

<p><u>Appropriate \$60,000 in CPA Funds for Mill River Greenway Beach Project</u>  <u>21.254 Order to Appropriate \$50,000 in CPA Funds to the Affordable Housing Fund</u>  <u>21.255 Order Authorizing Acquisition of a Parcel of Land on the Southeasterly Side of Brierwood Drive - 1st reading</u>  <u>21.256 An Order Authorizing Waiver of Right of First Refusal for 2.93 Acres off Kennedy Road - 1st reading</u></p>	<p><u>21.255 An Order Authorizing Acquisition of a Parcel of Land on the Southeasterly Side of Brierwood Drive - 1st reading</u>  Councilor Quinlan moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.  <u>See minutes of May 6, 2021 for second reading.</u></p> <p><u>21.256 An Order Authorizing Waiver of Right of First Refusal for 2.93 Acres off Kennedy Road - 1st reading</u>  Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.  <u>See minutes of May 6, 2021 for second reading.</u></p>
<p><u>Financial Orders (in 2<sup>nd</sup> reading)</u>  <u>21.230 Order to Reprogram Funds to AOM Fire Suppression and Leeds Elementary Parking Lot Repaving - 2nd reading</u>  <u>21.234 Order to Accept DA Sullivan \$10,000 Gift to Fund Public Art Projects - 2nd reading</u>  <u>21.235 An Order to Appropriate Marijuana Community Impact Fee \$2.6 Million to Various Projects - 2nd reading</u></p>	<p><u>Financial Orders (in 2<sup>nd</sup> reading)</u>  <u>21.230 An Order to Reprogram Funds to AOM Fire Suppression and Leeds Elementary Parking Lot Repaving - 2nd reading</u>  <u>21.234 An Order to Accept DA Sullivan \$10,000 Gift to Fund Public Art Projects - 2nd reading</u>  <u>21.235 An Order to Appropriate Marijuana Community Impact Fee \$2.6 Million to Various Projects - 2nd reading</u>  Councilor Dwight moved to approve the items in second reading minus the \$400,000 for the animal control facility (21.237) which was already approved (21.230, 21.234 and 21.235) as a group. Councilor Jarrett seconded.  Regarding 21.235, Councilor Quinlan shared his reflection on what a good use of the community impact fee this is and how he wished the city was maybe still taking this money and doing this type of good for the community. He understands that it's not the council's purview, but he just wanted to express that.  The change that was made does not forego the city's ability to potentially collect mitigation funds in the future, Mayor Narkewicz reminded. He would say they are following the true spirit of the law in that, if impacts arise, they have the ability to collect mitigation fees for them. The fee has put up barriers to people for getting into the industry and disproportionately impacted equity applicants.  Since the last meeting, a suit was filed by a cannabis operator in Haverhill who is challenging the fee, he advised. There are a couple of challenges pending at the Supreme Judicial Court. He expressed the opinion that Northampton is ahead of the curve [in discontinuing collection] and that the high-flying days of the early part of the industry are over.  The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.  <u>The following orders passed two readings:</u></p>

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON**

MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council*

April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**21.230 An Order to Reprogram Funds to AOM Fire Suppression and Leeds Elementary Parking Lot Repaving**

*Ordered, that*

the following accounts with surplus funds be reprogrammed and added to the Academy of Music Fire Suppression System Project (19303 586229):

AOM Stage Lighting (19303 586311)	\$ 5,340.00
Municipal Building Elevator (19303 585501)	\$ 3,201.88
Fire Station Energy Management System (19303 586904)	\$12,352.30

the following account with surplus funds be reprogrammed and added to the Leeds Elementary School Parking Lot Repaving Project (19303 586815):

Leeds Chimney Repairs (19303 586705)	\$6809.50
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Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**

MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council*

April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**21.234 An Order to Accept DA Sullivan \$10,000 Gift to Fund Public Art Projects**

*Ordered, that*

The Northampton City Council gratefully accepts the donation of \$10,000, a gift to the City of Northampton from D.A. Sullivan and Sons, Inc., and in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53A approves using the gifted funds to fund public art projects under the direction of the Northampton Arts and Culture Department.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.235 An Order to Appropriate Marijuana Community Impact Fee \$2.6 Million to Various Projects

*Ordered, that*

\$ 2,640,000 be appropriated from the Marijuana Community Impact Fee Stabilization Fund to the following accounts:

\$1,610,000	Community Resilience Hub Acquisition and Development
\$1,000,000	Pleasant Street Roadway and Streetscape Improvements from Hockanum Road to the Conz Street Roundabout
\$ 15,000	Accessible Bus Stop Design and Construction at 34 Bridge Street
\$ 15,000	Valley Bike Share Installation at 81 Conz Street (Salvo House)

Passed two readings and enrolled.

Package of 11  
Financial Orders  
to Implement  
FY2022 - FY2026  
Capital Improve-  
ment Program

Package of 11 Financial Orders to Implement FY2022 - FY2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

- A. 21.219 FY22 CIP - An Order to Authorize Borrowing \$6 Million for Radio System Upgrade - 2nd reading
- B. 21.220 FY22 CIP - An Order to Authorize Borrowing \$450,000 for Hotel Bridge - 2nd reading
- C. 21.221 FY22 CIP - An Order to Authorize Borrowing \$685,000 for DPW Vehicles - 2nd reading
- D. 21.222 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$500,000 from Capital Stabilization to Arch Street Bridge Repairs - 2nd reading
- E. 21.223 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$25,000 from Cemetery Perpetual Care for Cemetery Projects - 2nd reading
- F. 21.224 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$1.8 Million Free Cash to Various Projects - 2nd reading
- G. 21.225 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$150,000 from PEG Access Fund to IT Services Projects - 2nd reading
- H. 21.226 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$115,000 from Parking Receipts Reserved for Parking Projects - 2nd reading
- I. 21.227 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$215,000 from Sale of Land RRA Account for NPS Projects - 2nd reading
- J. 21.228 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$94,575 from Sale of Land RRA Account for Florence Fields Recreation Area - 2nd reading
- K. 21.229 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$424,000 from Sale of Land RRA Account for Water Line Replacement - 2nd reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve items 21.219 through 21.229 as a group in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following orders passed two readings:

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council,* April 1, 2021

Upon the recommendation of the Mayor

**21.219 FY22 CIP – An Order to Authorize Borrowing \$6 Million for Radio System Upgrade**

*Ordered, that*

\$6,000,000 is appropriated to pay costs of upgrading the city-wide radio system, including all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor; that the Mayor is authorized to take any action necessary or convenient to carry out this project; and that any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this order, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs of the project approved by this order in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws and thereby reduce the amount of the authorized borrowing by a like amount.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council,* April 1, 2021

Upon the recommendation of the Mayor

**21.220 FY22 CIP – An Order to Authorize Borrowing \$450,000 for Hotel Bridge**

*Ordered, that*

\$450,000 is appropriated to pay costs of making structural and road surface improvements to the Hotel Bridge to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian traffic, including all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor; that the Mayor is authorized to take any action necessary or convenient to carry out this project; and that any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this order, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs of the project approved by this order in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws and thereby reduce the amount of the authorized borrowing by a like amount.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon the recommendation of the Mayor

21.221 FY22 CIP - An Order to Authorize Borrowing \$685,000 for DPW Vehicles

*Ordered, that*

\$685,000 is appropriated to pay costs of acquiring various vehicles and other equipment for the Department of Public Works, including all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor; that the Mayor is authorized to take any action necessary or convenient to carry out this project; and that any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this order, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs of the project approved by this order in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws and thereby reduce the amount of the authorized borrowing by a like amount.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.222 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$500,000 from Capital Stabilization to Arch Street Bridge Repairs

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, that \$500,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund be appropriated for repairs to the Arch Street Bridge in Leeds.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

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*In City Council*

April 1, 2021

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Upon recommendation of the Mayor

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**21.223 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$25,000 from Cemetery Perpetual Care for Cemetery Projects**

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, that \$25,000 be appropriated from the Cemetery Trust and Income, to be used to fund restorative work at the city's cemeteries.

**Passed two readings and enrolled.**

**City of Northampton**  
**MASSACHUSETTS**

*In City Council*                      April 1, 2021

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Upon recommendation of the Mayor

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**21.224 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$1.8 Million Free Cash to Various Projects**

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, the following Capital Projects be appropriated from the FY2021 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash):

Central Services – Academy of Music – Fire Suppression System Upgrades	\$	150,000
Central Services – Senior Center – Paint Exterior of Building	\$	118,000
Central Services – Florence Fire Station - Pave Rear Parking Lot	\$	65,000
Central Services – Lighting Upgrades – Multiple City Facilities	\$	110,000
Dispatch – Radio Positions Upgrades	\$	150,000
IT – Northampton Public Schools – Wireless System Upgrade and Replacement	\$	220,000
Planning – Comprehensive Planning	\$	60,000
Fire Rescue – Replace 2007 Mechanic Plow Vehicle	\$	65,000
Fire Rescue – Replace Cardiac Monitors in Four Ambulance Units	\$	75,000
Northampton Public Schools – Replace 2005 – 30 Passenger Wheelchair Bus	\$	55,000
Northampton Public Schools – JFK – Energy Management System	\$	150,000
Northampton Public Schools – DW Facilities Assessment for Greenhouse Gas	\$	60,000
Northampton Public Schools – NHS – Repoint Chimney	\$	40,000
Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School – Building C Boiler Replacement	\$	180,000
Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School – Nurses Office Renovation	\$	206,000
<u>Department of Public Works – Sidewalks</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>175,000</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,879,000</b>

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**21.225 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$150,000 from PEG Access Fund to IT Services Projects**

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, that \$150,000 be appropriated from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund (Fund 2337) to Information Technology Services for the following projects:

City Server System Replacement	\$ 100,000
Northampton Public Schools – Wireless System Upgrade and Replacement	\$ 50,000

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**21.226 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$115,000 from Parking Receipts Reserved for Parking Projects**

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, that \$115,000 be appropriated from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation – Parking to fund the following projects:

Replace 2011 Flatbed Truck for Parking Maintenance	\$ 60,000
EJ Gare Garage Repairs	\$ 25,000
Replace 2015 Nissan Leaf for Parking Enforcement	\$ 30,000

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.227 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$215,000 from Sale of Land RRA Account for NPS Projects

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, \$215,000 be appropriated from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation - Sale of Land Account (proceeds from the sale of the South Street School) to the following projects:

Northampton Public Schools – NHS – Replace Theater Fire Curtain	\$ 50,000
Northampton Public Schools – Leeds – Replace Handicap Lift in Cafeteria	\$ 100,000
Northampton Public Schools – Leeds – Floor Replacement	\$ 65,000

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.228 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$94,575 from Sale of Land RRA Account for Florence Fields Recreation Area

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, \$94,575 be appropriated from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation - Sale of Land Account (proceeds from the sale of various lots by the Planning Department) for stage two of the development of the Florence Fields Recreation Area.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council* April 1, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.229 FY22 CIP - An Order to Appropriate \$424,000 from Sale of Land RRA Account for Water Line Replacement

*Ordered, that*

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, \$424,000 be appropriated from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation - Sale of Land Account (proceeds from the sale of the Prospect Street Water Department Building) for the replacement of water lines throughout the city.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

ORDINANCES (NOT YET REFERRED) 21.240, 21.241, 21.242 and 21.243 Ordinances Relative to Parking on Front Street, Grove Avenue, Florence Street and Main Street, Leeds

ORDINANCES (NOT YET REFERRED)  
21.240 An Ordinance Relative to Parking on Front Street  
21.241 An Ordinance Relative to Parking on Grove Avenue  
21.242 An Ordinance Relative to Parking on Florence Street  
21.243 An Ordinance Relative to Parking on Main Street, Leeds  
Councilor Dwight moved to refer the ordinances as a group to Legislative Matters (LM). Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Florence Traffic & Parking Ordinances Sponsored by TPC 21.198 Ordinance Relative to a Stop Sign on Scanlon Avenue - 1st reading 21.199 Ordinance Relative to Stop Signs on Cross Street - 1st reading

Florence Traffic & Parking Ordinances Sponsored by Transportation & Parking Commission (TPC)  
21.198 An Ordinance Relative to a Stop Sign on Scanlon Avenue - 1st reading  
21.199 An Ordinance Relative to Stop Signs on Cross Street - 1st reading  
Councilor Jarrett offered to speak about this group of ordinances since they are all on his ward. He moved to approve 21.198 and 21.199, ordinances to place stop signs on Scanlon Avenue and Cross Street, as a group. Councilor Dwight seconded.  
  
These are to add stop signs at T intersections. At every T intersection, vehicles are required to stop, but when certain warrants are met, stop signs may be installed. Florence Road has heavy traffic, so the DPW is recommending a stop sign at the intersection of Florence Road and Scanlon Avenue. In the case of the intersection of Cross Street and Bliss Street, there are sight line impediments. There is a hedge that isn't in compliance with zoning regulations, but even with the hedge trimmed to three feet there is still a utility pole and mailbox that could cause sightline issues, he explained.  
  
The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.  
  
See minutes of May 6, 2021 for second reading.

21.213 Ordinance

21.213 An Ordinance Relative to Parking on Pine Street - 1st reading

Relative to Parking on Pine Street - 1st reading

Councilor Jarrett moved to approve 21.213. Councilor Quinlan seconded.

The Administrative Assistant screen-shared an aerial photo of Pine Street with the proposed change to parking regulations shown.

Pine Street from Chestnut Street to South Main Street is narrower than the rest of Pine Street and presently parking is allowed on both sides, Councilor Jarrett explained. Currently, parked vehicles need to be staggered to allow emergency vehicles to pass. He hasn't heard of a shortage of parking here, so the ordinance is basically making the entire north side of this section of Pine Street a 'No Parking' zone.

Councilor Jarrett noted that this neighborhood has long been fighting for traffic-calming measures. With the upcoming repaving of Pine Street, the DPW is considering changes to several intersections that they believe will help slow traffic, he related.

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

See minutes of May 6, 2021 for second reading.

21.214 Ordinance Relative to Stop Signs on Maple Street, Mann Terrace and Pine Street - 1st reading

21.214 An Ordinance Relative to Stop Signs on Maple Street, Mann Terrace and Pine Street - 1st reading

21.215 Ordinance Relative to Turning Restriction on Mann Terrace - 1st reading

21.215 An Ordinance Relative to Turning Restriction on Mann Terrace - 1st reading

21.216 Ordinance Relative to One-Way Street on Mann Terrace - 1st reading

21.216 An Ordinance Relative to One-Way Street on Mann Terrace - 1st reading

Councilor Jarrett moved to approve 21.214, 21.215 and 21.216 as a group in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded.

These ordinances are all related to the intersection of Maple Street, Mann Terrace and Pine Street, Councilor Jarrett advised. This intersection has a crash rate well above the average for unsignalized intersections. The city hired the engineering firm Fuss & O'Neill to review this and other intersections, and he has reviewed their study and listened to neighbors' concerns. He agrees with the DPW's recommendation that a four-way stop for Mann Terrace and Maple Street is appropriate. Proposed changes would also reduce conflicts by only allowing right-hand turns onto Pine Street from Mann Terrace. The current situation is that vehicles traveling on Pine Street must stop but Maple Street traffic does not, and the intersection now has a weird fifth approach coming in from Mann Terrace which is unexpected. As part of the proposal, a very short section of Mann Terrace will become one-way and vehicles will only be able to turn right, eliminating some potential conflict points.

The major concern heard from the neighborhood was about vehicles needing to stop on the hill in winter when traveling north on Maple Street. It is a steep hill that levels off at this intersection. He agrees it is not ideal but thinks it's safer than the current design. Something needs to be done at this intersection, and he thinks this is the best approach.

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

See minutes of May 6, 2021 for second reading.

ORDINANCES  
20.181 Ordinance Relative to Affordable Housing (350-6-12) - 2nd reading

ORDINANCES  
20.181 An Ordinance Relative to Affordable Housing (350-6-12) - 2nd reading

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

The following ordinance passed two readings:

**City of Northampton  
MASSACHUSETTS**

**In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-One**

Upon the Recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

**20.181 An Ordinance Relative to Affordable Housing (350-6.12)**

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended by adding Section 350-6.12 to encourage affordable housing and maximize local control without requiring a Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development Site Eligibility Letter and other non-relevant requirements.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:

Add  
**350-6.12 Affordable Housing**

Whereas, the “Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Law” (Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40B, Sections 20 to 22) and the “Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit: Low and Moderate Income Housing” regulations (760 CMR 56.00), allow for a single local board to administer and to waive any and all local zoning ordinance and other local ordinances and regulations, as the single approving authority, to encourage affordable housing, upon obtaining a Site Eligibility Letter from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Such Site Eligibility Letter creates a burden for some projects, especially small projects. It requires the paying of a fee, the calculation of a developer’s reasonable return, the provision of architectural elevations, among other requirements;

Whereas, it is the City’s intention to provide some zoning relief, consistent with city needs, and while avoiding the need for a DHCD Site Eligibility Letter.

- A. All projects approved under this section must meet the following criteria:
  - 1. At least 50% of the residential units being created shall be “Affordable Units.”
  - 2. All permanent energy sources (thermal loads, hot water, and electric loads) shall be from grid-supplied electricity or otherwise not use fossil fuels (natural gas, propane, oil, wood). This shall not apply to emergency generators, outdoor grilling, or mobile energy uses. a) .....
  - 3. Prior to obtaining a building permit, the applicant shall obtain ~~DHCD~~ approval as Local Initiative Program (LIP) units, so that all affordable units created under this section can be listed by DHCD on their Subsidized Housing Inventory.
  - 4. Prior to obtaining a building permit, the applicant shall obtain Site Plan Approval (Section ; or b) show evidence of Commonwealth funding that requires units be counted on the DHCD SHI)
- B. The Planning Board may approve Affordable Housing projects as part of a Site Plan Approval when:

- 1. The allowable dwelling units per acre (density) of the entire project is 250% of that otherwise allowed by this zoning ordinance in the zoning district in which the property is located. There are no other minimum lot size requirements for any lots created under this section.
- 2. The minimum frontage, lot depth, and lot width is at least 40% of that otherwise required by this zoning ordinance in the zoning district in which the property is located.
- 3. When significant trees on the property are cut they shall be replaced on-site with new trees to the extent feasible without blocking solar photovoltaic or hot water systems, but no payment in-lieu is required when such planting is not feasible. Full mitigation is required for cutting public shade trees.
- 4. All other zoning applies and is complied with.

- C. The Planning Board may issue a Special Permit for additional zoning dimensional and density relief when:
  - 1. The application specifically details requested zoning relief to ensure that the project and project permit conditions are not uneconomic, as defined by MGL 40B and 760 CMR 56.00.
  - 2. The Planning Board finds that the project, with a Special Permit for the requested zoning relief, still meets Local Concerns (as defined in 760 CMR 56.00 and as evidenced by the City’s master, comprehensive, and strategic plans).
  - 3. The Planning Board finds that the Special Permit conditions of Section 350-10 are met.

Passed two readings, ordained and enrolled.

21.189 Ordinance

21.189 An Ordinance to Create an Incentive for Smaller Houses by Allowing Two Half-

to Create an Incentive for Smaller Houses by Allowing Two Half-Scale Units to Count as a Single-Family for Density Purposes – 2nd reading

Scale Units to Count as a Single-Family for Density Purposes – 2nd reading  
Councilor Dwight moved to approve the ordinance in second reading. Councilor Thorpe seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following ordinance passed two readings:

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty One

Upon the Recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

**21.189 AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE INCENTIVE FOR SMALLER HOUSES BY ALLOWING TWO HALF-SCALE UNITS TO COUNT AS A SINGLE-FAMILY FOR DENSITY PURPOSES**

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended to create an incentive for smaller residential units to be built in the URB and URC districts by allowing Half-Scale units to count as half a single regular sized unit for density purposes. Further, whereas electricity from an electric grid (which must meet state renewable energy portfolio standards and is more easily converted to renewable energy) will facilitate the City's effort to attain carbon neutrality by 2050, new projects created within this proposed zoning shall be built so all on-site systems are fossil fuel-free for thermal and electric loads.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:

Add a new definition in 350 2.1 as follows:

**DWELLING, Half-Scale**

A unit that is no larger than 800 square feet of gross living area. Within the table of uses where allowed and for the purposes of calculating total allowable density, two half-scale units shall be treated as one dwelling unit.

Amend Attachment 7(URB) & 8(URC) as follows:

Lot Dimensional Requirements

Lot Size

Single, Two family or Two Half-Scale units: 3,750 ft<sup>2</sup>

3+ units: 2,500 ft<sup>2</sup> minimum (min) per unit or per two Half-Scale units

Uses Allowed By Right:

- Single-, two-, three-family, multifamily, townhouses with six or fewer units, or 12 or fewer Half-Scale units. Half-Scale units shall not have any on-site use of fossil fuels (natural gas, propane, oil) for any thermal (heating, cooling, water heating) or electric loads. Electricity from an electric grid and fossil fuel use limited to emergency generators, outdoor grilling, or mobile uses (cars, lawnmowers, snow blowers) are permitted.

Site Plan Approval Required for the Following:

- Any Construction (other than for a single family home or two-family less than 3,400 sf) greater than 2,000 ft<sup>2</sup>. This requirement applies to all uses except for: single family homes and up to 2 Half-Scale units. Half-Scale units shall not have any on-site use of fossil fuels (natural gas, propane, oil) for any thermal (heating, cooling, water heating) or electric loads. Electricity from an electric grid and fossil fuel use limited to emergency generators, outdoor grilling, or mobile uses (cars, lawnmowers, snow blowers) are permitted.

Special Permit Approval Required for the Following Uses by Planning Board

- Any multifamily or townhouse project creating seven or more units or 14 or more Half-Scale units. Half-Scale units shall not have any on-site use of fossil fuels (natural gas, propane, oil) for any thermal (heating, cooling, water heating) or electric loads. Electricity from an electric grid and fossil fuel use limited to emergency generators, outdoor grilling, or mobile uses (cars, lawnmowers, snow blowers) are permitted.

Passed two readings, ordained and enrolled.

New Business

New Business

	None.
<u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) &amp; Study Requests</u>	<u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) and Information Study Requests</u>
<u>Motion to Adjourn</u>	Upon motion made by Councilor Dwight and seconded by Councilor Nash, the meeting was adjourned at 1:11 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

April 15, 2021

NAME ADDRESS SUBJECT

Jackie Ballance, 35 Warner Street thanked city officials who have engaged with her in conversation about new gas station on King St. They know gas stations emit greenhouse gases. Every councilor was sent a copy of a January article from Environmental Law Institute called 'Governing the Gasoline Spigot.' Concludes governments should halt the building of new gas stations and phase out existing ones. The council would be doing Big Y a big favor to rescind gasoline storage license

Tusi Gastonguay Florence Would like City Council to amend city ordinance to protect city from cell antennas being placed right outside their homes. Would like city to monitor radiation from these antennas because it is reaching houses and to set setbacks to antennas from schools as well as homes.

Barbara Blumenthal Northampton re: funds appropriated for kennel. They have been surprised that the site on Chapel Street just past Rust Avenue is being considered. She doesn't want it in anyone's backyard. Finds it impossible to believe that this site in the middle of a residential neighborhood is the only site available. Suggested other locations.

Harrison Blum, Ward 2 wanted to lift up great intersectional work toward reviewing police budget and towards search for anti-racist, etc. goals. Seconded Jackie Balance's support for climate resolution.

Jesse Hassinger Northampton Urged councilors to tell Mayor to implement recommendations of NPRC to develop dept. of community care. Need to support all members of community without the threat of violence or increase of stress in an already incredibly stressful situation. Believed responders with lived experience necessary to achieve this.

Jose Adastra, Ward 4A Urged holding Mayor accountable to organizers and observing situation realistically. Police have been killing black and brown people for hundreds of years and just killed another, a father and a 13-year old in Chicago. Mere mention of committees is appalling. Have waited a year. It could easily be me that they kill.

Martha Ebner Rust Avenue Understands city needs a kennel but is opposed to locating kennel opposite of Ellerbrook Field. Structure is literally under her bedroom window. Asked if land next to Smith Voke could be used for this purpose. We need to find a more viable parcel. Noise, sight and smell of a kennel will lower property values.

Julia Chevan Florence Glad city moving forward with climate emergency resolution. Good first step but urged council to look at every policy going forward from the lens of intersectional work. Every policy needs to consider climate.

Ryan Wadsworth Father of 2. Urging Mayor Narkewicz to add Dept. of Community Care to the budget. Wants to be able to look his children in the eye and say he stood on the right side of history. Black people have been trying to get police to not kill them for more than 150 years.

Meghan, Springfield, former n'hamp Used to work at Servicenet and witnessed brutality of police toward their clients. Now works with adults with Alzheimers and dementia; again, police have history of not treating people with dementia well. Also urging creation of Dept. of Community Care and cutting police budget in support.

Venus 23 Rust Avenue ER physician at work. Fully supports creation of this type of facility. Thinks is project that needs to be away from residential area. Is proposed smack in their neighborhood, surrounded by residences everywhere. Expressed concern about barking at night when returns from night shifts. "It will destroy my life."

Amy Olson Northampton Speaking to strongly support creation of Dept. of Community Care and defunding police by at least 50%. In agreement with Jesse, Josey and Ryan. Should be clear that abolition is the only answer.

Benjamin Spencer Rust Avenue Completely opposed to location of kennel. Realizes importance of animal control facility for the city. Surprised to learn state of affairs; clearly, there's an urgent need. Kennel does not belong in residential neighborhood anywhere in the city. The kennel will be out the kitchen window. Will be no buffer. Asked for regular updates to neighborhood.

Josey Rosales Westfield Was on NPRC. Stated support for Dept. of Community Care. Referred to "assembly line" of police killings. In support of resilience hub, but it was a means of harm reduction and focus should be on Department of Community Care.

**Erin Tighe** Ward 4 In support of Dept. of Community Care and 50% defunding of NPD with reallocation of funds to community-led safety strategies. Cities like Rochester have already implemented civilian crisis response systems.

**Nancy Smith** Objecting to placement of kennel in residential neighborhood. At 4/1 meeting, no mention of noise pollution. The constant noise of barking dogs would negatively impact mental and physical health of residents. Impacts will be felt on Grove Street, Burts Pit Road and beyond. Facility being planned not 100 feet from a house. Hopes will consider and reject funding plans for this location. Thinks seeing sight in person will change minds.

**Mimi Odgers** Ward 6 Supports resolution declaring climate emergency. Believes budget reflects values. Asking councilors to insist Mayor add Department of Community care to the budget. Urged to reallocate 50% of police funds to safety initiatives.

**Corinne Olson** In support of Dept. of Community Care so individuals trained to provide appropriate resources can provide for needs as vocalized by those seeking services and not by an armed cop.

**Amy Francaes** Ward 4 Business owner and citizen. Calling to encourage Mayor and compel councilors to propel Mayor toward creation of Dept. of Community Care. Also in support of declaration of climate emergency. Asked where are good apples on NPD?

**Ilia Karatsoreos** In support of Dept. of Community Care, opposed to kennel location. Is professor of brain science so understands importance of appropriate response to mental health calls. Echoed sentiment that have to be more suitable locations; also doesn't subscribe to financial necessity of spending \$1 million on facility.

**Sophie Maki** Ward 3 In strong support of establishment of Dept. of Community Care and cutting police budget 50%. Urged councilors to require Mayor to include in budget. Mentioned Ithaca, Rochester and Albuquerque as other communities that have made big and necessary changes.

**Sean Donovan** Ward 3 endorsing establishment of community care dept. Has worked with people experiencing extreme emotional distress in Northampton and has heard countless stories of police making crises worse. Advocated peer-led response instead of co-responders with police.

**Bo Clark** Hadley Urged City Council to fund Dept. of Community Care and drastically cut police department by 50%. Asked to take into account NPRC work and take recommendations to heart as starting point. Believes budget moral document and should be following suit of other cities to direct \$ away from police department. Echoed importance of peer response

**Mac Godinez** Ward 2 Requesting 50% police budget cut and establishment of dept. of community care. Recently saw fight where police were called and were really harassing young black man on one side of the fight. Man was clearly distressed afterwards. People in distress need peer-led responses. Lived in Lancaster, Penn., Man named Ricardo Munoz shot there last year; afraid of something similar happening in our town.

**Jonathan Volk** Ward 2 Mayor's comments seem to suggest not ready to make recommendations that would implement Dept. of Community Care. Referred to comment that "I don't know that you can create a department in 45 days" and that doing so violates every municipal law. Budget gives opportunity to show what actually possible.

**Molly Keller** Amherst In support of Dept. of Community Care and defunding police department 50%. Mentioned Officer Borawski and another officer, fact that police have greater likelihood of being domestic abusers. Thinks better not to have people trained to enact violence being the ones to protect us.

**Ashwin Ravikumar** Celebrating amazing work of NPRC and fantastic recommendations. Urged councilors to push Mayor to fund Dept. of Community Care. Referred to litany of testimonials from residents about their experiences with policing. Is enough to let us know need to move away from policing. Seattle cut budget by 18%. Need budget that reflects morals and values as a community. Mentioned other communities making changes.

**Gwendolyn** Against kennel

**Riley** Works at AFIA Urged councilors to tell Mayor needs to add dept. of community care to the budget. Need department accountable to communities most impacted by policing. Black and brown people have been calling for relief from police violence for 150 years.

**Rye Buckley** Ward 3 In support of creation of Dept. of Community Care this budget cycle. Others

have spoken to why is possible and imperative. People he cares about are threatened and harmed by the police in our town. Doesn't want to see our town invest in these systems of harm and racism. Asked to invest in work of NPRC.

**Danielle Amodeo** Ward 3 Affirmed and amplified previous calls for City Council to work with Mayor to divest from policing by 50% and use those funds to support community needs right now. Is chair of Arts Council. This past Tuesday, Board voted to sign onto NAN's demands calling on City Council and Mayor to make this work.

**Kieran Leon** In support of Dept. of Community Care and cutting police budget 50%. Named Albuquerque, Rochester as cities that have done this. Northampton has reputation as city not afraid of social reform.

**Ya-Ping** Turners Falls Echoed calls to call on Mayor to put Dept. of Community Care in budget and reallocate funds to programs and initiatives that keep people safe. Albuquerque created community safety dept. on June 20<sup>th</sup>. In Rochester, department created in September of 2020. Chatanooga created Office of Community Resilience on June 15, 2020 and hired person in September. Over 20 communities either have or are planning mobile response units.

**Robert** Ward 3 re: police post about 'Autism awareness.' Autism Speaks is disapproved by many advocates of people with autism because treats autism as a disease. 'Autism Speaks' has been disavowed by many Autism groups because promotes autism as a disease and because small percentage of funding goes to services.

**Booker Bush** Ward 7 NPRC member. In support of creating dept. of community care. Concerned by idea that resiliency hub could solve and become the Department of Community Safety. Wanted to make public his feeling that that doesn't work. Could put a lot of what recommended into resiliency hub, but does not necessarily defund police or change policing footprint. Does not say who resiliency hub responds to. In other words, make people receiving services part of structure. Concerned funding resilience hub as parallel track would not meet many of NPRC's goals.

**Carol Owen** Ward 6 Presented rationale for department being part of city. Gives city way to embed public safety and public health responses in the fabric of government. Public sector is universal provider and there's an expectation of accountability to the public. Could help them shift narrative about who responds to mental health needs, substance abuse issues, income insufficiency and homelessness away from police and back to where it belongs.

**Javier Luengo-Garrido** Ward 3 Dept. of Community Care has to be independent department, not under police. NPRC report talks about non-armed response. Reporting from Gazette has been a little misleading. Wanted to be clear calling for peer-led, non-armed response. Entire Alternatives to Policing subcommittee here in meeting. Has to be accountable. If run resiliency hub with current providers, perpetrating existing system.

**Lemy Coffin** Ward 1 Read excerpt of NPRC charter document. Named that this put forth by City Council as the process. Recommendation is to create a new department. You said you wanted to do it with deliberate speed and lasting impact, creation of DCC first thing that needs to happen. Resilience hub origin is in panhandling report. Origin of DCC is in other document.

**Lil P.** Ward 3 Agreed with Robert re autism comments. Blue symbol of autism speaks is worn by police and is a hate symbol. We need a Department of Community Care.

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