



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

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by City Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra. At 7:17 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

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

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

At 7:17 p.m., Councilor Sciarra convened the regular meeting. She announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Public Hearing Announcement of Public Hearing - 20.047 National Grid/Verizon New England Pole Petition for Fox Farms Road (Petition #29597581)

Public Hearing Announcement of Public Hearing - 20.047 National Grid/Verizon New England Pole Petition for Fox Farms Road (Petition #29597581)

Councilor Sciarra made the following announcement:
In accordance with the provisions of Section 22, Chapter 166 of the General Laws, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2020 @ 7:05 p.m. on the petition of National Grid/Verizon New England to erect poles and wires upon, along, under or across one or more public ways (Pole Petition #29597581 - Fox Farms Road). The hearing will be held via remote participation. Please see the agenda for the May 21, 2020 City Council meeting for instructions for accessing the hearing.

Updates from Council President & Committee Chairs Announcement Regarding Executive Session Minutes

Updates from Council President & Committee Chairs Announcement Regarding Executive Session Minutes

Councilor Sciarra made the following announcement:
The Open Meeting Law (M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 22) requires public bodies to regularly review minutes of Executive Session. With the assistance of the administrative assistant, the Council President has reviewed the minutes and determined that, due to pending litigation, nondisclosure of executive session minutes of November 16, 2017 and September 19, 2019 is still warranted.

Councilor LaBarge announced that the June City Services Committee meeting would be held during the June 4, 2020 City Council meeting instead of on Monday, June 1st. It will be an abbreviated meeting to consider the appointment of Jonathan Flagg as Building Commissioner and no departmental presentations will be scheduled.

The Community Resources Committee (CRC) will be meeting May 18, 2020 at 5 p.m., Councilor Nash advised. The meeting will feature organizations that have stepped up to the plate during the COVID-19 crisis and done a lot of heavy lifting. CRC members wanted to provide them the opportunity to speak to what they've been doing and let residents know how they can be involved and support their efforts. He is expecting participants from the Northampton Survival Center, Safe Passage and United Way of Hampshire County. The meeting will be broadcast live on NOM. He is hoping councilors can get the word out about the meeting and encourage constituents to tune in to find out some of the exciting stuff that's been going on.

And, Councilor Dwight announced that Legislative Matters will not meet May 11, 2020 due to the absence of an agenda.

Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements

Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors

Councilor Jarrett gave an update on the Complete Count Committee of the 2020 Census. Last weekend was Census Digital Action weekend where people were encouraged to post on social

<p><u>by Councilors</u></p>	<p>media. Since last weekend, Northampton’s self-response rate has increased. As of May 5th, 66% of Northampton has responded. COVID-19 has delayed follow-ups for people who don’t respond by mail, phone or online, making self-response especially critical. Everyone should have received a mailing. The more people who self-respond, the fewer doors census workers will have to knock on. Each person counted equals almost \$2,400 per year to their community, he reminded.</p> <p>Councilor LaBarge informed fellow councilors and residents that a neighborhood meeting on the subject of a proposed development on Woodland Drive was held Monday from 6 to 8:45 p.m. by Zoom. The meeting was coordinated by her and Office of Planning and Sustainability Director Wayne Feiden and attended by twenty-eight (28) residents of Ladyslipper Lane, Sovereign Way, Woodland Drive and a section of Westhampton Road. It was very interesting. She stated her feeling that it is critical that councilors do something like this so they know exactly how residents feel about any form of development. Neighbors provided constructive suggestions about details important to them such as architectural design standards, minimizing the footprint of disturbed areas and preserving some land for buffers. Planners will use this information as part of their due diligence in creating a conceptual design and come back for a follow-up meeting. Mr. Feiden will also do a site visit for a proposed trail off Ladyslipper Lane.</p>
<p><u>Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor</u></p>	<p><u>Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor</u></p> <p>Mayor Narkewicz stated his intention to provide a brief update since there have not been significant changes since the last meeting. Of greatest note, Governor Baker has extended the stay in place advisory and order for the close of non-essential businesses which had been set to expire on May 4th to May 19th. Some changes have been made in that golf courses have been allowed to re-open as of today. Also, a state-wide face covering order has been issued following the example of several cities around the Commonwealth that did the same a little bit earlier, including Northampton. The police department has been tasked with trying to enforce it. Police officers have been equipped with masks so they can provide them to those who don’t have them. Late this afternoon, the health department issued a modification to its previous order regarding the closure of parks, recreation areas and playgrounds. Playgrounds and basketball courts remain closed but there has been a reopening to public use of the major recreation areas as well as parks. The health director is not doing this because she wants everybody to rush out to the park and have a picnic but because some people may not have access to places to safely recreate due to overcrowding. Now that they have face-covering orders in place these outside areas are able to be used on a limited basis. This will go into effect tomorrow.</p> <p>In terms of city operations, the city continues to operate in an emergency mode. Public safety, public works and public health are all in full posture and working on a number of different issues, including in some cases responding to COVID-19 calls. Non-emergency offices continue to function remotely with a very limited number of staff going into city offices with social distancing enforced. Buildings have a regular cleaning routine to insure no potential spread of the virus as workers come and go. The city has extended the lifting of fees and fines on parking in recognition that the non-essential business closure will continue. There have been some modifications in terms of retailers’ ability to operate. Previously, the governor’s order stipulated that only owners could go into their business; there has now been a modification to that in that retailers can bring some employees in to be able to work on mail order or delivery of retail goods. The big news is the appointment of a state-wide re-opening advisory committee which has been meeting almost from the moment of its appointment. They have a representative on this committee in the form of the Mayor of Easthampton, Nicole LaChapelle. He had a call with Mayor LaChapelle and mayors across Massachusetts today to give them feedback. Obviously, they are trying to balance public safety and public health and don’t want to open too quickly and have a surge or spike in cases. But there is obvious concern in the business community about how long they can sustain themselves and whether reopening plans could involve some limited reopening of certain businesses. Obviously, any plans have to align with public safety and benchmarks indicating they are in a position to reopen.</p> <p>Finally, administrators continue to work on the budget. It will be submitted Monday, May 18th and he will be delivering his budget message to City Council that Thursday. There has not been a lot more information available to them at the state level. There was some action taken today on some borrowing to give the state resources to continue its operation but there is still not a clear understanding of when and if they will see an updated state budget. City officials will be making their best estimates and revenue projections. It will be a very austere budget that he will present.</p>

	<p>He concluded by encouraging people to continue to be diligent, staying at home and following procedures when they go into essential businesses and having a face covering with them when they go out in public. They may not have to wear masks all the time but may encounter situations where they need to have them because they cannot maintain safe social distancing. Hopefully, they will see this through to a safe conclusion at some point without further spread of the virus and loss of life. "Our message remains the same...we're not out of the woods" but need to continue to follow the medical experts' advice, be safe and take care of their families.</p> <p>Councilor Maiore asked if there is any movement on the lifting or modification of the ban on the curbside sale of recreational marijuana.</p> <p>The Cannabis Control Commission has requested an audience before the state-wide reopening board, Mayor Narkewicz reported. He is part of a group of mayors who are finalizing a letter to the board advising the same. They believe the medical operators have shown that pre-ordering and curbside pick-up is successful. They are really concerned about those entrepreneurs who don't have access to federal benefits because cannabis is not federally legal. They are going to see lots of these operators who have invested their lives in opening retail marijuana outlets fail if no action is taken. There is definitely a move afoot coming from the municipal level. If retailers limit sales to Massachusetts residents, which would not be difficult, it would prevent the concern about out-of-staters flooding Massachusetts from other states. He is particularly concerned about veterans because many veterans who use this as medicine do not apply for medical cards for fear of risking their federal benefits. They are an important group that they need to be mindful of.</p> <p>Councilor Foster asked the mayor to explain the governor's order and Northampton's stand on mask-wearing in public. She thinks it's incredibly clear that people visiting essential businesses and indoors need to be wearing masks. She has seen and heard a lot of speculation as it applies to those outdoors. There are people who understand that if you are outside running, biking or walking that it is necessary to wear a mask.</p> <p>They have had a lot of discussion about this, Mayor Narkewicz confirmed. Unfortunately, there was a lot of misreporting that the governor's order said you must wear a mask anytime you're out in public, but the order actually contains the caveat 'when you're out in public and can't maintain social distance.' What they're trying to do from an educational point of view is stress to people that, if they are going into a situation where there's a potential to come in close contact with others, they should have a mask with them. If someone is taking a quick walk around Look Park, they can't guarantee that someone won't cross their path or cycle close to them, so they are encouraging people to have a face-covering with them in public. There is a little ambiguity in that it can be interpreted that it is not necessary to wear a mask in public if someone is able to maintain social distance, he acknowledged. Police are trying to take an educational stance; having some masks if they encounter people who don't have masks but trying to educate people that they should wear a mask whenever possible.</p>
<p><u>Presentations</u></p>	<p><u>Presentations</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Resolutions</u> <u>20.045 Resolution Denouncing Anti-Asian, Anti-Asian American and Xenophobic Discrimination – 2nd reading</u></p>	<p><u>Resolutions</u> <u>20.045 A Resolution Denouncing Anti-Asian, Anti-Asian American and Xenophobic Discrimination – 2nd reading</u> Councilor Dwight moved to approve the resolution in second reading. Councilor Thorpe seconded.</p> <p>Councilor Maiore thanked Councilor Foster and Megan Paik for their collaboration, Ms. Paik and Javier Luengo-Garrido from the ACLU for their public comments and Laurie Loisel for her written statement. Since the last meeting, a study came out from the Institute for Public Integrity reporting that 30% of Americans have witnessed someone blaming people of Asian descent for the corona virus pandemic. As Ms. Paik mentioned, other towns and cities are looking at this resolution as a model which she thinks is great. The more collective leadership voices they have the better; they all need to insure that this kind of hateful rhetoric does not become normalized.</p>

Councilor Quinlan thanked Councilor Maiore and Councilor Foster again and Megan Paik for her comment. He mentioned that the resolution passed unanimously last time. He thinks they all feel so strongly about this; doing what's right to try to protect every member of this community. He was disappointed to see that a demonstration held last weekend was using a term that they are asking people not to use in this resolution. It was disappointing to see the local media highlighting the term as well.

Councilor Jarrett relayed that he has heard from Asian Americans that it made a difference to them to know that councilors passed this resolution on the first reading. He thinks when they make these aspirational resolutions they encourage participation in government by clearly stating 'you are welcome' and your rights matter. He also did some research on communities that have had the best outcomes in promoting human rights; these statements are important but they need to be followed up with further action. He said he looks forward to working with the Human Rights Commission once it's permitted to meet again.

Councilor Foster echoed Councilor Maiore's gratitude, adding she appreciated that this passed unanimously on first reading. She recognizes this is a council that cares deeply that all members of their community are treated with dignity and respect. The study that 30% of Americans have heard Asians blamed for the corona virus is striking; it stresses the importance of community leaders speaking out against it. Similar to Councilor Quinlan, she also was deeply disappointed with the name of the rally and how it was promoted. The Smith School for Social Work put out a powerful, well-worded letter on this issue and she is grateful to them for that, she added.

Councilor Dwight repeated his thanks to the sponsors for their work on this, noting the intent is something he definitely subscribes to. Part of the frustration everyone describes is the media coverage - Trump gets a lot more airplay when he invokes a racist term to identify the virus, and the media is attracted to ugly, shiny objects, if you will. Unfortunately, he doesn't think there is going to be any coverage of this aspirational resolution; their declaration of support for all members of their community and their objection to overt demonstrations of hatred and bias. "Were not going to make the paper; we're not going to be on TV," he lamented. The resolution will basically be on the radar of people who are already receptive to it. It's too bad; only when there is some sense of controversy do they get airplay. If it's any consolation, apparently what they are saying is not controversial at all and universally held and, as such, it will be ignored on some larger level.

Silence is complicity and not doing this would be to their great shame, he concluded.

Councilor LaBarge thanked Councilor Dwight for his words and thanked Councilors Foster and Maiore for sponsoring the resolution. No matter what, hopefully, by doing this and designing this resolution, somewhere a change will happen.

Councilor Sciarra added her great thanks. She called the motion to a vote and it passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call.

The following resolution passed two readings:

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty

Upon the recommendation of Councilor Karen Foster and Councilor Rachel Maiore

R-20.045 A RESOLUTION

DENOUNCING ANTI-ASIAN, ANTI-ASIAN-AMERICAN AND XENOPHOBIC DISCRIMINATION

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

WHEREAS, the Northampton City Council has passed a Resolution Declaring Northampton’s Commitment to Being a Safe and Accepting Community on November 17, 2016 as well as a Resolution Regarding Hate Crimes on February 21, 2013 and,

WHEREAS the use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID-19, such as the “Chinese Virus,” “Wuhan Virus,” and “Kung-flu,” have perpetuated anti-Asian stigma and,

WHEREAS the use of anti-Asian rhetoric, including by our current US President and top federal officials, has resulted in people of Asian descent being harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated for the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the US including in our own community and,

WHEREAS, since January 2020, there has been a dramatic increase nationwide in reports of hate crimes and harassment of those of Asian descent, with the online reporting forum STOP Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) HATE logging in more than 1,100 reports of incidents of racial harassment and discrimination in the United States¹ and,

WHEREAS the Northampton City Council has established, as stated in the November 17, 2016 Resolution Declaring Northampton’s Commitment to Being a Safe and Accepting Community, that it believes in ‘the rights of people to lead lives of peace and dignity free from fear, harassment and violence.’”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts calls on all local public officials to condemn and denounce any and all anti-Asian sentiment in any form in and around our City.

¹“STOP AAPI HATE Receives over 1,100 Incident Reports of Verbal Harassment, Shunning and Physical Assault in Two Weeks”, last modified April 3, 2020, http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/Press_Release_4_3_20.pdf

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts recognizes that the health, safety, and dignity of all residents, no matter their background, must be of utmost priority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts stands with our Asian and Asian-American neighbors and business community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts condemns all manifestations of Anti-Asian racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and scapegoating.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts calls on the United States leadership to combat misinformation and discrimination that puts Asian Americans at risk and to commit to building a more inclusive, diverse, and tolerant society.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrative Assistant to the City Council shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to President Donald Trump, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator Ed Markey, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, U.S. Representative Grace Meng, Congressman James McGovern, Massachusetts Governor Charles Baker, State Senator Joanne Comerford and State Representative Lindsay Sabadosa.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

20.051 Resolution in Support of Expanded Absentee Voting and Vote by Mail - 1st reading

R-20.051 A Resolution in Support of Expanded Absentee Voting and Vote by Mail - 1st reading

Councilor Sciarra read the resolution.

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

Councilor Quinlan noted that he inadvertently left Representative Paul Mark off the list of elected officials to receive the resolution and proposed an amendment to include him. Councilor Dwight seconded. Councilor Sciarra made a friendly addition to add Secretary of the Commonwealth Bill Galvin and the motion makers accepted this as a friendly amendment.

The motion passed unanimously 9:0.

Councilor Quinlan thanked Councilor Sciarra for her partnership and leadership on this, saying her experience in writing resolutions proved invaluable. They have had to make shifts in their lives to protect themselves and society from this virus, making changes to improve democracy is no different: healthy ballot access is essential. Just yesterday, the Tish College of Civic Life at Tufts published a study of the pros and cons of vote by mail, ultimately concluding, "Massachusetts needs to adapt its voting rules quickly to accommodate these shifts."

He was encouraged on a personal level to do this by a phone call from a staffer of Senator Jo Comerford. He encouraged him to write a letter to Senator Comerford and Representative Lindsay Sabadosa, and he did and had tremendous feedback from both. That made him think about a resolution for the council to support the idea. In his preparation, he was thrilled to see that U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren has a plan for this. He mentioned other local representatives who support vote by mail, including Senator Ed Markey, Attorney General Maura Healy and the entire Massachusetts delegation to the U.S. House of Representatives led by Joe Kennedy. Twenty-two (22) mayors including Northampton Mayor Narkewicz have lobbied the state legislature in support and, just this week, Secretary of State Bill Galvin released a plan to vote by mail and is urging the state legislature to act swiftly. This is an idea whose time has come. He asked them to join him in urging their legislators to act immediately.

It was a real pleasure to work with Councilor Quinlan on something not only so important but reflecting a discussion that's happening with great intensity in real time, Councilor Sciarra confirmed. There are many things they don't know about the fall and more distant future but one thing they do know is that vote by mail works; it increases access and has been shown to be safe in terms of protecting the vote and in terms of social distancing. Provided the United States Postal Service survives under this current administration, as they've heard there are multiple bills being filed and more this week, including a proposal by the secretary of the commonwealth yesterday. They've chosen to highlight and support the bills in the resolution, but, for her, the real intent is expressing support for vote by mail that is open to all and not dependent on having to meet criteria such as having a disability, being at high-risk for COVID-19 or traveling, etc. She believes in expanding that to all who would like to vote by mail. This is not only to protect the voters but to protect the poll workers and all those involved in running elections who would come in contact with many throughout the long voting day. Yesterday, Secretary Galvin proposed that all could request an early ballot and proposed early voting in person up to 18 days for the general election in November, six more days than the current 12-day maximum. He also proposed an addition of seven days of early voting before the primary, which currently has no early voting under the law.

She certainly supports the concept of early voting but only if it's safe and does not put the city clerk and her staff and all who use city hall at risk.

As they heard from Representative Sabadosa, the state is planning to hold a virtual hearing on several of these bills next Thursday. There is a real urgency to this because Secretary Galvin has said the senate needs to pass a bill by June in order to allow time to have ballots printed and ready for distribution, she related. She requested that the council consider two readings if members agree with the resolution and its timeliness.

It's worth noting that City Clerk Pam Powers actually advocated for this a year ago and it was unanimously approved before the charter committee and part of charter reform, Councilor Dwight reminded. The fact is that Clerk Powers has progressively worked and worked very hard on trying

to expand access to the vote before the pandemic was even a thought. The idea was to facilitate people's ability to vote and to expand voter participation, which is sorely lacking as many of them have witnessed. If they're going to go and brag to the rest of the world about what a high-functioning democracy they are, they have to have people participate.

He referred to what happened in Wisconsin. It was an egregious attempt to try to dampen a vote and try to effect a vote by forcing people to make a choice between their and their community's health and their right to exercise the right vote. "It was grotesque," he observed. They aren't seeing that play out here. He is heartened to hear about all the efforts and energy put in and the urgency pressing this issue because of COVID-19 and is especially grateful for Councilor Quinlan's very hard work.

Councilor LaBarge thanked Councilor Sciarra and Councilor Quinlan. This is something urgent, there's no question about it. She has a petition that was forwarded from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from all the representatives and senators and even some citizens. It's in dire need for the safety of all individuals who could be at high risk. She feels like this is the right way to go because of the corona virus. She is definitely supporting this 100% and agrees to a second vote.

Councilor Maiore commended Councilor Quinlan and Councilor Sciarra for proposing this to them and on the state level Representative Mark and Representative Sabadosa. It is really such common sense that she forgets there is a real process to make this happen. As a former poll worker, election workers are overwhelmingly seniors and even on a good year it's hard to fill all those roles. The only reason she can see not to support this is if you fear democracy, and she is hoping this really happens on the state level.

Councilor Foster thanked Councilors Sciarra and Quinlan. She has been following elections and what they saw in Wisconsin and other examples is just not a situation people need to be in. With foresight, planning and action they have the opportunity here in Massachusetts to expand democracy and have an election where the city clerk and poll workers are protected and it's not an opportunity for the virus to spread. As a parent of two young kids, she often hears the argument that people should plan ahead; it is an idea whose time has come and she is excited to support this resolution and expand access for everybody.

Councilor Nash thanked both sponsors, saying he wouldn't repeat what had been said. This really is common sense. There is the safety issue but this is also about improving access to voting; it just makes sense, it is easy. He loves going to the polls on election day and all the interactions there but for some people, this is just the best way to do this. He will support this in two readings.

Councilor Thorpe thanked Councilor Sciarra and Councilor Quinlan, adding he will be happy to support it.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to a vote, and it passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote in first reading.

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

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the resolution in second reading. Councilor Nash seconded. The motion passed 8:0 with one absent by roll call vote as Councilor Foster's screen became frozen due to technical difficulties and she was unable to respond to the roll call.

The following resolution passed two readings:

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty

Upon the recommendation of Councilor Michael Quinlan, Jr. and Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra.

R-20.051 A RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF EXPANDED ABSENTEE VOTING AND VOTE BY MAIL

WHEREAS, voting is a fundamental right and a foundational principle of democracy.

WHEREAS, during the Covid-19 global pandemic a strategy that has proven effective for protecting communities by slowing the spread of the virus is the practice of social distancing and limiting congregating in groups.

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts state primary is September 1, 2020 and the general election is November 3, 2020 and it is unknown if at that time gathering in groups, which is necessary for voting at polls, will be permitted, advisable or if citizens will feel safe exercising their right with in-person voting.

WHEREAS, healthy ballot access is essential to our democratic process, and also to our community health and safety. Every voter in the Commonwealth should be able to exercise their right to vote safely, without fear and without putting their and other's health and the health of their community at risk.

WHEREAS, vote by mail is a proven voting method which has increased voter access and participation without vote loss or voter fraud. Currently, five states vote almost exclusively by mail: Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Utah and Washington. 28 states have "no excuse," or "no fault," mail or absentee balloting. In response to COVID-19, more states are converting upcoming elections to vote by mail to ensure healthy ballot access, including New York, New Hampshire and Maryland.

WHEREAS, Bills S.2654 in the State Senate and HD.5026 in the State House, "An Act establishing vote by mail in 2020," seeks to establish vote by mail in Massachusetts.

WHEREAS, for the September primary and November general elections, the Secretary of the Commonwealth has expanded eligibility for applying for absentee voting. H.4623, sponsored by Representative Paul Mark and Representative Lindsay Sabadosa, would further expand absentee voting to all that apply to vote absentee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton City Council asks the Massachusetts Legislature to act with urgency to pass H.4623 to allow absentee voting for all in the upcoming 2020 elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northampton City Council asks the Legislature to pass Senate Bill 2654 and House Docket Bill 5026 to establish a vote by mail program in the Commonwealth for all future elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrative Assistant to the City Council shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to the state sponsors of the Act, Senator Rebecca L. Rausch and Representatives Adrian C. Madaro; Chairs of the Joint Committee on Election Laws, Senator Barry R. Finegold and Representative John J. Lawn, Jr.; State Representative Lindsay Sabadosa; State Representative Paul W. Mark, State Senator Jo Comerford; House Speaker Robert DeLeo; Senate President Karen Spilka, Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin and Governor Charles Baker.

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

Councilor Sciarra reviewed the items on the consent agenda, asking if anyone wished to remove an item for separate consideration. Councilor Jarrett requested removal of the minutes of April 16, 2020. **Councilor Dwight moved approval of the consent agenda. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).**

The following item was approved as part of the consent agenda:

20.050 Appointment of Jonathan Flagg as Building Commissioner - for referral to City Services

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the minutes of April 16, 2020. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Councilor Jarrett presented minor corrections as a proposed amendment. In the Mayor's update, the website address should be www.northamptonma.gov/COVID19. And, on page 97, the word adjutant, should be adjutant

Councilor Dwight noted that such minor changes are considered scriveners' errors and don't require a formal amendment. Councilor Jarrett withdrew his motion. Mrs. Krutzler said the corrections were duly noted and she would make the changes. The motion passed 8:0 by roll call

	<p>vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).</p>
<p><u>Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting</u></p>	<p>At 8:18 p.m., the City Council recessed for the Committee on Finance meeting. The Committee on Finance adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The City Council reconvened at 8:30 p.m.</p>
<p><u>Financial Orders (on 1st reading) 20.049 Order for FY2020 Budget Transfers - 1st reading</u></p>	<p><u>Financial Orders (on 1st reading)</u> <u>20.049 An Order for FY2020 Budget Transfers - 1st reading</u> Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Thorpe seconded. Councilor Nash thanked the Mayor for the explanation around the overtime. It was an unusual amount of overtime to see in a budget transfer this late in the year. He thought the explanation around the COVID crisis really summed things up. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. <u>See minutes of May 21, 2020 for second reading.</u></p>
<p><u>Financial Orders (on 2nd reading) 20.043 Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Federal Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement – 2nd reading</u></p> <p><u>20.046 Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Resilience Hub – 2nd reading</u></p>	<p><u>Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)</u> <u>20.043 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Federal Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement – 2nd reading</u> Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. <u>The following order passed two readings:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">City of Northampton MASSACHUSETTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>In City Council</i> April 16, 2020</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Upon recommendation of the Mayor</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>20.043 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Federal Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement</u></p> <p><i>Ordered, that</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$ 4248 be appropriated from the FY20 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance to Northampton Public Schools for Federal Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement (W033000-533002).</p> <p><u>Passed two readings and enrolled.</u></p> <p><u>20.046 An Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Resilience Hub – 2nd reading</u> Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor Maiore seconded. Councilor Thorpe notified councilors that he was recently asked to be part of the collaboration group for the resilience hub. He consulted the city solicitor and determined that there is no financial conflict. He also emailed the City Clerk a simplified version of the disclosure under M.G.L. Chapter 268A 23 (B) and will deliver the original to her. Taking these factors into account, he stated that he feels he can perform his duties objectively and fairly.</p>

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

The following order passed two readings:

CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council,

April 16, 2020

Upon the recommendation of the Mayor

20.046 An Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Resilience Hub

Whereas, one of the key service gap recommendations of the 2019 Mayor’s Work Group on Panhandling Study Report (*A Downtown Northampton for Everyone: Residents, Visitors, Merchants, and People At-Risk*) was the creation of a community day center to serve Northampton’s at-risk population; and

Whereas, in line with that recommendation and concurrent with Northampton’s climate resiliency efforts, the city is exploring creation of a resilience hub and day program to support vulnerable residents facing chronic and acute stress due to climate change and other disasters, and social and economic challenges; and

Whereas, during normal times a resilience hub would serve those at the frontline of chronic stress (i.e. frontline communities, including homeless, Single Room Occupancy (SRO) residents, those living in extreme poverty, and climate vulnerable populations) and possibly other community needs; and

Whereas, the resilience hub will be designed, however, so that during times of acute stress or major disruption (e.g. a major storm event, disaster, or pandemic) and during the recovery phase, it can serve all residents; and

Whereas, preliminary community discussions of this resilience hub concept as part of the city’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan development have created significant interest and already inspired two substantial donations to support the effort.

Ordered that, Northampton City Council in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 A (Grants and gifts; acceptance and expenditure) authorizes the expenditure of funds donated by the public to be used for the ongoing planning and potential implementation of a resilience hub and day program to support Northampton residents who face chronic and acute stress due to climate change and other disasters, and social and economic challenges.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

<p><u>Orders</u></p>	<p><u>Orders</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u></p>	<p><u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Ordinances 20.037 Ordinance Relative to Essential Services and Municipal Facilities - 1st reading</u></p>	<p><u>Ordinances 20.037 An Ordinance Relative to Essential Services and Municipal Facilities - 1st reading</u> Councilor Sciarra read the ordinance. Councilor Dwight moved to approve the ordinance in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. Assistant Planning Director Carolyn Misch explained that essential services covers a wide range of services essential to maintaining infrastructure for the community. Essential services and municipal facilities include gas lines, electric lines, water and sewer lines and other municipal buildings and facilities like schools, parks, dog kennels, etc. As they can imagine, some of these things like roads and sewer lines cross boundaries and go cross-country. Planners eliminated minimum lot size and frontage for those items because they can’t necessarily be contained within a property boundary since they are providing service to the whole city. In terms of parks, these are generally geographically defined, but this allows flexibility to create parklets, pocket parks, etc. For many years, city officials have pulled these items out and treated them differently</p>

because they are very different types of uses within a zoning district. It was just an oversight when modifying the districts that those types of uses were not clearly defined. This is just rectifying the omission so there's clarity and people understand that this is a different type of use provided across the city.

There being no further questions or comments, Councilor Sciarra called the motion to a vote, and it passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call.

See minutes of May 21, 2020 for second reading.

<p><u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) & Study Requests</u></p>	<p><u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) and Information Study Requests</u> None</p>
<p><u>Motion to Adjourn</u></p>	<p>Councilor Dwight moved to adjourn. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.</p> <p>Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council</p>

EXHIBIT A

List of Documents Reviewed at May 7, 2020 Northampton City Council Meeting:

1. May 7, 2020 Agenda
2. City Council Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2020
3. 20.047 National Grid/Verizon New England Pole Petition for Fox Farms Road (Petition #29597581)
4. Memo from Felix Harvey, Staff Civil Engineer, to DPW Director Donna LaScaleia dated May 4, 2020 re: Petition for Joint National Grid/Verizon New Pole Locations No. 29597581
5. 20.045 A Resolution Denouncing Anti-Asian, Anti-Asian American and Xenophobic Discrimination
6. R-20.051 A Resolution in Support of Expanded Absentee Voting and Vote by Mail
7. 20.050 Appointment of Jonathan Flagg as Building Commissioner – Memo from Mayor David J. Narkewicz to Northampton City Council dated May 5, 2020 re: Appointment of Building Commissioner proposing the appointment of Jonathan Flagg as Building Commissioner
8. 20.049 An Order for FY2020 Budget Transfers
9. 20.043 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Federal Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement
10. 20.046 An Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Resilience Hub
11. 20.037 An Ordinance Relative to Essential Services and Municipal Facilities

2020 - 2021 ROLL CALL RECORD FOR NORTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL											
Record of City Council Votes for May 7, 2020		Dwight	Foster	Jarrett	LaBarge	Maiore	Nash	Quinlan	Sciarra	Thorpe	Total
Roll Call by Laura Krutzler, Administrative Assistant to the City Council @ 7:17 p.m.		Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	9 Present
R-20.045 A Resolution Denouncing Anti-Asian, Anti-Asian American and Xenophobic Discrimination - 2nd reading	2nd reading	Motion to Approve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote
R-20.051 A Resolution in Support of Expanded Absentee Voting and Vote by Mail - 1st reading	1st reading	Motion to Approve	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote
	Suspend Rules to Allow 2nd	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion to Suspend	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote
	2nd reading	Motion to Approve	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 8:0, (Councilor Foster absent); roll call
Approval of Consent Agenda		Motion to Approve	Absent	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 8:0, (Councilor Foster absent); roll call
FINANCE COMMITTEE											
Approval of April 16, 2020 Finance Committee Minutes					Yes			Motion to Approve	Yes	Second Yes	4 Yes, 0 No; roll call
20.049 An Order for FY2020 Budget Transfers					Motion to Approve			Yes	Yes	Second Yes	4 Yes, 0 No; roll call
ADJOURN FINANCE					Motion to Approve			Second Yes	Yes	Yes	4 Yes, 0 No; roll call
RESUME CITY COUNCIL MEETING											
20.049 An Order for FY2020 Budget Transfers - 1st reading	1st reading	Motion to Approve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote
20.043 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Federal Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement - 2nd reading	2nd reading	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Motion to Approve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote
20.046 An Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Resilience Hub - 2nd reading	2nd reading	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion to Approve	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote
20.037 An Ordinance Relative to Essential Services and Municipal Facilities - 1st reading	1st reading	Motion to Approve	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote
Motion to Adjourn	Motion to Adjourn	Motion to Approve	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 9:0; roll call vote

At 8:42 p.m., Councilor Dwight moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Jarrett seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 9 Yes, 0 No.