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City of Amesbury
Office of the City Clerk
62 Friend St.
Amesbury, MA 01913

MEETING NOTICE

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 30A §§18-25
Version 7.1.10

City Council Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, May 14, 2024
City Hall Auditorium- 62 Friend St.
7:00 PM

The public can view this meeting:

- In person
- ACTV Channel 6
- the ACTV website: <https://www.amesburycvtv.org/public-government-access-television>
- or the ACTV Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/AmesburyCommunityTelevision

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Redfern
3. Roll Call
4. Act on Minutes- April 23, 2024
5. Mayoral Appointments

2024-064 Appointment of Brittany Steingesser to the position of member of the Energy Committee for a term to expire February 28, 2027

2024-069 Appointment of Rachel Wallace to the position of member of the Amesbury Cultural Council for a term to expire February 28, 2027

2024-070 Appointment of Jamie McCarthy to the position of member of the Amesbury Conservation Commission for a term to expire February 28, 2027

2024-071 Reappointment of John Moynihan to the position of member of the Amesbury Cultural Council for a term to expire February 28, 2027

6. Monthly list of licenses
7. Correspondence
- President/Vice President Communications

· Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions

Memo from Mayor Gove – Donations Under \$5,000

2024-001 An order to adopt operating budget for FY25 – **Mayor Sponsor**

· Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports

8. Public Comment- Public comment can be done in person during the meeting, or by emailing your comments to clerk@amesburyma.gov by 12:00 p.m. the Friday before the Council meeting, per City Council Rule 5G. Subject line PUBLIC COMMENT. Your comments will be read aloud at the appropriate time in the agenda and entered into the public record.

9. Council Response to Public Comment

10. Second Readings

2024-055 An order to increase the monthly stipend of the Retirement Board members to \$375 and to establish a \$250.00 stipend for the City Treasurer - **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: The City of Amesbury has its own retirement system that is governed by a five-member Board and led by a full-time Retirement Board Administrator who are responsible for overseeing 260 retirees and 300 active members as well as the investment of a portfolio of over \$70,000,000. The Retirement Board is required to complete annual qualifications and educational training to maintain certification, and Board members have received a monthly stipend of \$250.00 since 1999. Additionally, the City's Treasurer is responsible for recording the monthly bank statements and signing off on investments for the Amesbury Retirement Board and is not currently compensated for the additional duties. This order is a request to the City Council to approve the increase of the Retirement Board members monthly stipend from the 1999 established rate of \$250.00 to \$375.00 and to establish a monthly stipend in the amount of \$250.00 for the City's Treasurer who doubles as the Treasurer for the Amesbury Retirement Board.

2024-058 An Order of the Amesbury City Council to approve and accept a Preservation Restriction Agreement on property located at 6 Center Street, Amesbury, and to authorize the mayor to execute said Preservation Restriction Agreement on behalf of the City of Amesbury – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: The Amesbury Planning Board approved an Application for Site Plan Review and Special Permit for the property located at 6 Center Street, Amesbury on February 27, 2023 (said approval is recorded with the Essex South Registry of Deeds in Book 41786 Page 033.) The Planning Board required that a historic preservation restriction be prepared and recorded for the building and site, identified on the Assessors Database as Map 40, Lot 123 and described in a deed recorded with said Registry in Book 40908, Page 248. This historic structure was owned by George W. Osgood and built around c. 1904. The intent of this Order is to obtain the authorization of the City Council to acquire the historic preservation restriction and authorize the mayor to accept the historic preservation restriction.

2024-061 An Order to accept 2022 Economic Development Bill Earmark- \$150000 - **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This funding was requested and earmarked by Amesbury's state legislative delegation in the 2022 Economic Development Bill, stating "not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the city of Amesbury for improvements to urban pedestrian spaces." The city of Amesbury will use the Improvements to Urban Pedestrian Spaces Economic Development Earmark to extend the brick sidewalk from its current terminus along Market Street just outside of Market Square approximately 210 feet and complete the project replacing an additional 70 feet of concrete walk on the same side of the street about 225 feet from Market Square.

2024-062 An Order to accept and expend FY25-FY27 grant for public health shared services-**Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: The Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health is issuing a 3-year contract to the City of Amesbury for Public Health Excellence for Shared Services Grant in the amount of \$486,497.32 for each of the 3 years of the contract for the PHE program (FY25-FY27). Participation in this program was approved by the City Council on June 27, 2023 with Bill No. 2023-061. Amesbury will continue to serve as the lead municipality with the group consisting of Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, and West Newbury.

2024-063 An Order to accept FY24 earmark- pedestrian bridges- \$12500- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This funding was requested and earmarked by Amesbury's state legislative delegation in the FY24 Budget for "the replacement and reconstruction of 2 pedestrian bridges in the upper millyard and downtown business district of the city of Amesbury." This appropriation was originally in the amount of \$25,000.00 but was reduced by 50% mid-fiscal year under the Governor's authority (Section 9C of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws). We will utilize this reduced funding for engineering services for inspection and initial structural assessment of these bridges. This assessment will assist us with planning and budgeting for future replacement and reconstruction of these bridges.

11. First Readings

2024-001 An order to adopt operating budget for FY25 – **Mayor Sponsor**

AO 2024-03 Sustainability and Conservation Planner Office of Community and Economic Development – **Mayor Sponsor**

2024-065 An Ordinance to Amend the Amesbury Zoning Map to extend the R-40 Zoning District along Haverhill Road – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This zoning ordinance extends the R-40 Zoning District along Haverhill Road to remove a portion of Map 85-60 (78 Haverhill Road) and the entirety of Map 85-59 (80 Haverhill Road) from the Commercial Zoning District.

2024-066 An Ordinance to Amend the Amesbury Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Overlay District Map to make changes to the Amesbury Gateway Village Smart Growth Overlay District (AGV-SGOD) - **Mayor Gove, Councilors Corcoran, Frederique, Gilday and Redfern Sponsors**

Summary: This zoning amendment proposes to make certain changes to the existing Sub-Districts Map, Permitted Uses, Dimensional and Density Requirements, Building Design standards within the AGV-SGOD and make changes consistent with these changes to the AGV-SGOD sub-districts on Zoning Overlay District Map.

2024-067 An Order to approve payment from the FY24 general fund operating budget for the below listed prior year invoices - **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: The below listed invoices are for operating expenses related to supplies or services rendered in FY23 but for which funds were not encumbered by the corresponding city department at fiscal year-end. This order requests payment be made to the listed vendors from the corresponding department's current year (FY24) operating budget in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44 s. 64. This vote requires a two thirds approval of the City Council.

2024-068 An Order to establish spending limits for departmental revolving funds pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, Section 53E ½ - **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order proposes to establish spending limits for departmental revolving funds pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, Section 53E ½ for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024.

12. Late Files

2024-072 Resolution-Older Americans Month Resolution- Emily Zarraga – **Mayor Gove, Councilors Wheeler, Gilday and Rinaldi Sponsors**

13. Adjourn