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

City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 24, 2025
City Hall Auditorium- 62 Friend St.
7:00 PM

President Mandeville called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Gilday

Roll was called, and present were: Councilor Pamela Gilday, Councilor Nick Wheeler, Councilor Amanda Haggstrom, Councilor Michael Hogg, Councilor Jessica Redfern, Councilor Steve Stanganelli, and President Scott Mandeville

Absent: Councilor Claudel Frederique and Councilor Anthony Rinaldi

Also Present: City Clerk Jennifer Smith, Administrative Assistant Allie Connolly, Chief of Staff Ann Marie Casey, DPW Director Joe Buckey, OCED Director Nick Cracknell, Senior Project Manager Howard Snyder, and Planning Director Nipun Jain

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Act on Minutes – None  
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Mayoral Appointments –None  
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Monthly list of licenses –

**Councilor Stanganelli moved to approve the license list for June 24, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg, which passed unanimously (7-0).**  
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Correspondence

President/Vice President Communications

- President Mandeville – Informed the audience that there would be a special virtual City Council Meeting next Tuesday July 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss a time sensitive resolution for a grant to improve the skate park.
- Vice President Gilday- Shared she has been working on a Clerk Ad-hoc Subcommittee but due to the heat she will wait to share more on this till a later date.

Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions

**Councilor Gilday made a motion to postpone the DPW presentation on the Powwow Weir to the July 8<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and passed 6-1 with Councilor Stanganelli abstaining.**

Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports

- Councilor Redfern gave an update on the Woodsom Farm area nesting birds, she stated that signs had been put up asking residents to stay exclusively on the trails.

- Councilor Stanganelli stated he was hoping to schedule the Ad hoc Budget Committee of the Whole Meeting for Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup> but is aware there may be some conflicts with Amesbury Days activities. Discussion followed and there would not be a quorum for this Thursday so it was decided that this meeting would be rescheduled.

\*\*\*\*Councilor Rinaldi joined the meeting at 7:11\*\*\*\*

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Public Comment-

- Councilor Mandeville opened public comment at 7:11
 - David Conway (15 Lafayette St.) spoke against 2025-045.
 - Marie Packer (14 Lafayette St.) spoke against 2025-045.
 - Councilor Mandeville closed public comment at 7:15
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Second Readings –

2025-045 An Ordinance to establish No Parking on Lafayette Street median strip – request by resident –
Councilor Gilday Sponsor

- Councilor Gilday shared a brief overview of 2025-045 and shared her email exchange with the resident who requested this. Councilor Gilday stated she is not in favor of passing this and based on public comment at O&A and P&D the neighbors are also not in favor of this passing.
- Councilor Haggstrom shared the negative recommendation from P&D.
- Councilor Gilday shared the negative recommendation from O&A.

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to reject 2025-045. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed 8-0.

2025-046 - An Order for the City to place Go Slow Children signage at the stop signs at the top of Riverfront Drive – request by resident – **Councilor Gilday Sponsor**

- Councilor Haggstrom shared the positive recommendation from P&D.
- Councilor Gilday shared a brief overview of 2025-046.
- Discussion followed about changing the language on the Amesbury website regarding how residents can advocate for traffic and transportation issues.

Councilor Stanganelli made a motion to continue 2025-046 to the July 8th City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and passed 8-0.

2025-053 An Order to Accept an Easement at 12 Elizabeth Street-**Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to continue 2025-053 to the July 22nd City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed 8-0.

**** Councilor Gilday made a motion to take 2025-054 out of order, Councilor Haggstrom seconded the motion, and it passed 8-0****

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Public Hearings-

**2025-054 – Public Hearing** - An Ordinance to amend Wetlands and Floodplain protection regulations per NFIP regulations-**Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Mandeville opened the public hearing at 7:41.
- Councilor Mandeville closed the public hearing at 7:45.
- Councilor Gilday shared the positive recommendation from O&A which included edits from Councilor Wheeler and Attorney Raffa.
- Councilor Haggstrom shared the positive recommendation of the June 18th redline version of 2025-054 from P&D.
- Planning Director Nipun Jain shared the positive recommendations from the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission.

- Councilor Wheeler thanked Nipun for the edits he sent over, he still questioned the use of numerals versus letters for the formatting of the document.
- Councilor Wheeler made a motion to accept the June 18<sup>th</sup> redline version of 2025-054, The motion was seconded by Councilor Gilday and passed 8-0.

**Councilor Wheeler made a motion to approve 2025-054. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed 8-0.**

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**\*\*Councilor Haggstrom made a motion to approve 2025-060, 2025-063, 2025-068, and 2025-071 as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed 8-0.**

**2025-060** An Order to request the City Council vote to authorize the Mayor to enter into five-year or less lease purchase agreements for new copiers.

**2025-063** An Order that pursuant to G.L. c. 44B, the Community Preservation Act, the following amounts be reserved from the FY2025 estimated annual revenues of the Community Preservation Fund: \$47,224 to the Community Housing Reserve, \$47,224 to the Historic Resources Reserve, and \$47,224 to the Open Space and Recreation Reserve.

Further ordered, that the remaining FY2025 estimated revenues be placed in the Community Preservation Fund Unreserved Balance, to be used for future appropriations in accordance with the purposes of the Act. These funds shall remain in their respective accounts until expended for eligible purposes upon future appropriation by vote of the City Council. – **Mayor Sponsor**

**2025-068** An Order to authorize the Mayor to enter into a renewal of the inter-municipal agreement for an additional one-year period beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 with the Town of Salisbury for the provision of regional animal control services. - **Mayor Sponsor**

**2025-071** An Order to appropriate \$122,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings for the purpose of funding fiscal year 2025 operating expenditures listed below- **Mayor Sponsor**

**Summary:** This order proposes to appropriate \$122,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings for the purpose of funding the following operating expenditures in fiscal year 2025.

**2025-064** An Order that pursuant to G.L. c. 44B, the Community Preservation Act, the following amounts be reserved from the FY2026 estimated annual revenues of the Community Preservation Fund, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee: \$56,488 to the Community Housing Reserve, \$56,488 to the Historic Resources Reserve, and \$56,488 to the Open Space and Recreation Reserve. These funds are reserved for future appropriation in accordance with the requirements of the Community Preservation Act and shall remain in their respective reserve accounts until expended for eligible purposes by further vote of the City Council.

Further ordered, that the sum of \$28,244 be appropriated from the FY2026 CPA estimated revenues to the Community Preservation Committee Administrative account, to be expended under the direction of the CPC for administrative and operational expenses related to implementation of the Act. – **Mayor**

**Sponsor**

- Councilor Stanganelli shared the positive recommendation from B&F.
- Senior Project Manager Howard Snyder was present to answer any questions.
- Councilor Wheeler asked a question regarding the last sentence of the enacting language, he stated there was a difference in how this was written last year. Howard answered that he asked Chief Financial Officer Marisa Batista about this, and she clarified there was no issue.

**Councilor Haggstrom made a motion to approve 2025-064. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed 8-0.**

**2025-069** An Order to appropriate \$449,940.23 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding fiscal year 2025 Snow & Ice expenditures in excess of appropriation. -**Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Stanganelli shared the positive recommendation from B &F.
- Councilor Wheeler asked what the current free cash balance was. Chief of Staff Ann Marie Casey answered that she would follow up tomorrow with an exact number.

**Councilor Hogg made a motion to approve 2025-069. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed 8-0.**

**2025-070** An Order to authorize inter-departmental transfers of general fund appropriations in accordance with MGL c.44 Section 33B. -**Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Stanganelli shared the positive recommendation from B & F.
- Councilor Wheeler made a motion to substitute the June 4<sup>th</sup> redline version of 2025-070. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gilday and passed 8-0.

**Councilor Wheeler made a motion to approve 2025-070. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed 8-0.**

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First Readings – None

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Late Files-

**\*\*Councilor Stanganelli made a motion to suspend the rules and accept the two late files. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed 8-0. \*\***

**2025-074** An Order to establish a Crosswalk at Merrimack River Condominiums- **Councilors Gilday and Stanganelli Sponsors**

**Summary:** The Amesbury City Council orders that the city create a crosswalk at or near 31 Merrimack Street for the purpose of increasing safety for people crossing between the Merrimack River Condominiums housing units on one side of the street and their condominium parking lot on the other.

- Councilor Gilday made a motion to refer 2025-074 to O&A and P&D. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom.

**Councilor Wheeler made a motion to amend the motion to refer 2025-074 to O&A and P&D with a second reading set for the July 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council Meeting. Councilor Haggstrom seconded the motion, and it passed 8-0.**

**2025-075** A Resolution in Support of LGBTQ+ Pride Month- **Councilors Stanganelli, Frederique, and Rinaldi Sponsors**

**Summary:** A Resolution recognizing the Observance of June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month and requesting that the City Administration officially recognize the observance-

**Councilor Wheeler made a motion to approve 2025-075 as presented. Councilor Rinaldi seconded the motion, and it passed 8-0.**

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Adjourn-

Councilor Stanganelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed (8-0) The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Allie Connolly