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City of Amesbury
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62 Friend St.
Amesbury, MA 01913

City Council Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, October 14, 2025
7:00 PM**

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<https://www.amesburyma.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/403>

The recording of this meeting can be viewed here:

<https://amesburycvtv.org>

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Councilor Gilday.

Councilor Hogg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken, and present were Councilor Hogg, Councilor Redfern, Councilor Rinaldi, Councilor Stanganelli, Councilor Wheeler, Councilor Frederique, Councilor Haggstrom, and Councilor Gilday. Absent was President Mandeville.

Act on Minutes- None

Mayoral Appointments

2025-100 Appointment of Jennifer Welter to the position of alternate member of the Historic Commission for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Councilor Haggstrom noted that there was a mistake in the agenda and that it should state that this appointment is for an alternate member position
- Ms. Welter spoke to her desire to fill the position.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve 2025-100 as presented. Councilor Redfern seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-101 Appointment of Kendra Amaral to the position of associate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Ms. Amaral spoke to her desire to fill the position
- City Clerk Jennifer Smith noted that this position is for associate member and that it is incorrect on the agenda.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve 2025-101 as presented. Councilor Rinaldi seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-103 Appointment of Peter Frey to the position of member of the Community Preservation Committee for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Mr. Frey spoke to his desire to fill the position.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to approve 2025-103 as presented. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Councilor Gilday called for a brief recess at 7:14 PM.

The meeting resumed at 7:23 PM.

Monthly list of licenses –October

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to approve the October list of licenses. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Correspondence

· President/Vice President Communications

- Councilor Gilday shared that the clerk's office is short staffed and will have some closures. City Clerk Jennifer Smith noted that the office will be closed for lunch.
- Councilor Gilday mentioned the election on November 4th.
- Councilor Gilday mentioned the upcoming City Hall move and a greeting event following the Santa Parade.
- Councilor Gilday stated that the Open Studio Tour and Village of Church Fairs will both take place on November 8th.
- Councilor Gilday noted that the November meetings for the City Council are posted and that there may be a necessity to hold a special meeting in December.

-Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions

- Mayor Gove discussed the Special Events process and made a request for a council representative.

2025-102 Warrant for November 4, 2025 Municipal Election

- Councilor Gilday read the warrant.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve 2025-102 as presented. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports

None

Public Comment

- Lisette Espinoza, 2 Boardman Street, spoke to her desire for the council to support a resolution for teachers.

Council Response to Public Comment- None

Second Readings

2025-082 An Order authorizing the Mayor to dispose of, by sale or lease, all or a portion or portions of City-owned property and any structures thereon consisting of approximately 4 +/- acres (180,000 SF +/-), which is a portion of the 14 acre +/- City-owned property located at 24 South Hampton Road (Parcel 26-4, formerly the site of the Amesbury Elementary School) as shown on Exhibit 1.- **Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Hogg asked if his revision should replace the last revision. Councilor Gilday stated that it has not been discussed.
- Councilor Hogg shared the background behind his amendments.
- OCED Director Nick Cracknell provided further clarity on the amendments.
- Councilor Wheeler shared that he is in favor of proposal and questioned the difference between both documents. City Clerk Jennifer Smith clarified that the second document came as a communication and not a revision.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to substitute 2025-082 with the October 12, 2025 version. Councilor Haggstrom seconded.

- Councilor Stanganelli shared his support for the substitution.
- Councilor Gilday and Mayor Gove discussed the need for flexibility.

After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to approve 2025-082 as amended. Councilor Stanganelli seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

First Readings

2025-104 An Order to appropriate from the General Stabilization Fund and the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Fund to balance the fiscal year 2026 budget.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Gilday read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler referred 2025-104 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on October 28, 2025. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-105 An Order to transfer \$10,000 from the Assessors Department Salaries & Wages and \$35,000 from Salary Reserve account to Assessors Department Other Expenses.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-105 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on October 28, 2025. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-106 An Order to approve payment from the FY26 general fund operating budget for the below listed prior year invoices.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-106 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on October 28, 2025. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed 8-0.

2025-107 An Order to authorize a transfer of \$5,900.00 from the FY26 Budget Reserve account to Building Inspections Consulting.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-107 to the Budget and Finance Committee. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-108 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grants and Research Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-108 to the Budget and Finance Committee. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-109 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$34,967.00 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grants and Research FY26 Municipal Road Safety (MRS) Grant Program.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Frederique offered a motion to refer 2025-109 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on October 28, 2025. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-110 An Ordinance to amend the Amesbury Code of Ordinances by adding a new Chapter titled "Chapter 230. Buildings, Permitting of" and to adopt a Schedule of Fees.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-110 to the Ordinance and Administration Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on October 28, 2025. Councilor Rinaldi seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

2025-111 An Ordinance to amend Amesbury Code of Ordinances Article I City Clerk/Clerk to Municipal Council § 132-7.1 City Clerk Fee Schedule.- Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-111 to the Ordinance and Administration Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on October 28, 2025. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Late Files

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to waive rule 5D and accept the late files. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed 7-1, Councilor Stanganelli opposed.

2025-112 An Ordinance to update and amend the City of Amesbury Solid Waste Ordinance Chapter 392 to add a new section entitled Article III Delivery and Emptying of Dumpsters.- Councilor Gilday and Councilor Haggstrom Sponsors

- Councilor Gilday read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-112 to the Ordinance and Administration Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on October 28, 2025. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed 7-0-1, Councilor Stanganelli abstained.

2025-113 An Ordinance to update and amend the City of Amesbury Traffic and Parking Regulations SCHEDULE I PARKING (PERMIT PARKING) to be renamed as SCHEDULE 1 PARKING (PERMIT/RESTRICTED PARKING), update the current schedule to reflect the updated permitted and

restricted status of each municipal lot, and update ARTICLE XIII- PENALTIES AND FINES SCHEDULE to include fees for parking permit violations for residential and commercial vehicles.-Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Gilday read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-113 to the Ordinance and Administration Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, and Planning and Development Committee with a second hearing on October 28, 2025. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to adjourn at 8:25 PM. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmine Looney

November 12, 2025