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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, February 25, 2025
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.amesburyctv.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- February 11, 2025
5. Mayoral Appointments

2025-022 Appointment of Michael Fallon to the position of member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire February 28, 2027

2025-023 Appointment of Catherine Rymsha to the position of member of the Cemetery Commission 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
 - Mayor to present financial condition to City Council
- 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

2025-011 An Order to request the City Council to vote to declare as surplus various municipal vehicles and equipment – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order will authorize the surplus of the following vehicles belonging to the Fire Department and the Department of Public Works:

2025-012 An Order to request the City Council vote to authorize the Mayor to enter into five-year or less lease purchase Agreements for a new copier.- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: The City seeks to enter into a five-year or less lease purchase agreement replacing an old 5-year copier with next generation new equipment at State Bid List pricing. This replacement copier contract will be for 48 months at \$207.20/month, and it is for the copier located at 68 Elm St. for the use of all city departments at that location.

2025-013 An Order to transfer \$4,550.00 from Conservation Commission Personal Services to Conservation Commission Other Expenses.- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order requests a budget transfer in the amount of \$4,550.00 from Conservation Commission Salaries & Wages to Conservation Commission Consulting to cover the cost of a consultant to provide professional services while the City onboards and trains a new Sustainability & Conservation Planner.

2025-014 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$18,989.00 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the Department of Fire Services (DFS) FY 2025 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program.- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: These grant funds will be used to purchase the following approved firefighter safety equipment: Boots, Leather (Structural), Coat (Structural), Pants & Suspenders (Structural)

2025-015 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a FY25 Legislative Earmark Grant Award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$50,000.00 for lighting improvements in the downtown region of the city. – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This funding was requested and earmarked by Amesbury's state legislative delegation in the FY25 Budget for "lighting improvements in the downtown region of the city." We will utilize this earmark to hire Amesbury-based business Beautification Through Illumination to complete the Upper Millyard Falls Lighting Project. The project includes removal of original lighting fixtures and disposal, equipment rental and police detail, installation, programming, materials and permitting.

2025-016 An Order to authorize the Mayor to enter into an intermunicipal agreement pursuant to the provisions of MGL CH.40 § 4A for the provisions of participation in the Public Health Excellence (PHE) for Shared Services Grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health. – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order will authorize the Mayor to enter into an intermunicipal agreement pursuant to the provisions of MGL CH.40 § 4A for the provisions of participation in the Public Health Excellence (PHE) for Shared Services Grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health. Participation in this program was approved by the City Council on June 27, 2023 with Bill No. 2023-061, and the FY25-FY27 grant allocation was accepted by City Council on May 28, 2024 with Bill No. 2024-062. Amesbury serves as the lead municipality with the group consisting of Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, and Rowley.

2025-018 An Ordinance to amend Amesbury Code of Ordinances Chapter 20, Budget and Finance, Article V, Revolving Funds, § 20-24 Establishment of Revolving Funds to amend departmental revolving funds pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E1/2. – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This bill proposes to amend the Program/Purpose and Departmental Receipts for the Youth activities and programs revolving fund to include usage fees for community use of City-owned facilities (Bill No. 2024-163) pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, §53E1/2, as most recently amended. Additionally, this ordinance clarifies the departmental purposes or programs for all existing revolving funds including the departmental purposes or programs for which said funds may be expended, the entity authorized to expend from said funds, and the departmental receipts to be credited to said funds. Such departmental revolving funds will be subject to limitations established annually by the City Council or any increase therein as may be authorized in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E1/2.

2025-019 An Order to appropriate \$332,200.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses. – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order requests an appropriation from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses to cover the cost of purchasing four (4) new vehicles for the Sewer Department. This purchase will also include the vehicles' branding design. The current Sewer Retained Earnings balance is \$1,576,981.00.

2025-020 An Order to appropriate \$120,000.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses. – **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order requests an appropriation from the Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses (account number 620 0440 5258 00- Lift Station-Operation & Maint) to cover the cost of expensive un-budgeted, grinder pump repairs relative to the existing Lake Attitash sewer project (circa 1985). Repairs are averaging between \$20,000-\$30,000 each, and the City has had to repair four this fiscal year so far. The loss of service and environmental concern is substantial. Maintaining sanitary conditions in effected residents' homes and protection of our drinking water is paramount. The current Sewer Retained Earnings balance is \$1,576,981.00.

Public Hearings - None

11. First Readings - None

12. Late Files

2025-024 A Resolution Requesting that the State Legislature Revisit and Revise the Chapter 70 Funding Formula to Improve Its Funding Equity Across All Public School Districts.

Summary: This resolution seeks to improve Chapter 70 funding equity across all public school districts in the state of Massachusetts by requesting that the state legislature begin the process of investigating funding deficiencies and flaws in the current Chapter 70 formula, including in the Student Opportunity Act, and revisit and revise the Chapter 70 funding formula to make meaningful, equitable, and positive funding changes to benefit all public school districts state-wide.

12. Adjourn