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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, October 14, 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.amesburycvtv.org/public-government-access-television>
- or the ACTV Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/AmesburyCommunityTelevision

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Hogg
3. Roll Call
4. Act on Minutes- None at this time
5. Mayoral Appointments

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

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

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

6. Monthly list of licenses –October

7. Correspondence

- President/Vice President Communications
- Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions
- Mayor Gove - Special Events discussion

2025-102 Warrant for November 4, 2025 Municipal Election

· 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

2025-082 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**

Summary: As part of a land use and redevelopment assessment process administered by the Office of Community and Economic Development, the Mayor is requesting authorization to dispose of a 4-acre +/- portion or portions of the City-owned parcel located at 24 South Hampton Road in accordance with the requirements of G.L. c. 30B, sec. 16, to enable the creation of no more than thirty-six (36) dwelling units on approximately 4 acres +/- of the property and one (1) single-family dwelling unit on approximately 13,000 SF +/- of the property fronting along Rowell Street (as shown on Exhibit 1). The remaining property (10 acres +/-) will be retained by the City for use related but not limited to public park, drainage infrastructure, and/or other general municipal use(s) as needed. The disposition of all or a portion or portions of the 4 +/- acre portion of the property referenced herein will remove the obligation of maintenance and substantial demolition costs, limit liability of the City for that portion of the property, provide needed housing opportunities, place this portion of the property on the tax rolls, and provide the City with direct sale revenue. The selected developer(s) of the portion or portions of the property will be solely responsible for the design, permitting, and subdivision of the property as well as for the demolition, disposal, and redevelopment of the former Amesbury Elementary School facility. The redevelopment project will be subject to permitting by the Amesbury Planning Board under a Planned Unit Development - Special Permit (PUD-SP) and such plans shall be in substantial compliance with the conceptual building and site plan shown as attached in Exhibits 1 and 2. The property is also proposed to be rezoned to "R-8" to match the abutting zoning district. The R-8 zoning district allows for single- and two-family uses as well as multi-family uses under the PUD-SP. Additionally, the selected developer will be required to comply with the affordability requirements of the Zoning Ordinance.

2025-083 An Ordinance to Amend the Amesbury Zoning Map to rezone two (2) portions of 24 South Hampton Road (the former Amesbury Elementary School) from the OSC to the R-8 Zoning District-**Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This zoning amendment seeks to rezone two (2) portions of the city-owned property (formerly the Amesbury Elementary School) located at 24 South Hampton Road (Map 26 - Lot 4), from Open Space Conservancy (OSC) to Residential – 8,000 SF (R-8). As shown on Exhibit 1, the existing property is within the OSC Zoning District. As shown on Exhibit 2, the two portions to be rezoned from OSC to R-8 are as follows: "Portion A" is approximately 4 +/- acres (180,000 SF +/-) with 475 feet of frontage on South Hampton Road and extending approximately 350' front South Hampton Road. "Portion B" is approximately .3 acres (13,000 SF +/-) with 90 feet of frontage on Rowell Street and extending approximately 125' from Rowell Street.

a. Public Hearings

11. 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**

Summary: This order appropriates \$200,000 from the General Stabilization fund and \$200,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Fund to balance the fiscal year 2026 budget.

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**

Summary: This order requests a budget transfer in the amount of \$45,000 from the Assessors Department Salaries & Wages and Salary Reserve to the Assessors Department Other Expenses for consulting services during transition/hiring of new Chief Assessor.

2025-106 An Order to approve payment from the FY26 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 prior fiscal years 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 (FY25) operating budget in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44 s. 64. This vote requires a two thirds approval of the City Council.

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

Summary: This order requests a budget transfer in the amount of \$5,900.00 from the FY26 Budget Reserve account to Building Inspections Consulting to pay a FY25 invoice for a 3rd party consultant that provided code consulting services to the Inspectional Services Department for the Munters project.

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**

Summary: This grant award will be used to purchase additional portable radios for the command staff and patrol forces, specifically two dual band radios valued at \$16,000 and one single band radio valued at \$4,000. This new equipment will allow for greater communication capabilities and ultimately help the Amesbury Police Department meet state mandated communication requirements.

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**

Summary: This grant award will be used to fund traffic enforcement. This funding will allow the Police Department to increase the number of hours spent conducting selective enforcement to combat the most problematic areas, which include distracted drivers, impaired driving, and speeding. This is a cost reimbursement grant program with an end date of September 15, 2026.

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**

Summary: The Office of Inspectional Services currently maintains a Schedule of Fees that was last updated in 2011, and it is lower than many neighboring communities. This creates both a revenue shortfall and a potential imbalance in how municipal services are funded. Raising fees (all building/plumbing/gas/electric) to align with comparable communities would ensure that Amesbury can adequately fund inspections, staffing, and administrative services, while maintaining fairness and competitiveness with surrounding communities. Through a comparative analysis of area communities' building and solar permit fees as well as reviewing the November 2021 Comprehensive Review of Municipal Fees by the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management, the Inspectional Services Department has provided the attached recommended Permit Fees.

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**

Summary: The City of Amesbury recently updated the City Clerk Fee Schedule per Bill No. 2022-040. Prior to that time, the Fee Schedule had not been updated since 2008, per Bill No. 2008-071.

12. Late Files

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**

Summary: This ordinance will update Chapter 392 Solid Waste in the City Ordinances to create a new section for the delivery and emptying of solid waste dumpsters to specify an allowed time range, fine structure, and enforcement authority specifically for dumpster delivery and emptying on personal, business, commercial, and retail properties.

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**

Summary: This ordinance will update the traffic and Parking Regulations adopted in Bill No. 2015-077 and subsequently amended in Bill No. 2015-081, Bill No. 2019-074, Bill No. 2022-059, Bill No. 2022-181, Bill No. 2023-100, Bill No. 2023-101, Bill No. 2024-140, Bill No. 2024-141, Bill No. 2024-142, Bill No. 2024-143, Bill No. 2024-148, Bill No. 2025-090 and Bill No. 2025-091 and will amend the Amesbury Municipal Code to revise the SCHEDULE I PARKING (PERMIT PARKING) to be renamed SCHEDULE I PARKING (PERMIT/RESTRICTED PARKING), update the schedule to reflect the 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.

13. Adjourn