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City of Amesbury
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62 Friend St.
Amesbury, MA 01913

City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 13, 2025
City Hall Auditorium- 62 Friend St.
7:00 PM

President Mandeville called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Gilday

Roll was called, and present were: Councilor Claudel Frederique, Councilor Pamela Gilday, Councilor Amanda Haggstrom, Councilor Michael Hogg, Councilor Jessica Redfern, Councilor Anthony Rinaldi, Councilor Steve Stanganelli, and President Scott Mandeville

Absent: Councilor Nick Wheeler

Also Present: City Clerk Jennifer Smith, Assistant City Clerk Jess Manning, Mayor Kassandra Gove, Chief of Staff Ann Marie Casey, CFO Marisa Batista

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Act on Minutes – April 22, 2025

**Councilor Gilday moved to approve the minutes from April 22, 2025 with minor corrections to the time of adjournment. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed 6-0-1 with Councilor Hogg abstaining.**

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Mayoral Appointments - None

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Monthly list of licenses – May 13

**Councilor Gilday moved to approve the license list for May 13, 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 the budget is going to be presented at tonight's meeting, and subsequent hearings will be held on May 15, 20, 21, and 28, with full deliberations held on June 3 with the goal of referring it back to the full City Council for final approval on June 10.

· Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions

- Tracy Chalifour – talked about the lack of an approved master plan.

****Councilor Stanganelli joined the meeting at 7:19 PM****

- Mayor Kassandra Gove and CFO Marisa Batista presented the FY26 budget

****President Mandeville took a 5-minute recess at 8:36 PM, returning at 8:43 PM****

· Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports
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Public Comment

- Mary Agnes Chatigny (164 Elm Street) – Thanked those who worked to prepare the FY26 Budget and present it in an easily-digestible format.

Council Response

- Councilor Stanganelli requested that the FY26 Budget Book be made easily accessible on the Amesbury website.

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Public Hearings - None

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Second Readings - None

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First Readings –

Administrative Order 2025-01 Pursuant to Article VI, Section 6-1(a)(2) of the Amesbury Home Rule Charter (the “Charter”), City government is hereby reorganized by Administrative Order of the Mayor as follows: The Department of Public Wellness-**Mayor Sponsor**

- Mayor Gove provided background for the new department, which would be entirely grant-funded.

Councilor Haggstrom moved to approve Administrative Order 2025-01. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi

- Councilor Stanganelli – Asked structural questions and requested more supporting documentation. The Mayor clarified that the department will be all grant funded, does not add positions paid for out of general fund

A vote was held on the main motion, which passed 7-1.

2025-001 An Order to adopt operating budget for FY26 – **Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Gilday moved to refer 2025-001 to the Ad-Hoc City Council Budget Committee of the Whole and set second reading and public hearing for June 10, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed 7-1.

President Mandeville proclaimed the formation of the City Council Ad-Hoc Budget Committee of the Whole

Councilor Stanganelli moved that City Council approve the creation of the Ad-Hoc Budget Committee of the Whole. Motion seconded by Councilor Frederique and passed unanimously (8-0).

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

Councilor Gilday moved to refer 2025-045 to P&D and O&A. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (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 Gilday moved to refer 2025-046 to P&D. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (8-0).

2025-047 An Order to appropriate Free Cash for the purpose of funding FY26 Capital Expenditures- **Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-047 to B&F with second reading and Public Hearing on June 10. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg

****Councilor Haggstrom left the meeting at 9:15 PM****

A vote was held on the main motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

2025-048 An Order to authorize the Mayor to establish spending limits for departmental revolving funds FY26- **Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-048 to B&F with second reading on May 27. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (7-0).

2025-049 An Order to enter into a 10 year or less lease - Cardiac Monitors Police Cruisers Body Worn Cameras and Cruiser Mounted Dash Cameras- **Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-049 to B&F. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed unanimously (7-0).

2025-050 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a FY25 CCC Information Technology Grant-**Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-050 to B&F. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (7-0).

2025-051 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend FY25 SAFE and Senior SAFE grants- **Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-051 to B&F. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (7-0).

2025-052 An Order to transfer Amesbury Elementary School Property for general municipal purposes- **Mayor Sponsor**

Councilor Hogg moved to refer 2025-052 to B&F. The motion was seconded by Councilor Stanganelli and passed unanimously (7-0).

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

Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-053 to Planning Board, P&D, and O&A. The motion was seconded by Councilor Frederique and passed unanimously (7-0).

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

Councilor Gilday moved to refer 2025-054 to Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and O&A. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (7-0).

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**Councilor Stanganelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Frederique and passed unanimously (7-0).**

Respectfully submitted,

*Jess Manning*