

RECEIVED

By City Clerk at 5:07 pm, Feb 17, 2026



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

City Council Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, November 18, 2025
7:00 PM**

Follow along in the City's FY26 Budget Book here:

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

The recording of this meeting can be viewed here:

<https://amesburyctv.org>

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Councilor Gilday.

Councilor Redfern led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Act on Minutes- October 14, 2025

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve the October 14, 2025 minutes as presented. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-2, Councilors Wheeler and Frederique abstained.

Mayoral Appointments

2025-117 Appointment of Laura Schofield to the position of member of the Amesbury Cultural Council for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Ms. Schofield spoke to her desire to fill the position.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve 2025-117 as presented. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-118 Reappointment of Susan Ballard as a member of the Amesbury Council on Aging Board of Directors for a term to expire February 29, 2028

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve 2025-118 as presented. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-119 Reappointment of D.M. Kligerman-Thomas as a member of the Amesbury Council on Aging Board of Directors for a term to expire February 29, 2028

Councilor Haggstrom offered a motion to approve 2025-119 as presented. Councilor Redfern seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-120 Appointment of Craig Hird to the position of member of the Open Space, Natural Resources and Trails Committee for a term to expire February 29, 2028

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve 2025-120 as presented. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Monthly list of licenses –November

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to approve the November list of licenses. Councilor Rinaldi seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Correspondence

-President/Vice President Communications

- Councilor Gilday noted that there is an upcoming performance at the Union Congregational Church.
- Councilor Gilday noted the \$3.6 million grant that the city secured will be used for roadway improvements.
- Councilor Gilday shared that the clerk's office will be temporarily closed on Wednesdays.
- Councilor Gilday shared that the Massachusetts Municipal Association is offering a new councilor training on Friday, December 5th.

-Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions

- Emily Behn, Chair of the Board of Assessors, presented the FY26 Classification Hearing (see attached).
- Chief Financial Officer Marisa Batista shared that the presentation is based on estimated numbers.
- Councilor Gilday read a memorandum dated November 7, 2025, regarding a list of grants and gifts to the city of Amesbury in the amount of \$5,000 or less.

Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports

- Councilor Wheeler thanked the clerk's office for their hard work with the election and congratulated the newly elected councilors.
- Councilor Wheeler thanked the Improvement Association for hosting a cleanup at Alliance Park.
- Councilor Wheeler noted that a representative from the Pact Organization is looking to meet with each councilor regarding plans for next year.
- Councilor Wheeler shared that the mayor has offered to appoint him to the Whittier Tech School Building Committee after his term ends.
- Councilor Wheeler shared that an invitation was sent to councilors to walk in the parade on December 6th.
- Councilor Stanganelli thanked the clerk's office for a well-run election.
- Councilor Stanganelli spoke to the public's feelings regarding taxes.
- Councilor Gilday suggested canceling the November 25th meeting.

Public Comment

None

Council Response to Public Comment

None

Second Readings

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 noted that the bill was objected to at the previous meeting.
- City Clerk Jennifer Smith shared that a motion and a second are on the floor.
- Councilor Stanganelli shared his concerns about the lack of a noise ordinance and not hearing from businesses or the Chamber of Commerce regarding the bill.
- Councilor Haggstrom shared that this bill does not require notifying abutters.
- Councilor Gilday passed the gavel to Councilor Redfern at 7:53 PM.
- Councilor Gilday shared the rationale behind the bill.
- Councilor Redfern passed the gavel back to Councilor Gilday at 7:57 PM.
- Councilor Wheeler thanked the cosponsors and stated this bill has been overdue.

Councilor Wheeler moved the question. Councilor Haggstrom seconded.

After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

After a roll call vote, the main motion passed 6-1, Councilor Stanganelli opposed.

First Readings

2025-114 An Order to fund the employment agreement between the City of Amesbury and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Council 93, Local 939 dated July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028 – **Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Gilday read the summary.
- Councilor Gilday passed the gavel to Councilor Redfern at 8:06 PM.
- Councilor Gilday noted that bills 2025-116 and 2025-124 needed to be completed by December 2nd.
- Councilor Redfern passed the gavel back to Councilor Gilday at 8:06 PM.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to refer 2025-114 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on December 9th. Councilor Wheeler seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-115 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for FY 2026 - **Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Gilday read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-115 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading on December 9th. Councilor Rinaldi seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-116 An Order to amend Council Order 2025-001 by transferring \$98,042 from Sewer Other Expenses to Sewer Personal Services and to reduce the Sale of Cemetery Lots by \$3,000 in other revenue sources- **Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Gilday read the summary.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to refer 2025-116 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading at a special City Council meeting on December 2, 2025. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-121 An Order of the Amesbury City Council to approve the Acceptance of a Quitclaim Deed for a Parcel of Land at the 47.5-57 Kimball Road Subdivision, being a portion of property located off Kimball Road, Amesbury to be Held by the Conservation Commission and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute said Approval on Behalf of the City of Amesbury – Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Redfern read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-121 to the Ordinance and Administration Committee, the Planning and Development Committee, the Planning Board, the Open Space, Natural Resources, and Trails Committee, and the Conservation Commission (for informational purposes only) with a second reading December 9th. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-122 An Order to Vote Intent to Alter Kimball Road and Refer to Planning Board -Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Redfern read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-122 to the Planning and Development Committee, the Ordinance and Administration Committee, and the Planning Board with a second reading on December 9th. Councilor Rinaldi seconded.

- Councilor Wheeler asked if this requires us to hold a hearing. Jen said second one needs public hearing. Discussion on how to handle public hearing.

The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-123 An Order to Alter the Layout of Kimball Road and to Accept Parcel Y as shown on Definitive Subdivision of 47.5-57 Kimball Road in Amesbury, Massachusetts – Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Gilday read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-123 to the Planning and Development Committee, the Planning Board, and the Ordinance and Administration Committee with a second reading on December 9th. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Late Files

Councilor Haggstrom offered a motion to waive rule 5D to accept late file 2025-124. Councilor Wheeler seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2025-124 An Order to request the City Council vote to hold the annual Classification Hearing to vote on four (4) separate items in order to establish the tax burdens for each class of property – Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom read the summary.

Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to refer 2025-124 to the Budget and Finance Committee with a second reading and public hearing on December 2nd. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Adjourn

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to adjourn at 8:25 PM. Councilor Rinaldi seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmine Looney

December 3, 2025