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City of Amesbury
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MEETING NOTICE

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 30A §§18-25
Version 7.1.10

City Council Standing Committee of the Whole

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

6:00 p.m.

City Hall Auditorium, 62 Friend St, Amesbury MA 01913

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

Roll Call

Minutes for Approval: April 12, 2026

Public Comment

Council Response to Public Comment

Topics for Discussion

2026-086 A Resolution to adopt Housing Production Plan 2024-2029- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: The City of Amesbury, in collaboration with the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, has prepared the 2024–2029 Housing Production Plan (HPP). This strategic plan establishes goals and implementation strategies to address Amesbury's housing needs, with a focus on expanding affordable housing opportunities and encouraging a diverse range of housing types throughout the community. The five-year plan evaluates community demographics, housing demand, and development trends, and outlines specific actions to guide the City's housing efforts.

2026-092 An Order to appropriate \$513,316.36 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding fiscal year 2027 capital expenditures listed below- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order proposes to appropriate \$513,316.36 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding the following capital expenditures in fiscal year 2027.

2026-093 An Order to establish spending limits for departmental revolving funds pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, Section 53E ½.- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order proposes to establish spending limits for departmental revolving funds pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, Section 53E ½ for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.

2026-094 An Order that pursuant to G.L. c. 44B, the Community Preservation Act, the following amounts be reserved from the FY2027 estimated annual revenues of the Community Preservation Fund, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee:

\$59,427 (or amount equal to 10% estimated revenue) to the Open Space and Recreation Reserve, and

\$59,427 (or amount equal to 10% estimated revenue) to the Historic Resources Reserve, and

\$59,427 (or amount equal to 10% estimated revenue) to the Community Housing Reserve- **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order allocates FY2027 Community Preservation Act (CPA) estimated revenues in accordance with statutory requirements. Ten percent of revenues are reserved in each of the three required categories: Open Space and Recreation, Historic Resources, and Community Housing. An additional 5% is appropriated to support administrative and operational expenses of the Community Preservation Committee.

2026-095 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend two grants from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) Department of Fire Services (DFS) for the Fiscal Year 2026 Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) program in the amount of \$6,727.92 and the Senior SAFE program in the amount of \$2,859.19.-**Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: These grant funds support fire and life safety education programming for school-age children and the senior populations by trained firefighter-educators. The SAFE grant program focusses on school-age children, providing fire safety, prevention, and protection education that increases in complexity with each grade level. The Senior SAFE grants support fire, carbon monoxide, and other life safety education programs for older adults, particularly at senior centers, councils on aging, and through home visits. These programs may also include services like smoke and carbon monoxide alarm replacement, fall prevention education, and more. The SAFE grant program has been offered annually since 1995 and is associated with a 79% reduction in child fire fatalities. The Senior SAFE program, established in 2014, responds to the high number of fire-related injuries and deaths among older adults.

2026-096 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Sustainable & Resilient New England Libraries grant in the amount of \$15,000.-**Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: These grant funds will support the replacement of the temporary ramp currently serving as the main and only ADA-compliant entrance at the Amesbury Public Library. Installed in 2007 as a temporary solution, the ramp has exceeded its intended lifespan and no longer meets current code standards.

2026-097 An Order to transfer \$22,881.86 from the Greenleaf Supportive Day Revolving Fund to the Council on Aging Revolving Fund.-**Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: The Greenleaf Supportive Day Program was established in 2015 under Council Order 2015-054 as a Chapter 44, Section 53E½ revolving fund to support the Council on Aging's day program. As this program is no longer in operation, and the original order permits any remaining balance to be either transferred to another departmental revolving fund or closed to the general fund if not reauthorized, a determination is now required regarding the disposition of the funds.

2026-098 An Order to appropriate \$55,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings to the Sludge Disposal, Repair & Maintenance Other Equipment and Consulting accounts to fund an emergency wastewater treatment plant repair. - **Mayor Sponsor**

Summary: This order proposes an appropriation from Sewer Retained Earnings to fund critical repairs at the wastewater treatment facility. The wastewater treatment facility sludge processing centrifuge installed in 2003 had a significant failure on May 6, 2026. The eventual replacement of the centrifuge was identified as a major capital expense by DPW review and design is scheduled to begin in FY2026.

Adjourn