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City of Amesbury
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City Council Standing Committee of the Whole Minutes

June 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM

City Hall Auditorium, 62 Friend Street

Chair Scott Mandeville called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Roll Call was taken and present were: Councilor Pamela Gilday, Councilor Claudel Frederique, Councilor Amanda Haggstrom, Councilor Steven Stanganelli, Councilor Jessica Redfern, and Chair Scott Mandeville.

Absent: Councilor Michael Hogg, Councilor Maryann Welch, and Councilor Kelly Sullivan.

Also present: Mayor Kassandra Gove, Chief of Staff Pam Tobey, Chief of Police Craig Bailey, Fire Chief Rob Serino, Superintendent of Schools Elizabeth McAndrews, Assistant City Clerk Allie Connolly and Administrative Assistant Tommi Thavisouk.

Minutes for Approval: May 19, 2026.

- **Councilor Gilday made a motion to defer May 19, 2026 Minutes to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed unanimously, 6-0.**

Public Comment: None.

Council Response to Public Comment: None.

Topics for Discussion

2026-102 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expand a FY26 Legislative Earmark Grant Award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase soft-shell helmet covers for the Amesbury High School football team. – **Mayor Sponsor**

- Superintendent Elizabeth McAndrews was present to answer any questions.
- Councilor Gilday asked how many helmets would be ordered.
- Superintendent Elizabeth McAndrews answered, for every student athlete.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to return 2026-102 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

2026-103 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept an amendment to the FY2024 Massachusetts Seaport Economic Council grant award in the amount of \$1,199,660.00 for the Washington Landing Boat Launch Facility Restoration and Revitalization Project. – **Mayor Sponsor**

- Chief of Police Craig Bailey was present to answer any questions.
- Councilor Redfern asked how we plan to cover the difference.
- Chief Bailey responded that the monies will come from free cash.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to return 2026-103 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

2026-104 An Order to transfer the remaining HVAC Replacement Capital Account Balance for Elm Street Fire Station Floor Repair. – **Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Stanganelli asked what equipment will be stored in the Elm Street Fire Station.
- Fire Chief Rob Serino responded that there are four sectional floors where the tires of the engine and ambulance go. The plan is to repair the floor with the intent to store the engine and ambulance back in there.
- Councilor Stanganelli asked how much longer the city continue to borrow the Salisbury engine.
- Fire Chief Rob Serino responded that the city may have to return it soon, but he is working on a solution.

Councilor Haggstrom offered a motion to return 2026-104 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Redfern seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

2026-105 An Order to transfer \$2,267.04 from the SAFER Grant fund to the General Fund. – **Mayor Sponsor**

- Fire Chief Rob Serino was present to provide additional information.

Councilor Redfern offered a motion to return 2026-105 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

2026-106 An Order to accept an easement from Thomas Barrasso for the purpose of accessing, operating, maintaining, repairing and replacing drainage infrastructure on the property located at 11 East Greenwood Street, Amesbury, Massachusetts and to authorize the Mayor to execute an acceptance on behalf of the City of Amesbury. – **Mayor Sponsor**

- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey shared that she worked with legal counsel to draft an easement.
- Councilor Stanganelli asked clarifying questions.

- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey shared that plans were identified from 1992 and that the city wants to make sure everything is covered going forward and that the city has access to repair the pipe.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to return 2026-106 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

2026-107 An Order to grant a utility easement at 10 Water Street, Amesbury, Massachusetts and to authorize the Mayor to execute a grant of easement on behalf of the City of Amesbury. – Mayor Sponsor

- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey shared that this is a part of the voltage conversion project.
- Councilor Haggstrom asked if the city is required to grant an easement.
- Mayor Gove answered, in this instance, the pole is already on City property. If they said no, then it would need to be moved to the street.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to return 2026-107 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Redfern seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

Councilor Gilday made a motion to take 2026-109 out of order to discuss before 2026-108. Councilor Redfern seconded the motion. The motion passed, 4-2, with Councilor Haggstrom and Councilor Stanganelli in opposition.

2026-109 An Order to amend Amesbury Code of Ordinances Chapter 392 Solid Waste and adopt a schedule of fees. – Mayor Sponsor

- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey shared that this ordinance would go into effect September 2026.
- Councilor Stanganelli shared that a constituent asked what would happen if their bin were stolen.
- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey answered, the city would track who purchased stickers through the application.
- Councilor Frederique asked if the fee would potentially change in the future.
- Chief of Staff of Pam Tobey shared that there is no plan in place yet, but they may reevaluate one day.
- Councilor Haggstrom shared that she thought the fee was a wonderful price. She also suggested tracking the stickers with an individual number, similar to how the dog tags are done.
- Councilor Haggstrom suggested a town-wide mailing to advertise this new system. She also suggested that a flyer could potentially be attached to the next relevant tax bill or census.
- Councilor Stanganelli, Councilor Frederique, Councilor Haggstrom, and Chair Scott Mandeville asked follow-up questions.
- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey and Mayor Gove were present to answer all questions.

- Councilor Gilday shared a redline version of 2026-109 that she drafted which included numbering edits.
- Councilor Mandeville asked for Councilor Gilday's redline version to be shared with the City Clerk's office and the other Councilors.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to return 2026-109 with her redline edits to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. She also recommended a copy of the marked up ECODE document 392 on Solid Waste be sent with her redline. Councilor Redfern seconded, and the motion passed 5-1 with Councilor Stanganelli in opposition.

2026-108 An Order to establish a Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §53F½ . – Mayor Sponsor

- Councilor Haggstrom asked if DPW would be responsible for issuing the stickers.
- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey answered yes.

Councilor Haggstrom offered a motion to return 2026-108 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Redfern seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

2026-110 An Order to authorize inter-departmental transfers of general fund appropriations in accordance with MGL c.44 Section 33B. – Mayor Sponsor

- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey apologized for an additional revision but stated that the administration was trying to eliminate the need for a special meeting.
- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey stated the snow and ice transfer was the largest due to a particularly rough winter.
- Councilor Stanganelli clarified which redline version and subtotal is the most up to date.
- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey answered, the June 16, 2026 version stamped at 5:22 PM with a grand total of \$836,357.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to substitute the revised version of 2026-110 which is time stamped June 16th at 5:22 PM. This version is titled second revision and has a total of \$836, 357. Councilor Haggstrom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to return the Second Revision of 2026-110, time stamped June 16th at 5:22 PM to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

Adjourn

Councilor Redfern made a motion to adjourn at 7:17 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Frederique and passed unanimously, 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tommi Thavisouk