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

City Council Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2024
7:00 PM

President Scott Mandeville called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

Councilor Wheeler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken, and present were Councilor Anthony Rinaldi, Councilor Nicholas Wheeler, Councilor Claudel Frederique, Councilor Pamela Gilday, Councilor Michael Hogg, President Scott Mandeville

Absent were Councilor Owen Corcoran and Councilor Jessica Redfern

Also present: Chief of Staff Ann Marie Casey, Police Chief Craig Bailey, Department of Public Works Director Joe Buckley

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Minutes for approval

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 City Council Meeting

- Councilor Wheeler noted two mistakes in the minutes, the first being in section 2024-067 that denoted that the motion passed and not the amendment. It was further stated that the adjournment did not denote the person who first and seconded the motion and what the final count was. Councilor Wheeler stated that he was the motion, Councilor Corcoran was the second, and the motion carried 5-0-3 with Councilors Stanganelli, Frederique, and Hogg abstaining.
- Councilor Stanganelli noted that there was a typographical error under discussion of 2024-055 and that Councilor Stanganelli had said .03% and not .07%.

**Councilor Wheeler motioned to approve the minutes from the May 14<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting as amended to include the edits stated above. Seconded by Councilor Hogg and the motion passed 7-0.**

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Mayoral Appointments-

None.

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Licenses and Permits

President Mandeville read the monthly list of licenses into the record.

**Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to approve the monthly list of licenses. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.**

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#### Correspondence

President/Vice President Communications:

- President Mandeville announced that the City Council would be taking the month of August off from regularly scheduled meetings.

Communications from Elected Officials, Boards, and Commissions:

- None.

Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports:

- President Mandeville announced that the Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole has completed its business and that its recommendations were forwarded to the Ordinance and Administration subcommittee.
- Councilor Stanganelli summarized the discussion from the previous Budget and Finance committee meeting and announced the time and date of the next meeting.
- Councilor Gilday summarized the discussion from the previous Ordinance and Administration meeting and announced the time and date of the next meeting.
- President Mandeville summarized the previous Planning and Development meeting and announced the scheduled date of the next meeting. It was further noted that the meeting may need to be moved due to a holiday.
- Councilor Rinaldi gave a background on an issue that the Energy committee has been working on in the State House and announced that it passed. The time and date of the next meeting was announced.
- Councilor Wheeler announced that the next meeting of the School Building committee had been cancelled and would be made up at a different date.
- Councilor Frederique announced that the Community Development and Block Grant committee had not met and that no meeting was scheduled.
- Councilor Rinaldi gave a summary of the previous Chamber of Commerce meeting and stated the date of the next meeting. Councilor Mandeville asked that Councilor Rinaldi bring up an issue at the next meeting.
- Councilor Hogg gave a summary of the last Disposition committee meeting.
- Councilor Stanganelli gave a summary of the last Housing Trust meeting.

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#### Public Comment

- Mark Pender of 90 Middle Rd expressed concern with one of the proposed poles and stated that it was in his property and that National Grid had not informed him that it would be above ground.
- Brian Conlin of 25 Field St was not opposed to the pole proposed to be installed near his home but asked if National Grid could clean up existing wiring that is affecting his property.

#### Council Response to Public Comment

- Councilor Gilday addressed Mr. Conlin and stated that she was unsure of what actions the council could take to ensure that the wires are cleaned up but that they would do what they could.
- Councilor Wheeler stated that the city council only had jurisdiction over poles on city property.

## Second Readings

### **2024-073 Pole Hearing - National Grid - Field Street**

- David Boucher from National Grid was recognized and gave an overview of this proposal.
- Councilor Wheeler asked Mr. Boucher how far the pole would be from the street. Mr. Boucher answered that it would be more than three feet away.
- Director of Public Works Joe Buckley was recognized and asked Mr. Boucher to ensure that poles would not be installed in pavement.

**Councilor Gilday offered a motion to accept 2024-073 as presented. Seconded by Councilor Hogg.**

- Councilor Wheeler asked if Director Buckley approved of this proposal. Director Buckley answered that he approved.

**The motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

### **2024-074 Pole Hearing - National Grid - South Hunt/Buttonwood - underground conduits**

- David Boucher from National Grid was recognized and gave an overview of this proposal.
- Councilor Stanganelli asked Director Buckley if he approved of this proposal. Director Buckley answered that he initially had concerns but that those were answered and he did approve.
- Councilor Gilday asked Mr. Boucher about Mr. Penders' concern. Mr. Boucher answered that Mr. Penders should get in touch with the National Grid liaison.
- Councilor Wheeler asked that the poles be installed at least three feet from the road.
- President Mandeville asked why there was a necessity for a pole given that there is another pole relatively close to the proposed pole. Mr. Boucher answered that there is existing equipment on that pole. Director Buckley stated that these poles are necessary additions.

**President Mandeville opened the public hearing at 8:02 PM.**

- Mr. Pender stated that the power generator will affect the farm animals.

**President Mandeville closed the public hearing at 8:03 PM.**

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to approve 2024-074 with the stipulation that the poles be placed no less than three feet from the road. Seconded by Councilor Gilday.**

- Councilor Stanganelli asked for a point of clarification on the wording of the motion, answered by Wheeler.

**The motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

### **2024-075 Pole Hearing - National Grid - South Hunt/Buttonwood**

- David Boucher from National Grid was recognized and gave an overview of this proposal.

**Public hearing was opened at 8:05 PM. Public hearing was closed at 8:05 PM.**

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to approve 2024-075 with the stipulation that the poles be placed no less than three feet from the road. Seconded by Councilor Gilday and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-076 Pole Hearing - National Grid - South Hunt/South Martin**

- David Boucher from National Grid was recognized and gave an overview of this proposal.

**Public hearing was opened at 8:08 PM. Public hearing was closed at 8:08 PM.**

- Councilor Wheeler asked a clarifying question regarding the location of these poles.

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to approve 2024-076 with the stipulation that the poles be placed no less than three feet from the road. Seconded by Councilor Hogg and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**Councilor Gilday offered a motion to suspend the rules and take items 2024-057, 2024-058, 2024-061, 2024-062, 2024-063, 2024-067, and 2024-068 out of order. Seconded by Councilor Wheeler.**

- Councilor Stanganelli asked for a point of clarification on which bills were being taken out of order. Answered by Councilor Gilday.

**The motion passed 6-0-1 with Councilor Stanganelli abstaining.**

**2024-057 An Act Exempting the position of Deputy Police Chief in the City of Amesbury from the provisions of Chapter 31 of the general Laws – **Mayor Sponsor****

- Read into the record by President Mandeville.
- Police Chief Craig Bailey was recognized and gave an overview of this proposal.
- Councilor Gilday stated that members of the Ordinance and Administration subcommittee have each met with Chief Bailey separately to discuss this proposal.
- Councilor Wheeler noted that there was a revised version of this proposal.

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to substitute to the revised version of 2024-057. Seconded by Councilor Gilday and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.**

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to accept 2024-057 as substituted. Seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-058 An Order of the Amesbury City Council to approve and accept a Preservation Restriction Agreement on property located at 6 Center Street, Amesbury, and to authorize the mayor to execute said Preservation Restriction Agreement on behalf of the City of Amesbury – **Mayor Sponsor****

- Read into the record by President Mandeville.
- Councilor Gilday reported a positive recommendation from the Ordinance and Administration subcommittee.
- President Mandeville reported a positive recommendation from the Planning and Development subcommittee.
- President Mandeville reported a positive recommendation from the Planning Board.

**Councilor Frederique offered a motion to accept 2024-058 as presented. Seconded by Councilor Stanganelli and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-061** An Order to accept 2022 Economic Development Bill Earmark- \$150000 - **Mayor Sponsor**

- Read into the record by President Mandeville.
- Councilor Stanganelli reported a positive recommendation from the Budget and Finance subcommittee.
- Councilor Wheeler asked Public Works Director Joe Buckley which side of the streets the sidewalk was being replaced on. Director Buckley was recognized and answered that the bricks were being replaced on the north side of the street.

**Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to accept 2024-061 as presented. Seconded by Councilor Hogg and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-062** An Order to accept and expend FY25-FY27 grant for public health shared services-**Mayor Sponsor**

- Read into the record by President Mandeville.
- Councilor Stanganelli reported a positive recommendation from the Budget and Finance subcommittee.

**Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to accept 2024-062 as presented. Seconded by Councilor Gilday and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-063** An Order to accept FY24 earmark- pedestrian bridges- \$12500- **Mayor Sponsor**

- Read into the record by President Mandeville.
- Councilor Stanganelli reported a positive recommendation from the Budget and Finance subcommittee.

**Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to accept 2024-063 as presented. Seconded by Councilor Hogg and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-067** **An Order** to approve payment from the FY24 general fund operating budget for the below listed prior year invoices - **Mayor Sponsor**

- Read into the record by President Mandeville.
- Councilor Stanganelli reported a positive recommendation from the Budget and Finance subcommittee.
- President Mandeville clarified that this motion is to approve.

**Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to accept 2024-067 as presented. Seconded by Councilor Frederique and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-068** **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**

- Read into the record by President Mandeville.

- Councilor Stanganelli reported a positive recommendation from the Budget and Finance subcommittee.
- Councilor Wheeler asked if these funds were enough to cover the proposed charging stations. Councilor Rinaldi answered yes.

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to accept 2024-068 as presented. Seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and the motion passed unanimously 7-0.**

**2024-002** Session 14 City Council Rules & Procedures

**The meeting was recessed at 8:41 PM.**

**The meeting was called back into order at 8:48.**

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to post 2024-002 on the city website and to amend the item to include a cover sheet that has been signed by the co-sponsors. Seconded by Councilor Gilday.**

- Councilor Stanganelli offered a summary of proposed amendments he had for 2024-002.

**Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to amend the phrase “presiding officer” to “council president or presiding officer” in section 6G of the proposed rules. Seconded by Frederique and the motion passed 6-1 with Councilor Gilday opposing.**

**Councilor Stanganelli offered a motion to amend the proposed rules to correct the capitalization of the term “Ad hoc” where it was used incorrectly. Seconded by Councilor Wheeler.**

- A discussion was had between the councilors on the importance of this proposed amendment and over which places it would be used to amend.
- President Mandeville passed the gavel to Vice President Gilday and asked about the importance of this matter. Vice President Gilday passed the gavel back to President Mandeville.
- Point of order from Councilor Wheeler inquiring about what the motion on the table was. City Clerk Jennifer answered that this is an amendment for a motion made by Councilor Wheeler to post these proposed changes on the city website and to amend to include a cover sheet.

**The motion to amend the proposed rules to correct the capitalization of the term “Ad hoc” where it was used incorrectly failed 2-4-1 with Councilor Hogg and Councilor Stanganelli voting yes and Councilor Frederique abstaining.**

- Councilor Gilday asked the council to consider the time and effort put into this document when they consider passage of this motion.
- Councilor Wheeler noted a typographical error on the cover sheet. It was further noted by Councilor Wheeler that this process has been “ass backwards.”

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to correct the typographical error on the cover sheet. Seconded by Councilor Gilday.**

- Clerk Smith noted that Robert’s Rules prohibit more than two amendments on a motion. The motion was struck by President Mandeville.

- Point of order from Councilor Stanganelli asking what the original motion was. Clerk Smith answered that it was to amend the proposal to include a cover sheet and to post the amended proposal on the city website.
- Point of order from President Mandeville if this motion required a simple majority for passage.

**The meeting was called to recess at 9:24 PM. The meeting was called back into order at 9:29 PM.**

- It was clarified that this motion required a simple majority.

**The motion to post 2024-002 on the city website passed as amended 5-2 with Councilor Hogg and Councilor Stanganelli opposing.**

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to continue the remainder of the agenda, items 2024-016 through 2024-022 to the July 23<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Gilday and the motion carried 4-2-1 with Councilor Hogg and Councilor Stanganelli opposing and Councilor Frederique abstaining.**

- Councilor Gilday asked the councilors to review the associated documents distributed related to the proposed rules changes.
- Councilor Hogg asked the councilors to review the message they received from Councilor Stanganelli.
- Councilor Mandeville stated that he established the Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole to discuss these matters respectfully and that he hoped that would continue in the coming weeks.

**Councilor Wheeler offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 PM. Seconded by Councilor Stanganelli and the motion carried 6-1 with President Mandeville opposing.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Justin Kaiser*

Addendum N

**Public Comment / Public Hearing Speaker's Request Form**

In order to be recognized to speak on any matter you must complete all sections of this form.

Name: Donna Reslewic (Pender Farm)  
Address: 8 Emery St  
City: Merrimack State Mass Zip 01860  
Home Phone ( ) 603-630-7684

Matter(s) on which you would like to speak: National Grid (Poles)

Please disclose any relationship as well as any direct or indirect financial interest you or a family member, may have with this matter:

Historical Landmark  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the rules of decorum printed on the reverse of this form.

Signature: Donna Reslewic

Date: 5/28/24



**Addendum N**

***Public Comment / Public Hearing Speaker's Request Form***

In order to be recognized to speak on any matter you must complete all sections of this form.

Name: Brian Gulon Conlan

Address: 25 Field St

City: Amesbury State MA Zip 01913

Home Phone (401) 413-7302

Matter(s) on which you would like to speak: Pole Petition

Please disclose any relationship as well as any direct or indirect financial interest you or a family member, may have with this matter:

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I have read and understand the rules of decorum printed on the reverse of this form.

Signature:  Date: 5/28/24

Addendum N

**Public Comment / Public Hearing Speaker's Request Form**

In order to be recognized to speak on any matter you must complete all sections of this form.

Name: Mark Pender & <sup>witness</sup> Donna Reslewic

Address: 90 middle RD

City: Amesbury State Mass Zip 01913

Home Phone 978 285-0296

Matter(s) on which you would like to speak: National Grid Pole Petition  
# 30756476 (All)

Please disclose any relationship as well as any direct or indirect financial interest you or a family member, may have with this matter:

I own farm land at Pender Farm  
abutting all of this work, and it  
affects view of farm, also access to  
my fields. Originally agreeded to go  
underground but now looking at  
putting in poles which I am disagreeing  
to.

I have read and understand the rules of decorum printed on the reverse of this form.

Signature: MCP Date: 5-28-2024