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City of Amesbury
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City Council Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, June 23, 2026
7:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Redfern.

Councilor Sullivan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken, and present were Councilor Steve Stanganelli, Councilor Sullivan, Councilor Maryann Welch, Councilor Claudel Frederique, Councilor Pam Gilday, Councilor Michael Hogg, and President Jessica Redfern.

Absent were Councilors Haggstrom and Mandeville.

Councilor Stanganelli stepped out during the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayoral Appointments

2026-114 Reappointment of Michael Browne to the position of member of the Energy, Environmental and Sustainability Committee as the School Committee representative for a term to expire February 28, 2029

- President Redfern noted that this should not state that Mr. Browne will be a School Committee representative.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to approve 2026-114 as corrected. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2026-115 Reappointment of William Messner to the position of member of the Energy, Environmental and Sustainability Committee as the School Committee representative for a term to expire February 28, 2029

- President Redfern noted that this should not state that Mr. Messner will be a School Committee representative.

Councilor Hogg offered a motion to approve 2026-115 as corrected. Councilor Stanganelli seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Correspondence

-President/Vice President Communications

- President Redfern shared that Amesbury Days begins on Thursday, June 25th.

-Communication from Mayor, City Staff, other Elected Officials, and Official Representatives of Boards and Commissions

- None

Licenses and Permits –June

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to approve the June list of licenses as presented. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Public Comment

- None

Council Response to Public Comment

- None

Second Readings

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

- Councilor Gilday shared the positive recommendations from the Committee of the Whole with referrals to the Planning Board and the Amesbury Housing Trust.
- President Redfern shared that an email was received from Dr. Connor, Executive Director of the Amesbury and Merrimac Housing Authority, stating support for the bill as amended.
- President Redfern shared the positive recommendation with amendments from the Planning Board and noted that the redline version is on the meeting site.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to accept the revised version of 2026-086 and accept the Planning Board recommendations. Councilor Hogg seconded.

- Councilor Stanganelli asked if the recommendations from the Planning Board and the Administration are the same. President Redfern stated that they are separate recommendations.
- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey shared the differences between the recommendations.
- Councilor Stanganelli asked who will produce the changes. Ms. Tobey shared that the Merrimac Valley Planning Commission will make the revisions.

The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to approve 2026-086 as amended. Councilor Sullivan seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2026-102 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend 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**

- Councilor Gilday shared the positive recommendation from the Committee of the Whole.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to approve 2026-102 as presented. Councilor Welch seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2026-103 An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend 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**

- Councilor Gilday shared the positive recommendation from the Committee of the Whole.

Councilor Sullivan offered a motion to approve 2026-103 as presented. Councilor hogg seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

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

- Councilor Gilday shared the positive recommendation from the Committee of the Whole.

Councilor Welch offered a motion to approve 2026-104 as presented. Councilor Frederique seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

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

- Councilor Gilday shared the positive recommendation from the Committee of the Whole.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to approve 2026-105 as presented. Councilor Hogg seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

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

- Councilor Gilday shared the positive recommendation from the Committee of the Whole.

Councilor Frederique offered a motion to approve 2026-108 as presented. Councilor Sullivan seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

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

- Councilor Gilday read the referral to substitute the bill for a revised version from the Committee of the Whole. Councilor Gilday then shared the positive recommendation from the Committee of the Whole.
- Chief of Staff Pam Tobey shared a request for revisions: an increase to the transfer to the legal other expenses line from \$10,000 to \$20,000 and an increase in the transfers from line on employee benefits to \$219,738.45.
- Councilor Gilday asked what is prompting the increase in legal services line. Ms. Tobey replied that there has been an increased need for legal services from KP Law.
- Councilor Stanganelli asked if these proposed changes are time sensitive. Ms. Tobey replied that due to the nature of KP Law's billing cycle these changes are time sensitive and need to be completed before the July council meeting.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to approve the substituted revision of 2026-110 timestamped June 16, 2026. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to accept the requested change from the administration of increasing the transfer to the legal other expenses line to \$20,000 and increasing the transfer to employee benefits to \$219,738.45. Councilor Sullivan seconded, and the motion passed 5-2, Councilors Stanganelli and Frederique opposed.

Councilor Sullivan offered a motion to accept 2026-110 as revised. Councilor Welch seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed 5-2, Councilors Stanganelli and Frederique opposed.

Public Hearings

2026-112 Storage of Flammable/Combustible/Explosives Permit - 241-243 Main Street - Change of Ownership

- President Redfern opened and closed the public hearing at 7:31 PM.

Councilor Hogg offered a motion to approve 2026-112 as presented. Councilor Welch seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2026-113 Storage of Flammable/Combustible/Explosives Permit - 132 Elm Street - Change of Ownership

- Councilor Stanganelli noted that this is due to a sale of the property.
- President Redfern opened and closed the public hearing at 7:34 PM.

Councilor Welch offered a motion to approve 2026-113 as presented. Councilor Frederique seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

First Readings

None

Correspondence

a. Communications from Mayor, City Staff, other Elected Officials, and Representatives of City Boards and Committees

- None

b. Council Communications

- Councilor Frederique shared a desire to get rid of second reading dates from bills that are not public hearings.
- Councilor Stanganelli echoed Councilor Frederique's desire to eliminate second reading dates from bills that are not public hearings.
- Councilor Stanganelli requested various updates from the administration.
- Councilor Sullivan shared that under Chapter 90 the city was awarded \$650,000 for roads and sidewalks.
- Councilor Sullivan recognized Tia Costello, a middle school teacher who won scholarships for 45 students in the amount of \$2,500 each.
- Councilor Gilday shared that the community forum was well attended.
- Councilor Stanganelli praised the success of the community forum.

c. Council Committee Reports

- None

Act on Minutes – May 26, 2026 City Council meeting (continued) June 2, 2026 Ad Hoc Budget Committee of the Whole meeting and June 9, 2026 City Council meeting

Councilor Sullivan offered a motion to approve the May 26, 2026 minutes as presented. Councilor Welch seconded, and the motion passed 6-0-1, Councilor Gilday abstained.

Councilor Sullivan offered a motion to approve the June 2, 2026 minutes as presented. Councilor Frederique seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Councilor Sullivan offered a motion to approve the June 9, 2026 minutes with corrections to typographical errors. Councilor Hogg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Adjourn

Councilor Frederique offered a motion to adjourn at 7:52 PM. Councilor Welch seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmine Looney

June 30, 2026