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

City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 9 2025
City Hall Auditorium- 62 Friend St.
7:00 PM

President Mandeville called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Haggstrom

Roll was called, and present were: Councilor Claudel Frederique, Councilor Pam Gilday, Councilor Amanda Haggstrom, Councilor Michael Hogg, Councilor Jessica Redfern, Councilor Anthony Rinaldi, Councilor Steven Stanganelli and President Scott Mandeville

Absent: Councilor Nick Wheeler

Also Present: Chief of Staff Ann Marie Casey

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Act on Minutes –

**June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Councilor Stanganelli made a motion to approve the June 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gilday and passed unanimously (8-0).**

**July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**

- Councilor Gilday stated there was an error under 2025-072, the third bullet stating she asked for a straw pull was incorrect and asked for it to be removed from the minutes.

**Councilor Gilday made a motion to approve the July 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Minutes with her one stated edit. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed (6-0-2) with Councilor Frederique and Councilor Redfern abstaining.**

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****Councilor Gilday made a motion to suspend the rules and accept the late files of 2025-097 and 2025-098. The motion was seconded by Councilor Stanganelli and passed unanimously (8-0) ****

****Councilor Gilday made a motion to take 2025-097 out of order. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed unanimously (8-0)****

Mayoral Appointments –

2025-097 Appointment of Christopher Lane to the position of member of the Design Review Committee for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Christopher Lane was present to answer any questions, he spoke about his 30 years of experience as an architect.

Councilor Stanganelli made a motion to approve 2025-097. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (8-0).

2025-086 Appointment of Jarod LaVarnway to the position of member of the Amesbury Board of Health for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Jarod LaVarnway was present to answer any questions.

Councilor Gilday made a motion to approve 2025-086. The motion was seconded by Councilor Stanganelli and passed unanimously (8-0).

2025-087 Appointment of Cynthia Costello to the position of member of the Amesbury Council of Aging Board of Directors for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Chief of Staff Ann Marie Casey shared Cynthia was unable to attend tonight's meeting but shared with the Council that Cynthia is an excellent choice for this position.
- Councilor Stanganelli shared that he was very happy to have Cynthia on board for this position.

Councilor Stanganelli made a motion to approve 2025-087. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (8-0).

2025-088 Reappointment of Jay Williamson to the position of member of the Historical Commission for a term to expire February 29, 2028

- Jay Williamson was not present.

Councilor Gilday made a motion to approve 2025-088. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (8-0).

**** President Mandeville called a brief recess at 7:13 PM to swear in the new appointees. The meeting resumed at 7:20 PM****

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Monthly list of licenses –

**Councilor Stanganelli moved to approve the license list for September 9, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg, which passed unanimously (8-0).**

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Correspondence

President/Vice President Communications

- President Mandeville –Welcomed everyone back after the break in August, spoke about the upcoming November 4th Election as well as the upcoming Octoberfest Happenings in the City.
- Vice President Gilday- Announced the Clerk's Office would be closed on September 18th from approximately 11:30-2:30 so the staff can attend a training. Councilor Gilday also spoke about 2025-089 and encouraged the public to become informed and attend an upcoming information session.

Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions- None

- Councilor Haggstrom shared the PTO is hosting an upcoming funrun at the Shay and Cashman Schools.
- Councilor Stanganelli expressed his displeasure at not being made aware of the administrations Override plans earlier.
- Councilor Redfern shared that she would not be present at the September 23rd City Council Meeting because she will be attending AHS Open House Night.

Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports

- None

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Public Comment-

- Councilor Mandeville opened public comment at 7:32 PM.

- Councilor Mandeville closed public comment at 7:32 PM.

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Second Readings – None
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First Readings –
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**AO 2025-02** Pursuant to Section 6-1(a)(2) of the Amesbury Home Rule Charter (the “Charter”), city government is hereby reorganized, upon effect of this order.

- Councilor Gilday stated that AO 2025-02 does not require a second reading.
- Councilor Haggstrom shared that she thought the job description listed did not seem to match the job title accurately, she stated it presented as more of an administrative role than a “Financial Analyst”.

**Councilor Gilday moved to approve Administrative Order 2025-02. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed 5-3 with Councilor Haggstrom, Councilor Redfern, and Councilor Stanganelli in opposition.**

**2025-085** Board of Library Trustees vacancy -Bernadette Lucas resignation acceptance  
**Councilor Stanganelli moved to approve 2025-085 with the post for this vacancy occurring within 30 days. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haggstrom and passed unanimously (8-0).**

**2025-089** An Order to place a \$6 million operating override on the November 4, 2025 ballot.

- Councilor Gilday shared there was additional information on 2025-089 on the Amesbury website.
- Councilor Gilday read into the record a memo from Mayor Gove regarding 2025-089 that was shared with the Councilors the previous week.
- Councilor Mandeville emphasized to the public that the Councilors are voting for 2025-089 to be on the ballot not for the passing of the override itself.
- Councilor Gilday made a motion to refer 2025-089 to the Budget and Finance Subcommittee Meeting with a second reading on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. She also ordered a public hearing for September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Councilor Hogg seconded the motion.
- Councilor Haggstrom stated that a public hearing was not required legally for 2025-089.
- Councilor Stanganelli made a motion to amend the motion to remove the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilor Frederique.

**Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-089 to B & F with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Frederique and passed 5-3 with Councilor Gilday, Councilor Mandeville, and Councilor Hogg in opposition.**

**\*\*Councilor Haggstrom left at 7:59\*\***

**2025-090** An Ordinance to amend the City of Amesbury Traffic and Parking Regulations ARTICLE 1 – DEFINITIONS with the names of the eight parking lots owned and maintained by the City of Amesbury.  
**Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-090 to O&A and P&D with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gilday and passed unanimously (7-0).**

**2025-091** An Ordinance to update and amend the City of Amesbury Traffic and Parking Regulations SCHEDULE IV (STOP SIGNS) to reflect the addition of two stop signs added to the area of Market Street at Fern Avenue in support of an All-Way stop control (AWSC).  
**Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-091 to O&A and P&D with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gilday and passed unanimously (7-0).**

**2025-092** An Order to request the City Council to vote to declare as surplus various municipal vehicles and equipment.  
**Councilor Hogg moved to refer 2025-092 to B&F with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City**

**Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed unanimously (7-0).**

**2025-093** An Order of the Amesbury City Council to Accept an Easement from Newburyport Homes LLC for the purposes of accessing, operating, maintaining, repairing and replacing drainage infrastructure on the property located at 101-107 Market Street, Amesbury, Massachusetts and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute an Acceptance on Behalf of the City of Amesbury.

- Councilor Gilday made a motion to refer 2025-093 to O&A with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern.
- Councilor Hogg suggested a staff member from DPW or the Mayor's Office be present at O&A for this matter.
- Councilor Gilday moved to amend the motion to include the request for the Director of DPW to attend this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern.

**Councilor Gilday moved to refer 2025-093 to O&A with a request for the Director of DPW to attend this meeting, with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (7-0).**

**2025-094** An Order of the Amesbury City Council to Accept an Easement from Newburyport Homes LLC for the purposes of installing, accessing, operating, maintaining, repairing and replacing the water line, curb box and fire hydrant now on, or to be placed on, the property located at 101-107 Market Street, Amesbury, Massachusetts and to Authorize the Mayor to Execute an Acceptance on Behalf of the City of Amesbury.

- Councilor Hogg asked if this matter should go to B&F in addition to O&A.
- Councilor Stanganelli responded no as there was no set dollar amount included in this order.

**Councilor Gilday moved to refer 2025-094 to O&A with a request for the Director of DPW to attend this meeting, with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Frederique and passed unanimously (7-0).**

**2025-095** An Order to approve payment from the FY26 general fund operating budget for the below listed prior year invoices.

**Councilor Stanganelli moved to refer 2025-095 to B&F with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed unanimously (7-0).**

**2025-096** An Order to transfer \$21,000 from the Salary Reserve account to the Administration & Finance Salaries & Wages account.

**Councilor Gilday moved to refer 2025-096 to B&F with a second reading at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Stanganelli and passed unanimously (7-0).**

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Late Files-

2025-098 An Order to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 138, Section 12D

Councilor Gilday moved to refer 2025-098 to O&A with a second reading at the September 23rd City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Stanganelli and passed unanimously (7-0).

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Adjourn-

**Councilor Stanganelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Allie Connolly*