



City of Amesbury
Office of the City Clerk
1 Market St.
Amesbury, MA 01913

City Council Ad Hoc Budget Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Budget Hearing #1
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by President Jessica Redfern.

Roll call was taken, and present were Councilor Claudel Frederique, Councilor Pam Gilday, Councilor Amanda Haggstrom, Councilor Michael Hogg, Councilor Kelly Sullivan, and President Jessica Redfern.

Absent were Councilor Scott Mandeville and Councilor Steve Stanganelli.

Councilor Maryann Welch arrived at 7:08 PM.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to nominate Councilor Haggstrom to be chair of Ad Hoc Budget Committee. Councilor Hogg seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

Councilor Gilday offered a motion to nominate Councilor Mandeville to be vice chair of Ad Hoc Budget Committee. President Redfern seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion passed 5-1, Councilor Frederique opposed.

MIS (Budget Book Pages 62-63)

- Director of Information Technology Steve Hare presented the MIS' proposed FY27 budget to the City Council (**see attached presentation**).
- President Redfern asked about how many public records requests MIS receives. Mr. Hare replied that in recent months they have received about three to four requests per month.
- Councilors asked various questions and engaged in discussion with Mr. Hare.

Collector/Treasurer (Budget Book Pages 60-61)

- Treasurer Donna Cornoni presented the Collector/Treasurer's proposed FY27 budget to the City Council (**see attached presentation**).
- Councilor Sullivan asked about sick leave buy back amount. Ms. Cornoni replied that it is for the head clerk who will retire in July and for herself with her upcoming retirement.
- Councilors asked various questions and engaged in discussion with Ms. Cornoni.

City Clerk (Budget Book Pages 48-50)

- City Clerk Jennifer Smith presented the City Clerk's proposed FY27 budget to the City Council (**see attached presentation**).
- Councilor Sullivan asked if the Council has input in the clerk's salary. Chair Haggstrom answered that the Council does have input.
- Councilors asked various questions and engaged in discussion with Ms. Smith.

Elections (Budget Book Page 49)

- City Clerk Jennifer Smith presented the Election's proposed FY27 budget to the City Council (**see attached presentation**).
- Councilors asked various questions and engaged in discussion with Ms. Smith.

City Council (Budget Book Page 49)

- City Clerk Jennifer Smith presented the City Council's proposed FY27 budget to the City Council (**see attached presentation**).
- Councilor Gilday asked about the budget line for advertising. Ms. Smith answered that it is used for advertising public hearings.
- Councilors asked various questions and engaged in discussion with Ms. Smith.

Veteran Services (Budget Book Pages 84-85)

- Veteran Services Officer Kevin Hunt presented the Veteran Services' proposed FY27 budget to the City Council (**see attached presentation**).
- Councilor Welch asked if the number of staff is appropriate for the workload. Mr. Hunt affirmed that the amount is appropriate.
- Councilors asked various questions and engaged in discussion with Mr. Hunt.

Youth Services (Budget Book Pages 86-87)

- Recreation Director Kathleen Crowley presented the Youth Services' proposed FY27 budget to the City Council (**see attached presentation**).
- Councilor Sullivan asked about the decrease of 20% under regular salaries and wages. Ms. Crowley replied that this was due to part time after school staff.
- Councilor Hogg asked if there are plans to have lifeguard. Ms. Crowley replied that a beach director will be on duty at the beach instead of a lifeguard.
- President Redfern asked how changes to the new recreation building will be paid. Ms. Crowley replied that she plans to write grants.
- Councilors asked various questions and engaged in discussion with Ms. Crowley.

Adjourn

Councilor Redfern offered a motion to adjourn at 7:58 PM. Councilor Sullivan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmine Looney

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