

MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
JANUARY 18, 2018

At 6:30 PM, Mayor Sullivan gave a briefing to the full Council of items on the current agenda under Communications from the Mayor.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chamber, Municipal Building, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA at 7:00 PM by President Beltrandi.

The City Clerk called the roll. All thirteen Councilors were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was led by the President.

President Beltrandi asked if anyone, other than Channel 15, was recording the meeting and if so to state whether it is an audio or video recording and whether the recording is being live streamed. No one responded.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That the record of the meetings of January 2, 2018 Inaugural Meeting and January 4, 2018 rescheduled to January 8, 2018 due to inclement weather be  
ACCEPTED.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Matt Roman, Westfield. He congratulated Councilor Flaherty for a professional, speedy meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 when he served as President pro tempore. He thanked the DPW for a job well-done on plowing the roads. And he informed the Councilors that, if needed, a Senior would volunteer to keep track of the Meals and Lodging tax money to see that it is spent on the roads and sidewalks and also that the excise tax is used for the roads.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Frank Mills, 47 Overlook Drive. He thanked those Councilors who took his calls. He expressed his discontent with the Westfield Whip Museum project at 360 Elm Street by informing the Council that the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) funded the restoration for the exterior and now the exterior has fallen back into a depilated state and that it has been six to eight years and the project is still not complete and there have been no visitors to the museum. Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That the rules of the Council be suspended to allow Mr. Mills to address the Council beyond the three minute time limit. Mr. Mills continued informing the Council that he disagreed with the CPC funding a project for the Bismark Hotel due to

negligence of a tenant.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Robert Pearson, 53 McKinley Terrace. He questioned why State snow plows are coming down his street. He informed the Council that East Silver Street is one big pothole. He questioned who set the fee of \$25 for the dump fee and where does that money go.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Ethan Egerton, 44 Prospect Street. He expressed his concern with the repeal of the sex offender ordinance. He informed the Council that a level three sex offender lives next to him and next to Sadie Know playground. He expressed his disapproval that a sex offender can pick where to live and that other avenues need to be looked into to protect innocent people especially children.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Councilor Nick Morganelli. He reminded everyone of the Penguin Plunge on Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Hampton Ponds.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that an incentive payment from the Westfield Gas and Electric in the amount of \$11,567.00 for the Green Communities cooler/freezer school projects be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was VOTED: That item B. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda:

B. Transfer of \$54,891.45 from the Police Department Towing and Storage of Motor Vehicles account #2400-330210 to the Police Department Special

Account for Towing and Storage account #24210714-585001 for the purchase of a 2018 Ford Edge in the amount of \$30,535.00 for an unmarked detective bureau vehicle and a 2018 Transit connect Van in the amount of \$24,356.45 for an Animal Control vehicle.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was  
VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to act upon an item on tonight's Agenda.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was  
VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the sum of \$300.00 be appropriated from Reserve for Unforeseen account #19500000-570900 to the License Commission, Supplies account #11650000-540000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Allie informed the Council that the appropriation is needed because the License Commission budget was cut during budget time and specialized Tyler forms are needed in order to print licenses.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was  
VOTED: That the meeting return to regular order.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was  
VOTED: That item D. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Clerk read from the Agenda:

D. Requesting acceptance of authorization to use the remaining appropriation of \$1,800.00 from the PEG funding for Internet and Fiber in order to use this amount towards FY18 general PEG operation expenses.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: That items E., F., and G. under “Communications from the Mayor” be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda:

- E. Submitting the appointment of Eileen Rockwal, 5 Blueberry Ridge, as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021, replacing Barbara Sokolowski, resigning.
- F. Submitting the appointment of Kerry Ann Kielbasa, 31 Crescent Ridge Road, as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021, replacing John Leary, Jr. resigning.
- G. Submitting the appointment of Jeffrey L. Gosselin, 330 Elm Street, Apt. 305 as a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2019, replacing Paul V. Condarcuri, resigned.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershly, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$1,807.67 be transferred from current FY18 Department of Public Works, Wastewater Division, Purchase of Services account #67004400-520000 to the Prior Year FY17 Department of Public Works, Wastewater Division, Purchase of Services account #67004400-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershly	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershly, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$2,450.00 be transferred from the current FY18 Department of Public Works, Water Division, Purchase of Services account #68004500-520000 to the Prior Year FY17 Department of Public Works, Water Division, Purchase of Services account #68004500-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$28,750.00 be appropriated from the PEG Access designated Fund Balance account #2110-340000 to PEG Access Full-Time Salary account #21106940-511000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Allie informed the Council that this sum represents six months of the salary for the new media specialist position.

Upon motion of Councilor Surprise, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilors Surprise and Flaherty (01/04/18) to establish a Special Purpose Stabilization Fund in accordance with Chapter 40 Section 5B of the Massachusetts General Laws, and dedicated to the purposes of road and sidewalk repair and maintenance on city-owned roads and sidewalks, to be funded by use of the total revenues of the Westfield Local Option Meals Tax and Room Occupancy Tax as

instituted under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 64L and Chapter 64G Section 3  
REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

Councilor Surprise informed the Council that the Committee is still working on the appropriate language to send to Legislative and Ordinance Committee. He informed the Council that legally the funds collected from the meals tax and room occupancy tax can be earmarked. Councilor Flaherty agreed the funds can be earmarked and it was the goal of the Mayor to have the funds go to roads and sidewalks when the meals tax and room occupancy tax was accepted. He informed the Council that under the Municipal Modernization Act passed in July 2017 it is allowable to earmark these funds. He informed the Council that the law says specifically the Legislative body can do this and that the Law Department will review it also. He also informed the Council that if the money is needed for an emergency then it would take nine votes of the Council to move it out of the particular stabilization fund. Councilor Figy informed the Council that he would hope that the Finance Committee would request a breakdown of how the meals tax and room occupancy tax was budgeted. Councilor Bean concurred with Councilor Flaherty that the Council may set up these accounts but he disagreed with having so many of these accounts because it takes the money out the general fund and it may be harder to get the money out of a stabilization account if it is needed. Councilor Paul informed the Council that this is micro managing the departments and that it should be left to the Mayor and it may create an unnecessary bureaucracy. Councilor Surprise informed the Council that the meals tax and room occupancy tax was implemented to be used for sidewalks and roads and that setting up earmarked accounts is a tool from the State and we should be using the tools from the State. Councilor Figy questioned why discussion on this matter is happening now and that discussion should be held in Finance Committee. President Beltrandi encouraged Councilors to attend Finance Committee meetings for discussion.

Councilor Allie, Chair of the Finance Committee, informed the Council that the following item should not have been on the Agenda and that the item be REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA.

A.5. Briefing by Councilors Flaherty and Paul, former Finance committee

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershy, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilor Flaherty regarding fee adjustments for FY17 (6/16/16) be REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the appropriation of \$250,000.00 from Community Preservation Undesignated (Reserve Balance) account #2410-340000 to the CPA Hotel Bismark Façade account #24101770-580200-5119 (10/20/16) be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE. The item has already been voted on. (This item was sent in twice, this is the removal of the first one sent in on 10/20/16, the second one was sent in on 12/7/17 and voted on 12/21/17.)

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilor Flaherty requesting the Audit Department to provide the Finance Committee, prior to February 10th, with a three-year history of revenues related to Comcast's License and Franchise fees, and a corresponding report (1/19/17) be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE. The report has been received.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilor Flaherty for "a Resolution requesting the Mayor of the City of Westfield to appropriate and borrow \$20,000,000 for the rebuilding and repaving of roads and associated storm water management systems and sidewalks contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion referendum (5/18/17) be REMOVED FROM THE COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilor Flaherty to place Proposition 2 1/2 Debt Exclusion referendum on 2017 ballot (5/18/17) be REMOVED FROM THE COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilor Flaherty to place Proposition 2 1/2 Underride referendum question on 2017 ballot (5/18/17) be REMOVED FROM THE COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Surprise, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilor Flaherty that a Resolution be requested from the Mayor to transfer 100% of any healthcare "premium holiday" funds to the OPEB or Stabilization savings accounts in order to help reduce the \$260+ million unfunded obligation (9/21/17) be REMOVED FROM THE COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That a motion of Councilor Dondley to explore the possibility of taking legal action to seek damages from pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors of opioids (10/19/17) be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE.

Councilor Figy informed the Council that Law Department is monitoring the situation with the Attorney General's Office and will jump into a class action suit when needed.

Councilor Figy, for the Legislative and Ordinance, offered a motion which was duly seconded to give first reading of an Ordinance to repeal the City's sex offender ordinance. Councilor Figy informed the Council that the Supreme Judicial Court has deemed it unconstitutional for cities/towns to have their own ordinances relative to the

residency of sex offenders and with a heavy heart he recommended that the current sex offender ordinance be repealed on the recommendation of the Law Department because it cannot be enforced and it is a liability for the City and that Councilors may lose their indemnification if the ordinance is not repealed. Councilor Paul questioned if it has been deemed unconstitutional. Councilor Figy informed him that it has been deemed unconstitutional by the SJC. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that the City Solicitor did deem the ordinance unconstitutional and that the issue needs to continue to be talked about on the state level because it's an important issue. Councilor Bean questioned if the Councilors would truly lose their indemnification if they did not vote to repeal the ordinance and expressed his frustration in being told by the Law Department how to vote on an issue. Councilor Allie informed the Council that he has researched the issue and that because the state has a State Registry for sex offenders cities cannot take action on residency requirements. He informed the Council that jail time does not curb reoccurrence, but since time was served for the crime a city cannot add on to that jail time by having a residency requirement. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he will vote no on repealing the ordinance because the SJC did not say cities and towns must repeal their own local ordinances. Councilor Emmershy informed the Council that it is a painful, troubling situation to have to vote on and that he empathized with the gentleman that spoke earlier in the meeting that has a sex offender living near him and the Sadie Knox playground and that his concern is that the current ordinance has no teeth and may give residents a false sense of security if the ordinance stays on the books because the ordinance cannot protect them. Councilor Harris suggested that the item remain in Committee and that the Law Department be requested to speak to the Council on the matter at a City Council meeting and that it will benefit the public also to hear from the Law Department. Councilor Paul questioned what would happen if all Councilors abstained from voting. Councilor Surprise informed the Council that this a bad vote all around and it is a political football and suggested talking with other communities on what they are doing and that the matter should stay in Committee until the Law Department can address the Council. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that it pained everyone in Legislative and Ordinance Committee to have to vote on this but it is not worth the risk of legal action against the City and that the City's State Rep and Senator need to be called in on the issue to get a State law passed relative to residency. Councilor Babinski agreed with Councilor Harris and that it's worth stepping back a bit because it is an emotional issue at this moment. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: That the motion for first reading of an Ordinance to repeal the City's sex offender ordinance be TABLED to the next regular meeting of the City Council.

Upon motion of Councilor Morganelli, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was

VOTED: That an Order entitled "AN ORDER TRANSFERRING CARE, CUSTODY, MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF A CERTAIN PARCEL IN THE CITY OF WESTFIELD" (located on Montgomery Road known as the West Farms Schoolhouse,



from the control of the Westfield School Department to the care and control of the Historic Commission) be given first reading by title only.

The Order was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Morganelli, it was

VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was

VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a development agreement (with N&J LLC) for the Springfield Road Traffic Signalization Project" be ADOPTED. Councilor Figy read the Resolution in its entirety.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilors Flaherty and Allie informed the Councilors that they have filed disclosure forms with the City Clerk relative to a professional relationship with N&J LLC.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Cindy Gaylord, 25 Butternut Road, as a member of the Historical Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2020 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershly	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Gaylord is Chair of this Commission and is passionate about preserving, restoring and promoting the education of Westfield's history. Some of the very important projects she is involved in are the ongoing restoration of the Old Burying Ground, creating historic walking tours of downtown, creation of the app "Whipping Around Westfield" for Westfield visitors, preserving historic documents, supporting the restoration of historic Westfield buildings, restoring the one-room school house and coordinating the Historic Old Burying Ground Ghost Tours and she is Chair of the Historic subcommittee for Westfield's 350<sup>th</sup> celebration.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Michael Tirrell, 36 Darby Drive, as a member of the Park and Recreation Commission for Ward 5, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershly	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Tirrell was recently appointed one year ago to finish the term of Mr. Martin Nunez, and this is to reappoint him to full term. He is employed by NBC Universal as Director of Data Services, has coached various Westfield sports teams over the past 9 years so is familiar with the City's parks and gives insight to the Commission on the use and maintenance of Westfield's facilities, has served on the Westfield School Committee, served as the Website Administrator and Board member for Westfield Little League.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Meagan L. Laramée, 49 Brookline Avenue, as a member of the Park and Recreation Commission for Ward 2, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2019, replacing Adam Rivera, resigned, be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Laramée moved to Westfield about 3 years ago and wants to be more involved in public service. She loves taking care of "the greenery" of the city, starting with her yard where she actively and constantly gardens and has a love of Parks, and that her passion will be an asset to this Commission. She is a Financial Services Manager she has been responsible for managing staff while overseeing day to day operational tasks, lending practices, involved in underwriting, and compliance laws and procedures. She is a big supporter of those who serve our Country. Mr. Billips has advised Ms. Laramée of the responsibilities and meeting procedures.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of John Bowen, 38 Pinehurst Street, as a member of the Planning Board from the Alternate Member to the Full-time member for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2020, replacing Carl Vincent, be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Bowen was recently appointed in July 2017 as an Alternate, he has now the experience and this is the natural progression of process to become full-time member of this extremely important Board. He has become a valuable member and is well-respected. He has a well-balanced background in management, business and social skills which are assets to the Board.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Peter Cowles, Jr., 18 Egleston Road, as the Media Systems Specialist position for a one year term from the date of appointment be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershay	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Cowles is employed by the City of Westfield as an IT Communications Specialist at Westfield Technology Center. Since 12/2011 he has had responsibilities such as the

communications systems inclusive of Radios, Computers, Video, Voice over IP— maintaining the City’s Radio system including the Public Safety’s Radio System, the City’s phone system voice over IP, the City’s Public Broadcast station for live broadcasts of Key City functions such as Council meetings and School Committee meetings, coordinates the radio broadcasts for City Officials at the University, supports the City’s video surveillance system utilized in schools and public areas throughout the City. He also was employed prior to this as the Emergency Telecommunications Dispatcher “911” and Technology Associate from 3/1999 until 12/2011 for the Westfield Police Department, and before that was a dispatcher with the Holyoke Police Department and also was employed by WGGB (ABC 40) in Springfield for 6 years. He belongs to the Association of Professional Communications Committee (APCO) working for public safety IT security including 911 enhancement, and also belongs to Western Mass. Radio Interoperability Committee (WMRIC) which addresses the needs within the Commonwealth and FEMA. Lastly, Mr. Cowles is the Executive Producer, Softball World Series, responsible for streaming over 250 games for the 2017 Softball World Series, and member of the Westfield planning committee for hosting 2016 Babe Ruth Baseball World Series—the IT head for all aspects of public broadcasts during the 2016 Westfield World Series, including setup of all broadcasts of all games.

Councilor Babinski, for the Natural Resources Committee, reported that Committee is continuing to work on the Water Resource Protection District ordinance and has had input from BAPAC. She informed the Council that there are documents and maps on the share file and encourages everyone to read them and that there will be a subcommittee meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 PM. Councilor Bean questioned how old the maps are and how much would it cost to have the maps updated. Councilor Paul agreed that things change over 20 years and it would be a good thing to have the mapping reviewed. Councilor Flaherty suggested that the mapping would be a good project for a college student in the area. Councilor Babinski informed the Council that the Committee has not decided on what the mapping needs are. Upon motion of Councilor Babinski, it was  
VOTED: That the item REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

Councilor Allie offered a motion on behalf of Councilors Onyski, Paul, Morganelli, Surprise, Flaherty that the abutter notification ordinance be strengthened and that the matter be referred to Zoning, Planning and Development, Legislative and Ordinance Committee and that Public Hearings be scheduled. He informed the Council that the ordinance would be strengthened by increasing the notification from a 300 ft area to a 500 ft area and add the residents to be notified as well as owners. Councilor Figy informed the Council that in order to amend a zoning ordinance a Zoning application must filled out and filed with the City Council to start the process of scheduling a Public Hearing. Councilor Flaherty suggested that it be only referred to ZPD at this time in order to be worked on and fill out the proper petition and then it can be referred to L&O.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was  
VOTED: That the motion to strengthen the abutter notification ordinance be  
REFERRED TO ZONING, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershy, and Councilors Surprise and Onyski, it  
was  
VOTED: That the City Properties Committee be request to account for and evaluate all  
City owned Real Estate that the evaluation include improved and unimproved parcels  
and to outline and gather input on maximizing currently utilized parcels and provide  
recommendations on parcels in blocks to liquidate, improve, and maximize value with  
the intent of returning parcels to the tax rolls and that the matter be REFERRED TO  
CITY PROPERTIES COMMITTEE. Refer to City Properties.

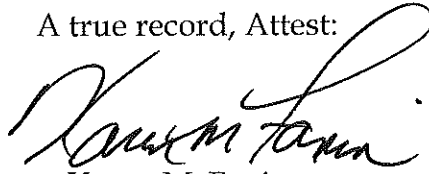
Upon motion of Councilor Burns, and Councilors Bean and Paul, it was  
VOTED: That the matter of allowing the Board of Public Works to set the sewer rates  
for the City of Westfield be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE  
COMMITTEE and the LAW DEPARTMENT. Councilor Burns informed the Councilors  
that setting of rates is a political football and should be with the DPW just as the water  
rates are with the Water Commission. Councilor Bean informed the Council that it's  
been an issue for many years and that the experts and department head should be  
making that decision so that it does not become a political issue. Councilor Surprise  
informed the Council that it should be a decision of the Council and that the Council  
should not give up their power. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he is not  
in favor of the DPW making the decision on setting the rates and that as an elected  
official it should be a decision of the Council. Councilor Paul informed the Council that  
the decision should be with the DPW because they are the experts relative to the sewer  
systems. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that this would be a good first step  
for the Council to stop micro managing departments. Councilor Flaherty agreed but  
that this is a revenue generating issue not managing sewers. He informed the Council  
that it's the same as approving fees for other departments such as the Building  
Department fees that were recently increased.

Upon motion of Councilor Burns and Councilors Bean and Paul, it was  
VOTED: That the law department map out a process to combine the Water  
Commission and the Board of Public Works and that this matter be REFERRED TO  
THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and THE LAW DEPARTMENT.

Councilor Figy reminded everyone of the invitation to attend the joint school  
committee advisory meeting at the Westfield Technical Academy (WTA) on Monday,  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 PM to see the impact on the budget at WTA.

At 8:57 PM and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was  
VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A true record, Attest:



Karen M. Fanion  
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

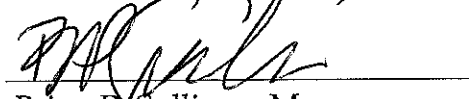
Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval Jan 24 2018

  
Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

Jan 24 2018

  
Brian P. Sullivan, Mayor