

MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
APRIL 19, 2018

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. Councilors Figy and Paul were absent.

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. Western Mass News announced they were taping the meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was  
VOTED: That the record of the meetings of March 27, 2018 Special Meeting and April 5, 2018 be ACCEPTED.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Matt Roman. He reported for the "Senior Snoopers" that their concerns are getting the potholes fixed and that they will get involved in pickleball.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Ms. Shannon Small, 39 Pheasant Drive. She informed the Council that pickleball is a new sport that is sweeping the nation. It's fun for all ages and once you've played you are hooked on it. She requested Council support on the reappropriation of the bond order #2455 to be used for the creation of pickleball courts at the Municipal playground. She requested those in attendance that are in support of the creation pickleball courts to raise their hands. Approximately 25 to 30 people raised their hands in support. She invited all Councilors to come play pickleball. Councilor Flaherty informed her that he and Councilor Bean would be up for the challenge to play.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Ms. Estelle Streeter, 88 Furrowtown Road. She informed the Council that clean water is essential and requested Council to support the water bond at the next meeting. She informed the Council that this matter cannot wait.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Devin Bates, a Senior at Westfield State University and Makenzie Coburn, a Junior from Westfield State University. They invited the Councilors to an event at Circuit Coffee, 22 Elm Street on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM relative to anti-bullying. They informed

the Council that they are working with the Springfield organization "Unify Against Bullying" to provide this event. They informed the Council there will be discounted coffee and cupcakes available.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Chris Clark, 98 Roosevelt Avenue. He informed the Council that he is a student at UMass and a member of WRAFT. He informed the Council that he has discussed the water situation in Westfield with the School of Public Health at UMass and that they are willing to work with Westfield on this issue. He informed the Council that the carbon filters proposed to be used in Westfield do not work on removing the contaminant compounds in Westfield's water.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Tom Smith, 211 Apremont Way, Holyoke. He requested that the City act immediately to restore the Cross Street Playground to a safe and useable condition.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershy, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that gift of a Car Mate Trailer and attached supplies for spill containment from USA Hauling & Recycling Inc. to the Westfield Fire Department be ACCEPTED.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the gift donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from Thunderbolt Council, Inc. to the City of Westfield to benefit Westfield Barnes Regional Airport operations be ACCEPTED and be deposited in their gift account (24199100-483000) until a suitable project is identified.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the following Grants from the MassDOT/ Aeronautics Division under the Airport Safety & Maintenance Program (ASMP) to the Airport Department be ACCEPTED and the sum of \$62,175.00 (local share) be appropriated from Free Cash, as follows:

- \$254,875 Grant for the replacement of two sweeper head units for OshKosh Trucks, State share(80%)-\$203,000.00, Local Share(20%)-\$50,975.00 to Airport, Replacement Equipment account #11900000-587000-5305;
- \$56,000.00 Grant for the purchase of an Online Driver Training Module, State Share(80%)-\$44,800.00, Local Share(20%)-\$11,200.00 to Airport, Purchase Of Services Account # 11990000-520000-5306;
- \$365,000.00 Grant for the installation of a security perimeter fencing, State Share(100%)-\$365,000.00, Local share(0%)-\$0.00.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Absent
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes
Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Matt Emmershly	No
Ralph Figy	Absent
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Onyski informed the Council that the Grant was offered late by the DOT and that as soon as the Airport knew about the grant they immediately applied. He also informed the Council that the Grant must be used by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, therefore that is the reason for immediate consideration. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he supports the Grant but expressed his concern with using Free Cash. Councilor Emmershly also expressed his concern with using Free Cash and requested that the item be referred to the Finance Committee for discussion. Councilor Onyski requested that the discussion be held at this time. Councilor Emmershly questioned how much money is being used to subsidize the airport. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that the airport will not break even this year with its fees, but the fees may be increased for next year. He also informed the Council that because of the airport there are other businesses, for example Gulfstream, that pay taxes to the City. Councilor Allie informed the Council that the items would be required to be purchased and would support the Grants. Councilor Harris informed the Council that this is a wise investment for airport safety. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that the Airport receives a percentage of every gallon of gas sold at the airport.

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.

D. Requesting approval to re-appropriate the balance of Bond Order 2455 for the creation of pickle ball courts.

Councilor Allie questioned how much is left in the bond. President Beltrandi informed the Council that the Engineering Department has a couple of things to finish up using the bond and that the question can be answered in Finance Committee.

At 7:39 PM, President Beltrandi declared a recess.

At 7:40 PM, the meeting was again called to order.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was

VOTED: That items E. and F. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

- E. Requesting reaffirmation of the appropriation of CPA Funds (voted June 1, 2017) for the West Farms/Wyben Schoolhouse (Historic) located at 605 Montgomery Road due to change of care and custody.
- F. Requesting reaffirmation of the appropriation of CPA Funds (voted May 19, 2016) for the Old Town Hall (Historic) located at 20 Broad Street due to new ownership.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to act upon an item received at tonight's meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the reappointment of Robert J. Popko, 10 Greylock Street, as the Weights and Measures Inspector for a term to expire the first Monday of April, 2021 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Popko has been Westfield's Inspector since 1989, he attends multiple trainings every year relative to new State and Federal regulations and is diligent in remaining certified with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as Weights and Measures Inspector.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That the 2018 annual license renewal submitted City Clerk Karen Fanion for the following be REFERRED TO LICENSE COMMITTEE.

Rosewood	34 Elm Street	Junk Dealer	Jillian Knapp
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Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was  
VOTED: That the communication submitted Chief Camerota, Chair of the Traffic Commission, requesting No Parking ordinance amendments relative to the following streets: Root Road, Main Street and Chapel Street be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That the 2018 Depreciation appropriation for the Gas and Electric Department in the amount of \$4,487,216.00 submitted by Westfield Gas & Electric Manager Daniel Howard be ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That the application submitted by Blue Umbrella Books, 2 Main Street applying for a Junk Collector's license, Russell Atwood, owner, be REFERRED TO LICENSE COMMITTEE and that a Public Hearing be scheduled at the next regular City Council meeting to be held May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was  
VOTED: That the notification from the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission that the following businesses will have a monitor installed at their existing KENO To Go locations: Mobil Mart, 162 Southampton Road; J & J Variety, 69 Franklin Street; and J & J Variety, 122 Montgomery Street be ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershy, for the Finance Committee, it was  
VOTED: That the sum of \$21,000.00 be appropriated from the PEG Designated Fund Balance account #2110-340000 to the PEG Purchase of Services, account #21106940-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Emmershly informed the Council that the appropriation is for the removal of asbestos flooring and the repair of a concrete floor at the PEG studio to be located at Westfield Technical Academy.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershly, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$53,161.33 be appropriated from the PEG Designated Fund Balance account #2110-340000 to the following:

- \$529.96 to PEG Purchase of Services, account #21106940-520000
- \$679.50 to PEG Supplies, account #21106940-540000
- \$51,951.87 to PEG Equipment, account #21106940-585000

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Emmershly informed the Council that the appropriation is for equipment and supplies for the PEG studio.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershly, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the Order appropriating the sum of \$22,440.00 dollars for the purpose of taking permanent and temporary (five year) easements by right of eminent domain for roadway, traffic and related improvements relative to the Western Avenue Roadway Reconstruction-Central project be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Emmershly informed the Council that the appropriation is for the easements.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershly, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilors Flaherty and Allie requesting investigation of options to fully fund OPEB within 30 years REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershly, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the motion of Councilors Emmershly, Allie, and Surprise to review water production costs, and make recommendations REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That the second reading and final passage of an Order entitled AN ORDER APPROVING AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL AGREEMENT IN THE FORM OF A GROUND LEASE AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WESTFIELD AND THE GAS AND ELECTRIC (3/17/16) be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE.

Councilor Onyski informed the Council that this was for a gas pipe along the rail trail and is not needed because the power plant never happened.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Grace Sullivan, 684 Holyoke Road as a member of the Board of Assessors for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Sullivan has over 20 years of service on this Board, has a vast knowledge of all circumstances, aspects and people which benefit the City. She serves as the Chair and is a Realtor in the City and has much knowledge of property values, current and historical. City Assessor Robin Johnson recommends her reappointment.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Kathleen Deviny, 18 Noble Avenue as a member of the Historical Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

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



Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Ms. Deviny has served for the past two years on this Commission. She is the Archives and Museum Coordinator for the Westfield Athenaeum and she takes care of displaying artifacts and papers that are donated to the Library. She worked with Professor Robert Brown for over 12 years and has been instrumental in providing context to the various items preserving Westfield's history. She is a Certified Archivist by the Academy of Certified Archivists which means she knows how to identify, store and maintain historical materials. She also is on the Dewy House Board of Trustees. Councilor Allie informed the Council that she has been instrumental in coordinating the Westfarms/Wyben schoolhouse project.

Upon motion of Councilor Burns, for the ad hoc Business Development Committee, it was

VOTED: That the following items be REMOVED FROM COMMITTEE.

1. Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Paul Dion, 61 Loomis Ridge. Mr. Dion, owner of Westfield Aviation, expressed his concerns relative to a recently received tax bill as a lessee of Airport property. 1/6/11
2. That the Elm Street & the Intramodal Project 1/20/114/7/11
3. Council requests that the Mayor and associated departments, begin the process needed to establish an Economic Impact Zone for the downtown area 4/7/11
4. Council requests that the Mayor and associated departments, begin the process needed to establish a contractual agreement with University of Massachusetts - Amherst, the Center for Economic Development, to complete a comprehensive study on a business advancement master plan for the downtown area 4/7/11
5. To establish an Economic and Cultural Development Advisory Committee to explore avenues and make recommendations for unifying stakeholders around Westfield's development efforts 2/4/16

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: That the following tabled items REMAIN ON THE TABLE until the next regular meeting of the Council to be held May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.

- A. TABLED: Resolution DEDICATING LOCAL OPTION MEALS TAX TO THE ROAD AND SIDEWALK REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE STABILIZATION FUND.
- B. TABLED: Resolution DEDICATING LOCAL OPTION OCCUPANCY TAX TO THE ROAD AND SIDEWALK REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE STABILIZATION FUND.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That the following tabled item REMAIN ON THE TABLE until the May 17<sup>th</sup>,  
2018.

- C. TABLED: motion of Councilor Bean to send a resolution to the Mayor asking him to use the hotels and meals tax increase to offset the \$100.00 (average) water rate increase to all resident and commercial users

Upon motion of Councilor Bean (and Burns), it was  
VOTED: That the City zoning ordinances be reviewed as they relate to special permit granting authority and be REFERRED TO AD HOC BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie (and Flaherty), it was  
VOTED: That it be requested that annual OPEB contributions based on gross payroll by department to be included in the Annual Budget and be REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Councilor Harris informed the Council that the Mayor should be involved in this instead of Finance Committee. Councilor Allie informed the Council that the Finance Committee will flush out ideas then present to the Mayor.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was  
VOTED: That the bond for Cross Street School be rescinded and that the matter be REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Councilor Bean questioned if it could be used to refurbish the playground.

Councilor Allie offered a motion to request and review contract with Saint Joseph's Church for use of parking lot. Councilor Harris informed the Council that the above motion is incorrect, it should be St. Peter's/St. Casimir's Church.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was  
VOTED: That the above motion be AMENDED to read to review contract with St. Peter's/St. Casimir's Church for use of parking lot and that the matter be REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Morganelli, it was  
VOTED: That the intersection of Munger Hill Road and Harvestmoon Lane be reviewed for the need for a crosswalk or signage and that the matter be REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE and it was further voted to include Councilor Paul on the motion. Councilor Surprise questioned if it needs to be referred to Traffic Commission. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that the Public Health and Safety Committee will talk about it and then it will be referred to Traffic Commission.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That it be requested for an order, ordinance, or resolution that net proceeds from the Water Pollution lawsuits (after legal fees) be dedicated to: #1 - paying off the balance of associated outstanding bonds, #2 - providing water bill credits to consumers for their payment of increased fees for water cleanup projects, #3 - fund a special purpose Stabilization Fund to be used exclusively for future operating expenses of the water filtration systems and waterwork's projects and that the matter be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE, WATER COMMISSION and MAYOR.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the money should stay in the Water Commission. Councilor Bean questioned if the Council has the authority to do this. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that that is the reason to send it to committee. Councilor Harris informed the Council that this motion may be premature and should wait until after the Executive Session Special Meeting of the Council to be held April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that this is to get the ball rolling. Councilor Onyski questioned if it should go to Finance Committee. Councilor Surprise agreed it should go to Finance Committee. Councilor Morganelli agreed with Councilor Harris that it is premature and appreciated Councilor Flaherty for his forethoughts for the residents. Councilor Babinski informed the Council that it doesn't hurt to start the conversation. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the matter be also REFERRED TO LONG RANGE FINANCIAL OVERVIEW COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That a resolution to the Mayor requesting funding for restoring Cross Street playground to safe usable condition in FY19 be REFERRED TO THE MAYOR and request researching the use of CPA, Block Grant, or "Fish Fund" monies vs existing Bond Authorization and it was further voted, upon motion of Councilor Flaherty that "vs" be amended to "and/or".

Councilor Surprise announced that Artworks will take place this Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Church of the Atonement from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

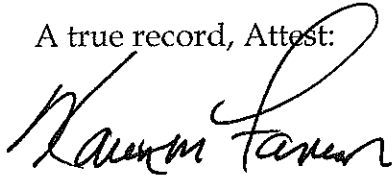
President Beltrandi reminded the Councilors to shut down their computers.

Councilor Onyski informed the Council that he went to the Senior Options today at the Senior Center and that it was a great display of vendors in many categories. Councilor Babinski agreed.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council he will be at the Municipal Courts at 9:30 AM on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to learn how to play pickleball.

At 8:12 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was  
VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A true record, Attest:

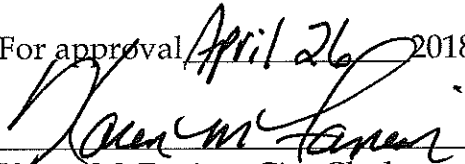


Karen M. Fanion  
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

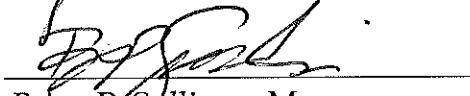
Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval April 26 2018

  
Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

April 26 2018

  
Brian P. Sullivan, Mayor