

MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
JANUARY 4, 2018  
(rescheduled to January 8, 2018 due to inclement weather)

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

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

Councilor Bean nominated Councilor Flaherty as President pro- tempore.

With no other nominations being offered, and upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That nominations be CLOSED.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was  
VOTED: That Councilor Flaherty be ELECTED as President pro-tempore.

The City Clerk called the roll. Councilors Beltrandi and Paul were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was led Boy Scout Troop No. 109.

President pro-tempore Flaherty 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 meeting of December 21, 2017 be ACCEPTED.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Ms. Kristen Melo, 27 Moseley Avenue. She informed the Council that WRAFT (Westfield Residents Advocating For Themselves) had recently met and several questions arose from that meeting. She informed the Council that per Section 26 of the Charter the Council may request information on any matter and WRAFT would like information on the following matters: What are the innovative architecture & building practices used to minimize environmental and aquifer damage? How much empty retail, industrial, & commercial/business space is available in the City already? Does the Health Department have a comprehensive list of the private wells and contact information for

the residents using them? What is PFAS Contamination Source relative to surface water testing of Powdermill Brook and Pond Brook at their headwaters, at their ponds (all), at their closest points to Well 2? Why are the numbers on Lower Sandy Hill Rd are so high compared to all others? If the City does not have the money to do testing can WRAFT do it if they can get funding? Ms. Melo also submitted a list of 11 more questions to the Clerk and upon motion of Councilor Babinski, it was  
VOTED: That all of questions be REFERRED TO NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Mr. Trent Stucenski, 10 Ridgeview Terrace. He thanked the Councilors for allowing Boy Scout Troop 109 to use the land a Ponders Hollow Road for a Survivorman Adventure - a fun outdoor activity day for boys in 5th through 8th grade.

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 \$19,342.00 be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Absent
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.	Absent
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was  
VOTED: That item B. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

The Clerk read from the Agenda:

B. Submitting a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Westfield authorizing the Mayor to execute a development agreement for the Springfield Road Traffic Signalization Project with N&J LLC.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was  
VOTED: That items C, D., E., F. and G. under "Communications from the Mayor" be

read by the Clerk and REFERRED TO PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The Clerk read from the Agenda:

- C. Submitting 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.
- D. Submitting 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.
- E. Submitting the appointment of Meagan L. Laramee, 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, 2021, replacing Adam Rivera, resigned.
- F. Submitting 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.
- G. Submitting the appointment of Peter Cowles, Jr., 18 Egleston Road, as the Media Systems Specialist position for a one year term from date of appointment.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, ADOPTED JUNE 17, 1993" (Amending Chapter 12 Section 12-7 Unclassified Service - Councilors' salary amendment) be given second reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given second reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That the Ordinance be PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Absent
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.	Absent
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Surprise (and Flaherty), it was

VOTED: 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. This Road and Sidewalk Special Purpose Stabilization Fund will 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. And the above matter was REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE and amended by Councilors Bean and Figy to also REFER TO LAW DEPARTMENT and LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

Councilor Surprise informed the Council that at the June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Special City Council meeting, Mayor Sullivan informed the Council that the money collected from the meals tax would be deposited in the general fund, but he was committed to using that money for roads, sidewalks and infrastructure project. Councilor Surprise informed the Council that the meals tax money may be deposited specifically to a fund earmarked for roads, sidewalks and infrastructure projects. Councilor Bean informed the Council that he likes the purpose of using the meals tax money for those specific items, but has concerns depositing money to a specific fund and then having that money locked up because there may be a need for that money for other purposes such as police, fire or schools.

At this point, President Pro-tempore Flaherty relinquished the Chair to Councilor Bean.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was  
VOTED: For an Order to enable Internet web browser access on the city council workstation computers and be TABLED TO THE FIRST MEETING IN FEBRUARY.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was  
VOTED: That an updated Capital Plan Excel spreadsheet be delivered to the City Council on or before the first City Council meeting in March 2018 and be REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE, TREASURER and AUDITOR.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the last audit received was in 2015.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was  
VOTED: That the motion requesting an edit to the Rules of Council requesting that the L&O Committee, Finance Committee, and Personnel Action Committee have a regular schedule; and, that a rule be created that prevents committee meeting overlaps (so that no two committee meet at the same time) be REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA WITHOUT PREJUDICE and that it will be taken up in the next motion.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was  
VOTED: That the Charter & Rules Committee to review the current City Council Rules, collect suggestions for edits from the City Councilors, and make recommendations for revisions and be REFERRED TO CHARTER & RULES COMMITTEE and upon motion

of Councilor Figy, it was further voted to also be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

Councilor Bean informed the Council that it is a smart thing to look at the rules but that the Charter and Rules Committee is not a committee that exists in the Charter and that's why it also has to go to Legislative and Ordinance Committee.

At this point President pro-tempore Flaherty resumed the Chair.

Upon motion of Councilor Emmershy, it was VOTED: That the matter of recording and broadcasting of Committee meetings be REFERRED TO GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE and it was also voted that Councilor Morganelli be added to the motion.

Councilor Emmershy informed the Council that he spoke with the Mayor relative to the technical expenses of the motion and that there are fixed units and also mobile units that can move from room to room and that they cost of each would need to be looked into. Upon motion of Councilor Figy it was further voted that the motion also be REFERRED TO LAW DEPARTMENT. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that while on the campaign trail many citizens indicated that it was important to have subcommittees broadcast. Councilor Babinski agreed the Council should move in this direction to broadcast and record Committee meetings. Councilor Harris informed the Council that this could be complicated and costly because these meetings may be used to campaign and that this matter has been discussed in the past years and that the matter needs to be investigated thoroughly. Councilor Surprise informed the Council that the people want transparency and he is absolutely in favor of the motion. Councilor Emmershy informed the Council that this is for initial talks with using the existing server and increasing the vimeo use which will come at a cost. Councilor Bean informed the Council that a counter of how many are watching would be money well spent or get numbers from other communities. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he is in favor of this motion and also agrees with Councilor Harris, but in general, access is a good idea and that technology has changed tremendously in the past few years and may now be feasible and cost effective. Councilor Babinski informed the Council that sometimes not everyone can fit in the room and having it videotaped and broadcast would be helpful. Councilor Allie informed the Council it would be helpful to have the subcommittee meetings videotaped and broadcast so that the public can know the discussion of the subcommittee because sometimes there is no discussion at the City Council meeting.

Councilor Morganelli informed everyone that the weather will be getting warmer after the long stretch of bitter cold.

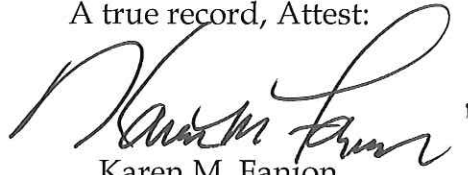
At 7:30 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

## 2018 City Council Subcommittees/Liaisons

Sub-Committee	Chair	Member	Member
Legislative & Ordinance	Figy	Onyski	Morganelli
Finance	Allie	Surprise	Emmershy
Personnel Action	Harris	Figy	Onyski
License	Bean	Paul	Babinski
Zoning Planning & Development	Flaherty	Burns	Paul
Public Health & Safety	Morganelli	Babinski	Allie
Government Relations	Surprise	Bean	Harris
Natural Resources	Babinski	Morganelli	Figy
City Properties	Onyski	Surprise	Emmershy
Long Range Financial Overview	Paul	Flaherty	Allie
Charter & Rules	Emmershy	Paul	Flaherty
Business Development	Burns	Bean	Beltrandi

Liaisons	
Airport	Onyski
Barnes Aquifer & Flood	Babinski
Community Preservation	Allie
Cultural Council	Surprise
Council on Aging	Figy
Engineering	Beltrandi
Fire	Emmershy
Gas & Electric	Paul
Historical	Flaherty
Landfill / Waste & Recycling	Babinski
Library	Harris
Off Street Parking	Surprise
Parks & Recreation	Morganelli
Planning Board	Onyski
Police	Burns
Public Works	Flaherty
Schools	Bean/Figy
Water & Sewer	Morganelli

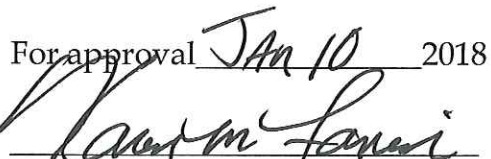
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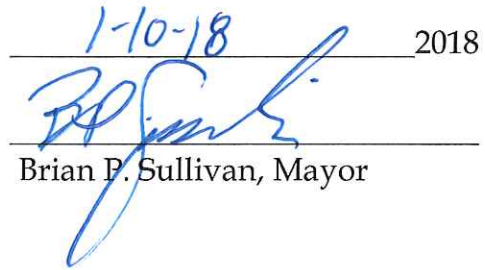


Karen M. Fanion  
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval JAN 10 2018  
  
Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

1-10-18 2018  
  
Brian P. Sullivan, Mayor