



MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
TELECONFERENCE
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
JANUARY 20, 2022 AT 7:00 PM

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, certain Covid-19 protection measures were extended as they relate to M.G.L. c. 30A, §20, the Open Meeting Law. This meeting of the **City Council** will be conducted via remote participation. Specific information can be found on the City of Westfield website at www.cityofwestfield.org. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so by tuning into Channel 15 or Channel 12 or online at westfieldtv.org or online at Youtube.com - Westfield Community Programming Channel. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the City's website an audio recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Onyski.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was

VOTED: That the record of the meetings of January 6, 2022 Inaugural Meeting, January 6, 2022 regular meeting, January 12, 2022 Special meeting be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Kate Phelon 150 Hillside Road, Vice Chair of Columbia Rail Trail. She informed the Council of the Safe Routes program and the survey that is available relative to extending the rail trail north to Southampton Road.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Jessica Britton 36 Casimir Street. She questioned how the Board of Health can make decisions for the whole City and as a constituent she has come to be heard. She expressed her concern that masks are only a revenue source.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by City Engineer Mark Cressotti. He informed the Council that he supports the job description for the City Engineer that has been submitted to the Council. And that the City Engineer does not have a Commission, it's a direct report to the Mayor and City Council and that he would not be in favor of changing the structure. At this point he lost connection to the meeting.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Adam Ripka, 65 Janis Road. He informed the Council that he is a Leukemia survivor and that his medication affected his skin and if it wasn't for his wife his doctors would have continued the same medication. The medication for him did not work. And the same thing for masks, some people are affected by wearing masks and should not be mandated for everyone. He requested the Board of Health to rescind the mask mandate.

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Ashley Reed, 131 Lindbergh Blvd. She informed the Council that on a box of masks it says if have a health condition do not wear and that she was refused service for not wearing a mask. And that no mandate should be imposed on anyone, it is unjust.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was
VOTED: That the rules of the City Council be SUSPENDED in order to allow for extended time for public participation.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Katrina Ripka, 65 Janis Road. She questioned why only 15 minutes of public participation and why participants from the public cannot be seen on the zoom meeting. She expressed her concern of the fine of \$1,000 for businesses and the burden on businesses to discriminate against those that do not wear a mask and that businesses need help. There are citizens policing other citizens and there is strong evidence that masks do no help. Mandates are breeding hostility and children suffering the most.

Councilor Morganelli questioned why he doesn't see a list of participants and that he thought the 30 minute limit was correct. President Onyski informed the Council that the public participation is 15 minutes and everyone logged into the meeting has spoken and that there is a button for the list of participants.

Councilor Flaherty commented that the Council has no authority to do anything about the Board of Health mandate, therefore there is no good to participate at Council. The only thing the public can do is go to court to appeal it.

1. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that the sum of \$7,034.56 be appropriated from Reserve for Unforeseen account #19500000-570900 to Severance account #12450000-519900.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the appropriation is needed for the unanticipated departure of Sean Stopa, therefore the money was not budgeted.

2. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that a Grant in the amount of \$65,000.00 the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) to the Westfield Health Department and CORE of Greater Westfield be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that due to the above average overdose deaths, the grant will be used for increased staffing to help to prevent overdose deaths.

3. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was VOTED: Under immediate consideration, that a Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) to the Technology Center be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that there is no specific amount of money, it's to participate in the security program.

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was VOTED: That items 4. - 13. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

4. Requesting acceptance of a Grant in the amount of \$41,600.00 from the MassDOT Aeronautics Division to the Airport Department.
5. Requesting acceptance of a Grant in the amount of \$17,807.87 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Office and the Department of Fire Services to the Westfield Fire Department.
6. Appropriation of \$930,000.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to Engineering Construction acct #14110000-589200 for the following projects: \$600,000.00 for the paving of Holyoke Rd and \$330,000.00 for the paving of Union St - Union Ave-Neck Road. This amends the previous request of \$1,500,000.00.

7. Transfer of \$38,387.15 from Police Towing and Storage account #24210714-585001 to the Police Equipment Vehicle Account #12100000-585001 for the purchase of replacing the Administrative/Detective Bureau Vehicle.
8. Appropriation of \$20,000.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to the Personnel Department, Purchase of Services acct #11520000-520000 to modernize method of posting open positions.
9. Appropriation of \$100,000.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to Department of Public Works, Waste Collection & Disposal Division for the following anticipated expenses: \$85,000.00 to Purchase of Services, acct #14330000-520000; \$13,000.00 to Overtime, account #14330000-513000; \$2,000.00 to Out of Grade, acct. #14330000-514200
10. Appropriation of \$793,770.00 from Department of Public Works, Sewer and Wastewater Division acct #67004400-35900 to the following accounts: \$643,770.00, Purchase of Service account #67004400-520000; \$100,000.00 Supplies account #67004400-540000; \$50,000.00-Additional Capital/Equipment account #67004400-585000.
11. Transfer of \$75,000.00 within the Department of Public Works, Water Division as follows: \$50,000.00 from Health Insurance account #68004500-519400 to Overtime account #68004500-513000 and \$25,000.00 from Full Time Hourly account #68004500-511100 to Purchase of Services account #68004500-520000.
12. Appropriation of \$2,459,310.00 from Department of Public Works, Water Division Undesignated Account #68004500-35900 to the following: \$2,091,110 to Purchase of Services, account #68004500-520000; \$168,200.00 to Supplies, account #68004500-540000; \$200,000.00 to Equip/Vehicles account #68004500-585001.
13. Submitting for approval, the recently signed Westfield Police Officers Coalition contract which will become effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That items 14. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

14. Submitting a Resolution for approval to sign on behalf of the City of Westfield the Fourth Amendment to the Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town of Southwick and the City of Westfield for the Treatment and Disposal of Wastewater.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was

VOTED: That items 15. – 24. under “Communications from the Mayor” be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

The Clerk read from the Agenda as follows:

15. Submitting the reappointment of Norman Smith, 48 Reservoir Road, as a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities for a term to expire the first Monday of June, 2024.
16. Submitting the reappointment of Andrea Pianka, 32 Yeoman Avenue, as a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities for a term to expire the first Monday of March, 2024.
17. Submitting the reappointment of Christopher Mowatt, 17 Spruce Circle, as a member of the License Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2027.
18. Submitting the reappointment of Richard Emmings, 3 West School Street, as a member of the Public Safety Communications Commissions for a term to expire the first Monday of June, 2024.
19. Submitting the appointment of Michael Gutowski, 69 Western Avenue, as member of the Airport Commission, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2025, replacing George Keefe.
20. Submitting the appointment of John M. Greaney, 58 Ridgecrest Drive, as a member of the Council on Aging, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2025, replacing William Brown.
21. Submitting the appointment of Nicholas Aieta, 96 Russell Road, as a member of the Historical Commission, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2025, replacing Ellen McEwan.

22. Submitting the appointment of James Irwin, 75 Western Avenue, as a member of the Police Commission, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2025, replacing Leonard Osowski.
23. Submitting the appointment of Brian Richards, 60 Pineridge Drive, as a member of the Public Works Board, for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2025, replacing John E. Sullivan.
24. Submitting the appointment of Constance Adams, 354 Root Road, as a member of the Westfield Redevelopment Authority, for a term to expire the first Monday of October, 2024, replacing Ali Salehi, resigned.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean, Chair of Personnel Action Committee, informed the Council that he would like to do immediate consideration for future reappointments but the reappointments on tonight's Agenda will be referred to Personnel Action Committee because most reappointments always go through. Councilor Harris informed the Council that there were countless times she tried to do immediate consideration for reappointments but always received objections. She agreed that it was an excellent idea for reappointments. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that it is important to have the public be able to come into a meeting for appointments and reappointments. And, for example, if a reappointment for the Board of Health comes in it's important for the public and Council to ask questions and it is the oversight of the Council to get information on appointees' qualifications for the board/commission. And that this is the only way for the Council to influence boards/commissions and for the Council and public to weigh in. Councilor Morganelli echoed Councilor Flaherty's comments and added that there may be a person out there that may be more skilled and should be considered. Councilor Beltrandi agreed that this is why there are subcommittees to get information from the public. Councilor Bean informed the Council that the comments are fair enough and he will not fight the fight but that he has never seen a reappointment not get reappointed. Councilor Allie informed the Council that he has questioned some of the actions of appointees and it needs to be addressed and have to do due diligence. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he has voted no on a reappointment. And that the public should be able to weigh in. Councilor Adams questioned how Councilors and the public will be able to weigh in at the subcommittee meeting because Councilors that are nonmembers of the committee are not allowed to participate and will there be questions allowed from the public. Councilor Bean informed the Council that he will allow other Councilors to speak at his Personnel Action Committee meetings because it doesn't make sense not to allow Councilors to speak. It's not about deliberation. It's not the intent to violate the Open Meeting Law, it's the intent to have an open discussion. And to gag seven Councilors and not six does not make any sense, that's not in spirit of the law. He referenced that there was a previous Open Meeting Law violation relative to Councilors participating at a subcommittee in which the State upheld, but that it doesn't make any sense. He referenced that it is like not wearing a mask in City Hall Chambers and when the rule was broken nothing happened and that this is like the same thing and that he will allow his subcommittee will have that openness. Councilor Morganelli took offense of Councilor Bean's statement about masks.

25. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: That the opinion submitted by First Assistant City Solicitor Shanna Reed relative to the motion from Council on December 16, 2021 regarding Mask Mandate issued by the Board of Health be ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that it's self-explanatory and answers the question that was asked. Councilor Allie informed the Council that it answers the question that the Board of Health is an independent organization and can make reasonable regulations without public notice. However, for the past two years, businesses have shut down, people have lost their jobs and children's education and development have been interrupted and people have a right to know why regulations are made. He informed the Council that Chair of the Board of Health, Juanita Carnes reported that she would give proof relative to the decision of the Board of Health but she has not because there may not be any because of all the conflicting information in the media. He read a document relative to masks. A copy of the document is attached to the minutes. He offered a motion a motion to request the Mayor to meet with the Board of Health and request them to rescind the mask mandate. Councilor Morganelli seconded the motion and apologized to the public for his inadvertency in saying that the City Solicitor would be present at the meeting to answer questions relative to the opinion. He read the last paragraph of the opinion relative to the Board of Health having statutory rights to impose regulations. And that the Council does not have the authority to question or change the regulations. Councilor Mello requested that the legal opinion be placed on the website. Councilor Figy gave point of order that there are two motions on the floor. The motion to accept and place on file was taken. Councilor Allie restated his motion. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that he seconded the motion the first time around, but now according to the opinion, the Council does not have the authority to do so and that the Mayor can address the Board of Health on his own if he wishes. Councilor Harris informed the Council that per the Law Department the Council does not have authority over the Board of Health. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that with the restated motion there is no second and cannot have discussion. Councilor Morganelli seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion. Councilor Flaherty agreed that the Council and the Mayor do not have authority over the Health Board but may be able to request information. He informed the Council that as an individuals they can advocate for a particular cause. Councilor Matthews-

Kane informed the Council that she appreciates public participation but because the Council has no authority over this matter, the Council should not be deliberating over it. Councilor Allie informed the Council that the intent is not to tell the Board of Health what to do, it's about asking questions and getting answers. Councilor Onyski informed the Council that he will abstain on the vote because per the Law Department they have no authority over the Board of Health. Councilor Morganelli questioned why Westfield is different from other cities whereas Mayors in other cities make the decision on the mandates.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	No
John Beltrandi III	No
Michael Burns	Abstain
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	Abstain
Cindy Harris	Abstain
Bridget Matthews-Kane	No
Kristen Mello	Abstain
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Abstain
William Onyski	Abstain
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	No
James Adams	No
Dan Allie	Yes

26. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That the Resolution submitted by City Planner Jay Vinskey to authorize the Mayor to execute a Preservation Restriction for Westfield Woman's Club, Inc., 28 Court Street be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and LAW DEPARTMENT. Councilor Mello informed the Council that she has filed the appropriate disclosure forms with the City Clerk relative to motion.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

27. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the petition submitted by Smail's LLC, 59 Arnold Street, Westfield, Cornelius Phillips, Representative, for a zoning amendment at 54 and 45 Washington Street, current zoning Residence C and 59 Arnold Street, current zoning Commercial A to all Business A be REFERRED TO THE PLANNING BOARD, ZONING, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE and that a Public Hearing be scheduled at the earliest practicable date.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

28. A Public Hearing was called to order on a petition to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow taprooms and similar accessory uses in Industrial A District. Councilor Figy, representing the petition, informed the Council that this is a second submission due to the first one timing out. He informed the Council that the Planning Board voted in favor 6 to 1 for this amendment. It's to allow the public to try products that are manufactured on site, there are pockets of Industrial A in residential areas and that most Industrial A zones are isolated. Also, the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission (ABCC) issues a license for the farm pouring license with approval first from the local License Commission and at that time the public could weigh in because there is a requirement for a public hearing. The applicant will also have to go through the building inspector and health inspector. Therefore, making a requirement to have a Special Permit would be redundant and costly as the application would be \$700.00. With this amendment it will attract prospective businesses to come to Westfield. Currently there is on site sales, but not on site consumption. He gave an example that if pasta was being manufactured then samples could be consumed on site. Currently there are four farm pouring licenses in Westfield, two are in Business B, one in Business A and one in Rural Residential Agricultural. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that the License Commission has links on its site to the ABCC. Councilor Matthews-Kane questioned if this is just for beer and wine or is it also for distilled spirits. Councilor Figy replied that it is for the consumption of anything that is manufactured on site but does not pertain to marijuana. Councilor Matthews-Kane questioned if the License Commission can put conditions or restrictions on the license. Councilor Figy replied that yes they can. Councilor Matthews-Kane questioned if there can be restrictions relative to the site plan such as where the driveway goes and who would do that. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that all applications start with the Building Department application for zoning permit and then it is sent to all other

departments for their review. Councilor Mello expressed her concerns that the Council has not had its training on Environmental Justice (EJ) communities and did not want to have the rights of EJ communities go unprotected if there was no special permit. Councilor Mello questioned what about other products that would be consumed on site that do not go to the License Commission. Councilor Figy replied that he did not know that answer, but for a license with the License Commission there would be public hearing and abutters would be notified, therefore the EJ communities would be notified. Councilor Morganelli commented that according to an opinion received from Law, City Councilors cannot go to the License Commission for a constituents, the person themselves need to do it. He spoke in favor of the application. Councilor Allie questioned if a business is making something that is not consumable, like golf balls. Councilor Figy replied that it would be for a virtual golf course on the premises. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that the License Commission can impose restrictions. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that Councilors can advocate for constituents, the opinion is saying that the Council as a body cannot order another body to do something. Councilor Matthews-Kane questioned if the License Commission only deals with alcohol. Councilor Figy replied it's for any license that is in Westfield. Councilor Matthews-Kane questioned if a business is making ice cream would they go through the License Commission. Councilor Figy replied that he may be a bit confused on that but that it would go through the Board of Health because it's food. Councilor Matthews-Kane reiterated that Councilor Mello's point stands because not all products may have a public hearing. Councilor Mello questioned if is there could be a sampling room at C & S and any other unintended products. She expressed her concern that the License Commission may not have a detailed public hearing as the Planning Board and would like to have applications go through that process and that the scope of all different public hearings be reviews. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that all food items go through the health department. Councilor Matthews-Kane asked if the health department has public hearings. Councilor Beltrandi repeated that every license starts with the zoning permit in Building department and it may end up with Planning Board.

President Onyski asked for questions from the public. Mary Ann Babinski, 114 Rogers Avenue addressed the Council. She informed the Council that she thought this was only about taprooms and it has now morphed into much more and what happened. Councilor Figy replied that it has not changed, it's just more of an understanding of what's in the ordinance. President Onyski asked for anyone in favor. No one responded. President Onyski asked for anyone in opposition. Mary Ann Babinski spoke in opposition if it is a by-right amendment, but would be in favor if it was by Special Permit. She submitted a letter with her reasons for opposition which included that there is a lot of Industrial A in or near EJ communities. There is residential zones abutting the Cabot Road Industrial A and there is a mobile home park in that same area. She listed other areas within the City which are included in the letter she submitted and the letter is attached. Her final comment was that this should not be the direction of the City. With no one else to be heard and upon motion of Councilor Sullivan offered a motion, which was duly seconded that the Public Hearing be closed and the petition be referred to Legislative and Ordinance Committee. Councilor Flaherty offered an amendment to the motion, which was duly seconded, that the petition be referred to the Zoning, Planning and Development Committee. He informed the Council that he would a ZPD meeting prior to the next Council meeting so as not to hold up the process.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was
VOTED: That the Public Hearing be CLOSED and be REFERRED TO ZONING, PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

29. Upon motion of Councilor Bean, for the Finance Committee, it was
VOTED: That the sum of \$2,200,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash to Stabilization
Reserve for Debt Decline account #8303-345000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean informed the Council that contributing to debt decline will help level the debt service in the future as large projects increase the annual debt service. This will help with the new Franklin Ave school project and the police station project. It will not address the new high school as that won't happen for another decade. Councilor Harris informed the Council that it was a shame that \$2 million from Free Cash was not used to reduce real estate taxes. Councilor Sullivan asked if using reserves would affect the City's bond rate. Councilor Bean replied that the free cash and debt numbers are good for the City's rating.

30. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS RECOVERY PROGRAM SMALL-SCALE INITIATIVES GRANT FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO THE CITY OF WESTFIELD" (in the amount of \$1,500.00 for a Sustainable Materials to the Twiss Street Transfer Station for recycling costs) be ADOPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the grant is a repeat Grant and will be used for transportation and/or processing costs for recycling materials at the Twiss Street Transfer Station, establishment of new programs, staffing costs or various other expenditures.

31. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$8,196.29 be transferred within the City Clerk's Department from Election Personnel account #11610000-512410 to Purchase of Services account #11610000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane informed the Council that the transfer is needed due to unanticipated early voting during budget time and unforeseen, substantial cost increases in the printing, folding and delivery of the city ballots. Due to no preliminary election, there was surplus money in the election personnel account. Councilor Harris gave kudos to the City Clerk Karen Fanion and her entire staff for doing a marvelous job with elections in these past couple of years during unprecedented times. Councilor Sullivan also thanked the City Clerk and her staff for all they did for elections and informed the Council she will work with the Mayor during budget time to pay the poll workers minimum wage.

32. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$45,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash account #1000-359000 to Sealer Weights & Measures Department, Equipment/Vehicle account #12440000-585001.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that it is a liability for the City for the Sealer of Weights and Measures to use his own vehicle to tow a trailer for municipal uses.

33. Councilor Bean, for the Finance Committee, offered a motion for the Appropriation of \$2,000.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to Emergency Management Department as follows: \$1,700.00 Purchase of Services account #12910000-520000 and \$300.00 Supplies account #12910000-540000. Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, replied that this item is to remain in Committee because not enough information was given in Committee. Councilor Bean rescinded his above motion.

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the appropriation of \$2,000.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to Emergency Management Department as follows: \$1,700.00 Purchase of Services account #12910000-520000 and \$300.00 Supplies account #12910000-540000 REMAIN IN COMMITTEE.

Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan, for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That items 34. And 35. Be TABLED to the next regular meeting of the City Council due to subsequent conversations with the new administration there may be a different funding source other than Free Cash.

- 34. Appropriation of \$2,897.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to Conservation Department, Full-Time Salary account #17100000-511000).
- 35. Appropriation \$1,810.00 from Free Cash (1000-359000) to Council on Aging, Full-Time salary account #15410000-511000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

36. 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 AN EASEMENT FOR A CERTAIN PARCEL IN THE CITY OF WESTFIELD" (11 Sycamore Street) 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
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the staircase and porch of the house at this property encroach on city-owned property and it was discovered during a title search and that this has been reviewed by the City's legal department and it is recommended.

37. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the job description for the City Engineer be REMOVED FROM THE TABLE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

President Onyski informed the Council that because the January 6th, 2022 meeting was adjourned prior to this item it is allowable to bring the item up for a vote at this meeting and the item did not time out. Councilor Flaherty requested that the Council deny the Engineer job description tonight so that the new Mayor-elect, McCabe, may have an opportunity to look at it and make possible changes. Councilor Adams expressed his concern that it may take a long time to get it approved if there are changes made to it and that the current Engineer Mark Cressotti is retiring in March. He suggested that changes be made after a new engineer comes in. Councilor Figy agreed that changes would cause a delay and that there will be two vacancies in the department once the current Engineer leaves. Councilor Morganelli questioned if delaying it to the next meeting would do any harm. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the timing is per Ordinance, it either has to be accepted or denied and that there is no plan on restructuring the department and it won't hold anything up by denying this one and letting the Mayor submit a new one at the next meeting. Councilor Matthews-Kane questioned if Mark Cressotti would be staying a little longer after retirement. Councilor Bean questioned if an outgoing Mayor has the right to send in a communication at the end of his term. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council there is no lame duck session law. Councilor Allie questioned if it is changed will the contract need to be changed and will that cause a delay. President Onyski replied that he did not know. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that the new Mayor should be given some latitude. Councilor Mello questioned if nothing is done on it tonight can the Mayor submit a new one for the next meeting. Councilor Flaherty reiterated that there will not be a change in restructuring of the department and the Mayor should have a right to look at it. Councilor Morganelli informed the Council that if there were changes he would like to see both documents side by side to see the changes. Councilor Burns expressed his concern that he has not heard from the Mayor on this issue and that Mark Cressotti lost connection earlier in the meeting when he was talking about it during public participation. Councilor Adams expressed his concern that if the Mayor submits a new one and the Council does not like it there will be a delay. Councilor Harris informed the Council that it would be of most interest to hear Councilor Sullivan's thoughts since he was a former Mayor. Councilor Sullivan, as liaison to the Engineering Department, informed the Council that he would vote to approve the job description and that Mark

Cressotti likes it and that if the Mayor does not like the job description as approved he can send in changes at the next meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Beltrandi, it was

VOTED: That the job description for the City Engineer, as submitted, be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	No
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	No
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	No

The President declared the motion PASSED.

38. Upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was

VOTED: That the second reading and final passage of an Order laying out Angelica Drive (Ward 4) as a City Way be REMOVED FROM THE TABLE.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Burns, it was

VOTED: That an Order entitled "AN ORDER LAYING OUT ANGELICA DRIVE (WARD 4) AS A CITY WAY" be given second reading by title only.

The Order was given second reading and PASSED TO BE ORDAINED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

At 9:37 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	lost connection
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

A true record, Attest:

Karen M. Fanion
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

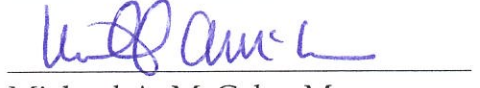
Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval JAN 31 2022

1-31-22 2022


Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk


Michael A. McCabe, Mayor

Dan Allie Jan 20 2022

People lives have been affected for two years, businesses have shut down, some have lost jobs and our children's education and development has been interrupted. People have a right to expect their government explain why it is taking a particular action, and deserve better than the Legal department reporting the Board of Health doesn't have to answer questions.

It is more likely the BOH can't answer question, because there is so much conflicting information out there by the media and government agencies such as the Center for Disease Control.

The same people and agencies that tell us to follow the science, ignore industrial safety experts, and their own agency guidelines when it comes to wearing masks.

The CDC has never stated masks will prevent the transmission of the virus, because that would be untrue, CDC has only recommended masks may or can

According to a May 2020 Center for Disease Control report on Emerging Infectious Diseases

Disposable medical masks are loose-fitting devices designed to be worn by medical personnel to protect accidental contamination of patient wounds, and protect the wearer against splashes or sprays of bodily fluids. There is limited evidence for their effectiveness in preventing influenza virus transmission either when worn by the infected person for source control or when worn by uninfected persons to reduce exposure. Our systematic review found no significant effect of facemasks on transmission of influenza.

At the same time, we are ignoring other doctors and child psychologist's warnings of the affect mask wearing are having on our children.

Cloth and paper masks were not designed for children, and do not protect the wearer or prevent the spread of a virus to others.

Studies have definitively proven that the vast majority of children are not at risk of getting a severe disease from SARS-COVID-2. Vaccines do not prevent the transmission of any Corona virus, the vaccines developed for the original COVID virus are of little value against the Omicron variant, as these viruses are unstable, mutate, with each variant weaker than the original.

Children have natural killer T cells, which prevent serious illness without medical intervention.

According to FDA, CDC and OSHA, masks:

- must fit properly and are not designed for use by children
- must be changed frequently

As soon as mask becomes damp, particles and bacteria collect in mask. This can lead to other infections and health issues.

Children cannot stand up for themselves and are being harmed, physically and psychologically by mask wearing during their developmental years.

Masks

Masks interrupt young children's continued learning of non-verbal communication through facial expressions.

Masks invite children to avoid eye contact with others, especially those who already have difficulty with eye contact, such as those with attention deficit disorders.

Children born during the pandemic found to have significantly reduced verbal, motor, and overall cognitive performance than children pre-pandemic.

As a result of mask mandates and pressure to get vaccinated, psychological symptoms and mental health visits in children have increased. Children who previously exhibited behavior problems have become worse, especially teen girls where the CDC reports a 51% increase in emergency room visits for potential suicides.

Child psychiatrists who have studied the mandates say we must reduce the fear factor for children since they suffer the least from COVID disease:

1. The first thing is to deescalate any fear and anxiety around COVID for children.
2. For children, COVID "is actually a very safe disease" and that children should not be worried about the impact of COVID "on themselves, or their future health."
3. Mandates (masks, vaccines) are more detrimental to children's health than the virus itself.

I would like to make a motion the Mayor request meet with BOH and that the masks mandate be rescinded at their next meeting.

January 20, 2022

City Council Public Hearing on IA zoning amendment for Taprooms

1. As I stated at the September 16, 2021, City Council Public Hearing regarding the request to amend the Industrial A (IA) zoning to allow for taprooms, I'm here to once again state that I support this use by special permit but not by-right.
2. The proposed amendment affects Industrial A zones city wide! If you check out the zoning maps (see diagram A), there are large areas of IA (mostly on the north side) going down in size to isolated slivers of IA scattered throughout the city. A large chunk of the IA zoning is in or near EJ populations (see diagram B).
3. If this suggested amendment is by-right, it will definitely impact those who live near IA zones and remove an opportunity which they deserve to have to address those concerns.
4. I disagree with the comment that because IA is "not the most populated zone in the city ... it will have the least impact on homeowners".
5. I offer these examples of areas in Ward 1 where by-right use would unfairly limit the opportunity for residential populations to voice their concerns about how this zoning amendment could impact them.
 - a. The Cabot Rd neighborhood fought to stop a zone change for parcel 55R-6 from Rural Residential to IA a dozen or so years ago but failed to stop it. When it changed, Sabrina Brook, for all intents and purposes, became a "Rural Residential Island" surrounded by Industrial A zoning.
 - b. There are many residential homes directly across the street from IA property along Root Road. The Hampden Village mobile home park is there. From past experience, I know that residents of Root Rd would have a vested interest in addressing development that could impact their quality of life, health and safety.
 - c. Residences along Lockhouse Rd, North Rd, Bailey Drive, Sammy Lane, Norton St., Arch Rd., Hillside Ave, and Ridgeway Ave to name a few others could be impacted negatively by a by-right use.
6. With a Special Permit requirement, residents near these Industrial A zones would have the opportunity to address any issues and concerns. Residents can ask questions of fact and state their support for or against a development of this type. This opportunity should not be taken away or watered down.
7. It has been suggested that there would be other opportunities for residents to speak up because of the permitting and licensing requirements for this use. As someone who has participated in these "other" opportunities, I disagree. It is not enough, in my opinion.
8. I advocate for public engagement in decision-making, particularly for EJ populations. In my opinion, providing fewer opportunities is not the direction to go.

9. We need to do a better job at outreach, particularly with EJ populations. Many believe that the Public Hearing process could stand some improving. EJ populations in particular deserve the city's best efforts to provide opportunities to engage with them when projects may impact their quality of life.
10. This body has already approved a motion for City Council to receive EJ training. Eliminating an additional opportunity for these populations to participate is not the way to go at this time.
11. Westfield is currently working on its Master Plan! Now is not the time to make this change!

Thank you,

Mary Ann Babinski
114 Rogers Ave

Diagram A. Westfield Zoning

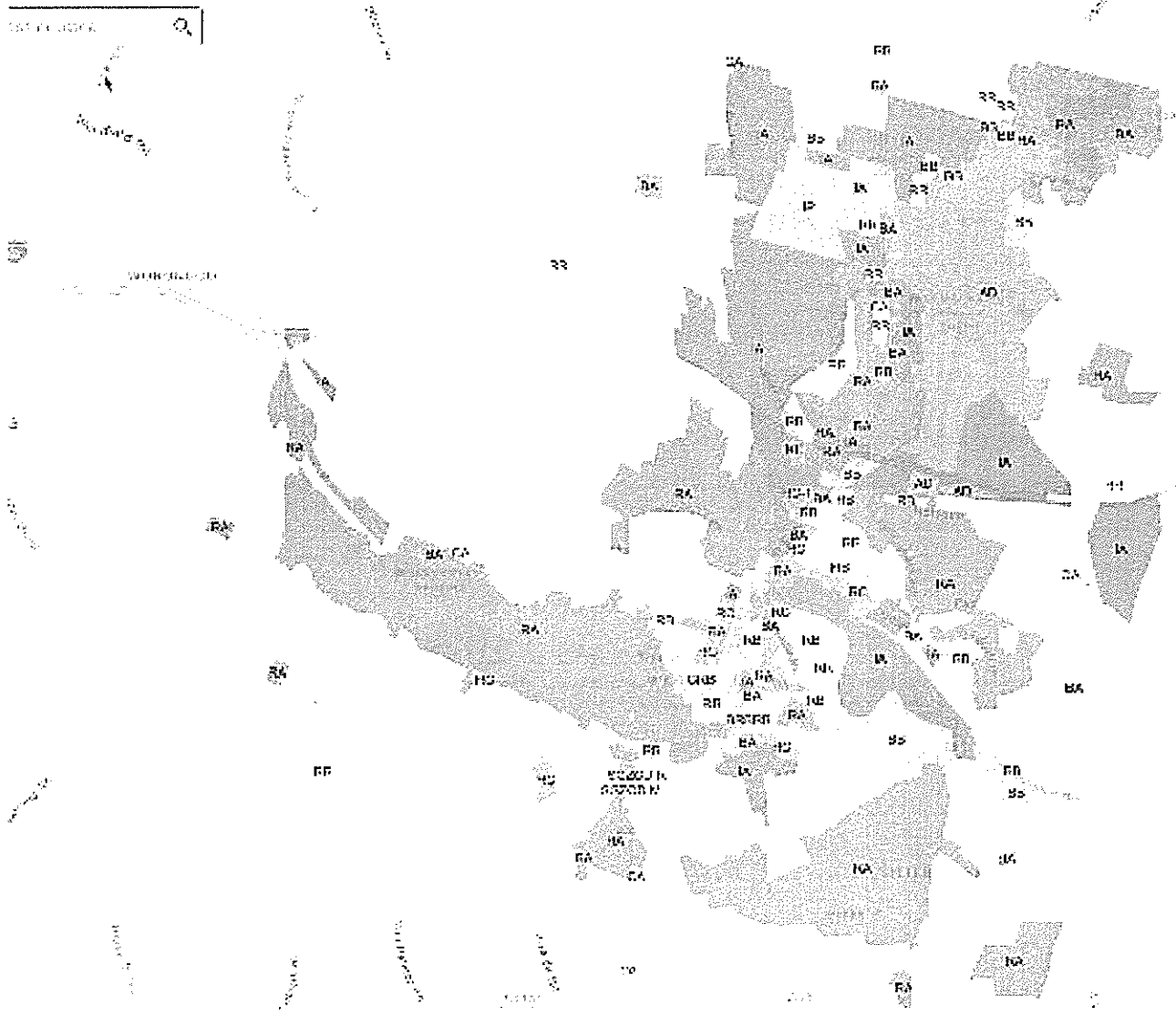
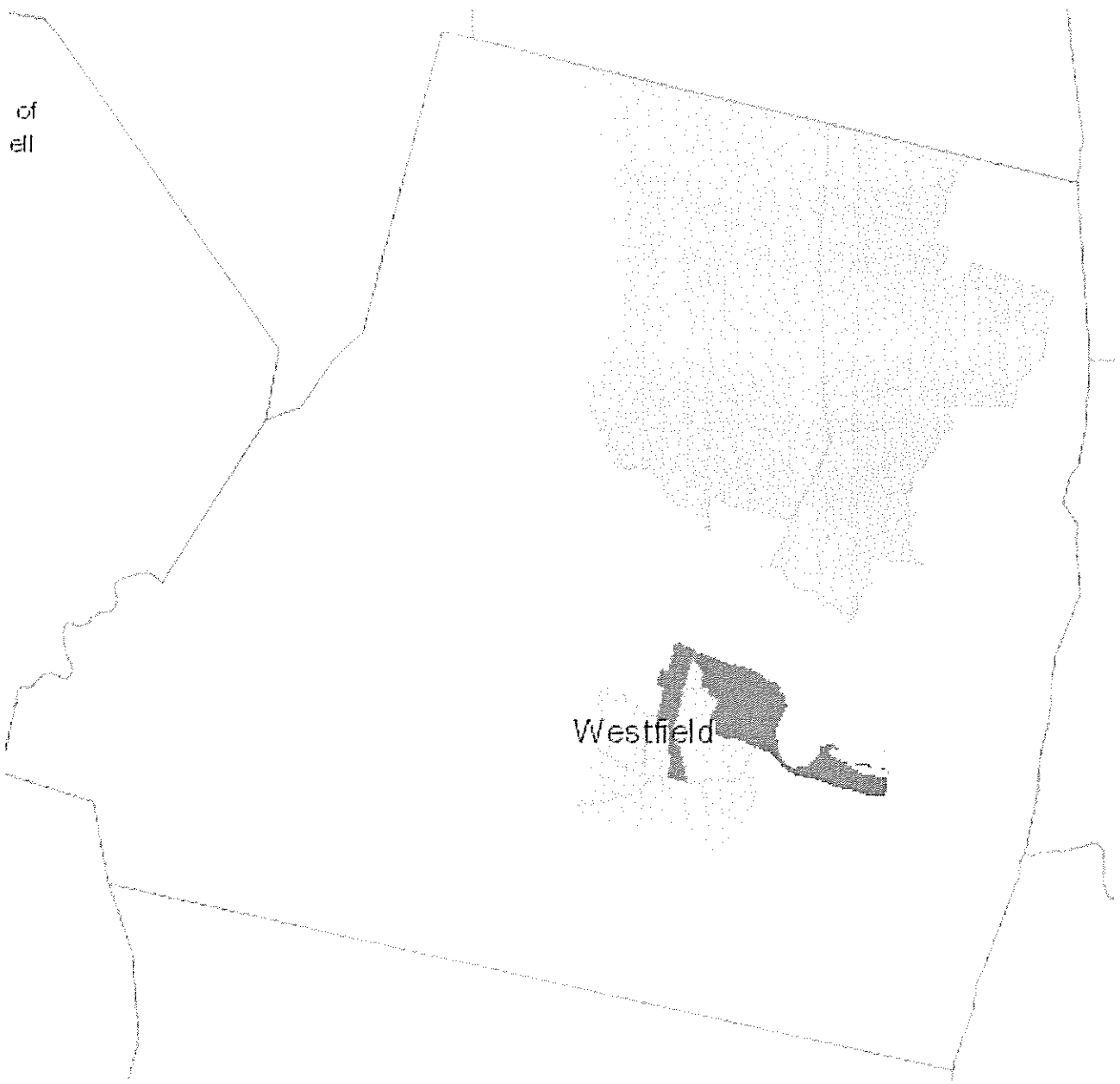


Diagram B. Westfield EJ Populations



↩ Reply ∨ 🗑 Delete 🚫 Junk 🚫 Block ...

[EXTERNAL]Links for Councilors - Columbia Greenway Rail Trail

🕒 You forwarded this message on Fri 1/21/2022 12:20 PM

KP Kate Phelon <kphelon11@gmail.com>
Fri 1/21/2022 11:27 AM
To: Karen Fanion

👍 ↩ ⏪ → ...

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize and verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning Karen,

I am attaching two links that I would like you to share with the city councilors, if permissible. I spoke about these last night during public participation. The link for the Safe Routes webinar is time sensitive, as they have to register for the meeting next Wednesday.

(1) Register [here](#)

Below is the link for the survey with regards to extending the rail trail north to Southampton Road.

(2) Please take a few minutes to answer the short, 12-question [survey](#) today. It will be open until 1/31/22. Feel free to share the link with other rail trail enthusiasts you know. Thank you for your time.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Kate Phelon
Vice Chair
Friends of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail

Reply Forward