



## MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL

59 COURT STREET

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

APRIL 20, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

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 Clerk called the roll. All thirteen Councilors were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Beltrandi.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was

VOTED: That the reading of the record of the meeting April 6, 2023 be ACCEPTED.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Under "Public Participation" the Councilors were addressed by Kevin LeClerc, 7 Free Street. He thanked the Councilors for all they do for the City.

Under "Public Participation" Councilor Flaherty read a letter into the record, submitted by Sandra Gil, 20 Eastwood Drive. The letter explained various ways she has worked with city officials and the School Committee to encourage education programs to reduce littering and clean up the City. He also thanked Sheila Elmer, a resident who has picked up over 100 bags of trash all over the City.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane, it was

VOTED: That items 1., 2. and 3. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

1. Transfer of \$38,538.14 from the Reserve for Future Salary Increases Account #19500000-519999 to various accounts to fund the recently signed AFSCME 35-Hour Unit Successor Agreement for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.
2. Transfer of \$15,000.00 within the Council on Aging Department from the FT Hourly Account #15410000-51100 to the Purchase of Service Account #15410000-520000 to cover utility costs for the remainder of FY23.
3. Acceptance of an in-lieu-of-taxes contribution from Westfield Gas and Electric in the amount of \$556,001.00 for FY24, with payments to be made monthly in the amount of \$46,333.00 commencing after July 1, 2023.

Upon motion of Councilor Allie, it was

VOTED: That item 4. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO CITY PROPERTIES and THE LEGISLATIVE AND

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

- 4. Submitting a Resolution to declare a portion of 0 Church Street as surplus and authorizing the Mayor to enter into a lease with Howie Realty Trust.

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: That item 5. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be REFERRED TO THE PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE.

- 5. Submitting the appointment of Jim Prystowski, 52 Old Farm Road, as a member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire February, 2025, replacing Tom Sharp.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That item 6. under "Communications from the Mayor" be read by the Clerk and be LICENSE COMMITTEE.

- 6. City Clerk Kaitlyn Bruce submitting the annual Fortune Teller, Junk Dealer and Junk Collector License Renewals for 2023.

2023 RENEWAL LICENSES FOR APPROVAL

NAME	ADDRESS	TYPE	OWNERS
Game City	77 Elm Street	Junk Dealer/collector/pawnbroker	Truong Nguyen
Eastern Vehicle Recycling	88 Neck Road	Junk Dealer	Paul Ferretti
EcoATM, LLC	141 Springfield Road	Junk Dealer	EcoATM, LLC
New England Coins & Collectibles	7 Day Avenue	Junk Dealer	David Fisk
Trash Fish Junk Removal	33 Sunrise Terrace	Junk Collector	Evan Charter
Route 202 Antiques	869 North Road	Junk Dealer/collector	Sean Odabashian
Blended Vintage Market Place	48 Elm Street	Junk Dealer/collector	Andrea Bruno
Black Hole Guitars	2 Montgomery Street	Junk Dealer/collector	Michael J Flynn
Camelot Jewelers	55 Southwick Road	Junk Dealer/collector	Matthew Harris & Matthew Turgeon
Game Stop	423 East Main Street	Junk Dealer/collector	Game Stop, Inc.
Meadowbrook Antiques	658 Montgomery Road	Junk Dealer/collector	Susan & Timothy Crane
Patton Firearms	24 Old Holyoke Road	Junk Dealer/collector	Michael Patton
Whip City Music	126 Elm Street	Junk Dealer/collector	Douglas Cotton
Gold & Diamond Buyer	99 Springfield Road, #2	Junk Dealer/collector	7C Michaels
Jasmeine Moonsong	598 Granville Road	Fortune telling	Brandy Latshaw
Brandy Mitchell	69 Southwick Road	Fortune telling	Brandy Mitchell
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT</b>			
Richard's Fine Jewelers	461 East Main Street	Junk Dealer/collector	7C Michaels
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT RENEWING FOR 2023</b>			
Talk More Wireless New England	261 East Main Street	Junk Dealer	The Retail Optimization Co
I buy Stuff	53 Pontoosic Road	Junk Dealer/collector	Bob & Sue Plummer

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND OTHER PAPERS

- 7. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: That a Public Hearing be scheduled at the earliest practicable date for the application submitted by BEK REALTY, LLC c/o Mr. Muradbek Usmonov pursuant to zoning ordinance Sec. 3-130.3(1), for a proposed Trucking Terminal at 70 Lockhouse Road (Industrial A) and the item be REFERRED TO ZONING, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

8. A CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING was held on a petition for a zoning amendment submitted by Councilor Onyski to amend the zoning ordinance at Sec. 4-121 to exempt certain fixtures from the exterior lighting standards.

President Beltrandi opened the Public Hearing to the audience, there was no one present to speak. Councilor Allie stated that the Planning Board voted to keep their Public Hearing opening. He agreed with the purpose of the proposed amendment but stated he was not in favor of grandfathering everyone in and changing the date. He believed everyone needed to come together and discuss opportunities and address challenges. Councilor Mello informed the Council it was Dark Sky Week. She stated that she supported the intent but not the amendment and was interested in finding a reasonable migration plan, including relaxing immediate enforcement and taking resident complaints and problems into account as a priority. Councilor Onyski stated there was a sense of urgency for this because if a light fails, it could cause a problem. He stated he was in support of looking at things on a bigger scale but that he would like to move forward with this amendment and then take on the entire ordinance as a long term project. Councilor Matthews-Kane stated that she realized the ordinance was going to take some time to fix and that she didn't want to effect small businesses. She requested to leave the Public Hearing open. Councilor Adams stated they needed to grandfather something in for safety and then address the entire light ordinance which could take up to a year. Councilor Figy agreed with Councilor Allie about a possible ad-hoc committee. He also agreed with Councilor Adams about doing something as quickly as possible. He stated that the Planning Board would give a recommendation to City Council when their Public Hearing was closed. Councilor Flaherty spoke against closing the Public Hearing and informed the Council if current lights were grandfathered in, any future changes would have to go by that. Councilor Onyski echoed Councilor Figy regarding Planning Board recommendations. Councilor Flaherty stated once Planning Board makes the recommendation, the public would not have an opportunity to speak to City Council on the report. Councilor Harris stated the new lights would require islands and no one has discussed how parking space requirements for businesses would be effected. Councilor Matthews-Kane stated that time was a legitimate concern. She cited a section of the Ordinance, 'non-permanent installations utilized for temporary activities are exempt'. She stated she was going to ask WGE to reach out to the Planning Board to put up temporary lights so they don't have to rush through the ordinance. Councilor Figy stated there were more privately owned lights than WGE lights that were outside of the lighting ordinance standards. With no others appearing to be heard and upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: That the Public Hearing be CLOSED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	No
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes

Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	No
Kristen Mello	No
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	No
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes

Upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was  
VOTED: That the petition be REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE  
COMMITTEE.  
All in favor, voice vote.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Finance Committee

9. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane for the Finance Committee, it was  
VOTED: That a Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Massachusetts Department of  
Transportation Aeronautics Division to the Westfield Barnes Regional Airport to partially fund  
a feasibility study for the Taxiway B project be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Finance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane stated that the grant was for a feasibility study for the Taxiway B North intersection with Runway 1533. This is a hot spot location, on an airport movement area with a history of or potential risk of collision or runway incursion. In the past 20 years, FAA standards have changed. There is no local match. The grant will cover half of the costs, the other half of the costs are expected to come from the Massachusetts Governor’s Military Task Force. The Airport Manager stated no contracts would be signed until the military funding was secure.

10. Upon motion of Councilor Bean for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$198,746.70 be appropriated from Free Cash (1000-359000) to The Police Department Purchase of Service Account #12100000-520000 to fund capital improvements to the Police Station.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Finance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean gave an itemized breakdown of the \$198,746.70 for improvements to the Police Station on Washington Street. Improvements included demo, installation, ceiling tile, new lighting, energy efficient windows, removal of gas storage tank, paving, surveillance camera, IT upgrades and exterior security door access points and key system upgrades. Councilor Adams informed the Council that they are actively working on a new Police Station. Councilor Flaherty asked if the committee looked at approving some of improvement requests and not all of them. Councilors Bean and Matthews-Kane both stated reasons the improvements were necessary including parking lot conditions, drainage issues and culverts collapsing. Councilor Sullivan stated most repairs are health related and deal with air quality. Much of the other construction is safety and security.

11. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$68,289.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (1000-359000) to the Technology Center Replacement Equipment Account #11550000-587000 to fund the replacement of 65 desktops and monitors located primarily in City Hall.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Finance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan stated that Lenore Bernashe, IT Director attended the Finance Committee meeting and stated there were 300 units on the city side and 600 on the school side that would need to be replaced. The request before the Council was only for the City side. They are looking to replace a third of them in this cycle. Mrs. Bernashe informed the Committee that leasing options and bonding didn't make sense financially. Some of the equipment still has life expectancy and can be upgraded then redeployed on the City side. Councilor Morganelli questioned the cost per computer. Councilor Matthews-Kane responded City Hall would have more memory and complicated programs versus a home computer. The request includes dual monitors, they find that makes for a significant increase (30-40%) in productivity. Home computers would not be appropriate for City Hall.

12. Upon motion of Councilor Bean for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$5,939.00 be appropriated from Free Cash (1000-359000) be appropriated to the Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation Purchase of Service Account #16300000-520000 to repair the flagpole at Park Square.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Finance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean informed the Council that the cost was associated with renting the equipment to fix the finial of the flag pole.

13. Upon motion of Councilor Matthews-Kane for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$30,000.00 be transferred within the Airport Department from the FT

Hourly Account #11990000-511100 to Replacement Equipment #11990000-578000 for upgrades to the airport-wide security camera system.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Finance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Matthews-Kane stated that the transfer request was a response to system issues with the airport camera system due to problems with a server. The Information Technology Manager was able to create a temporary solution by migrating the license to use the city servers to keep the system up and running. The upgrades will include a new server with recording capabilities and a few new cameras.

14. Upon motion of Councilor Sullivan for the Finance Committee, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$15,000.00 from the Public Communications FT Salary Account #12250000-511000 be transferred to the Fire Department Overtime Account #12200000-513000 to fund staffing at the Westfield International Airshow taking place May 13-14, 2023.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Finance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan stated that the City, Fire, Police and Emergency Management services have been working in

conjunction with the Air Guard on the public response in terms of emergency management for the first Air Show since 2017. They are expecting significant crowds and the team feels in order to provide the same level of service to the community, they need to build a command center to deploy ambulances during the Airshow. The State will be paying for safety vehicles as well as the bomb squad, dogs and hazmat teams on site. It will be well staffed. Communications Administrator Nina Barszcz has the money in her budget and offered the transfer to ensure public safety. He stated that the Air Guard is paying for the overtime of the Police for the Air Show. Councilor Bean added that the Chief ensured the safety throughout Westfield that weekend would not be compromised.

#### Legislative and Ordinance Committee

15. Upon motion of Councilor Onyski for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was

VOTED: That a Confirmatory Order of Discontinuance for a portion of Union Street, so called, as a City Way be given first reading by title only.

The Order was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Onyski, it was VOTED: That the Order be PASSED TO SECOND READING.  
All in favor, voice vote.

The Legislative and Ordinance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Onyski informed the Council that this was voted on in 2017 and they have since found an error in the text of the description of the street.

16. Upon motion of Councilor Figy for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That a Resolution to Apply for, Accept and Expend a Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Division of Conservation Services' Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (Land) Grant Program for the Tekoa Narrows Conservation Area be ADOPTED.  
All in favor, voice vote.

The Legislative and Ordinance Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy stated that the City had to purchase the property first to be eligible to apply for the grant. The Planning Department will apply for the grant and once it is accepted, the City will be reimbursed for 70% of the money that was allocated previously by Council. This Resolution allows for the City to apply for and accept the grant in one motion.

17. Upon motion of Councilor Burns, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was

VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, APPENDIX B-ZONING, ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 3, 1987" (Chapter 17-115 Parking Prohibited at all times on certain streets by adding Kellogg Street, West Side from Orange Street, beyond Belmont Street to the base of the dike) be given first reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Burns it was



VOTED: That the Ordinance be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

All in favor voice vote.

Upon motion of Councilor Burns, for the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, it was VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, APPENDIX B-ZONING, ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 3, 1987" (Chapter 17-73 Stop Intersections Designation by adding the following: Foss Street, northbound at Lawton Avenue, Angelica Drive, westbound at Northwest Road and Old Quarry Road, eastbound at Northwest Road.) be given first reading by title only.

The Ordinance was given first reading by title and upon motion of Councilor Burns it was VOTED: That the Ordinance be PASSED TO SECOND READING.

All in favor voice vote.

#### Personnel Action Committee

18. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Kenneth Gustafson, 9 Michael Drive as a member of the Off Street Parking Commission for a term to expire in February, 2024, replacing John Regan be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Personnel Action Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Mr. Gustafson served our Country in the U. S. Coast Guard and for the Department of Homeland Security and thanked him for his service. She stated as a downtown business, he believes he can provide insight when it comes to parking concerns. Additionally, he was on the Flood Commission 2005-2007 and is familiar with Commission proceedings.

19. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Ed Finnie, 295 Munger Hill Road as a member of the Conservation Commission for a term to expire February, 2026, replacing Alex Fagnand be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Personnel Action Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that his background in the Citrus and Dairy Industries has given him insight and knowledge of government regulations and guidelines in agriculture and farming which he believes would be relevant as a Conservation Commission member. His 30 years of business experience would give a relevant perspective and point of view to requests presented to the Board. He has experience in forestry, has been active in the Westfield Community and assures he will do his best to make decisions that benefit our citizens and our City.

20. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the Reappointment of Lenore Bernashe, 100 South Street, Granby MA as Information Technology Manager for a term to expire July 6, 2026 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Personnel Action Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris gave an overview of the accomplishments Mrs. Bernashe's department had worked on and attained since her last reappointment in 2020, including projects completed and ongoing,

system hardware and software, device deployment and upgrades, and pandemic responses from 2020-2023. Professionally, she is a founding member of the Western MA Regional IT Directors Group. She continues to provide leadership and promote training and certification opportunities to her Team Members. She has in the past three years also restructured the Department to include an Assistant Manager and an additional Network Administrator to meet expanding Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure, Cybersecurity and Network Management needs. Councilor Flaherty commended Lenore and her team, specifically for their efforts and hard work during the pandemic. He suggested considering enhancements at budget time. Councilor Morganelli stated he was impressed with her list of accomplishments and reappointment letter and spoke in support of her reappointment.

21. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the reappointment of Tammy Tefft, 371 College Highway, Southampton, MA as Purchasing Director for a term to expire July 4, 2026 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

The Personnel Action Committee recommended approval. Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that Tammy Tefft has been the City's Purchasing Director almost 20 years. Her Department is made up of herself and one employee that are responsible for a multitude of things, including project oversight of COVID FEMA grants, COVID Cares Act and ARPA monies, the New School Building Project, Special Building Projects and Bond Projects. Councilor Harris gave an overview of Mrs. Tefft's achievements over the past three years and additional goals for the next three. She is a member of the Advisory Board of Business Technology, a members of the Medical Reserve Corp Board of Directors, recognized by the State for mentoring Procurement Officials in Western MA, member of the Public Procurement Officials as an Executive Board member. Councilor Flaherty stated that the Purchasing Department takes on significant capital investments, many of which take a lot of time and effort. He used the City Hall Renovation as an example. He stated this was a great reappointment and suggested enhancing the department if needed. Councilor Bean echoed Councilor Flaherty and spoke in support of the reappointment. Councilor Beltrandi spoke in support of the reappointment.

Prior to voting on items 22. through 25., Councilor Harris informed the Council that the Personnel Action Committee recommended approval of the following Youth Commission appointments and the Council would only be voting on their names.

22. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Seth Barber as a member of the Youth Commission for a term to expire February, 2026 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

23. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Teagan Chisholm-Godshalk to the Youth Commission for a term to end in February, 2026 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

24. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Jack Knapik as member of the Youth Commission for a Term to expire February, 2026 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

25. Upon motion of Councilor Harris for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the appointment of Thomas Knapik as member of the Youth Commission for a Term to expire February, 2026 be CONFIRMED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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

26. Upon motion of Councilor Figy for the Personnel Action Committee, it was VOTED: That the change to the job description for the Department of Public Works Director be APPROVED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Yes
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	No
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Yes
William Onyski	Yes

Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris informed the Council that this was coming out of Committee, following the same process as the previous time, to discuss as a full Council. Councilor Flaherty shared that many Councilors had spoken about the importance of appropriate leadership and that he believed degrees are important to mention in the job description. Councilor Morganelli echoed Councilor Flaherty. He believed it wasn't specific enough, and needed specific knowledge and certifications or experience requirements. Councilor Adams stated he believed the City created a job they couldn't fill and suggested going back to one supervisor for each department if this didn't work out. Councilor Mello supported reviewing the ordinance. Councilor Onyski stated that the item to review the ordinance was in L&O Committee. Councilor Burns spoke in support of reviewing the ordinance. Councilor Flaherty stated the two boards could potentially engage with the Mayor to separate the job. Councilor Figy informed the Council that the last job description change for this position took over a year of work. He agreed that the authority was in the hands of the DPW Commissioners and the Water Commission. Councilor Burns stated that under Section 11 of the Charter, the Council has the final say, not the Commissioners. Councilor Bean stated that if they don't find any candidates, he would be open to reconsidering the job description.

Ad Hoc Charter Review Committee

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: To suspend the rules to take motion 29 out of order.

All in favor, voice vote.

29. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: To make a scribe's edit to the title of Section 33 in the Charter of the City of Westfield as follows: Change "Section 33. Vacancies in office of mayor or on city council; temporary appointment for certain appointed officers." to "Section 33. Vacancies in office of mayor; temporary appointment for certain appointed officers."

All in favor, voice vote.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Harris asked for confirmation whether or not needed to go before Law. Councilor Flaherty responded no, that it was a typing error only.

27. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: To override the Mayor's veto of the "Appointing Authority to Set Salary" Resolution that was previously passed by the City Council.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	No
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	No
Michael Burns	Yes

Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Bridget Matthews-Kane	No
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	No
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	No
James Adams	No

The President declared the motion LOST.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Flaherty explained that in the Charter when a Resolution is sent back from the Mayor with objections, it states that the Council "shall" take a vote, not "may" take a vote. He reviewed the "Appointing Authority to Set Salary" Resolution and spoke in support of overriding the Mayor's veto. He stated it would take nine votes to do so. Councilor Harris spoke in opposition. Councilor Matthews-Kane offered an amendment. Councilor Flaherty stated that the only options on the floor were to override the veto or not override the veto. Councilor Sullivan spoke in opposition. Councilor Mello asked if the appointing authority was allowed to offer a salary that was higher than what was budgeted for. Councilor Flaherty stated they had the authority to go to the Mayor and the Council to get supplemental money. Councilor Figy spoke in opposition.

28. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, for the Ad-Hoc Charter Committee, it was VOTED: That the Amended Version of Charter of the City of Westfield be SUBMITTED to the House and Senate for processing as a Special Act.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	No
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.	No
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes
James Adams	Yes

Prior to the vote, Councilor Allie spoke in opposition of filling vacancies by special election. Councilor Flaherty stated that the topics were addressed in great detail and included public feedback. Councilor Sullivan spoke in support of the motion.

## **MOTIONS, ORDERS OR RESOLUTIONS**

30. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: to discuss tax title process and cash management options for city budget and REFER TO TREASURER/COLLECTOR and FINANCE COMMITTEE.

All in favor, voice vote.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean offered a motion that was duly seconded to discuss tax title process and cash management options for city budget and refer to treasurer/collector. He informed the Council that he wanted to talk about the tax title process, how they go about collecting the money and the legal piece. Councilor Sullivan added that there may be a process in place already and this motion was for transparency and to know what Westfield's process was. As a previous Mayor, he did this all the time. Councilor Figy made a motion to amend the original motion to include referring to Finance.

31. Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: To amend ordinances and rules to address public meetings that extend beyond 10PM and REFER TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE and THE LAW DEPARTMENT.

All in favor, Councilors Bean and Flaherty were OPPOSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean offered a motion that was duly seconded to amend ordinances and rules to address public meetings that extend beyond 10PM be referred to the Legislative and Ordinance Committee. He informed the Council that he and Councilor Flaherty wanted to discuss options around what could be done when meetings go past 10:00PM. Councilor Figy made a motion to amend the original motion to include referring to the Law Department. Councilors Bean and Flaherty spoke in opposition of sending to the Law Department.

32. Upon motion of Councilor Mello, it was VOTD: That a Resolution by Councilors Mello, Figy, and Sullivan recognizing June 2023 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month be REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

All in favor, Councilor Morganelli was OPPOSED.

33. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That seeking a resolution requesting the Municipal Light Board and the Gas & Electric Department to review and amend their commercial lighting incentive programs and periodic communications with commercial customers, in ways that educate customers and encourage the use of lighting, associated infrastructure, and operating procedures that reduce energy consumption, reduce light pollution, and comply with the city lighting ordinances. Further, that they connect to "See, Click, Fix" or offer a similar program to address the specific lighting concerns of residents for lights that are owned or managed by the Gas & Electric Department be WITHDRAWN WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

All in favor, voice vote.



34. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: to investigate zoning amendments related to Public Hearings and REFER to ZONING PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

All in favor, voice vote.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Sullivan asked for clarification of what investigate meant. Councilor Flaherty stated there is not a public hearing ordinance that is followed by all of the bodies and it would be discussed by the entire Zoning, Planning and Development committee.

35. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: to investigate zoning amendments related to Special Permits and REFER to ZONING PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

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

A true record, Attest:

Kaitlyn Leigh Bruce  
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

For approval May 5, 2023

Kaitlyn Leigh Bruce  
Kaitlyn Leigh Bruce, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor

5-5 2023  
Michael A. McCabe  
Michael A. McCabe, Mayor