



CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS

City Councilors:

Meg Robbins, At-Large
Garrick Perry, At-Large
Gwen Nabad, Ward 1
Deborah L. Klemer, Ward 2 - Vice President
Laurie Loisel, Ward 3
Jeremy Dubs, Ward 4
Aline Davis, Ward 5
Christopher C. Stratton, Ward 6
Rachel Maiore, Ward 7 - Council President

****AMENDED****

Meeting Agenda - VIRTUAL ONLY
City Council Chambers
212 Main Street, Northampton
Thursday, March 5, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

The City of Northampton does not discriminate based on disability and is committed to hosting accessible meetings. To request a reasonable accommodation to attend any City meeting, please contact the ADA Coordinator at: adacoordinator@northamptonma.gov or call 413-587-1288.

The March 5, 2026 City Council meeting will be held by remote participation only. ~~conducted in hybrid format with the option for both councilors and the public to attend in person or participate remotely.~~ The public may follow the council's deliberations by attending in person, watching the meeting live on Comcast channel 15, live-streaming it on YouTube [here](#) or joining the virtual meeting by phone or computer.

Live public comment begins at 6:30 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CALLING IN OR JOINING THE MEETING

Join the meeting: [PUBLIC MEETING LINK](#)

For telephone call-in, call:

+929 436-2866 US

MEETING ID: 846 4414 6122

PARTICIPANT#: #

PASSCODE: 783792

1. Roll Call

2. Announcement that meeting is being Audio/Video Recorded

This meeting is being audio/video recorded.

3. Public Hearings

A. Announcement of Public hearing re: Northampton Capital Improvement Program for FY2027 - FY2031 - Thursday, March 19, 2026

In accordance with Article 7, Section 7-5 of the Charter, the Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** in City Council Chambers, Wallace J. Puchalski Municipal Building, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA Instructions for accessing the hearing remotely may be found on the March 19, 2026 City Council agenda to be posted on www.northamptonma.gov no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City Council will consider the [Capital Improvement Program for FY2027-FY2031](#), and hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

Documents:

[CIP Public Hearing.031926_Abbreviated.pdf](#)

B. Announcement of Public Hearing to Consider FY2027 Water and Sewer Rates

The Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing to consider the FY2027 water and sewer rates on Thursday, March 19, 2026 @ 6:45 p.m. in Council Chambers, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA. Instructions for accessing the hearing remotely may be found on the March 19, 2026 City Council agenda to be posted on www.northamptonma.gov no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City Council will hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

4. Public Comment

5. Announcements from Councilors and the Mayor

6. Presentations

A. 2025 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances - Presentation of Final Report

Documents:

[Final Signed Report 2025 wattachments.pdf](#)

B. FY2026 Second Quarter Financial Report

Presentation by Finance Director Charlene Nardi

Documents:

[Enterprise Fund Expenses.123125.pdf](#)

[Enterprise Fund Revenue.123125.pdf](#)

[GF Expenses.123125.pdf](#)

[GF Revenue.123125.pdf](#)

[Local_Revenues.123125.pdf](#)

7. Consent Agenda

Rule 4.4.4 There shall be no debate or discussion by any City Council member regarding any item on the Consent Agenda, beyond asking questions for simple clarification.

Rule 4.4.5 Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon the request of any City Council member prior to the taking of a vote on the motion to approve it. All such items will be considered individually, in the order in which they were removed, immediately following consideration of the Consent Agenda.

A. Minutes of February 5, 2026 regular and February 26, 2026 special City Council meeting

Documents:

[02-05-2026_City Council Minutes.pdf](#)

[02-26-2026_Special_City Council Meeting.pdf](#)

B. 26.020 Appointments to Various Committees, for referral to City Services

Board of Health

Luke Messac, 294 Cardinal Way
Term: March 2026 - June 2028
To fill a vacancy

Community Preservation Committee

Leticia Ward, 12 High Meadow Rd
Term: March 2026 - June 2028
Filling the position of Debin Bruce

Housing Partnership

Yakov Kronrod, 188 Rocky Hill Rd
Term: March 2026 - June 2028
To fill a vacancy

Documents:

[26.020 Appointments to Various Committees.pdf](#)

8. Financial Orders (on 1st reading)

Rule 2.6.1.1.1 Process. Financial orders will be introduced and discussed at a full City Council meeting and referred to either the consent agenda of a future meeting or the Finance Committee for more public input, discussion and recommendation.

A. 26.016 An Order to Establish Water and Sewer Rates for FY2027 - 1st reading

Documents:

[26.016 An Order to Establish Water and Sewer Rates for FY2027.pdf](#)

B. 26.017 An Order to Accept Gift of Scoreboards from Ray Ellerbrook Family Memorial Field Fund - 1st reading

Documents:

[26.017 An Order to Accept Gift of Scoreboards from Ray Ellerbrook Family Memorial Field Fund.pdf](#)

C. 26.018 An Order to Reprogram Funds to Repaint JFK Gym - 1st reading

Documents:

[26.018 An Order to Reprogram Funds to Repaint JFK Gym.pdf](#)

D. 26.019 An Order to Appropriate \$90,000 Free Cash to Economic Development Projects and Initiatives - 1st reading

Documents:

[26.019 An Order to Appropriate 90,000 Free Cash to Economic Development Projects and Initiatives.pdf](#)

9. Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)

A. 26.003 An Order to Appropriate \$2.1 Million Free Cash to Various Reserve Accounts - 2nd reading

History:

- Referred to Finance Committee with 26.004 - 1/15/2026
- Postponed to February 3, 2026 - 1/21/2026
- Positive recommendation, Finance - 2/25/2026

Documents:

[26.003 An Order to Appropriate 2.1 Million Free Cash to Various Reserve Accounts.pdf](#)

10. Orders

11. Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)

Rule 5.2.3 provides that no ordinance shall be voted on by the City Council until it has been considered by the Committee on Legislative Matters.

12. Zoning Ordinances (Not yet Referred)

Process note: Per M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 5, the city council shall submit proposed zoning ordinances to the planning board for review within fourteen days of receipt. No zoning ordinance or amendment thereto shall be adopted until after the planning board in a city or town, and the city council or a committee designated or appointed for the purpose by said council has each held a public hearing thereon, together or separately.

Rule 5.2.3 provides that no ordinance shall be voted on by the City Council until it has been considered by the Committee on Legislative Matters.

13. Ordinances

A. 26.010 An Ordinance Relative to All-Way Stop Control for Finn Street at Prospect Street

History:

- referred to Legislative Matters (LM) - 2/5/2026
- positive recommendation (split vote 3:1, Stratton opposed) - 2/9/2026

Documents:

[26.010 An Ordinance Relative to All-Way Stop Control for Finn Street at Prospect Street.pdf](#)

[26.010 Fuss_ONeill_Memo.pdf](#)

14. Zoning Ordinances

15. Resolutions

16. Information Requests (Charter Provision 2-7) and Committee Study Requests

17. New Business

Rule 4.9 NEW BUSINESS. Any Councilor may introduce any written proposed order, ordinance, or resolution to be considered by the Council at the next meeting, but not to be debated during new business.

18. Adjourn

Contact: Rachel Maiore

Email: rmaiore@northamptonma.gov

Phone: (413) 923-4318

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
CITY COUNCIL**

Per Northampton Charter Article 7 FINANCE AND FISCAL PROCEDURES, SECTION 7-5 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, the Northampton City Council will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** in Council Chambers, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA. The City Council will consider the Capital Improvement Program for FY2027-FY2031 and hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon. The public may attend in person or access the hearing remotely by following instructions to be posted on the March 19, 2026 City Council agenda on www.northamptonma.gov no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting.

The Capital Improvement Program for FY2027- FY2031 will be available for inspection by the public beginning March 5, 2026 in the following locations at the specified times:

Online on the City of Northampton website at www.northamptonma.gov

Forbes Library, [20 West Street, Northampton, MA](#)

Hours: Monday – Thursday 10am – 8pm, Friday and Saturday 10am - 6pm, Sunday – Closed

Lilly Library, [19 Meadow Street, Florence, MA](#)

Hours: Monday 10am – 5pm, Tuesday 10am – 8pm, Wednesday-Closed, Thursday 10am – 8pm, Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 5pm, Sunday 1pm – 5pm

Attest: Laura Hill Krutzler
Clerk to the City Council

Publish: March 5, 2026

MEMBERS

Councilor Jeremy Dubs, Chair
Councilor Stanley Moulton, III, Vice Chair
Councilor Garrick Perry
Dane Kuttler, Citizen
Molly Moses, Citizen



Report of the 2025 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances

The Special Committee for Review of Ordinances (“the Committee”) submits this Report of its 2025 review of the ordinances of the City of Northampton in accordance with Northampton Code of Ordinances, § 1-15.1. That section was adopted pursuant to the Northampton Special Act Charter (“the Charter”), § 10-6. Section 1-15.1 requires review of ordinances every five years in years ending in a five or in a zero. The Committee was appointed on March 6, 2025, and it was comprised of three members of the City Council appointed by the Council President and two voters of the City appointed by the Mayor. The Committee met under the supervision of the City Solicitor. It held 17 virtual meetings by Zoom on March 31, 2025, April 23, 2025, May 14, 2025, June 11, 2025, June 30, 2025, July 9, 2025, July 30, 2025, August 13, 2025, September 10, 2025, October 8, 2025, October 29, 2025, November 12, 2025, November 19, 2025, December 3, 2025, December 17, 2025, and December 31, 2025. The June 30th meeting was a general public forum on ordinance-related topics held in person and by Zoom. The October 29th meeting was a public forum on the topic of Snow Removal. The November 12th meeting was a public forum on two topics – Mobile Food Vendors and Lighting Ordinance.

An “ordinance,” as that term is used in the Charter and in Section 1-15.1, has a very specific meaning. It is a legislative act that has the force of law and binds the City and all persons within the jurisdictional limits of the City. The authority of the City Council to pass an ordinance is found either in State law or in the Charter. An ordinance must be distinguished from a Resolution of the Council, which is a current statement of the Council’s position on a certain issue that has no force of law, and from a council order, which authorizes the executive branch to take certain actions that by law require council approval.

The Committee solicited input on existing ordinances and any proposed new ordinances from all City departments, the members of the City Council, and from the public. There was an opportunity for public comment at all meetings. The posted agendas and approved minutes of all meetings as well as all documents that were considered by the Committee are available in the city clerk's office and on the city's website.

The Committee received testimony and/or documents from the Mayor’s Office, the Office of Planning and Sustainability, the Department of Public Works, the Northampton Police Department, the Building Department, numerous downtown business owners, and from several members of the public with recommendations regarding proposed revisions to existing ordinances, deletion of ordinances, and addition of new ordinances (“the ordinance recommendations”).

The ordinance proposals that the Committee voted to recommend for enactment by the City Council are attached as Exhibit A.

The ordinance proposals that the Committee voted to recommend for further study by the City Council are attached as Exhibit B.

The ordinance proposals that the Committee voted not to recommend for action by the City Council are attached as Exhibit C.

The Committee also solicited from all City departments and from the public more minor recommendations of a “housekeeping” nature. Among those recommendations was a proposal to remove gender-specific references from the Code of Ordinances. The recommendations for housekeeping revisions to existing ordinances are attached as Exhibit D.

The Committee looks forward to addressing its work and the recommendations contained in this Report before the City Council at such time as the Council may designate.

Respectfully submitted,

Special Committee for Review of Ordinances

By  _____
City Councilor Jeremy Dubs, Chair

Dated: December 31, 2025

Report of the 2025 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances

Exhibit A

Ordinances Recommended for Adoption, Revision or Rescission

1. Sign Ordinance
City Solicitor Seewald informed the Committee of the recent Supreme Court cases that have altered the constitutional analysis of municipal sign regulations. The Northampton Zoning Ordinance is noncompliant with those cases, and the Committee considered proposed amendments drafted by Carolyn Misch, Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainability. The Committee voted to recommend that the City Council adopt the revisions to the Zoning Ordinance relative to signs as attached to this Exhibit A as Appendix 1.
2. Ordinance Requiring Property Owners to Keep Sidewalk Clear of Vegetation that Impedes Access
The Committee spent a good amount of time considering impediments to access on city sidewalks, including snow and ice (which is included in Exhibit C) and overgrown vegetation. The Committee voted to recommend that the City adopt an ordinance requiring abutting landowners to keep sidewalks clear of vegetation to a height sufficient to assure clear access on sidewalks. The Committee voted to recommend that such clearing of vegetation not apply to vegetation that arches over the sidewalk at a height sufficient for clear access.
3. Ordinance Equitably Phasing Out Gas Powered Leaf Blowers
The Committee heard testimony regarding the noise and environmental pollution caused by gas-powered leaf blowers. The Committee voted to recommend that the City Council adopt an ordinance requiring the phase-out of gas-powered leaf blowers for use on city property and private property.
4. Rescind §241-4 Obscene or Profane Language in Street Prohibited
Section 241-4 prohibits accosting or addressing another person with obscene or profane language. Solicitor Seewald informed the Committee that this section is unconstitutional and therefore unenforceable. The Committee voted to rescind this section.
5. Rescind §312-87 Thumbing
The Committee discussed several of the sections in Chapter 312 of the Code of Ordinances regulating the activities of pedestrians. The Committee found that the thumbing (or hitchhiking) ordinance, §312-87, to be outdated and voted to recommend that it be rescinded.
6. Rescind §§ 245-13 through 245-20 Hawkers and Peddlers of Fish, Fruits and Vegetables
The Committee reviewed §§ 245-13 through 245-20 and found it to be outdated, unnecessary and discriminatory against noncitizens. The committee recommended that these sections be rescinded.

7. Ordinance to Allow ‘All-Access Toplessness’ on Beaches

The committee heard a proposal to allow all-person toplessness on city beaches. The committee voted to recommend that § 241-3 be revised to clarify the term “bathing costume” and to specify the ordinance body neutral.

**SECTION 7
Signs**

§2.1 Definitions

SIGN

Any permanent or temporary structure, device, letter, work, model, banner, pennant, insignia, trade flag, or representation used as, or which is in the nature of, an advertisement, announcement, or direction, or is designed to attract the eye by any means including intermittent or repeated motion or illumination. A sign shall include lettering on a motor vehicle or trailer unless the vehicle or trailer is licensed for road travel and is in use or parked in a legal parking or loading area.

§ 350-7.1. Applicability.

All signs, as defined in 350-2.1 shall comply with the regulations for the erection and construction of signs contained in the State Building Code, and all other applicable regulations including the sign regulations contained in this chapter. In addition to the provisions of this chapter, all off-premise general advertising signs that are within public rights of way (billboards), shall be required to have the appropriate annual permit from the Massachusetts Outdoor Advertising Board for any off-premise sign in accordance with Section 29 of Chapter 93 of the General Laws.

§ 350-7.2. Signs permitted by district

A) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS: URA, B, C; WSP, SR, RR, SC

Wall Sign Type*	Allowance	Max Size	Max Height	Location/Other
Front	1/unit	2 sf		

Ground Sign Type	Allowance	Size	Height	Location/Other
I	NOT ALLOWED			
II	Unlimited	10 sf	4	5' from the back of the curb. 4' setback sides. Sidewalks shall not be obstructed

LINK TO LIGHTING ORD?

B) COMMERCIAL HB DISTRICT; MEDICAL DISTRICT

Wall Sign Type	Allowance	Max Size	Max Height	Location/Other
Front	1/unit	Lesser of 10% of frontage wall area of the facade of the story which is occupied by the establishment /unit or 100 sf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attached and parallel to the wall of the building; • Shall not project horizontally more than 12 inches therefrom (except as noted below) and, if the sign is designed to allow pedestrian traffic under the sign, shall be a minimum of seven feet above the ground; • Shall not have dynamic display.
Side	1/unit	25 sf/unit Total not to exceed 100 sf of sidewall		
Rear	1/unit	25 sf		
Awning in lieu of Front above	1/unit	See Front above		Awnings/Canopies overhanging a public right-of-way require approval by the Department of Public Works, which will review applications for safe public passage underneath. Awnings must be at least 7' above the sidewalk
Awning in addition to Front	1/unit	Text no taller than 4" along bottom edge	NA	DPW approval
Blade	1/unit	6 sf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not project more than 3' from the façade of the building • The bottom of the sign shall be at least 9' above the sidewalk • May be two-sided • Shall be no more than 2" thick • Shall not be internally illuminated
Projecting Virtual	1/unit	25 sf		<p>Signs may be projected onto a private or public sidewalk, (but not a street, driveway or any path other than for pedestrians) or private building facade owned by the entity projecting the sign as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The source of the projection shall be located on the property projecting the sign and shall project only onto the portion of the walk that is within the front façade of the entity; 2) When projected onto a public sidewalk, the City is not obligated to ensure the sidewalk remains free of obstructions to such projections; 3) The property owner has no legal rights to the use of the sidewalk or to control the public's use of the sidewalk regardless of what impact it might have on the projection; 4) The lighting output shall be shielded to prevent any glare to pedestrians walking on the sidewalk or to drivers on the adjacent

				street/travel way. 5) Signs shall be turned off at 11 PM.
Window		20% of the cumulative total Glazing of the facade		

Ground Sign Type	Allowance	Max Size	Height	Location/Other
I	1/parcel	100 sf	15'	<p>Setbacks: 5' side, 15' front</p> <p>If ground signs contain dynamic displays, such signs must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Have minimum display time between display changes shall be 30 seconds. Transition time to next display shall be less than one second. b) Display boards shall not emit sound. c) The display must be turned off at 11:00 p.m. d) Signs must have photocells that automatically dim in dark conditions in direct correlation to natural ambient light conditions. At no time shall the sign lights be greater than 0.3 footcandle above ambient light conditions. Informational boards may emit sound only if such boards are used as accessory to drive-through sales and service establishments and if they are not directed/ oriented to the street. Such boards are not considered ground signs under these provisions.
II	Unlimited	10 sf	4	5' from the back of the curb. 4' setback sides. Sidewalks shall not be obstructed.

C) CHARACTER BASED & COMMERCIAL- CBC,S,G; FVG, C; GB, NB

Wall Sign Type*	Allowance	Max Size	Max Height	Location/Other
Front	1/unit	Lesser of 10% of frontage wall area of the facade of the story which is occupied by the establishment/ unit or 100 sf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attached and parallel to the wall of the building; and • Shall not project horizontally more than 12 inches therefrom (except as noted below) and, if the sign is designed to allow pedestrian traffic under the sign, shall be a minimum of seven feet above the ground; and • Shall not have dynamic display. • When an establishment is located on a lot with more than one frontage (i.e., a corner or through lot) a main (frontage) wall sign may only be displayed on one of the frontages. The other frontage(s) may display a side wall sign as allowed below. In the Central Business Districts and Florence Village Districts, a main wall sign can be placed on any wall with street frontage instead of a side wall sign.
Side	1/unit	25 sf/unit Total not to exceed 100 sf of sidewall		
Rear	1/unit	25 sf		
Awning in lieu of Front above	1/unit	See Front above		Awnings/Canopies overhanging a public right-of-way require approval by the Department of Public Works, which will review applications for safe public passage underneath. Awnings must be at least 7' above the sidewalk
Awning in addition to Front	1/unit	Text no taller than 4" along bottom edge	NA	DPW approval
Blade	1/unit	6 sf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not project more than 3' from the façade of the building • The bottom of the sign shall be at least 9' above the sidewalk • May be two-sided • Shall be no more than 2" thick • Shall not be internally illuminated
Projecting Virtual	1/unit	25 sf		<p>Signs may be projected onto a private or public sidewalk, (but not a street, driveway or any path other than for pedestrians) or private building facade owned by the entity projecting the sign as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The source of the projection shall be located on the property projecting the sign and shall project only onto the portion of the walk that is within the front façade of the entity;

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) When projected onto a public sidewalk, the City is not obligated to ensure the sidewalk remains free of obstructions to such projections; 3) The property owner has no legal rights to the use of the sidewalk or to control the public's use of the sidewalk regardless of what impact it might have on the projection; 4) The lighting output shall be shielded to prevent any glare to pedestrians walking on the sidewalk or to drivers on the adjacent street/travel way. 5) All such signs shall be turned off at 11 PM.
Window		20% of the cumulative total glazing of the facade		
* Allowed only if no ground sign along the side of the property where wall signs are proposed				

Ground Sign Type	Allowance	Max Size	Height	Location/Other
I	1/parcel	20 sf	5	<p>Setbacks: 5' side, 5' front</p> <p>Allowed in lieu of wall signs on the side of the parcel on which ground sign located.</p> <p>If ground signs contain dynamic displays, such signs must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Minimum display time between display changes shall be 30 seconds. Transition time to next display shall be less than one second. b) Display boards shall not emit sound. c) The display must be turned off at 11:00 p.m. d) Signs must have photocells that automatically dim in dark conditions in direct correlation to natural ambient light conditions. At no time shall the sign lights be greater than 0.3 footcandle above ambient light conditions.
II	Unlimited	10 sf	4	5' from the back of the curb. 4' setback sides. Sidewalks shall not be obstructed.
Sandwich Board				By definition are those on public sidewalks for pedestrian orientation in all CB and FV, GB, NB. All sandwich board signs must receive a permit from the Building Department in accordance with the provisions of §§ 264-2 and 264-3 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Northampton.

D) INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS- GI, OI

Wall Sign Type	Allowance	Max Size	Max Height	Location/Other
Front	2 Per structure each floor	7.5% of façade of floor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attached and parallel to the wall of the building; and • Shall not project horizontally more than 12 inches therefrom (except as noted below) and, if the sign is designed to allow pedestrian traffic under the sign, shall be a minimum of seven feet above the ground; and • Shall not have dynamic display. If lighted, it shall comply with lighting standards in § 350-7.4B(6), whether dynamic or static.
Side	1/unit	7.5% of facade		
Rear	1/unit	25 sf		
Awning in lieu of Front above	1/unit	See Front above		Awnings/Canopies overhanging a public right-of-way require approval by the Department of Public Works, which will review applications for safe public passage underneath. Awnings must be at least 7' above the sidewalk
Awning in addition to Front	1/unit	Text no taller than 4" along bottom edge	NA	DPW approval
Blade	1/unit	6 sf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not project more than 3' from the façade of the building • The bottom of the sign shall be at least 9' above the sidewalk • May be two-sided • Shall be no more than 2" thick • Shall not be internally illuminated

Ground Sign Type	Allowance	Size	Height	Location/Other
I*	1/parcel	100 sf	15	<p>Setbacks: 5' side, 15' front</p> <p>If ground signs contain dynamic displays, such signs must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum display time between display changes shall be 30 seconds. Transition time to next display shall be less than one second. Display boards shall not emit sound. The display must be turned off at 11:00 p.m. Signs must have photocells that automatically dim in dark conditions in direct correlation to natural ambient light

				conditions. At no time shall the sign lights be greater than 0.3 footcandle above ambient light conditions.
II	Unlimited	10 sf	4	5' from the back of the curb. 4' setback sides. Sidewalks shall not be obstructed.
* Where a number of individually owned parcels are developed as a single collective entity (i.e., an industrial or planned village), the Planning Board may grant a special permit permitting one additional ground sign for each entrance to the development (not to a specific building) off of a collector street identifying the collective entity and/or the individual businesses located therein.				

E) PLANNED VILLAGE PV

Wall Sign Type	Allowance	Max Size	Max Height	Location/Other
Front	1/commercial unit 1/residential unit	7.5% of façade of floor 2 square feet.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attached and parallel to the wall of the building; and Shall not project horizontally more than 12 inches therefrom (except as noted below) and, if the sign is designed to allow pedestrian traffic under the sign, shall be a minimum of seven feet above the ground; Shall not have dynamic display. If lighted, it shall comply with lighting standards in § 350-7.4B(6), whether dynamic or static.
Side	1/commercial unit	7.5% of façade		
Rear	1/commerc. unit	25 sf		
Awning in lieu of Front above	1/unit	See Front above		Awnings/Canopies overhanging a public right-of-way require approval by the Department of Public Works, which will review applications for safe public passage underneath. Awnings must be at least 7' above the sidewalk
Awning in addition to Front	1/unit	Text no taller than 4" along bottom edge	NA	DPW approval
Blade	1/unit	6 sf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall not project more than 3' from the façade of the building The bottom of the sign shall be at least 9' above the sidewalk May be two-sided Shall be no more than 2" thick Shall not be internally illuminated

Ground Sign Type	Allowance	Size	Height	Location/Other
I*	1/parcel	100 sf	10	Setbacks: 5' side, 15' front If ground signs contain dynamic displays, such signs must: e) Minimum display time between display changes shall be 30 seconds. Transition time to next display shall be less than one second. f) Display boards shall not emit sound. g) The display must be turned off at 11:00 p.m. h) Signs must have photocells that automatically dim in dark conditions in direct correlation to natural ambient light conditions. At no time shall the sign lights be greater than 0.3 footcandle above ambient light conditions.
II	Unlimited	10 sf	4	5' from the back of the curb. 4' setback sides. Sidewalks shall not be obstructed.

* Where a number of individually owned parcels are developed as a single collective entity (i.e., an industrial or planned village), the Planning Board may grant a special permit permitting one additional ground sign for each entrance to the development (not to a specific building) off of a collector street identifying the collective entity and/or the individual businesses located therein.

F) The Board of Appeals may issue a special permit allowing more than the number of signs herein permitted and/or for larger square footage, but not taller than herein permitted, except in residential zones, provided that:

- (1) Signs are located only where they are otherwise permitted in the district; and
- (2) The Board of Appeals determines that the architecture of the building, the location of the building or the land or nature of the use being made of the building or land is such that additional signs or signs of a larger size would not detract from the character of the neighborhood and should be permitted in the public interest. Additional ground signs shall only be approved if there are specific circumstances to warrant their approval and if all efforts are undertaken to keep additional ground signs as small and low as possible.
- (3) The Board of Appeals specifies in the permit the exact sign permitted, the size and location of the sign or signs, and, if applicable, imposes other restrictions. Any change in said signs requires a new or revised special permit unless the special permit specifies what types of changes are allowed.

§ 350-7.3. General sign regulations.

- A. Any traffic, informational, directional, sign or banner owned and installed by or for a governmental agency shall be permitted.
- B. Numbers, attached to structures or on a post in the ground, indicating geographic address location are not subject to this ordinance.

- C. No sign (including interior window displays or banners) or its illuminator shall by reason of its location, shape, size, or color interfere with traffic or be confused with or obstruct the view or effectiveness of any official traffic sign, traffic signal, or traffic marking. A sign or any part thereof which moves or flashes shall comply with the requirements herein as dynamic display. All illumination of signs must be in conformance with § 350-12.2, which includes brightness, color temperature, and glare requirements.
- D. Illuminated signs, including dynamic display signs, shall be turned off at 11 PM, unless otherwise permitted through a special permit granted by the Zoning Board of appeals.
- E. If lighting is provided for a sign, the source of light shall be either from within the sign or shall be white light exterior to the sign and shielded so as to prevent direct glare from the light source onto any public street or onto any adjacent property and must be in compliance with 350-12.2.
- F. "Dynamic display sign" means any sign designed for outdoor use that is capable of displaying an electronic signal, including, but not limited to, cathode-ray tubes (CRT), light-emitting diode (LED) displays, plasma displays, liquid-crystal displays (LCD), or other technologies used in commercially available televisions or computer monitors. Signs with this technology which are placed by a public agency for the purpose of directing or regulating pedestrian or vehicle movement use are exempt from this chapter.
- G. A dynamic display sign on, in, or part of any portable/mobile vehicle parked in view of the public way, whether registered or unregistered, and which carries or displays any sign or billboard is considered a ground sign.
- H. All ground signs, freestanding and installed in the ground, must be located on private property, in accordance with the tables above. Ground signs may only be installed on property that is in the control of the applicant/installer.
- I. The limitations as to the number of signs permitted does not apply to traffic or directional signs which are necessary for the safety and direction of residents, employees, customers and visitors (whether in a vehicle or on foot) of the establishments. Such signs:
 - (1) Shall not exceed a maximum size of 6.5 square feet.
 - (2) Shall not be any higher (top of sign) than four feet above the ground.
 - (3) Signs may not be located within the street layout line.
 - (4) If lighted, shall be illuminated internally or by indirect method with white light only and shall be in conformance with § 350-12.2.
- J. Along with the height restrictions herein, a sign, together with any supporting framework, shall not extend above the roofline of the associated structure on the site. In the case of a building with a pitched roof, the eave line of the building shall be considered the roofline.
- K. No sign shall be erected which obstructs the use of any door, window or fire escape on a building as a means of egress as required under the State Building Code.
- L. The Building Commissioner may order the repair or removal of any sign and its supporting structure, which, in their judgment, is dangerous, or in disrepair or which is erected or maintained contrary to this chapter.
- M. Only signs described herein are allowed to be installed

350-7.4. Nonconforming on-premise signs.

Preexisting nonconforming on-premise signs may not be changed, extended or altered unless the change brings the sign into conformity with the provisions of this chapter or unless said change is limited to changing the sign letters or symbols and/or changing panels and does not alter the structure of the sign itself. The following preexisting nonconforming signs, however, may be changed, extended or altered if there is a finding by the Zoning Board of Appeals that such change, extension or alteration will not be substantially more detrimental than the existing nonconforming sign to the neighborhood, and provided that such change, extension or alteration will not make the sign any more nonconforming than is the existing sign (i.e., higher, taller, bigger, closer, etc.):

- A. Preexisting nonconforming signs in residential districts.
- B. Preexisting nonconforming signs in the Central Business District.

§ 350-7.5. Nonconforming, nonaccessory off-premise signs.

All nonconforming, nonaccessory off-premise signs in existence and lawfully erected before the adoption of this chapter may continue to be maintained, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this § 350-7; provided, however, that no proposed new non-accessory off-premise sign shall be permitted in any district from and after the adoption of this chapter. No existing non-accessory off-premise sign panels may be reconstructed to add, modify, convert to LED or other electronic sign technology.

§ 350-7.6. Permit required; fees.

No sign shall be erected, altered or enlarged until a permit has been issued by the Building Commissioner. Such permit shall be issued only if the sign complies or will comply with all applicable provisions of this chapter. A schedule of fees for such permits will be maintained in the Building Department. The provisions of this section shall not apply to signs permitted in a residential area

Also Amend Chapter 264.2

Sandwich board signs shall be permitted on the following streets only: Main Street in the Downtown CBD, Bridge Street in the NB District at the intersection of Market and Hawley Streets only. Any restaurant or retail business which occupies an above- or below-street level space on Main Street, downtown or Florence, is eligible to locate a sandwich board sign in front of the property in which the business is located. Any business located on one of the following side streets located off Main Street in the downtown or Florence is eligible to locate a sandwich board sign on the corner of that side street and Main Street: Gothic Street, Center Street, Masonic Street, State Street, Strong Avenue, Old South Street, Crafts Avenue, Maple Street. Any restaurant or retail business located on Market Street or Hawley Street is eligible to locate a sandwich board sign on the corner of Bridge Street.

[Added 12-21-1995]

Report of the 2025 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances

Exhibit B

Topics Recommended for Further Study

1. Ordinance Regulating Mobile Food Vehicles § 285-4 (C)
The public forum regarding possible changes to the Mobile Food Vehicles ordinance was well attended and it elicited strong opinions from several perspectives on whether the city should amend the ordinance to allow mobile food trucks in the central business districts of Northampton and Florence. There was strong consensus that this issue should be referred to a select committee, and that the committee should be comprised of representatives of city government, local businesses, as well as the various other constituencies interested in this topic.
2. Amend §120-4 to Allow Issuance of Special Liquor Licenses in Pulaski Park
The proposal to allow the issuance of special liquor license for community events in Pulaski Park was a companion to the proposal to allow food trucks downtown generally and specifically in the park. The committee voted to refer this proposal for further study.
3. Clearing of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks §285-17
The committee spent much time on the issue of timely clearing of snow and ice from sidewalks and curb cuts, including driveway curb cuts, and it held a forum on that topic. The committee voted to recommend that this issue be referred to the Transportation and Parking Committee for further study to determine the scope of the ordinance and any gaps in the ordinance that fail to meet that scope.
4. Ordinance Requiring Posted Notice on City-Owned Property where Pesticides or Herbicides are Regularly Applied
At the June 30th public forum, the committee heard a proposal to require posting of notice of use of pesticides in areas where community members are sleeping in tents. Regulations exist around the use of pesticides in residential areas and near schools but not for areas where people may be sleeping outside. The committee voted to recommend further study on this issue.
5. Ordinance Protecting Ecosystems from Invasive Species
Also at the June 30th public forum, the committee heard a proposal for an ordinance to help protect Northampton's ecosystem from invasive species. The committee voted to recommend this issue for further study,

6. Ordinance to Expand Notification under §350-3.5 Changes to Zoning Map

At the June 30th public forum, the committee heard a proposal to amend §350-3.5 to expand notice of proposed zoning map change to adjacent landowners who may potentially be affected by the map change. The committee voted to recommend this issue for further study.

7. Ordinance to Require Temporary Pedestrian Access Route Planning for Work Areas that Substantially Block Sidewalks

The committee heard a proposal to require protected temporary access where sidewalks are inaccessible due to damage or the undertaking of repairs so that pedestrians are not forced to walk in the street. The committee voted to recommend this issue for further study.

EXHIBIT C - MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS

Date	Source	Specific Suggestion	Chapter	Section/Subsection	Text	Action Proposed
4/19/2025	Alex Bowman	April 19, 2025 email		§285-18 Sweeping of Sidewalks abutting business premises		Recommends review of §285-18 and addition of ordinance requiring property owners to keep sidewalks clear of vegetation
5/8/2025	Alex Bowman	May 8, 2025 email		§312-82 Crossing Roadways		Consider removal
5/8/2025	Alex Bowman			§312-85 Pedestrian crossings and use of roadways		Consider removal
5/18/2025	Alex Bowman			§312-82 Thumbing		Consider removal
6/10/2025	Fred Zimnoch	June 10, 2025 email	Administrative Code	2.11 Office of the Auditor		
6/10/2025	Ace Tayloe	June 10, 2025 email				Update ordinance to replace 'he' and 'she' with gender neutral 'they.'
6/10/2025	Ace Tayloe	June 10, 2025 email		§312-85 Pedestrian crossings and use of roadways		Consider removal
6/20/2025	Gavin Grant	June 20, 2025 email				Phase out gas-powered leaf blowers
6/30/2025	Benjamin Spencer	June 30, 2025 email		§120-1 Consumption and Possession of Open Containers in Certain City Facilities and Locations		Amend ordinance to allow issuance of License Commission special license to consume alcohol in Pulaski Park.
6/30/2025	Benjamin Spencer		General Code	§285-4 (4) Location of Mobile Food Vehicles		Change to allow food trucks in Pulaski Park
6/30/2025	Public Forum	See minutes of 6/30/2025 Public Forum attached			Various proposals	
6/30/2025	Amy Martyn	June 30, 2025 email	Chapter 241 Peace and Good Order	§241-2 Posting advertising	No person shall post or affix or cause to be posted or affixed upon any tree, stone, telegraph, telephone, electric light or other pole, post or structure, within the boundaries of any street, lane, common, park, court, alley or other public place, any sign, playbill, poster, notice, advertisement, or printed paper of any description whatsoever, except election notices, or any advertising appliance or medium, or cut, paint or mark any such stone, tree, pole, post or structure except for the purpose of protecting the same, except upon permit of the Board of Public Works.	Consider removal.
6/30/2025	Amy Martyn		Chapter 241 Peace and Good Order	§241-4 Obscene or profane language in streets prohibited		Consider removal.

EXHIBIT C - MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS

Date	Source	Specific Suggestion	Chapter	Section/Subsection	Text	Action Proposed
6/30/2025	Amy Martyn		Chapter 285 Streets, Sidewalks and Public Property	§285-17 Removal of Snow and Ice		Martyn agrees with those advocating for better maintenance of sidewalks after snowstorms but does not agree with penalties or fines for non-compliance. She thinks a PR campaign is needed to change social norms so that it's expected sidewalks be cleared of snow and ice and that neighbors unable to clear them in a timely way be helped.
7/9/2025	Jessy Lynn	July 7, 2025 email				Enforce leash laws
7/8/2025	Christina K. White DVM & Catherine Moriarty	July 8, 2025 email	Chapter 350-12.2 Outdoor Lighting	350-12.2 Outdoor Lighting		Make compliance requirement retroactive, enforce lights-off times, proactively enforce through routine inspections rather than reliance on resident complaints.
7/9/2025	Jonathan P. Levin	July 9, 2025 email	M.G.L. Chapter 90, Section 16A			In support of local ordinance against idling
12/4/2025	Matt Hoey	December 4, 2025 email	Chapter 285-17 Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks	Chapter 285-17 Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks		Proposal for two-tiered fine schedule for violaions of §285-17 with higher fines for owners of multi-unit residential properties and commercial properties/businesses.



ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Members

Councilor Jeremy Dubs, Chair
Councilor Garrick Perry, Vice-Chair
Dane Kuttler, Citizen
Molly Moses, Citizen
Councilor Stanley Moulton, III

HYBRID MEETING – PUBLIC FORUM

Meeting Date: June 30, 2025,
Northampton Senior Center, 67 Conz Street
Time: 6 p.m.

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** At 6:04 p.m., Councilor Jeremy Dubs called the meeting to order. On a roll call, the following members were present: Councilor Dubs; Chair, Councilor Garrick Perry, Vice Chair; Councilor Stanley W. Moulton, III and Member Dane Kuttler. Member Molly Moses was absent on roll call but joined at 6:15 p.m. Also present were City Solicitor Alan Seewald and Administrative Assistant Laura Krutzler.

2. **INTRODUCTION**

Ordinance Review Committee members introduced themselves. Councilor Dubs explained that they decided to hold a public forum to hear residents’ ideas for new ordinances, amendments to existing ordinances or ordinances needing to be removed or replaced because of being out of date. He opened the floor to comments.

3. **ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE PUBLIC FORUM**

Ryan Griffiths, Ward 4, said he is here to ask them to please consider enacting/implementing a light pollution ordinance. Light pollution is a great problem in today’s world that often goes overlooked because it is something that just happens; lights are everywhere and what is lost is not always known. Northampton is one of the biggest light polluters in Hampshire County followed by Amherst. He feels like a lot can be done for a large return without much impact to daily life and Northampton’s action would encourage neighboring communities to review their own bylaws. Light pollution has a great impact. First of all, you can’t see the stars at night. It impacts local wildlife and fauna and has been shown to have a casual (causal?) link to a slight increase of cancer. It is a problem that takes very little to address in the public realm and will save people money by allowing them to use less light and use it more efficiently.

Ace Tayloe, Ward 3, they/them, said they are already really in favor of a lot of ordinances up for review, such as actually enforcing snow removal and allowing food trucks downtown. They would love it if city ordinances could be updated for gender-neutral language. They use they/them pronouns and notice a lot of cases of he/she

and some artifacts of just 'he.' They think using 'they' as a standard gender-unknown pronoun would make the code more inclusive and easier to read and reflect the community's values.

Also, in Massachusetts, it is only legal for men to be topless in public and they think that is a little unfair. The ability to be cool and comfortable in summer is morally-neutral to morally-positive and it doesn't make sense to discriminate on the basis of gender. It is mostly legal precedence that says females can't be topless. Nantucket has an ordinance that allows 'all-access toplessness' on beaches and they would love it if Northampton had a similar ordinance.

An argument can be made that some folks feel it is morally wrong. What they have found is that hearts and minds can be changed by policy; if an ordinance were in place, it might move it toward becoming more publicly accepted and acceptable.

Meg Robbins, Ward 4, presented a dilemma she encountered in the process of collecting signatures for an At-large City Council seat. A Hampton Court Apartments resident told her that, since 2020, she has had the issue of not being able to sleep on weekends. According to the resident, the problem began during COVID when Patria first got an extension from the License Commission to have music until 2 a.m. Tellus later took that space and somehow got the license extended to having disco nights on Friday, Saturday and Sunday during the summer.

[Molly Moses arrived at 6:15 p.m.]

She has now talked to several residents and, according to them, alcohol is being consumed between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. The music is often very loud, and the worst part is the constant decibel level of the bass beat. Some people have bought white noise machines and one person told her she asked to move to another apartment. They seem to have gone through many steps of trying to get someone to help them without success.

Sealer of Weights and Measures John Frey came out to check the decibel level around midnight and said it didn't reach the level that would require mitigation but did not give them any numbers to go with it. She was told it wasn't as bad the night he came.

He said that even if the decibel level was really loud, once it got to the parking lot it was out of Tellus' control and it was the best they could do.

One person has called many people over the years and also called the police because when Tellus closes at 2 a.m., people come out into the parking lot and turn on more music and there are often fights. This particular person has taken the step of staying with someone else on the weekend.

The confusing thing is who to talk to since the problem falls under the noise ordinance enforced by the Building Department but also under an entertainment license issued by the License Commission. "Who do we talk to?"

The excessive noise is in conflict with the goal of trying to establish affordable housing downtown since she doesn't think people are going to want to live here if they can't sleep at night. "Right now you have constituents who are really, really, really sad," she reported.

While Tellus brings in revenue, “What’s the balance?” She asked, questioning the role of the city. She walked away feeling badly for these people and mostly feeling badly because they have talked to a lot of people who’ve said, ‘it’s not my problem.’ She is hoping people at this end will be able to iron this out and bring it to some resolution.

Dani McKahn, Perkins Avenue, said she would like to ask them to take a look at speed limits in the city. She shared the words of a colleague at ‘Strong Towns Northampton,’ where a mobility team has been working on better safety for pedestrians and cyclists: “Historically, changing regulatory speed limits has been notoriously difficult because of a laborious MassDOT approval process. However, in Section 10C of the procedures, Mass-Dot describes the process for setting 20 mph safety zones.”

The criteria is simple, she went on to say. The zone should be adjacent to an area that attracts vulnerable users and contain one or more areas with potential conflicts between motor vehicles and vulnerable road users warranting a reduction in speed, such as crosswalks, driveways or side streets. The minimum length of a safety zone should be at least a quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) of a mile and not extend more than 500 feet beyond a side street unless an applicable land use continues along an adjacent block.

It is a tool they could be using but are not. She thought if they could codify it somehow, lay out a process for citizens to apply for it and bring it to the Transportation and Parking Commission (TPC), they could be a little more aggressive about lowering speed limits where criteria are met.

Cambridge started installing 660 of these 20 mph safety zones across the city in 2016.

While speed limit signs are admittedly not the main way speed is controlled, they are a way, she suggested. The most impactful way is how the road is actually designed. However, posted speed limits matter and can help build a case for redesigning the road to a lower speed when it is redesigned.

Thomas Nuhfer, Ward 1 (also Perkins Avenue) said he would like to follow up on his comment by sending an email with specific language and citations. Member Kuttler said he is welcome to send it to the administrative assistant.

Northampton has some ordinances designating it as a sanctuary city/safe community, he noted. Some great ordinances are already in place, but he thinks they could be bolstered. He cited Greenfield as a community with a more extensive ordinance which, among other things, stipulates that city officials are not permitted to inquire as to a resident’s immigration status unless required to by Federal or State law and prevents city officials from storing data related to residents’ immigration status unless required. Greenfield’s ordinance also requires that city officials not target with legal action or discriminate against medical, educational or faith institutions with a mission of providing refuge to immigrants and their families and prevents city officials from detaining or delaying the release of individuals eligible for release from custody on the basis of a civil immigration detainer request or ICE administrative warrant. He suggested adding those provisions to existing language to make it more robust.

He also has suggestions when it comes to climate and environmental ordinances, Mr. Nuhfer continued, such as a Metropolitan Area Planning Council checklist for low-impact development codes. He recommends everything on that list, including suggestions for stormwater, building and zoning regulations to encourage low-impact development, some of which Northampton is already doing.

He would love to see some ordinances to transition the city away from gas-powered landscaping equipment, especially leaf blowers, which contribute to noise pollution as well as carbon emissions. Cambridge has some regulations around this that could serve as a model.

He also would love to see contracts with the city seek to eliminate peat products. Peat and landscaping materials as harvested from peat bogs pull in a lot of carbon from the atmosphere and, when disturbed, release a lot of carbon, making them devastating for climate change.

In terms of human issues, he has been concerned about seeing green spaces where neighbors are sleeping in tents which have been treated with pesticides, in some cases by the city; in others, by utilities or other property owners. Regulations exist around the use of pesticides in residential areas and near schools but, unfortunately, not for areas where people may be sleeping outside. He wasn't able to find a model ordinance but suggested exploring an ordinance requiring posted notice of areas where pesticides or herbicides are regularly applied.

Finally, there are a lot of places where regulations could be introduced to help protect Northampton's ecosystem from invasive species. He is an invasive species and climate adaptation ecologist and so is happy to talk about this in more detail. Northampton has ordinances defining alteration of wetlands but invasive species are not currently considered wetland alteration. Adding invasive species to the definition of alteration as well as the definition of damage to the environment would go a long way.

In the zoning ordinance, some landscaping language allows for the planting of invasive species. He would like to see that shift to say that planting be limited to native species. Often municipal plantings are geared towards thinking about what's going to survive right here and now but, with drastic warming expected, thinking ahead to the future will serve them all better.

Alex Opray, Ward 1B, said his request is that the language around snowplowing, sidewalks, etc. get clarified or somehow better enforced. Some areas of King Street become impassable to anyone using a wheelchair or stroller. He uses a grocery cart and walks to get groceries and can't do that in the winter because the sidewalks are not cleared. He knows rental application fees are illegal in Massachusetts but that is not always enforced. Noho charges fees for every application and charges broker's fees equal to almost a month's rent. He would like to see some enforcement and ordinances either severely limiting or entirely removing brokers' fees.

He also recommends adopting a set of proposals around heat, including protection in contracts for city workers around heat safety. Cities like Boston require access to shade or water for people contracted by the city.

Also, leases are currently allowed to prohibit air conditioning and there is no requirement that nursing homes have A/C. City ordinances to address this would help a lot of people stay safe in the heat.

Councilor Dubs attempted to recognize Randy Sailer on Zoom but his voice was inaudible to those in the room. Councilor Dubs told him they would come back to him.

Colin Hoffmeister, Ward 3 (Phillips Place) referenced a press release from September of 2023 which stated that Mayor Sciarra recognizes the importance of transparency and ensuring that accurate information is readily available to all residents. Referring to the Planning Department, it said that the city is dedicated to fostering open communication and promoting community engagement. He has a recommendation for a change to city

ordinance to increase transparency and ensure residents' right to know when zoning changes affect their property. A zoning change is a major regulatory action, he pointed out. Northampton's current zoning (§350-3.5) requires that notices be mailed to the owners of land proposed for rezoning but homeowners next to that lot may not receive notice. This limits essential public feedback and oversight of development. This actually happened to him. In 2022, the city rezoned an adjacent parcel from residential (URC) to CB-side without notifying him or his neighbors. Three years later, in March of 2025, they learned that an apartment complex was proposed for that site. This development is out of character and disproportionate to the residential neighborhood, which is on the register of historic places, and has significant potential impacts in terms of traffic, parking, reduced privacy and blocking sunlight. Despite significant opposition, the Planning Board approved the project.

The original plan proposed for the lot in 2020 was for six condos and the neighborhood had no opposition to it. Apparently, the Planning Board was aware of the developer's change to a proposal for an apartment complex after the zoning change in 2022 but the neighborhood did not find out until 2025.

His request is to amend §350-3.5 to require written notification to abutters of any upcoming hearings concerning rezoning. This would be consistent with the approach used by towns such as South Hadley. This notification must include clear identification of the parcel numbers and the street.

His second recommendation is for an environmental ordinance; i.e. - a solar protection ordinance/solar rights for homeowners to ensure that the right to solar power not be blocked by future development. Massachusetts encourages residents to convert to solar power. He is doing that and has invested heavily and now this development may cost him tens of thousands of dollars.

Randy Sailer proposed two ordinances: 1) to require temporary pedestrian access route planning for work areas that substantially block sidewalks. There are places where sidewalks are blocked and folks that are able-bodied are forced to walk in the street. He thinks they need written plans, particularly with the upcoming work on Main Street. Across from the jail on Route 66 is a spot where the land falls away, taking the sidewalk with it and effectively blocking the sidewalk with no protected way around it. He thinks there are a lot of places where the sidewalk is temporarily blocked by people working on something.

2) a ban over time on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. These are one of the most polluting appliances; their two-stroke engines are noisy and unhealthy for users and their pollution exacerbates climate change. Electric tools are becoming substantially better. Plenty of municipalities have enacted bans.

Erin Murray, faculty member in the Occupational Therapy Department at Western New England University and **former Northampton resident who now lives in Connecticut**, recommended amending §312-43(D) Accessible Parking to change the word 'handicapped' to 'reserved' on designated accessible parking spaces and change the old international symbol of access to the updated dynamic accessibility icon. This change has been in effect statewide in New York since 2013 and in Connecticut since 2017.

Northampton can make this happen without any extra costs in a budget-neutral manner by applying the change to new installations and replacing old signs as needed, she asserted. This can create a more inclusive society without impacting business budgets or taxpayer dollars. Using 'reserved' focuses on the purpose of the space rather than the condition of the person using it. Language evolves, and words such as 'reserved' are more neutral in line with more contemporary language practices. Updating language to be more respectful helps

promote inclusivity and reduce the stigma associated with disability. Reasons to change from the traditional stationary icon include 1) empowerment; it depicts a person in motion – conveying action, independence and capability - representing those with disabilities as active participants in society rather than as passive or stationary. 2) positive representation – the dynamic icon challenges stereotypes and shows that people with disabilities are mobile and can actively engage in various aspects of life.

She personally uses a chair when needed and needs to park closer to most stores but also has a job and value. Just because she needs to park closer does not mean she is a lesser member of society. She mentioned other cities that use the updated symbols, noting that they are substantial equivalents to the international symbol of access and in compliance with Massachusetts regulation 521 CMR 41 Signage. Officials in Salem, MA said there has been no pushback. It is a way to promote respect and dignity. She loves Northampton and would like it to consider taking this important step to provide recognition and dignity for all.

Dan Breindel, said he is suggesting a repeal of the form-based code, a giant omnibus ordinance passed in the very first days of this mayor's administration and several councilors' first weeks on the job. He doesn't think it was adequately reviewed. What they have seen in reality is that its function is the kind of upzoning that he and his neighbors have been dealing with.

23 residential lots were upzoned without a lot of notice and definitely without notifying the residents who live near them, not just to commercial but to Central Business Side Street (CB-side). This means not only that people building apartments can go to the highest density possible without building a single parking space but also gets rid of any sort of affordable housing, green space or environmental requirements. Lots of pollution is involved in the construction and operation of buildings; all of these protections get stripped under this new zoning designation (CBs), which frankly, is just a massive deregulation. A lot of regulations for affordability and green space were crafted and fought for for years and years, and all of them were stripped from many of the city's most attractive lots likely to see development and construction in the next couple of years.

If anybody watched the recent budget hearing, Council President Alex Jarrett noted that, despite all of these brand new buildings, not a single affordable unit credit was applied for. When requirements to limit size to increase affordability or provide affordable housing, green space or protections are lifted, developers just won't do it. They've now seen this played out a couple of times. If Northampton cares about affordable housing and the environment, Mr. Breindel thinks they really need to consider scaling back and striking the form-based code. The reality is that it is massive deregulation that is destroying the dream of affordable housing. If they're building a ton of high-density housing and not a single unit is affordable, they're driving rents up not down.

He really encourages the city to look into the form-based code. One of the reasons he's running for Mayor is to look into it and get rid of it. He thinks the more they look into it, the more they will discover horrifying things.

Member Kuttler asked Mr. Breindel if he could forward an email citing some of those codes and ordinances to the administrative assistant. Mr. Breindel said it was an omnibus package of ordinances and he is pretty sure she already has a copy.

Councilor Perry thanked everybody for coming out. The City Council has recently looked at light pollution and passed something to address it, he advised. Councilors have also worked on reducing speed limits and the

Ordinance Review Committee had already decided to look closer at the noise ordinance especially as the downtown becomes more vibrant.

They have looked into broker's fees and supported not allowing that.

Member Kuttler said she will have to take a look but it is her understanding that anyone in Northampton can be topless. That's what she was told when she moved here 20 years ago. In the Commonwealth, only people with flat chests are allowed to be topless in public but she was told that Northampton specifically permits anybody to be topless in public. She said she would look into whether that is codified.

On the subject of brokers' fees, Councilor Moulton said City Council adopted an order seeking special legislation to shift broker's fees from tenants to landlords. The state budget released today bans tenant-paid broker's fees throughout the state, he reported.

Councilor Moulton suggested to the chair that he would like to see the committee review the suggestions received tonight at their next meeting.

With regard to light pollution, Ryan Griffiths wondered if there might be a way to bolster the existing ordinance around indoor lighting. He doesn't know to what extent that could come into an ordinance.

Member Kuttler said they would endeavor to follow up with those folks who gave them their email addresses.

Councilor Dubs said the conversation will continue.

Gwen Nabad said that in Ward 1 along King Street where there are some apartment complexes there have been a lot of issues with excessive light in the back of buildings which she understands are owned by the state. The other issue people have experienced is the loudness of the train.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

5. ADJOURN

Councilor Perry moved to adjourn. Councilor Dubs seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Krutzler.

EXHIBIT D - GENERAL ORDINANCE HOUSEKEEPING CHANGES

Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
Ch. 1 General Provisions	§1.16 Rules of Construction and Definition	§1.16 Rules of Construction and Definition	GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION. Includes a person's actual or perceived gender, as well as a person's gender identity, gender-related self-image, gender-related appearance, or gender-related expression whether or not that gender identity, gender-related self image, gender-related appearance, or gender-related expression is different from that traditionally associated with a person's sex at birth. [Added 12-15-2005]	Consider whether necessary to amend to be consistent with gender-neutral language	
Code of Ordinance	Entire Code		Replace he/him/his and she/her/hers with gender-neutral singular and plural pronouns (they/them) and eliminate other gender-specific references	SEE ATTACHED FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS	Update code to reflect present day and current local culture
	§128-1 Wild Animals	§128-1 Wild Animals	No person shall lead or drive or otherwise cause to travel, pass or be conveyed, any dangerous wild animal upon or along any highway, street, court, alley, park, or other public way or ground within the City limits, unless the same is properly secured in some covered vehicle or cage, and is in the charge of a person competent to control said wild animal in case of accident.	Insert 'the' in phrase 'is in charge of'	
Ch. 312 Vehicles and Traffic	§312-84 Traffic control signal legend for pedestrians	§312-84 Traffic control signal legend			Update language to align with current pedestrian signage used in the city. (e.g. use of walking figure rather than or in addition to the word "walk." Added to the list of GO Housekeeping changes 11/19/2025.

Chapter 241 Peace and Good Order	§241-2 Posting advertising	§241-2 Posting advertising	No person shall post or affix or cause to be posted or affixed upon any tree, stone, telegraph , telephone, electric light or other pole, post or structure, within the boundaries of any street, lane, common, park, court, alley or other public place, any sign, playbill, poster, notice, advertisement, or printed paper of any description whatsoever, except election notices, or any advertising appliance or medium, or cut, paint or mark any such stone, tree, pole, post or structure except for the purpose of protecting the same, except upon permit of the Board of Public Works.		Delete word "telegraph" and phrase ", except upon permit of the Board of Public Works" <u>Added to list of General Ordinance Housekeeping changes 11/19/2025.</u>
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12.17.2025

Northampton Ordinances: Reviewed for Gender/Pronoun Updates

** Note:

<https://ecode360.com/26839028?highlight=he&searchId=30337628413827472#26839028>
change "he" to "be" (h/t Ace Tayloe)

§ 1-9

Original: Gender. A word importing the masculine gender only shall extend and be applied to females and to firms, partnerships and corporations as well as to males.

Proposed:

§ 1-16 B. (2)

Original: Gender. A word importing the masculine gender only shall extend and be applied to females and to firms, partnerships and corporations as well as to males.

Proposed: [Delete as will be irrelevant]

§ 1-16 B. (7)

Original: Signature. If the written signature of a person is required, it shall always be his own handwriting or, if he is unable to write, his mark.

Proposed: Signature. If the written signature of a person is required, it shall always be that person's own handwriting or, if they are unable to write, that person's mark.

§ 40-5 B. (Listing of Enforcing Officers)

Original: Director of Planning and Sustainability or his/her designee

Proposed: Director of Planning and Sustainability or designee [or "their designee"]

Original: Director of Public Works or his/her designee

Proposed: Director of Public Works or designee [or "their designee"]

Original: Director of Public Works and his/her designee

Proposed: Director of Public Works and designee [though was this meant to be "or"??]

Original: Department of Public Works Director or his/her designee, Chief of Police or his/her designee, or Parking Enforcement Officers

Proposed: Department of Public Works Director or designee, Chief of Police or designee, or Parking Enforcement Officers

Original: Director of Department of Public Works and/or his/her designee

Proposed: Director of Department of Public Works and/or designee

Original: Chair, Conservation Commission or his/her staff agent or designee

Proposed: Chair, Conservation Commission or their staff agent or designee

§ 116-11 A.

Original: Prior to the initiation of any fire alarm system installation or alteration, the firm contracted by the alarm user shall apply to the Fire Chief for a fire alarm permit (527 CMR 10.03(15), an electrical permit (527 CMR 12) from the Electrical Inspector, and a building permit (780 CMR) from the Building Commissioner. At the time of fire alarm permit application, the contracted company will submit fire alarm prints that are drawn to scale and utilize current design and engineering standards. The Fire Chief or his designee shall have 30 days to review, comment on, issue a fire alarm permit or reject the plans. All plans submitted must include the specifications of all devices that the contracted firm proposes to install. If the Fire Chief or his designee rejects these plans, he must reference in writing the basis of the rejection.

Proposed: Prior to the initiation of any fire alarm system installation or alteration, the firm contracted by the alarm user shall apply to the Fire Chief for a fire alarm permit (527 CMR 10.03(15), an electrical permit (527 CMR 12) from the Electrical Inspector, and a building permit (780 CMR) from the Building Commissioner. At the time of fire alarm permit application, the contracted company will submit fire alarm prints that are drawn to scale and utilize current design and engineering standards. The Fire Chief or the Chief's designee shall have 30 days to review, comment on, issue a fire alarm permit or reject the plans. All plans submitted must include the specifications of all devices that the contracted firm proposes to install. If the Fire Chief or the Chief's designee rejects these plans, they must reference in writing the basis of the rejection.

§ 116-11 B.

Original: At the completion of the fire alarm system installation, the fire alarm contractor shall obtain a final electrical inspection by the Inspector of Wires, perform a one-hundred-percent test as outlined by NFPA 72 of all initiating and control devices. At the completion of this testing process, the fire alarm contractor shall furnish the Fire Chief or his designee with a letter of one-hundred-percent testing and request a final inspection for system approval. The first inspection will be provided, as part of the fire alarm permit fee, and each reinspection will be performed at an additional fee per inspection.

Proposed: At the completion of the fire alarm system installation, the fire alarm contractor shall obtain a final electrical inspection by the Inspector of Wires, perform a one-hundred-percent test as outlined by NFPA 72 of all initiating and control devices. At the completion of this testing process, the fire alarm contractor shall furnish the Fire Chief or the Chief's designee with a letter of one-hundred-percent testing and request a final inspection for system approval. The first inspection will be provided, as part of the fire alarm permit fee, and each reinspection will be performed at an additional fee per inspection.

§ 128-3

Original: No person shall keep or allow to be kept in any building, or on any premises of which he may be the owner or occupant....

Proposed: No person shall keep or allow to be kept in any building, or on any premises of which they may be the owner or occupant....

§ 128-6 A.

Original: Every owner/keeper of a domesticated animal shall provide his or her animal with sufficient potable water and wholesome food, proper shelter and protection from the weather, including extremes of

heat and cold, veterinary care sufficient to prevent suffering and the spread of disease and shall provide humane care and treatment for the animal.

Proposed: Every owner/keeper of a domesticated animal shall provide such animal with sufficient potable water and wholesome food, proper shelter and protection from the weather, including extremes of heat and cold, veterinary care sufficient to prevent suffering and the spread of disease and shall provide humane care and treatment for the animal.

§ 128-8 B.

Original: No license shall be issued to a person who has not attained the age of 18 years or one convicted of cruelty to animals for a period of five years from the date of his/her being found guilty or penalized for such offense.

Proposed: No license shall be issued to a person who has not attained the age of 18 years or one convicted of cruelty to animals for a period of five years from the date of such person being found guilty or penalized for such offense.

§ 128-9 A.

Original: No person owning or keeping a dog within the City shall allow such dog to roam at large upon the land of another, except if it is on the premises of another person with his or her permission, nor shall they allow such dog to roam at large on any portion of a public highway or any public property, nor shall an owner or keeper restrain a dog on his/her own property so as to permit said dog to extend onto public or private property or to create a danger to the public safety.

Proposed: No person owning or keeping a dog within the City shall allow such dog to roam at large upon the land of another, except if it is on the premises of another person with that person's permission, nor shall they allow such dog to roam at large on any portion of a public highway or any public property, nor shall an owner or keeper restrain a dog on their own property so as to permit said dog to extend onto public or private property or to create a danger to the public safety.

§ 128-13 A.

Original: It shall be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by his/her dog on any sidewalk, street or other public area. It shall further be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by his/her dog on any private property neither owned nor occupied by said person.

Proposed: It shall be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by their dog on any sidewalk, street or other public area. It shall further be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by their dog on any private property neither owned nor occupied by said person.

§ 128-13 E.

Original: This regulation shall not apply to a dog accompanying any person with a disability who, by reason of his/her disability, is physically unable to comply with the requirements of this section.

Proposed: This regulation shall not apply to a dog accompanying any person with a disability who, by reason of their disability, is physically unable to comply with the requirements of this section.

§ 128-14 B.

Original: The rabies vaccination tag, issued by the vaccinating veterinarian, shall be secured by the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or ferret to a collar or harness made of suitable material to be worn by the dog or cat; provided, however, that the owner of a cat or ferret may choose not to affix a tag to his cat or ferret, but shall have the tag available for inspection by authorized persons. In the event that a tag is lost, the owner or keeper shall obtain a replacement tag from the vaccinating veterinarian upon presentment of the original vaccination certificate.

Proposed: The rabies vaccination tag, issued by the vaccinating veterinarian, shall be secured by the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or ferret to a collar or harness made of suitable material to be worn by the dog or cat; provided, however, that the owner of a cat or ferret may choose not to affix a tag to their cat or ferret, but shall have the tag available for inspection by authorized persons. In the event that a tag is lost, the owner or keeper shall obtain a replacement tag from the vaccinating veterinarian upon presentment of the original vaccination certificate.

§ 128-15 E.

Original: Before disposing of any dog in his/her possession, the Animal Control Officer shall first examine the animal for the presence of a microchip or tattoo and check its description against descriptions within the City relative to such species of animal licensed or registered therein. The Animal Control Officer, prior to euthanizing any animal, shall have completed under the supervision of a veterinarian registered under the provisions of MGL c. 112, § 55 or 56C, a course of instruction in humane techniques for euthanizing animals. In any case, animals shall be euthanized only by the administration of barbiturates in a manner deemed acceptable by the American Veterinary Association Guidelines on Euthanasia, except by gunshot in case of emergency.

Proposed: Before disposing of any dog in the Animal Control Officer's possession, the Animal Control Officer shall first examine the animal for the presence of a microchip or tattoo and check its description against descriptions within the City relative to such species of animal licensed or registered therein. The Animal Control Officer, prior to euthanizing any animal, shall have completed under the supervision of a veterinarian registered under the provisions of MGL c. 112, § 55 or 56C, a course of instruction in humane techniques for euthanizing animals. In any case, animals shall be euthanized only by the administration of barbiturates in a manner deemed acceptable by the American Veterinary Association Guidelines on Euthanasia, except by gunshot in case of emergency.

§ 128-17

Original: Any veterinarian registered under the provisions of MGL c. 112, § 55 or 56A, who renders emergency care or treatment to, or euthanizes a dog or cat that is injured on any way within the City of Northampton shall receive payment from the owner of such dog or cat, if known or subsequently identified. If the owner is unknown, the veterinarian may submit an invoice to the Police Department for payment of an amount not to exceed the limit provided under MGL c. 140, § 151B, for such care, treatment or euthanization; provided, however, that such emergency care, treatment or euthanization shall be for the purpose of maintaining life, stabilizing the animal or alleviating suffering for a period of up to 24 hours. Any veterinarian who renders such emergency care or treatment to, or euthanizes, such dog or cat shall notify the City's Animal Control Officer. Upon notification, the Animal Control Officer shall assume control of such dog or cat, or its remains. The Animal Control Officer shall endeavor to identify the owner of the injured dog or cat. If the owner is identified, the Animal Control Officer shall provide the name and address of the owner to the treating veterinarian. If the owner remains unknown, the Animal Control Officer shall verify that there is reason to believe that the injury occurred on a way within the City and provide the Chief of Police or his/her designee with a written report of the matter. Upon receipt of

such verification, the Chief of Police or his/her designee shall approve payment of the invoiced amount, not to exceed the statutory provided limit, for the veterinarian's services.

Proposed: Any veterinarian registered under the provisions of MGL c. 112, § 55 or 56A, who renders emergency care or treatment to, or euthanizes a dog or cat that is injured on any way within the City of Northampton shall receive payment from the owner of such dog or cat, if known or subsequently identified. If the owner is unknown, the veterinarian may submit an invoice to the Police Department for payment of an amount not to exceed the limit provided under MGL c. 140, § 151B, for such care, treatment or euthanization; provided, however, that such emergency care, treatment or euthanization shall be for the purpose of maintaining life, stabilizing the animal or alleviating suffering for a period of up to 24 hours. Any veterinarian who renders such emergency care or treatment to, or euthanizes, such dog or cat shall notify the City's Animal Control Officer. Upon notification, the Animal Control Officer shall assume control of such dog or cat, or its remains. The Animal Control Officer shall endeavor to identify the owner of the injured dog or cat. If the owner is identified, the Animal Control Officer shall provide the name and address of the owner to the treating veterinarian. If the owner remains unknown, the Animal Control Officer shall verify that there is reason to believe that the injury occurred on a way within the City and provide the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee with a written report of the matter. Upon receipt of such verification, the Chief of Police or their designee shall approve payment of the invoiced amount, not to exceed the statutory provided limit, for the veterinarian's services.

§ 128-19 E (2)

Original: The applicant shall establish to the satisfaction of the Building Commissioner that **he/she is** in compliance with any and all zoning or business licensing requirements pertaining to the operation and maintenance of a kennel facility.

Proposed: The applicant shall establish to the satisfaction of the Building Commissioner that **they are** in compliance with any and all zoning or business licensing requirements pertaining to the operation and maintenance of a kennel facility.

§ 128-19 E (3)

Original: No license shall be issued to a person who has not attained the age of 18 years, or one convicted of cruelty to animals for a period of five years from the date of **his/her** being found guilty or penalized for such offense.

Proposed: No license shall be issued to a person who has not attained the age of 18 years, or one convicted of cruelty to animals for a period of five years from the date of being found guilty or penalized for such offense. **[remove his/her]**

§ 149-1 A.

Original: Every owner, occupant or person having control of any principal building on property which has been assigned a number by the Department of Public Works shall, at their own expense, cause said building to be numbered with numeric figures at least three inches in height, in contrasting color to the background and conspicuously placed facing the road according to the directions of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee and/or any public safety officer as follows:

Proposed: Every owner, occupant or person having control of any principal building on property which has been assigned a number by the Department of Public Works shall, at their own expense, cause said building to be numbered with numeric figures at least three inches in height, in contrasting color to the

background and conspicuously placed facing the road according to the directions of the Director of Public Works or the Director's designee and/or any public safety officer as follows:

§ 149-1 A. (1)

Original: The Director of Public Works or his/her designee and/or any public safety officer shall use the following guidelines on any building situated more than 80 feet from the road layout: Each person shall place numbers in a conspicuous location not more than three feet from the edge of the driveway and not more than 10 feet from the road layout. Numbers shall be placed on a freestanding pole or post between four and six feet in height, above ground level, and shall face the road.

Proposed: The Director of Public Works or their designee and/or any public safety officer shall use the following guidelines on any building situated more than 80 feet from the road layout: Each person shall place numbers in a conspicuous location not more than three feet from the edge of the driveway and not more than 10 feet from the road layout. Numbers shall be placed on a freestanding pole or post between four and six feet in height, above ground level, and shall face the road.

§ 149-2 A.

Original: Said numbers shall, in the business portions of the City, cover a frontage of 10 feet more or less and, in the residence portions of the City, a frontage of 25 feet more or less, at the discretion of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee, and be measured continuously from the end of the street, lane, alley or court.

Proposed: Said numbers shall, in the business portions of the City, cover a frontage of 10 feet more or less and, in the residence portions of the City, a frontage of 25 feet more or less, at the discretion of the Director of Public Works or their designee, and be measured continuously from the end of the street, lane, alley or court.

§ 149-2 B.

Original: When lot driveway access is permitted by the Planning Board, Zoning Board, or Zoning Board of Appeals at a location other than the lot frontage, the Director of Public Works or his/her designee may assign a house number at the street, lane, alley or court where the driveway is located for safety reasons. When a building is built close to the street line with the clear intention of providing a presence on that street, the Director of Public Works or his/her designee may assign house numbers for the street adjacent to the building and/or may assign multiple numbers on multiple streets, regardless of the location of the driveway or other buildings on the same property, provided such street number will not slow emergency response.

Proposed: When lot driveway access is permitted by the Planning Board, Zoning Board, or Zoning Board of Appeals at a location other than the lot frontage, the Director of Public Works or their designee may assign a house number at the street, lane, alley or court where the driveway is located for safety reasons. When a building is built close to the street line with the clear intention of providing a presence on that street, the Director of Public Works or their designee may assign house numbers for the street adjacent to the building and/or may assign multiple numbers on multiple streets, regardless of the location of the driveway or other buildings on the same property, provided such street number will not slow emergency response.

§ 149-3

Original: The Director of Public Works or his/her designee shall assign a new number wherever he finds that the number in use is incorrect, but he shall not have authority to renumber a street unless so ordered by the Planning Board.

Proposed: The Director of Public Works or their designee shall assign a new number wherever they find that the number in use is incorrect, but neither the Director nor any designee shall not have authority to renumber a street unless so ordered by the Planning Board.

§ 149-4

Original: Any owner, occupant, or person having control of any dwelling house or other building who shall refuse or neglect to comply with the provisions of this article within then 10 days after a notice in writing is delivered to such owner, occupant, or person, of the number or numbers assigned said buildings by the Director of Public Works or his/her designee, shall for each and every offense, forfeit and pay a penalty as set forth in Chapter 40, Enforcement.

Proposed: Any owner, occupant, or person having control of any dwelling house or other building who shall refuse or neglect to comply with the provisions of this article within then 10 days after a notice in writing is delivered to such owner, occupant, or person, of the number or numbers assigned said buildings by the Director of Public Works or their designee, shall for each and every offense, forfeit and pay a penalty as set forth in Chapter 40, Enforcement.

§ 161-2 "DEMOLITION PERMIT"

Original: The building permit issued by the Building Commissioner or his/her designee as required by the State Building Code for total demolition of a building or structure.

Proposed: The building permit issued by the Building Commissioner or their designee as required by the State Building Code for total demolition of a building or structure.

§ 161-8 A.

Original: Authorized agents. The Director of Planning and Sustainability or his/her designee is specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as they may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

Proposed: Authorized agents. The Director of Planning and Sustainability or their designee is specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as they may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

§ 168-3 B.

Original: The Earth Removal Enforcement Officer may, in his/her discretion, issue a certificate indicating that an activity in Subsection A(1) through (11) above is exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

Proposed: The Earth Removal Enforcement Officer may, in their discretion, issue a certificate indicating that an activity in Subsection A(1) through (11) above is exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

§ 168-5 A.

Original: The Earth Removal Enforcement Officer shall issue a permit if he finds that the permittee's earth removal actions will not:

Proposed: The Earth Removal Enforcement Officer shall issue a permit if the Officer finds that the permittee's earth removal actions will not:

§ 168-7 B.

Original: The Earth Removal Enforcement Officer, may, in his/her discretion, issue a cease-and-desist order for second and subsequent violations of this chapter.

Proposed: The Earth Removal Enforcement Officer, may, their discretion, issue a cease-and-desist order for second and subsequent violations of this chapter.

§ 183-3 A.

Original: No person, other than the facility owner (with the exception of a single-family residence) or his/her designee under the supervision of the Fire Department shall reset or restore any fire alarm system within the City of Northampton.

Proposed: No person, other than the facility owner (with the exception of a single-family residence) or their designee under the supervision of the Fire Department shall reset or restore any fire alarm system within the City of Northampton.

§ 195-5 B.

Original: Potentially exempt with a certificate of nonapplicability from the Director of Planning and Sustainability or his/her designee, based on the standards herein and in the Design Standards

Proposed: Potentially exempt with a certificate of nonapplicability from the Director of Planning and Sustainability or their designee, based on the standards herein and in the Design Standards

§ 195-6 F.

Original: A landowner in the district or his or her representative may request informal assistance from the Commission in planning alterations or new construction. The Commission shall offer informal advice and comments to any proposal. This advice, however, cannot be binding on the Commission when it formally reviews an application for a certificate.

Proposed: A landowner in the district or the landowner's representative may request informal assistance from the Commission in planning alterations or new construction. The Commission shall offer informal advice and comments to any proposal. This advice, however, cannot be binding on the Commission when it formally reviews an application for a certificate.

§ 202-2

Original: Every person licensed under this chapter shall keep a book in which he shall record all articles purchased....

Proposed: Every person licensed under this chapter shall keep a book in which they shall record all articles purchased....

§ 202-3 B.

Original: Any person obtaining a license under the provisions of this chapter shall offer and afford full opportunity to any police officer, Constable or Sheriff to examine the books, records, bags, baskets,

vehicles or contents thereof, upon demand, and shall give full information to such officers concerning any goods or articles which **he has in his** possession, or in or about the buildings or premises wherein such materials are stored and kept.

Proposed: Any person obtaining a license under the provisions of this chapter shall offer and afford full opportunity to any police officer, Constable or Sheriff to examine the books, records, bags, baskets, vehicles or contents thereof, upon demand, and shall give full information to such officers concerning any goods or articles which the **person has in their** possession, or in or about the buildings or premises wherein such materials are stored and kept.

§ 202-6 B.

Original: Any person obtaining a license under the provisions of this chapter shall offer and afford full opportunity to any police officer, Constable or Sheriff to examine the books, records, bags, baskets, vehicles or contents thereof, upon demand, and shall give full information to such officers concerning any goods or articles which he has in his possession, or in or about the buildings or premises wherein such materials are stored and kept.

Proposed: Any person obtaining a license under the provisions of this chapter shall offer and afford full opportunity to any police officer, Constable or Sheriff to examine the books, records, bags, baskets, vehicles or contents thereof, upon demand, and shall give full information to such officers concerning any goods or articles which that person has in their possession, or in or about the buildings or premises wherein such materials are stored and kept.

§ 229-3 D. (1)

Original: Any person or entities who desire to conduct a parade or motorcade shall apply to the Chief of Police for a permit at least 30 days in advance of the date of the proposed parade or motorcade. The Chief of Police may in his discretion....

Proposed: Any person or entities who desire to conduct a parade or motorcade shall apply to the Chief of Police for a permit at least 30 days in advance of the date of the proposed parade or motorcade. The Chief of Police may in the Chief's discretion....

§ 229-3 D. (3)

Original: In the event that the Chief of Police has been unable or for any reason failed to render an approval or denial of the permit within the five-working-day limit as required hereunder, he shall provide a written statement as to the reasons for such delay....

Proposed: In the event that the Chief of Police has been unable or for any reason failed to render an approval or denial of the permit within the five-working-day limit as required hereunder, the Chief shall provide a written statement as to the reasons for such delay....

§ 233-3

Original: No person shall remain in any such area after 9:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m. for the period from April 1 through October 31, and after 7:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m. for the period from November 1 through March 31 of any year, unless **he/she is** participating in an activity authorized by the School Committee or the Recreation Department.

Proposed: No person shall remain in any such area after 9:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m. for the period from April 1 through October 31, and after 7:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m. for the period from November 1 through March 31 of any year, unless **they are** participating in an activity authorized by the School Committee or the Recreation Department.

§ 237-1

Original: No person shall carry on the business of a pawnbroker in the City unless he is duly licensed therefor by the City Council in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 140 of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

Proposed: No person shall carry on the business of a pawnbroker in the City unless duly licensed therefor by the City Council in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 140 of the General Laws of Massachusetts. [remove "he is"]

§ 241-5

Original: No person shall enter upon the premises of another for the purpose of committing any wanton or malicious act, nor for the purpose of, nor with the intention of, invading the privacy of another by peeping into the windows of a house or spying on any person residing therein. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to abridge nor in any way limit the right of a police officer to enter upon private property nor to perform any act necessary in the performance of his/her official duties.

Proposed: No person shall enter upon the premises of another for the purpose of committing any wanton or malicious act, nor for the purpose of, nor with the intention of, invading the privacy of another by peeping into the windows of a house or spying on any person residing therein. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to abridge nor in any way limit the right of a police officer to enter upon private property nor to perform any act necessary in the performance of their official duties.

§ 245-7

Original: It shall be unlawful for any peddler or solicitor to represent by words, writing or action that he is some other peddler or solicitor, that he is a partner, employee or agent of any peddler or solicitor when in fact he is not the partner, agent or employee of such peddler or solicitor, or that he is the employee, representative, agent or partner of any person, when in fact he is not the employee, representative, agent or partner of such person.

Proposed: It shall be unlawful for any peddler or solicitor to represent by words, writing or action that they are some other peddler or solicitor, that they are a partner, employee or agent of any peddler or solicitor when in fact they are not the partner, agent or employee of such peddler or solicitor, or that they are the employee, representative, agent or partner of any person, when in fact they are not the employee, representative, agent or partner of such person.

§ 245-8 B.

Original: Every person who desires to peddle or solicit shall register in a registration book provided for that purposes in the Police Department his name and address, the name and address of the person whom he represents, the names and addresses of at least two references as to his moral character, honesty and integrity, a brief description of the nature of the business in which he is engaged, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for, if any, and such person shall furnish his fingerprints and thumb prints, to be taken by the Police Department. Such registrant shall also furnish to the Police Department a photograph of himself, taken within 60 days immediately prior to the date of the

registration, which picture shall be two inches by two inches showing the head and shoulders of the registrant in a clear and distinguishing manner; also, a statement as to whether or not the registrant has been convicted of any crime, misdemeanor or violation of any provision of this Code or other municipal ordinance, the nature of the offense, and the punishment or penalty assessed therefor.

Proposed: Every person who desires to peddle or solicit shall register in a registration book provided for that purposes in the Police Department their name and address, the name and address of the person whom they represent, the names and addresses of at least two references as to their moral character, honesty and integrity, a brief description of the nature of the business in which they are engaged, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for, if any, and such person shall furnish their fingerprints and thumb prints, to be taken by the Police Department. Such registrant shall also furnish to the Police Department a photograph taken within 60 days immediately prior to the date of the registration, which picture shall be two inches by two inches showing the head and shoulders of the registrant in a clear and distinguishing manner; also, a statement as to whether or not the registrant has been convicted of any crime, misdemeanor or violation of any provision of this Code or other municipal ordinance, the nature of the offense, and the punishment or penalty assessed therefor.

[Note: In the original as well as in the proposed, it is unclear whose moral character is being referenced]

§ 245-8 D.

Original: As evidence of compliance with the provisions of this section, the Police Department shall issue to each person who complies a permit which shall show the name and address of such person, the name of the person he represents or by whom he is employed, if any, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for.

Proposed: As evidence of compliance with the provisions of this section, the Police Department shall issue to each person who complies a permit which shall show the name and address of such person, the name of the person they represent or by whom they are employed, if any, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for.

§ 245-9

Original: No person shall be registered under the provisions of § 245-8 until he presents a certificate from the Sealer of Weights and Measures stating that all weighing and measuring devices intended to be used by such person have been duly inspected and sealed as required by law. The use of, or possession by such person with intent to use, any false or unsealed weighing or measuring devices shall be sufficient cause for the revocation of his license or the cancellation of his registration.

Proposed: No person shall be registered under the provisions of § 245-8 until they present a certificate from the Sealer of Weights and Measures stating that all weighing and measuring devices intended to be used by such person have been duly inspected and sealed as required by law. The use of, or possession by such person with intent to use, any false or unsealed weighing or measuring devices shall be sufficient cause for the revocation of their license or the cancellation of their registration.

§ 245-10

Original: Every solicitor or peddler at all times while engaged in peddling or soliciting shall have in his immediate possession the permit issued to him under the provisions of § 245-9 and when so peddling or soliciting shall display the same upon demand of any police officer of the City and upon demand of any person to whom he is peddling or soliciting.

Proposed: Every solicitor or peddler at all times while engaged in peddling or soliciting shall have in their immediate possession the permit issued to them under the provisions of § 245-9 and when so peddling or soliciting shall display the same upon demand of any police officer of the City and upon demand of any person to whom they are peddling or soliciting.

§ 245-10 B.

Original: Every person who desires to peddle or solicit shall register in a registration book provided for that purposes in the Police Department his name and address, the name and address of the person whom he represents, the names and addresses of at least two references as to his moral character, honesty and integrity, a brief description of the nature of the business in which he is engaged, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for, if any, and such person shall furnish his fingerprints and thumb prints, to be taken by the Police Department. Such registrant shall also furnish to the Police Department a photograph of himself, taken within 60 days immediately prior to the date of the registration, which picture shall be two inches by two inches showing the head and shoulders of the registrant in a clear and distinguishing manner; also, a statement as to whether or not the registrant has been convicted of any crime, misdemeanor or violation of any provision of this Code or other municipal ordinance, the nature of the offense, and the punishment or penalty assessed therefor.

Proposed: Every person who desires to peddle or solicit shall register in a registration book provided for that purposes in the Police Department their name and address, the name and address of the person whom they represent, the names and addresses of at least two references as to their moral character, honesty and integrity, a brief description of the nature of the business in which they are engaged, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for, if any, and such person shall furnish their fingerprints and thumb prints, to be taken by the Police Department. Such registrant shall also furnish to the Police Department a photograph taken within 60 days immediately prior to the date of the registration, which picture shall be two inches by two inches showing the head and shoulders of the registrant in a clear and distinguishing manner; also, a statement as to whether or not the registrant has been convicted of any crime, misdemeanor or violation of any provision of this Code or other municipal ordinance, the nature of the offense, and the punishment or penalty assessed therefor.

§ 245-10 C.

Original: As evidence of compliance with the provisions of this section, the Police Department shall issue to each person who complies a permit which shall show the name and address of such person, the name of the person he represents or by whom he is employed, if any, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for.

Proposed: As evidence of compliance with the provisions of this section, the Police Department shall issue to each person who complies a permit which shall show the name and address of such person, the name of the person they represent or by whom they are employed, if any, and the kind of goods or property to be peddled or solicited for.

§ 245-13

Original: No person, unless duly licensed by the Director of Standards of the commonwealth, shall go from place to place in this City selling or bartering, or carrying or exposing for sale or barter, any fish or fruits or vegetables, in or from any cart, wagon or other vehicle, or in any other manner, without a license therefor from the Mayor and City Council; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to any person who sells only fruits or vegetables raised or produced by himself or by his family, or fish which is obtained by his own labor or the labor of his family.

Proposed: No person, unless duly licensed by the Director of Standards of the commonwealth, shall go from place to place in this City selling or bartering, or carrying or exposing for sale or barter, any fish or fruits or vegetables, in or from any cart, wagon or other vehicle, or in any other manner, without a license therefor from the Mayor and City Council; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to any person who sells only fruits or vegetables they themselves or their own family have raised or produced, or fish which is obtained by their own labor or the labor of their family.

§ 245-14

Original: The Mayor and City Council shall have authority to grant the license required by this article to any person of good repute for morals and integrity who is or has declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States.

Proposed: The Mayor and City Council shall have authority to grant the license required by this article to any person of good repute for morals and integrity who is or has declared their intention to become a citizen of the United States.

§ 256-10

Original: Every sewer or drain laid in any land or way, public or private, open or proposed to be open for public travel and accommodation shall be a main drain or common sewer. The construction of all main drains and common sewers and all sewers and drains connecting with any main drain or common sewer from a point 10 feet from the foundation of the wall of any building shall be under the supervision of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee.

Proposed: Every sewer or drain laid in any land or way, public or private, open or proposed to be open for public travel and accommodation shall be a main drain or common sewer. The construction of all main drains and common sewers and all sewers and drains connecting with any main drain or common sewer from a point 10 feet from the foundation of the wall of any building shall be under the supervision of the Director of Public Works or their designee.

§ 256-11

Original: No person shall dig or break the ground in a highway or street for the purpose of laying, altering or repairing a sewer pipe or drain, or of entering or connecting with the main drain or common sewer without the consent of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee.

Proposed: No person shall dig or break the ground in a highway or street for the purpose of laying, altering or repairing a sewer pipe or drain, or of entering or connecting with the main drain or common sewer without the consent of the Director of Public Works or their designee.

§ 285-14 B.

Original: The provisions of this section shall not apply to the use of sound trucks; provided, however, that no person shall operate a sound truck until he first has obtained a permit from the Chief of Police. No person shall operate a sound truck in any street at any time between the hours of 9:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. No person shall operate a sound truck at any time in any territory designated as a "Zone of Quiet."

Proposed: The provisions of this section shall not apply to the use of sound trucks; provided, however, that no person shall operate a sound truck until they first have obtained a permit from the Chief of Police. No person shall operate a sound truck in any street at any time between the hours of 9:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. No person shall operate a sound truck at any time in any territory designated as a "Zone of Quiet."

§ 285-17 A.

Original: The owner responsible for a building, structure or lot of land bordering on any street, lane, court, square or public place within the City where there is a sidewalk, including any curb ramp/cut, shall, after snow has ceased to fall thereupon or whenever snow shall have collected or deposited upon any such sidewalk, within 24 hours, remove the same or cause the same to be removed from such sidewalk; and also remove or cause to be removed from such sidewalk, or cover or cause to be covered with sand or some other suitable substance, within 24 hours after it has formed or appeared, any ice with which the same may be encumbered, in such a way as to render such sidewalk safe and convenient for travel, to the full width. For property located in the Central Business Districts or the Florence Village Districts as delineated on the Northampton Zoning Map, the above requirements must be met within 24 hours or by 9:00 a.m. on the next business day, whichever is sooner. If a person is found to be violating the provisions of this section, it shall be the duty of the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, the Director of Public Works, or his/her designee, or Parking Enforcement Officers, to assess a fine to any such person in accordance with the fine schedule set forth in Chapter 40, Enforcement, § 40-5. Each twenty-four-hour period a violation of Subsection A or B exists shall be considered to constitute a separate offense.

Proposed: The owner responsible for a building, structure or lot of land bordering on any street, lane, court, square or public place within the City where there is a sidewalk, including any curb ramp/cut, shall, after snow has ceased to fall thereupon or whenever snow shall have collected or deposited upon any such sidewalk, within 24 hours, remove the same or cause the same to be removed from such sidewalk; and also remove or cause to be removed from such sidewalk, or cover or cause to be covered with sand or some other suitable substance, within 24 hours after it has formed or appeared, any ice with which the same may be encumbered, in such a way as to render such sidewalk safe and convenient for travel, to the full width. For property located in the Central Business Districts or the Florence Village Districts as delineated on the Northampton Zoning Map, the above requirements must be met within 24 hours or by 9:00 a.m. on the next business day, whichever is sooner. If a person is found to be violating the provisions of this section, it shall be the duty of the Chief of Police, or the Chief's designee, the Director of Public Works, or the Director's designee, or Parking Enforcement Officers, to assess a fine to any such person in accordance with the fine schedule set forth in Chapter 40, Enforcement, § 40-5. Each twenty-four-hour period a violation of Subsection A or B exists shall be considered to constitute a separate offense.

§ 285-17 C.

Original: Upon neglect of or violation of the duties imposed by the provisions of Subsections A and B of § 285-17, such duties may be performed by the Director of Public Works or his/her designee at the expense of the person(s) or entities liable to perform those duties. Assessment of costs under this subsection shall not preclude any party from being fined under § 40-5.

Proposed: Upon neglect of or violation of the duties imposed by the provisions of Subsections A and B of § 285-17, such duties may be performed by the Director of Public Works or their designee at the expense of the person(s) or entities liable to perform those duties. Assessment of costs under this subsection shall not preclude any party from being fined under § 40-5.

§ 285-22

Original: Whenever any street or sidewalk, under any license granted as provided in § 285-21, is dug up, obstructed, encumbered or otherwise rendered unsafe or inconvenient for travelers, the person so licensed shall put up and at all times keep a suitable railing or fence around the section or part of any such street or sidewalk so dug up, obstructed or encumbered, so long as the same remains unsafe or

inconvenient, and shall also keep one or more lighted lanterns fixed to such fence, or in some other proper manner, every night, from twilight in the evening and through the night, so long as such railing or fence is kept standing. He shall also, within such reasonable time as the Department of Public Works shall direct, restore and repair such street to the acceptance of the Department of Public Works.

Proposed: Whenever any street or sidewalk, under any license granted as provided in § 285-21, is dug up, obstructed, encumbered or otherwise rendered unsafe or inconvenient for travelers, the person so licensed shall put up and at all times keep a suitable railing or fence around the section or part of any such street or sidewalk so dug up, obstructed or encumbered, so long as the same remains unsafe or inconvenient, and shall also keep one or more lighted lanterns fixed to such fence, or in some other proper manner, every night, from twilight in the evening and through the night, so long as such railing or fence is kept standing. This person shall also, within such reasonable time as the Department of Public Works shall direct, restore and repair such street to the acceptance of the Department of Public Works.

§ 285-28 B.

Original: No person thus licensed shall act under his license until he has filed with the Department of Public Works a bond of guaranty with, if required, a sufficient surety and satisfactory in amount, to indemnify the City from all loss and damage by reason of such removal.

Proposed: No person thus licensed shall act under their own license until they have filed with the Department of Public Works a bond of guaranty with, if required, a sufficient surety and satisfactory in amount, to indemnify the City from all loss and damage by reason of such removal.

§ 285-30.1

Original: No person thus licensed shall act under his license until he has filed with the Department of Public Works a bond of guaranty with, if required, a sufficient surety and satisfactory in amount, to indemnify the City from all loss and damage by reason of such removal.

Proposed: No person thus licensed shall act under their own license until they have filed with the Department of Public Works a bond of guaranty with, if required, a sufficient surety and satisfactory in amount, to indemnify the City from all loss and damage by reason of such removal.

§ 312-14 A.

Original: Subject to the written direction of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee, the Department of Public Works is hereby authorized and as to those signs and signals required hereunder it shall be his duty, to place and maintain or cause to be placed and maintained all official traffic signs, signals, markings and safety zones. All signs, signals, markings and safety zones shall conform to the standards as prescribed by the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Proposed: Subject to the written direction of the Director of Public Works or their designee, the Department of Public Works is hereby authorized and as to those signs and signals required hereunder it shall be the Director or designee's duty, to place and maintain or cause to be placed and maintained all official traffic signs, signals, markings and safety zones. All signs, signals, markings and safety zones shall conform to the standards as prescribed by the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

§ 312-36 E. (2)

Original: It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or cause to be deposited in a parking meter any coin for the purpose of permitting the vehicle of which he is in charge to remain in a parking space beyond the maximum period of time allowed in a particular zone.

Proposed: It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or cause to be deposited in a parking meter any coin for the purpose of permitting the vehicle of which they are in charge to remain in a parking space beyond the maximum period of time allowed in a particular zone.

§ 312-36 H.

Original: The Parking Clerk or designee is hereby authorized to place upon or over parking meters, or cause to be so placed, no-parking hoods, so-called, whenever in his/her judgment the public interest so requires, the effect of which shall be prohibited parking in the area so designated except as authorized by order of the Parking Clerk or designee for the period during which no-parking hoods remain present. Whenever no-parking hoods, so-called, are placed upon or over parking meters at the request of a private individual, firm or corporation, except charitable or religious corporations, such private individual, firm or corporation shall deposit with the Parking Clerk or designee the sum of \$25 for each no-parking hood placed upon or over the parking meters, and shall pay to the Parking Clerk or designee for the City the parking fee as indicated or shown on the meter for each hour during which a no-parking hood remains upon or over said meter. The \$25 deposit shall be returned to the private individual, firm or corporation upon the return to the Parking Clerk of the no-parking hood in good condition.

Proposed: The Parking Clerk or designee is hereby authorized to place upon or over parking meters, or cause to be so placed, no-parking hoods, so-called, whenever in their judgment the public interest so requires, the effect of which shall be prohibited parking in the area so designated except as authorized by order of the Parking Clerk or designee for the period during which no-parking hoods remain present. Whenever no-parking hoods, so-called, are placed upon or over parking meters at the request of a private individual, firm or corporation, except charitable or religious corporations, such private individual, firm or corporation shall deposit with the Parking Clerk or designee the sum of \$25 for each no-parking hood placed upon or over the parking meters, and shall pay to the Parking Clerk or designee for the City the parking fee as indicated or shown on the meter for each hour during which a no-parking hood remains upon or over said meter. The \$25 deposit shall be returned to the private individual, firm or corporation upon the return to the Parking Clerk of the no-parking hood in good condition.

§ 312-41 A

Original: Authorized. It is hereby authorized that the Chief of the Northampton Police Department or such sergeants or other officers of higher rank in the Police Department as he may from time to time designate, to remove, to some convenient place through the agency of a person or persons in the employ of the Police Department or by an independent contractor any vehicle parked or standing on any part of any way under the control of the municipality in such a manner as to impede in any way the removal or plowing of snow or ice or in violation of any rule or regulation or ordinance which prohibits the parking or standing of all vehicles on such way or portions thereof at such time and recites that whoever violates it shall be liable to charges for the removal and storage of the vehicles as well as subject to punishment by fine.

Proposed: Authorized. It is hereby authorized that the Chief of the Northampton Police Department or such sergeants or other officers of higher rank in the Police Department as the Chief may from time to time designate, to remove, to some convenient place through the agency of a person or persons in the employ of the Police Department or by an independent contractor any vehicle parked or standing on any part of any way under the control of the municipality in such a manner as to impede in any way the

removal or plowing of snow or ice or in violation of any rule or regulation or ordinance which prohibits the parking or standing of all vehicles on such way or portions thereof at such time and recites that whoever violates it shall be liable to charges for the removal and storage of the vehicles as well as subject to punishment by fine.

§ 312-53

Original: When any roadway has been divided into lanes, a driver of a vehicle shall drive so as to be entirely within a single lane and shall not move from the lane in which he is driving until he has first ascertained if such movement can be made with safety.

Proposed: When any roadway has been divided into lanes, a driver of a vehicle shall drive so as to be entirely within a single lane and shall not move from the lane in which they are driving until they have first ascertained if such movement can be made with safety.

§ 312-59 B.

Original: No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk and on the right half of the roadway to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians notwithstanding any traffic control indication to proceed.

Proposed: No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk and on the right half of the roadway to accommodate the vehicle the driver is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians notwithstanding any traffic control indication to proceed.

§ 312-61

Original: It shall be unlawful for any person traveling upon a bicycle, motorcycle, coaster, sled, roller skates, or any toy vehicle to cling to, or attach himself or his vehicle to any moving vehicle or street car upon any roadway.

Proposed: It shall be unlawful for any person traveling upon a bicycle, motorcycle, coaster, sled, roller skates, or any toy vehicle to cling to, or attach themselves or their vehicle to any moving vehicle or street car upon any roadway.

§ 312-66 D.

Original: Every driver of a vehicle or other conveyance approaching an intersection of ways, where there exists facing him an official sign bearing the word "YIELD", said sign having been erected in accordance with the written approval of the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and such approval being in effect shall surrender to oncoming traffic his right to enter the intersection until such time as he has brought his vehicle or other conveyance to a complete stop at a point between the said yield sign and the nearer line of the street intersection; provided, however, that this requirement to stop before entering the intersection shall not apply when a driver approaching a yield sign can enter the intersection in safety without causing interference to approaching traffic. [Added 9-18-1986; amended 11-6-1986]

Proposed: Every driver of a vehicle or other conveyance approaching an intersection of ways, where there exists facing the driver an official sign bearing the word "YIELD", said sign having been erected in accordance with the written approval of the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of

Massachusetts and such approval being in effect shall surrender to oncoming traffic the right to enter the intersection until such time as the driver has brought their vehicle or other conveyance to a complete stop at a point between the said yield sign and the nearer line of the street intersection; provided, however, that this requirement to stop before entering the intersection shall not apply when a driver approaching a yield sign can enter the intersection in safety without causing interference to approaching traffic. [Added 9-18-1986; amended 11-6-1986]

§ 312-92

Original: The moving or towing of any vehicle under the provisions of this article shall be by and at the direction of the Chief of Police or such other officers of the rank of Sergeant or higher as he may from time to time designate.

Proposed: The moving or towing of any vehicle under the provisions of this article shall be by and at the direction of the Chief of Police or such other officers of the rank of Sergeant or higher as the Chief may from time to time designate.

§ 312-122 A.

Original: Resident status. To qualify for resident status, the owner of a vehicle must present evidence that the vehicle is registered and insured in Massachusetts and is garaged (paying excise taxes) in the specified Neighborhood Permit Parking District of Northampton, except as exempted by MGL c. 90, § 3 1/2. Leased vehicles must be registered in Massachusetts and principally garaged in the permit district; rental contracts must be shown, along with a letter from the insurance company indicating that the vehicle is insured for garaging in the permit district. In addition, the applicant must be registered as a current resident by the Registrar of Voters, and must present one of the following items mailed to him or her within the preceding 30 days at the address listed in the permit district: a gas, electricity, or telephone bill, a credit card bill, a monthly bank statement (except mortgage), a cable television bill, or other reasonable proof of residency as determined by the Transportation and Parking Commission.[1]

Proposed: Resident status. To qualify for resident status, the owner of a vehicle must present evidence that the vehicle is registered and insured in Massachusetts and is garaged (paying excise taxes) in the specified Neighborhood Permit Parking District of Northampton, except as exempted by MGL c. 90, § 3 1/2. Leased vehicles must be registered in Massachusetts and principally garaged in the permit district; rental contracts must be shown, along with a letter from the insurance company indicating that the vehicle is insured for garaging in the permit district. In addition, the applicant must be registered as a current resident by the Registrar of Voters, and the applicant must present one of the following items mailed to them within the preceding 30 days at the address listed in the permit district: a gas, electricity, or telephone bill, a credit card bill, a monthly bank statement (except mortgage), a cable television bill, or other reasonable proof of residency as determined by the Transportation and Parking Commission.[1]

§ 312-124 B.

Original: Notification. Prior to any revocation of a permit, notice of the proposed action shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the permit holder at the address listed on the application for the permit. The notice shall state the reason for the proposed revocation and the time, date and location of a hearing to be held by the Parking Clerk on said proposed action. The permit holder may appear at said hearing and offer testimony and/or evidence he or she thinks is relevant to the issue. Notice shall be sent at least seven days prior to said hearing. If a permit is revoked, notice of said revocation shall be sent to the permit holder by certified mail.

Proposed: Notification. Prior to any revocation of a permit, notice of the proposed action shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the permit holder at the address listed on the application for the permit. The notice shall state the reason for the proposed revocation and the time, date and location of a hearing to be held by the Parking Clerk on said proposed action. The permit holder may appear at said hearing and offer testimony and/or evidence they think is relevant to the issue. Notice shall be sent at least seven days prior to said hearing. If a permit is revoked, notice of said revocation shall be sent to the permit holder by certified mail.

§ 312-126 E. (2)

Original: A copy of his/her fingerprints;

Proposed: A copy of the applicant's fingerprints;

§ 312-126 J.

Original: Whoever conducts himself/herself as an ice cream vendor/operator without a valid City-issued permit or with an expired permit, or whoever improperly displays a permit, shall be subject to a fine of no more than \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for a second offense, and \$300 for a third or subsequent offense.

Proposed: Whoever conducts themselves as an ice cream vendor/operator without a valid City-issued permit or with an expired permit, or whoever improperly displays a permit, shall be subject to a fine of no more than \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for a second offense, and \$300 for a third or subsequent offense.

§ 316-5

Original: No person operating any motor bus under such a license shall refuse to carry any person offering themselves to be carried as a passenger therein unless such bus is occupied to the limit of its carrying capacity under its license, or unless such a person be intoxicated or disorderly.

Proposed: No person operating any motor bus under such a license shall refuse to carry any person offering themselves to be carried as a passenger therein unless such bus is occupied to the limit of its carrying capacity under its license, or unless such a person be intoxicated or disorderly.

§ 316-9

Original: No person operating any motor bus under such license shall collect fares, make change or take on or discharge passengers while such bus is in motion; nor shall he have a lighted cigarette, cigar or pipe in his possession while any passenger is being carried therein, nor drink any intoxicating beverage of any kind, nor be under the influence thereof, while engaged in operating such bus.

Proposed: No person operating any motor bus under such license shall collect fares, make change or take on or discharge passengers while such bus is in motion; nor possess a lighted cigarette, cigar or pipe while any passenger is being carried therein, nor drink any intoxicating beverage of any kind, nor be under the influence thereof, while engaged in operating such bus.

§ 316-18 A.

Original: No person shall operate a vehicle governed by the provisions of this article unless he or she obtained an operator's permit from the Chief of Police. Applicants shall apply on forms furnished by the City Clerk and shall set forth under oath such information as the Chief of Police may require. All

applications shall be forwarded by the City Clerk to the Chief of Police within five days of filing of the application. The Chief of Police shall issue or deny the license within 30 days of referral.

Proposed: No person shall operate a vehicle governed by the provisions of this article unless they obtained an operator's permit from the Chief of Police. Applicants shall apply on forms furnished by the City Clerk and shall set forth under oath such information as the Chief of Police may require. All applications shall be forwarded by the City Clerk to the Chief of Police within five days of filing of the application. The Chief of Police shall issue or deny the license within 30 days of referral.

§ 316-18 D.

Original: Upon being denied an operator's permit by the Chief of Police, an applicant shall have the right of appeal to the Mayor or his or her designee. All such appeals shall be in writing and filed with the Mayor or his or her designee within 10 days of the denial of the operator's permit. Appeals will be heard within 20 days of the filing thereof. The decision of the Mayor or his or her designee shall be final and binding.

Proposed: Upon being denied an operator's permit by the Chief of Police, an applicant shall have the right of appeal to the Mayor or the Mayor's designee. All such appeals shall be in writing and filed with the Mayor or their designee within 10 days of the denial of the operator's permit. Appeals will be heard within 20 days of the filing thereof. The decision of the Mayor or their designee shall be final and binding.

§ 316-18 E. Original: It shall be the duty of the driver of any vehicle for hire to accept as passengers any person who seeks to use the services of a vehicle for hire, provided that such person conducts himself/herself in an orderly fashion. No person shall be admitted to a vehicle for hire occupied by a passenger without the consent of the passenger.

Proposed: It shall be the duty of the driver of any vehicle for hire to accept as passengers any person who seeks to use the services of a vehicle for hire, provided that such person conducts themselves in an orderly fashion. No person shall be admitted to a vehicle for hire occupied by a passenger without the consent of the passenger.

§ 316-19 A. (2) (a)

Original: No permit shall be issued until the applicant has delivered to the City Clerk a policy of insurance issued by an insurance company authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, covering the motor vehicle(s) to be operated by the applicant under his or her permit, nor until the applicant has also delivered to the City Clerk a certificate of the insurance company issuing the policy showing that the policy shall not be canceled without giving the City Clerk 10 days' notice thereof.

Proposed: No permit shall be issued until the applicant has delivered to the City Clerk a policy of insurance issued by an insurance company authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, covering the motor vehicle(s) to be operated by the applicant under their permit, nor until the applicant has also delivered to the City Clerk a certificate of the insurance company issuing the policy showing that the policy shall not be canceled without giving the City Clerk 10 days' notice thereof.

§ 316-19 A. (3)

Original: Every vehicle operated by the business owner shall be inspected by a state-certified inspection station yearly. A current, valid inspection sticker must be possessed upon application for registration with the City. Such inspection is at the owner's expense, and proof must be supplied to the City Clerk. Whenever the Chief of Police or his or her designee has reason to doubt such taxicab or livery vehicle is in safe, proper mechanical condition, properly equipped, properly lettered and in a suitably clean

condition, he or she may suspend the City registration permit thereof without a hearing, and take possession of said permit until the conditions are corrected.

Proposed: Every vehicle operated by the business owner shall be inspected by a state-certified inspection station yearly. A current, valid inspection sticker must be possessed upon application for registration with the City. Such inspection is at the owner's expense, and proof must be supplied to the City Clerk. Whenever the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee has reason to doubt such taxicab or livery vehicle is in safe, proper mechanical condition, properly equipped, properly lettered and in a suitably clean condition, they may suspend the City registration permit thereof without a hearing, and take possession of said permit until the conditions are corrected.

§ 316-24 B.

Original: No person shall operate a horse-drawn carriage on any public way within the City of Northampton **unless he/she has obtained** a carriage driver's license from the City Council....

Proposed: No person shall operate a horse-drawn carriage on any public way within the City of Northampton **without having obtained** a carriage driver's license from the City Council....

§ 325-3

Original: No person shall make any opening or connection with a pipe, reservoir or source of water supply or turn on or turn off the water in any water pipe or reservoir, except by permission of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee.

Proposed: No person shall make any opening or connection with a pipe, reservoir or source of water supply or turn on or turn off the water in any water pipe or reservoir, except by permission of the Director of Public Works or their designee.

§ 325-4

Original: No person shall fish in any reservoir or other source of water supply for the City, except by permission of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee.

Proposed: No person shall fish in any reservoir or other source of water supply for the City, except by permission of the Director of Public Works or their designee.

§ 325-7

Original: No person shall, except in case of fire, open a hydrant or lift or remove the cover of a hydrant, except by permission of the Director of Public Works or his/her designee.

Proposed: No person shall, except in case of fire, open a hydrant or lift or remove the cover of a hydrant, except by permission of the Director of Public Works or their designee.

§ 337-5 B.

Original: Written permit application shall be filed with the Commission to perform activities regulated by this chapter affecting resource areas protected by this chapter. The application shall include at least two copies of all plans, forms, and such information as is deemed necessary by the Commission to describe proposed activities and their effects on the environment and must include permission for the Commission and its agents to enter the property for the purpose of evaluating the request and monitoring the project. When applications include drainage calculations or the design of any facility that will be dedicated to the

City of Northampton, one copy of the application shall be delivered to the Director of Public Works or his/her designee. No activities shall commence without receiving and complying with a permit issued pursuant to this chapter.

Proposed: Written permit application shall be filed with the Commission to perform activities regulated by this chapter affecting resource areas protected by this chapter. The application shall include at least two copies of all plans, forms, and such information as is deemed necessary by the Commission to describe proposed activities and their effects on the environment and must include permission for the Commission and its agents to enter the property for the purpose of evaluating the request and monitoring the project. When applications include drainage calculations or the design of any facility that will be dedicated to the City of Northampton, one copy of the application shall be delivered to the Director of Public Works or their designee. No activities shall commence without receiving and complying with a permit issued pursuant to this chapter.

§ 337-7

Original: The Commission shall provide copies of its agenda to the Planning Department, Director of Public Works or his/her designee and Building Inspector. The Commission shall not take final action until five working days after such officials have received their notice of the application. The Commission shall consider recommendations from those officials and any other City boards and officials but they shall not be binding on the Commission.

Proposed: The Commission shall provide copies of its agenda to the Planning Department, Director of Public Works or their designee and Building Inspector. The Commission shall not take final action until five working days after such officials have received their notice of the application. The Commission shall consider recommendations from those officials and any other City boards and officials but they shall not be binding on the Commission.

§ 350-2.1 HOME BUSINESS C.

Original: Any practitioner of the home business who will work on-site must occupy the main residential building as his/her bona fide residence.

Proposed: Any practitioner of the home business who will work on-site must occupy the main residential building as their bona fide residence.

§ 350-2.1 OWNER-OCCUPIED DWELLING

Original: A dwelling that is the principal residence of the owner and where the owner resides or intends to reside as his or her domicile.

Proposed: A dwelling that is the principal residence of the owner and where the owner resides or intends to reside as their own domicile.

§ 350-4.5

Original: It shall be unlawful to use or occupy any structure or lot thereafter erected or altered unless the Building Commissioner has issued a certificate of use and occupancy and has specified thereon the use to which the structure or lot may be put. Applications for certificates of use and occupancy shall be filed coincident with the application for permits and shall be issued or refused in writing for cause within 10 days after the Building Commissioner has been notified in writing that the erection or alteration of such buildings has been completed. A record of all certificates shall be kept on file in the office of the Building

Commissioner. Buildings accessory to dwellings when completed at the same time shall not require a separate certificate of occupancy. Pending the issuance of a regular certificate, a temporary certificate may be issued for a period not exceeding six months, during the completion of alterations or during partial occupancy of a building, pending its completion. No temporary certificate shall be issued prior to its completion if the building fails to meet the requirements of applicable building ordinances and state laws or this chapter to such a degree as to render it unsafe for the occupancy proposed. In situations where, in the opinion of the Building Commissioner, a single structure or group of related structures may not be issued a certificate of occupancy because not all of the spaces within the structure(s) are yet completed, he may issue a single certificate of occupancy which specifies certain areas as not being included. Such areas will be required to have a separate certificate of occupancy prior to their use and occupancy.

Proposed: It shall be unlawful to use or occupy any structure or lot thereafter erected or altered unless the Building Commissioner has issued a certificate of use and occupancy and has specified thereon the use to which the structure or lot may be put. Applications for certificates of use and occupancy shall be filed coincident with the application for permits and shall be issued or refused in writing for cause within 10 days after the Building Commissioner has been notified in writing that the erection or alteration of such buildings has been completed. A record of all certificates shall be kept on file in the office of the Building Commissioner. Buildings accessory to dwellings when completed at the same time shall not require a separate certificate of occupancy. Pending the issuance of a regular certificate, a temporary certificate may be issued for a period not exceeding six months, during the completion of alterations or during partial occupancy of a building, pending its completion. No temporary certificate shall be issued prior to its completion if the building fails to meet the requirements of applicable building ordinances and state laws or this chapter to such a degree as to render it unsafe for the occupancy proposed. In situations where, in the opinion of the Building Commissioner, a single structure or group of related structures may not be issued a certificate of occupancy because not all of the spaces within the structure(s) are yet completed, the Building Commissioner may issue a single certificate of occupancy which specifies certain areas as not being included. Such areas will be required to have a separate certificate of occupancy prior to their use and occupancy.

§ 350-4.8 B.

Original: : If the Building Commissioner is requesting in writing to enforce the ordinance against any person allegedly in violation of the same and declines to act, he shall notify, in writing, the party requesting such enforcement of any action or refusal to act, and the reasons therefor, within 14 days of receipt of such request.

Proposed: If the Building Commissioner is requesting in writing to enforce the ordinance against any person allegedly in violation of the same and declines to act, the Building Commissioner shall notify, in writing, the party requesting such enforcement of any action or refusal to act, and the reasons therefor, within 14 days of receipt of such request.

ZONING ORDINANCE "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

ZONING ORDINANCE CLEAN-UP - OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY REQUESTED CHANGES					
Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
Ch. 350 Zoning	§350-1.4 Amendment and Validity	https://ecode360.com/11957101#11957098	Amendment. This chapter may be amended from time to time in accordance with Section 65 of <u>Chapter 40A of Massachusetts General Laws, also known as</u> the Zoning Act.[1]	Change Section # from 6 to 5, add full citation.	The ordinance refers to the wrong section of the MGL. Correct and clarify reference.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-2.1 Definition of "DWELLING, MOBILE HOME"	https://ecode360.com/39471251#39471251	DWELLING , MOBILE HOME A single family residential unit with all of the following characteristics: a) designed for long-term occupancy and containing sleeping accommodations, a flush toilet, a tub or shower bath and kitchen facilities with plumbing and electrical connections provided for attachment to outside systems; b) designed to be transported after fabrication on its own wheels or on a flat bed or other trailer or detachable wheels; c) arriving at the site where it is to be occupied as a dwelling complete , conventionally designed to include major appliances and furniture, and ready for occupancy except for minor and incidental unpacking and assembly operations, location on foundation supports, connection to utilities, and the like; d) designed for removal to and installation or erection on other sites. A mobile home shall be defined to include two one or more components <u>units</u> , separately towable, which when joined together have the characteristics as described above. For the purposes of this chapter, a mobile home shall not be deemed a one family dwelling .	Remove DWELLING from definition title and delete references to single-family and requirement that Mobile Home consist of two or more units.	MOBILE HOMES can be either single- or multi-family.

ZONING ORDINANCE "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-6.2 Table of Dimensional and Density Regulations	https://ecode360.com/11957357?highlight=&searchId=29362925157774439#11957357	A. See the Table of Dimensional and Density Regulations which is included as an attachment to this chapter. , plus attached notes, which are declared to be a part of this chapter. For character-based zoning districts such as Central Business districts and Florence Village districts, the tables are in § 350-22. Accessible wheelchair ramps for access by persons with disabilities, as defined by MGL c. 40A, § 3, are exempt from these dimensional requirements.	As shown.	Correct reference to location of Table and mention character-based districts have their own chapters.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-6.9 Dimensional and density regulations for lots	https://ecode360.com/11957416?highlight=&searchId=29364470159194736#11957416	Change title to "Dimensional and density regulations for lots located in more than one district <u>or municipality</u>	or municipality	Amend title to more accurately reflect content
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-6.11C(1) Form-based criteria for two-family and two single-family homes	https://ecode360.com/37348757?highlight=&searchId=29364608106785375#37348757	C (1) Building massing. The Mm maximum length of <u>each</u> massing is 50 feet. ("B")	As shown.	Clarify that the length of each mass is 50 feet.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-6.11 C(1)(b)(4) Form-based criteria for two-family and two single-family homes	https://ecode360.com/37348757?highlight=&searchId=29364608106785375#37348757	[4] Offset Where the walls of adjacent masses <u>that</u> are in the same plane, the walls must be offset by at least four feet.	As shown.	The ordinance has four ways to meet the massing requirement when multiple masses are connected to each other. Update the wording for the fourth option to make it a possible option rather than required.

ZONING ORDINANCE "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
	350-6.11C(2)(c) Form-based criteria for two-family and two single-family homes	https://ecode360.com/37348757?highlight=&searchId=29364608106785375#37348757	(c) When a dwelling or dwelling unit is located to the rear of another dwelling unit that has a covered front entry, the principal entrance to the rear dwelling may face the side or rear of the lot. In this case, the <u>principal entrance to the rear dwelling must meet the requirements for a covered front entry as described above.</u> The covered front entrance must be at least 20 feet from the lot line <u>it is facing</u> unless <u>it has</u> other means to create a buffer/private outdoor space to adjoining properties. are approved by the Planning Board. The entrance must meet the requirements for a covered front entry as described above.	As shown.	350-6.11C(2)(c): Remove the Planning Board approval requirement for alternative screening methods for side or rear facing entries when the entries do not have at least 20' setback.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-8.1 C Table of Off-Street Parking Regulations	https://ecode360.com/11957545#11957545	350-8.1C Table of Off-Street Parking Regulations. Parking shall be provided to serve the parking needs which are generated by a particular use or structure. <u>Specific district use table or attachments supersede the following Table of Off-Street Parking regulations when there are conflicts.</u> When there is more than one primary use of a structure, the parking requirements for each use must be met unless one use is incidental to the principal use of the structure.	As shown.	Clarify that specific district use tables supersede general table if there is a conflict.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-8.8 A. Parking and loading space standards	https://ecode360.com/11957545#11957545	A. A parking space shall be at least 8 1/2 feet in width and 18 feet in length. <u>If it has area directly behind it for, with at least 18 feet of backing-up and maneuvering area directly behind the space</u> (which may be shared with other spaces), <u>it shall be at least 18 feet in length and allow for safe backing-up and maneuvering without colliding into structures, objects, and other vehicles.</u> Except for parking spaces for the same residential housing unit, each space must be laid out so that it does	As shown.	Clarify wording while maintaining the same requirements in multiple sub-sections.

ZONING ORDINANCE "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-8.8 F. Parking and loading space standards	https://ecode360.com/11957545#11957576	F. In business and industrial districts, U unless directly opposite an intersecting street, no portion of a driveway entrance or exit shall be closer than 50 feet to the curblines of an intersecting street nor shall it be closer than 50 feet to any portion of an existing driveway. located in a business or industrial district.	As shown.	Clarify wording while maintaining the same requirements in multiple sub-sections.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-8.8 G. Parking and loading space standards	https://ecode360.com/11957545#11957576	G. There shall be a maximum of one driveway curb cut per lot. In <u>CB, FV, GB</u> , and HB Districts, and for all new two-family lots, a special permit from the Planning Board is required for more than one curb cut. <u>For Character-Based Districts, S</u> see also <u>applicable</u> requirements in §§ 350-21 and 350-22 for Character-	As shown.	Clarify wording while maintaining the same requirements in multiple sub-sections.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-9.3 Change, extension or alteration of legally preexisting nonconforming structures, uses or lots.	https://ecode360.com/11957611?highlight=350-9.3&searchId=5242501462240491#11957611	A. A preexisting nonconforming structure or use may be changed, extended or altered: (10) With a special permit for a single- or two-family home when the Zoning Board makes a finding that the change which includes new zoning violations (such as reduction of open space, new setback encroachments or further encroachments into the setback, etc.) will not be substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing nonconforming single- or two-family structure. The special permit shall not allow for the reduction of open space below the minimum requirement.	As shown.	350-9.3A(10): The Zoning Board of Appeals historically does not approve special permits to go below the minimum required open space. This amendment solidifies that practice.

ZONING ORDINANCE "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-11.6B (2)	https://ecode360.com/11957975?&searchId=5243061935193442#11957975	<p>Project Location: CBs (All subtypes), FV (All subtypes), GB, GI, and OI Zoning Districts; PV District, except for medical and dental offices; and NB District, except for uses with gas pumps; HB Zoning District; PV District for project for medical and dental offices; NB Districts for uses with gas pumps; BP Districts with nonexempt uses; and BP,, URA, SC and RR Zoning Districts for sites (1)within 500 feet of a transit stop, or (2)within 500 feet of an asphalt or concrete City off-road rail trail or bicycle path, or (3)abutting a sidewalk that extends without a break from the project to either downtown Northampton or downtown Florence; Any other site in WSP, RR, SR, SC, and URA, SC, and RR Zoning Districts and any other BP residential</p>		Amend traffic mitigation fee table to add missing zoning districts and remove districts that no longer exist in 'Project Location' column.
Ch. 350 Zoning	350-12.1 A (8)	https://ecode360.com/11958058?&searchId=5244115230034155#11958058	<p>A. In meeting these objectives, the following general standards shall apply: (8) No persistently loud or disruptive noise shall be allowed between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. All steady, nonfluctuating noise levels must meet the following standards at the property boundary (using a sound meter which meets the American National Standards Institute's Specification for Type II Sound Level Meters: S1.4-1971.) <u>For boundaries between properties with different maximum noise requirements, the lowest maximum noise requirement shall apply:</u></p>		350-12.1A(8): Make the maximum noise requirements more restrictive between properties that have different uses.

ZONING ORDINANCE "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
Ch. 350 Zoning	Attachment 8 for URC	https://ecode360.com/attachment/NO2226/NO2226-350h%20Table%20of%20Use%20and%20Dim%20Regs%20URC.pdf	<p>Amend page 2 for Attachment 8 for URC as follows: 1. For attached garages/parking structures that face the street: delete e) The side setback may be 10 feet from the garage only when not used as living area. See additional specific criteria for two-family homes. Also delete extra space in 1 b).</p>		<p>For zoning districts with required minimum side setbacks greater than 10 feet, a provision allows for attached garages not being used as living areas to have a side setback of 10 feet instead. Page 2 of Attachment 8 for URC also lists this provision, which is not necessary since URC's minimum side setback is 10 feet. Delete this provision, which is 1(c).</p>

FY26 ENTERPRISE EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
6000 SEWER ENTERPRISE							
60421 SEWER ADMINISTRATION	836,731	0	836,731	253,435.00	.00	583,296.00	30.3%
60422 GEN SAN/STORM DRAINS-OM	180,500	388	180,888	47,672.48	.00	133,215.92	26.4%
60423 GEN SAN/STORM DRAINS-CAP	15,000	1,027,896	1,042,896	18,454.05	.00	1,024,441.75	1.8%
60441 TREATMENT PLANT-P.S.	1,240,228	0	1,240,228	569,643.70	.00	670,584.30	45.9%
60442 TREATMENT PLANT-O.M.	1,449,000	257,685	1,706,685	650,060.80	.00	1,056,624.27	38.1%
60443 TREATMENT PLANT - CAP.	0	806,399	806,399	33,833.51	.00	772,565.78	4.2%
60710 SEWER-PAYDN ON DEBT	622,572	0	622,572	73,061.88	.00	549,510.12	11.7%
60750 SEWER-INT ON MUNI DEBT	170,113	0	170,113	85,615.48	.00	84,497.52	50.3%
60991 SEWER-DIR/INDIR EXPENSES	939,154	0	939,154	939,154.00	.00	.00	100.0%
60999 SEWER - RESERVE CAP.	724,202	-724,202	0	.00	.00	.00	.0%
TOTAL SEWER ENTERPRISE	6,177,500	1,368,167	7,545,667	2,670,930.90	.00	4,874,735.66	35.4%

6100 WATER ENTERPRISE							
61521 WATER, GENERAL - P.S.	1,811,507	0	1,811,507	756,744.47	.00	1,054,762.53	41.8%
61522 WATER, GENERAL - O.M.	1,171,950	80,315	1,252,265	412,744.56	.00	839,520.26	33.0%
61523 WATER, GENERAL - CAP.	1,533,300	903,961	2,437,261	97,801.66	.00	2,339,459.67	4.0%
61710 WATER ENTER./DEBT PAYMENT	1,615,205	0	1,615,205	1,615,206.54	.00	-1.54	100.0%
61750 WATER-INT ON MUNI DEBT	61,185	0	61,185	39,865.24	.00	21,319.76	65.2%
61991 WATER-IND/DIRECT EXPENSES	751,853	0	751,853	751,853.00	.00	.00	100.0%
TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE	6,945,000	984,276	7,929,276	3,674,215.47	.00	4,255,060.68	46.3%

6200 STORMWATER ENTERPRISE							
62611 STMWTR ENT STORMDRAINS-PS	443,964	0	443,964	161,361.66	.00	282,602.34	36.3%
62612 STMWTR ENT STORMDRAINS-OM	70,000	0	70,000	15,161.52	.00	54,838.48	21.7%
62613 STMWTR ENT STORMDRAINS-OOM	850,071	206,765	1,056,836	101,483.05	.00	955,353.44	9.6%
62631 STMWTR ENT FLD CNTL-PS	83,519	0	83,519	18,879.48	.00	64,639.52	22.6%
62632 STMWTR ENT FLD CNTL - OM	31,700	0	31,700	4,819.39	.00	26,880.61	15.2%
62633 STMWTR ENT FLD CNTL - OOM	150,000	193,870	343,870	3,785.38	.00	340,085.01	1.1%
62991 STRWTR ENT INDIRECT EXPENCE	367,232	0	367,232	367,232.00	.00	.00	100.0%
TOTAL STORMWATER ENTERPRISE	1,996,486	400,636	2,397,122	672,722.48	.00	1,724,399.40	28.1%

6400 SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE

FY26 ENTERPRISE EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

6400	SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
64351	OTHER WASTE MGT PROGRAMS	298,186	0	298,186	127,775.66	.00	170,410.34	42.9%
64352	OTHER WAST MAGMNT PROGRAMS	238,150	327,037	565,187	136,635.57	.00	428,551.70	24.2%
64353	OTHER WASTE MGT PROGRAMS	0	35,920	35,920	.00	.00	35,920.00	.0%
64991	INDIRECT COSTS	103,547	0	103,547	103,547.00	.00	.00	100.0%
	TOTAL SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE	639,883	362,957	1,002,840	367,958.23	.00	634,882.04	36.7%
	GRAND TOTAL	15,758,869	3,116,036	18,874,905	7,385,827.08	.00	11,489,077.78	39.1%

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FY26 ENTERPRISE REVENUES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
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6000 SEWER ENTERPRISE

60004 SEWER REVENUE

414200 TAX TITLE REVENUE	0	0	0	-21,784.96	21,784.96	100.0%
417030 INTEREST ON TAX TITLES	0	0	0	-5,342.27	5,342.27	100.0%
424034 SLUDGE DISPOSAL	-80,000	0	-80,000	-149,400.00	69,400.00	186.8%
424040 SEWER RATES	-4,674,500	0	-4,674,500	-2,611,703.97	-2,062,796.03	55.9%
424041 SEWER LIENS	-130,000	0	-130,000	-8,393.15	-121,606.85	6.5%
424042 INTEREST EARNED	-25,000	0	-25,000	-14,307.99	-10,692.01	57.2%
424043 SEWER MISC. INCOME	-50,000	0	-50,000	-35,709.64	-14,290.36	71.4%
424046 SEWER INTEREST INCOME	0	0	0	-40,681.71	40,681.71	100.0%
424047 SEWER BASE CHARGES	-1,068,000	0	-1,068,000	-528,303.57	-539,696.43	49.5%
475053 WILLIAMSBURG SEWER ASSESST	-150,000	0	-150,000	-170,441.00	20,441.00	113.6%
TOTAL SEWER REVENUE	-6,177,500	0	-6,177,500	-3,586,068.26	-2,591,431.74	58.1%
TOTAL SEWER ENTERPRISE	-6,177,500	0	-6,177,500	-3,586,068.26	-2,591,431.74	58.1%

6100 WATER ENTERPRISE

61004 WATER REVENUE

414200 TAX TITLE REVENUE	0	0	0	-2,734.76	2,734.76	100.0%
417030 INTEREST ON TAX TITLES	0	0	0	-833.91	833.91	100.0%
422040 WATER RATES	-4,339,928	0	-4,339,928	-2,582,199.53	-1,757,728.47	59.5%
422041 WATER LIENS	-95,800	0	-95,800	-10,035.04	-85,764.96	10.5%
422042 WATER INTEREST EARNED	-20,000	0	-20,000	-16,338.78	-3,661.22	81.7%
422043 WATER MISC. INCOME	-40,000	0	-40,000	-53,990.96	13,990.96	135.0%
422044 WATER METER BASE CHARGES	-2,325,582	0	-2,325,582	-1,180,832.35	-1,144,749.65	50.8%
422045 WATER CROSS CONNECTION	-93,000	0	-93,000	-56,993.11	-36,006.89	61.3%
422046 WATER INTEREST INCOME	-15,000	0	-15,000	-28,451.15	13,451.15	189.7%
422047 WATER FINAL BILL FEE	-15,690	0	-15,690	-9,700.00	-5,990.00	61.8%
TOTAL WATER REVENUE	-6,945,000	0	-6,945,000	-3,942,109.59	-3,002,890.41	56.8%
TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE	-6,945,000	0	-6,945,000	-3,942,109.59	-3,002,890.41	56.8%

6200 STORMWATER ENTERPRISE

62004 STORMWATER REVENUE

FY26 ENTERPRISE REVENUES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
414200 TAX TITLE REVENUE	0	0	0	-8,237.57	8,237.57	100.0%
417030 INTEREST ON TAX TITLES	0	0	0	-435.11	435.11	100.0%
423040 STORMWATER RATES	-1,951,986	0	-1,951,986	-978,929.19	-973,056.81	50.2%
423041 STORMWATER LIENS	-25,000	0	-25,000	-5,044.39	-19,955.61	20.2%
423042 STORMWATER INTEREST EARNED	-7,500	0	-7,500	-4,926.69	-2,573.31	65.7%
423043 STORMWATER MISC. INCOME	-12,000	0	-12,000	-9,017.50	-2,982.50	75.1%
423046 STORMWATER INTEREST INCOME	0	0	0	-12,879.16	12,879.16	100.0%
TOTAL STORMWATER REVENUE	-1,996,486	0	-1,996,486	-1,019,469.61	-977,016.39	51.1%
TOTAL STORMWATER ENTERPRISE	-1,996,486	0	-1,996,486	-1,019,469.61	-977,016.39	51.1%
6400 SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE						
64004 SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE						
424031 REFUSE FEES	-30,000	0	-30,000	-12,757.00	-17,243.00	42.5%
424032 LANDFILL STICKERS	-230,000	0	-230,000	-172,710.25	-57,289.75	75.1%
424033 RECYCLING PROGRAM REVENUES	0	0	0	-812.11	812.11	100.0%
424035 SALE OF SCRAP METAL	-6,000	0	-6,000	-2,839.46	-3,160.54	47.3%
424037 TRASH BAG SALES	-214,000	10,445	-203,555	-118,975.50	-84,579.50	58.4%
424038 TRASH BIN SALES	-3,200	0	-3,200	-1,058.00	-2,142.00	33.1%
424042 INTEREST EARNED	-8,000	0	-8,000	-5,803.72	-2,196.28	72.5%
436012 LEASES - LANDFILL CELL TOWER	-118,246	-10,000	-128,246	-71,237.14	-57,008.86	55.5%
484000 MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS	0	0	0	-90.00	90.00	100.0%
TOTAL SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE	-609,446	445	-609,001	-386,283.18	-222,717.82	63.4%
TOTAL SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE	-609,446	445	-609,001	-386,283.18	-222,717.82	63.4%
GRAND TOTAL	-15,728,432	445	-15,727,987	-8,933,930.64	-6,794,056.36	56.8%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Charlene Nardi **

FY26 ENTERPRISE REVENUES
2ND QUARTER

REPORT OPTIONS

Account status
Rollup Code

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
111 CITY COUNCIL							
11111 CITY COUNCIL-PS	231,096	0	231,096	117,203.92	.00	113,892.08	50.7%
11112 CITY COUNCIL-OM	69,400	0	69,400	1,358.86	.00	68,041.14	2.0%
TOTAL CITY COUNCIL	300,496	0	300,496	118,562.78	.00	181,933.22	39.5%
121 MAYOR							
11211 MAYOR-PS	499,549	0	499,549	252,212.24	.00	247,336.76	50.5%
11212 MAYOR-OM	19,450	0	19,450	17,100.52	.00	2,349.48	87.9%
TOTAL MAYOR	518,999	0	518,999	269,312.76	.00	249,686.24	51.9%
135 AUDITOR							
11351 AUDITOR-PS	282,347	0	282,347	135,627.44	.00	146,719.56	48.0%
11352 AUDITOR-OM	8,115	0	8,115	2,126.59	.00	5,988.41	26.2%
TOTAL AUDITOR	290,462	0	290,462	137,754.03	.00	152,707.97	47.4%
141 ASSESSOR							
11411 ASSESSOR-PS	203,440	0	203,440	100,934.94	.00	102,505.06	49.6%
11412 ASSESSOR-OM	32,700	0	32,700	8,344.31	.00	24,355.69	25.5%
11413 ASSESSORS - CAPITAL	80,000	30,184	110,184	53,499.64	.00	56,683.96	48.6%
TOTAL ASSESSOR	316,140	30,184	346,324	162,778.89	.00	183,544.71	47.0%
146 COLLECTOR							
11461 COLLECTOR-PS	460,635	0	460,635	224,018.58	.00	236,616.42	48.6%
11462 COLLECTOR-OM	266,435	0	266,435	79,695.61	.00	186,739.39	29.9%
TOTAL COLLECTOR	727,070	0	727,070	303,714.19	.00	423,355.81	41.8%

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

151	LEGAL SERVICES	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
151 LEGAL SERVICES								
11512	LEGAL SERVICES-OM	275,000	0	275,000	75,432.50	.00	199,567.50	27.4%
	TOTAL LEGAL SERVICES	275,000	0	275,000	75,432.50	.00	199,567.50	27.4%
152 HUMAN RESOURCES								
11521	HUMAN RESOURCES-PS	315,009	0	315,009	158,210.05	.00	156,798.95	50.2%
11522	HUMAN RESOURCES-OM	11,750	0	11,750	2,887.25	.00	8,862.75	24.6%
	TOTAL HUMAN RESOURCES	326,759	0	326,759	161,097.30	.00	165,661.70	49.3%
155 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY								
11551	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - PS	482,080	0	482,080	237,198.66	.00	244,881.34	49.2%
11552	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - OM	1,593,860	0	1,593,860	839,340.55	.00	754,519.45	52.7%
	TOTAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	2,075,940	0	2,075,940	1,076,539.21	.00	999,400.79	51.9%
161 CITY CLERK								
11611	CITY CLERK-PS	341,182	0	341,182	186,248.49	.00	154,933.51	54.6%
11612	CITY CLERK-OM	34,565	0	34,565	28,649.25	.00	5,915.75	82.9%
	TOTAL CITY CLERK	375,747	0	375,747	214,897.74	.00	160,849.26	57.2%
175 PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY								
11751	PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY - P	426,577	0	426,577	206,582.76	.00	219,994.24	48.4%
11752	PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY -OM	68,735	28,512	97,247	41,535.99	.00	55,711.01	42.7%
	TOTAL PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY	495,312	28,512	523,824	248,118.75	.00	275,705.25	47.4%
182 CLIMATE ACTION/PROJECT ADMIN								

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06									
182	CLIMATE ACTION/PROJECT ADMIN	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED	
11821	CLIMATE ACTION/PROJECT ADMIN	250,504	0	250,504	122,467.80	.00	128,036.20	48.9%	
11822	CLIMATE ACTION/PROJECT ADMIN	19,950	4,656	24,606	7,637.33	.00	16,968.67	31.0%	
	TOTAL CLIMATE ACTION/PROJECT ADMIN	270,454	4,656	275,110	130,105.13	.00	145,004.87	47.3%	
192 CENTRAL SERVICES									
11921	CENTRAL SERVICES-PS	865,078	0	865,078	425,361.50	.00	439,716.50	49.2%	
11922	CENTRAL SERVICES-OM	1,180,562	0	1,180,562	416,449.80	.00	764,112.20	35.3%	
	TOTAL CENTRAL SERVICES	2,045,640	0	2,045,640	841,811.30	.00	1,203,828.70	41.2%	
210 POLICE									
12101	POLICE-PS	6,356,097	0	6,356,097	2,985,524.75	.00	3,370,572.25	47.0%	
12102	POLICE-OM	539,531	25,315	564,846	294,484.78	.00	270,361.22	52.1%	
	TOTAL POLICE	6,895,628	25,315	6,920,943	3,280,009.53	.00	3,640,933.47	47.4%	
211 PARKING ENFORCEMENT									
12111	PARKING ENFORCEMENT-PS	206,824	0	206,824	106,075.84	.00	100,748.16	51.3%	
12112	PARKING ENFORCEMENT-OM	12,200	0	12,200	2,038.37	.00	10,161.63	16.7%	
	TOTAL PARKING ENFORCEMENT	219,024	0	219,024	108,114.21	.00	110,909.79	49.4%	
212 PUBLIC SAFETY COMM CENTER									
12121	PUBLIC SAFETY COMM CTR-PS	806,384	0	806,384	335,499.14	.00	470,884.86	41.6%	
12122	PUBLIC SAFETY COMM CTR-OM	17,372	0	17,372	8,467.51	.00	8,904.49	48.7%	
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMM CENTER	823,756	0	823,756	343,966.65	.00	479,789.35	41.8%	
220 FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT									

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06								
220	FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
12201	FIRE RESCUE - PS	7,092,850	0	7,092,850	3,532,768.82	.00	3,560,081.18	49.8%
12202	FIRE RESCUE - OM	760,330	75,943	836,273	402,585.88	.00	433,687.03	48.1%
	TOTAL FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT	7,853,180	75,943	7,929,123	3,935,354.70	.00	3,993,768.21	49.6%
241 BUILDING INSPECTORS								
12411	BUILDING INSPECTORS-PS	578,384	0	578,384	274,698.69	.00	303,685.31	47.5%
12412	BUILDING INSPECTORS-OM	26,100	0	26,100	6,496.59	.00	19,603.41	24.9%
	TOTAL BUILDING INSPECTORS	604,484	0	604,484	281,195.28	.00	323,288.72	46.5%
421 DPW-ADMIN & ENGINEERING								
14211	DPW ADMINISTRATION-PS	257,080	3,060	260,140	91,971.86	.00	168,168.14	35.4%
14212	DPW ADMINISTRATION-OM	53,360	-3,060	50,300	13,912.28	.00	36,387.72	27.7%
	TOTAL DPW-ADMIN & ENGINEERING	310,440	0	310,440	105,884.14	.00	204,555.86	34.1%
422 HIGHWAYS								
14221	HIGHWAYS-PS	1,035,570	0	1,035,570	338,800.63	.00	696,769.37	32.7%
14222	HIGHWAYS-OM	462,600	185,976	648,576	180,762.84	.00	467,812.89	27.9%
14223	HIGHWAYS-CAP	360,000	1,626,456	1,986,456	237,125.08	.00	1,749,331.38	11.9%
	TOTAL HIGHWAYS	1,858,170	1,812,432	3,670,602	756,688.55	.00	2,913,913.64	20.6%
423 SNOW & ICE								
14231	SNOW & ICE-PS	131,000	0	131,000	54,206.14	.00	76,793.86	41.4%
14232	SNOW & ICE-OM	369,000	0	369,000	106,570.31	.00	262,429.69	28.9%
	TOTAL SNOW & ICE	500,000	0	500,000	160,776.45	.00	339,223.55	32.2%
481 PARKING								

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06									
481	PARKING	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED	
14811	PARKING-PS	298,235	0	298,235	162,897.91	.00	135,337.09	54.6%	
14812	PARKING-OM	268,576	75,343	343,919	136,196.04	.00	207,723.15	39.6%	
14813	PARKING-CAP	80,000	18,804	98,804	30,959.92	.00	67,844.39	31.3%	
	TOTAL PARKING	646,811	94,148	740,959	330,053.87	.00	410,904.63	44.5%	
492 DPW FORESTRY, PARKS & REC									
14921	DPW FORESTRY, PARKS & REC-PS	1,137,590	0	1,137,590	386,947.97	.00	750,642.03	34.0%	
14922	DPW FORESTRY, PARKS & REC-OM	330,450	0	330,450	104,679.33	.00	225,770.67	31.7%	
14923	DPW FORESTRY, PARKS & REC-CAP	230,000	869,467	1,099,467	83,259.84	.00	1,016,206.90	7.6%	
	TOTAL DPW FORESTRY, PARKS & REC	1,698,040	869,467	2,567,507	574,887.14	.00	1,992,619.60	22.4%	
511 HEALTH DEPARTMENT									
15111	HEALTH DEPARTMENT - PS	1,198,701	0	1,198,701	551,474.33	.00	647,226.67	46.0%	
15112	HEALTH DEPARTMENT - OM	192,230	2,984	195,214	50,604.50	.00	144,609.91	25.9%	
	TOTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT	1,390,931	2,984	1,393,915	602,078.83	.00	791,836.58	43.2%	
541 SENIOR SERVICES									
15411	SENIOR SERVICES -PS	394,794	0	394,794	237,239.60	.00	157,554.40	60.1%	
15412	SENIOR SERVICES - OM	71,660	0	71,660	25,350.45	.00	46,309.55	35.4%	
	TOTAL SENIOR SERVICES	466,454	0	466,454	262,590.05	.00	203,863.95	56.3%	
543 VETERANS' SERVICE									
15431	VETERANS' SERVICE-PS	264,279	0	264,279	128,570.56	.00	135,708.44	48.6%	
15432	VETERANS' SERVICE-OM	494,594	50	494,644	183,570.26	.00	311,073.74	37.1%	
	TOTAL VETERANS' SERVICE	758,873	50	758,923	312,140.82	.00	446,782.18	41.1%	
610 FORBES LIBRARY									

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06								
610	FORBES LIBRARY	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
16101	FORBES LIBRARY-PS	1,364,192	0	1,364,192	682,096.02	.00	682,095.98	50.0%
16102	FORBES LIBRARY-OM	246,458	0	246,458	123,229.02	.00	123,228.98	50.0%
	TOTAL FORBES LIBRARY	1,610,650	0	1,610,650	805,325.04	.00	805,324.96	50.0%
611 LILLY LIBRARY								
16111	LILLY LIBRARY-PS	300,029	0	300,029	150,014.52	.00	150,014.48	50.0%
16112	LILLY LIBRARY-OM	106,386	0	106,386	53,193.00	.00	53,193.00	50.0%
	TOTAL LILLY LIBRARY	406,415	0	406,415	203,207.52	.00	203,207.48	50.0%
630 PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT								
16301	PARKS & RECREATION - PS	377,828	0	377,828	218,162.82	.00	159,665.18	57.7%
16302	PARKS & RECREATION-OM	27,500	0	27,500	7,676.64	.00	19,823.36	27.9%
	TOTAL PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT	405,328	0	405,328	225,839.46	.00	179,488.54	55.7%
699 ARTS AND CULTURE								
16991	ARTS & CULTURE-PS	80,435	0	80,435	38,021.16	.00	42,413.84	47.3%
16992	ARTS & CULTURE-OM	23,000	0	23,000	9,118.05	.00	13,881.95	39.6%
	TOTAL ARTS AND CULTURE	103,435	0	103,435	47,139.21	.00	56,295.79	45.6%
710 MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS								
17103	MUNICIPAL DEBT SERVICE	4,097,900	0	4,097,900	2,355,900.00	.00	1,742,000.00	57.5%
	TOTAL MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS	4,097,900	0	4,097,900	2,355,900.00	.00	1,742,000.00	57.5%
750 INTEREST ON DEBT								

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06								
750	INTEREST ON DEBT	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
17503	INTEREST ON MUNICIPAL DEBT	919,122	0	919,122	482,893.52	.00	436,228.48	52.5%
	TOTAL INTEREST ON DEBT	919,122	0	919,122	482,893.52	.00	436,228.48	52.5%
911 CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT								
19111	CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT-PS	8,052,267	0	8,052,267	8,030,879.82	.00	21,387.18	99.7%
19112	CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT-OM	8,678	19,550	28,228	.00	.00	28,228.00	.0%
	TOTAL CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT	8,060,945	19,550	8,080,495	8,030,879.82	.00	49,615.18	99.4%
912 WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE								
19121	WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE	386,813	0	386,813	330,630.00	.00	56,183.00	85.5%
19122	WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE	292,300	0	292,300	285,929.00	.00	6,371.00	97.8%
	TOTAL WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE	679,113	0	679,113	616,559.00	.00	62,554.00	90.8%
913 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE								
19131	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	41,939	341,532	383,471	-7,638.69	.00	391,110.02	-2.0%
19132	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	10,000	3,520	13,520	8,240.00	.00	5,280.00	60.9%
	TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	51,939	345,052	396,991	601.31	.00	396,390.02	.2%
914 MEDICAL INSURANCE								
19141	MEDICAL INSURANCE	15,575,671	118,300	15,693,971	7,726,148.70	.00	7,967,821.89	49.2%
19142	MEDICAL INSURANCE	15,000	0	15,000	.00	.00	15,000.00	.0%
	TOTAL MEDICAL INSURANCE	15,590,671	118,300	15,708,971	7,726,148.70	.00	7,982,821.89	49.2%
919 OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS								

FY26 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06								
919	OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
19191	OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,596,664	0	1,596,664	872,252.40	.00	724,411.60	54.6%
	TOTAL OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,596,664	0	1,596,664	872,252.40	.00	724,411.60	54.6%
920 CHERRY SHEET ASSESSMENTS								
19202	CHERRY SHEET ASSESSMENTS	4,491,918	-5,053	4,486,865	2,242,305.00	.00	2,244,560.00	50.0%
	TOTAL CHERRY SHEET ASSESSMENTS	4,491,918	-5,053	4,486,865	2,242,305.00	.00	2,244,560.00	50.0%
930 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS								
19303	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	275,000	24,567,709	24,842,709	3,689,833.66	43,888.37	21,108,986.71	15.0%
	TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	275,000	24,567,709	24,842,709	3,689,833.66	43,888.37	21,108,986.71	15.0%
943 RESERVE FOR PERSONNEL								
19491	RESERVE FOR PERSONNEL	900,000	0	900,000	.00	.00	900,000.00	.0%
	TOTAL RESERVE FOR PERSONNEL	900,000	0	900,000	.00	.00	900,000.00	.0%
945 GENERAL LIABILITY INS.								
19452	GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE	1,146,601	0	1,146,601	1,109,696.00	.00	36,905.00	96.8%
	TOTAL GENERAL LIABILITY INS.	1,146,601	0	1,146,601	1,109,696.00	.00	36,905.00	96.8%
	GRAND TOTAL	72,379,511	27,989,248	100,368,759	43,202,445.44	43,888.37	57,122,425.20	43.1%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Charlene Nardi **

With removal of capital projects, reserve for personnel and contributory retirement - 47%

FY26 GENERAL FUND REVENUES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
41 TAXES & EXCISES						
10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES						
411000 P.P. TAX REVENUE	-1,949,643	-179,078	-2,128,720	-911,273.39	-1,217,446.83	42.8%
412000 R.E. TAX REVENUE	-79,285,443	166,836	-79,118,607	-36,947,911.23	-42,170,695.32	46.7%
414200 TAX TITLE REVENUE	0	0	0	-128,992.71	128,992.71	100.0%
415000 MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE	-3,255,000	0	-3,255,000	-462,593.93	-2,792,406.07	14.2%
415010 ABATED MVE	0	0	0	-235.73	235.73	100.0%
416010 BOAT EXCISE	-3,281	0	-3,281	-1,421.50	-1,859.50	43.3%
416030 HOTEL/MOTEL TAX CH 145	-975,000	0	-975,000	-683,358.33	-291,641.67	70.1%
416035 MEALS TAX, CHAPT. 64L, S.2A	-748,000	0	-748,000	-441,750.50	-306,249.50	59.1%
416036 ADULT MARIJUANA EXCISE CH64N	-900,000	0	-900,000	-466,309.38	-433,690.62	51.8%
417010 INTEREST ON TAXES	-175,000	0	-175,000	-108,598.46	-66,401.54	62.1%
417030 INTEREST ON TAX TITLES	-39,000	0	-39,000	-16,027.76	-22,972.24	41.1%
417031 TAX TITLE ATTORNEY FEES	0	0	0	-764.56	764.56	100.0%
417040 TAX TITLE RELEASES	-1,000	0	-1,000	-525.00	-475.00	52.5%
418010 PILOT-HOUSING AUTHORITY	-34,000	0	-34,000	.00	-34,000.00	.0%
418011 PILOT-SMITH COLLEGE	-156,058	0	-156,058	.00	-156,058.00	.0%
418012 PILOT-B'NAI ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE	-5,456	0	-5,456	.00	-5,456.00	.0%
418013 PILOT-US FISH & WILDLIFE	-250	0	-250	.00	-250.00	.0%
418014 PILOT - EASTHAMPTON	-924	0	-924	.00	-924.00	.0%
418015 PILOT-FAIR GROUNDS	-17,100	0	-17,100	.00	-17,100.00	.0%
418016 PILOT-NONOTUCK COMM SCH	-736	0	-736	.00	-736.00	.0%
418017 PILOT-SOLDIER ON	-10,979	0	-10,979	.00	-10,979.00	.0%
418018 PILOT-LANDFILL SOLAR ARRAY	-10,000	0	-10,000	-10,000.00	.00	100.0%
418020 PILOT-MUSIC SCHOOL	-4,071	0	-4,071	-4,805.35	734.35	118.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-87,570,941	-12,241	-87,583,182	-40,184,567.83	-47,398,613.94	45.9%
TOTAL TAXES & EXCISES	-87,570,941	-12,241	-87,583,182	-40,184,567.83	-47,398,613.94	45.9%

42 CHARGES FOR SERVICES

10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES

424010 PARKING REVENUES	-240,000	0	-240,000	-121,749.16	-118,250.84	50.7%
424011 PARKING LOT REVENUE	-80,000	0	-80,000	-30,886.32	-49,113.68	38.6%

FY26 GENERAL FUND REVENUES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
424012 PARKING GARAGE REVENUE	-400,000	0	-400,000	-211,448.67	-188,551.33	52.9%
424013 PARKING PASS REVENUE	-130,000	0	-130,000	-107,717.95	-22,282.05	82.9%
424015 PRK KIOSK CREDIT CARD	-245,000	0	-245,000	-127,044.63	-117,955.37	51.9%
424016 MOBILE APP REVENUE	-400,000	0	-400,000	-370,334.23	-29,665.77	92.6%
424017 UNION STATION PARKING REV	-30,000	0	-30,000	-15,000.00	-15,000.00	50.0%
424025 AMBULANCE SERVICES	-3,512,223	0	-3,512,223	-1,924,906.43	-1,587,316.57	54.8%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-5,037,223	0	-5,037,223	-2,909,087.39	-2,128,135.61	57.8%
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	-5,037,223	0	-5,037,223	-2,909,087.39	-2,128,135.61	57.8%

43 CHARGES FOR SERVICES

10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES

432010 FEES - COLLECTOR	-92,000	0	-92,000	-65,958.66	-26,041.34	71.7%
432011 FEES - MUNICIPAL LIENS	-23,000	0	-23,000	-11,250.00	-11,750.00	48.9%
432012 FEES - MVE SURCHARGES	-15,000	0	-15,000	-6,360.00	-8,640.00	42.4%
432013 FEES - LEGAL NOT REIMB	0	0	0	-1,971.91	1,971.91	100.0%
432014 FEES - CEMETERY INTERMENTS	-25,000	0	-25,000	-12,500.00	-12,500.00	50.0%
432016 FEES - POLICE OUT/DET ADMIN	-65,000	0	-65,000	-83,513.80	18,513.80	128.5%
432018 FEES - FIRE OUT/DET ADMIN	-1,000	0	-1,000	-1,722.00	722.00	172.2%
432020 FEES - LICENSE COMM ADMIN FE	0	0	0	-225.00	225.00	100.0%
432021 FEES - CITY CLERK - MISC	-23,000	0	-23,000	-14,230.00	-8,770.00	61.9%
432022 FEES - CITY CLERK - COPIES/R	-70,000	0	-70,000	-41,090.00	-28,910.00	58.7%
434035 TUITION - SVHS	-10,015,315	0	-10,015,315	-3,308,185.39	-6,707,129.61	33.0%
437003 DEPT REV - TREASURER	0	0	0	-50.00	50.00	100.0%
437009 DEPT REV - REGISTRAR OF VOTE	-750	0	-750	-105.00	-645.00	14.0%
437011 DEPT REV - POLICE DEPT	-17,000	0	-17,000	-11,965.07	-5,034.93	70.4%
437014 DEPT REV - CEMETERIES	-1,250	0	-1,250	-1,170.00	-80.00	93.6%
437018 DEPT REV - BOARD OF HEALTH	-19,000	0	-19,000	-5,897.05	-13,102.95	31.0%
437021 DEPT REV - BUILDING INSPECTI	-40,000	0	-40,000	-42,500.00	2,500.00	106.3%
437022 DEPT REV - HEARING OFC FEES	-2,000	0	-2,000	-2,500.00	500.00	125.0%
437026 DEPT REV - FIRE	0	0	0	-57.13	57.13	100.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-10,409,315	0	-10,409,315	-3,611,251.01	-6,798,063.99	34.7%
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	-10,409,315	0	-10,409,315	-3,611,251.01	-6,798,063.99	34.7%

44 LICENSES & PERMITS

10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES

FY26 GENERAL FUND REVENUES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
441000 LIQUOR & OTHER COMMT LICENSE	-165,000	0	-165,000	-169,684.00	4,684.00	102.8%
442010 LICENSE COMM - SHORT TERM FE	0	0	0	-710.00	710.00	100.0%
442020 CITY CLERK LICENSES	-19,000	0	-19,000	-4,435.00	-14,565.00	23.3%
442030 FIREARM LICENSES	-3,000	0	-3,000	-2,375.00	-625.00	79.2%
445010 PERMITS - HEALTH DEPT	-68,000	0	-68,000	-69,210.00	1,210.00	101.8%
445012 PERMITS - BURIALS	-10,000	0	-10,000	-6,500.00	-3,500.00	65.0%
445020 PERMITS - POLICE DEPT	-600	0	-600	-430.00	-170.00	71.7%
445031 PERMITS - BUILDING INSPECTOR	-691,150	0	-691,150	-183,590.98	-507,559.02	26.6%
445032 PERMITS - PLUMBING INSPECTOR	-116,911	0	-116,911	-35,870.00	-81,041.00	30.7%
445033 PERMITS - WIRE INSPECTOR	-145,000	0	-145,000	-81,644.00	-63,356.00	56.3%
445034 PERMITS - WEIGHTS & MEASURES	-53,000	0	-53,000	-78,356.00	25,356.00	147.8%
445035 PERIODIC INSPECTION	-50,000	0	-50,000	-2,000.00	-48,000.00	4.0%
445036 PERMITS - SIDEWALK SIGNS	-6,000	0	-6,000	-300.00	-5,700.00	5.0%
445040 PERMITS - GENERAL HIGHWAYS	-29,100	0	-29,100	-20,127.50	-8,972.50	69.2%
445050 PERMITS - PLANNING DEPT	-24,000	0	-24,000	-13,693.20	-10,306.80	57.1%
445060 PERMITS - FIRE DEPT	-85,042	0	-85,042	-22,007.75	-63,034.25	25.9%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-1,465,803	0	-1,465,803	-690,933.43	-774,869.57	47.1%
TOTAL LICENSES & PERMITS	-1,465,803	0	-1,465,803	-690,933.43	-774,869.57	47.1%
45 FEDERAL REVENUE						
10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES						
458010 MEDICAID REIMB. SCHOOL	-181,800	0	-181,800	-11,468.75	-170,331.25	6.3%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-181,800	0	-181,800	-11,468.75	-170,331.25	6.3%
TOTAL FEDERAL REVENUE	-181,800	0	-181,800	-11,468.75	-170,331.25	6.3%
46 STATE REVENUE						
10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES						
461050 ABATE VETS, BLIND, SURV SPOU	-127,735	-24,285	-152,020	-76,008.00	-76,012.00	50.0%
461070 LIEU OF TAXES-STATE OWNED LA	-165,614	0	-165,614	-82,806.00	-82,808.00	50.0%

FY26 GENERAL FUND REVENUES
2ND QUARTER

FOR 2026 06

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
462010 CHAPTER 70 SCHOOL AID	-9,583,160	0	-9,583,160	-4,791,576.00	-4,791,584.00	50.0%
462040 CHARTER SCHOOL AID	-529,356	-97,510	-626,866	-322,139.00	-304,727.00	51.4%
466020 VETERANS BENEFITS	-366,058	7,839	-358,219	-144,134.26	-214,084.74	40.2%
466035 UNRESTRICTED GENERAL AID	-5,528,738	57,179	-5,471,559	-2,735,778.00	-2,735,781.00	50.0%
468000 OTHER STATE REVENUE	-25,000	0	-25,000	.00	-25,000.00	.0%
468001 MA AMBULANCE CPE	-236,500	3,260	-233,240	.00	-233,240.00	.0%
468010 RETIREMENT COLA REIMB.	0	0	0	-13.28	13.28	100.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-16,562,161	-53,517	-16,615,678	-8,152,454.54	-8,463,223.46	49.1%
TOTAL STATE REVENUE	-16,562,161	-53,517	-16,615,678	-8,152,454.54	-8,463,223.46	49.1%

47 IG/ASSESS/FINES

10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES

477010 PARKING TICKETS	-720,000	0	-720,000	-450,629.93	-269,370.07	62.6%
477020 CMVI REIMB. RMV	-41,000	0	-41,000	-12,794.46	-28,205.54	31.2%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-761,000	0	-761,000	-463,424.39	-297,575.61	60.9%
TOTAL IG/ASSESS/FINES	-761,000	0	-761,000	-463,424.39	-297,575.61	60.9%

48 MISCELLANEOUS

10004 GENERAL FUND REVENUES

482000 INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	-2,078,300	0	-2,078,300	-1,330,089.35	-748,210.65	64.0%
483010 SMITH CHARITIES INCOME	-6,500	0	-6,500	.00	-6,500.00	.0%
484000 MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS	-150,000	0	-150,000	-79,421.98	-70,578.02	52.9%
484001 OVER/UNDER RECEIPTS	0	0	0	-.21	.21	100.0%
484010 PVTA-5 COLLEGE REIMBURSEMENT	-75,000	-5,360	-80,360	.00	-80,360.00	.0%
484012 VET SERVICES REGIONAL ASSESS	-201,681	0	-201,681	-254,409.92	52,728.92	126.1%
484013 IT SERVICE REGIONAL ASSESS	-6,300	2,101	-4,199	-2,100.00	-2,099.00	50.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	-2,517,781	-3,259	-2,521,040	-1,666,021.46	-855,018.54	66.1%
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	-2,517,781	-3,259	-2,521,040	-1,666,021.46	-855,018.54	66.1%

GRAND TOTAL -124,506,024 -69,017-124,575,041 -57,689,208.80 -66,885,831.97 46.3%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Charlene Nardi **

Removing Smith Vocational & Agricultural School tuition, Motor vehicle, and Pilots - the city is at 48.5% of our projected collections

		Meals Tax				Short-Term Rentals					
Months of Sales	Year	Month Qtr Paid	Local Option	Est State Tax	Estimated Sales based on Pd Sales Tax	Year	Month Qtr Paid	Local Option	Est. State Tax	Estimated Sales based on Pd Sales Tax	
			0.75%	6.25%				3%	5.70%		
May, June, July 2025	2026	1. September	\$ 216,084	\$ 1,800,701	\$ 28,811,220	2026	1. September	\$ 21,851	\$ 41,516	\$ 728,357	
August, Sept, Oct 2025	2026	2. December	\$ 225,666	\$ 1,880,553	\$ 30,088,847	2026	2. December	\$ 15,894	\$ 30,198	\$ 529,792	
Nov & Dec 2025, Jan 2026	2026	3. March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2026	3. March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Feb, Mar, April 2026	2026	4. June	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2026	4. June	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total FY2026			\$ 441,751	\$ 3,681,254	\$ 58,900,067	Total FY2026			\$ 37,744	\$ 71,714	\$ 1,258,149
May, June, July 2024	2025	1. September	\$ 210,635	\$ 1,755,292	\$ 28,084,667	2025	1. September	\$ 14,910	\$ 28,329	\$ 497,002	
August, Sept, Oct 2024	2025	2. December	\$ 200,459	\$ 1,670,493	\$ 26,727,880	2025	2. December	\$ 13,356	\$ 25,376	\$ 445,194	
Nov & Dec 2024, Jan 2025	2025	3. March	\$ 204,479	\$ 1,703,994	\$ 27,263,908	2025	3. March	\$ 11,679	\$ 22,190	\$ 389,296	
Feb, Mar, April 2025	2025	4. June	\$ 211,396	\$ 1,761,631	\$ 28,186,089	2025	4. June	\$ 12,239	\$ 23,254	\$ 407,968	
Total FY2025			\$ 826,969	\$ 6,891,409	\$ 110,262,544	Total FY2025			\$ 52,184	\$ 99,149	\$ 1,739,460
May, June, July 2023	2024	1. September	\$ 201,746	\$ 1,681,218	\$ 26,899,489	2024	1. September	\$ 18,652	\$ 35,439	\$ 621,729	
August, Sept, Oct 2023	2024	2. December	\$ 205,393	\$ 1,711,604	\$ 27,385,669	2024	2. December	\$ 10,992	\$ 20,884	\$ 366,394	
Nov & Dec 2023, Jan 2024	2024	3. March	\$ 181,749	\$ 1,514,572	\$ 24,233,144	2024	3. March	\$ 11,132	\$ 21,151	\$ 371,075	
Feb, Mar, April 2024	2024	4. June	\$ 202,526	\$ 1,687,714	\$ 27,003,428	2024	4. June	\$ 16,922	\$ 32,152	\$ 564,076	
Total FY2024			\$ 791,413	\$ 6,595,108	\$ 105,521,731	Total FY2024			\$ 57,698	\$ 109,627	\$ 1,923,274
May, June, July 2022	2023	1. September	\$ 203,303	\$ 1,694,191	\$ 27,107,059	2023	1. September	\$ 11,602	\$ 22,044	\$ 386,733	
August, Sept, Oct 2022	2023	2. December	\$ 204,512	\$ 1,704,264	\$ 27,268,228	2023	2. December	\$ 12,608	\$ 23,955	\$ 420,267	
Nov & Dec 2022, Jan 2023	2023	3. March	\$ 180,840	\$ 1,506,997	\$ 24,111,959	2023	3. March	\$ 11,371	\$ 21,605	\$ 379,039	
Feb, Mar, April 2023	2023	4. June	\$ 191,046	\$ 1,592,047	\$ 25,472,752	2023	4. June	\$ 10,448	\$ 19,852	\$ 348,278	
Total FY2023			\$ 779,700	\$ 6,497,500	\$ 103,959,997	Total FY2023			\$ 46,030	\$ 87,456	\$ 1,534,318

		Traditional (Hotel) Lodgings				Cannabis					
Months of Sales	Year	Month Qtr Paid	Local Option	Est. State Tax	Estimated Sales based on Pd Sales Tax	Year	Month Qtr Paid	Local Option	Est. State Tax	Estimated Sales based on Pd Sales Tax	
			6%	5.70%				3%	10.75%		
May, June, July 2025	2026	1. September	\$ 353,803	\$ 336,113	\$ 5,896,724	2026	1. September	\$ 238,381	\$ 854,199	\$ 7,946,033	
August, Sept, Oct 2025	2026	2. December	\$ 329,555	\$ 313,077	\$ 5,492,582	2026	2. December	\$ 227,928	\$ 816,743	\$ 7,597,613	
Nov & Dec 2025, Jan 2026	2026	3. March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2026	3. March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Feb, Mar, April 2026	2026	4. June	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2026	4. June	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total FY2026			\$ 683,358	\$ 649,190	\$ 11,389,306	Total FY2026			\$ 466,309	\$ 1,670,942	\$ 15,543,646
May, June, July 2024	2025	1. September	\$ 300,231	\$ 285,220	\$ 5,003,856	2025	1. September	\$ 288,060	\$ 1,032,217	\$ 9,602,016	
August, Sept, Oct 2024	2025	2. December	\$ 324,096	\$ 307,891	\$ 5,401,600	2025	2. December	\$ 286,636	\$ 1,027,111	\$ 9,554,519	
Nov & Dec 2024, Jan 2025	2025	3. March	\$ 242,712	\$ 230,576	\$ 4,045,194	2025	3. March	\$ 307,948	\$ 1,103,481	\$ 10,264,943	
Feb, Mar, April 2025	2025	4. June	\$ 220,770	\$ 209,732	\$ 3,679,501	2025	4. June	\$ 254,301	\$ 911,244	\$ 8,476,689	
Total FY2025			\$ 1,087,809	\$ 1,033,419	\$ 18,130,151	Total FY2025			\$ 1,136,945	\$ 4,074,053	\$ 37,898,167
May, June, July 2023	2024	1. September	\$ 363,801	\$ 345,611	\$ 6,063,355	2024	1. September	\$ 208,429	\$ 746,872	\$ 6,947,643	
August, Sept, Oct 2023	2024	2. December	\$ 324,369	\$ 308,150	\$ 5,406,142	2024	2. December	\$ 229,480	\$ 822,302	\$ 7,649,324	
Nov & Dec 2023, Jan 2024	2024	3. March	\$ 173,841	\$ 165,149	\$ 2,897,353	2024	3. March	\$ 224,039	\$ 802,808	\$ 7,467,979	
Feb, Mar, April 2024	2024	4. June	\$ 215,689	\$ 204,905	\$ 3,594,821	2024	4. June	\$ 282,864	\$ 1,013,597	\$ 9,428,814	
Total FY2024			\$ 1,077,700	\$ 1,023,815	\$ 17,961,672	Total FY2024			\$ 944,813	\$ 3,385,579	\$ 31,493,761
May, June, July 2022	2023	1. September	\$ 201,938	\$ 191,841	\$ 3,365,637	2023	1. September	\$ 245,832	\$ 880,898	\$ 8,194,402	
August, Sept, Oct 2022	2023	2. December	\$ 324,096	\$ 307,892	\$ 5,401,607	2023	2. December	\$ 209,122	\$ 749,354	\$ 6,970,733	
Nov & Dec 2022, Jan 2023	2023	3. March	\$ 230,921	\$ 219,375	\$ 3,848,686	2023	3. March	\$ 188,596	\$ 675,802	\$ 6,286,533	
Feb, Mar, April 2023	2023	4. June	\$ 214,019	\$ 203,318	\$ 3,566,988	2023	4. June	\$ 202,603	\$ 725,994	\$ 6,753,433	
Total FY2023			\$ 970,975	\$ 922,426	\$ 16,182,917	Total FY2023			\$ 846,153	\$ 3,032,049	\$ 28,205,102



*CITY COUNCIL MEETING
212 MAIN STREET
Northampton, Massachusetts
January 15, 2026*

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Council President Rachel Maiore at 6:30 p.m. Upon a roll call, the following City Councilors were present:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| At-Large Councilor Meg Robbins | At-Large Councilor Garrick Perry |
| Ward 1 Councilor Gwen Nabad | Ward 2 Councilor Deborah Klemer |
| Ward 3 Councilor Laurie Loisel | Ward 4 Councilor Jeremy Dubs |
| Ward 5 Councilor Aline Davis | Ward 6 Councilor Christopher Stratton |
| Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore | |

Announcement that Meeting Audio/Video Recorded

Councilor Maiore announced that the meeting is being audio/video recorded.

Public Hearings
Public Hearing on 25.355 National Grid Pole Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition#: 31193070)

Public Hearings

Councilor Maiore read the legal notice advertising the public hearing:
Public Hearing on 25.355 National Grid Pole Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition#: 31193070)
Per M.G.L. Ch. 166, Section 22, the Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** in Council Chambers, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA on National Grid's petition to relocate one SO pole and install new midspan pole on Park Hill Road to accommodate a service upgrade request. (Petition #31193070). The City Council will hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

Councilor Klemer moved to open the public hearing. Councilor Nabad seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The public hearing opened at 6:33 p.m.

National Grid representative Ken Creigle said the new pole is proposed to be installed in front of the customer's house it will serve. There isn't another pole available to install a new transformer in that area since they are all used up by underground primary services to transformers up long driveways.

Councilor Maiore asked if anyone wished to speak in favor or opposition.

Janice Hanley said they just put in solar panels and need the pole to accommodate the upgrade.

There being no further comments, **Councilor Stratton moved to close the public hearing. Councilor Nabad seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.**

The public hearing closed at 6:37 p.m.

Public Hearing on 25.357 National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186)

Councilor Maiore read the following legal notice:

Public Hearing on 25.357 National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186)

Per M.G.L. Ch. 166, Section 22, the Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 6:35 p.m.** in Council Chambers, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA on National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186). The City Council will hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

Councilor Klemer moved to open the public hearing. Councilor Loisel seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Ken Creigle said it is a very busy street with two buildings going in on one lot. The poles are too close right now to meet minimum building and OSHA clearances. Poles were relocated for sidewalk projects a couple of years ago, and these are the only places these can go.

Councilor Maiore asked if anyone wished to speak to the petition.

Councilor Stratton asked what was meant by an 'OSHA clearance issue.'

The building has to be at least 10 feet away for when workers are working on scaffolding or siding, Mr. Creigle explained. They will have just over 10 feet diagonally after they move these.

There being no further comments, **Councilor Klemer moved to close the public hearing. Councilor Davis seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.**

The public hearing was closed at 6:41 p.m.

Approval of the petitions will be taken up as part of the consent agenda, it was noted.

Public Comment

Public Comment

Councilor Maiore explained the procedure she would use in conducting public comment and opened the floor to comments.

Nick Mottern was accompanied by **Laura Belusci**, who held up a picture of a new sign on display at L3Harris. Today, as the last nuclear weapon control freeze between the United States and Russia expires, Mr. Mottern said he wanted to show them the new sign on display on the front of the L3Harris Technologies plant in Northampton. It is a beacon of death on a factory that makes periscopes for U.S. submarines that carry nuclear missiles with the power to kill every person on earth, he asserted. The new sign, approved by the city last December, represents a corporation sending weapons to Israel to enable U.S.-Israeli genocide against the Palestinian people. L3Harris also provides surveillance equipment not only to Israel, but to ICE and border patrol, enabling their agents to terrorize and violate the human rights of residents of Northampton and the United States. The new sign affirms that the beautiful piece of land on which the L3 plant sits has been horribly degraded to a place of war industry and thus a place of greed, immense sorrow and shame.

Dan Breindel, Ward 3, commented that, for a lot of them, it was a pretty disappointing week, a little frustrating. They saw the School Committee hand down what was a compromise decision and then saw the Mayor actually ask for less money. They saw a budget and finance committee meeting last week at which it became very clear that the city plans on plowing ahead with a lot of the projects, a lot of the Free Cash. All of these things were major issues during the campaign last year. A lot of councilors and School Committee members had very valid questions, which in some cases were completely disregarded while others were just not answered. During the campaign, Mayor Sciarra said being Mayor is not a one-person job and that to get things done and make things better requires robust collaboration. At the same time, she is disregarding what the School Committee is passing down and the City Council is asking. To be clear, the Mayor did not win a majority of Northampton, she got a plurality. She got 49% to her competitor's 48.5%. She lost Ward 3, Ward 6 and Ward 7. Meanwhile, most councilors (Wards 5, 6 and 7) got more votes in their wards than the Mayor did; the same with many School Committee members, Wards 3, 5, 6, 7 and 1 all got far more votes than the Mayor did. Councilor Stratton received over 200 more votes than the Mayor, yet he's been disregarded in his questions to this Mayor. The School Committee's decisions have been disregarded by this Mayor. The Mayor said how much they can accomplish when they unite, collaborate and do the hard work together. They are asking the Mayor to do the hard work of working and collaborating with the rest of them and allowing the city to unite. . .

[When he continued to speak after being informed his time was up, Mr. Breindel was muted.]

Laura Belusci, Ward 4, named Demilitarize Western MA, Stop L3 Harris Coalition, Apartheid Free Western MA, Jewish Voice for Peace and Veterans for Peace as groups that all cosigned the Mayors for Peace proclamation she presented at the last open meeting. She ran out of time in public comment and wasn't able to read those cosigning names, a couple of which are national groups. This leads to the question, how do Mayor Sciarra and the City Council justify their unquestioning support for L3Harris and balance that with their membership in Mayors for Peace? The document signed in 2005 said that the Mayor at the time agreed to abide by the mission for peace established many years ago after the atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Thousands of communities all over the world have signed it, including Northampton. In their closed sessions, they ask them to talk about this. How do you balance that? They want to know; it's a valid question. She hopes at some point they will come back with an answer; in the meantime, she will keep asking.

Ward 4 School Committee Representative Michael Stein, Columbus Avenue, spoke in support of the appropriation request. On January 22nd, the School Committee considered three midyear appropriation proposals, one of which passed by a supermajority of the School Committee. In its motion, the committee instructed the superintendent to bring forth a request to the Mayor for an order reflecting exactly the funds voted on. The superintendent produced such a request. Unfortunately, Mayor Sciarra chose to unilaterally

ignore the request of her colleagues and brought forth a reduced order. While the Mayor can bring forth any order she wants, what particularly troubled him is that she appears to have directed the superintendent to provide a list of priorities corresponding to the amount she wanted to offer and then included that list in her order tonight. This is a fundamental overreach of her authority. No single member can direct the work of district personnel. The superintendent is not like other department heads that report to the Mayor. The superintendent reports to the School Committee. In this instance, the mayor has entirely circumvented the body. Throughout the last two years of budget fights, they have heard endlessly from the Mayor's supporters about the need for collaboration and are instead met with unilateral decisions imposed upon the schools that contradict the votes of the School Committee. Where are the calls for the Mayor to actually collaborate, to lead a process of collaboration? She chose to not even notify the School Committee of the order she was bringing, let alone consult them beforehand. She chose not to engage in the deliberation about the midyear appropriation that she chaired on January 22nd. The only collaboration that's tolerated is being a collaborator in imposing the budget one person has decided. He has heard the order referred to as a compromise, but a compromise between whom? In fact, "it only continues to compromise our ability to meet our legal and moral obligations to the children of Northampton."

Megan Wolf, Northampton, offered a brief comment on the midyear appropriation. She strongly supports sustained and adequate funding for the public schools. Their schools are essential to their community and ensuring they have the resources they need is always a priority. At the same time, midyear appropriations are by nature unusual. The annual budget process exists so priorities can be considered together, trade-offs weighed transparently, and decisions made with a full understanding of the long-term impact. It is important that they not unintentionally re-legislate a complete budget process outside of that framework except when circumstances truly warrant it. In this case, she appreciates that the Mayor has brought forth a focused and sensible request rather than an open-ended one. It reflects an effort to respond to real needs in the schools while still respecting the city's overall fiscal structure. She also wants to thank the Mayor for last week's budget presentation, which made clear the sheer number of priorities the city is balancing. Schools, housing, infrastructure and public safety are all core city services. She appreciates that thoughtful and disciplined approach and hopes the council can consider this request in a way that supports their schools while preserving the integrity of the budget process.

Regarding the proposed four-way (sic) stop at Finn and Prospect, **Danielle McKahn, 32 Perkins Avenue**, said that intersection is very confusing. Having raised kids in that neighborhood, it is terrifying to send kids alone in that direction to try to cross to go to the campus school playground or the hill at the Clark School for sledding. She thinks it's a real improvement to make it an all-way stop. This will be quick, easy and inexpensive, and she thinks it is a good first move to force cars to slow down and thereby make it safer.

Al Simon, Ward 2, spoke in favor of the mid-year appropriation. He knows councilors have only three choices; pass the order as written, reduce it by some amount or kill it entirely. He is extremely frustrated that that is the decision to be made. The topic is collaboration, the word heard over and over and over again last year. Collaboration means more people get to be part of the decision-making. All nine of the elected School Committee members unanimously passed the proposal for \$790,000. He did actually expect that to be the order. He expected the mayor to have an opinion on what she thought ought to happen and that would allow for actual deliberation, discussion and decision-making by many people. It is a huge missed opportunity and a signal that nothing has quite changed since the election.

Jody R., Prospect Street, said she has a little different perspective on the all-way stop. She feels like with the new stoplight that went in on State Street and Finn, there is already a back-up of traffic. It does provide a safer crosswalk, but she feels like to put either a stop sign or stoplight at the curve on Finn will just create a bottleneck between that stoplight and the rest of Prospect Street and create more problems than it would solve. She agrees with Dani that it is a dangerous crosswalk where the road curves. Maybe some kind of signage could be put up to slow traffic and alert drivers to the challenge for pedestrians going around that corner but she doesn't think putting in a four-way (sic) stop is going to solve the problem.

Adam Novitt, 17 Hooker Avenue, spoke in favor of the all-way stop at Finn and Prospect Street. It is an area he walks through frequently. The crosswalk is too long. It is confusing for cars. People are treating it like a high-speed corner, and some people are already stopping there because they think a stop sign is supposed to be there. He thinks putting a stop sign there would clarify what is supposed to be happening at the corner and slow cars down. If he's walking back from Smith College, he might take a different route just to not walk through there.

Ward 3 School Committee member Renika Montgomery-Tamakloe noted that her comments are her own and not representative of the School Committee or Ward 3. She said she was there to talk about the midyear appropriation. On January 22nd, a special meeting of the School Committee was held called by Anat Weisenfreund and herself. They wanted to address urgent needs of the schools. They presented an

initial request of \$925,000 with the understanding that the number might change based on hiring needs. Superintendent Bonner gave a midyear appropriation of \$587,000K, including \$123,000 that she had initially overlooked, and they finally approved 9:0 with one abstention (the Mayor) a compromise of \$790,000. Tonight's request, which is \$500,000 less than what they asked for, is an insult. Monday they heard testimony that most schools are severely underperforming in ELA, to the point where only 17% of students are turning in work that meets or exceeds expectations. Looking at MCA's data, they are doing somewhat better, with 46% of their students meeting or exceeding expectations, but that means more than half of their students are failing to meet expectations. For a city with such high reserves, they are doing a poor job of educating all of their children. Compulsory education means just that; everyone is required to attend school. By not providing children with the skills needed to succeed, they are creating barriers to opportunity; they are shifting costs back to the parents, the community and students themselves. If the parents cannot afford to pay for supplemental services, their children suffer. Children with low literacy levels grow into adults who struggle to succeed. They face higher levels of unemployment, higher levels of poverty and less social mobility. "We are setting up our children to fail." The idea that they can't afford to properly fund their schools as they sit on \$2.1 million in Free Cash - more than double their original ask - seems disingenuous to her.

Abby Spector, Winterberry Lane, said she is here because she has been increasingly concerned by a trend in the political discourse in this city she believes is important to address. Democracy is messy. In a small, middle-class community like Northampton in today's world, local politics is often about making difficult financial choices with very limited resources. What concerns her is the loss of recognizing that, although they might disagree, they all have Northampton's best interests at heart. When words like authoritarianism, totalitarianism, corrupt and fascism are used to describe the other side, good intent is a casualty. "Not winning a budget vote or an election does not mean we are under authoritarian rule. This approach destroys our sense of community."

She believes Trump represents a very real threat to democracy nationally, which is why their language matters so much. She hopes they can all begin by seeing good intent in the other, no matter how passionately they may disagree on an issue. Be hard on the problem and soft on the people. If not, she fears they will just be joining Trump's project of destroying and dehumanizing those they disagree with.

Mareatha Wallace, a paraprofessional at JFK Middle School, wished those listening 'Happy Black History month,' reminding people that is where they are. While she thinks \$290,000 would be an amazing amount of money, they need more. They have low scores in reading and math and actually need the help. "We want to reach our kids, we want to give them all that they need to succeed in this world," especially ones who are black and brown and tan like her. When budgets are not met and students need more help and they cannot give it to them, it affects black and brown students more than other people. She would ask for the full amount of \$500,000 that was requested. She is asking because she stands in a gap where her face represents and advocates for students of color.

Anat Weisenfreund, Northampton, speaking as a resident and School Committee member but not on the committee's behalf, noted that, on January 22nd, the School Committee held a special meeting to put forth a midyear appropriation. There were three plans: the first in the amount of \$925,000 included critical resources for every school, the second developed by the superintendent was in the amount of \$464,000 and the third which was ultimately approved was for \$790,175. The Mayor is also chair of the School Committee, but when chairing the meeting at which they deliberated the appropriation, she did not offer any fiscal or programmatic input. Tonight she is asking them to vote on a financial order totaling \$290,317, approximately half of what was requested. The order also included specific instructions for how that money should be spent. The Mayor has not let them know why she chose to cut their request, and she does not yet know how she chose to spend the proposed appropriation.

"Did she work directly with the superintendent on this proposal, entirely bypassing the school committee?" Member Weisenfreund asked. "Councilors, please ask that question tonight."

During the Mayor's re-election campaign, she spoke about collaborating with the School Committee. Sadly, this now seems like a hollow election promise. Through this order, the Mayor acts against a vote of the supermajority of the School Committee, chose not to inform their democratically-elected body ahead of time, and did not allow the body to deliberate on how this new amount of money should be best spent. The mayor's unilateral action unmoored from the scope of actual needs of the district makes it clear yet again of the necessity of the City Council to opt in. "This is our only path towards open and more democratic budget choices," she maintained.

Quaverly Rothenberg, immediate past Ward 3 City Councilor, said that as she returns to work as a court stenographer, she is reminded of what a kangaroo council this is. It is so disappointing to hear actual deliberations, actual rulings, actual arguments, actual questions and answers taking place in courts

of law and then compare that to what happens here, where Councilor Maiore cuts off questions that are extremely pertinent to the argument at hand in the name of efficiency or maybe to avoid what she perceives as conflict. She would encourage her to listen to the substance of the questions and answers and give space, even if she doesn't understand them or thinks there is conflict. They always talk about bias, relationships and things like that when listening to witnesses and instructing jurors on how to weigh the credibility of their testimony. Abby Spector, daughter of a long-time councilor who groomed the Mayor, spoke tonight and said she doesn't like how divisive things are. Megan Wolf, wife of the Mayor's Chief of Staff, spoke tonight and said she thinks the Mayor's doing a great job balancing needs. She sees Jenn Nery in the audience. She doesn't like being named the treasurer of Laurie Loisel's campaign and that she points out hypocrisy in the zoning changes she loves to support and champion when they affect her neighbors negatively and affect her beneficially financially. She doesn't like it when they point out that she wouldn't like it if the shoe were on the other foot.

"It is Black History Month and we live in America which is neoliberal, which is full of inverted totalitarianism. The mayor is not special in that regard." Bridge Street School is being defunded and underfunded in Black History Month, their most diverse school of color. "You should be ashamed," she observed.

Phil Wilson, Ward 1, said a couple of days ago he got an email from the Mayor; he is not quite sure why; it might have something to do with his requesting a 15-minute audience. The email is very disappointing. It said local police officers do not inquire about immigration status in the course of routine policing or collect immigration information, and city resources are not used to carry out federal immigration enforcement activities. At the same time, local law enforcement does not interfere with federal actions carried out under lawful authority and does not take actions that would escalate risk and undermine public safety. What lawful authority? He asked.

"The city's approach is grounded in restraint, professionalism and adherence to clear legal boundaries," he quoted.

Sounds good, but the Mayor didn't even include the phone number or LUCE in case anybody is really threatened by ICE.

This is pure euphemism, cowardice and gas-lighting, Mr. Wilson suggested. Everything ICE does is illegal. ICE commits crimes against humanity by masking, detaining with no legal basis, conducting warrantless searches and invading private spaces with no warrants. The one and only response that defends their legal and human rights would be to deploy Northampton police to arrest ICE agents who violate the civil rights of local residents. The police chief of Philadelphia actually set that precedent by promising to do just that. He doesn't hear Mayor Sciarra supporting any measure of resistance. Correct him if he's wrong; maybe he missed something. On the issue of the obscene sign at L3 mentioned earlier; their government is blind to irony; it is the mandate of L3 to inflict trauma on the planet and L3 bears down fiercely on their local mental health, standing right across from ServiceNet and DMH. He hopes Deb Klemer, their Ward 2 City Councilor, is all over this issue.

Kiah McKahn, a 9th grader at Northampton High School (NHS), said he lives in **Ward 1**, just a few blocks from the Finn and Prospect Street intersection. This intersection is on the walking and biking path to both an elementary and a high school, and he uses it daily. Cars do not have adequate sight lines to see pedestrians in the crosswalk, he asserted. He knows this because he has almost been hit by cars when in the crosswalk. "I should not be made to be afraid to walk to school." A small inconvenience to vehicles is worth protecting him and his friends. The design of this intersection does not naturally support vehicles to make good choices. Please approve the stop sign at Finn and Prospect, he urged.

Re: L3, **Dennis Moore, Ward 3**, a member of the **Western MA Club of the Communist Party, USA**, urged the city council to pass a weapons manufacturing ban. It has been said that it will not kick L3Harris out, but it will prevent them from expanding, prevent other weapons manufacturers from moving in and send a clear message that they don't want them in this city. Northampton has a long history of peace, including being the home of peace advocate Sojourner Truth. Having L3 Harris is a stain on the history of the city.

Re: ICE, he was disappointed in the police chief, Mayor and Commissioner of Health and Human Services' (HHS) statement the other day. The main issue is that ICE is doing illegal things over and over and over again. ICE is kidnapping people, ignoring court orders and brutalizing people in the streets. It's not enough that police don't aide ICE, they have to stop them if they're doing anything illegal, and he wants that made explicit. Also, appropriate funding for the schools and, although he only drives through the intersection, he thinks there should be a stop sign at Finn & Prospect.

Luke Rotello, Ward 5, recently reelected as Co-chair of the **Western MA Club of the Communist Party, USA**, echoed Dennis' points. He said he expressed his significant concerns with Mayor Sciarra's midyear appropriation proposal and woefully inadequate response to ICE at a meeting with Councilor Davis yesterday. He hopes tonight's meeting will lead to greater clarity as to why \$250,000 was removed from the mid-year appropriation request without written justification. He is looking to see more concrete action and dialogue in regards to really moving the needle forward on what is really a very inadequate, a sort of 'consultant speak' response to ICE so far.

In a separate but related vein, if he is seeing right, there is a portrait of Frederick Douglas behind Councilor Robbins. It is a gift from their club intended for the walls of Council Chambers in honor of Black History Month. He hopes this contribution can serve as a proud shared symbol of the struggle for multi-racial democracy in their city and society.

Jenn Nery, Ward 3, said she is very excited to see more safety-oriented progress being made on intersections and segments of road around town. She loves the emphasis on safety but is not sure they are always achieving it. What they have with the three-way stop at Finn & Prospect is another proposal from Fuss & O'Neill that strikes her as very short-sighted, not really in line with best practices around creating safer roads for vulnerable users like bicyclists and pedestrians. The Intersection has far too long a crosswalk even with a stop sign, people with mobility issues are going to continue to have problems there. She thinks there are other techniques that would also be very cheap, such as narrowing the walk with paint or concrete blocks. Narrowing the road and making it a sharper turn without stopping every car that goes through would still slow traffic quite a bit. This follows the recently-approved high school intersection at Elm and Woodlawn, which, in many of their estimations, is not much of an improvement considering the cost. They are still weighing the Prospect Street improvement. Bicyclists she knows say it's no improvement whatsoever. She thinks Fuss & O'Neill needs to be questioned and their DPW needs to be a little bit more insistent on real bike and crosswalk provisions.

Melissa Maciborski, Northampton, shared quick thoughts on the midyear appropriation. Would she like them to approve it? Yes, please do. Does she think this is how they should be managing their finances? No, absolutely not. She thinks they should be budgeting effectively using the ample revenue she is certain that they have to fully fund their schools. Does she think this addresses the needs of the students? Absolutely not. As a quick summary, a lot of the kids at JFK can't read at grade level. This midyear appropriation does absolutely nothing to address that. It is giving campus safety monitors to JFK to address behavioral problems of the kids. When kids can't read, they act out and it's not their fault; it's because they haven't taught them to read. "We actually have to talk to each other." The kids are depending on that, so they need to start to figure this out.

Zara Swan, a senior at NHS, 109 High Street, said when trying to park yesterday, since she hates technology, she was trying to pay with quarters and the meter said it was unavailable and she should try again later and she should get the app. Well, she doesn't want to get the app. "I don't think we should have to get a third-party app to pay for parking in our city." She asked if the council could please make it free if something like that goes wrong, because that was very frustrating.

As Al Simon pointed out, they don't have the authority to increase the midyear appropriation. Her principal came up to her and said, Zara, I'm so sorry, I forgot to add the one thing the Student Union requested on the appropriation. They need Chromebooks to successfully implement the new digital hall pass system at NHS. Please pass it. NHS really needs the literacy intervention, specialists and technology but, even more, get ready, with the phone ban next year they are going to need even more money. She just got a letter from the clerk reminding her to register to vote and is very excited to do that for the first time.

Jo Ella Tarbutton, (Jada), Ward 3, self-described as an engaged resident and community advocate, said that when they speak of black history, they often focus rightfully on courage, resistance and progress, but one of the most enduring lessons comes from Ida B. Wells Barnett, who warned about the danger of divisions between groups and parties and even within movements themselves. She understood that fragmentation weakens the pursuit of justice and distracts them from their shared responsibility to one another. Her message echoes the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, who reminded them that justice isn't about defeating one another but about lifting the moral center of an entire community. Dr. King taught us that dignity, love and courage are deliberate choices, she reminded.

Like many in the community, she is deeply concerned about ICE activity locally, statewide and nationally. This is not abstract for her. She grew up in Texas where she witnessed deportation raids targeting Mexican and Central American nationals who were in some ways brought there and then discarded. Those are very painful memories and there will be a workshop with the Ward 3 Neighborhood Association. She extended sincere congratulations to the Mayor, Councilor Dubs, Councilor Nabad, Councilor Maiore and Councilor Perry who were recognized for carrying on the spirit of Martin Luther King's legacy in a

variety of ways. Recognition matters. In that spirit, black history is not something they remember, it is something they practice when they listen across differences, govern with integrity and choose unity over division.

A woman in the audience interrupted to say that not everyone was listening to the last speaker; Madame Mayor was carrying on a conversation.

Councilor Maiore told her she was out of order.

Brad Carmody, Ward 7, noted that, one month ago at the senior center, the mayor spoke of listening and collaboration. Tonight, the numbers prove those were just words. Mayor Sciarra won by a narrow 76-vote margin. Meanwhile, the voters handed the School Committee a clear, overwhelming mandate to prioritize their children; a directive the mayor is now choosing to ignore. The School Committee voted unanimously for \$790,000. Instead of bringing this or the superintendent's bare minimum budget to the floor, the mayor submitted an order for just \$290,000. This is a calculated undemocratic maneuver. By submitting less than half, the mayor is intentionally tying the council's hands. She's using a procedural loophole to silence the voice of representatives who won their seats by a much larger margin than she did. It isn't collaboration, it's an executive ambush. Starving the schools is fiscally reckless; their home values and tax base are tied directly to school health. Underfund the schools, and you gut the value of every house in the city. You can't build a stable city or protect its financial future while underfunding the schools year after year. Mayor Sciarra, you are failing our kids and our city by ignoring the principals, the superintendent and the unanimous vote of the School Committee. Let the record reflect that this is a fraction of what is owed, delivered through a system exploited to ignore the will of the voters.

With regard to the intersection, **Yakov Kronrod, Ward 4**, acknowledged that he sometimes forgets that it's not a quick turn. It is a dangerous intersection, and he has had to slam on brakes when he notices a pedestrian coming around the corner. From a driver's perspective, that intersection could be slowed down.

With regard to issues that were important to him during the campaign - affordable housing and education funding - he thinks it is really important to keep in mind that people of color and all minorities are disproportionately affected by both. If they want to help schools and create more affordable housing, "there's a million things all of you could do," he pointed out. The Northampton Education Foundation is an amazing organization; its money directly supports teachers and their projects. On affordable housing, while there are a million different efforts, there are also organizers on the streets working their butts off to create more affordable housing, specifically right now focused on West Street and Smith College. It isn't only that the city can do x, y and z; everyone in the city can do that. He urged them all to work towards those efforts.

Paula Rigano, Ward 1, said that, of course, she is suggesting they approve the midyear appropriation, particularly the one passed by the School Committee. Regarding the intersection at Finn & Prospect, she agrees with Jenn Nery that there are a lot of things they could do besides put in a three-way stop. If anything, they could add a stop sign from Prospect onto Finn, which is where the traffic comes the fastest and the blind curve is. With the addition of the stop light at State and Finn, traffic is already slowed, and, in that direction, there is a very clear view of the crosswalk. She struggles with putting in a three-way stop there but could get behind a two-way stop. She thinks there are a lot more things they could do to make that intersection safer besides throwing in more stop signs.

Regarding the all-way stop at Finn & Prospect, **Andrea Fox, Ward 2**, said she lives close by and walks there probably every day. She has a trike and rides a bike and sees a lot of people walking towards the Y, LGA or the Survival Center. It is a very busy street with a lot of utility, DPW and fire truck traffic. She supports having an all-way stop. When they put in a four-way stop on State and Trumbull, she was worried traffic was going to back up, but, in fact, she hasn't really seen that much more traffic. In fact, she thinks it makes traffic go faster. You could otherwise sit at those intersections for a very long time. A lot of kids walk by themselves across that intersection to get to school. For safety, she does support an all-way stop and doesn't think it would back up traffic any more than any of the others recently added.

Ryan, Ward 2, said he is embarrassed as always driving by L3 Harris and in favor of anything that helps with safety on the roads as a driver and pedestrian. Even slight measures like the all-way stop would be great. Regarding the letter from the Mayor and police chief, they are reaffirming that they are going to do pretty much what everyone else is doing, stopping the public from interfering with the feds. If they are only enforcing one side and not the other, that looks like siding with the feds to him. If that's the Mayor and police chief's plan, he hopes checks and balances come from [councilors].

Maria, Ward 6, commented that in this moment, thoughtful, reality-based leadership matters deeply. She wanted to speak briefly about something very simple and fundamental, whether the city is staffing essential services at the level everyday life clearly requires.

Nearly four years ago, she happened to be at the Florence baseball field with her newborn and 70-year old mother. When she needed to use the restroom, they found the facilities locked. A DPW worker explained kindly and apologetically that they didn't have the staff to keep them open. He shared that 16 positions were unfilled. She assumed it was temporary. It's been four years, and the impact of those staffing deficits are still with them. When problems persist for years rather than months, they are no longer transitional, they require deliberate successful solutions. Recently, she heard an observation that really stuck with her: Successful leaders respond to observable reality by changing course when it becomes clear that something is not working.

"Staffing levels in our public schools, DPW vacancies, and service gaps are not abstract concepts. They are observable reality," she asserted. They are living in a time when truth and reality can seem to get bent in ways that are deeply unsettling. That makes grounding their decisions in realities they can plainly see even more important. Where is the essential services investment plan, the plan that treats human infrastructure – their teachers and school staff, DPW workers and firefighters - as just as critical as physical infrastructure? The midyear appropriation offers a way to begin addressing the long-term impacts of these staffing decisions on their public schools and children. She encouraged them to support its approval.

David Ames, Ward 3, spoke in favor of the three-way stop. As a year-round bicyclist, he reported that some kind of drainage situation is coming off the right-hand embankment on Prospect Street as riders turn onto Finn and actually covers the road with ice. This is one aspect of the intersection that really needs to be looked at. He knows the DPW was up there earlier this week with a pay loader. The curve onto Finn Street in the winter actually freezes, forcing anybody who's riding more out onto Prospect Street. Not only does he support the three-way stop as something that slows down cars, but taking a look at the drainage situation there would be greatly appreciated.

There being no further comments, **Councilor Maiore brought public comment to a close at 7:47 p.m.**

<u>Recess</u>	<u>Recess</u> The City Council recessed briefly at 7:47 p.m. The council reconvened at 8:01 p.m.
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<u>Announcements</u>	<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <p>Councilor Robbins shared that the first Town Hall held at Bombyx last night (February 4th) with a turnout of about 60 residents was exciting and engaging. People worked in small groups and talked about Northampton. Hopefully, this is the first of many such events.</p> <p>And, as Luke Rotello said earlier, their club awarded a portrait of Frederick Douglas to the Northampton Reparations Commission and is making a donation of it. Mr. Douglas wanted to come live in Council Chambers because the room has become very non-representative. He would have been very proud of this community going forward. She suggested that, if anyone else has somebody 'who would like to live on the wall,' that would be fabulous.</p> <p>Councilor Nabad said she is still attending Northampton Housing Partnership (NHP) meetings as a city councilor and still committed to creating more affordable housing in their city. NHP is always looking for new members. Sometimes it seems really unexciting but a lot of what they do individually and as a collective does actually result in the development of affordable housing. Meetings are the 1st Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. and they would love to have more people.</p> <p>Councilor Klemer reminded folks that the Finance Committee's budget listening session is next Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. via Zoom. She encouraged them to bring their questions.</p> <p>Councilor Dubs said they were supposed to have the first City Services Committee meeting Monday, but, due to technical issues, the meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, February 24th @ 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Councilor Perry also acknowledged the observance of Black History Month. He thanked Luke for the gift, saying it is nice to look up and see a person of color on the walls for the first time. The Reparations Commission is in the process of finding an administrative assistant and looking for new members. He is hoping to have some people from the Reparations Commission come to another subcommittee. Last month, unfortunately, the Community Resources Committee meeting was interrupted by some ne'er do wells. Some racial epithets and slurs were spewed and members were subjected to explicit material. It was not lost on him that he is the only person of color elected to serve on this body and that it happened to be the only meeting that was zoom-bombed. He is hoping going forward to have a little more support for their people of color. The committee's next meeting is Monday, February 23rd at 5:30 p.m. and he is</p>
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hoping to feature positive organizations and committees working towards representing their African American citizens, workers and culture. He wanted people to know that while these things can be harmful and hurtful, the way to fight that is with positivity and information. He is thankful to be serving on the committee again, which he has tried to use as a resource not just for city councilors but for their citizens. From their last election, he see the need for spaces for residents to communicate and talk. Despite how folks try to bring them down, he wanted to let people know that Community Resources is undaunted and can still be found sharing information.

Anyone interested in in joining the Reparations Commission can reach out to the group’s chairs, he said.

To save the necessity of removing the Park Hill Road pole petition from the consent agenda, Councilor Stratton reported that, on one of the few warm days last month, he biked up to Park Hill Road to look at its proposed location. Nobody there had any particular feelings about the new pole except the homeowner, who was charged \$11,000 for the installation, he shared.

Councilor Maiore announced that Legislative Matters will hold its organizational meeting on Monday, October 9th at 4 p.m.

Presentations

Presentations

It all Starts at the Library; Forbes and Lilly Library updates – Lisa Downing and Adam Novitt

Councilors heard presentations from library directors Lisa Downing and Adam Novitt of Forbes and Lilly Libraries, independent entities which opened in 1894 and 1890, respectively. The directors highlighted their collaboration, community services, and upcoming projects including an outdoor performance stage (Hess Performance Stage) and the Coolidge Museum renovation, and provided an overview of library services. The conversation ended with an invitation to a volunteer and donor event.

Forbes Library was a gift from Charles Edward Forbes upon the condition that the city maintain its building, operations and staff, Ms. Downing related, so it has been a partnership with the city from the beginning. An historic renovation happened around 2000 although the building’s footprint remained the same. Last year, they welcomed 200,000 visitors through their doors.

The building housing Lilly Library originally housed a kindergarten on the first floor and library on the second and the library actually still has some of the kindergarten seats, Mr. Novitt related. Lilly Library underwent a renovation around 2005 and sees about 60,000 visitors a year. The library is super-efficient, ranking at the top in circulations per full-time staff person and per capita per surface area with only libraries on the cape ranking ahead of them. He likes to think the library’s success comes from its focus on the qualitative side of serving their patrons; staff’s main focus is on giving people a great experience.

Forbes and Lilly are independent but work together by arranging their hours to give the community seven days of service a week, which is very unusual for a town of their size.

A few years ago, the libraries started making purchases together and have been working closer and closer together all the time. Both libraries offer free public programming, meeting rooms, services, etc. Both libraries have pivoted towards providing a place for people to work remotely since the pandemic. Lilly library hosts many zoom meetings and has worked to have better seamless printing for people walking through the door so they can work from home.

Ms. Downing highlighted some of Forbes Library’s unique contributions, such as serving as a satellite office for the Mass Hire Franklin/Hampshire Career Center. The library also has an extensive local history collection. With its proximity to Smith College, the library is the school’s largest off-campus employer, which helps the library because it gets subsidized student help. The library has notary services and Paco, a beloved fish nearing 40 years old.

Lilly offers free parking, and staff have been working on a wildflower walkway going around the building. Forbes and Lilly are different animals, he agreed. He thinks they are a little bit more of a personal feel for users, but he thinks it is very important that both of these library exist.

Following the presentation, directors entertained questions and comments from councilors.

Councilor Maiore thanked directors for the presentation, saying the range of what both libraries offer is remarkable.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

Councilor Maiore reviewed the items on the consent agenda. Councilor Stratton requested removal of **26.005 An Order to Appropriate \$251,025 Free Cash to NPS Special Education Stabilization Fund - 2nd reading**. Councilor Klemer moved to approve the consent agenda with the removal. Councilor Stratton seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda:

- A. **Minutes of December 18, 2025 and January 15, 2026 regular meetings and January 5, 2026 organizational meeting**
- B. **Approve 25.355 National Grid Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition#: 31193070)**
- C. **Approve 25.357 National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186)**
- D. **26.006 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for McKinney Vento Transportation Reimbursement -2nd reading**
- E. **26.007 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement - 2nd reading**

26.005 An Order to Appropriate \$251,025 Free Cash to NPS Special Education Stabilization Fund - 2nd reading

Councilor Stratton expressed his understanding that this money is reimbursement for services performed in the schools. He wants this money to go to the schools, he stressed. The question is how it should go to them.

When the Special Education Stabilization Fund was established in June of 2024 (by orders 24.091 and 24.092), Councilor Maiore asked why they couldn't just give the money to the schools directly, Councilor Stratton reminded. The argument from the Mayor and Finance Director was that they could not put Free Cash into the operating budget. Essentially, they are treating this stabilization account as a fig leaf to cover the fact that every fiscal year they are putting Free Cash into the operating budget, he asserted. In the current fiscal year (FY2026), the city has already spent the \$350,000 limit established, which is a hard cap. They took \$209K out of the budget in June and pulled the remaining \$140K out for two special education teachers in July 10 days into the fiscal year. They used the money for special education, but hit the limit on annual expenditures at the very start of the year. In looking at the language, it says it is for unexpected expenses, but they just used up the whole amount on *expected* expenses. If they put money into this today, they could not access any of it until the start of the fiscal year in July. They couldn't use it for an unexpected special education expense, nor could they use any of the reserve balance since they've already hit the limit. If they put this money in and then take it out again for a routine purpose, they run out the limit at the start of the fiscal year again and have no access to the reserve.

He would really like to ask the mayor to split this allocation into a larger amount to go directly into the FY2027 school budget for expected special education expenses and a remainder reserve to go into the special education stabilization fund. He doesn't have those numbers and is not sure the Mayor has them today either. For that reason, he is going to move to table this item until they have the outline of the school budget and a predicted special education cost for the coming year (FY2027).

He moved to table/postpone. Councilor Robbins seconded.

Councilor Loisel asked how much is in the stabilization account now and if this reimbursement is guaranteed at the same amount every year.

Director Nardi said the allocation is based on the Medicaid reimbursement received, so it varies. The balance is \$704,580 right now. That's not all from Medicaid; it was seeded with Free Cash.

The account was backfilled with Free Cash last year because Medicaid was in question, Mayor Sciarra clarified.

The fund was set up with the approval of the City Council and the School Committee with parameters, Mayor Sciarra confirmed. It was set up that way because the School Committee had a stabilization account which had been overspent. They put in parameters so what happened to the school choice fund did not happen to it.

Councilor Robbins said she was on the School Committee when the special education fund was first created, and one remark has sat with her all these years. Councilor Elkins said the council created it because they didn't trust the school committee to work with its own money. Previously, the schools didn't see the Medicaid reimbursement in the school department budget for many years. Having this money go into the operating budget could possibly relieve some of the stress on the school department.

Mayor Sciarra said that, in that case, less money would be going directly to the schools because it has been dropping.

Councilor Nabad said that numerous people wrote to her today asking that this be passed tonight.

Councilor Maiore said she would like to discuss the purpose of the fund in terms of its use for unexpected vs. expected expenses.

Director Nardi said the fund was set up to put more money towards the budget tied to money coming in every year. The idea was not to use up the fund quickly and to help special education costs, which are rising quickly. There is a cap of \$350,000. This was just another way to support the schools and they used ARPA funds to do that. There has been concern that the vote to enact this refers to 'unexpected' costs. But, the bottom line is that special education costs will always be unexpected. They are using it in this manner, which is legal.

Councilor Stratton read from the preface of M.G.L. 40, Section 13E, the enabling statute, which authorizes "school district reserve funds to pay for unanticipated or unbudgeted costs for special education, out-of-district tuition, or transportation."

This fiscal year, they used \$209K as part of the school budget and then, 10 days into the fiscal year, used the other \$140,000. He asked if they could explain how those costs were unexpected.

Mayor Sciarra said that if the council no longer wants to have this fund for special education, they could work on dismantling it and then Medicaid reimbursement would just go directly to the schools.

Councilor Maiore wondered if they could change the stipulation. She had thought of whether, with other funds, they could add 'for any legal purpose' to add flexibility.

Since they used the funds early in the school year last year, Councilor Klemer asked how emergencies that came up later in the year were paid for.

Mayor Sciarra said that if there wasn't an additional \$350,000, other choices would have to be made within the schools. It would have to come out of the school budget.

Councilor Klemer expressed her understanding that it is available to use at the school's discretion.

Councilor Stratton raised a point of order. It's not available at their discretion, he said.

For special ed, it is, Councilor Klemer remonstrated.

No, it's not, Councilor Stratton said.

Councilor Maiore reminded councilors to raise hands to be recognized.

Councilor Perry asked how much interest the account has generated. To Councilor Stratton's point, he agreed city officials know they will need money for special education, but noted that they don't know how wildly that amount might fluctuate.

Mayor Sciarra noted that something else that feeds this fund are tailings from the school budget, which would normally come back to the city as Free Cash. It is another way funds are being captured to be put aside to stay within the schools.

Councilor Robbins said this is not a hill she is going to die on but she would love it to be an open conversation. She felt at the time that it was crossing lines between the role of the council and the role of the School Committee as far as how school funds are used. "I think we need to be really careful about that," she opined. The law does say that if the schools have a stabilization fund, the city council needs to be part of the authorization process. But, many districts just have education stabilization funds not differentiated between regular education and special education needs. She thought she saw in Governor Healey's cherry sheet that she was talking about greater funding of circuit breaker funds.

She would like them to be mindful of their role as a council and how they work with the School Committee and honor their experience. Maybe in tabling this, they could think a little bit more creatively about how to approach those funds and maybe even consult with their brethren.

Councilor Stratton apologized for his earlier impatience. He doesn't think they can change the purpose of this fund which is defined under a very specific state statute, nor is he proposing that they do away with it. What he is proposing is to let it be used for what it is actually intended for, truly unexpected expenses.

This year, they have \$251,000 to work with. He is envisioning putting \$200,000 right into the school budget, leaving \$150,000 to pull out of the reserve fund for anything truly unanticipated. He is not saying do away with the fund or do away with the process entirely. He is saying let's put the amount we are confident we are going to spend into the school budget directly and put a smaller amount (\$51,000) into the stabilization fund. He can't tell them the correct numbers today and that is why he is moving to table it instead of somehow modifying it.

Mayor Sciarra said she didn't see how that is different from what the situation is now.

If some of the money is put directly into the school budget, they still have headroom under the \$350,000 cap, Councilor Stratton said. It preserves the headroom for true emergencies.

The interest is about \$1,400 a month but has been as high as \$2,500, Director Nardi advised.

His ideal outcome is for the Mayor to replace the order with a different one putting some money directly into the school budget, Councilor Stratton clarified.

Director Nardi stressed that this money is going to go into the school budget next year. Director Jones is counting on this money. This money will be added to the base of the FY2027 budget.

Councilor Loisel said she sees no reason to table this at all. She feels satisfied that the reserve account was created for very good reason, and she's ready to vote.

Councilor Robbins said she thinks it has been an interesting discussion. They are talking about how a different department uses its money. Maybe they could forward think about having a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the budget and property subcommittee and this could be an agenda item.

Councilor Stratton said he would propose rewriting the order to take the part they know they are going to pull out and put directly into the school budget into the school budget. The interest is not lost to the city, it's just a matter of which account it lands in, he pointed out. He thinks a joint meeting with the budget and property committee would be fantastic, he added.

Councilor Maiore said she thinks the questions warrant looking at. She has no problem unpacking that and reviewing it with the School Committee. She is not in a position to want to postpone this item but thinks these are great and compelling questions about how they structure their budgets. As a member of finance, would support having those kinds of proactive discussions.

The motion to postpone was called to a vote, and it failed 1:8 by roll call with Stratton in favor and Davis, Dubs, Klemer, Loisel, Maiore, Nabad, Perry and Robbins opposed.

Councilor Stratton moved to call the question. Councilor Loisel seconded.

However, after Councilor Maiore said she had been about to entertain a motion to approve the order, **Councilor Stratton withdrew the motion.**

Councilor Klemer moved to approve the order. Councilor Dubs seconded. The motion passed 8:1 by roll call vote with Councilor Stratton opposed.

The following motion passed final reading:

APPROVED - 26.005
An Order to
Appropriate
\$251,025 Free Cash
to NPS Special
Education
Stabilization Fund -
2nd reading

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra

26.005 An Order to Appropriate \$251,025 Free Cash to NPS Special Education Stabilization Fund

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2024, the City Council accepted Chapter 40, §13E of the Mass. General Laws, and pursuant to that statute, authorized the creation of a special purpose stabilization fund called the Northampton Public Schools (NPS) Special Education Stabilization Fund; and

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2024, \$800,000 was appropriated to initially fund the special purpose stabilization fund; and

WHEREAS, in order to support the stabilization account an annual appropriation would be made into the NPS Special Education Stabilization Fund by the amount of the prior year’s Medicaid reimbursement and the amount of any turnback to the city from the prior year’s NPS budget following the certification of free cash; and

WHEREAS, the method of this appropriation would be by an Order to the Northampton City Council filed by the mayor.

Now, Therefore be it Ordered, that

The City Council appropriate \$235,310.62 which is the amount of Medicaid reimbursement the city received in FY2025 and \$15,713.92 which is the amount of unspent funds from the FY2024 NPS budget returned to the city, for a total of \$251,024.54 from the FY2026 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) to the Special Education Stabilization Fund.

Passed final reading and enrolled.

Recess

Recess

The City Council recessed briefly at 9:21 p.m. The council reconvened at 9:31 p.m.

Financial Orders (on 1st reading)

26.011 An Order to
Make a \$290,317
Midyear
Appropriation to
NPS - 1st reading

Financial Orders (on 1st reading)

26.011 An Order to Make a \$290,317 Midyear Appropriation to NPS - 1st reading

Two readings were respectfully requested, Councilor Maiore noted. Two readings were also requested for the second order (**26.012 An Order to Reprogram \$75,161 from Various IT Accounts for NPS Chromebooks - 1st reading**) so, if councilors are comfortable, they could vote on the two as a group.

Councilor Klemer moved to suspend the rules to waive two readings for the two orders as a group. Councilor Nabad seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Rules were suspended.

Two School Committee members called a special meeting to discuss a request for a midyear appropriation, Mayor Sciarra related. Members asked Superintendent Bonner to come up with specific recommendations based on current requests from the schools, which she did after conferring with school principals and the administrative leadership team. A list was pulled together pretty quickly. The meeting was held January 22nd with a \$586,992 list presented by Superintendent Bonner based on the list of current needs she compiled.

Members Renika Montgomery-Tamakloe, Michael Stein and Anat Weisenfreund also created a list totaling \$925,000, and Member Jewell also created and presented a list.

The School Committee ultimately voted to have the Superintendent request the Mayor put forward to the council a \$790,175 financial order based on the list put together by School Committee Member Jewell.

It was a relatively short special meeting and she did ask questions, so it isn't true that she didn't deliberate, Mayor Sciarra noted. In a meeting with School Business Manager Bobbie Jones and Dr. Bonner after the vote, she learned that the \$123,000 request for student services on Dr. Bonner and Member Jewell's list is expected to be covered by the state circuit breaker reimbursement program.

Multiple capital items included on the list were also either already on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) or requested during the CIP process to be on the FY2027-FY2031 CIP, so that, if needed, these should be added to the CIP. These total \$91,050 and are either on or will be moved to the CIP. Director Nardi has been working with the school facilities director and business administrator on those requests.

The financial order before them includes the items listed that were voted on by the School Committee and that are current requests. The order is to fund these one-time requests for the remainder of the FY25-26 school year with \$290,317 from Free Cash. Since the \$123,000 request is to be covered by circuit breaker and \$91,000 is to be moved to the CIP, \$504,367 is actually being covered.

Items from the voted list which were not on the superintendent's list compiled by asking school officials for current requests and priorities are not included in the order, she explained.

Midyear appropriations are not part of the formal budget process, she reminded. They are in the process of preparing for the FY2027 budget. If new programs or initiatives are proposed, they should be included as part of this budget discussion. If any of these items are proposed to be recurring, they will need to be incorporated into the budgeting process and more than doubled since it will be for the full year.

Councilor Robbins thanked her for the explanation, saying she is prepared to vote positively. Once again, she thinks there is a blurred line, she volunteered. It would have been helpful to have information making clear to them and the public the request made by the School Committee. She referred to the surprise of seeing a very different number. She totally agrees they shouldn't need to make midyear appropriations.

She wondered if they could consider asking the Mayor as chair to go back to the School Committee to see if they would like to see additional items included that they would like to have input on. She understands that they weren't directly consulted about the order brought before them. She expressed interest in 'knowing that what comes from the School Committee. . . really respects the role of the School Committee. . .'

Councilor Klemer raised the point of order that the discussion is about acting on this specific order.

Councilor Maiore said it was relevant because Councilor Robbins was trying to weigh different paths but she would ask that the councilor wrap up because it was getting late.

Councilor Klemer thanked the Mayor for explaining that the schools are actually getting \$504,067 (sic). She voted last year to support a midyear appropriation and will again support the request put forward by the Mayor.

The amount is less than the School Committee asked for because some of the items are already covered by the circuit breaker and CIP. She said she hopes the School Committee, faculty, superintendent and council can collaborate and have a long-term plan to have the midyear request rolled into the budget.

Rather than reviewing midyear requests during a busy budget season, it would be better to thoughtfully plan for the future, she suggested.

In response to a question from Councilor Loisel about whether staff on the list would be rolled into the FY2027 budget, the Mayor said she made very clear that if school officials wanted positions to continue, they would have to figure out how to make them fit within the budget. "This is just for this year," she said.

Councilor Stratton said he thinks it's important to make clear that the city council does not have line item authority over school spending. Other than for CIP items, they are actually only voting on the total. The School Committee will allocate the money to the uses. He is hearing that the items that survived were the intersections of items on both member Jewell's list and Superintendent Bonner's.

The takeaway is that they are actually voting on a number. He personally believes the number is far too low.

His understanding is that the mayor's argument for reducing it is that the School Committee asked for things that are no longer needed or are not fillable at this point in the year, he continued. However, "the argument from many members of the School Committee is that. . . this superintendent purposefully obstructs communication between the building principals and the School Committees," he alleged.

“The School Committee does not have detailed understanding of what’s going on and that is one of our big problems,” he asserted.

A point of order was raised, and Councilor Maiore asked that they stick to the financial order and not their own theories.

Councilor Davis expressed her opinion that it is extremely important that the items in the order are things that the administrators and teachers have said that they need. If they all love and respect their schools, their teachers, their children, etc., then they would care what they say they need in their buildings. While it is completely true that they are just voting on the total, the itemization helps them see what is needed. “Justification does matter,” she professed.

Councilor Klemer expressed her belief that if council appropriates the money, the schools will spend if for these items.

Mayor Sciarra said she trusts they will use it for the needs they have prioritized.

Councilor Nabad said she would like to call the question but Councilor Maiore pointed out that a motion is not yet on the floor.

Councilor Nabad moved to approve 26.011. Councilor Klemer seconded.

Councilor Maiore thanked the School Committee and the mayor for expediently bringing an order to them. She expressed her understanding that midyear appropriations are for time-sensitive issues that need to be addressed. She understands that sometimes the entire scope of need for the schools isn’t known at the beginning of the year, but it’s becoming a pattern and she thinks they really need to think about that. She thinks the culture of having all the bodies and the Mayor’s office take on the process of a midyear appropriation during the budget season is a lot. She would like them to try to change this dynamic and have a robust budget process around the schools.

Councilor Perry said he will always support giving money to the schools but thinks the process is the question. “When we do rushed work, we don’t do effective work,” he suggested.

He asked how many positions went unfilled from last year’s midyear appropriation and when circuit breaker money comes through.

Mayor Sciarra said she didn’t think all of it was used but didn’t know how much was. She has also asked if there are current vacancies and is not sure of the answer to that either.

Director Nardi said circuit breaker money comes in throughout the year and is generally held until the following year to be used. \$685,793 is the current balance. \$490,000 is coming in and they will be receiving two payments (reimbursements) for the previous year.

Councilor Dubs said he will, of course, be in support of this. When he compares items listed by the School Committee with the Mayor’s list, it is glaringly noticeable that certain items are not included, he shared. He cited a special education teacher, the mental health and special education team at NHS and 1st grade paraeducators for each school. “It’s glaringly noticeable that disabled people do not seem to be prioritized on this list,” he observed.

Again, “Dr. Bonner’s list is what the schools themselves said were needed at this moment,” Mayor Sciarra responded. “This is what was directly heard from the schools.”

Councilor Maiore recognized the presence of Dr. Bonner, who previously had been thought not to be in attendance.

In response to Councilor Perry’s question, Dr. Bonner said the schools spent \$128,427.45 of last year’s \$294,883.02 midyear appropriation.

As far as current vacancies, there are six: a BCBA and paraeducator at Bridge Street, two paras at Leeds, school psychologist interns at the high school and crossing guards.

Regarding her list vs. Member Jewell’s list, her list was developed by asking individual buildings and departments for their one-time needs. The principals went to their staff and collected a list of items that would not be expected to continue into the next fiscal year, she clarified.

She doesn't know if they actually have a copy of her list because that list was not what was sent to the Mayor. The Mayor received the list voted on in January. That list included her requests but also included items cut from last year's appropriation, namely, two special education teachers – one at Ryan Road and one at NHS. They were able to fill those vacancies by asking for the remaining special education stabilization funds, so those positions are no longer needed, she attested.

The request for first-grade paraeducators came from a constituent, not from school staff or principals.

She is not quite sure what other items on the list refer to, but she believes it was a culmination of more specific items on her list.

Councilor Robbins said she really wished they had all the lists. Tonight, they heard from students that the request doesn't cover the digitized hall passes, which she is pretty sure they heard were important, since, moving forward, they might reduce the need for hall monitors.

She is pretty sure she remembers seeing some of these positions already advertised before this midyear appropriation.

One omission that concerns her is a request for professional development for teachers to create a new comparative government course at the high school. They have very little professional development money in their operating budget, which is a huge loss. She doesn't see that on this list.

She also thought she saw more than one front office clerk in the original request. She thinks that, for safety's sake, they need human beings in the front office in the eventuality that ICE shows up.

She reiterated her request that they vote on this but also request that the Mayor/chair go back and get some feedback from School Committee members as to whether this is what they want the mayor to bring forward.

Councilor Maiore stressed that this is an up or down vote on this order. She would like them to start focusing on that vote.

Councilor Stratton said he has frustration at the latency of being able to respond to something stated that was factually incorrect pertaining to Open Meeting Law. More than four councilors cannot talk amongst themselves and that rule also pertains to the School Committee. The consequence of that is that they cannot have a mailing list war of dueling motions. They are not supposed to be trading their proposals.

Councilor Loisel raised the point of order that this is off topic.

Councilor Maiore pointed out that other people talked about the process, so Councilor Stratton is able to as well. However, she said she is not going to continue doing rounds and is hoping to proceed to a vote.

Councilor Davis made some very important comments about targeting actual needs, Councilor Stratton continued. He hopes people are aware that, Monday night, reading scores for JFK came out, and they were abysmal. There is nothing in here to address that. He indicated a desire to hear more about the constraints placed on the requests from administrators. They've heard a statement that these needed to be one-time items, which sounds like temporary staff; i.e. tutors, not teachers.

Councilor Maiore said they needed to wrap it up.

Councilor Stratton moved to amend the order by striking the 2nd whereas clause, but subsequently withdrew his motion in the interest of time.

Councilor Maiore called the motion to approve to a vote, and it passed 8:1 by roll call vote with Councilor Stratton opposed.

The following order passed final reading:

APPROVED - 26.011
An Order to Make a
\$290,317 Midyear
Appropriation to
NPS - 1st reading

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council February 5, 2026

Upon recommendation of Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra

O-26.011 An Order to Make a \$290,317 Midyear Appropriation to NPS

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2026, the Northampton School Committee voted to have the Superintendent request the Mayor put forward to the City Council a mid-year appropriation request for \$790,175 for the Northampton Public Schools, as presented by School Committee Member Jewell; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Bonner was also requested by two members of the School Committee to create a list based on current requests from the schools, and working with school principals and the Administrative Leadership Team, created and presented a list of requests at the January 22, 2026, meeting. The voted-upon list included items that were not requested and are not included in this order; and

WHEREAS, the voted upon list includes \$123,000 for Student Services that the district anticipates will be covered by the Commonwealth Special Education Reimbursement Program (Circuit Breaker) funds, and are therefore not included; and

WHEREAS, the voted upon list includes items that are already on the Capital Improvement Plan, as well as other items that are capital requests, those items, totaling \$91,050, are on or will be moved to the Capital Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, the voted upon list includes the following items that will be funded with one-time Free Cash for the remainder of this school year:

Math & Reading Interventionists (BSS)	\$81,890
Tiered Support Educator (JSS and RR)	\$33,404
1.0 FTE Clerical Support (RR)	\$16,107

Four Campus Safety Monitors (JFK/NHS)	\$66,808
Four Math/Literacy Tutors	\$66,808
Curriculum Kits and Classroom Supplies	\$13,300
Curriculum Software & Subscriptions (District Wide)	\$12,000
TOTAL	\$290,317

Ordered, that, the City Council appropriate \$290,317 from the FY26 Certified General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) as a one-time funding for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

Rules suspended, passed final reading and enrolled.

26.012 An Order to Reprogram \$75,161 from Various IT Accounts for NPS Chromebooks - 1st reading

26.012 An Order to Reprogram \$75,161 from Various IT Accounts for NPS Chromebooks - 1st reading

Councilor Maiore reminded councilors that rules had been suspended.

Councilor Stratton moved to approve. Councilor Perry seconded.

Mayor Sciarra explained that reprogramming these funds is proposed because there is a need to purchase more Chromebooks.

Chief Information Officer Luigi Ottaviani said this fairly critical request came from the school. The breakage of Chromebooks this year is very significant. If they don't acquire new devices, there may not be enough. They tried to use every other fund they could operationally and are happy to decrease their capital budget for infrastructure to meet this need. It will help with the new HallPass solution the high school just purchased, which requires about 70 Chromebooks. The amount requested should allow them to purchase about 250 devices and have enough stock until the end of the school year.

The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following order passed final reading:

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

February 5, 2026

Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra

26.012 An Order to Reprogram \$75,161 from Various IT Accounts for NPS Chromebooks

WHEREAS, entry-level Chromebooks are needed within the Northampton Public Schools (NPS); and

WHEREAS, the current Chromebooks being used at NPS are eight years old and they are having issues with the newest applications; and

WHEREAS, the number of Chromebooks that need to be replaced due to breakage is higher than expected; and

WHEREAS, there is not enough funds in the NPS Chromebook account; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to purchase these books as soon as possible to be used this current school year; and

WHEREAS, there are remaining FY25 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds in the completed NPS Website Redesign and NPS Server Equipment Upgrade, and the FY23 IT NPS UPS System Replacement accounts; and

WHEREAS, an amount of the FY26 CIP project for IT NPS Infrastructure Upgrades can be reprogrammed to fill this urgent need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED,

That the City Council reprogram and authorize the transfer of the funds in the following NPS Information Technology project accounts for the purposes of purchasing Chromebooks for the Northampton Public Schools.

Account Name	Amount From	Amount To:
NPS Website Redesign	\$ 39,475.00	
IT NPS Server System Replacement	\$ 5,178.69	
IT NPS UPS System Replacement	\$ 497.00	
IT NPS Infrastructure Upgrade	\$ 30,000.00	
IT NPS 1:1 Chromebooks		\$ 75,150.69

Rules suspended, passed final reading and enrolled.

Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)
26.004 An Order to Appropriate Enterprise Retained Earnings to Various Project - 2nd reading

Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)
26.004 An Order to Appropriate Enterprise Retained Earnings to Various Projects - 2nd reading
 The order was positively recommended by the Finance Committee, Councilor Maire reminded.
 Councilor Perry moved to approve. Councilor Klemer seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.
The following order passed final reading.

City of Northampton
 MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council _____ January 15, 2026

 Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra and DPW Director LaScaleia

26.004 An Order to Appropriate Enterprise Retained Earnings to Various Projects

Ordered, that

\$ 1,412,999 be appropriated from the FY26 Water Enterprise Retained Earnings to the Transmission Main account (3200610 583004) for the reconstruction of transmission mains.

\$ 569,233 be appropriated from the FY26 Sewer Enterprise Retained Earnings to the Sewer Line Replacement account (3200600 589168) for ongoing sewer projects.

\$ 569,233 be appropriated from the FY26 Sewer Enterprise Retained Earnings to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) account (3200600 583003) for WWTP and Pump Station Improvements.

\$ 60,740 be appropriated from the FY26 Stormwater Enterprise Retained Earnings to the Drain Replacement account (3200620-589022) for replacement of drain pipes throughout the city.

Passed final reading and enrolled.

Orders

Orders
 None.

Ordinances

Ordinances

<p><u>26.010 An Ordinance Relative to All-Way Stop Control for Finn Street at Prospect Street - 1st reading</u></p>	<p><u>26.010 An Ordinance Relative to All-Way Stop Control for Finn Street at Prospect Street - 1st reading</u> As an ordinance, it is required that this be referred to Legislative Matters, Councilor Maiore reminded.</p> <p>Councilor Nabad moved to refer the ordinance to Legislative Matters. Councilor Robbins seconded.</p> <p>Councilor Stratton raised the concern that the proposal contains disputed issues of material fact which would need to be substantiated by documentary evidence before Legislative Matters before the ordinance can be considered. These questions came up in Transportation and Parking (TPC) in the fall but have not been answered. This is a very technical proposal. There are rules about how stop signs are assigned and they cannot just be installed by legislative fiat. The rule is basically that either an engineer is required to state that, in his engineering judgment, a stop sign is needed or numerical criteria must be met.</p> <p>Councilor Loisel raised the point of order that this is about the content and this is a vote on referral.</p> <p>Councilor Maiore said her ruling is that Councilor Stratton is trying to address the referral.</p> <p>Councilor Loisel said she wants to hear what DPW Director Donna LaScaleia has to say. "He's giving his opinion about this ordinance," she asserted.</p> <p>Councilor Stratton said he would like to include David Veleta's letter by reference in the minutes. What was raised in TPC in Engineer Veleta's letter is that the numerical claims do not seem to be correct and basically need to be substantiated by a second reference. Or, the opinion of an engineer is needed. He doesn't think this is going to be actionable on Monday because LM will need more information.</p> <p>Councilor Klemer said some of what Councilor Stratton said is inaccurate. She referred to there being a study by Fuss & O'Neill.</p> <p>The motion to refer passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.</p> <p><u>See minutes of March 5, 2026 for final reading.</u></p>
<p><u>Zoning Ordinances (Not yet Referred)</u></p>	<p><u>Zoning Ordinances (Not yet Referred)</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Zoning Ordinances</u></p>	<p><u>Zoning Ordinances</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Resolutions</u></p>	<p><u>Resolutions</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)</u></p>	<p><u>Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)</u> None.</p>
<p><u>New Business</u></p>	<p><u>New Business</u> Councilor Stratton introduced an item of new business for discussion at the next meeting, a document entitled, "An Order to Amend the Council Rules to Create the Position of Attorney to the City Council."</p>
<p><u>Adjourn</u></p>	<p><u>Adjourn</u> Councilor Perry moved to adjourn. Councilor Davis seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:37 p.m.</p> <p>Attest: _____, Administrative Assistant</p>

EXHIBIT A

List of Documents Reviewed at February 5, 2026 Northampton City Council Meeting:

1. February 5, 2026 City Council Agenda
2. Minutes of December 18, 2025 and January 15, 2026 Regular Meetings and January 5, 2026 Organizational Meeting
3. Email from Anat Weisenfreund dated February 5, 2026 to Citycouncil forward email re: Weisenfreund Public Comment for 2/5/2026
4. Email from David Veleta dated February 2, 2026 to Council President Maiore copied to other councilors and DPW Director Donna LaScaleia re: Proposed All-way Stop Ordinance 26.010 with the following attachments:
5. Letter from David K. Veleta, PE Civil to Ms. Rachel Maiore, City Council President dated February 2, 2026 re: Proposed All-way Stop at Prospect and Finn Streets and
6. Stop Sign Safety Study, Northampton, Fuss & O'Neill, July 2025
7. 25.355 National Grid Pole Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition#: 31193070)
8. 25.355 DPW Recommendation – Memo from Kris Baker, P.E. to Donna LaScaleia, DPW Director, dated December 18, 2025, re: National Grid Pole Petition #31193070 – Park Hill Road – Pole #46-50
9. Free Cash Powerpoint Presentation
10. 25.357 National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186)
11. 25.357 DPW Recommendation – Memo from Kris Baker, P.E. to Donna LaScaleia, DPW Director, dated December 18, 2025, re: National Grid Pole Petition #31163156 – Hawley Street Pole #15 & Pole #15-50
12. 26.004 An Order to Appropriate Enterprise Retained Earnings to Various Projects
13. 26.005 An Order to Appropriate \$251,025 Free Cash to NPS Special Education Stabilization Fund
14. 26.006 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for McKinney Vento Transportation Reimbursement
15. 26.007 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement
16. 26.010 An Ordinance Relative to All-Way Stop Control for Finn Street at Prospect Street
17. 26.011 An Order to Make a \$290,317 Midyear Appropriation to NPS - 1st reading
18. Mid-Year Appropriation Request from School Committee - Memo to Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra, Cc: School Committee, Principals and Directors, dated January 23, 2026, Subject: Request for a Mid-Year Appropriation for FY2026
19. 26.012 An Order to Reprogram \$75,161 from Various IT Accounts for NPS Chromebooks - 1st reading

Record of City Council Votes for February 5, 2026		Davis	Dubs	Klemer	Loisel	Maiore	Nabad	Perry	Robbins	Stratton	Total
Roll Call by Laura Krutzler, Administrative Assistant to the City Council @ 6:30 p.m.		Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	9 Present
Open Public Hearing on 25.355 National Grid Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition#: 31193070)		Yes	Yes	Motion to open	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
Close Public Hearing on 25.355 National Grid Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition#: 31193070)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion to close	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
Open Public Hearing on 25.357 National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186)		Yes	Yes	Motion to open	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
Close Public Hearing on 25.357 National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186)		Second Yes	Yes	Motion to close	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
Approval of Consent Agenda		Yes	Yes	Motion to approve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
Minutes of December 18, 2025 and January 15, 2026 regular meetings and January 5, 2026 Organizational Meeting											
Approve 25.355 National Grid Petition for Park Hill Road (Petition#: 31193070)											
Approve 25.357 National Grid/Verizon Petition to install JO and Midspan Poles and Relocate Existing Pole #15 on Hawley Street (Petition# 31165186)											
26.005 An Order to Appropriate \$251,025 Free Cash to NPS Special Education Stabilization Fund - 2nd reading Removed from consent agenda											
26.006 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for McKinney Vento Transportation Reimbursement - 2nd reading											
26.007 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash to NPS for Foster Care Transportation Reimbursement - 2nd reading											
26.005 An Order to Appropriate \$251,025 Free Cash to NPS Special Education Stabilization Fund - 2nd reading	Proposal to postpone	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Second No	Motion to postpone	Motion failed 1:8 w/Stratton sole vote in favor; roll call
	Approve	Yes	Second Yes	Motion to approve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Motion carried 8:1; Stratton opposed; roll call
26.011 An Order to Make a \$290,317 Midyear Appropriation to NPS - 1st reading	1st reading	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion to approve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion carried 8:1; Stratton opposed; roll call
26.012 An Order to Reprogram \$75,161 from Various IT Accounts for NPS Chromebooks -	1st reading	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Motion to approve	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
26.004 An Order to Appropriate Enterprise Retained Earnings to Various Project - 2nd reading	2nd reading	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion to approve	Yes	Yes	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
26.010 An Ordinance Relative to All-Way Stop Control for Finn Street at Prospect Street -	Referred to LM	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion to refer	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call
Motion to Adjourn	to Adjourn	Yes	Yes	Second Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Motion to adjourn	Yes	Yes	Motion passed unanimously 9:0; roll call

At 10:37 p.m., Councilor Perry moved to adjourn. Councilor Klemer seconded. The motion carried 9:0 by roll call vote.



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
212 MAIN STREET
Northampton, Massachusetts
February 26, 2026

Roll Call

A special meeting of the City Council was called to order by Council President Rachel Maiore at 4 p.m. Upon a roll call, the following City Councilors were present:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| At-Large Councilor Meg Robbins | At-Large Councilor Garrick Perry |
| Ward 1 Councilor Gwen Nabad | Ward 2 Councilor Deborah Klemer |
| Ward 3 Councilor Laurie Loisel | Ward 4 Councilor Jeremy Dubs |
| Ward 5 Councilor Aline Davis | Ward 6 Councilor Christopher Stratton |
| Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore | |

Announcement that Meeting Audio/Video Recorded

Councilor Maiore announced that the meeting is being audio/video recorded.

Public Comment

Councilor Maiore explained the procedure she would use in conducting public comment and opened the floor to comments.

Ezekiel Baskin, (they/them) Belchertown, said they were born and raised in Northampton and hope to return there in the near future. Regarding the order to amend the rules to allow the city council to have its own attorney, they were really excited when they saw this because it seems like a commonsense measure to allow the council to have an attorney to hold its own as a branch of government and to be able to get a second opinion. In their work in public health and in the medical field generally, it is great to have a 2nd opinion and they see this as a way for the council to maintain that option and another perspective. It seems really valuable to them and might add something really useful to the city government landscape. They were excited to see this and just wanted to pop on today to encourage folks to try this out.

Cathy McNally, Gleason Road, echoed what Ezekiel Baskin said. It is so exciting to have this discussion about a separate attorney for the city council. This has been such a long thought process and she knows city councilors going way back have worked really hard on this and thought it was a worthwhile idea. She is very interested in what people think. She hopes everyone would vote to pursue it.

Deb Henson, Ward 1, 118 Franklin Street, spoke in support of 26.103 to create an attorney to the city council. She emailed lengthy reasons for her support for this necessary position and will now just touch on the highlights. A lawyer's primary ethical duty is to represent and advise their clients. Some cities believe one city solicitor can handle this ethical duty because the solicitor is envisioned as having only one client, the municipality. In reality, the city solicitor is guided and influenced by the Mayor's policies. If those come into conflict with the City Council's priorities, therein lies the rub – a conflict of interest. Recently, the City Council has advocated for, and may continue to advocate for, priorities and issues that are not fully supported by the Mayor. The council, therefore, needs its own independent legal advisor for these situations where a conflict is apparent. A separation of powers between the legislative and executive is necessary for appropriate representation of the residents of Northampton. If elected officials cannot adequately represent the priorities of their constituents, the council is not able to effectuate its legislative and oversight powers. She asks all councilors to vote in favor of an independent attorney specifically for the council. Her only concern is that Northampton have a truly representative, elected legislative body with oversight powers so that the priorities and values of the taxpayers and voters of the city are truly and independently represented.

There being no further comments, **Councilor Maiore brought public comment to a close.**

26.008 Appointment of Attorney Alan Seewald as City Solicitor

26.008 Appointment of Attorney Alan Seewald as City Solicitor

The appointment received a neutral recommendation from City Services, Councilor Maiore reported. She recognized Councilor Dubs to speak to the committee's recommendation.

Councilor Dubs said he and Councilor Klemer would have been comfortable with a positive recommendation but the committee settled on a neutral recommendation since the other two councilors were not fully comfortable, mainly because of the conversation they are having tonight about the rule change proposed by Councilor Stratton.

While not prepared to make a positive recommendation, the other two councilors did not want to make a negative recommendation [which might reflect negatively on Attorney Seewald's performance].

Councilor Loisel moved to approve the appointment. Councilor Perry seconded.

Attorney Seewald thanked councilors for their consideration. He has lived in Northampton for 45 years and practiced municipal law for 41. He has been counsel for Amherst and other municipalities of all sizes, from special counsel to the city of Boston to special counsel to the Whately Planning Board. He has dedicated his professional life to representing local communities and enjoyed doing it. 14 years ago when Mayor Narkiewicz asked him to serve his home community, he was thrilled to be asked and jumped at the opportunity. It took him several months to get out of cases he was involved in against the city at that time but he was happy to do so. He has cherished the opportunity to represent his adopted home community.

His philosophy is that he represents the institution. You can't do this for 41 years and take sides. His role is to give advice that is in the best interests of the city. Often, it is also in the best interests of the person asking, but his job is to give advice in the best interests of the city as a whole.

"The city is my client and I have never lost sight of that for a minute in the 14 years I've been doing this," he assured.

Councilor Loisel said she spoke to half a dozen former city councilors about their experience with Attorney Seewald. She shared some of their comments, including that he is "knowledgeable about municipal and state law," "has encyclopedic knowledge of the Northampton city charter," and "is objective and fair." He was city solicitor for Amherst for 7 years and for Westminster for 8 years, and gave a presentation on the Uniform Commercial Code. One person told her that, at a meeting of other solicitors at the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) annual meeting, other attorneys spoke about him as 'one of the best in the state.'

She sees no reason not to confirm this appointment and sees it as separate from the other issue. Whatever they do won't preclude them from doing whatever they decide with the other proposal. She respectfully requested that they keep these conversations separate.

Councilors spoke individually to the appointment, with Councilors Nabad, Klemer and Davis expressing unqualified support. Councilor Klemer cited his professionalism and consistent reliability, while Councilor Nabad referred to his successful service to two administrations and seven previous iterations of the City Council.

Councilor Robbins said there were some questions about the nature of Attorney Seewald's contract. She would want to be assured it doesn't preclude the City Council from hiring another attorney.

Attorney Seewald said he could absolutely confirm that he would sign no contract that limited the ability of the city or any other agency to hire [other] counsel.

Councilor Stratton said he thought the City Services Committee meeting was extremely informative and thanked Councilor Robbins for her questions. He previously did some research on the role of the city solicitor. "Essentially, it just says that, with the approval of the mayor, the solicitor may advise any department head," he asserted. "There is nothing in writing that assigns the city solicitor to the city council."

He is relieved to hear there is also nothing in the contract that precludes the City Council from hiring another attorney, he added.

He wants the mayor to have her choice of executive branch attorney, just as he wants the council to possibly have the option to pursue its own choice. He would like to approve Attorney Seewald as city solicitor in the way that it is formally defined.

Councilor Perry and Councilor Maiore spoke in strong support, citing their personal experiences with requesting and receiving legal advice from Attorney Seewald.

There being no further comments, **the motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.**

26.013 An Order to Amend the Council rules to Create the

26.013 An Order to Amend the Council rules to Create the Position of Attorney to the City Council

Councilor Maiore clarified that the order requires one reading and needs a two-thirds vote for approval.

She recognized Councilor Stratton, who read the order aloud.

Position of Attorney to the City Council

Citing a 2009 ad hoc committee report on Best Practices in Decision-Making that suggested 'considering providing independent legal counsel' as an example, Councilor Stratton noted that the idea that the city council have its own legal representation is not new. That interest has continued. Section 2.8 of the 2012 charter gave the city council a new power to employ staff as it deems necessary. In 2014, this was used by the council to hire its first administrative assistant, Pamela Powers. Under the new charter, the council could simply as a council rules exercise employ staff. He has used the administrative assistant model as a blueprint for how the council president could appoint their own attorney, he related.

To be clear, the administrative code defines only executive branch employees, he said.

It has been argued that the city solicitor serves the whole of government. Even if one were to accept the idea that there could be a neutral party, just as he wishes to allow the Mayor her choice of legal counsel, he considers it equally important that the selection of the best provider of legal advice for the council be their choice.

Councilor Loisel said she is not opposed to this at all. She knows it has been under discussion for many council terms, but she has questions. The order is a little vague in terms of money. She needs to know what the cost would be and whether it would mean they can't consult with Attorney Seewald. She is wondering where the money would come from.

Councilor Stratton said they learned in City Services that the city solicitor bills by the hour at an hourly rate of \$200. He has said the council is a fairly small part of his billed hours. His thinking is that they are not changing mechanisms so much as bringing in an alternative provider. He is open to different versions of this so he really would like to hear other peoples' thoughts.

Councilor Robbins agreed the City Services meeting was super informative. From figures she heard, she calculated that Attorney Seewald basically bills for about 13 hours a week and said not many of those are council hours. Her thinking is that having an independent solicitor they could draw on would give them the same structure the city has. She was surprised to learn that the amount the city pays for legal services is more than double what he earns. The city contracts with a number of people aside from him. She feels like it would be a very good idea to have access to that on the council side when they see the need.

In response to Councilor Loisel's question about funding, she expressed her understanding that they would seek an appropriation from the city. It is a conversation with the mayor and the finance director but they have the right to ask for and pursue that.

The city is already paying for the city council to receive legal advice from solicitor Seewald, so he sees it more as a change of provider rather than a new budget line, Councilor Stratton clarified.

Mayor Sciarra shared that the City Council used 89.5 hours of legal time in FY2024, 102 hours in FY2025 and 50 hours so far in the first two quarters of FY2026.

The city and NPS use the same labor attorney for collective bargaining. Individual departments do not have their own attorneys, she advised.

Discussion continued, with Councilor Davis saying she's not sure it is a good use of their time to explore this this extensively.

Councilor Maiore noted that the city council isn't really a department like other departments in that they legislate and have Open Meeting Law (OML) concerns. There are some ways they compare to other departments and other ways they don't. "We have unique legal service needs," she observed.

Councilor Robbins reiterated that it was proposed as part of a 2009 Best Practices report and was part of something former Councilors Bill Dwight and Ryan O'Donnell proposed.

As an observer, she has seen a number of times over the years they could have used more specialized counsel for certain council decisions. The funding of it is certainly a question. It sounds like they need more information, so she wondered if they could consider revisiting this in the future.

Councilor Dubs said he thinks it is a concept worth exploring but he does not necessarily feel comfortable voting on the order with the language 'as is.'

Councilor Perry raised the question of whether Attorney Seewald would bring in another lawyer to handle things if he felt he could not handle a situation and councilors needed exclusive representation. In other words, why would they hire someone to deal with a potential problem? He wondered.

Are there examples of ways in which they feel the current situation has failed them? He further asked.

Mayor Sciarra said she served with former Councilors Dwight and O'Donnell and she doesn't believe they ever suggested the council have its own attorney She wanted to correct that for the record.

Councilor Maiore shared that, particularly when writing legislation, when there is a gray area and there's a lot at stake, she has found a 2nd opinion helpful. Those she has sought have generally been free.

In the model she's most familiar with, it might only be needed once a year or once a term. She knows budgets are tight, but in this landscape it is critical to spend the money on this kind of legislative know-how. Poorly written or not legal legislation is full of potholes, too. She proposed a small amount for legal services in the council budget this year as a conversation point, she shared.

It is an interesting subject. It has nothing to do with the solid, tried and true advice they get from solicitor Seewald but rather with the gray area and impact of legal opinions on their work, she concluded.

Councilor Loisel said she thinks it is a proposal worth looking at. However, she doesn't have the view of Councilor Stratton that there is a 'city side' and a 'council side' but sees them more as being on the same team. Councilor Dwight said he did not think it was a good idea, for what it's worth.

The administrative assistant raised the point of information that she is unsure if it is possible for the city council to appoint a separate city solicitor based on how this position is defined in the Administrative Code. She screen-shared the definition.

Councilor Stratton pointed out that the administrative code refers only to Mayoral employees.

Members continued to discuss, with Councilor Klemer saying she would be interested in exploring the ability to get a second opinion. As far as having their own lawyer, she doesn't see that as being necessary, she said.

Councilor Robbins said she wanted to be clear that, from where she is coming from, she does see the City Council as being part of the city, but they are a separate entity in terms of being a check and balance. "It's not oppositional, it's not divisive, it's simply how we operate" and are mandated to work, she observed. Being a check and balance. it's okay to look for a different opinion. She referred to the opt-in decision as one where the legal opinion had an impact on the council's thinking.

Councilor Stratton thanked everyone for the input. He came to this from a separation of powers perspective but thinks from what he's hearing, it is not actually that, but is being able to have the right advice on a topic.

There has long been an idea that they could get a second opinion, but no one has actually gotten one paid by the city in recent memory, he noted. People have to go out into the community and try to get free advice and often those advisors don't have a municipal law background.

He would be really interested in refocusing on trying to exercise the mechanism of seeking a second opinion. He suggested the possibility of bringing in more providers on an approved list. He doesn't think they're really talking about spending drastically more money but rather spending it on a more targeted person. But, it is clear that his colleagues do not want to move forward with the draft proposal, so he doesn't think it makes sense to vote on it. He would like to continue this discussion and look more at how they could begin making use of other legal voices really targeted to a specific problem.

Councilor Stratton said he came in prepared to indefinitely postpone.

Councilors suggested other possible options, such as forming a select committee to study the issue (Councilor Nabad) and/or earmarking money in the council budget for getting a second opinion with the council president's authorization (Councilor Loisel).

Councilor Perry said he is always supportive of support. He is questioning what it is they want and what problem they are trying to solve. He has not been presented with an example of where this system has failed them. If other folks have tangible evidence they are being failed by the current system, "let's get down to that," he urged.

Councilor Klemer said she and Councilor Maiore are proposing opening the pathway Councilor Loisel suggested, a small stipend for councilors to use for second opinions.

Councilor Stratton said it would be interesting to him in the short term to see if someone who actually needs additional legal advice attempts to exercise this pathway. "Let's exercise it," he encouraged.

Councilor Stratton moved to indefinitely postpone the order. Councilor Perry seconded. The motion to postpone indefinitely passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

26.014 An Order to Approve the Expenditure of Youth Commission Gift Funds for Travel to Statehouse

26.014 An Order to Approve the Expenditure of Youth Commission Gift Funds for Travel to Statehouse

Councilor Nabad moved to suspend the rules to waive two readings. Councilor Klemer seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Councilor Robbins moved to approve the order. Councilor Perry seconded.

Councilor Perry, Councilor Klemer and Councilor Stratton spoke in favor.

The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following order passed final reading:

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

February 26, 2026

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

26.014 An Order to Approve the Expenditure of Youth Commission Gift Funds for Travel to Statehouse

Ordered that

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53A that the Northampton City Council approve the expenditure of gifted funds from the Youth Commission fund (2514) in an amount not to exceed \$400 to support their travel to Boston to advocate to the state legislature for more school funding.

Rules suspended, passed final reading and enrolled.

Adjourn

Adjourn

Councilor Perry moved to adjourn. Councilor Loisel seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Attest: _____, Administrative Assistant



MAYOR GINA-LOUISE SCIARRA

City of Northampton

Office of the Mayor

210 Main Street Room 12

Northampton, MA 01060-3199

(413) 587-1249 Fax: (413) 587-1275

mayor@northamptonma.gov

DATE: March 5, 2026

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra

SUBJECT: Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please find the attached appointments/reappointments to City Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Board of Health

Luke Messac, 294 Cardinal Way

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

To fill a vacancy

Community Preservation Committee

Leticia Ward, 12 High Meadow Rd

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

Filling the position of Debin Bruce

Housing Partnership

Yakov Kronrod, 188 Rocky Hill Rd

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

To fill a vacancy



Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 4:23 PM

Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

City of Northampton Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please return the completed form to: mayor@northamptonma.gov or Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Boards and Committees	Health, Board of
First Name	Luke
Last Name	Messac
Title/ Preferred Pronouns	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	294 Cardinal Way
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	5182756404
Work Phone	5182756404
Cell Phone	5182756404
Occupation & Place of Employment	Emergency physician and historian, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School
Email	Lukemessac@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes

Years Lived in Northampton	1 month (I just moved here with my wife and two kids, though have been visiting for seven years as my wife's parents and sister live here)
Age	30 - 39
Sex	Male
Racial / Ethnic Background	Black and white
Please list any other boards or committees of interest	Interested in Housing partnership as well, but I have two small children and may only have time to serve on one committee currently
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	<p>I am a board certified emergency physician, so I see the immediate and long-term effects of local and state health policies each day. During medical school I organized medical students and faculty to advocate for Medicaid expansion in Pennsylvania. During the early days of COVID I lobbied the Governor of Rhode Island for access to better personal protective equipment in health facilities. I have also researched and testified before The US Senate about medical debt and debt collection practices. I am passionate about bringing evidence and experience to the pursuit of public health. I want to make sure my two young children grow up in a city where everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential.</p> <p>I do not currently work clinically at a local hospital, but I am currently undergoing the credentialing process at Cooley Dickinson and hope to be working in the emergency department there in the near future.</p>
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	No
Please list other city committees you have served on	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<p>Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.</p> <p><i>The filing of this form does not guarantee my appointment. An application is kept on file for two (2) years; after that I must file a new application. Being appointed to a committee, board, or commission means that I am considered a Municipal Employee under MGL Chapter 268A and thereby subject to Conflict of Interest Law MGL Chapter 268A, Financial Disclosure Law MGL Chapter 268B, as well as Open Meeting Law MGL Chapter 39: Section 23B. I understand that I will take the conflict of interest test after being appointed and that I also must be sworn in by the City Clerk. I will contact the appointing authority with any questions about my service. Important: Once this form is submitted it becomes a public document, if there is information you do not want open to the public please do not include it on this form.</i></p>	

Signature	Luke Messac
Date	8/25/2025

Post Application Submission Process

Thank you for taking the time to submit an application to serve on one of the many volunteer city boards, committees, and commissions.

The Mayor's office staff reviews the application and determines if a vacancy exists on the desired board, committee, or commission. If no vacancy exists, your application is put on file for two years for consideration at a later date. If a vacancy exists, the application is sent to the board, committee, or commission staff person for a review of experience and qualifications. In some cases, you may be contacted and asked to attend a meeting of the board, committee, or commission to better confirm your interest.

After the Mayor's staff reviews your application, Mayor Sciarra will consider your application and schedule a brief telephone interview. At this time, she will decide whether or not to put your application forward to the City Council.

If the Mayor submits your name as an appointee to the City Council, the City Council will refer the appointment to its Committee on City Services where you will be further vetted. If you are approved by City Services, your appointment will be referred back to the City Council for a confirmation vote. After City Council confirmation, you will receive an appointment letter from the City Clerk's office with instructions on being sworn in for public service. After being sworn in by the City Clerk, you are ready to serve on your board, committee, or commission.

The appointment process, from application submission to official acceptance, can take 2-3 months, and the submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance. The Mayor appoints members to boards, committees, and commissions at her discretion.

If you have any questions about this process or your application status, please contact Mayoral Assistant, Sydney Fahey, at sfahey@northamptonma.gov or 413-587-1080.



Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
Reply-To: noreply@civicplus.com
To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Fri, Jan 2, 2026 at 2:42 PM

Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

City of Northampton Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please return the completed form to: mayor@northamptonma.gov or Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Boards and Committees	Community Preservation Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Board
First Name	Leticia
Last Name	Ward
Title/ Preferred Pronouns	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	12 High Meadow Rd
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	508-221-1851
Occupation & Place of Employment	retired
Email	leticiaward@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes

Years Lived in Northampton	1
Age	40 - 49
Sex	Female
Racial / Ethnic Background	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Please list any other boards or committees of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	<p>Construction Project Manager & Director of Facilities for a Health & Human Services company in Cambridge for 10 years, where 30% of my time was dedicated to planning and design, with a particular focus to ADA and universal design standards (including retrofitting existing spaces).</p> <p>Capital Project Manager for the Charleston County Parks and Recreation Commission (SC) for 5 years - heavily involved in the setting the 10 year planning and implementation to retrofit Park spaces to ADA (and beyond) standards. One of 2 capital project managers to review disaster relief proposals and award the multi-year contracts. Capital Project Manager on a wide variety of park accommodations, building and repair projects. Worked with diverse range of communities and gathering public opinion within the Charleston county for park project.</p>
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	No
Please list other city committees you have served on	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<p>Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.</p> <p><i>The filing of this form does not guarantee my appointment. An application is kept on file for two (2) years; after that I must file a new application. Being appointed to a committee, board, or commission means that I am considered a Municipal Employee under MGL Chapter 268A and thereby subject to Conflict of Interest Law MGL Chapter 268A, Financial Disclosure Law MGL Chapter 268B, as well as Open Meeting Law MGL Chapter 39: Section 23B. I understand that I will take the conflict of interest test after being appointed and that I also must be sworn in by the City Clerk. I will contact the appointing authority with any questions about my service. Important: Once this form is submitted it becomes a public document, if there is information you do not want open to the public please do not include it on this form.</i></p>	
Signature	Leticia Ward
Date	1/2/2026

Post Application Submission Process

Thank you for taking the time to submit an application to serve on one of the many volunteer city boards, committees, and commissions.

The Mayor's office staff reviews the application and determines if a vacancy exists on the desired board, committee, or commission. If no vacancy exists, your application is put on file for two years for consideration at a later date. If a vacancy exists, the application is sent to the board, committee, or commission staff person for a review of experience and qualifications. In some cases, you may be contacted and asked to attend a meeting of the board, committee, or commission to better confirm your interest.

After the Mayor's staff reviews your application, Mayor Sciarra will consider your application and schedule a brief telephone interview. At this time, she will decide whether or not to put your application forward to the City Council.

If the Mayor submits your name as an appointee to the City Council, the City Council will refer the appointment to its Committee on City Services where you will be further vetted. If you are approved by City Services, your appointment will be referred back to the City Council for a confirmation vote. After City Council confirmation, you will receive an appointment letter from the City Clerk's office with instructions on being sworn in for public service. After being sworn in by the City Clerk, you are ready to serve on your board, committee, or commission.

The appointment process, from application submission to official acceptance, can take 2-3 months, and the submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance. The Mayor appoints members to boards, committees, and commissions at her discretion.

If you have any questions about this process or your application status, please contact Mayoral Assistant, Sydney Fahey, at sfahey@northamptonma.gov or 413-587-1080.



Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Tue, Nov 4, 2025 at 10:43 AM

Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

City of Northampton Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please return the completed form to: mayor@northamptonma.gov or Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Boards and Committees	Community Preservation Committee, Housing Partnership, Human Rights Commission, Planning Board
First Name	Yakov
Last Name	Kronrod
Title/ Preferred Pronouns	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	188 Rocky Hill Rd.
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Florence
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	508-410-0846
Occupation & Place of Employment	Senior ML Engineering Manager, Spotify, Inc.
Email	yakovkronrod@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	7

Age	40 - 49
Sex	Male
Racial / Ethnic Background	Russian Jewish
Please list any other boards or committees of interest	anything in the realm of housing and education is of interest, as are groups dedicated to the overall and long-term vision for the city
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	<p>I have a range of experiences that may be relevant to different committees, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -degree in mathematics and experience in actuarial sciences -experience with emotional intelligence -non-profit work advocating for community power building -local, regional, and national advocacy around drug policy, housing, prison reform, and education -long-term experience as both an organizer with tenants as well as a landlord -human rights work locally, nationally, and internationally -small business owner in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and real estate investor in Pennsylvania -deep expertise in the area of Artificial Intelligence, both from an understanding of the theory and applications as well as general applicability for productivity and data processing
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	No
Please list other city committees you have served on	N/A
<p>Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.</p> <p><i>The filing of this form does not guarantee my appointment. An application is kept on file for two (2) years; after that I must file a new application. Being appointed to a committee, board, or commission means that I am considered a Municipal Employee under MGL Chapter 268A and thereby subject to Conflict of Interest Law MGL Chapter 268A, Financial Disclosure Law MGL Chapter 268B, as well as Open Meeting Law MGL Chapter 39: Section 23B. I understand that I will take the conflict of interest test after being appointed and that I also must be sworn in by the City Clerk. I will contact the appointing authority with any questions about my service. Important: Once this form is submitted it becomes a public document, if there is information you do not want open to the public please do not include it on this form.</i></p>	
Signature	Yakov Kronrod
Date	11/4/2025

Post Application Submission Process

Thank you for taking the time to submit an application to serve on one of the many volunteer city boards, committees, and commissions.

The Mayor's office staff reviews the application and determines if a vacancy exists on the desired board, committee, or commission. If no vacancy exists, your application is put on file for two years for consideration at a later date. If a vacancy exists, the application is sent to the board, committee, or commission staff person for a review of experience and qualifications. In some cases, you may be contacted and asked to attend a meeting of the board, committee, or commission to better confirm your interest.

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City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

March 5, 2026

Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra

26.016 AN ORDER

TO ESTABLISH WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR FY2027

Ordered, that:

Effective July 1, 2026, the per 100 cubic foot (CCF) rates for water and sewer and the quarterly base rate charges for Fiscal Year 2027 will remain unchanged from Fiscal Year 2026. Rates and charges will remain as follows:

WATER

Water Rates		
Meter Size	Consumption	FY2027
Meters \leq 1 "	Tier 1 (0-16 CCF)	\$4.51 per CCF
	Tier 2 (> 16 CCF)	\$6.09 per CCF
Meters > 1 "	All consumption	\$5.99 per CCF

Quarterly Base Rate Charge FY27	
Water	
Meter Size	FY27
5/8 Inch	\$47.45
3/4 Inch	\$71.25
1 Inch	\$118.65
1.25 Inch	\$177.95
1.5 Inch	\$237.25
2 Inch	\$379.55
2.5Inch	\$545.60
3 Inch	\$711.65
4 Inch	\$1,186.05
6 Inch	\$2,372.05
8 Inch	\$3,795.25

SEWER

Sewer Rates	
Meter Status	FY2027
Non-Metered	\$7.86 per CCF based on 80% of metered water consumption
Metered	\$7.86 per CCF

Quarterly Base Rate Charge FY27	
Sewer	
Meter Size	FY27
5/8 Inch	\$28.85
3/4 Inch	\$36.06
1 Inch	\$50.49
1.25 Inch	\$86.55
1.5 Inch	\$86.55
2 Inch	\$129.83
2.5 Inch	\$230.80
3 Inch	\$230.80
4 Inch	\$375.05
6 Inch	\$735.68
8 Inch	\$1,168.43

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

March 5, 2026

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

26.017 An Order to Accept Gift of Scoreboards from Ray Ellerbrook Family Memorial Field Fund

Whereas, Ray Ellerbrook was the city Parks & Recreation Director for 27 years; and

Whereas, over the past 13 years his family through the Ray Ellerbrook Family Memorial Field Fund has donated needed recreational equipment such as a play structure and scoreboard at Arcanum Field, picnic tables, and field storage sheds in support and recognition of the value of the Northampton Parks & Recreation Department; and

Whereas, the family would like to purchase two (2) electronic scoreboards at an estimated cost of \$15,000; and

Whereas, using CPA funds the scoreboards will be installed at the two baseball fields at Florence Recreation Fields for use by Northampton youth and high school teams.

Ordered, that

The Northampton City Council gratefully accept the donation of two (2) scoreboards from the Ray Ellerbrook Family Memorial Fund as a gift to the City of Northampton, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53A 1/2.

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

March 5, 2026

Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra

26.018 An Order to Reprogram Funds to Repaint JFK Gym

WHEREAS, the Supervisor of NPS School Maintenance would like to reprogram leftover funds for a small project to repaint a portion of the JFK middle school gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, there are leftover funds from the JFK Façade Repairs project and the JFK tennis court project that can be used to support this project which is less than \$10,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED,

That the City Council reprogram and authorize the transfer of the funds from the completed NPS projects to support the small repainting project at the JFK middle school gymnasium.

Project	Transfer out	Transfer in
CS - JFK Façade Repairs Project	\$ 2,763.35	
NPS - JFK Tennis Court Rebuild	\$ 1,536.65	
JFK Gym Repainting		\$4,300.00

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, March 5, 2026

Upon the recommendation of Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra

26.019 An Order to Appropriate \$90,000 Free Cash to Economic Development Projects and Initiatives

Whereas, the city identified during COVID-19 economic recovery planning that activating economic development projects is key to reviving and sustaining local economic activity, particularly for hotel/motel and meals tax revenues; and

Whereas, as the city continues working to help businesses recover from the pandemic, navigate ongoing economic uncertainty, and prepare for the upcoming improvements to downtown infrastructure, safety, and equity to support general economic development efforts; and

Whereas, Northampton's parking fees and fines, cannabis, hotel/motel, and meals taxes made up 4.75% of the city's general fund revenue in FY2024 and totaled \$5,814,180 in FY2025, with \$3,048,932 received in the first two quarters of FY2026 alone; and

Whereas, even with a modest investment in economic development, this proposed appropriation represents just 0.06% of the FY2026 General Fund budget, which can yield a significant return. If economic development efforts drive just 10% of local receipts, this investment delivers a return on investment (ROI) of more than 546%. These revenues fund Northampton's schools, public safety, public works, and other essential services; and

Whereas, Northampton continues to face economic headwinds. Federal relief funds are winding down, and reduced support for health and human services, education, community and social safety nets, and environmental and regional programs are just some examples of a broad withdrawal of federal investment. At the state level, Governor Healey's proposed budget reduces funding for key social service programs that cities like Northampton rely on to meet local needs. Combined with volatile business conditions and cumulative inflation in the Boston area now exceeding 22.46% since 2020 (per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics), these pressures make it all the more critical for Northampton to strengthen its locally generated revenue base through strategic economic development; and

Whereas, the city will continue to partner with the Arts & Culture Department and groups like the Downtown Northampton Association, the Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce, Signature Sounds, and the Iron Horse on events such as Summer on Strong, The Taste of Northampton, Market Street Market, and the Back Porch

Festival, and continue initiatives like Bands on Brewster, Salsa in the Plaza, Parties in the Park, the Florence Concert Series, outdoor dining, and more; and

Whereas, the city will apply to the FY27 round of the Community One Stop for Growth for up to \$50,000 in refundable state tax credits through the updated Vacant Storefront Program; and

Whereas, this economic development appropriation will help position the city competitively by continuing to provide municipal matching funds and resources to manage the outreach, application, and recruitment process for the MSVP program and to support the many worthwhile downtown economic activities that have proven successful over the past five years.

Now, Therefore be it Ordered, that

The sum of \$90,000 be appropriated from the FY2026 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) for economic development projects and initiatives, including but not limited to activities that support the city's participation in the FY27 Vacant Storefront Program, ongoing economic development efforts, and related revitalization efforts.

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra

26.003 An Order to Appropriate \$2.1 Million Free Cash to Various Reserve Accounts

Ordered, that

\$2,112,722 be appropriated from the FY26 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) to the following accounts:

\$528,180.50	Capital Stabilization Fund
\$528,180.50	Climate Mitigation Stabilization Fund
\$528,180.50	Fiscal Stability Stabilization Fund
\$528,180.50	Stabilization Fund

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five

Upon the Recommendation of the Transportation and Parking Commission

**26.010
AN ORDINANCE**

**RELATIVE TO ALL-WAY STOP CONTROL FOR
FINN STREET AT PROSPECT STREET**

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts. Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1

That the § 312-113 of the Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

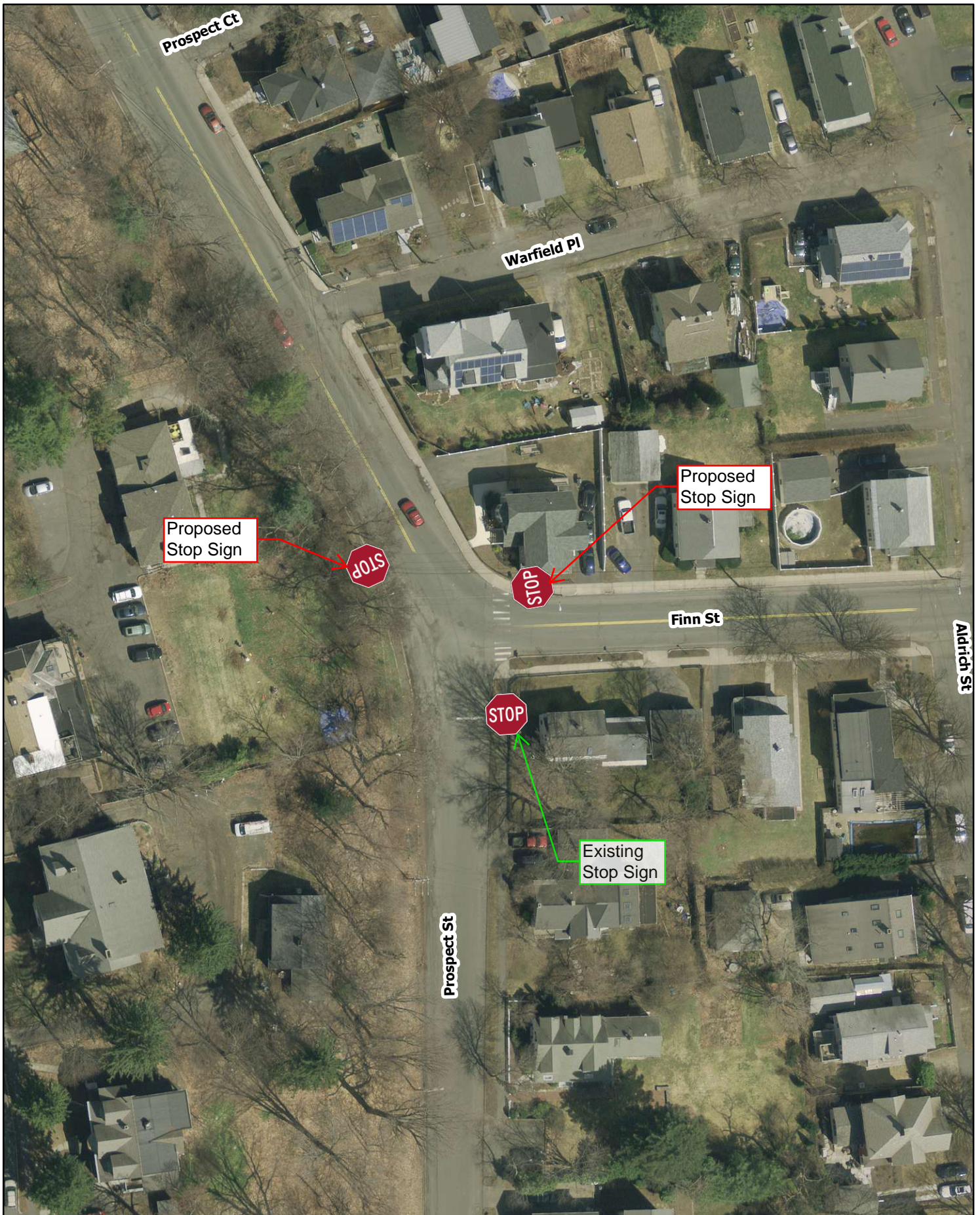
§ 312-113 Schedule XII: Stop and Yield Intersections.

- A. Isolated stop signs. Stop intersections are established at the following locations:
[10-15-1981; 10-15-1987; 5-18-1989; 5-6-1993; 11-5-1998; 1-7-1999; 3-6-2003;
12-2-2004]

Location	Direction of Travel	At the Intersection of
Prospect Street	North	Finn Street

- D. Multiway stop signs. Multiway stop intersections are established at the following locations:

Location	Direction of Travel	Intersection
<u>Finn Street</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>Prospect Street</u>
<u>Prospect Street</u>	<u>North/South</u>	<u>Finn Street</u>



MEMORANDUM

TO: Donna LaScaleia
Director of Public Works, Northampton

FROM: Nicholas Lapointe, PE
Katherine O'Shea, PE

DATE: December 2, 2025

RE: Stop Sign Safety Study (July 2025) Follow Up

This memorandum has been prepared as supplemental documentation to the Stop Sign Safety Study (July 2025) in order to provide additional justification for the implementation of additional stop signs at the intersection of Finn Street and Prospect Street.

Sight Distance Measurements

Under existing conditions, the sight distance for westbound vehicles looking right (north) to make a left turn is deficient. Additionally, sight distance looking right (east) from the existing stop bar on the northbound approach of Prospect Street is also deficient. These deficiencies are outlined in Table 1 below and depicted in Image 1 and Image 2.

Table 1 – Measured Sight Distance (Finn Street at Prospect Street)

<u>Westbound Approach</u>	Minimum SSD	Desirable ISD	Measured Sight Distance
Looking Right (North)	250 ft	390 ft	142 ft
Looking Left (South)	250 ft	335 ft	177 ft
<u>Northbound Approach (existing stop control)</u>			
Looking Right (East)	250 ft	390 ft	234 ft
Looking Straight (North)	250 ft	335 ft	642 ft

Ms. Donna LaScaleia
December 2, 2025
Page 2 of 3



Image 1 - Sight Distance on Finn Street Looking Right



Image 2 - Sight Distance on Prospect Street (Northbound Approach) Looking East

The measured sight distances support the implementation of a stop sign on the southbound approach in order to safely facilitate the westbound left turn, and on the northbound approach to facilitate the northbound through movement. Additionally, the implementation of all stop control improves the experience for pedestrians crossing Finn Street.

Ms. Donna LaScaleia
December 2, 2025
Page 3 of 3

Pedestrian Safety Deficiencies

Under existing conditions, it is challenging for pedestrians to identify a safe gap in vehicle traffic to cross, because it is difficult for pedestrians to determine if southbound vehicles are continuing straight or turning left onto Finn Street. This challenge was experienced by Fuss & O'Neill staff during the field visit.

Additionally, vehicles were observed utilizing the entire curb radius to make the westbound right turn without slowing down, which makes it difficult for pedestrians to identify a gap to cross. Further, the sidewalk in the vicinity of the intersection is minimum width, and no lateral separation is provided between the sidewalk and the roadway. This creates a particularly uncomfortable condition for pedestrians on the northeastern corner of the intersection that are waiting to cross when vehicles traverse the corner at high speeds.

Alternate Solutions

During field observations, northbound motorists were observed pulling past the painted stop bar to achieve a clear sight line looking east. Shifting the stop bar approximately ten feet north would resolve the sight distance deficiency looking east. Additionally, pedestrian safety and comfort concerns could be alleviated in the long term with traffic calming measures, such as speed humps, speed tables, curb extensions, or a raised intersection. Implementation of these changes may eliminate the need for a stop sign on the eastbound approach.

Conclusion

Based on the existing intersection configuration, implementation of all way stop control is appropriate to mitigate sight distance and pedestrian safety deficiencies.

Capacity analysis indicates that the implementation of stop control will have no substantial impact on intersection operations, and 95th percentile queues are comfortably contained within available storage. Capacity analysis worksheets have been included as an attachment to this memorandum.

Therefore, Fuss & O'Neill recommends the implementation of stop signs on the southbound and eastbound approaches.

Attachments: Capacity Analysis Worksheets

Lanes, Volumes, Timings
 1: Prospect St/Propsect St & Finn St

2025 AM Peak
 AWSC






Lane Group	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Traffic Volume (vph)	16	279	28	8	353	43
Future Volume (vph)	16	279	28	8	353	43
Ideal Flow (vphpl)	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
Lane Util. Factor	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Frt	0.872		0.969			
Flt Protected	0.997					0.957
Satd. Flow (prot)	1636	0	1786	0	0	1798
Flt Permitted	0.997					0.957
Satd. Flow (perm)	1636	0	1786	0	0	1798
Link Speed (mph)	30		30			30
Link Distance (ft)	498		177			199
Travel Time (s)	11.3		4.0			4.5
Peak Hour Factor	0.89	0.89	0.69	0.69	0.90	0.90
Heavy Vehicles (%)	0%	1%	4%	0%	1%	2%
Adj. Flow (vph)	18	313	41	12	392	48
Shared Lane Traffic (%)						
Lane Group Flow (vph)	331	0	53	0	0	440
Sign Control	Stop		Stop			Stop

Intersection Summary

Area Type:	Other
Control Type:	Unsignalized
Intersection Capacity Utilization	53.3%
ICU Level of Service	A
Analysis Period (min)	15

Intersection	
Intersection Delay, s/veh	13.2
Intersection LOS	B

Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Traffic Vol, veh/h	16	279	28	8	353	43
Future Vol, veh/h	16	279	28	8	353	43
Peak Hour Factor	0.89	0.89	0.69	0.69	0.90	0.90
Heavy Vehicles, %	0	1	4	0	1	2
Mvmt Flow	18	313	41	12	392	48
Number of Lanes	1	0	1	0	0	1

Approach	WB	NB	SB
Opposing Approach		SB	NB
Opposing Lanes	0	1	1
Conflicting Approach Left	NB		WB
Conflicting Lanes Left	1	0	1
Conflicting Approach Right	SB	WB	
Conflicting Lanes Right	1	1	0
HCM Control Delay	11	8.7	15.3
HCM LOS	B	A	C

Lane	NBLn1	WBLn1	SBLn1
Vol Left, %	0%	5%	89%
Vol Thru, %	78%	0%	11%
Vol Right, %	22%	95%	0%
Sign Control	Stop	Stop	Stop
Traffic Vol by Lane	36	295	396
LT Vol	0	16	353
Through Vol	28	0	43
RT Vol	8	279	0
Lane Flow Rate	52	331	440
Geometry Grp	1	1	1
Degree of Util (X)	0.076	0.421	0.602
Departure Headway (Hd)	5.273	4.572	4.925
Convergence, Y/N	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cap	683	782	726
Service Time	3.273	2.63	3.004
HCM Lane V/C Ratio	0.076	0.423	0.606
HCM Control Delay	8.7	11	15.3
HCM Lane LOS	A	B	C
HCM 95th-tile Q	0.2	2.1	4.1

Lanes, Volumes, Timings
 1: Prospect St/Propsect St & Finn St

2025 PM Peak
 AWSC






Lane Group	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Traffic Volume (vph)	15	385	36	13	337	45
Future Volume (vph)	15	385	36	13	337	45
Ideal Flow (vphpl)	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
Lane Util. Factor	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Frt	0.870		0.964			
Flt Protected	0.998					0.958
Satd. Flow (prot)	1650	0	1695	0	0	1800
Flt Permitted	0.998					0.958
Satd. Flow (perm)	1650	0	1695	0	0	1800
Link Speed (mph)	30		30			30
Link Distance (ft)	498		177			199
Travel Time (s)	11.3		4.0			4.5
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.77	0.77	0.88	0.88
Heavy Vehicles (%)	0%	0%	11%	0%	1%	2%
Adj. Flow (vph)	17	438	47	17	383	51
Shared Lane Traffic (%)						
Lane Group Flow (vph)	455	0	64	0	0	434
Sign Control	Stop		Stop			Stop

Intersection Summary

Area Type:	Other
Control Type:	Unsignalized
Intersection Capacity Utilization	59.0%
ICU Level of Service	B
Analysis Period (min)	15

Intersection	
Intersection Delay, s/veh	15.6
Intersection LOS	C

Movement	WBL	WBR	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT
Lane Configurations						
Traffic Vol, veh/h	15	385	36	13	337	45
Future Vol, veh/h	15	385	36	13	337	45
Peak Hour Factor	0.88	0.88	0.77	0.77	0.88	0.88
Heavy Vehicles, %	0	0	11	0	1	2
Mvmt Flow	17	438	47	17	383	51
Number of Lanes	1	0	1	0	0	1

Approach	WB	NB	SB
Opposing Approach		SB	NB
Opposing Lanes	0	1	1
Conflicting Approach Left	NB		WB
Conflicting Lanes Left	1	0	1
Conflicting Approach Right	SB	WB	
Conflicting Lanes Right	1	1	0
HCM Control Delay	14.5	9.5	17.7
HCM LOS	B	A	C

Lane	NBLn1	WBLn1	SBLn1
Vol Left, %	0%	4%	88%
Vol Thru, %	73%	0%	12%
Vol Right, %	27%	96%	0%
Sign Control	Stop	Stop	Stop
Traffic Vol by Lane	49	400	382
LT Vol	0	15	337
Through Vol	36	0	45
RT Vol	13	385	0
Lane Flow Rate	64	455	434
Geometry Grp	1	1	1
Degree of Util (X)	0.102	0.598	0.646
Departure Headway (Hd)	5.763	4.739	5.355
Convergence, Y/N	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cap	620	768	673
Service Time	3.81	2.739	3.386
HCM Lane V/C Ratio	0.103	0.592	0.645
HCM Control Delay	9.5	14.5	17.7
HCM Lane LOS	A	B	C
HCM 95th-tile Q	0.3	4	4.7