



CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS

Councilors:

- President Gina-Louise Sciarra, At-Large
- William H. Dwight, At-Large
- Michael J. Quinlan, Jr., Ward 1
- Karen Foster, Ward 2
- Vice-President James Nash, Ward 3
- John Thorpe, Ward 4
- Alex Jarrett, Ward 5
- Marianne L. LaBarge, Ward 6
- Rachel Maiore, Ward 7

Meeting Agenda
On-line Video Conference
Meeting Date: July 15, 2021
Meeting Time: 7 p.m.

The July 15, 2021 City Council meeting will be held by remote participation. The public can follow the council's deliberations by watching the meeting live on Comcast channel 15, live-streaming it on YouTube or joining the virtual meeting by phone or computer. For the active YouTube link, please see Northampton Open Media's website: <http://northamptonopenmedia.org/>

Live public comment will be available using telephone call-in or video conferencing technology beginning at 7p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CALLING IN OR JOINING THE MEETING

Join the meeting: <https://bit.ly/36peKB5>

For telephone call-in, call:

+929 436-2866 US

MEETING ID:

PARTICIPANT #: #

PASSCODE:

1. Announcement that meeting is being held by remote participation and Audio/Video Recorded

This meeting is being held by remote participation and audio/video recorded.

2. Public Comment

3. Roll Call

4. Public Hearings

A. 7:05 pm Public Hearing on 21.287 National Grid/Verizon New England petition to relocate one (1) jointly-owned (JO) pole on Leonard Street (Petition#28691142)

Per M.G.L. Ch. 166, Section 22, the Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 7:05 p.m.** on National Grid/Verizon New England's petition to relocate one (1) jointly-owned (JO) pole on Leonard Street to the opposite side of the road to make way for road re-configuration. (Petition #28691142). The City Council will hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

Documents:

[21.287 DPW Recommendation.pdf](#)

[21.287 National Grid-Verizon Pole Petition for Leonard Street.pdf](#)

5. Updates from Council President and Committee Chairs

6. Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors

7. Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor

8. Resolutions

9. Presentations

10. Interim Procedure for Conducting City Council Meetings

Process note: Council discussion on format of City Council meetings for remainder of 2020-2021 Council session. Consideration of options:

- Remain remote

- Return in-person (would retain option of remote participation by individual councilors upon request per existing rules)
- Hybrid model

11. **Deliberate and vote on Individual Ordinance Review Committee Recommendations**

Process note: This discussion is expected to take more than one meeting. Not all items listed may be reached for final action.

- Recommendation to amend code of ordinances to incorporate 'housekeeping changes' (Exhibit B)
- Recommendation to pursue special legislation to allow Northampton to adopt an ordinance to prohibit charging tenants a rental fee and instead require any such fee to be paid by the landlord (Exhibit C, Item #2)
- Recommendation that charter review be conducted more frequently than every 10 years (Exhibit C, Item #1)
- Recommendation that city adopt a Housing Stability Notification Ordinance (Exhibit A, Item #1)
- Recommendation to adopt ordinance to allow first-floor residential use in Downtown and Florence Center (Exhibit A, Item #4)
- Recommendation on remaining items recommended for further study, (Exhibit C, Items #3 - #7)

Documents:

[FINAL Final Report.pdf](#)
[Exhibit A FINAL.pdf](#)
[Exhibit B - FINAL.pdf](#)
[Exhibit C FINAL.pdf](#)

12. **Consent Agenda**

- A. May 25, 2021 Special City Council Minutes (FY2022 Budget Hearing), May 26, 2021 Special City Council Minutes (Continuation of FY2022 Budget Hearing), May 27, 2021 Special City Council Minutes, June 3, 2021 City Council Minutes, June 7, 2021 Special City Council Minutes**

Documents:

[05-25-2021_Special City Council Minutes.pdf](#)
[05-26-2021_Special City Council Minutes.pdf](#)
[05-27-2021_Special City Council Minutes.pdf](#)
[06-03-2021_City Council Minutes.pdf](#)
[06-07-2021_City Council Minutes.pdf](#)

- B. 21.291 Appointments to Various Committees, all positive recommendations, City Services Committee - 7/6/2021**

Energy & Sustainability

Ashley Muspratt, 15 Franklin Street, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Board of Health

Cynthia Suopis, 19 Ford Crossing, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Laurent Levy, 4 School Street, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Transportation & Parking Commission

Diana Day, 44 Berkshire Terrace, Apt. 2, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy

Documents:

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

C. 21.295 Appointments to Various Committees, all positive recommendations, City Services Committee - 7/6/2021
Agricultural Commission

Stan Zawalick, 538 Sylvester Road, Florence, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Disability Commission

Jeremy Macomber-Dubs, 20 Hampton Avenue, Apt. 301, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Linda Kakos, 220 Rocky Hill Road, Florence, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Northampton Housing Authority-Board of Commissioners

Maureen Carney, 13 Church Street, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021- June 2026

To fill a vacancy

Council on Aging

Gerriann Butler, 46 Autumn Drive, Florence, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Anne Romano, 351 Pleasant Street, Unit 6, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021- June 2023

To fill a vacancy

Planning Board

Corinne Coryat, 26 Bedford Terrace, Apt. 2, Northampton

Associate Member

Term: July 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy

Documents:

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

D. 21.299 Applications for Second Hand Dealer Licenses - Le BonNton, LLC, Birdhouse Music, The Vintage Cellar

Renewal applications for the following:

Le BonNton, LLC, 150 Main Street, Suite 292

Applicant: Cigdem Turkomer

Sun Music, LLC, d/b/a Birdhouse Music, 164 Main Street

Applicant: Glen Alper

The Vintage Cellar, 11 Bridge Street

Applicant: Daniel Egan

Documents:

[21.299 Applications for Second Hand Dealer Licenses - Le BonNton, LLC, Birdhouse Music, The Vintage Cellar.pdf](#)

E. 21.304 Appointments to Various Committees - for referral to City Services Committee
Council on Aging

Michael Ford, 6 Massasoit Street, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Historical Commission

Steven Moga, 89 Marian Street, Northampton

WMAIA Nominee

Term: August 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy as the WMAIA representative

Trust Fund Committee

Joseph Wilhelm III, 54 Prospect Street, Northampton

Term: August 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy

Urban Forestry Commission

Robert Postel, 44 Washington Avenue, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Whiting Street Fund Committee

MariJon “MJ” Adams, 60 Norwood Avenue, Florence

Term: August 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy

Documents:

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

13. Recess for Committee on Finance (See Separate Agenda)

14. Financial Orders (on 1st reading pending Finance review)

Rule 2.6 requires the Finance Committee to consider certain financial matters.

A. 21.301 An Order to Appropriate FY2022 Cash Capital Funds to Various Capital Projects - 1st reading

Process note: Two readings are respectfully requested.

Documents:

[21.301 An Order to Appropriate FY2022 Cash Capital Funds to Various Capital Projects.pdf](#)

B. 21.302 An Order to Approve FY2021 Budget Transfers - 1st

reading

Process note: Two readings are respectfully requested to allow financial officers to close out the books on FY2021.

Documents:

[21.302 An Order to Approve FY2021 Budget Transfers.pdf](#)

C. 21.303 An Order to Surplus City Land for Affordable and Attainable Housing at Chapel Street, Oak Street and Evergreen Road - 1st reading

Documents:

[21.303 An Order to Surplus City Land for Affordable and Attainable Housing at Chapel Street, Oak Street and Evergreen Road.pdf](#)

[21.303 Inventory of Affordable Housing on Surplus City Land.pdf](#)

15. Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)

16. Orders

17. 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.

18. Ordinances

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

20. New Business

21. Adjourn

Contact: G-L Sciarra, Council President
glsciarra@northamptonma.gov

(413) 570-3133



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
125 Locust Street
Northampton, MA 01060

413-587-1570
Fax 413-587-1576

Donna LaScaleia
Director

Memorandum

To: Donna LaScaleia, DPW Director

Approved 6-10-21 M

From: Maggie Chan, Staff Civil Engineer

Date: June 3, 2021

Re: Pole Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Location No. 28691142

Joint or Identical Pole Location No. 28691142

National Grid is proposing to relocate one (1) pole (#15) on Leonard Street beginning at a point approximately 51 feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Haydenville Road, Route 9, to the opposite side of the road to make way for roadway realignment.

There are no conflicts with public utilities or public shade trees at the proposed location for pole #15.

National Grid must obtain an "Excavation/Trench Permit" issued by the City of Northampton prior to construction.

nationalgrid

May 21, 2021

The City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find a petition of NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON, covering joint NATIONAL GRID-VERIZON pole location(s)

If you have any questions regarding this permit, please contact:

Lisa Jasinski 413-582-7467

Please notify National Grid's **Lisa Ayres** of the hearing date / time.

If this petition meets with your approval, please return an executed copy to each of the above-named Companies.

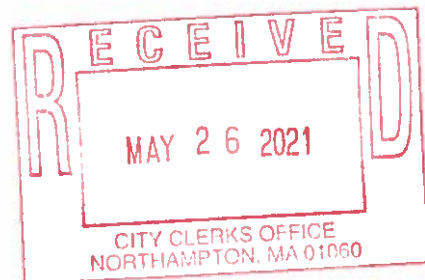
National Grid: Lisa Ayres; 1101 Tumpike Street; North Andover, MA 01845
978-725-1418

Very truly yours,

Jim Kehrer/lla

Jim Kehrer
Supervisor, Distribution Design

Enclosures



Questions contact - Lisa Jasinski 413-222-4838
PETITION FOR JOINT OR IDENTICAL POLE LOCATIONS

North Andover, Massachusetts

To the City Council
Of Northampton, Massachusetts

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID and Verizon New England, Inc requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

Leonard St. - National Grid to relocate (1) JO pole 15 on Leonard St. beginning at a point approximately 51 feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Haydenville Rd., Rte. 9, to opposite side of road to make way for road re-configuration.

Location approximately as shown on plan attached.

Wherefore it prays that after due notice and hearing as provided by law, it be granted a location for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked – Leonard St. - Northampton, Massachusetts.

28691142

Also, for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

Your petitioner agrees to reserve space for one cross-arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone, and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes.

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a
NATIONAL GRID *Jim Kehrer/lla*

BY _____
Engineering Department

VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC.

BY *Albert C. Bessette*
Manager / Right of Way

Dated: April 16, 2021

Questions contact – Lisa Jasinski 413-222-4838

ORDER FOR JOINT OR IDENTICAL POLE LOCATIONS

To the City Council - Northampton, Massachusetts

Notice having been given and public hearing held, as provided by law,
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

that Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC. (formerly known as NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY) be and they are hereby granted joint or identical locations for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires to be placed thereon, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as said Companies may deem necessary, in the public way or ways hereinafter referred to, as requested in petition of said Companies dated the 16th day of April 2021.

All construction under this order shall be in accordance with the following conditions:

Poles shall be of sound timber, and reasonable straight, and shall be set substantially at the points indicated upon the plan marked – Leonard St. - Northampton, Massachusetts.

28691142 Filed with this order:

There may be attached to said poles by Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID and Verizon New England Inc. such wires, cables, and fixtures as needed in their business and all of said wires and cables shall be placed at a height of not less than twenty (20) feet from the ground.

The following are the public ways or part of ways along which the poles above referred to may be erected, and the number of poles which may be erected thereon under this order:

Leonard St. - National Grid to relocate (1) JO pole 15 on Leonard St. beginning at a point approximately 51 feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Haydenville Rd., Rte. 9, to opposite side of road to make way for road re-configuration.

Also, for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

I hereby certify that the foregoing order was adopted at a meeting of the
Of the City/Town of _____, Massachusetts held on the _____ day of _____ 20 .

Massachusetts City/Town Clerk. 20 .

Received and entered in the records of location orders of the City/Town of
Book _____ Page _____

Attest:
City/Town Clerk

I hereby certify that on _____ 20____, at _____ o'clock, M
At _____ a public hearing was held on the petition of
Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON NEW ENGLAND,
INC. for permission to erect the poles, wires, and fixtures described in the order herewith recorded,
and that we mailed at least seven days before said hearing a written notice of the time and place of
said hearing to each of the owners of real estate (as determined by the last preceding assessment
for taxation) along the ways or parts of ways upon which the Company is permitted to erect
Poles, wires, and fixtures under said order. And that thereupon said order was duly adopted.

City/Town Clerk.

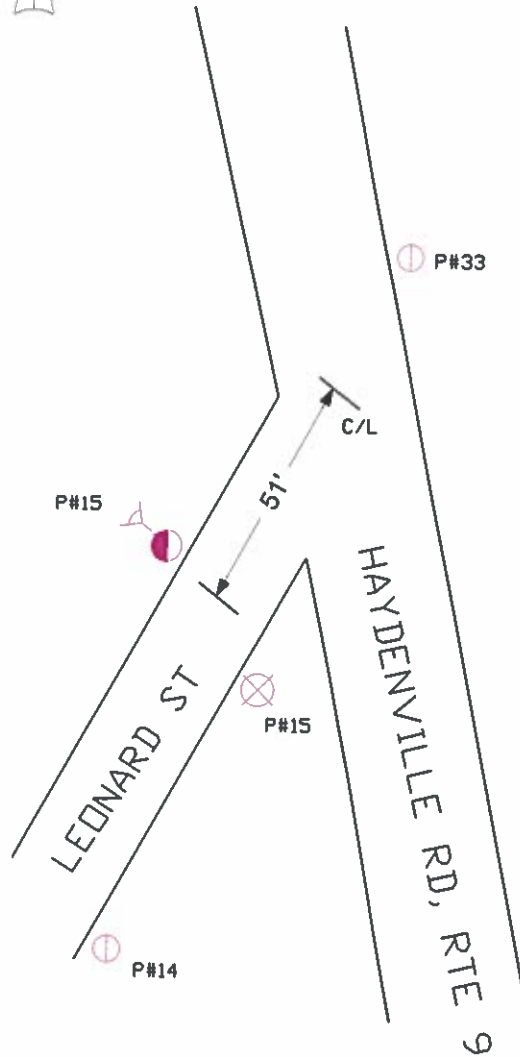
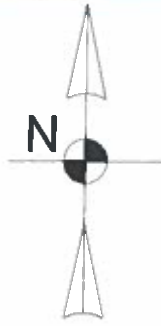
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Board or Council of Town or City, Massachusetts

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the location order and certificate of
hearing with notice adopted by the _____ of the City of
Massachusetts, on the _____ day of 20____ and recorded with the records of location orders
of the said City, Book _____, and Page _____. This certified copy is made under the
provisions of Chapter 166 of General Laws and any additions thereto or amendments thereof.

Attest:
City/Town Clerk



POLE PETITION



- Proposed NGRID Pole Locations
- Existing NGRID Pole Locations
- Proposed J.O. Pole Locations
- Existing J.O. Pole Locations
- Existing Telephone Co. Pole Locations
- Existing NGRID Pole Location To Be Made J.O.
- Existing Pole Locations To Be Removed

Date: MARCH 29, 2021

Plan Number: WR#28691142

To Accompany Petition Dated:

To The: CITY Of NORTHAMPTON

For Proposed: 1 Pole: JG Location: LEONARD ST

Date Of Original Grant:

DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE

MEMBERS

Councilor John Thorpe, Chair
Megan Paik, Citizen, Vice-Chair
Councilor Jim Nash
Councilor Marianne LaBarge
Jeff Napolitano, Citizen



Report of the 2020 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances

Summary of Recommendations

The Special Committee for Review of Ordinances (“the Committee”) submits this Report of its 2020 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 5 or in a 0. While the ordinance requires a report to be filed by December 31st of such years, the Northampton City Council voted on December 3, 2020 to extend that date to March 31, 2021 on account of the Committee’s delayed formation due to the novel coronavirus pandemic of 2020. The Committee was appointed on September 3, 2020, 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 15 virtual meetings by Zoom on September 30, 2020, October 19, 2020, November 2, 2020, November 17, 2020, November 30, 2020, December 7, 2020, December 15, 2020, January 4, 2021, January 11, 2021, February 1, 2021, February 22, 2021, March 1, 2021, March 15, 2021, March 23, 2021, and March 29, 2021.

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. Ordinances 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.

On September 3, 2020, the City Council adopted **20.107 A Resolution in Support of Actions to Combat the Public Health Crisis of Systemic Racism**, which stated in part:

We have an obligation to advance racial equity by undoing the inequities found in the law, and to proactively pass ordinances and make budget decisions that address inequity. During the Periodic Review of Ordinances which occurs every 5 years as per the City Charter Section 10-5, and at other times when it comes to the attention of the Council, we will act to update ordinances that have been shown to have a disproportionate impact on communities of color and adversely affect marginalized populations. We will also consider these impacts during our annual budget process and as financial orders are brought to the Council.

The Committee accepted this Resolution as the guiding principle of its focus on the City’s ordinances. Marginalized populations of Northampton, in our deliberations and reporting, include but are not limited to residents who are people of color, low-income, housing-insecure, and/or disabled who experience systemic inequities of residential segregation, intergenerational wealth inequality, and access to public services.

Consequently, the Committee prioritized select categories of ordinances referenced in reports produced by the National League of Cities, The National Low-Income Housing Coalition, National Housing Law Project, and others:

- zoning;
- rental housing;
- parking;
- nuisance laws; and
- land ownership.

The Committee solicited input on existing ordinances and any proposed new ordinances from all City departments, the City Councilors, and from the public. There was an opportunity for public comment at all meetings. The 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 documents from the Office of Planning and Sustainability, the Northampton Housing Partnership, and from members of the public regarding existing and proposed ordinances that would promote the interests of historically marginalized communities, some of which the Committee voted to recommend that the City adopt and some that the Committee did not recommend. Those proposed ordinances and amendments and the Committee's recommendations are attached as Exhibit A.

The Committee also solicited from all City departments and from the public more minor recommendations of a "housekeeping" nature. Those recommendations are attached as Exhibit B.

In addition to the proposed ordinance revisions and additions submitted with this Report, the Committee voted to urge the City to study and develop amendments to zoning and other ordinances as set forth in Exhibit C. The Committee also encourages the City to address barriers to fair housing¹ in the City and to explore ways to incentivize the creation of both affordable market-rate and subsidized affordable housing.

At the same time, as explained by the City Solicitor and as further delineated in the Exhibits that follow, the subject matter of certain proposed ordinances that impact disadvantaged communities were deemed outside the legislative authority of the City Council based either on state law or on the Charter. To the extent that such matters as hiring and employment and purchasing and contracting are within the exclusive jurisdiction of the executive branch of government and not within the Committee's charge, the Committee calls upon the current Mayor and future Mayors to study and implement departmental policies in full partnership with their advisory boards and committees. Furthermore, the Committee calls upon the executive and legislative branches to examine the disparate impacts on people of color and other adversely affected marginalized communities in all their practices and procedures.

Finally, the ordinance review process contemplated in the Charter and in Section 1-15.1 is, by its terms, limited in time and its scope. Reversing the ongoing marginalization of certain

¹ By "fair housing," the Committee is referring both to the interests protected under the Fair Housing Act, which include protection from discrimination when renting or buying a home, getting a mortgage, seeking housing assistance, or engaging in other housing-related activities and fairness in the more colloquial sense, including enacting ordinances relative to housing set forth in Exhibit A.

communities is a task that exceeds the bounds of this process. The Committee calls upon the City Council to study these issues through its committee process and to alleviate the inequities that are so entrenched in our society with ordinances that fall within its jurisdiction.

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 John Thorpe, Chair

Dated: March 31, 2021

Report of the 2020 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances

Exhibit A

Ordinances Impacting Historically Marginalized Communities Recommended for Adoption

1. Housing Stability Notification Ordinance.

On November 17, 2020, Keith Benoit, CDGB Planner in the Office of Planning and Sustainability, and Carmen Junno, a Member of the Northampton Housing Partnership, appeared before the Committee. They presented testimony regarding a proposed new ordinance that would require landlords of rental units or lenders foreclosing on a house to provide a list of financial and legal resources when serving a Notice to Quit terminating a tenancy or when serving foreclosure documents.¹ Such notification may include documents such as Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) and Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance (ERMA). Similar ordinances have been enacted in Cambridge and Somerville. On March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the City adopt such a Housing Stability Notification Ordinance.

2. An Ordinance Relative to Affordable Housing.

On November 2, 2020, Wayne Feiden, Director of Department of Planning and Sustainability appeared before the Committee. He testified regarding a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to create a local Affordable Housing Ordinance that would simplify the state comprehensive permit process, known as “40B.” At that time, the proposed ordinance was in its conceptual stage. On March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the City adopt such an ordinance to promote housing affordability in the City.

3. Two-Family By Right in all Residential Districts.

On November 2, 2020, Director Feiden testified regarding a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow two-family residences by right in all residential zoning districts, including two detached single-family structures. At that time, the proposed ordinance had been introduced to the City Council and it was being reviewed by Council committees. On March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the City adopt that zoning ordinance amendment to promote housing affordability in the City.

¹ The Committee is cognizant of both the time it takes to move new ordinances through committees and the prospect of the federal and state eviction and foreclosure moratoria ending in the near future. The Committee recognizes the important work that the Northampton Housing Partnership and the Office of Planning and Sustainability have performed in compiling the resources for the proposed notification ordinance, and it urges that those resources be kept current, and that the City implement administratively the notifications that were proposed to be required of landlords and mortgagees by the recommended ordinance.

4. First Floor Residential Use in Downtown and Florence Center.

On November 2, 2020, Director Feiden testified regarding a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow residences on first floors in in Downtown Northampton (outside of the Central Business District) and in Florence Center (outside the Chestnut/Main/Maple business district). At that time, the proposed ordinance was in the drafting stage. Allowing residential uses on the first floor of commercial buildings outside core downtown areas would allow more people to live within walking distance of commercial centers, allow property owners more options, and create housing opportunities at all levels of the market. At that time, the proposed ordinance was in its conceptual stage. On March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the City adopt such an ordinance to promote housing affordability in the City.

**Ordinances Impacting Historically Marginalized Communities
Not Recommended for Adoption**

1. Enforcement of “Ban the Box” Law.

On November 17, 2020, Tay Porco addressed the Committee during public comment urging the City to enforce the so-called Ban the Box law, which prohibits employers from inquiring into certain aspects of an employment applicant’s criminal history. The Ban the Box law is included in a statute that prohibits discrimination in employment, and it is enforceable by the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, not by the City. On that basis, on March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously not to recommend the adoption of such an ordinance.

2. Ordinance Legalizing Temporary Structures and to Repeal Ordinances Prohibiting Camping on Public Property.

On November 17, 2020, Tay Porco addressed the Committee during public comment and presented a demand that the City pass an ordinance legalizing temporary structures and repealing ordinances prohibiting camping on public property. On December 15, 2020, Councilor Nash reported that his review of the ordinances did not reveal any that prohibited camping on public land other than conservation land. On March 1, 2021, the Committee unanimously voted not to recommend any such ordinances. At the same time, the Committee voted to inform the City that it would oppose any ordinance that would impede those who choose to live outdoors.

3. Fair Chance Ordinance.

In a November 18, 2020 email, Tay Porco urged the Committee to recommend an ordinance that would prohibit landlords from accessing and using the criminal history when screening a proposed tenant. While the Committee believed that such an ordinance would mitigate discriminatory practices in the housing market, City Solicitor Seewald

advised the Committee that the Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) statute, M.G. L. c. 6, § 167, et. seq., is a comprehensive state law that creates uniform access to criminal history information statewide. The CORI statute was amended a short time ago to specifically allow landlords to access such information and, therefore, the City cannot legislate in this area. On that basis, on March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously not to recommend the adoption of such an ordinance.

4. Ordinance Banning Sale of Property Gifted to City.

In the November 18, 2020 email, Tay Porco also proposed to the Committee an ordinance to ban the sale to private parties of property gifted to the City, and instead to use such property for affordable housing. Solicitor Seewald informed the Committee that the properties they cited in the email were not gifted to the city and that the city properties sold during his years as City Solicitor were sold for some form of public benefit or to meet a community need. City buildings for sale were municipal buildings not set up to comply with sanitary code and other requirements for use as housing. On March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously not to recommend such an ordinance.

5. Ordinance Incentivizing Against Long-Term Vacancies in Private Properties.

In the November 18, 2020 email, Tay Porco also proposed to penalize and incentivize against vacancies in private properties. Tay cited the fact that properties remain vacant for long periods of time while unhoused individuals live on the street. Without more specific proposals for limiting the rights of private property owners or involuntary acquisition of such properties, Solicitor Seewald could not provide an opinion on the legality of such an ordinance. On March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously not to recommend such an ordinance.

6. Repeal of Anti-Panhandling Ordinances.

On November 30, 2020, Razi Beresin-Scher, citing c. 245 of the Code of Ordinances, addressed the Committee during public comment and urged action to stop criminalizing and harassing unhoused people asking for money or panhandling on the street without a permit. On December 15, 2020, Solicitor Seewald informed the Committee that c. 245 dealt with commercial solicitation, not panhandling, that the Supreme Judicial Court had that day struck down the state anti-panhandling statute as a violation of the First Amendment, and that the City has no anti-panhandling ordinances. On that basis, on March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously not to recommend the adoption of such an ordinance.

7. FIT Test and Capping of Size of New Single-Family Residences.

In a February 7, 2021 email, Jackie Ballance attached a document entitled “Equity in Housing” in which she urged the Committee to recommend use of a “‘FIT’ review for Equity, Environmental Sustainability, Appearance and Economy for every new residential building permit application.” That proposal would require a board to review

applications for fitness, including consideration of an applicant’s track record in creating fit housing. In a February 21, 2021 email, Ms. Ballance withdrew the fitness proposal and advanced a proposal to cap the size of new single-family residences at 1,100 square feet, with any larger proposed single-family residences required to “ask for an exception and expect a fair hearing.” The Committee thanks and commends Ms. Ballance for her thoughtful proposals and her commitment to the important issue of fairness and equity in housing in our City. However, Solicitor Seewald informed the Committee that state law prohibits zoning that regulates the interior size of a single-family residence. For that reason, on March 23, 2021, the Committee voted not to recommend Ms. Ballance’s proposals.

EXHIBIT B - "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

GENERAL AND ZONING ORDINANCE CLEAN-UP - OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY REQUESTED CHANGES						
#	Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
1	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-2 Jurisdiction. G. Vernal Pool	https://www.ecode360.com/11956984	Nonresidential uses only in the Business Park District	Remove	BP Zoning no longer exists
2	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-2 Jurisdiction. G. Vernal Pool Resource Area	https://www.ecode360.com/11956984	Central Business, General Business, Neighborhood Business, Highway Business, General Industrial, Special Industrial, Planned Village, Medical, Urban Residential-B and Urban Residential-C and municipal landfill properties	ADD Entranceway Business, Office Industrial	Reflect addition of newer zoning districts
3	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-2 Jurisdiction. G. Vernal Pool Resource Area	https://www.ecode360.com/11956984	All areas in the Water Supply Protection overlay which were zoned residential as of January 1, 2006	Replace 'Overlay' with 'Zone'	Reflect shift in zoning from an overlay to an underlying zone
4	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-2 Jurisdiction. G. Vernal Pool Resource Area	https://www.ecode360.com/11956984	All other areas not shown above (residential uses in the Rural Residential, Suburban Residential, Special Conservancy, Urban Residential A)	ADD Farms Forests and Rivers	Reflect addition of newer zoning districts
5	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-10 Performance standards. B.	https://www.ecode360.com/11957049	Central Business, General Business, Highway Business, Neighborhood Business, General Industrial, Special Industrial, Planned Village, Medical, Urban Residential-B and Urban Residential-C Zoning Districts, within those portions of the Water Supply Protection Overlay District which was zoned industrial as of January 1, 2006,	ADD Entranceway Business, Office Industrial Replace 'Overlay District' with 'Zone'	Reflect addition of newer zoning districts, Reflect shift in zoning from an overlay to an underlying zone
6	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-10 Performance standards. C.	https://www.ecode360.com/11957050	Entirety of Section C	Delete [Note: Requires renumbering of subsections D - G]	BP Zoning no longer exists
7	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-10 Performance standards. E[7]	https://www.ecode360.com/14928507	Central Business, General Business, Neighborhood Business, General Industrial, Special Industrial, Planned Village, Medical	ADD Entranceway Business, Office Industrial	Reflect addition of newer zoning districts

EXHIBIT B - "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

#	Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
8	Ch. 337 Wetlands Protection	§337-10 Performance standards. E[7]	https://www.ecode360.com/14928507	All water supply protection overlay areas zoned residential as of January 1, 2006, regardless of the underlying zoning, and all other areas	Delete <i>All water supply protection overlay areas zoned residential as of January 1, 2006, regardless of the underlying zoning, and</i>	Will read 'All other areas'
9	Ch. 40 Enforcement	§40-5 List of enforcing officers and penalties for noncriminal disposition. B.	https://www.ecode360.com/11953687	All instances of "Director of Planning and Development or his/her designee"	Change 'Development' to 'Sustainability'	Correct Department Title
10	Ch. 40 Enforcement	§40-5 List of enforcing officers and penalties for noncriminal disposition. B.	https://www.ecode360.com/11953687	Chairman, Conservation Commission	Change to 'Chairman, Conservation Commission or his/her staff agent or designee'	In practice, staff, rather than volunteer board members, issues violations for
11	Ch.156 Central Business and West Street Architecture	§156-10 West Street Architecture Process. B.	https://www.ecode360.com/14927884	Office of Planning and Development	Change 'Development' to 'Sustainability'	Correct Department Title
12	Ch. 161 Demolition	§161-6 Administration. B.	https://www.ecode360.com/11954485	Office of Planning and Development	Change 'Development' to 'Sustainability'	Correct Department Title

EXHIBIT B - "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

#	Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
13	Ch. 161 Demolition	§161-6 Administration. D.	https://www.ecode360.com/11954487	The Commission shall create an inventory of significant buildings and structures built during the period of 1901 to 1939 that will be subject to this chapter within a two-year period from the date of the ordinance adoption. The Commission may also proactively develop other lists of significant buildings or structures that may be subject to this chapter. Buildings or structures proposed for the significant list of buildings and/or structures shall be added only following a public hearing.	The Commission shall create an inventory of significant buildings and structures built during the period of 1901 to 1939 that will be subject to this chapter within a two-year period from the date of the ordinance adoption. The Commission may also proactively develop other lists of significant buildings or structures that may be subject to this chapter. Buildings or structures proposed for the significant list of buildings and/or structures shall be added only following a public hearing.	Superseded by Ordinance Change that shifted applicable date to 1945
14	Ch. 161 Demolition	§161-8 Enforcement and penalties. A. Authorized agents	https://www.ecode360.com/11954492	Director of Planning and Development	Change 'Development' to 'Sustainability'	Correct Department Title
15	Ch. 350 Zoning	§350-3.4, 350-3.5, 350-7.4, 350-8.10, 350-8.8, 350-10.1, 350-10.4, 350-10.9, 350-10.15, 350-11.5		Planning and Development	Planning and Sustainability	Correct Department Title in various locations

EXHIBIT B - "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

A

#	Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
ZIMNOCH REQUESTED CHANGES						
16	Ch. 312 Vehicles and Traffic	§312-99 Violations and penalties. B. (2) Group B. Fine \$15. #14	https://ecode360.com/11956780	Less than 15 feet of clearance	Less than 12 feet of clearance	Change for consistency with §312-27F. Section 312.27F is also recommended for further study. See Exhibit C.
Miscellaneous Changes Already Discussed						
17	Ch. 350 Zoning	§350-8.1 Off-Street Parking Requirements C. Table of Off-Street Parking Regulations	https://ecode360.com/11957545	Use. Any dwelling unit (including residential component of mixed residential/work space), except as noted below All districts other than CB (one space per) 500 square feet of gross floor area, up to a maximum of two per dwelling unit	All districts other than CB (one space per) 500 square feet of gross floor area, up to a maximum of two per dwelling unit. See specific district use table	Refer user to Table of Use and Dimensional Regulations for parking requirement. Present value is inconsistent with §350 Attachment 8 Table of Use and Dimensional Regulations, URC District, which lists parking requirement for dwelling units as one space per 1,000 sq. ft. gross living area.
18	Ch. 116 Alarms	§116-1 Responsibility for fines; violations and penalties	https://ecode360.com/11954076	§116.1 If any residence or place of business has an intrusion alarm which results in a notification to the Northampton Police Department of an alarm at said residence or place of business, the owner of the property or the tenant in possession, whomever has control of said alarm, shall be subject to a fine as set forth in Chapter 40, Enforcement, for each false alarm after the first three false alarms in any calendar year.	§116.1 If any residence or place of business has an an false intrusion alarm which results in a notification to the Northampton Police Department of an alarm at said residence or place of business, the owner of the property or the tenant in possession, whomever has control of said alarm, shall be subject to a fine as set forth in Chapter 40, Enforcement.	Phrase 'after the first three false alarms in any calendar year' conflicts with §40-5. [Per §40-5, 1st false alarm - no charge; 2nd false alarm - \$25; 3rd false alarm - \$50; 4th and subsequent - \$100] Insertion of the word 'false' is necessary because otherwise the ordinance renders anyone having an intrusion alarm (even if not false) liable for penalties.
19	Ch. 285 Streets, Sidewalks and Public Property	§285-32, §285-33, §285-34, §285-41, §285-43, §285-45,		Public Works Commission	Delete all references	No longer exists

EXHIBIT B - "HOUSEKEEPING" CHANGES

#	Chapter	Section/Subsection	Link	Text to be Changed	New Text	Explanation
20	Ch. 312 Vehicles and Traffic	§312-43 Parking for Physically Handicapped	https://ecode360.com/11956590	SEE ATTACHMENT	Change references to 'handicapped,' 'disabled' and 'disability' to accessible parking language.	Revised to update language as attached. The Northampton Disability Commission has reviewed and approved these proposed amendments.

Report of the 2020 Special Committee for Review of Ordinances

Exhibit C

Ordinances Recommended for Further Study

1. Charter Review.

Member Paik suggested that the Committee recommend that the review of the Northampton City Charter pursuant to Section 10-6 of the Charter and Chapter 9 of the Code of Ordinances, which is undertaken at ten-year intervals in years ending in a nine, be increased in frequency. Member Paik noted that, as part of ordinance review, committee members discovered that many areas of concern are in the exclusive purview of the executive branch. The Mayor has broad powers to be able to create departments, set policy, hire staff, etc. On March 23, 2021, the Committee voted to recommend further study of this issue.

2. Rental Agency Fees.

The Committee considered a proposed ordinance that would prohibit charging tenants a rental agency fee and require that any such fee be paid by the landlord. While the Committee believed that such an ordinance would alleviate the cost burden to renters, City Solicitor Alan Seewald advised the Committee that such legislation would violate the provision of the Home Rule Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution that prohibits local legislation that alters civil relationships. According to Solicitor Seewald, the contract between the landlord and the rental agency, which requires that fees be paid by the prospective tenant, is such a civil relationship. Such an ordinance could be adopted only after a special act is passed by the state legislature and signed by the Governor. On that basis, on March 1, 2021, the Committee voted unanimously not to recommend the adoption of such an ordinance but, instead, to urge the City Council to study this issue and to file a petition for special legislation with the state legislature to authorize such an ordinance.

3. Towing of Vehicles Impeding Snow Removal Operations.

Councilor Foster brought to the Committee's attention § 312-51, The Towing of Vehicles Impeding Snow Removal Operations, which creates significant financial and logistical hardship for lower income residents who are primarily renters without dedicated parking spaces. The Committee referred the issue to Planning Board for review and comment. The Planning Board pointed out that the parking issues cited by the councilors appear to arise around pre-existing, non-conforming properties that are not required to comply with the parking requirements in our zoning and recommended:

- Improve seasonal messaging around snow emergencies, parking restrictions, and clearing snow from sidewalks;
- Explore a reduced or free towing fee/fine for first time offense;
- Provide more consistent parking enforcement across the city;

- Develop a renters' folder with important information;
- Explore pop-up parking lots on private property; and
- Inquire with the NPD where such towing occurs and better communicate with the residents in that particular area.

Councilor Nash informed the Committee that he and Councilor Foster will continue to study this issue. On March 23, 2021, the Committee voted to recommend further study of this issue.

4. General Sign Regulations.

Councilor Alex Jarrett asked the Committee to recommend that the City Council review §350-7.2 General Sign Regulations based on the Supreme Court decision Reid vs. Town of Gilbert. That case significantly changed the permissible scope of regulation of signs by prohibiting differentiation of regulation based upon the content of the sign. City Solicitor Seewald explained that the existing ordinance is not being enforced and that he has taken up this issue with the Council President and the Assistant Director of Planning and Sustainability. The Committee voted on March 15, 2021 to urge the City Council to continue to study this issue and to revise the existing ordinance to conform to Supreme Court precedent.

5. Proposal to Expand Notification under §350-3.5.

Councilor Nash proposed an ordinance to expand notification of proposed changes to zoning district lines under §350-3.5 to include owners and tenants of abutting properties in addition to owners of affected properties. The Committee referred the issue to the Planning Board for review and comment. While the expansion of notification would provide greater transparency regarding nearby zone changes, the Planning Board had concerns with the ability of the city to identify those entitled to expanded notice and the potential that such an ordinance would increase litigation against the city. The Board recommended:

- Develop an address list of property owners and residents for mail notification;
- Develop an address list where notices are sent to the "resident" at a given address, forgoing the need for a resident's name; and
- Increase use of listservs for notification (Planning Department, City Councilors, neighborhood groups, etc.).

Councilor Nash informed the Committee that he and Council President Sciarra will continue to study this issue. On March 23, 2021, the Committee voted to recommend further study of this issue.

6. Commercial Buffer Zone Proposal.

Councilor Alex Jarrett suggested that the Committee recommend a Commercial Buffer Zone Proposal to supplement § 312-25 Prohibited Activities During Certain Hours of the

Day with specific regard to commercial trash removal in proximity to residential structures. The ordinance is general in nature, but it uses zoning terminology in terms of location of its applicability. The Committee noted that there would be difficulty in determining exactly where that line of demarcation would be located. Action was deferred at Councilor Nash's request pending further research. On March 23, 2021, the Committee voted to recommend further study of this issue.

7. Unobstructed Lane of Travel.

Fred Zimnoch brought to the Committee an inconsistency between §312-27(F), which prohibits parking that would not leave a 12' wide unobstructed lane for passing traffic, and the enforcement provision contained in §312-99. In Exhibit B to this Report, the Committee has recommended that the two provisions be made consistent at a width of 12 feet. At the same time, the Director of the Department of Public Works pointed out that literal enforcement of this provision would require that parking be prohibited on many older streets in the more densely populated areas of the City, where the road width would not permit such an unobstructed lane along parked cars. Considering the balance necessary between the need for parking in those neighborhoods and the need for safe passing lanes, on March 23, 2021, the Committee recommended further study of this issue.



*CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CONDUCTED AS AN ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING
Northampton, MA*

Roll Call

A special meeting of the City Council (FY2022 Budget Hearing) was called to order by City Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra. At 5:01 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

At-Large Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra	At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight
Ward 1 Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr.	Ward 5 Councilor Alex Jarrett
Ward 3 Councilor James B. Nash	Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore
Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe	

Ward 2 Councilor Karen Foster and Ward 6 Councilor Marianne LaBarge were missing on roll call but were present when the meeting when it reconvened at 5:30 p.m.

Appointment of Charlene Nardi as Finance Director

21.232 Appointment of Charlene Nardi as Finance Director

Mayor Narkewicz said it was his great pleasure to introduce Charlene Nardi, his appointee to become the city's finance director effective June 30th upon the retirement of current Finance Director Susan Wright. As many may know, Ms. Nardi has served as the town administrator for the Town of Williamsburg since 2011 and prior to that served for four years as town administrator in Chesterfield. She was formerly the Town Clerk in Williamsburg and an elected school committee member. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and will bring a wealth of administrative, budgetary and leadership skills to the city's financial team. He is honored to present her for appointment tonight.

Councilor Dwight offered his unequivocal endorsement and moved to request approval of Charlene Nardi's appointment as the finance director of the City of Northampton. Councilor Quinlan seconded.

Councilors expressed their pleasure at meeting Ms. Nardi in person. As a member of the screening committee, Councilor Sciarra commented that she was impressed by Ms. Nardi's poise and depth of experience and her perceived patience and willingness to explain complex financial procedures. As a member of City Services, the standing committee that reviews appointments, Councilor Quinlan commented favorably on Ms. Nardi's humility in acknowledging that she doesn't yet know everything there is to know and is prepared to accept whatever professional development opportunities are available to equip herself to handle the job.

The motion carried 7:0 by roll call vote with Councilors LaBarge and Foster absent.

Recess

Recess

The City Council recessed at 5:12 p.m. and reconvened at 5:32 p.m.

Public Hearing on FY2022 Budget

Public Hearing on FY2022 Budget

Councilor Sciarra read the legal notice for the FY2022 budget hearing. Councilor Dwight moved to open the public hearing. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Councilor Sciarra announced that the meeting is being audio and video recorded.

Tonight is the first night of the budget hearing, and the hearing will continue tomorrow night at 5:30 p.m., she advised. She thanked all those present from the public and the city. The hearing will begin with presentations from department heads, after which she will open the floor to public comment.

Departmental Budget Presentations

Health Department – Health Department Director Merridith O'Leary

Director O'Leary briefly summarized her department's accomplishments over the past fiscal year and explained plans for increasing health department staffing to expand its capacity.

In the past three years, Massachusetts has declared five public health emergencies with COVID-19 being the latest and the one that has shed light on how important it is to have public health infrastructure in place to prepare for and respond to such emergencies, Director O'Leary related. Public health itself has been perennially undervalued throughout the state, region and nation. When public health is working, it is invisible and what's invisible is almost always taken for granted. By supporting her request to add an assistant director, a second full-time equivalent (FTE) public health nurse and a youth prevention coordinator to her budget, the Mayor has shown his appreciation for her department and the work they have done over the past 15 months in the best way possible.

The department's focus over the past year has obviously been COVID-19. They have responded to over 3,000 COVID complaints, launched a county-wide public health nursing collaborative, investigated over 2,500 COVID cases, provided COVID-19 testing for Northampton residents, municipal employees, schools, businesses and residents and stood up a regional vaccination site which has administered over 30,000 vaccines. In addition, the Northampton Health Department prevention team continued its multi-sector collaborations as part of its substance abuse and opioid prevention services, including providing support to families and the recovery community. This year alone, the department has been awarded over \$2.5 million in grants with a grand total of over \$6 million since she started with the city 10 years ago. They have received grants for emergency preparedness, operational readiness, substance abuse prevention and response and a shared health information data base. Just a week ago, they were awarded a Public Health Excellence grant to allow them to expand that database to provide Hampshire County health departments with timely data in regard to infectious disease and management.

Throughout the last 15 months, if she could have one wish for her department it would have been to have an assistant health director, Ms. O'Leary continued. Northampton is a leader in the field of public health, and its constituents, businesses and visitors alike expect the standard of care and service they have been able to provide. Having someone versed in all operations of the health department and able to provide support both on COVID and on normal health department operations would have helped immensely. Moving forward, she sees the assistant health director as an extension of the health director and responsible for the planning, implementation and enforcement of public health and environmental laws and regulations. He or she would design and implement preventative health and environmental programs, be a direct support to the director, establish long- and short-term plans and objectives and work on big-picture public health interventions. This person would be able to step in when the health director is not available.

In support of the second public health nurse position, throughout COVID-19, the public health nurse stood on the front lines educating the public, tracing contacts, giving quarantine and self-isolation guidance and providing vaccinations, Ms. O'Leary reminded. This was not anything new to public health nursing job descriptions but was just highlighted during the pandemic with words like contact tracing and isolation becoming part of everyone's vernacular. With COVID-19 not being eradicated anytime soon, they will definitely still need support to continue to provide these services to residents and businesses along with other public health nursing responsibilities.

The role of the public health nurse is to provide and promote public wellness, prevent disease and reduce health risks through evidence-based care and education. A principal goal is also to address health disparities within marginalized communities, she added. The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recommends communities have .09 FTE public health nurses for every 1,250 residents in a community, which adds up to well over two FTE public health nurses for a city the size of Northampton. With a population of almost 29,000 they are long overdue and two public health nurses represents bare bones staffing.

In support of an in-house prevention coordinator, the Northampton Prevention Coalition (NPC) was launched in 2008 due to an identified need for youth substance use prevention, Director O'Leary reminded. Between 2010 and 2019, NPC received the maximum 10-year funding allowed under a Drug-Free Communities (DFC) grant program. In year 11, the program is currently operating on carryover funding from year 10. With an experienced coordinator and active steering committee, NPC would be well-positioned to carry on the work it has been doing for the next 10 years. With federal funding coming to an end, the city is no longer able to apply to

this funding source to support the NPC coordinator position.

The mission of the NPC is to collaboratively initiate, coordinate and sustain prevention and intervention efforts that reduce teen substance use. To demonstrate the impact of the NPC, student health survey data from the 10-year period of 2010 to 2019 shows that the NPC made great strides in driving down the 30-day use rates of alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana and prescription drugs in Northampton, Director O'Leary reported. Looking at 10th to 12th graders from Northampton High School and Smith Vocational School from 2009 to 2019, the reported use of the following substances in the past 30 days indicates that alcohol use was down by 29%, marijuana use by 21% and cigarette use by 60%, so impacts have been huge.

Those are the large increases to her budget which she is asking the mayor and the council to support.

Councilors asked questions and offered comments, including elaborate praise for the work of the health department in general and the director in particular over the past pandemic year.

In response to a question from Councilor Nash, Director O'Leary described mosquito control measures taken with the \$25,500 line item for mosquito prevention. The City of Northampton is a member of the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District and, in exchange for dues, the district provides mosquito surveillance and collection and mosquito identification, as well as community outreach and education. Once collected, mosquitos are sent to a state lab for testing in the hopes of identifying any type of disease-carrying mosquitos before they cause disease in humans, she explained.

In another use of this line item, the city hires a contractor every year to do larvaciding in the 594 catch basins throughout the city. The contractor puts briquettes in the catch basins to eliminate breeding habitats for mosquitos and also does ditch maintenance work. As part of the contract, workers also treat part of the Meadows with the larvacide briquettes, Director O'Leary confirmed.

Public Hearing on
FY2022 Budget
(cont.)

Northampton Public Schools – Superintendent John Provost

Superintendent John Provost presented the FY2022 budget for Northampton Public Schools. City schools are in a much better position than they were last year when he came to speak to them, he reminded. Last year, they were shuttered and not even certain they could find a way to safely acknowledge their graduates. This year, school is in session in grades pre k through 12 with the overwhelming majority in in-person instruction. Staff who wish to receive vaccinations have received them and an increasing proportion of students have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

During the shutdown, the schools provided over 280,000 emergency meals for school-aged children and partnered with local businesses to provide emergency meals to some student family members, he reported. They are currently partnering with the health department to provide vaccines in conjunction with their meal program via small, pop-up clinics. The goal throughout the reopening process was to prioritize services for those in greatest need. They actually started providing in-person instruction for a small number of students in July. In September, they were able to expand that number to include more than 250 of their most vulnerable students. In November, the reopening process expanded to include their youngest students who also were at risk because they truly struggled to benefit from remote learning. Every few weeks, they added more students and more days to the in-person learning schedule until finally everyone was back five days a week. Their health protocols have been effective and, to date, there has not been a single case of Corona virus transmission in the schools. They have had students and staff who have been sick, but contact tracing has always showed that the source of infection was not within the schools.

That's all true, but it is also true that they have had less instructional time this year due to the school year being reduced from 180 days to 170 days and part of the 170 days consisting of remote instruction that was not always efficient or effective for all learners. He will be sharing some data with the School Committee this Thursday showing that students made progress in basic academic skills from September through January but did so at less than typical rates as expected with less days in the semester and a portion of that time being remote. However, there were disparate effects and differential impacts, he acknowledged.

In general, the largest gaps were for their youngest students and for Latinx students of all ages. As a result, they are proposing an equity-based academic recovery budget that focuses on accelerating learning for students who were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. It includes both academic and social/emotional supports they feel are needed to get students back on track for success. The requested amount is \$33,461,896, which is an increase of 4.04% over the current year. They plan to braid these funds with state and federal COVID relief funds to make a multi-year investment in helping students recover academically and socially from the difficult period of isolation they've experienced.

The superintendent personally thanked Mayor Narkewicz for supporting this budget and every other budget he's brought forward during their joint tenures. The mayor has never asked them for a cut or a level-funded budget. During the past seven years, they have gotten two schools out of Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) monitoring status, increased graduation rates in the aggregate and, for subgroups, found a way to safely and responsibly reopen schools in the wake of a pandemic. These are successes that would not be possible without the mayor's commitment to the schools and he hopes he'll reflect on this good work with satisfaction in future days.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Superintendent Provost entertained questions from councilors.

In response to a question from Councilor Dwight, the superintendent drew attention to two items in the budget intended to address social/emotional needs exacerbated by the pandemic: creation of the position of a 'culture coach' at the middle school and \$100,000 of contracted services with the Collaborative for Educational Services (CES).

The culture coach is in addition to a team that deals with students in crisis, he noted. Counseling services are available for students in the middle school and all schools, but, if counseling is ineffective because a student is in a state of acute crisis, the next step is the principal's office.

The culture coach will provide a stop gap which will focus on getting students regulated and back in the classroom and relieve principals of providing that sort of instruction so they can spend more time in classrooms supporting teachers in implementing the curriculum. They currently have an in-house suspension room which they think they will be able to close by adding the culture coach, but they're not eliminating that position. The person in that position is a math specialist so he will be used to support students who may be lagging in math skills due to the closure. Being in that type of a setting is not helpful to begin with and doesn't usually result in changes in behavior; being behind academically is often what makes people feel disengaged, etc. At the high school, they had already added an additional counselor but didn't have time to see the impact of that position last year. The addition of \$100,000 in CES services will support students with social/emotional needs at the high school and middle school, which they think may be the areas of greatest need since students there were out of school the longest.

The report from schools and his observation is that students so far are demonstrating tremendous resilience. For many students, the strongest intervention was just reopening school. He thinks that in itself will have a strong impact in supporting students' social and emotional development.

Superintendent Provost fielded additional questions about the schools' updated code of conduct and the district's transition to organic pest management for school playing fields, among other things. What differentiates the new code of conduct from what came before is an explicit emphasis on restorative justice practices as opposed to more punitive practices, he asserted.

Councilors universally praised the superintendent's handling of the pandemic. Councilors Quinlan and Maiore pronounced themselves 'moved' and 'heartened' by his budget message and its emphasis on equity and assisting communities most in need.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Jon Davine presented the Northampton Fire Rescue budget by reviewing the department's activities related to its response to the pandemic. For the past year of the shutdown, in addition to firefighting and emergency medical response, firefighters ordered and distributed personal protective equipment (PPE), assisted with the opening of emergency shelters at the high school and First Churches, did regular disinfection/spraying of the Fire Department, Police Department and DPW and administered vaccines at the city-run clinic.

He expressed appreciation for Health Director Merridith O'Leary, noting that if it wasn't for her and her team, the mayor and support received from the city, they never would have been able to do what they have done. He's proud of the work they did this year.

Councilor LaBarge said she is glad to see the department is continuing at full staffing with 70 employees (68 sworn positions and two civilians – an administrative assistant and a mechanic).

Chief Davine cited recruitment of paramedics as one of the department's challenges. With the exception of a few basic EMT's and first responders left over from years past, everyone in the department is dual-trained as both a firefighter and paramedic. In the latest hiring round, due to the scarcity of paramedics, they hired some basic EMT's who were enrolled in a paramedic program. Statewide, only 200 students took the civil service paramedic exam.

CENTRAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Councilor Jarrett disclosed that he cannot participate in this item because he has a conflict of interest as a member of the Pedal People cooperative which has a contract with Central Services. He recused himself.

Director David Pomerantz presented highlights of the department's activities over what was admittedly a challenging year. A number of Central Services employees contracted COVID-19 but the department basically continued to work throughout the shutdown, he reported. There was one period when they were rotating staff on an as-needed basis into the buildings for security checks, maintenance and monitoring of energy management systems, but, for the most part, everybody worked straight through.

Mr. Pomerantz particularly recognized the efforts of school custodians for their work in supporting the operation of an emergency shelter at the high school and city custodial staff for helping stand

up the vaccination clinic at the senior center. At the high school, a team of custodial staff worked seven days a week cleaning and maintaining the shelter, while at the senior center, city custodial staff basically emptied out the building and kept it clean and stocked with supplies to insure the success of the vaccination clinic. They are now preparing to bring everything back into the building in preparation for opening it back up to seniors.

Mr. Pomerantz reminded councilors of the ingenious move back in 1997 when the city created the Central Services Department to combine maintenance and custodial operations for both city and school facilities. The city does a lot more in-house building, electrical and HVAC work than ever before. The department also runs a centralized photocopying system, inter-city mail courier program and energy management systems. Handling cleaning and maintenance in a centralized manner provides cost-efficiencies and efficiencies of operation. The city did a scaled back version of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) last spring and summer but has a robust capital program already in the ground this year covering the parking garage, city buildings and school buildings.

Central Services is essentially at the core of the city's response to the climate crisis, Councilor Dwight pointed out. Director Pomerantz's department is in charge of implementing all the policies and making all the changes needed to city-managed properties within the municipality. He asked the status of this process.

The city has been a strong member of the green communities program for a number of years, Director Pomerantz related. Through the successful efforts of Energy Coordinator Chris Mason, they have brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants for energy management system upgrades, lighting upgrades, etc. They have an application into the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) now for the next round of funding, so that's an ongoing effort.

The police station was a Gold Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building when built and the senior center was Platinum LEED. They have a policy that all new buildings be LEED-rated, he advised. They are constantly trying to reduce the city's energy consumption by managing energy management systems, and the city did an LED street light conversion program back in 2017 that has resulted in significant reductions.

The mayor issued a net zero by 2050 policy two years ago. To help plan for meeting that goal as far as city operations are concerned, consultants are now finishing up a seven-building assessment of both building shells and building infrastructure to prioritize projects for capital improvement. The seven building reports will be done this summer so they will be using those for capital planning for the fall schedule. They will be starting on three of the schools this summer – Bridge, Leeds and Jackson - and will do the high school, Leeds (sic) and Ryan Road in 2023.

It's important to note that at one point Northampton distinguished itself by being the first five-star energy rated community in the country, Councilor Dwight reminded.

Director Pomerantz fielded additional questions.

Recess

Recess

The City Council recessed briefly at 7:26 p.m. The council reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

Public Testimony

At 7:38 p.m., Councilor Sciarra opened the floor to public comment. Over the next hour, 20 speakers gave testimony. For a full transcript of their comments, please see the recording on the Northampton Government Archive page of YouTube. Highlights of each speaker's remarks are transcribed below.

Dana Goldblatt commented that, in listening to the presentations, it was really moving to be reminded of what government can do and what their budget can and should be in terms of public health and public infrastructure. In that context, she was particularly angry at how the mayor dealt with the policing review commission's recommendations. She is angry because the initial pushback - that they shouldn't defund or reduce the police department, that the police are the only people that can deliver groceries to the homeless and inspect people's car seats, etc. - seems to have been dropped and they've gone into the endless cycle of 'No, we need to study more' as the reason they can't fund a community care department. It's been a year. It's just a matter of moving services from one place to another and having them done by people without guns. It's not actually that enormously difficult. The response initially of "we need to study it" seemed like a delay tactic. Now, after a year of study, what's being proposed in the budget is a position for someone to consider how implementation of the things first proposed a year ago might work. She imagines that after that person produces their proposal, there will be a new person to study whatever they've produced. This goes on forever! This is endless! She exclaimed. And the actual substantive debate about the importance of a community care department just gets buried beneath the 'study of the study of the study.' Get a group of people to study all the studies and produce a report, then hire somebody to study the report that the people wrote who studied all the studies. . . That is literally what the proposal is right now.

There are very few people for whom 'study the study of the study' sounds like anything other than BS. She is angry and wants them to turn down this budget until there's a real proposal.

Dory Graham, Ward 3, agreed with Dana Goldblatt that the delay tactic that was used when they first brought this issue to the forefront is not going to sustain itself any longer as a means to explain away the proven fact that community members who do not carry guns would be better equipped to deal with many different calls. Last year, she overheard a serious domestic argument and feared for the life of the person being victimized. She called the police and her worst nightmare happened. Three squad cars showed up, six officers arrived on scene and at no point did they separate the aggressor from the person being attacked. By the time they decided that they couldn't do anything, they had to leave this person in this situation and the reason given was that she didn't say anything. Any social worker, any therapist, any de-escalation expert would have separated the two parties, and six police officers with guns and protective equipment abandoned somebody whose fate she doesn't know. She works in the Northampton Public Schools, and they have to ask parents to bring in paper towels for use in their classroom. They should not have to do that. The cruisers look fine; they need paper towels. They need more staff people at every public school and these are things that should be at the top of the budget.

Hondo expressed concerned about the lack of intercity transportation in Northampton due to the pandemic. As of this Saturday, restrictions are going to end and the state of emergency will end June 15th. Peter Pan has been 'slacking' on Hampshire County with only one trip per day and it's not acceptable. Some other bus companies service this area such as Max bus and Megabus, but Peter Pan keeps chasing them away. Also Amtrak – one train per day going to DC and back is not enough. With restrictions being lifted, residents need more transportation. He is aware of the pilot program with PVTA going from the Academy of Music to the Holyoke Mall to Union Station in Springfield. He is more interested in keeping public transportation statewide to benefit all small businesses. He sees a lot of people struggling, especially in Northampton. He also agreed more paper towels are need in the schools and city buildings.

He would like the city to step up to help out more. As far as the police, today outside of City Hall a massive fight broke out.

Shelby said she would like to join those before her in asking councilors not to pass this budget. They know that policing is not synonymous with public safety. The Northampton Policing Review Commission has done the work and compiled and presented research that shows unequivocally that policing is, in fact, quite the opposite of public safety. In 2012 she was in an abusive

relationship with someone with a known history and criminal record of physical assault and violence. One night, the violence in her relationship reached a pinnacle that forced her to run out of her house barefoot in the middle of the night after being physically assaulted. She sought the help of the local police department who assured her they would help her and that she would be safe. She received a text message a few days later that the person would be coming to her home to get his things and she immediately rang the police department and requested their assistance. Police said they would be in the area but refused to prevent his arrival or even speak to him beforehand. They said this because they knew it would be a better outcome for them if they waited for this person to harm her again. If they arrived while he was harming her they could arrest him and charge him with assault. But what about her and her immediate safety? It didn't matter. "They would rather have me brutally mangled so they could point to me and my injuries and say, 'See, he needs to be arrested and we did our job,'" she alleged.

The budget of this town currently reflects the values of this town's administrators and not the values of the community. The community is saying we want to fund a Department of Community Care yet this proposed budget continues to increase funds to a department that clearly does not work and is incredibly wasteful.

Erin Zeiss of Northampton said she would like to see more action on the part of the city. They would like existing and new community services funded to address mental health and substance use crises. They are asking that more money be diverted from police who are answering mental health crisis calls and that that money be used to fund community crisis services with mental health workers and medics who have gone through years of training. Places like Oregon have adopted programs such as CAHOOTS to provide such services and they have the opportunity to do something similar and better. She asks that councilors use their influence to bring attention to this problem and make Northampton a leader in solving it.

Gabriel Peeples, Ward 2, (they/them) seconded what had been said about supporting funding for mental health crises and other services currently housed by police sooner than next year. They got really concerned when hearing fire/rescue Chief Davine talk about the use of sick time by staff at fire rescue services. They don't think it is something to tout or brag about that staff aren't taking sick time or that placement on a specialized team takes into account how much sick time someone has used. Sick time is really important for staff and prioritizing folks who aren't using sick time is a really able-ist and terrible system. They have a friend whose husband is a lieutenant in a neighboring fire department and he was denied vacation time three times in the same month so he could get married. They don't think commending people for not using sick time is appropriate. Supporting and applauding people for not using sick time is terrible and able-ist and disgusting and they'd appreciate if that didn't continue to happen at City Council meetings.

Calvin Brower, Northampton, said he is here to talk about police corruption and claimed that five police officers in Northampton are corrupt. He named Officer Andrew Kohl and displayed a picture of Officer Kohl on what he referred to as a 'bad conduct card.' Andrew Kohl is one of the officers named in a high-profile civil lawsuit for the systematic intimidation and retaliation against a brown and indigenous homeless resident of Northampton. He has a history of violence and misconduct, including the unlawful search and arrest of a former judge, Mr. Brower claimed. In another arrest, Officer Kohl repeatedly punched and pepper-sprayed a suspect in what he claims was self-defense. A restraining order was placed against him and the judge who granted it ruled Kohl posed an immediate danger of abuse to his victim. Last summer, he was at the courthouse when Officer Kohl came by and stopped his car. He saw two bags of marijuana on the bench and asked him to bring them over to him. He sniffed the first bag and didn't like it and sniffed the other and said it was good stuff and that he needed to confiscate the bag.

Mr. Brower said he told him he couldn't confiscate it because it was legal and it didn't matter that he didn't buy it from a dispensary. Officer Kohl said he was going to take it anyway. Mr. Brower said he'd better call his sergeant because if he tried to take it without calling him the two of them were going to have a fight. So Office Kohl called his sergeant who told him yeah, he had to take it. Mr. Brower told the sergeant and Office Kohl that he would file lawsuits against them for illegal search and seizure of his marijuana and trying to arrest the couple he got the marijuana from. It was illegal to use him to get to them, he alleged.

Aaron Clark, he/him, lifetime Northampton resident and homeowner in Ward 7B, read from a short prepared statement. In the words of the great James Baldwin, 'we need to cease fleeing

from the reality and begin to change it,' he quoted. The current proposed budget is an example of fleeing from reality, not an example of changing that very tangible reality for so many. He is here to echo others in calling for following the commission's recommendations and fully funding the Department of Community Care by at least \$860,000 so that at least the full amount cut from the police budget last year is reallocated. Any change is meaningless without accountability to the people impacted by state violence, Mr. Clark asserted, noting that he says this on the anniversary of George Floyd's death. If Black Lives Matter, then Mayor Narkewicz needs to truly commit to defunding the police with the goal of investing in meaningful community-led safety strategies.

He closed with a quote from Todd Nehisi Cotes: "Amongst a large swath to a majority of black people in this country, the police are illegitimate. They are not seen as a force that necessarily causes violent crime to decline. Oftentimes you see Black people resorting to the police because they have no other option. But they're not seen with the level of trust that maybe Americans and other communities bestow upon the police. They know they could be a victim of lethal force because they used a \$20 bill that may or may not have been counterfeit, because you were asleep at night in your home and someone got a warrant to kick down your door without knocking. If you look at communities of human beings as natural creatures who tend to react a certain way when put under 'x' number of pressures, I think it becomes more understandable what happens to a community of people who are policed arbitrarily and with violence, not just in the moment but historically, whose great grandfathers and grandmothers can tell stories of police officers either stopping lynchings or jumping into lynchings. They see law enforcement as illegitimate and other members of the community as more legitimate than cops."

Jose Adastra, Ward 1, said he has also heard several accounts of Officer Kohl asking people on the streets to identify the people they got drugs from so he could arrest them. They should listen to him. People have been talking to them about Andrew Kohl for years.

They have gotten the bare minimum from the mayor at this point, Mr. Adastra claimed. They can't even talk about what the money should go to and be creative and compassionate about it. "We should be going into the homes of the disadvantaged children in Northampton and the people who the therapists are observing in the schools and supplying them with more stimulus money... but instead we're here having a conversation about the bare minimum we can get."

He is not surprised by .033% David Narkewicz. This is super insulting. They've been working so hard for the past year. He takes time away from his family every time he hears about an officer abusing somebody in town. What does it look like when you are just allowing your community members to sacrifice their own well-being to be a shield? People like him are still here, eyes clear, knowing that the police are abusing them.

"I promise that we are going to get equality. I promise we're going to redirect the tax money that is being gained by the marijuana companies. . . You should be worried about how we get it."

"You can vote for it or we're going to take it," he concluded.

Rye of Ward 3, thanked Councilor Sciarra for making their remote participation as a group possible. He is very white and largely benefits from policing in the U.S. He had a recurring nightmare as a child after a police officer confronted him in a parking lot while he was waiting for his mother and asked him what he was doing, he related. It was like the scariest thing that had ever happened to him in his life. He was six. He distinctly remembers the officers told him they were going to take him away from his family. It was scary and he had a recurring nightmare about it. His family was never wealthy and they got pulled over for a lot of things, having a loud tailpipe, etc. It was always so scary. He was afraid his dad was going to be taken in to the station for the night, leaving him on the side of the road. He doesn't think these were bad cops; he thinks they were doing their job. He doesn't want people to have to do that job. He lamented the damage it must do to their psyches and the damage it does to the community. Here they are tonight one year after the death of George Floyd. He beseeches, begs, pleads with the council and the mayor, please reduce the fear we all feel from policing. At the same time please create this new department that can actually care for us and keep us safe.

Donovan Lee, an Easthampton resident who works in Northampton, said he fully supports fully funding the Department of Community Care. He is an experienced 911 responding EMT. He has been in many situations where the police have told someone their options are to go to the

hospital or go to jail. He thinks their community deserves more than those two options when they're having an emergency.

Northampton resident **Steve** said he has been to many of the Black Lives Matter protests in Northampton. Jody Kasper's proposal to put surveillance cameras on every light pole on Main Street was a big waste of money. Referred to the potential value of a surveillance drone, he suggested that demilitarizing and selling all of Chief Kasper's military equipment would allow them to drastically cut the police budget. He has watched her almost incite a riot because she so overreacted to people coming to Northampton to exercise their constitutional first amendment rights. Rather than fund the police, "let's get rid of all their military-grade hardware that they don't need, sell it and then use that money for social services," he proposed. The last thing this town needs is more money for the police.

A woman identifying herself only as **Jane Doe**, a Northampton resident, said she is a victim of sexual assault presently in a safe, secure location. She just wanted to reiterate that the police department in Northampton saved her life. Because of continued threats on a 209A order of protection she still needs their protection every single day. She opposes the funding of the Department of Community Care for a number of reasons. There is quite a lot in the policing review commission report that really needs to be looked closely at. There was a real failure around exploring rape and sexual assault and domestic violence. The funds that were taken last year from the Northampton police were unwarranted. Anecdotal evidence without a substantive pattern of wrongdoing by their police department doesn't justify the cut. Chief Kasper managed to keep them safe this year when crime and violence against police themselves increased across the country. It was their officers who really didn't have the choice to shelter in place because they were first responders. They even sustained injuries while on duty and have been unjustly vilified.

Residents have been without devices and broadband because of the digital divide and couldn't engage the police commission during the pandemic. Public comment to that body was less than 90 in total in a city of 30,000. Only six were able to submit online responses. One abolitionist spoke to the body 19 times. The commission failed to locate evidence of egregious violence, problematic policies or procedures and then mischaracterized its responses to sexual assaults. It focused on improving conditions for batterers, which is extremely re-traumatizing. The language on domestic violence and rape is pro-abuser, biased and does not reflect her lived experience. Creating supportive environments for sexual offenders, abusers, rapists and batterers and advocating a decriminalized approach shows little concern for the laws of the Commonwealth or victims, and commission rhetoric about police escalating domestic violence is false.

Please deescalate them by stopping the batterers. The report also omits the local sex offender registry that's managed by the police, sex trafficking, predators and online pedophiles. The commission may not have wanted to look at these things but the detectives and other members of the police department do and must. One of the commissioners said that when the police are involved, survivors are stripped of control over their safety, and this is false because she was shown how to protect herself.

G from **Montague** (she/her) said she is very angry. "The mayor of Northampton has absolutely screwed us over." It seems that to him the unpaid work of BIPOC voices on the commission was a distraction to the white supremacist "democracy" that they have here. We are here because policing is harming the community, and we are here in front of city hall because policing is a legacy to slavery: to police the poor body, the homeless body, the female body and more. If you have said tonight that you feel safe with the NPD, you have not been listening to your community. If you fail to listen to your black and brown community you are selfish, you are ignorant and you are racist. Any type of safety you have felt from the police department can also be provided by the Department of Community Care.

She related her personal experience of being at a protest when someone began screaming 'tear gas' and everyone started running in the opposite direction. It was one of the scariest days of her life. It was pepper spray, but even that fear should not exist. That video shows the fear we feel when police officers are using weapons of murder and harm to control our right to protest. We are literally screaming for our survival. Yes, there is an issue in Northampton, for instance, heavy victimization of black and brown people. Police do not protect the homeless community, people struggling from poverty, mental illness black and brown and indigenous people.

That day she spent nearly an hour comforting a member of the Northampton community with pepper spray in his eyes. That is not community safety. She absolutely supports defunding the police by 50% leading to eventual abolition. What are councilors going to do to support your BIPOC neighbors? She asked.

Pesha Black, Ward 3, said she has learned a lot this year as have many of them. She is speaking tonight to urge them to meaningfully fund the Department of Community Care (DCC) so they can take on the community support and wellness responsibilities they don't actually need the police department to do. She works in grant funded programs from DESE, and they are funded at more than twice the rate the mayor has proposed for the DCC. She would ask them to please increase the funding for the DCC so they can meaningfully start work in this new fiscal year and reject the mayor's budget if necessary in order to increase that funding.

Jenna, she/her, said she is a resident of Turners Falls who is in Northampton frequently for work and recreation. A lot of people have spoken to why it's important to fund the DCC fully and to defund the Northampton police budget by 50%. She would like to speak in favor of fully funding the DCC with at least the \$800,000 figure. It needs to happen by divesting from the NPD and needs to be funded this fiscal year. She thinks it's frankly disgusting that they are sitting here on the anniversary of George Floyd's murder and no action has been taken to keep the community members of Northampton safe from policing. It's appalling. Northampton is made out to be this really progressive place. If that's important to you; show it. Show us that you care about the community by funding the DCC fully this fiscal year, defunding the Northampton police and acknowledging that the police are not safe. Invest in a safe system that is going to work at prevention rather than taking punitive actions against your community members and show us that you care about the safety of your community. Defund the police budget by 50% and invest fully in the DCC this year.

Ryan Wadsworth panned upward with his device to show the George Floyd memorial behind him at city hall, saying he wanted to give viewers a sense of this community event. It is an historic moment in which they have a duty to be bold and to make change. This is an intergenerational struggle. At other times he's spoken to City Council he's been optimistic. He's appealed to their shared humanity as 'a guiding light that is going to move this forward' but also acknowledged an 'institutional inertia.' It would be a lie to say that he is overly optimistic but he does think it is valuable for them to at least attempt to connect as humans and to make this a collaborative process. If it is not, the consequences will continue to be political and also spiritual. Speaking as a white person who dearly loves people of color who have directly experienced police violence, who upon seeing a cop feel it in their gut, he would invite them to connect as humans to, yes, avoid the political consequences. . .

These are coherent demands that people understand and want applied. This over-policed context is something that is culturally specific. He has never lived in a place with as many police as Northampton. He has lived in other comparable socio-economic countries where social services are provided by the government, not punitive incarceration that targets sectors of the population.

Sasha Dunbar, Ward 5B, said part of the reason she moved to Northampton is because she is an aspiring social worker and has experience in mental health as both a patient and a person in institutions, meaning she's had experience in involuntary incarceration. She was super excited to find out there was a peer respite program in Northampton since it represents an alternative to police, and that made her feel really safe. Then she noticed there were police everywhere. As a black and biracial person who's been unwillingly forced into an institution, she feels unsafe in her body. She grew up in communities that were over-policed, most of them a lot more diverse. To see a sea of white faces and BLM signs, so few people of color and so many police cars is a sign to her that there are too many cops and too much money. She smokes a lot of CBD to deal with chronic pain which means that she often smells of marijuana. Often police don't need much of an excuse to hurt people like her, to put them in places they don't want to be. She loves to be in one of the only places in the world that has a peer-run place people can go when they're in mental health crisis. She was excited to find out there was this proposal for community care and it is beyond devastating to hear that there's a proposal to give more money to the cops.

Ezekiel Baskin of Northampton said he wanted to talk about the long-term plan in this budget and beyond and really embracing the recommendations of the policing review commission which fundamentally talk about reducing the scope and footprint of policing. One thing that really

concerns him in this proposal is the police chief talking about the departure of nine officers taking with them \$414,000 in hiring and training costs. There are three vacancies currently with over \$200,000 in the budget as well as a discussion of three more positions that are going to be vacant in early FY2022 due to retirements. He is confused about the logic of spending a large sum of money filling, hiring and training for these positions, when, even if they're not necessarily reducing the size of policing in this budget, that's the commission's ultimate recommendation. Why spend a lot of money to hire and fill for vacancies that probably will be cut in next year's budget? He is curious why it's necessary to fill those positions now. Why couldn't they have a hold on hiring while they start ramping up to the Department of Community Care so that down the line there are less layoffs? To him it seems ideal for officers to find positions in other communities and see that the department is beginning the process of downsizing rather than ultimately having to lay off more people next year, which is harder for everyone involved.

He also expressed disappointed about the 1.5 FTE staffing for the DCC, saying he thinks that was the level of staffing needed this past year to support the commission's work. Building the department in a way that it can really be responsive to and accountable to the communities most impacted by policing can't be done with just two people. They need a diverse range of voices to staff the department and plan for it. He would love to see a larger group of people, including a project manager and assistant project manager, because one and a half people can't do everything they're asking this year.

James Lowenthal said he noticed the #1 line item in the Central Services budget is \$195,000 for electricity. There are several mentions of lighting upgrades for city buildings. He is sure a good chunk of that \$195,000 and other funds allocated by the City Council are going to go to complete waste. Why does he say it's going to waste? You can tell it's going to waste by looking down on Northampton from space and seeing all the light that's going up into the sky. That's taxpayer money going to fund the purchase, installation and operation of lights all around the city that are going up into the sky. Any time you can see light from a street light or city building poking you in the eye, it's not light that's being useful; the light should go down only. He is concerned that the city is forging ahead with projects to install new lights to replace old lights without thought to this waste and the collateral damage it causes. Light pollution is bad for public health. This has been known for decades and recently studied extensively. A new report to the United Nations describes the ill effects on humans of light pollution, ranging from sleep deprivation, melatonin suppression and cancer to elevated rates of diabetes and obesity. It's also terrible for wildlife. There is no species that benefits from light pollution; it's only harmful. He mentioned the Roundhouse parking lot as an example of a project which will have lights much, much brighter than they are now or need to be. He is concerned that the city is not listening to voices to protect public health, public safety, wildlife and the aesthetic beauty of their downtown. He hopes City Councilors and Central Services will consider this in the form of an advisory committee. They've certainly heard many of them speak to this before, and he thinks now is the time.

There being no further comments, Councilor Dwight moved to continue the public hearing to May 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Rachel Maiore seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor LaBarge absent.

Motion to Adjourn Upon motion made by Councilor Maiore and seconded by Councilor Jarrett, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m. The motion carried 9:0 by roll call vote.

Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council



*CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CONDUCTED AS AN ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING
Northampton, MA*

A special meeting of the City Council (a continuation of the FY2022 budget hearing) was called to order by Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra at 5:33 p.m.

Roll Call

At 5:33 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

At-Large Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra	At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight
Ward 1 Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr.	Ward 5 Councilor Alex Jarrett
Ward 2 Councilor Karen Foster	Ward 6 Councilor Marianne LaBarge
Ward 3 Councilor James B. Nash	Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore
Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe (not present on roll call but joined shortly after)	

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

Councilor Sciarra announced that this was a continuation of the FY2022 budget hearing and that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

The public hearing will begin with departmental presentations, after which the floor will be opened to public comment, she said.

**I
Public Hearing on Proposed FY2022 Budget**

**Public Hearing on Proposed FY2022 Budget
DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PRESENTATIONS**

Department of Public Works – DPW Director Donna LaScaleia

Councilor Jarrett disclosed that, as a member of the Pedal People Cooperative, he has an interest in decisions regarding the Locust Street transfer station which is overseen by the DPW, so he will not participate in this item but will come back at the end to ask questions.

The DPW General Fund (GF) budget is organized into four different divisions: Administration & Engineering, Highway, which includes streets and fleet maintenance divisions, Snow and Ice and Forestry, Parks and Cemeteries, Director LaScaleia presented. The scale of operations is quite significant. Some of the responsibilities funded by these budgets are maintenance of 150-plus miles of paved and unpaved roadways, 85 miles of sidewalks, 38 bridges, more than 30 signal-controlled intersections, more than 150 vehicles and pieces of specialized pieces of equipment, more than 10,000 public shade trees, 225 acres of athletic fields and parks, four cemeteries - all of which are active burial grounds with over 20,000 monuments - and more than 11 miles of bike paths. As an item of note, within this GF budget they will see an increase in highway Other than Ordinary Maintenance (OOM), specifically the Roadway Improvements item. This more accurately reflects the costs associated with purchasing asphalt and other roadway materials. Each year, the department purchases asphalt by the ton and also stone and hard pack. This material is used year-round for the repair of potholes, trench cuts and sidewalks and workers use hard pack and gravel for the stabilization and maintenance of dirt roads and the repair of shoulders or pull-off areas. If a road is in very poor condition they may do a very thin overlay of asphalt to hold it together until a more extensive reconstruction can be done. This overlaying action can actually save the department a lot of time and mobilization costs since they don't have to keep going back to fill the same potholes and are freed up for faster response times in other areas.

For clarity's sake, the Street Paving and Marking line item in the OOM section of the budget funds the annual contract for city-wide line striping, including crosswalks and roadway markings such as double yellow center lines. To stress the scale of that process, they are talking about around 650,000 linear feet of double yellow center lines and fog lines and several hundred crosswalks.

In the Forestry, Parks and Cemeteries Division, they are looking forward to the restoration of two full-time employees, thereby returning this division to FY2020 staffing levels.

For the enterprise funds, she spoke in pretty significant detail about water and sewer revenue,

operations and capital projects during the utility rate-setting process. To recap, the city operates and maintains expansive and complex water, sewer and wastewater treatment systems. The water treatment plant in Williamsburg flows roughly three million gallons of water a day to the city through more than 160 miles of water distribution lines and related infrastructure. The sewer system includes more than 110 miles of sewer lines, seven pump stations and a Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) which is undergoing significant renovation. They have managed these enterprises very carefully and are submitting level-funded budgets for FY2022 and requesting no change to water and sewer rates, despite modeling for and requesting \$20.78 million in capital project spending in water through FY2026 and \$17.497 million in sewer.

The Storm Water enterprise is similarly level-funded and the solid waste budget has been reduced by more than 15% due to efficiencies in hours of operation at Locust Street and savings due to the reduced need for security services there. Director LaScaleia called attention to and offered appreciation for the remarkable support from fellow department heads over the last 15 months. It has obviously been a very challenging operating environment and has required significant collective effort every single day, seven days a week, often, 24 hours a day.

She also thanked Mayor Narkewicz for his steadfast support of the DPW as reflected in changes in the GF budget and publicly acknowledged the men and women of the department who have gone above and beyond in many ways. Their work is not remote; they have managed projects from two miles of paving on North Farms Road to the \$11 million reconstruction of the WWTP, not to mention the daily operations of providing drinking water, treating waste water and maintaining roads and parks. These folks are not able to work remotely and they have been there every day and every snow storm. The city's critical infrastructure needs have been met and she is very grateful to every single member of this department for their efforts during this time.

Councilors asked detailed questions on DPW operations, ranging from the status of efforts to restore gravestones in the West Farms Cemetery to the director's justification for requests for vehicle and equipment replacement.

She submitted a very detailed plan itemizing vehicles/equipment she is seeking to replace over a five-year period, including the age of the item being replaced, Director LaScaleia reported. The older the equipment, the higher the maintenance cost and risk of loss of service, she reminded. Especially with snow removal, the reliability of equipment is imperative. She is asking for replacement of equipment between 10 and 20 years old and sometimes older than that.

In response to questions from Councilor Quinlan about paving, Director LaScaleia explained that big capital projects are funded through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), most recently a \$1.5 million bond authorized by the City Council in January. Local funding is supplemented by money from the state, typically about a million dollars a year, which figure has held steady with very little fluctuation. She confirmed that the King Street reconstruction is a state Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) project and therefore within the state's jurisdiction.

The director explained the DPW's internal process for prioritizing paving projects. An outside engineering firm annually surveys a quarter of the city's roads to evaluate their condition. Each roadway is then listed by category in terms of pavement condition and required treatment (routine maintenance, preventative maintenance, structural repair or base rehabilitation). She encouraged folks to visit the public works website to see the data upon which decisions are made. It helps residents understand their street in the context of the larger city network.

Over the winter they will consider other factors such as pressing utility needs, she added. Winter Street is a good example in that it has had two catastrophic water main breaks over the last two years, which is something the city has to address. All these factors go into their decision-making.

In response to a question from Councilor Maiore, Director LaScaleia explained that the current \$11 million project at the WWTP is the first of several phases to bring the sewage treatment facility up to code. The city is currently upgrading electrical and emergency power systems and, once complete, will commence design work for the next phase of upgrades which are more specific process upgrades. It is a multi-year, multi-step process that they are just getting started, she advised.

Director LaScaleia fielded additional questions on the status of other projects, programs and

facilities, such as the cold storage facilities at Spring Grove Cemetery and DPW headquarters, the transition to organic pest management of city fields and parks and security services at the Locust Street transfer station.

Northampton Police Department – Police Chief Jody Kasper

The proposed police budget includes three changes: 1) an increase to Personnel Services (PS) as a result of negotiated salary increases, 2) a slight increase to the part-time Animal Control Officer position from 17.5 to 20 hours a week and 3) shifting \$15,000 from Training Overtime (leaving \$29,984) and \$10,216 from Court Overtime (leaving \$14,479) to add a combined \$25,216 to the Special Police line item, Chief Kasper presented. The department has eight special police officers who fill in when needed on a per diem basis. With current staffing shortages, they are asking them to work regular patrol shifts, and they anticipate this need will increase as they move into FY2022, she explained.

Ordinary Maintenance (OM) items remain the same. It can be challenging to predict expenses for the OM budget due to the unpredictable nature of their work. To inform the FY2022 budget, she conducted a three-year look back. In FY2018, they used 90% of the budget, in FY2019, 80% and in FY2020, 94.1%. It's notable that the vehicle fleet is aging and older vehicles are not only less reliable but result in increased maintenance and repair costs. She monitors fuel prices and a January 21st report from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) anticipates fuel costs increasing 12%.

In the midst of conversations of reimagining policing nationwide, there have been calls to cut police budgets, Chief Kasper acknowledged. If any are considering further cuts, it is critical to understand the deep impacts of last year's 10% cut as these impacts would be compounded by further defunding. The two clearest outcomes from last year's budget cut were the loss of funding for five police officer positions and for the entire vehicle budget. However, beyond those immediate losses, there have been long-term consequences with serious and significant detrimental impacts, she reported.

The community climate in combination with employment insecurity took its toll on all of their staff. Reflective of the sudden decline in morale, they began to struggle with employee retention. Within weeks of the council's vote to defund, 11 officers (27.5% of their patrol staff) submitted employment applications to other departments. Since that time, nine officers (22.5% of patrol staff) have resigned and three have submitted paperwork to retire early. Those resigning did not leave the field of policing but instead left Northampton, taking with them thousands of hours of field and academy training. It costs the city a minimum of \$46,000 to hire and train a single officer, so each time an individual leaves, the city must spend \$46,000 to train a new officer. Employees who have left in the last year have taken with them over \$400,000 in training costs that other communities are now benefitting from. As a result of this employee loss, they are now struggling to meet minimum staffing levels and routinely require officers to work overtime to ensure basic staffing. Officers sometimes fill these shifts voluntarily, but, if not, people are unexpectedly forced to work overtime. This further contributes to low morale and the loss of experienced and trained officers.

An additional outcome of last year's budget cut was a decrease in people applying for positions with the NPD. In the first six months of 2020, they received 42 applications; in the last six months, they received only 20 and, thus far in 2021, they have received only 14 applications.

As it stands today, out of the 60 full-time police positions funded, only 49 officers are available to work shifts; others are in long-term training, out injured or on Family Medical Leave. Typically, on a monthly basis, about seven of the 60 positions are not available due to one or more of those reasons.

In addition to probable continued resignations, they anticipate five to six employees leaving in FY2022 because of retirements. This is a significant number, and if they do not plan ahead to fill those positions, they will be in an even more critical situation next spring. Shifts will be understaffed, and forced overtime will be required to meet minimum staffing levels. This is not sustainable for an extended period of time.

These are impacts within the department but there have also been consequences to the community at large, Chief Kasper continued. Historically, Northampton has always had at least five officers available to handle calls. In April, they were forced to drop that number to five officers from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., four officers from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. and only three officers from 3 a.m. to 7 a.m. That's three officers to serve a city of nearly 30,000. They reduced staffing during hours with the lowest call volume, although the overnight shift often handles some of the most serious and dangerous calls. On most days through 2020 and early 2021 they have been able to handle call volume because bars and businesses have been closed and many people remained at home and inside.

"As our community reopens, we are unlikely to be able to keep up with calls," she observed.

"We are at a breaking point. We were not an oversized department before the cut to defund and we are certainly not now. Expecting three police officers to serve a city of nearly 30,000 is not reasonable," Chief Kasper attested.

For them, it means that single officers will be alone on calls and there may be no one to assist if a situation escalates. For community members, it means that there may be no one available to respond to their calls for help.

The chief asked councilors to consider the example of an impaired driver striking another car and careening into a telephone pole at 4 a.m. Two victims need medical assistance, the road needs to be closed and the impaired driver needs to be arrested. That one call requires more officers than they might have working. And during that collision call, what about the person overdosing who needs Narcan, the person in cardiac arrest who needs CPR and the second collision on the other side of town?

Public safety in their community is her responsibility and theirs and she wants to be clear that their response capabilities have diminished over the past year and they are less able to handle calls than a year ago. In 2020, officers handled over 29,000 calls. Just over 1,000 involved some of the most serious crimes, including sexual assault, robbery, assault, arson, breaking and entering and theft. Members of their detective bureau conducted 217 investigations in 2020 and had an impressive case clearance rate of 88.5%. As a result of the 29,000 calls, officers arrested 336 people, charged 61 people with operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs, investigated 811 motor vehicle accidents, completed and investigated 1,334 offense reports and 1,418 additional reports, wrote 1,680 motor vehicle violations and issued untold more verbal warnings, she reported.

The city of Northampton has one of the best police departments in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Their award-winning work serves as a model for other communities. NPD continues to be one of the only police agencies in the state that requires a minimum of a college degree. In 2016, they were the first police department in the commonwealth to join President Obama's Whitehouse Police Data Initiative to increase transparency. She reviewed numerous other departmental accomplishments, including establishment of the DART program which has served as a model for other communities and becoming only the sixth agency in the commonwealth to be accredited by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission in 2002.

In 2021, NPD was selected to join the Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) program and became the first department to join the '30 by 30' initiative, the goal of which is to increase the representation of women in newly-hired officers to 30% by 2030. Currently, NPD officers are the most diverse they've ever been.

All of these programs, policies and training courses were implemented after they identified areas of need. Officers are forward-thinking with a focus on community health and safety. Like councilors, she listened to countless hours of testimony during both City Council and Northampton Policing Review Commission (NPRC) meetings and gained new insight into community concerns. She also carefully reviewed the final NPRC report. The NPRC did not recommend defunding the NPD but recommended the city of Northampton continue to provide a police response to many calls, she stressed. Policing is a necessary and critical city service.

When people call for help, they expect and deserve to have highly-skilled officers respond promptly. The only way to achieve this is by supporting and maintaining a work force of

educated, professional, well-trained and experienced police officers. Police know as well as anyone else the need for additional support services for some community members. They welcome adding additional resources, including rapid mental health crisis response and addiction services. Supporting quality policing and alternative response services to people in need can and should operate in tandem. The city of Northampton has a police chief and police officers with a long history of collaboration and leading the way in providing public safety services. The council's support of the FY2022 budget will help provide stability to this agency and will support the invaluable and critical police services they provide. "It will set us up on a path of being able to move forward together as we explore the future of public health and safety in our community," she concluded.

Councilor Nash said he, too, has been listening to public testimony and has been moved and shifted in meaningful ways. He will go on record as saying he supports the proposed police budget as submitted tonight.

He thanked the NPD for the way members have carried themselves throughout the last year, particularly commending the handling of the large protest in June and a demonstration at the police station during which people tried to vandalize and enter the station. While state police set up a blockade on Gothic Street in June, NPD just shut down downtown and allowed people to show up and express their views, even though they were contrary to the NPD, and kept people safe. There were no arrests at either protest, he pointed out.

He appreciates the way NPD stepped in last night in a very thoughtful way at City Hall to keep people safe, including people who are critical of the police department, he added.

Councilors asked questions and offered comments. Among other things, Chief Kasper talked about mutual aid arrangements, the department's response to COVID, optimum staffing levels and the NPRC's recommendation to create a Department of Community Care (DCC).

In response to a direct question, Chief Kasper said the department should have six officers on every shift. With 60 budgeted positions, seven are typically not available as they are either vacant or held by an employee out on FMLA or injured, Chief Kasper explained. If they staff for 65, they really are only talking about having 58 available to work. "You have to be healthy to do this job," she pointed out.

Where they were before – 65 - was an appropriate staffing level for their city, she suggested. Right now they are doing very one-dimensional policing. Officers are patrol responders and detectives are investigators, but they've lost the community services bureau, the community services sergeant and the ability to focus on relationship-building and other critical services councilors have heard people talk about.

Regarding the community care department, Chief Kasper said she is very open to seeing what that looks like. Talking about a department without details of its logistics, communications, legality and location leaves a lot of unknowns. Generally speaking, she fully supports clinicians working for the city. To her, it makes sense to have them out of the police department. That's the model she's seen across the country; from CAHOOTS to the program recommended in Ithaca, mental health responders are affiliated with the police department. She has already seen what happens when other agencies work in silos; there are communication breakdowns and lapses in information-sharing. It doesn't work as well, and she imagines adding clinicians to the police department would be a much more seamless process. In looking at successful models across the country, what she's seeing is clinical responders paired with the police. It doesn't mean they have to respond in cruisers; they can respond separately.

She thinks it's a great idea, she would love to see clinicians responding yesterday out of the police department. She understands it might go in a different direction in their city.

In the course of the remaining wide-ranging discussion, Councilor Quinlan, Councilor Dwight and Councilor LaBarge explicitly stated their intentions to support the police budget. Councilor Jarrett also said he would not like to see further reductions until there are alternatives in place.

Councilor Dwight commented that Chief Kasper has identified the elephant in the room and,

indeed, the elephant in the middle of the nation. When he last saw her in person, he mistakenly mentioned that most people present were speaking out against the institution of policing generally and not the department here specifically. He has been called out on that, but he will continue to point out that in his 40-year experience with the police department, Northampton has been a model of progressive policing. Starting with her predecessor, Northampton was the first community in the state to initiate a harm reduction program, and it was at the initiative of the police. A police chief approached him as a very young councilor and told him they had to take loitering laws off the books because they were unconstitutional. After George Bush eliminated funding for community policing and made resources available to up-arm every police department in the country with Desert Storm paraphernalia, this same chief turned down that offer and instead directed the funding to hazmat response systems, saying we're not going to militarize our department with tanks, desert camo and high-capacity weapons. That tradition continues with her.

He's participated in many interviews and witnessed the department's hiring challenges, even after the city removed itself from civil service. He can only imagine that the challenges that existed prior to the murder of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor are amplified a hundredfold. This department has been on the receiving end of projections, of an unveiled contempt for policing in general. The trick comes with the fact that the police are unique in the job culture of this country. Only one job in this country allows the appointed person to 1) arrest and detain and 2) have means to kill. There is automatic and embedded resistance to that. The grant of that kind of power to any individuals [understandably] comes with concern, fear and resentment.

He does believe they need to reimagine how they are policed, but "that's on us." Ultimately, the department is a reflection of the community. He's not especially proud of their 10% cut last time. It was actually a decision that seemed to be developed more out of expediency than the actual practical application of reality. She is correct in stating that the policing review commission did not recommend defunding the police. He will support the budget.

As they know, there is a marked genuine sense of distress in the community. It's easy to focus it on the police, but in point of fact it's on us; it's also on the people who are being critical as well. If they're going to strive for the ambitious goal to address their systemic, intrinsic racism and, as she points out, her department is working on that. . . He's always been grateful for the NPD and for the department people he's had interaction with.

He's grateful for her efforts to be receptive and to participate in the conversation. He is also grateful for officers who are willing to participate and for the effort of people trying to create this change. He will commit whatever energies he has going forward even when he's no longer serving.

Councilor Maiore said she respectfully disagrees with Councilor Dwight; she stands by the 10% cut. It was a pandemic year where every department was cut except the health department and fire rescue. "We spent hours and hours thoughtfully thinking about that." She said she's sorry Chief Kasper experienced it as painful.

The idea of a DCC is precisely to offer different policies and practices. The idea is that they would approach policies and problems in our community differently. It would be great in the field of policing to have more metrics. There is not always evidence-based data for a lot of services police offer. She knows Chief Kasper says they need five or six officers, but where is the data that it is keeping their community safer? She thinks they all struggle with metrics in policing and not just assumptions.

Chief Kasper said she thinks the best metric are calls they can't go on, and that's what's coming for them this summer. They have been very lucky in 2020 and '21 that everything has been pretty much closed. Even over the last two weekends, they have been extremely busy and they don't have enough officers to handle the calls. As they start to see calls stack up, delayed response times and calls not answered, that is their metrics. Over the summer they will do their best to get to every call but they will be operating with reduced staffing.

Recess

Recess

The City Council took a brief recess at 7:37 p.m. The City Council reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

Public Comment

Public Comment

At 7:46 p.m., Councilor Sciarra opened the floor to public comment. Over the next two hours and 40 minutes, 46 different speakers gave testimony, with some speaking more than once. For a full transcript of their comments, please see the recording on the Northampton Government Archive page of YouTube. Highlights of each speaker's remarks are transcribed below.

Jose Adastra of Northampton identified himself as the founder of the Western Massachusetts Abolitionist Collective. He called 'pro-police rhetoric' he heard 'alarming' and said "white-guilt monologues" haven't really addressed any issues. He has suffered real abuses personally at the hands of diverse new hires, and his houseless comrades have suffered abuses since he was a child. They are not projecting anything, he insisted. More than one of them has come to say it and there are court cases to prove it.

The city has a long history of city projects displacing people and interrupting their sleep, he charged. Referring to the Roundhouse parking lot reconstruction, he claimed it is going to be used as an excuse to clear out homeless encampments and arrest the occupants. Special police officers hired recently are especially aggressive and violent, he contended. Diversity does not solve the issues of police brutality. The community care department must not run out of the police department; this is one of the most insulting things he's heard tonight.

L from Montague said that, at this point, she is not going to be a thankful citizen. She guarantees that any change made will be out of 'white supremacist ideation.' She believes councilors know exactly what they are doing by holding a public hearing at night; they are purposely preventing their community from speaking out against oppression. Last night, demonstrators put up a beautiful mural of George Floyd and, the very next day, the city took it down; it was so disrespectful and insulting. Last night and this past year has proved to her that Northampton does not give a sh** about black lives, black liberation and public safety. "I don't know what it will take for you to realize that black people are dying and that you are staying silent." When there is any resistance to state violence they use force, incarceration, institution-alization and murder to silence opposing voices. She hopes they understand clearly that if they do not reject Mayor Narkewicz's budget to increase the police budget, "you are racist."

Josh Wallace, President of New England Police Benevolent Association (NEPBA) Local 186 representing Northampton patrol officers, thanked those councilors who publicly announced their support for the proposed budget tonight. He named cities that have defunded their police budgets (San Francisco, Minneapolis, New York, etc.) and now publicly regret that decision. All of these cities have seen massive spikes in crime. The Northampton police budget cannot handle any amount of cuts without losing staffing. He referred to the 'crime triangle.' In order for crime to occur three factors must be present: desire, target and opportunity. Police officers work on the opportunity portion of the triangle as their primary function. With more opportunity, those with a desire and a target will have more opportunity to commit crimes. Just this year, this department caught a group stealing catalytic converters while doing a property check. This is just one example of how proactive policing is successful and should be the model.

In 2017, the New York City police department conducted a sociologic study following the tragic death of Eric Gardner. NYPD lessened their proactive policing and minor crime summoning at the desire of the community. Prior to the event crime was on a decreasing path and continued to decrease shortly after the decision to lessen proactive policing. However, a short time later, crime began to climb and spike, demonstrating that less policing leads to more crime. The foot traffic in Northampton has decreased significantly due to COVID and will now begin to increase. Booker Bush already stated in a meeting that the NPRC did not recommend defunding the police. Officers are wanted and appreciated by most members of the community.

Mary of Florence, a 35-year resident, said she called in to support a fully-funded police budget. She believes the goals should be improved technology, improved training and more diversity in their department and, without a fully-funded budget, that can't happen. These are the first few meetings she has ever come to because she feels strongly about the police department. Recently she went to the Northampton Abolition Now (NAN) website and noticed that many of the members are from out of town. Somehow they seem to have inserted their voices into their discourse so much so that it has become hard for ordinary citizens like herself to even speak at

these meetings. She referred to the 'very angry demonstration' in front of the police department last year; it was at the expense of people who pay taxes here. She believes in peaceful assembly and peaceful demonstration, but they should be peaceful and she's seen anything but peace. Recently she saw a video of an angry guy confronting a police officer in the middle of the street. The horrendous language that was spewing was awful. She thinks that respect has to happen on both sides. She would like to see Northampton restored to its former glory. She would like to see every storefront occupied and to feel safe walking up and down the street or having her grandchildren walk up and down the street, so she absolutely supports fully-funding the police department.

Hattie Adastra of Northampton said she agrees with L from Montague on all of her points but especially with the point that this meeting feels purposely inaccessible. Having the public comment section at an undesignated time at the end of the meeting feels like an intended silencing of opposing voices. The proposed budget makes her feel like they are pretending that the last year and last 500 years didn't happen. She would like them to adequately fund the DCC and cut the police by at least 50%. Addressing the comment that NAN members are coming from out of town, she commented that, if she had children here or went to school here she would be showing up to these meetings. She thinks it is perfectly reasonable that people who live outside of Northampton have a voice in these meetings because many can't afford to live here.

David Murphy of Northampton noted out that in 2002, the NPD became accredited by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission. At the time, only about a dozen police departments were accredited and today only about 100 of the 351 municipalities in Massachusetts have accredited police departments. The department itself chose to raise the level of professionalism and its standards. They did this to encourage the best and brightest young people interested in a career in law enforcement to join the NPD. Ten years later, voters approved an override to build a modern police facility. The new building also served as a recruiting tool to attract the most qualified potential applicants. As a result of internal department efforts to raise the level of professionalism and voters of Northampton's action to fund a modern police facility, Northampton has not experienced the kind of issues experienced by major police departments across this country. A year ago, the city council made the decision to cut the police department 10%. At the time, five councilors had less than six months' time on the council and were voting on their first municipal budget.

A year later, he asked councilors to consider the results. The city had three officers at the police academy when the budget was cut. Upon graduation, Northampton had to inform these three officers that they no longer had jobs in Northampton. The fallout continued over the next year with eight additional fully-trained police officers resigning to continue their careers in communities whose political leadership chose to support their police departments. In a typical year, the NPD handles 30,000 to 40,000 calls with no pandemic. If only 10% of Northampton's police calls are criminal in nature, that's 3 to 4,000 times a year where they want a quick police response. He finds it ironic that the city council routinely inserts itself in union labor disputes consistently siding with labor but, when it comes to its own unionized police department, has no qualms about cutting its budget, terminating police jobs and creating working conditions that result in Northampton police officers feeling the need to seek employment in other communities.

The city council in one year has done its best to undo 20 years of progress. Well done, he said.

Amy Olson commented that it was so unbelievably offensive on so many levels that, the day after the one-year anniversary of George Floyd's murder, councilors listen to Chief Kasper for five minutes and suddenly forget everything people have told them over the past year about their harmful relationship with police and the harm police have caused in this community. It's so offensive that they talk about the logistics of policing and the number of calls when hundreds of people this year have been murdered by police. She agrees with everyone in saying they should reject this budget and actually listen to the people who've been telling them over the past year to cut the police budget. Support of police in Northampton is also deeply offensive to the history of abolitionism in Northampton. Sojourner Truth and Frederick Douglass lived here as abolitionists and now, years later, here they are supporting the police budget and saying that it's not realistic to cut the police. Reject the police budget and defund the police.

NPD spouse, Westfield, said she again doesn't feel comfortable for her own security giving her name. Last year, she spoke to them about her experience as a police spouse and about the

extremism and hypocrisy that have kept her frightened and anxious for a year now. Yesterday that trend not only continued but intensified. She had to once again watch helplessly as there was a second smaller riot downtown. Protestors gathered and graffitied ACAB, "All Cops Are Bad," multiple times on City Hall and then beat a man who spoke out in a way they did not like. Luckily, Northampton police were there to rescue the man from protestors and restore peace. Afterwards, Jose Adastrá publicly on record flagrantly and unapologetically threatened councilors. Not only have they disrespectfully ignored the voices of victims in their community as well as officers themselves, but they have exclusively listened to and emboldened the most extreme, dangerous minority in the community who now feel entitled to openly encourage fascism.

They have marched down the street with posters saying that Northampton police cannot be 'pinkwashed,' a direct attack on Chief Kasper's sexual identity as well as other officers on the force. Attacks are now welcomed on anyone if they serve in a profession that a minority has decided to generalize and demonize. "The vast number of your community members support their police" but are in fear of retaliation should they come forward with their knowledge and opinions, she asserted.

In 2019, of all calls police responded to - 40,040 - only 84 resulted in any use of force, no matter how slight. From the same data, all racial categories other than white had a 0.0006% likelihood of a use of force encounter. According to the review board's own statistics, mental health calls only made up 0.015% of police interactions in 2020. The department of care would be a 24/7, fully-funded, department serving only 0.015% of calls coming in. No one thinks clinicians responding to certain calls is a bad thing but defunding the police to implement this department is a bad thing.

Dan Cannity said he wanted to express that he is excited by the appearance of the DCC as a line item in the budget. His focus is on the future and on the best practices for community safety. The NPD has worked for many folks and that's how policing works. Policing is a method of control; it's coercive and carceral; it uses force and authority to command rather than understand, and when they look at the outcomes, policing does not produce the best results. The NPRC didn't act as a judge and jury for the NPD but it also didn't absolve the department, he clarified. In fact there are plenty of worrisome statistics. The city has faced multiple lawsuits based on police behavior and misconduct and city insurers paid out for them.

Cities, states and entire countries are asking how communities are kept safe. The answer to keeping people safe by decades of data is by divesting from police models and increased community support and safety. "Asking only to improve the police department or offering services which continue policing models of intervention doesn't serve us," he suggested. Proposals for co responders are one option but even co responder models aren't ideal. Ithaca is pointedly not even having a police department any more. The NPRC looked at this on a local, national and even international level and came up with recommendations including reducing the footprint of police as well as creating the DCC to start responding to crises with houselessness, substance use and mental health calls and, not to stop there, but to start there and expand.

Corinne Olson of Florence, who identified herself as a licensed clinician, said she is speaking to support fully-funding the DCC. They've created a narrative of mental health crises and crises in general that is really narrow and unfair, she observed. "If you respond as if there is a crisis, you'll be sure to find one," she suggested. It becomes almost a self-fulfilling prophecy. If they respond as a DCC, with curiosity and not predicting the outcome, just asking what somebody needs, the outcome will likely be much different. Some believe if there is a lack of police response, there will be danger, but there's no evidence this is true. CAHOOTS' work has shown that when a clinician or peer responds to a crisis call, it is typically the person being supported who is injured and not the responder, because they are responding thoughtfully and intentionally instead of reactively as police are trained to do some instances. Calls become dangerous because of the ways they respond to them. If they're handled appropriately, the likelihood that they will escalate will be much lower.

David Kris, Ward 3, said it is despicable that the George Floyd memorial was torn down today. Last summer, many members of the city council made statements about striving to address racism, etc. The fact that the memorial couldn't stay up more than a day is disrespectful to the people who created it and disrespectful to George Floyd's life. It makes him question the city

council's commitment to addressing problems of systemic racism. When he looks at the city of Northampton, he sees lots of houseless folks and people struggling to make ends meet. The police get a raise this year yet houseless people don't have shelter or enough to eat and working class people struggle month to month just to pay their bills. He noticed there were a lot of questions for the DPW but there didn't seem to be much critical engagement with Chief Kasper. He thinks that's a negligence of the council's duty.

Ryan Wadsworth confirmed he had already spoken.

Ashwin Ravikumar of Amherst said he is very angry about the mayor's budget. He displayed a chart purporting to show that police budgets have grown in Northampton over the last 30 years by 148% while other budgets like public works and arts and culture have grown at much slower rates. This historical trend line is inscribed with violence, murder, white supremacy and police militarization, he claimed. One year after the murder of George Floyd, what they are doing if they support this budget is ratifying a reversion to this vile and revanchist trend that led to the murder of George Floyd and continues to allow for harm to happen in Northampton.

Addressing himself to Councilor Dwight, he said that when they spoke in Pulaski Park a few weeks ago, Councilor Dwight said to him, "Your victories are often small but they are not pyrrhic."

It is hard to imagine a victory more pyrrhic than reversion from the brink of change to a historic mean of white supremacy, Ravikumar asserted. Unless the durable victory they are seeking is a white supremacist victory for policing as they know it, this is not a durable victory, he stressed.

To Councilors Jarrett and Quinlan, Ravikumar said he appreciated their work on the NPRC yet is hugely disappointed that this budget is acceptable to them. To miss a central concept after so many months of study in any course he teaches would earn a poor grade.

Ashlynn Cradic, Northampton resident and member of the Northampton Arts Council, advised those present that, as of recently, members of the arts council stand with defunding the police. She is a local comedienne and artist who lives in Ward 3 and her family and ancestry is Cajun/Creole from Louisiana. She was born in Jackson, MS where the state still has a confederate flag, a piece of racist history. When she first came to this town, she was looking for a place of acceptance as a woman who is trans and queer. The thing she started to realize is that these problems of racism, homophobia, transphobia and able-ism are systematically ingrained in their country. She shared her opinion that Northampton has always wanted to achieve progression but never has. When she first moved to this town she was on the same street as Councilor Sciarra in a slum run by a slumlord. Within her first week, she watched a black man nearly get hit crossing the street by a white woman in a car who didn't like his attitude when crossing the street and police then went to arrest him. She has watched members of the LGBTQ community get harassed and beaten up by the cops. There is an obvious caste system of marginalized people in this town. The city arts council stands with defund even if the city council does not.

Ahalya of Northampton commented that a few points made by people in favor of the police don't make sense. There is no connection between punishment and deterring crime; the main thing is to decriminalize and address the fact that a lot of what is known as crime stems from poverty and oppression. She works with houseless people and has worked with at least three people who have been rendered homeless by police impounding their car for something as trivial as a broken tail light. It makes her really sad to hear people defending the police. It points to tunnel vision and not being able to see that people feel unsafe while police are enacting state oppression on the working class.

Jesse Hassinger, Ward 4, reminded those present that, last year, in response to the public outcry against police violence, the government of Northampton asked citizens to volunteer for the policing review commission with the special request that it be BIPOC-led. Not only did they spend six months reviewing how the NPD does its job but at the end they presented a report full of data recommending the DCC. After listening to the mayor and council speak on the FY2022 budget, it seems unequivocally clear that this body of primarily white, middle-class individuals continues to undermine and undervalue voices of oppressed and minority individuals asking again and again that the tasks that police do on a daily basis be transferred to this new department. This is the only way they can assure that violence against their community is taken away

from people who on a daily basis walk around with killing machines on their hips. He joins the dozens of like-minded individuals at this meeting demanding additional funding to the DCC of at least \$882,000.

Jasper, Ward 3, said he is perplexed and disturbed that it appears that city councilors have just ignored everything that the policing review commission has suggested and what people have been coming and talking about concerning the need to allocate funds to the DCC. He feels like it is pretty simple to put two and two together. If people are saying they don't feel safe and need alternative resources and asking them to fund the DCC and defund the police, they should listen to people's cries for help. It is confusing to him. Defunding the police wasn't a familiar phrase to him before this year but it became obvious to him that that's what they need to do. He hopes they reconsider their previous support of the police budget and realize that if they are going to fund the DCC, the money needs to come from somewhere and it makes logical sense that it come from the place that is currently offering those services very poorly.

Amy Francaes identified herself as a white woman who owns property and a small business in Ward 4. For the past year councilors have heard consistently from community members that they want to defund the police and fund the DCC to respond to wellness checks, mental health checks, traffic stops and countless other incidents where an armed responder is not needed and may make the situation more deadly. The NPRC report clearly shows that, based on 2019 data, of seven categories of calls listed, violent crimes only make up 6.7%. Clearly, the DCC can take on and uphold their community in a safe and wonderful environment while the NPD cannot. The amount of work is incredibly overwhelming. They need to have a well-funded DCC funded at \$882,000 in the first year.

Mark Cote, Ward 1, said he has heard some fear-mongering by people who feel that somehow Northampton will stop becoming safe if they even marginally reduce the role of policing in their community. It is important to note that, as stated, only 6% of the calls NPD handles are considered violent crimes. They are one of the few departments that requested additional funds during COVID while most other departments had major and significant cuts. It's important to note that crime is caused by poverty, not a lack of police. He referred to his personal experience being pulled over twice, once for campaigning in his own neighborhood and once for a non-existent light violation. He thinks they need to fully-fund the DCC if they actually want it to serve the purpose it's meant for. A budget of \$400,000 would probably fund three positions running the office but would not pay for social workers to function to take on some of these roles. He thinks they need to reject this budget and provide at least \$800,000 in the first year for the DCC.

Autumn of Northampton, who described herself as a working class queer woman, said she wanted to respond to some of the ridiculous claims supporters of the Northampton police are making, particularly the claim that people in favor of defunding/abolishing the police are from out of town and not connected to the community. That is utterly false and is common rhetoric used often in a very racist way by people on the far right; the idea that people who support revolution are outside agitators coming in and not part of the community. "We are not a minority," she stressed.

There are way more people who have had really offensive experiences with the police than not. It feels really intentional that this meeting is being held at a time when a lot of unhoused people and people with kids are not able to attend, she agreed. She wants to name the idea that if they abolish the police there will be a lack of safety. That is completely untrue. As abolitionists, every day they respond to each other without involving the police. She has never felt comfortable going to the police and knows she is safer going to her neighbors. It is absolutely ridiculous that getting rid of the police will cause a drop in safety. People who support abolishing and defunding the police are not loud outside agitators; they are part of this community. They are here and they will not be erased.

Mareatha Wallace said she does not live in Northampton but works at JFK Middle School, so she is one of those outside agitators. She is here to ask that they fund the DCC. She says this as a black woman and a woman who has had to interface with police officers and it's not always great. Her mother said the definition of insanity is doing the same things over and over again and expecting a different outcome. Things that happen in other parts of the country in smaller ways happen here. Newark, NJ, which had a very high rate of police shooting in the last year, didn't have one officer fired. They did just break their cycle. Can you imagine what those black

and brown people feel like? At least there is some modicum of safety. These officers found another way to deal with it, so they are breaking the model of insanity, expecting something different to come out of the systemic racism in policing. She's not saying every police officer is racist, she's saying they are in a system that can't help but put them at odds with anyone who is not white. She is a black, gay woman and she doesn't want to be afraid when she leaves the house.

It is time to start doing things they have never done before. "Let's change the definition of insanity," she concluded.

Gabe K., Northampton, said he is here in support of defunding the police and fully-funding the DCC. He hasn't spoken but has been a part of all council meetings on policing since surveillance cameras came into play. He found it really disturbing that some of the councilors came out in favor of the budget before even hearing public comment. Public comment was still to come and councilors were telling them how they were going to vote. It is so painful to have been saying all this stuff for years and not having anyone believe them and support them when police are following trans people with their hands on their guns. "I've been terrorized by the police."

He also doesn't understand why people who are injured need the police. As someone who had a severe injury on the bike path one day, the first person who responded was a police officer. He got a cop's gun in his face. He didn't get an EMT, he didn't get a paramedic, he got a cop. "I'm in so much pain!" he exclaimed.

Mary Jones said she lived in Northampton for three years but recently moved to Holyoke. Northampton is the most policed place she's ever lived. She has lived in big cities, small towns and all over the U.S. After George Floyd's murder, she used to play a game when she lived in Ward 2 where she would see if she could drive to work and back without seeing a cop. Not only did she never win that game, she never got to work without seeing a cop at all. This is the moment city councilors have been waiting for. Last year, they said they were horrified by the murder of George Floyd but just didn't have enough information. Well guess what? The NPRC has given them six months of research. They have clearly laid out that they can redirect the vast majority of calls that police handle and that they be accountable to the people who are most policed. The question is no longer what does Northampton need to do; it is do they, the elected leaders of Northampton, have the stomach to do it. The idea that they do not have enough information is an excuse they can no longer hide behind. That is why they have stayed here for four hours tonight; to ask them to reject the police budget and demand that Mayor Narkewicz fund the DCC by at least \$882,000. Councilors said they have seen them come to these meetings over the past years. If they have the courage to do what is right and fund the DCC, they're going to be right there with them, she pledged.

A woman who said they could call her 'N' said she has heard a lot of white individuals trying to define what it means to be a black woman. "Not all of us are against the police," she stressed. Some of them actually do appreciate the law and order. The further east you go in Massachusetts, the more you notice that minorities - Latinx and black and other immigrants - do appreciate law and order. If you look at states and other countries right now, people need help. If someone breaks into your house right now with a weapon, what are you going to do? Are you going to call someone unarmed to come and help you? Officers put themselves on the line to protect the individuals in this community. This community of almost 30,000 lacks diversity as it is. It's mostly white, very wealthy individuals. Minorities actually do appreciate law enforcement because a lot of them need help. When someone is in their house taking advantage of them, who comes to help them? A lot are faced with situations they cannot control; situations that are dangerous. Who is going to protect those individuals? Councilors are living in areas that don't need policing but in other areas, i.e., Florence Heights, anywhere there are a lot of minorities concentrated, those are the people they should be thinking about. In Boston, they love law enforcement because there are a lot of minorities. Not everybody in law enforcement is the same. In Northampton, the last time a service weapon was used against someone was in 1980.

Clara Wagner of Northampton said she feels really disheartened that the budget has even made it this far and that it feels really, really important that it be rejected tonight. She framed councilors' decision as 'choosing to either side on the side of activists or to side with police.' Thinking historically with that perspective, which groups of people tend to promote justice? She asked rhetorically. As a mixed race person and someone who works with marginalized

communities as a social worker, personally and professionally she has seen community care work really well. Almost all the calls are not for violent things; they are for things that don't require armed responders like wellness calls and traffic stops. [Activists] stand with any council member that's willing to stand firmly on the side of believing in this community and that guns and militarized force don't have to be a way of taking care of this community.

Aaron Clark, Ward 7, said he agrees with Jose, David, Jesse and so many others. This is a complete and total echo chamber to the point that it feels like it's by design. It should be clear at this point. Councilor Nash tells us it's been a tough year for Northampton PD and PD across the country. Josh Wallace tells us in response to a little bit of criticism, "I'll motion for property to sell you in Arizona." It really seems like a conflict of interest there, Josh. To further address Karen and Josh directly, police unions do not belong in the labor movement. They are reactionary bodies used to protect and defend racism and white supremacy. There was not one mention of white supremacy or police violence or of the 967 people who have been killed by police since George Floyd's murder last year on May 25th by Chief Kasper or by anyone else in this 'rigged opening'. Instead, he heard "a disturbing narrative by Chief Kasper and Councilor Thorpe full of inference and insinuations that police are somehow the victim of oppression." And, a riot downtown yesterday, Karen? Nope, I was there. We're going to continue to be here, that's not a threat, that's just reality.

Mal, Ward 3, pointed out that it is 9:08 p.m. She said she would like to echo those before her who stated that [public comment] started way too late. They could have started this earlier and they had this problem last year. Last year, she heard them say that they just didn't have the information or the power to change things or to know what to do. Over the past year, that road has been made clear; the information, that data has been given. It's very clear that what needs to happen is to lessen the footprint of the Northampton police. They don't need more police officers roaming the streets. She has never been able to go downtown or to walk between stores without seeing them. Speaking to the need for the DCC, there are so many people who need help but can't seek it because, at best, it comes in the form of handcuffs. They don't need handcuffs, they don't need weapons; they need community members who care. She is a person who doesn't turn to police; she turns to her community. She is totally in support of an entity separate from the police that streamlines that. She is horrified by Chief Kasper's idea that this entity should be through the police because that is antithetical to everything they've been asking for this year.

Sophie Chambers of Holyoke said she worked in Northampton for several years as a crisis clinician. She wanted to reiterate the idea that the root of crime is complex and intersectional and the root of safety is social and community services. Research shows them that communities with high rates of police presence are not the safest communities; the safest communities are those where people have access to education, housing and mental health support - the components that allow people to work and support their families. If their goal is to increase safety for Northampton, they should not support this budget, they should be funding the community care center. As somebody with a Masters in Social Work currently working with folks facing eviction, she can tell them that housing is a huge component for safety. The things people will do to keep their family safe and housed are sometimes not legal because they are forced into doing things just to maintain some modicum of stability. It is complex; it is a combination of needing to decriminalize things that are not about safety and providing support for people to live a life that is safe and supported.

Sean Donovan, Northampton, said he is a little bit done trying to appeal to the city council because it seems like most of them have made up their minds about the policing budget for FY 2022. He is pretty dismayed about that because it feels they like have an opportunity to be a leader in putting money and energy into supporting people in a different way. When so many police are leaving their town, it is an opportunity to fill that vacuum with something different that won't be targeting people of color or disabled folks. He is tired and sick of these meetings. He also feels like they shouldn't be measuring whether their city should separate from the system of policing and white supremacy just because police haven't killed a black man in their city. Death and murder shouldn't be the threshold for change. There was a beautiful memorial for George Floyd that was dismantled within 24 hours. A lot of people get channeled into the racist and unjust criminal justice system in MA and that's something police are a part of. He is grateful the DCC is being thought of as being a line item but he is really worried that, by underfunding it, they are destining it to fail. He really wishes they could put more money into the DCC that could be a

great asset to not only their town but their region.

Tim Edmond, Ward 7, spoke in favor of fully funding the DCC and echoed other voices in saying that he is a bit disappointed that they have come to this point in the budget. He started attending meetings last year and was sympathetic to councilors who didn't want to proceed really boldly because they had a lot of questions. He thinks the policing review commission has answered a lot of those questions.

Gwenevra Lodi Nabad said she was calling from a location that originally was the land of the Nonotucks, Pocumtucks and Nipmucs. She came here after them, so she wanted to express gratitude for being here and for having access to local resources that have been a gift and saving grace in her healing process since coming to Northampton. She said she also wanted to thank businesses and the NPD and to thank everyone for being here and for being part of a greater movement. Her grandmother emigrated here from Italy and she lived in the projects. She is a woman and still lives in the projects in Massachusetts. If this city is being less funded by the state because it is a very sought after city in MA, then it becomes part of the community issue. Programs that support mental health are absolutely essential. Problems start with programs that address issues for women and children and problems are also environmental. "Things need to get fixed, and I don't care how it is done."

Jen, Ward 3, said she wanted to encourage the council to do a couple of things. 1) fully fund the police budget because there's no other system in place to transfer calls to, 2) consider working together with the police department to come up with solutions rather than just cutting them out of the process. She feels that communications coming from most people at this meeting are really not restorative; they're not looking for a way for everyone to get along. Finally, she asked them to support a mental health program within the police department at least until something else is in place.

Rowan, Florence, she/they, said she supports cutting the police department by 50% and fully-funding the DCC by no less than \$882,000. If they don't adequately fund the department, of course it won't succeed. A cynical person might posit that it is by design, likely in collaboration with Chief Kasper herself. She is also extremely troubled by the speed at which Northampton removed the mural. Northampton claims to be a progressive and moral city, but anybody who cares about social issues should recognize how regressive the NPD and all police departments are. Even if city government refuses to recognize the social harm the NPD inflicts, they should be working to scale NPD back before they make headlines by killing a citizen. "We have so much more work to do if we want to make Northampton the moral haven residents, the mayor, Jody Kasper and you city councilors claim it is." Cut the police budget by 50% and fully fund the DCC, she implored.

Brian Zayatz, noted that he had already emailed comments in a similar vein to the council. He drew an analogy between policing and defective equipment. Let's imagine that policing is a machine and every town has one, he suggested. If the machines across the country killed about 1,000 people a year, did they think [Northampton's machine] would face a recall? He asked. If the machine in Northampton were showing signs of the same issues as machines in other towns before they killed people, would they look at that and say, that's not an issue, it hasn't killed anyone; it's probably fine or would they say it probably should be recalled?

Since throwing money at public safety seems very important to them and accountability doesn't seem very important, he would suggest that instead of fully funding the police department and giving very little funding to the DCC, they could give half of the police department's funding to the DCC. That way they're still throwing money at these things and that way from the activists' standpoint it doesn't feel like the DCC is being set up to fail. Naturally, for those who believe community care is important, this is concerning. Then they can decide which strategy is being helpful to their community.

Ya-Ping, Turners Falls, said she is very confused by councilors tonight who've spoken with a positive assessment of the Northampton police. When Mareatha spoke earlier about her bad experiences with the police and fearing for her son, when Gabe spoke earlier about being injured and being terrified by police and being hurt, when Ahalya spoke earlier about someone who was rendered houseless because the police impounded their car and when everyone else has spoken about their personal experiences with Northampton police, how is that computing

with you? How did those testimonials fit with their assessment of the Northampton police as being progressive? The only explanation she has is that they don't believe these people. Many people have spoken about their personal experiences of terror and abuse. She confessed 'basic confusion' about how their positive experiences with the police had any bearing on someone else's experience. "I think rendering someone homeless is violent."

Danielle Amadeo, Ward 3, said she felt the need to say that she graduated summa cum laude at Amherst College, holds a Master's degree and taught at Williams College, serves as chair of the arts council and is a survivor of sexual assault, domestic violence and poverty. She is calling on them urgently to defund NPD by 50% and fully fund the DCC. She wants to live in a city where everyone feels safe at no one's expense. She knows many do not feel safe here because of NPD. "Councilors, respectfully, if this has not sunk in over the course of the past year, you are not listening. At best, you are choosing a course of convenience through willful ignorance, and, at worst, you are knowingly using your positions of power to uphold systems of racism, violence and oppression right here in our city."

She recalled Councilor Sciarra movingly acknowledging the murder of George Floyd last year and holding moments of silence. The time for silence and statements of solidarity is over. The time for change is now. Beyond the very real present situation, it is also their responsibility to address historical inequities that have taken place in their city. She is grateful to Ashwin for sharing the chart showing the historic bloating of the police budget. Last year's 10% cut was a tiny first step and, frankly, it did little to correct those historical inequities. If they are not willing to listen and to take action to make meaningful change in their community, please step aside. It's time for 'Cops Out,' not cop outs.

Lemy Coffin identified herself as a licensed clinical social worker who lives in Ward 1. Chief Kasper said the police administered something like 1,680 motor vehicle infractions this year. That is 1,680 opportunities for people to be uprooted from their lives. One infraction like this can lead to a domino effect of mothers losing children to DCF, families losing parents to incarceration and any person losing employment or housing. It can be the thing that sends folks over the edge or is the last straw with their boss or their DCF workers in deciding that they no longer can have custody of their children. She's seen it firsthand as a social worker. A Valley Advocate article from 2015 states that the majority of arrests are not Northampton residents. The article said 66% of arrests are people outside of Northampton; 19% are people identifying as homeless or transient. The article also detailed testimonies of Hampshire Heights' residents who do not feel safer with police in their community.

Lastly, she emphasized the implications of policing on their young people. Numerous young people of color who stayed at the Cutcheons program on Pomeroy Terrace are criminalized by police. When they run from the program into the community often dysregulated, they've gotten charges of assaulting a police officer when police intervene and try to get them back into their residential programs. She has seen it firsthand in her work and the way it literally keeps children out of their homes with their families. It is not just the aggressive and excessive action police take that is violence, cutting the police budget is divesting from the pernicious violence of everyday criminalization that the Northampton Police Department upholds. Funding community care while the river of criminalization runs strong is setting the department up for failure.

Councilor Sciarra said she believed the remaining hands are only those of people who have already spoken. People may speak again only if they can provide additional testimony or if they have new information.

Javier Luengo, Ward 3, identified himself as an immigrant who has been living in Northampton for 12 years. He said he heard statements today that he didn't expect. Black and brown people are not monolithic, he reminded. "I grew up really poor. I lived in the streets," he shared. If asked who he would call at the time, he would have said the police. Communities of color need to have an option, trans communities and LGBTQ need to have an option.

In debating the resolution to support the NPRC's recommendations, one council member abstained because he said he didn't have enough information. "Shame on you," he chided. He served on the policing review commission for six months. Six months of videos, six months of testimony, etc. Part of their jobs as elected officials is educating themselves to be able to make those decisions. When talking about the NPRC's recommendations, Chief Kasper mentioned the

needs assessment as one of the priorities. **The** priority is fully funding the DCC, he stressed. "Our intention was to diminish the footprint of the police department. Period," he emphasized.

He can understand when community members say they can't understand because they haven't read the report or didn't go to the meetings. He cannot understand and cannot accept when elected officials say they don't have enough information.

Money has to be allocated for an advisory board because the NPRC lost three or four women of color because they didn't have access to childcare, he added.

Yesterday she was confused about how this budget could have happened, and she was angry, **Dana Goldblatt** observed. Now, she has new information because she thinks she's figured out what's going on: "Language as we've been using it is broken," she suggested.

This council asked for information sufficient to justify turning down a budget that didn't fund the police. A report was given, hundreds of hours of testimony were given and, "it was as if it didn't happen. You couldn't even hear it." Hundreds of people provided testimony of their personal experience with Northampton police.

She said yesterday she thought it was denial. But listening to councilors say they were going to support this budget after the testimony in the report, "Language is broken," she concluded. It is literally impossible for people to understand the experience of others just from hearing them talk. She said she wanted to take a moment and think through how they can build the government they want without using language, "because language is broken."

Ryan Wadsworth said he is with someone he holds dear who is brilliant but doesn't want to speak because of how intimidating this process is. He is hearing over and over people saying how disappointed they are in this process. He hopes there will be an ongoing written dialogue between the NPRC and the city council about what fully implementing these recommendations means. What Dan Cannity and the NPRC have said very clearly is that the report calls for reducing the footprint of the police. This is done by reducing their budget and reallocating their money.

Chief Kasper mentioned power outages, fallen trees and fender benders - those are precisely the things for which they don't need armed people showing up. He agreed with Councilor Dwight that reimagining safety is "on us." From one CIS white man to another, "anything short of throwing our entire collective will towards creating alternatives in the shortest possible time period; that's complicity."

The budget as it stands is just another stalling tactic, he added.

Jenna, she/her Turners Falls, said she is here to encourage councilors to reject the proposed budget and fully fund the DCC by at least \$882,000 this fiscal year. She had written a huge statement about her family's experience with police, but right now she just wants to highlight that there have been countless stories shared of people's experience with fear and abuse by the Northampton police. The NPRC recommended defunding the Northampton police and investing in a DCC. The current budget does not support this recommendation and that's a slap in the face of volunteers. Last night, community members put up a beautiful George Floyd memorial at City Hall. To tear this down so quickly and so crassly sends a direct message: Mayor Narkewicz and the city of Northampton do not believe that black lives matter and don't care about community safety. In creating a peer-led DCC, many responsibilities will be taken out of the police and put into the hands of people better trained and better equipped to handle such situations without force or coercion. It is thus confusing to her why the proposed budget moves \$178,633 more into the police department when responsibilities are being taken out of the department; why are they paying them more for less work? She wants this community to be safe for everybody, not just people who look like her. "Just because you may not have personally had a bad experience with the police does not mean that you can ignore people who have."

Rye Buckley, Ward 3, said he wanted to agree with and build on Mary's comment about Northampton being heavily policed. Last night around midnight he gave two friends a ride home. Both times when he pulled over to drop off the friend, a police vehicle drove up behind him and sped past where he was parked. He passed a third cruiser parked on Main Street. He decried

the tearing down of the memorial to George Floyd.

He noticed Chief Kasper said police are leaving the job because the community doesn't want them here anymore. This seems like an elegant consensus in their community He can think of a clear, elegant solution. "Fund the Department of Community Care."

To Councilor Nash's question about who the community would prefer to have show up to their emergencies, NPD or state police: "We would prefer our peers arrive with tools and intentions to help us,' not the police with weapons to harm them and legal powers to arrest them, he stated. He was really discouraged to hear so many councilors had already decided to support this budget before this meeting. He hopes those who stated they had already made their decision will consider what they've heard tonight.

Ezekiel Baskin said he is really worried tonight that if this budget passes in its current permutation they are going to be here next year doing the exact same thing. Back in 2012/2013, he was on a subcommittee of the School Committee looking at the start times of school. It was only eight or nine years later that those recommendations were implemented. That can't happen with the policing review commission. This is urgent. One full-time project manager and one half-time administrative assistant are not going to be able to build out a plan to make this happen. He can just see them here in his mind's eye next year. NO.

To those who say policing services are essential, **Lemy** said she wanted to talk about the harms of their services. Police cause harmful solutions to social problems and keep real solutions from emerging. According to statistics, there is disproportionate use of force on people of color. She read statistics about domestic violence survivors from a document entitled "Interrupting Criminalization."

90% of incarcerated women are survivors of sexual or domestic violence.

Mal said not only has she been a member of the community but she has been a homeless member of the community. At no point during that time did she feel that the police were an option to help her or did she not feel threatened when she saw police surveilling the community. She is absolutely horrified by how many of them have made up their minds. That is unspeakable and entirely against the positions they hold in this town. They are here to beg them to listen and to follow through on what they said they were going to do. Please listen.

Jesse Hassinger, Ward 4, said he wanted to add some data. According to the policing review commission, the time spent on calls per category in 2019 lists violent crime at only 6.7%. There are six other categories listed that make up the remainder. Of the seven, only one category comes in less than violent crime and that is the undocumented miscellaneous category. Non-violent crime covers 93.3% of their job. The call for a 50% cut seems reasonable when looking at this data.

Rowan –In 2017, the Northampton police department received a grant from Walmart to produce baseball-style trading cards of police officers to be handed out to school children. Students who successfully collected all 50 cards received a ride to school in a police cruiser. In response, activists are creating NPD misconduct trading cards. The first is Officer Robert Powers who they recently profiled. Powers recently made headlines for stating that "one bad hamburger from McDonald's does not make McDonald's bad."

Moving on, in 2013, Alan Borowski is one of three officers who responded to an incident at Tully O'Reilly's. In a video, officers are seen shoving an individual to the ground as he yells repeatedly, "I didn't do anything!" before Borowski pepper sprays him. Jonas Correia was charged with assaulting a police officer and disorderly conduct. The charge of assaulting a police officer was dropped and the disorderly conduct charge converted to a civil infraction. The city's insurer paid Jonas Correia \$52,500 for excessive force and wrongful arrest. Borowski has been the subject of two internal investigations for alleged wrongdoing and has been the defendant in two lawsuits claiming damage from the wrongful investigations. In 2017, an anonymous letter surfaced within the NPD accusing Borowski of removing pills from the department's drug lock box without another officer to witness. Borowski was placed on paid leave while an independent investigation took place.

Cherilyn Strader, Ward 6, drew attention to the fact that, as Northampton, they call themselves Paradise City. She'd like to call it Paradise City but, to her, it can't be when they're actively harming the people that live in, work in and visit their area. This harming involves upholding white supremacy. She asked them to cut the police department by 50% and fully fund the DCC.

Councilor Dwight moved to close the public hearing. Councilor Quinlan seconded.

Councilor Nash brought to the chair's attention that Grace Rountree would like to speak.

Councilor Dwight withdrew his motion.

Grace Rountree of Greenfield, said she wanted to reiterate what had been said. She would really like to see a meaningful funding of the DCC and is really disappointed to see that this budget intends to increase funding to the police after a year of so much work on the part of so many people. She continued reading the document Rowan had begun reading for the balance of her time.

Councilor Dwight moved to close the public hearing. Councilor Quinlan seconded.

After being told there was another hand, Councilor Dwight withdrew his motion.

Ya-Ping stated her intention to read some of the testimonials heard at policing review commission hearings. For three minutes, she read aloud from a transcript.

What amount of evidence and testimony and data would sway councilors? **David Kris** asked rhetorically. What prevents them from standing up to Mayor Narkewicz? He has heard testimony tonight that is absolutely horrifying. As a CIS white male, straight-passing, he hasn't experienced this. Maybe councilors haven't experienced living in terror either, so it is hard for them to relate. Do we need to wait until someone in Northampton is murdered by the police before we say enough is enough? With regard to the nature of crime; it's not a crime to smoke marijuana, especially now. It shouldn't be a crime to be addicted to drugs or be publicly intoxicated, that's a failure of a lack of public transportation and a lack of housing. We're punishing people who are disenfranchised, punishing the underemployed. What is actually crime and what will it take for you to finally accept and believe what people are telling you? What do you need to see? Do you need to see someone else die in front of you? Do you need to be the victim of police brutality?

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

The public hearing was closed at 10:24 p.m.

<p><u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) & Study Requests</u></p>	<p><u>Information (Charter Provision 2-7) and Information Study Requests</u></p>
<p><u>Motion to Adjourn</u></p>	<p>Upon motion made by Councilor Foster and seconded by Councilor Dwight, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m. The motion carried unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.</p> <p>Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council</p>



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CONDUCTED AS AN ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING
 Northampton, MA

A special City Council meeting was called to order by Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra at 6:04 p.m. On a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

Roll Call

At-Large Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra	At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight
Ward 2 Councilor Karen Foster	Ward 5 Councilor Alex Jarrett
Ward 3 Councilor James B. Nash	Ward 6 Councilor Marianne LaBarge
Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe	Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore

Ward 1 Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr. was absent.

Councilor Sciarra announced that this is a special meeting to consider the Board of Health's recommendation to opt out of the state aerial spraying program and to refer an ordinance to Legislative Matters.

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

Councilor Sciarra announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Ordinances Not Yet Referred
21.275 Ordinance Relative to Parking on Cross Street

Ordinances Not Yet Referred

21.275 An Ordinance Relative to Parking on Cross Street

Councilor Foster moved to refer the ordinance to Legislative Matters. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Quinlan absent.

Discussion/deliberation of opting out of State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB) Spraying

Discussion/deliberation of opting out of State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB) Spraying

For this process, the Board of Health (BOH) needs to have been consulted and they have been, Councilor Sciarra confirmed. She said she would open up the floor to public comment on this topic.

BOH member Cynthia Suopis said she is happy to report that the BOH recommended 4:0 to opt out of the state plan. They had a lot of public comment on this issue and heard a lot of concerns. The sentiment in favor of opting out was 10 to 0 based on comments heard. Per state law, communities have a small window of opportunity to opt out. If the state were to determine they had reached an emergency situation of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), the state would spray - first a spraying by truck then aerial spraying.

Speaking to the reason behind her vote, she was concerned because they were told that if they didn't opt out and needed to spray that the spray would avoid organic gardens. She couldn't wrap her head around how it would be possible for aerial spraying in Florence to avoid Grow Food Northampton's plots. The science is interesting on this topic as is the science on all pesticides. As it was presented to them, the last outbreak was in 2019. These outbreaks have a cycle to them and it's usually a two or three year cycle. What made her vote the way she did is that the spraying does not eliminate the risk, it *reduces* the risk. The best protection against any virus of this nature is what they all know – insect repellent, water sources, screens on windows, etc. Mosquitos seem to be in certain areas of town such as the Meadows. Health Director Merridith O'Leary would have more information about monitoring procedures, but she expressed her understanding that monitoring occurs on a regular basis

Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

BOH member Laurent Levy confirmed that Ms. Suopis' account of the discussion in the BOH meeting is accurate. To explain his vote, he was concerned by the loss of local control.

Basically, they have to say yes or no now and ultimately suffer the consequences later. He felt that the risk of having an unnecessary spraying imposed by the state was not something he was prepared to accept. He assumed if they had a significant outbreak they could either take action themselves or the state would still come to their assistance if they chose to accept it.

Councilor Sciarra opened the floor to public comment.

Darcy Sweeney of Florence thanked the council and said she'd like them to support the BOH's recommendation to opt out of state spraying. Research has shown spraying isn't effective for various reasons and may actually increase the number of mosquitos by killing their natural predators. Wind drift makes it difficult to control where pesticides land; ground spraying can drift up to 300 feet and aerial spraying up to eight miles. It's the most vulnerable populations who are at risk, especially children and people with pre-existing conditions. Finally, all insects are at risk, including pollinators, and they are in the midst of an insect apocalypse where insects are dying en masse from humans' use of pesticides. She urged the city council to vote to opt out.

John Cohen said he wanted to urge very strongly that the city council opt out largely for the reasons Darcy spoke about. They are in the middle of an insect apocalypse and losing their insects means they lose their birds, their amphibians, their reptiles and their pollinators. This is an emergency for life on earth and they must take it with the utmost seriousness. Luckily on this local issue they have the power to make the decision. He urged the city council to vote to opt out of aerial spraying and to begin the process of encouraging the rebirth of insects, birds, reptiles, etc. and the natural habitat they require.

Carol Horowitz of 226 Emerson Way thanked the council for calling this special meeting and the BOH for recommending opting out. She is a member of Climate Action Now and on the policy committee of the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA, MA). Last summer, leading environmental and conservation organizations, including Mass. Audubon, Mass. Sierra Club, NOFA, the MA Association of Conservation Commissions, Regeneration Mass. and the MA Beekeeper's Association, formed a coalition to oppose aerial and truck spraying and to work on a safe way to control disease-spreading mosquitos. Many cities and towns have already opted out, including Amherst. She thinks they are opting out because they recognize that spraying pesticides is ineffective and hazardous to the health of all living beings and that overuse of pesticides is related to the climate crisis. There is an alternative coming. In Massachusetts, Senator Jo Comerford and other legislators are supporting legislation establishing a mosquito management program in the Commonwealth to replace the current outdated program. NOFA says that not only is unrestricted spraying a threat to the integrity of insect biodiversity and ecosystem health, such spraying raises serious health concerns, especially during the COVID pandemic. These chemicals are known to elevate risk factors to human immune and respiratory systems. Not only that, but spraying adult mosquitos is the least effective and most environmentally-damaging way to control mosquito-borne diseases. She read a quote from MA Audubon that called into question the effectiveness of mosquito control in rural or suburban landscapes with large areas of wetlands. Pesticide applications may harm or kill beneficial species including pollinators and mosquito predators, alter water chemistry, lower water levels and degrade wetland habitat. There is no organized program for monitoring of such potential effects. The high reproductive rate and short life cycle of mosquitos may allow populations to evolve that are resistant to the pesticides while local populations of mosquito predators are less resilient to the spraying.

If they are looking for a mosquito control plan, a great one was developed by Boulder, CO, she shared. She urged them to please follow the BOH recommendation and vote to opt out.

Marty Nathan, 24 Massasoit Street said she is grateful to the BOH and city council, especially Councilor Maire, who really threw down on this. She is a retired family practitioner who for decades served farmers and their families, people who bear the brunt of harmful pesticides. She is here to ask for public health reasons as well as the environmental risk that the city opt out of pesticide spraying. Her understanding is that the state would use anvil 10+10, which is a combination of two ingredients: sumithrin and piperonyl butoxide. "We do not have access to the threshold or parameters of spraying since none have been made public," she related.

EEE is a severe and often fatal disease but it occurs very rarely and usually in eastern Massachusetts. Northampton is in the lowest risk category geographically. West Nile Virus has recently

been more common than EEE. On the other hand, the chemicals used in spraying to protect from those diseases also poses a significant health risk. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends reductions in pesticide use because of the increased risk of toxicity to children. Acute pyrethrin exposure in children can result in headache, fatigue, vomiting, diarrhea, hypersecretion, respiratory symptoms and seizures among other things. Chronic exposure in humans is not well-studied, but in lab animals it can result in liver and thyroid abnormalities. Material safety sheets reveal that anvil itself has not been tested for its reproductive health effects or risk of birth defects. In other words, there's a lot they don't know.

As a doctor, with every prescription she wrote, she had to weigh the relative harms and benefits of the treatment against the risk of the disease itself. It seems here that the risk of severe, vector-borne disease is very low, spraying is not necessarily effective, and there are significant ecological and health risks with the proposed solution. They should avoid doing harm while funding and pursuing proven public health interventions to prevent mosquito-borne disease, she asserted.

Gwenevra Lodi Nabad of Northampton, a gardener, community advocate and Climate Action person, said she is very happy that the BOH saw that it's very important to eliminate pesticide spraying so that people who grow their own food can grow it without the concern of having more pesticides in the soil and also going into the waterways and harming the children.

Johanna Halbightson said she lives right next to the Barrett Street Marsh and wanted to put in a very personal plea for it. Cutting back on the insects which would cut back on the birds and other animals in the marsh seems catastrophic to her. She's a gardener and lives in an apartment complex with a mini-community garden in the back right next to the marsh. The marsh would presumably be producing a lot of mosquitos and it surprisingly doesn't. Spraying would affect her health. She put in a plea for their marshes and their wetlands.

Steve Jones, Florence, said his background is as a retired public health physician. He is asking that the city council opt out. As Marty said, the risk is quite low and the effects on the environment are awful. It's sort of like using a shotgun and has all sorts of undesirable impacts on the environment. He would ask that the city council opt out.

Ilia Corner-Rivera, Northampton, said she has been following the discussion about opting out and is really pleased to see how many people are aware that this is something they can't continue to do. She believes that with every city and town added to the list of those in opposition, it helps to reinforce the message so that other cities, towns and states can follow suit, adding them to so many communities worldwide, because the problem is not local, it is worldwide. She has had the privilege of interpreting for an indigenous tribe in the Amazon recently that has worked tirelessly to be able to bring that message loud and clear to the planet. To do so they have had to learn new language and new technology but, fortunately, they have prevailed to the point that they are now being used as an example to the rest of the world that we cannot continue this irresponsible course of destroying the planet.

Councilor Sciarra read a comment from the chat from Rebecca Hart Olander, a teacher from Florence. Rebecca said she would like to urge the council to opt out for the bees, organic farms and fields, the people and the environment.

Councilor Maiore shared how impressed she's been since serving on the council with residents and their level of expertise. To frame the issue for councilors, last year Governor Baker filed a bill to empower the state's mosquito control board to take action when the Department of Public Health (DPH) determines there is an elevated risk and to create a task force. More recently Rep. Sabadosa and Senator Comerford filed a bill entitled, "An Act Providing for the Public Health by Establishing an Ecologically-Based Mosquito Management Plan in the Commonwealth."

What impresses her is the wildly varying rates of how effective spraying it is at killing mosquitos, from 38% to 91%. Similarly, there is no evidence that spraying reduces EEE. The Department of Public Health (DPH) stated that a reduction in the risk of EEE relies primarily on the use of personal prevention behaviors by individuals.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) says Anvil 10+10 is toxic to aquatic life and highly toxic to honey bees. She really doesn't want to rely on the state to make

these calls. They sprayed last year in September after the summer was over. She thinks people have established that it is antiquated science and time to think of things differently. She is annoyed with the state because the state will pay for aerial spraying but, if communities opt out, the cost falls on the municipality. It is very disappointing and she is hoping state legislators will be able to remedy that. The state itself posted that controlling larval mosquitos while still concentrated in a pool of water is easier, more efficient and less costly environmentally than killing adult mosquitos.

Councilor LaBarge thanked everybody for speaking out and said she agrees. It definitely affects the health of every one of them and their animals. She feels like this is the right way to go. She thanked the BOH for making that decision, saying she feels like it is the right one.

Councilor Foster thanked Councilor Maire for bringing this forward and Councilor Sciarra for agreeing to hold a special meeting on this issue, also Northampton residents who really pushed for this and the BOH. She works with folks with disabilities and has a number of adults who have brain injuries due to mosquito-borne illnesses but aerial spraying introduces other factors into the environment with known damaging impacts.

She expressed gratitude for the process. In another community where she lived, there was a push to kill an invasive species with chemicals without a discussion and it was a real driver for her in wanting to be involved in local government. She said she looks forward to supporting this.

Councilor Nash said he noticed Health Director Merridith O'Leary was not part of this discussion. He asked if somebody could summarize her position on opting out.

Councilor Dwight noted that she shared that with them last night [during her presentation at the FY2022 budget hearing].

Councilor Sciarra pointed out that the process involves a pretty long application and Director O'Leary has agreed to complete that as part of the process. She's been working on it basically since the BOH voted.

It was a board vote, BOH Member Suopis stressed. She said she doesn't want to assume Director O'Leary was for or against anything. She didn't push them in one direction or another, she elaborated. She knew this was a monumental task to get this done but she rose to the challenge again.

"She was moderating the discussion and giving us the information that the board needed," she advised.

As Member Suopis pointed out, Director O'Leary is always very neutral so as not to influence their deliberations, Member Levy confirmed. "I would say she was neither strongly in favor nor against opting out," he reported.

The neutrality was evident when she was speaking to the council; her presentation was very informational, Councilor Nash agreed. The presence of EEE in their community is very minimal, and the places it could occur are in very specific locations. By and large, applications of BTI, the anti-larval application, are the most effective treatment to suppress mosquitos along with Councilor Maire's mention of personal protective behaviors, he observed. He liked the way Dr. Nathan laid it out; that there is not a lot of EEE, that West Nile is more pervasive and not as deadly and that the effectiveness of spraying is dubious.

Councilor Jarrett said he agrees with other councilors and members of the public. Speaking to the issue of Pfast contamination, a 'forever' chemical found in many of the sprays, it is a serious water concern in southeastern Massachusetts, he pointed out. These aren't just temporary problems but potentially permanent problems, he noted.

Councilor Sciarra added her thanks to Marty Nathan, Councilor Maire, the BOH and Director O'Leary who has taken on a huge task to complete this application. She also thanked Administrative Assistant Laura Krutzler who did a good deal of scrambling to pull together the special meeting. She shares Councilor Maire's frustration and annoyance with the state and fully supports this.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to approve the order to a vote, and it passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Quinlan absent.

Councilor Dwight moved to suspend rules to allow a second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Quinlan absent.

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Quinlan absent.

The following order passed two readings:

**City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS**

In City Council, May 27, 2021,

Upon the recommendation of City Councilor Rachel Maiore.

**21.276 AN ORDER OPTING OUT OF THE MOSQUITO CONTROL SPRAYING
CONDUCTED BY THE STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD**

WHEREAS, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 252, § 2A(b)(2), the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (“EEA”) is authorized to develop a process for the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board to permit municipalities to opt out of spraying conducted by the Board pursuant M.G.L. c. 252, § 2A(a); and

WHEREAS, the EEA has developed a process for such opt-out, which requires in a city that the city council hold a public meeting in which public comment is permitted and that the council seek input from the local board of health; and

WHEREAS, the process developed by the EEA also requires that the city submit an application for approval by EEA of an alternative management plan for mosquito control; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2021, the Northampton Board of Health voted to recommend that the city opt-out of the state mosquito spraying program.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Northampton City Council orders as follows.

Ordered, that

The City of Northampton shall opt-out of the mosquito control spraying conducted by the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board under M.G.L. c. 252, Section 2A(a). The foregoing vote was taken after a public hearing in which public comment was permitted and it is in accordance with the recommendation of the Northampton Board of Health. On or before May 28, 2021, the City shall file with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs an application for approval of an alternative management plan, which approval shall be required for the opt-out to be recognized by the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board.

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

New Business

New Business
None.

Motion to Adjourn

Upon motion made by Councilor Dwight and seconded by Councilor Jarrett, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The motion carried unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Quinlan absent.

Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council



*CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CONDUCTED AS AN ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING
Northampton, MA*

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

A regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra at 5:31 p.m. Councilor Sciarra announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Public Comment

Councilor Sciarra announced that zero lot line (ZLL) ordinances will be taken up at a special meeting this coming Monday at 7 p.m. and will not be discussed this evening. Items not reached this evening may be continued to Monday's meeting.

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

For the next hour and 50 minutes, the council accepted public comment. (See Public Comment Record Sheet for names and topics of people making public comments.)

Roll Call

At 7:22 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| At-Large Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra | At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight |
| Ward 1 Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr. | Ward 5 Councilor Alex Jarrett |
| Ward 2 Councilor Karen Foster | Ward 6 Councilor Marianne LaBarge |
| Ward 3 Councilor James B. Nash | Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore |
| Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe | |

**Public Hearings
Announcement of Public hearing on National Grid/Verizon Pole Petitions to install three (3) poles on Finn St., King St. & Myrtle St. in connection with MassDOT King Street reconstruction project (Petition#24881246)
Announcement of Public Hearing on 21.279 National Grid/Verizon Pole Petition for Pine Street (Petition#30336314)**

**Public Hearings
Announcement of Public hearing on package of National Grid/Verizon Pole Petitions (21.257, 21.258 and 21.259) to install a total of three (3) poles on Finn Street, King Street and Myrtle Street in connection with the MassDOT King Street reconstruction project (Petition#24881246)**

Councilor Sciarra made the following announcement: Per M.G.L. Ch. 166, Section 22, the City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 17, 2021 @ 7:05 p.m.** on the joint petitions of National Grid/Verizon New England and sole petition of National Grid to install a total of three (3) poles upon, along, under or across one or more public ways: Finn Street, King Street and Myrtle Street.

Instructions for accessing the hearing may be found on the June 17, 2021 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.

Announcement of Public Hearing on 21.279 National Grid/Verizon Pole Petition for Pine Street (Petition#30336314)

Councilor Sciarra read an announcement as follows:
Per M.G.L. Ch. 166, Section 22, the Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 7:15 p.m.** on National Grid/Verizon New England's petition to install one jointly-owned (JO) pole on Pine Street (Petition #30336314). Instructions for accessing the hearing may be found on the June 17, 2021 City Council agenda to be posted on the city website (www.northamptonma.gov) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City Council will hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting

Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting

At 7:25 p.m., the City Council recessed for the Committee on Finance. The Committee on Finance adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

Financial Orders
(on 1st reading
pending Finance)
21.280 Order to
Approve FY2022
General Fund
Budget - 1st
reading

Financial Orders (on 1st reading pending Finance review)

21.280 An Order to Approve FY2022 General Fund Budget - 1st reading

[Note: In consultation with the city solicitor, the council took steps to consider the components of the FY2022 budget separately from Order 21.280 itself since Councilor Jarrett was not eligible to vote on Order 21.280 because of a conflict of interest. After calling for a motion to "adopt the FY2022 General Fund budget," the Council President requested a motion to divide the question to separately consider the \$40,000 line item for the Pedal People contract in the Central Services budget. Removing this line item cured Councilor Jarrett's conflict, allowing him to participate in discussion of the remaining budget items.]

Councilor Dwight moved to adopt the FY2022 General Fund Budget for discussion. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Councilor Dwight moved to divide the question to separately consider the \$40,000 line item in the Central Services Parking Maintenance budget for the Pedal People contract. Councilor Maire seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Jarrett recused.

With the Pedal People line item removed, discussion of the FY2022 GF budget by all nine councilors was able to proceed.

With the question divided, Councilor Sciarra invited Councilor Jarrett back. She announced that they would now deliberate and vote on the FY2022 GF budget with the \$40,000 line item removed.

Councilor Maire said she is grateful to the mayor for this budget in general and for clearly listening and responding to the NPRC's recommendation to establish a new Department of Community Care (DCC). She is also grateful to the mayor and Senator Jo Comerford for pursuing a grant to supplement the budget to add \$150,000 to the \$423,955 appropriation for a total budget of \$573,955.

She is seeing \$308,647 more needed to meet the recommendation of the NPRC and to assure the viability of this investment and the safety of all of their residents.

The council has an agenda item tonight for approval of a slightly higher amount (\$435,635) for the Academy of Music (AOM) bathrooms, she pointed out. She considers the AOM a treasure and is going to approve funding but wanted to illustrate how, on a municipal level, the additional funding is less than a bathroom renovation.

Regarding the \$882,602 cut last year, it seemed that the mayor was willing to spend that amount last year on public safety during a struggling financial time, so, why not this year? She asked.

The council save for one abstention unanimously passed a resolution supporting the 14 recommendations of the NPRC, she reminded. Her concern is that they are going to waste the taxpayer's money by not fully investing in and committing to this department with the new services it will be tasked with. She wants the best and the brightest candidates for the DCC. The policing review commission and similar models in cities with similar demographics say the proposed amount of money will not get that for them. Again referencing the resolution, she questioned if this is "a meaningful investment that assures viability."

"I don't think this amount assures viability," she countered. She is concerned that the DCC that has been recommended by their own appointees is being set up to fail. Northampton has evidently been talking about providing cost-effective and quality policing and public safety alternatives to their community for 25 years, so why are we unnecessarily slowing that process down? It feels like there is a lack of confidence in alternative services and in a stand-alone accountable department.

Councilor Maire asked fellow councilors to support their own council resolutions, noting that they also passed a resolution committing to actions at the state, federal and local level to combat the public health crisis of systemic racism. Quoting directly from that resolution, she reminded members of the following resolves:

"We have an obligation to advance racial equity by undoing the inequities found in the law, and to proactively pass ordinances and make budget decisions that address inequity. . . We will act to update ordinances that have been shown to have a disproportionate impact on communities of color and adversely affect vulnerable populations. We will also consider these impacts during our annual budget process and as financial orders are brought to the council."

Councilors also said they wanted to shift municipal resources from punitive approaches to public safety to supportive and restorative ones and to support the work of the NPRC created on July 9, 2020 to study and make informed recommendations to change the city's approach to policing.

She truly appreciates the start but thinks they can do better. She will support this budget if the department is funded at the level of the NPRC recommendation or higher, she concluded.

With regard to the capital order related to the Academy of Music, the city clearly has many, many capital projects that are more expensive than departmental operating budgets, Mayor Narkewicz confirmed. He thinks the real comparison would be to look at where this department would fit relative to other departments. He screen-shared a chart with a comparison of FY2022 budgets for other departments showing that the DCC is funded at a higher level than 12 of them, including the senior center, parks and rec, Lilly Library, the Assessor's office, the City Council, City Solicitor and parking enforcement. He thinks it is important to put it in the context of operating budget to operating budget. He can certainly show capital projects in excess of many operating budgets.

In terms of the recommendations, he is extremely grateful to the NPRC for the work they did and the recommendations they made. He has done his best in this budget to come up with what he believes is a meaningful first allocation of funding. It is important to note that the commission provided a very broad overview of what it wanted. It looked at models around the country and arrived at a very specific model and asked the city to pursue that. They had a good discussion about the pluses and minuses of that approach. He took away from that joint meeting that the commission and the council felt very strongly that the city wanted to create a model that was somewhat unique. In terms of the budget, they have had long discussions about the \$880,000. It is not a real number, not a factual amount. It is not the amount of the cut the City Council made to the police budget.

He understands that that number has become sort of larger than life. Regarding the \$882,000 figure, the report says the commission's interpretation of the budget cut by the city council is that it was made in the spirit of reinvestment in the community, so the report directs the mayor to 'explore reinvestment opportunities.' However, policing review commission members did not provide a detailed itemization of departmental expenditures. He expressed his understanding that the commission was charged with making broad recommendations with the understanding that the governmental body with fiduciary responsibility; i.e. - the mayor and city council, would then take those recommendations and translate them into a budget.

His starting point was determining the best way to get the department up and running in a way that it could be fully expanded in the FY2023 budget.

He has heard a lot about grants. The NPRC report went on to say that it encourages the city to pursue grant funding as part of the establishment of the department. He has looked at what other communities have done and cited Northampton's own experience in converting central dispatch from uniformed officers and firefighters to civilian dispatchers. He believes they need a senior-level staff person to take these very broad recommendations and make them actionable. He's tried to provide staff and resources. The goal is not based on a number but rather on what he believes will get the department off to a strong start and get the work underway. He voiced his expectation that the work will include determining the level of staffing and number of responders needed, establishing necessary qualifications/certifications and anticipating required coordination with other departments, just as when the city made the decision to move away from uniformed officers to civilian dispatchers. They

brought in an experienced administrator who then set about to do the work. He sees the same thing happening here. There is a lot of grant funding available as police reform across the nation moves forward.

In terms of concerns about one-time funding, he totally agrees; in fact, it is one of the reasons he explained they are not reinvesting the funds cut last year. There are one-time funds involved in start-up such as vehicles, equipment, training, etc., and it is entirely appropriate to use grant funding for these start-up expenses, he indicated.

He understands the passion and symbolism of the number, but he has an obligation as the chief executive to come up with very clear budget numbers that fit the intended purpose. He believes the budget provides flexibility if the city wants to hire staff sooner. The Mayor's office frequently comes to the council mid-year if needed to move money from the OM to the PS side of the budget to expand a department or create a position that was unforeseen at the start of the fiscal year. The \$300,000 on the OM side of the budget could be transferred into PS mid-year if needed. The \$150,000 could also easily offset OM funds earmarked for one-time funding, freeing that amount for use on the personnel side. He doesn't know how many staff would be needed to launch a day-time pilot program and ramp it up to an over-night operation but that would be the type of expense money could be transferred to PS to support. He believes this is a significant investment in the DCC. The senior-level staff person will need to put together an advisory group and he has made sure the department has administrative staff to be able to support such a group.

During his time as mayor and as an elected official, he has been involved in departmental reorganizations, mergers and the elimination of city departments and is very much aware of what it takes to do that within the world of finance, procurement, personnel law and other factors. He believes this is a significant amount of funding. In looking at the city of Ithaca, it is in line with what they've proposed in the opening year. Ithaca is also bringing someone in as a project manager/program coordinator.

Councilor Maire said she was aware of the pivot to create a unique model and appreciates his responsiveness to that. \$800,000 to a million dollars is the amount needed to operate similar alternative to policing models across the country, she asserted. The 10% cut proposed last year was not a random number but represented the excess number of police officers employed by the city in a pandemic year, she claimed. The justification given for Northampton having a larger than average police force is the typical number of visitors and tourists to the city, but, due to the pandemic, Northampton did not have the usual influx last year. It also happens to be the amount it takes to get this type of program off the ground. She doesn't think they'll regret adding \$300,000 to this budget and thinks it will attract better candidates.

He was at those meetings and he does not remember her ever making that justification, Mayor Narkewicz commented.

DISCUSSION

Councilor LaBarge applauded Mayor Narkewicz for including funding in the FY2022 budget to stand up a Department of Community Care (DCC), saying it shows he has heard loud and clear the central recommendations of the 'Reimagining Safety' report of the NPRC. While the proposed \$575,000 is not comparable to the \$880,000 originally proposed, it is indeed a start.

She asked if there is a possibility of examining the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for funding to support new program development called for by the policing review commission.

Mayor Narkewicz said most definitely. He presented basic details of the ARPA program and said he would be coming forward with more details as they become available. There is also additional state funding and grant opportunities being shifted towards alternative to policing programs, including co-responder models, in light of police reform efforts across the country.

He explained that \$300,000 in the DCC budget the first year is basically allocated for one-time studies, so this money could immediately be shifted to PS in the following fiscal year without increasing the budget. He stressed that investment in the DCC is being made in the context of trying to create a balanced budget and renew a fiscal stability plan. The goal is to

keep from tapping into fiscal stability funds in the first year so that the city is able to extend its budget stability to cover all of its services for the next five years, he reminded.

ARPA money is related to CDBG funding and the amount allocated to Northampton is roughly \$22 million, Mayor Narkewicz presented. The four over-arching categories of grant-eligible activities are 1) COVID recovery for individuals and businesses, 2) replacement of lost local revenue in areas such as parking and meals tax, 2) water/sewer/Stormwater/broadband infrastructure and 4) hazard pay for employees during COVID. He purposely did not build this budget with ARPA funds because it is intended to be a very specific, one-time pot of money for the city.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councilor LaBarge expressed her understanding that the first year budget supports a more thorough community needs assessment than was possible to be conducted by the volunteer policing review commission. She stated her belief that funding this assessment is very important. She also strongly asserted her belief that the city needs an advisory committee to guide the first-year process of development of the DCC. Many residents could lend their expertise to helping the project manager write a mission statement, develop job descriptions and figure out the new department's relationship to other departments, she suggested.

Mayor Narkewicz agreed on the importance of having an advisory committee, noting that he called this out in the budget as one of the things the project manager would need. In a similar vein, he has been in communication with the Center for Policing Equity, a leading nonprofit that works with municipalities around the country on police reform, including Ithaca, as a prospective source of technical support.

Councilor Jarrett asked the Mayor if he had a sense of how much will be needed on an ongoing basis to fund the DCC. He expressed concern that, if not fully-funded this year, in future years it will be necessary to take money away from other budgets to provide sufficient funding.

Mayor Narkewicz stated his belief that there will be a lot of one-time costs that won't be repeated and that it is enough to successfully get the program off the ground. As they move forward in future years, if additional positions are needed, they will have to make decisions as to how to pay for them as with any department. The project coordinator will have to develop job descriptions and run them through the HR process to be graded in order to understand the actual cost of positions created, he pointed out.

Quoting from the NPRC report, Councilor Jarrett cited its directive that the DCC should be accountable to those it serves in a way that city departments and social service agencies contracted by the city and state are not: *"Governance of the department should include people with lived experience of criminalization and marginalization and those impacted by it,"* he read. *"Without a direct charge to include these individuals and represent a balance, any department that is crafted would fail in its equity and justice goals."*

He asked the Mayor for his thoughts on how to implement that recommendation in terms of the advisory committee and the general running of the department.

This gets into the challenge of integrating the new department as a municipal department, Mayor Narkewicz indicated. The charter spells out how city government operates and collective bargaining agreements govern employment terms such as lines of supervision, management rights and grievance processes, he reminded. What Councilor Jarrett is proposing would be a significant departure from that so they would need to understand how and if a model like that could be accomplished. Northampton does not now have employees who report to non-city employees nor does any other municipality, so that's going to be one of those areas that has to be understood and explored to see if it is possible.

That is one of the contrasts with a model based on contracting with a private organization. He understands the desire for this to be part of municipal government but it presents certain challenges. In terms of making fiduciary, operational or personnel decisions, it will be interesting to understand how that will fit within a municipal structure, which is governed by laws, ordinances and collective bargaining agreements, he observed.

Councilor Foster said she has talked to a number of people who had never considered that their experience with policing was different from that of other people. There is a tremendous amount of support throughout the city for the idea of addressing issues that have been handed to policing through the new DCC. She expressed strong support for having the new department be a municipal department and said she is thrilled to see it in the city's budget. She hopes they do see budget transfer requests from OM to PS and she would support them.

Members asked questions about other specific budget changes, such as a dramatic increase in unemployment compensation from FY2020 to FY2021 and a cut in salary for two positions in the Auditor's office.

The city did not spend as much on unemployment in FY2020 because they were able to use CARES Act funds to cover unemployment costs, Finance Director Wright explained. They did lay off a number of employees and all those unemployment costs were picked up by the CARES Act. In the auditor's office, the payroll and AP coordinators were erroneously budgeted for 40 hours a week in FY2021 when they only work 35 hours a week. Their salaries were readjusted this year.

Mayor Narkewicz responded to additional questions about the funding and staffing of the DCC and its relationship to the resilience hub. He wouldn't want to form an advisory committee for the department until the program manager is in place, he volunteered.

The resilience hub is something the city has been working on for years and he sees it as an initiative separate and distinct from the DCC, Mayor Narkewicz clarified. Some of the same stakeholders will undoubtedly be involved in both ventures. He views the resilience hub as part of the overall effort to support the needs of the community, particularly the needs of its most at-risk members.

Councilor Nash noted the potential for the two initiatives to serve the same populations. Between the two, the city is committing roughly \$2.5 million to community-based services. If they include the resilience hub along with other programming, it is a significant commitment, he asserted. He thinks some of that is getting lost in the discussion of the \$880,000.

He has been doing some research, and the CAHOOTS contract with Eugene, Oregon runs about \$800,000, representing .11% of Eugene's budget, Councilor Nash reported. [Rye] Buckley pointed out that what Northampton is allotting is only .03% of Northampton's overall budget. If you add the \$150,000, they are pushing north of .04%. If you look at what they're dedicating to help people at risk in their community for a city of their size; it's substantial, he maintained. He referred to the many people who have approached him to say, 'Don't defund the police but fund the DCC.' While there's clear consensus not to defund the police, people are also firmly behind the idea that they need the DCC, he stressed.

He is going to support this budget and appreciates the effort the mayor has put into this, he concluded.

Councilors Quinlan, Dwight, Thorpe, Sciarra and Jarrett in turn made statements of support for the mayor's budget. As part of his statement, Councilor Quinlan stressed the importance of characterizing the \$882,600 figure correctly. When the final police budget passed last year, it was \$882,600 less than when first presented by the mayor, he affirmed. He also mentioned that, on a per capita basis, the CAHOOTS' budget represents \$9.22 per person, while Northampton's allocation to the DCC represents over \$15 per person. [According to that comparison, Northampton's allocation is greater.]

Councilor Dwight commented that one of the primary drivers of the urgency behind establishment of the new department was the energy invested by the community at large and particularly the BIPOC community after the George Floyd lynching and associated extrajudicial killings of Black and brown individuals.

Councilor Sciarra said she met with many NPRC members individually after presentation of their final report and asked each of them the most important first step in implementing the

report's recommendations. Many of them told her the first key step was to bring on a project manager, coordinator or director, someone with energy and talent to begin laying out how the department would function. Therefore, she is extremely grateful to see a project manager in the budget at a department head salary.

The mayor compared the new department's first budget to other departments but the other departments' budgets included their full operational costs. This first year budget is not the DCC's full operational cost; those costs are yet to be determined, she pointed out. She thanked the mayor for outlining the flexibility he sees in this initial budget and the possibility for additional funding. In the FY2022 budget, they have the example of the prevention coalition being grant funded for 10 years prior to being incorporated into the city budget. The end of a grant doesn't necessarily mean that all that came from it is lost or disappears.

She really heard that some feel more funding is needed this fiscal year, Councilor Sciarra continued. She wishes those folks felt the same hope and excitement she feels about this start. What has gone from an idea to a well- thought out and researched recommendation from the policing review commission has now moved to beginning funding. That feels like progress to her. She knows for some it feels like slow and maybe small progress. She hopes they can come together as a community around this. She's committed to seeing it through to being a fully operational department and making it into the supportive response to those in their community most in need of care.

Although not choosing the contracted model, they are certainly hoping to take lots of inspiration and information from the CAHOOTS program, its peer response in particular, Councilor Jarrett commented. Community care is not just about emergency response; investment is needed in all aspects of community safety. Meeting people's needs will reduce the need for policing. In a way, they are investing in the community with the resilience hub, he confirmed.

Mayor Narkewicz thanked him for making that point, adding that health and human services is the single largest increased division in the budget this year. The largest increases are in health and human services and education, he confirmed.

Councilor Jarrett read a brief prepared statement as follows:

"I hear the voices of those who want change; who want a reduced footprint of policing. As a member of the NPRC, I agree we need significant change and to move many functions away from police. It is clear that policing has a disparate and negative impact on Black and indigenous people, people of color and many others. This police budget is a level service budget like most other departments in the city. That level of service is the level of service that we made after last year's cut. That cut, although not the ideal way to do it, was I believe a necessary move to allow for funding of alternatives. Even though many of us agree that an alternative response would result in better outcomes for many services police are often who we have to respond now and that is an important service. I think that cutting too much too soon would undermine the very thing we are trying to accomplish, which is better public safety for everyone, and could backfire and we could lose support for those alternatives. The policing review commission report calls for fully funding alternatives and then evaluating moving funding from policing. I will certainly be following the approaches of other communities such as Ithaca, New York, which is replacing its police department with a new department of public safety. I think strong executive action will be needed to make real change, and I support that."

Councilor Sciarra called the motion on adoption of the FY2022 General Fund budget with the \$40,000 line item in the Central Services Parking Maintenance budget for trash removal removed to a vote. The motion passed 8:1 by roll call vote with Councilor Maire opposed.

See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.

Councilor Jarrett recused himself so councilors could deliberate and vote on the \$40,000 line item for trash removal in the Central Services Parking Maintenance Budget.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the \$40,000 line item for trash removal. Councilor

	<p>LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Jarrett recused.</p>
<p><u>Recess</u></p>	<p><u>Recess</u> At 10:10 p.m., the City Council recessed briefly. The City Council reconvened at 10:18 p.m.</p>
<p><u>Financial Orders (in 1st reading)</u> <u>21.280 Order to Approve FY2022 General Fund Budget - 1st rdg.</u></p> <p><u>21.281 Order to Approve FY 2022 Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st reading</u></p> <p><u>21.282 Order to Approve FY 2022 Water Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st reading</u></p> <p><u>21.283 Order to Approve FY 2022 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st rdg.</u></p> <p><u>21.284 Order to Approve FY 2022 Stormwater and Flood Control Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st rdg.</u></p> <p><u>21.285 Order to Approve FY2022 Revolving Funds - 1st reading</u></p> <p><u>21.286 Order</u></p>	<p><u>Financial Orders (in 1st reading)</u> <u>21.280 An Order to Approve FY2022 General Fund Budget - 1st reading</u> Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed 7:1 by roll call vote with Councilor Maire opposed and Councilor Jarrett recused. <u>See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.</u></p> <p><u>21.281 An Order to Approve FY2022 Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st reading</u> Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The City Council went through the rate-setting process for water and sewer fees earlier in the year and didn't raise rates, Mayor Narkewicz reminded. The four enterprise funds are all level-funded, he added. At Councilor Dwight's request, Mayor Narkewicz explained the general structure and function of the city's four enterprise funds. Enterprise funds are created under Mass. General Law and set up as separate cost centers. The enterprises are basically expected to be self-supporting and to derive their revenue from rate payers. All rates must go back into the utility to fund utility operations. The utility pays some indirect costs to the city. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. <u>See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.</u></p> <p><u>21.282 An Order to Approve FY2022 Water Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st reading</u> Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. <u>See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.</u></p> <p><u>21.283 An Order to Approve FY2022 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st reading</u> Councilor Jarrett recused himself for the same reason stated in the Finance Committee. Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Jarrett recused. <u>See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.</u></p> <p><u>21.284 An Order to Approve FY2022 Stormwater and Flood Control Enterprise Fund Budget - 1st reading</u> Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. <u>See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.</u></p> <p><u>21.285 An Order to Approve FY2022 Revolving Funds - 1st reading</u> Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote. <u>See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.</u></p> <p><u>21.286 An Order Authorizing Acquisition of a Parcel on the Easterly Side of the Mill</u></p>

Authorizing Acquisition of a Parcel on the Easterly Side of the Mill River - 1st reading
21.289 Order to Approve Mayor's Youth Commission Gift Fund Expenditure for T-Shirts-1st reading

River - 1st reading
 Per request of the sponsors, this order will be taken up at the Monday, June 7, 2021 City Council meeting, Councilor Sciarra noted.

21.289 An Order to Approve Mayor's Youth Commission Gift Fund Expenditure for T-Shirts - 1st reading

Councilor Quinlan moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Thorpe seconded.

The money is being requested to purchase custom t-shirts to be used for downtown canvassing to raise support for the Youth Commission's initiative to lower the voting age in municipal elections to 16, Mayor Narkewicz explained. The money was generated through fundraising, Councilor Dwight added.

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

21.290 Order to Appropriate \$435,653 Free Cash for AOM Restroom Expansion and Renovation - 1st reading

21.290 An Order to Appropriate \$435,653 Free Cash for AOM Restroom Expansion and Renovation - 1st reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Over the last several Capital Improvement Programs (CIP's), the city has been making some significant investments in the Academy of Music, the oldest municipally-owned theater in the United States, Mayor Narkewicz related. The Mayor's office has been working closely with Executive Director Debra J'Anthony and the theater's private board of directors on significant safety upgrades and other improvements, including expanding the fire suppression system and installing a backstage ramp to improve access. During the last year while the theater has been dark they have actually accelerated some of those upgrades.

The restrooms are small and undersized in terms of the capacity of the theater. Academy directors have been working on a project to modernize and expand the bathrooms including adding proper ventilation, doubling the number of stalls, upgrading urinals and sinks and moving to touchless fixtures. For the current project, theater operators have sought various grants, including a Mass. Cultural Council (MACC) grant and Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds. Central Services went out to bid recently, and bids came in higher than anticipated. They feel really strongly that this is a critical project. After managing to get through the pandemic and continue to pay employees, the theater is slated to reopen September 1st and has pretty much a full schedule lined up.

The theater is a cultural gem as well as a major economic development driver which brings thousands of visitors to the city each year for performances, which has a multiplier effect in the local economy. After meeting with the director, AOM board chair and Central Services Director David Pomerantz, he really feels like this is an investment the city should make at this critical time with the theater temporarily closed, so he is bringing forth this order to supplement funds already appropriated in the capital plan. If the council is willing to fund the project, he respectfully requested two readings since contractors would like a letter of intent in order to order materials.

Councilor Jarrett said he looked through the last two CIP's but did not see this specific project.

Academy officials secured their own funding for this particular project but sought funding from the city for other projects such as the sprinkler system, Finance Director Wright clarified.

Administrators sat down with academy directors to go through the theater's capital needs and strategize which projects to fund through the CIP and which AOM operators would seek independent funding for, Mayor Narkewicz explained. This is a project theatre operators thought they could fund through their MACC grants, but they can't and they don't have any other source of funding.

If they aren't able to do the project the academy will lose almost \$300,000 in other funds they have leveraged towards this project, Director Wright attested.

Councilor Jarrett said he thinks it is a great project to support, he is just a little

uncomfortable because councilors only received a few lines about it and they usually get a whole page. Also, because of the request for two readings.

Mayor Narkewicz offered to have folks from the AOM come Monday to present more detailed information.

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

See minutes of June 7, 2021 for second reading.

21.292 An Order to Appropriate Additional \$608,500 from Various Sources for Roundhouse Parking Lot Reconstruction - 1st reading

21.292 An Order to Appropriate Additional \$608,500 from Various Sources for Roundhouse Parking Lot Reconstruction - 1st reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Thorpe seconded.

Mayor Narkewicz described the scope of work and addressed questions from councilors. The project received site plan approval from the Planning Board and has been put out to bid, he reported.

Councilor Foster raised concerns brought forward by some of her constituents about the project's lighting, which they claim does not meet the five principles of outdoor lighting endorsed by the Northampton Energy and Sustainability Commission (NESC).

The lighting met the Planning Board's approval and replacement fixtures will all be 'dark sky' approved, Mayor Narkewicz advised. It is a balancing act because concerns about light pollution have to be balanced with concerns about public safety. In terms of meeting existing standards, the project does, but they are going to work with and listen to some of these additional concerns.

Councilor Maiore, who serves on NESC, said she holds the same concerns. NESC members discussed that, not only does the lighting not meet some of the principles of outdoor lighting, it actually violates some of Northampton's own lighting tenets, she elaborated. Director Pomerantz agreed to go on an evening site visit to look at the proposed fixtures, and she's hopeful that he will be able to address some of those concerns.

Councilor Jarrett thanked Councilor Foster and Councilor Maiore for addressing his concerns and said he hopes to be involved in this nighttime walk as well. He would love to see these concerns addressed.

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

Financial Orders (in 2nd reading)
21.271 Order to Authorize Conservation Commission to Acquire MA Audubon Society Conservation Restriction – 2nd reading

Financial Orders (in 2nd reading)

21.271 Order to Authorize Conservation Commission to Acquire Massachusetts Audubon Society Conservation Restriction – 2nd reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, May 20, 2021

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz, Planning & Sustainability, and the Conservation Commission

21.271 An Order to Authorize Conservation Commission to Acquire Massachusetts Audubon Society Conservation Restriction

WHEREAS, the *Open Space, Recreation, and Multi-Use Trail Plan: 2018-2025* recommends the preservation of ecologically valuable land and filling gaps between protected areas within the Connecticut River Greenway; and

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Audubon Society has an agreement to purchase 16.5 acres of Meadows, adjoining land already permanently protected as part of Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, in exchange for \$2,000 contribution to the purchase price, to be provided from the Community Preservation Act Conservation Fund already on-hand, the Massachusetts Audubon Society will grant the City a conservation restriction on the property; and

WHEREAS, the project will advance the City’s partnership with MassAudubon to provide public access in the Meadows, create and maintain grassland bird habitat and protect ecologically valuable floodplain forest;

Ordered, that

The Conservation Commission is authorized to acquire for conservation and passive recreation purposes, as provided by MGL Chapter 40, §8C, any fee, easement or conservation restriction defined in MGL Chapter 184, §31 or any other interest in the above land and any immediately adjoining land; that the City Council hereby accepts such conservation restrictions; that the Conservation Commission is authorized to accept conservation restrictions on any land so acquired, with such related restrictions and agreements as the City determines are agreeable.

Passed two readings and enrolled.

<p><u>Continuation of Agenda</u></p>	<p><u>Continuation of Agenda</u> The rest of the agenda will be continued to a special City Council meeting on Monday, June 7, 2021, Councilor Sciarra announced. Councilor Dwight moved to continue the meeting to Monday. Councilor Nash seconded.</p> <p>Mayor Narkewicz asked if the council would be willing to entertain a second reading on the Roundhouse project on June 7th. Councilor Dwight said he would make a motion to suspend rules to allow a second reading.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.</p>
<p><u>New Business</u></p>	<p><u>New Business</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Motion to Adjourn</u></p>	<p>Upon motion made by Councilor Dwight and seconded by Councilor LaBarge, the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m. The motion passed 9:0 by roll call vote.</p> <p>Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council</p>

NORTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC COMMENT RECORD SHEET

June 3, 2021

NAME	ADDRESS	SUBJECT
<u>Carol Owen</u>	<u>Ward 6</u>	<u>Served on NPRC. Wanted to emphasize importance of closing the gap between year 1 line item for DCC and \$880,000 recommended by the policing review commission. They know of the availability of \$574,000, including \$150,000 in bill submitted by Senator Comerford. Urged Mayor and council to consider committing a portion of ARPA money to close the funding gap between proposed budget and what recommended by commission. Without something closer to \$880,000 new DCC would be limited to hiring one and a half staff. Would be more meaningful if could see hiring of direct staff and actual piloting of some of alternative responses.</u>
<u>Cynthia Suopis</u>	<u>Northampton</u>	<u>Thanked mayor and city council for willingness to listen and engage with the recommendations of NPRC to develop a Department of Community Care. While initial budget allocation supplemented by the state illustrates commitment, she would like them to consider reasons for augmenting this funding. She urged them to consider doubling the funding allocation for the DCC to speed things up and put coordinator and staff in a position to put city in the position next year to have a fully functioning DCC.</u>
<u>Allyson Spencer-Bunch</u>	<u>Ward 5</u>	<u>Calling on City Council to substantially cut the police budget and mayor to fund DCC at least to the level recommended by the policing review commission. Trust the people describing the harm the police are doing right here in Northampton. Divest in the police department and invest in the DCC.</u>
<u>Aaron Clark</u>	<u>Ward 7</u>	<u>the budget is a moral document reflecting the city's values. They also know current proposed budget raises the police budget by 3% while sabotaging the DCC by underfunding it from the get go at \$424,000, which is less than half the amount recommended by the NPRC. Show Black Lives Matter in Northampton by defunding the police at least 50% and fully funding the DCC and ultimately divesting in policing.</u>
<u>Jose Adastra</u>	<u>Ward 1</u>	<u>In the past year, he has been called a liar and an extremely dangerous minority. Accused council of cutting budget as a social justice cut and then not even reassigning it. They should at least reassign \$2 million to the DCC.</u>
<u>Lill P.</u>		<u>said would like to save her time for later because not quite ready.</u>
<u>Henry Morgan</u>	<u>Ward 5</u>	<u>In support of city fully funding the DCC. Genuinely believes Northampton can build real community safety based on informed consent and not coercive state violence like the police department.</u>
<u>Meghan</u>	<u>Springfield</u>	<u>Lived in Northampton for a long time and worked at ServiceNet. As someone who has worked in the field of mental health for a long time wanted to speak in favor of cutting the police budget further and funding the DCC. Works with people with Alzheimer's and dementia. Wants to also think about other populations terribly impacted and not served by the police such as people with dementia, mental health conditions, disabilities, POC, etc.</u>
<u>Amy Olson</u>	<u>Ward 3</u>	<u>Agreed with previous statements urging council to cut police budget by 50% and fully fund DCC.</u>
<u>Janet Gross</u>	<u>Ward 2</u>	<u>Added full support to Councilor Jarrett's at least 20 feet between houses amendment and Bill Ryan's No Extra-Wide Houses (NEWH) amendment.</u>
<u>Dan Cannity</u>	<u>Ward 4</u>	<u>member of NPRC here to ask council to reject this budget and ask for full funding of DCC. He like many people is really excited about the potential for grant funding to come through the state and other avenues but cautioned that report said majority of funding should not come through grants but should come through the city. One of reasons thought important to be part of city is that grant funding can disappear. Current budget has money for a planner but not a doer.</u>
<u>Jackie Ballance</u>	<u>Bay State</u>	<u>also wants city to fully fund community care and implement environmentally-conscious outdoor lighting and support Main Street for everyone. ZLL amendment was already confusing when first entered City Council April 1st. Left Community Resources with unanimous neutral vote. Planning Board and Legislative Matters punted ordinance for full council to fix. At last meeting, two councilors said they were confused and requested clean version. There's been unresolved confusion every step of the way. Referred to citizen's amendment titled NEWH. It is to retain more consistent setbacks within all districts. Councilor Jarrett and Bill Ryan's amendments together make it work. Without those amendments the ZLL ordinance fails utterly. Asked to please read email the Emperor Has No Clothes.</u>

Debra Bercuvitz Warner Street In 2013 city planners told them there would be basic design standards that would alleviate resident's concern that past projects evolved without these standards. She supported these zoning changes and they didn't get any of the design standards they were promised. Instead they got the developments of Nu-Way Housing in Bay State. It's clear to her that everyone is struggling with what seem to be intentionally confusing amendments. Bill Ryan has made an elegantly clear proposal, no more extra-wide houses (NEWH).

Kathryn Komidar, Warner Street Here to support two zoning amendments, Councilor Jarrett's reduced lot line amendment to require at least 20 feet between houses and Bill Ryan's NEWH amendment.

Sarah Field, Ward 6 appreciates comments heard around police budget and DCC. Here to also advocate that follow recommendations of policing review commission, fully fund DCC and reallocate funding from police budget and defund police by 50%. Said wanted to talk about love and power. Often seen as being in opposition but are actually not. Said councilors have tremendous power they can use in service of love. Councilors have the opportunity to shift power from an organization with history and present-day practice of abuse and violence (power without love) to a new seedling of an organization they can co-create as a community to really manifest power fused with love. Can do that by moving power which in our current world is funding. Encouraged them to think about where they want to place the power in our community, in a situation devoid of love or in an entity that is love backed by power.

Lill, Ward 6 supports previous comments. Current 2022 budget does nothing to cut from police budget. Increases budget by 3% and reallocates less than half the amount cut from police last year to DCC. She has had mental breakdowns and domestic disputes. Her own mother had to keep calling the police on her because she didn't have any alternatives to call. Underfunding the DCC will mean people like her and perhaps more vulnerable than her will not get the care they need for another year.

Luke Midnight, Ward 3 supports cutting police by 50% and funding DCC. Works as restorative justice program director at Holyoke High School. Has seen powerful potential of alternative models and what happens when community comes together to dream. Couldn't be more grateful to live in a place where this conversation is happening. Budget at Holyoke High for restorative justice is about \$350,000 a year and it's not enough. To think city could operate something effective at a similar amount is a joke.

Amy Bookbinder, Ward 7 thanked hundreds of people who had called in speaking truth to power, sharing stories of abuse and harm at the hands of police. If councilors vote for budget they will be ignoring voices of people in a classic case of white privilege. Mayor called the George Floyd memorial an art installation; No, mayor, it was a memorial. Asked council to reject a budget which doesn't reflect their support of the policing review commission's recommendations.

NPD Spouse, Westfield She cannot afford to be silent when just last week two NPD officers were threatened in broad daylight while working a traffic detail. Council's decision to cave under pressure and defund the department by 10% opened the door to everything she's talking about and more. She referred to a comment by a councilor that the decision to cut the budget last year was 'out of expediency.' Councilors were willing to endanger others to alleviate the stress and attention from themselves. Two councilors have come out publicly in the media in support of NAN and defunding.

Cathy McNally, said shocked by the mayor's under-budgeting of the community care department. As Rep. Sabadosa has often said, budgets represent values. Feels like half-price, half-loaf support Mayor Narkewicz has given the DCC is an insult. Thinks police department has much more money than they need. Shared neighbor's comment that, "I don't know if it's because I'm white, but I think the police are great." It *is* because she is white.

Elliot Oberholtzer, Easthampton urged council to defund police budget by 50% at least. Expressed awareness of council's strange position in that is able to defund but cannot reallocate. Said even if the only thing they can do is cut, they still definitely should. Knows not directly in control of funding DCC but hopes council will use what power it can to encourage Mayor to fund DCC. The power they do have is to cut the police budget, and that is the way they should proceed.

Emma Lintermann, Florence Supports full funding of community care department as recommended by NPRC but speaking to Zero lot line development. Supports equitable, environmentally-responsible infill development. Urged to support NEWH amendment. Is modest proposal that provides formula for figuring out house size for any district or lot. Also supports amendments proposed by Councilor Jarrett. Strongly urged to conduct comprehensive review of infill zoning regulations from 2013 forward.

Ryan Wadsworth, echoed Dan Cannity and NAN in calling for council to use its power in this historic moment to stand up, be bold and reject this budget. Re: procedural constraints, has heard is only possible to provide funding for specified line item positions. Is mayor who failed to provide way for department to step into its work.

Shannel Fishel, Ward 7 Senate passed state budget including \$150,000 for community care department. Aware that Mayor applied for co responder funding. Would like more transparency about application mayor applied for. Responded to NPD spouse that, while saddened to hear someone threatened her spouse with a gun, police take off blue uniforms and walk around as civilians while the people not listened to thoroughly are those that have to live in their skins. Said she could envision their city becoming a very white, gated city with new developments and armed police force, limited access to their land and an increase in zones of exclusion. Doesn't think that's the vision they want for Northampton.

Marina Maulucci, Amherst is her perspective that defunding and divesting from the police is not just a BLM movement but is essential for saving people's lives. Black lives will be lost if the police are not defunded and demands of BLM are not listened to. In places where mental health crises are found, people with guns cannot be the solution.

Mareatha Wallace, works at JFK Middle School said doesn't have much hope they will do the right thing. From what she's seeing, they are not very interested in helping at all. She is tired of fighting and fighting and fighting and having what she and people who look like her need fall on deaf ears.

Jesse Hassinger, Ward 4, wrote lengthy email. Read truncated version. Asked how people's involvement would change once the momentum of the 2020 protests inspired by George Floyd's death have subsided. Black people do not need allies; they need people to stand up and take on problems as their own. What was begun last year by starting to divest must continue by investing in the community. Urged not to vote for the budget as written but to demand fully funding the DCC.

Aimee Francaes, said doesn't think can say anything better than what Dan Cannity, Elliot Oberholtzer, Mareatha Wallace and Jesse Hassinger have said. Sang song to tune of 'Muppet Show.' Said please reject this budget.

Lydia Irons, Amherst about to graduate nursing school. Said other towns around them are doing it. She is part of defund in Amherst. Have had significant move toward crisis response group. It can be done; it's happening around you. Can reject budget, make one-month budget.

Rue Walther, 16 Warner Street supports words of Jackie, Debra, Emma, etc. supports Councilor Jarrett's amendment to at least require 20 feet between houses. Thanked Alex for taking the time to make them feel like he's listening. Also supports Bill Ryan's NEWH amendment.

Bennett Sambrook, Ward 3, Hasn't spoken before but is speaking because he thinks it is critically important that council hear as many people as possible saying defund police by 50% and fully fund department of community care.

Rye Buckley, Ward 3, current funding for DCC is .03% of total budget of Northampton. Any opposition to funding DCC more is not financial; it is purely to sabotage the department. Is a meaningless funding commitment to the department. As usual funding and an as usual budget is white supremacist. City can afford a team to support this department head. A team can and should be representative of our community, our country and the folks this department will serve. Can we please invest at least a million.

Ally Keup, Northampton has been to many of these meetings over the past year but this is her first time speaking because she agrees is really important. Urged to reject this budget and fully fund DCC.

Joyce Rosenfeld, moved by speakers on both topics. The balance someone spoke about between love and power is so little taken into consideration in our world. Urged them all to be fearless and choose love and listen to each other. All of these matters they are speaking about come circling around social justice; to have light and space and air circling around their homes and to have homes that are affordable. She urged councilors to have open hearts.

Ashwin Ravikumar, Amherst have heard from him about the importance of divesting from police. He'd like to speak tonight about the operational aspect of building new, bold and innovative programs. One things he knows is that it really takes a team to do big innovation. With just one person and an assistant you don't get that critical mass necessary to drive the level of innovation needed. Having a team of people with deep expertise with a lot of time to be together and build community with one another requires a lot more resources than the \$400,000 in the Mayor's proposed budget. Asked to take into account how much better this would be to do this with a team.

Javier Luengo-Garrido, thanked City Council. Commission wouldn't have been created if they didn't create it. Knows how hard Council President and Mayor worked in appointing them. The key part of the report was the creation of the Department of Community Care, significantly funded, that answers to the people it serves and has a diverse advisory board with people from criminalized and over-policed communities. Appreciates that councilors have been very open to talk about this. Right now, how the budget looks like it is not enough. Another specific direction of NPRC is that it has to be a city department because it has to be accountable to people of the city. Another important point is that foundational amount of money given to the department has to come from the city, not from grants. Department

has to be well-funded and city has to give option to new director to do his or her work. Without real funding, you don't have doers. Hoped would send message to mayor to have between \$880,000 and a million to DCC.

Kristen Sykes, Chapter President of Mass Bike Ct. River Valley Chapter, owns Sykes Family Farm, a dairy farm. Thanked Councilors Sciarra, Jarrett and Foster for attending most recent bicycle/pedestrian committee. very excited mayor has chosen option 3 to make sure have a downtown that's safe for everyone - bikers, walkers. etc.

Ezekiel Baskin, Northampton, echoed other speakers, particularly members of NPRC. \$400,000 and one and a half staff people is not enough to do what needs to be done this year. Without that, we're not going to be where we need to be this time next year. It's possible to do this within the budget. Please make it happen.

Shelby DCC cannot be staffed by a dedicated and diverse group as is recommended by policing review commission without solid, consistent funding. This budget simply does not give the department the means it needs to meet the goals the community would like to see from this department.

Jess Johnson, council has the opportunity to do one of two things. Can do something that seems transformational or could do something that is transformational. Creating and underfunding a department is not transformation. It's not what you're here for and we look forward to your doing more.

Maddy Fischer, Ward 3, also has been to a lot of these meetings but hasn't spoken. Wanted to speak to make sure council hears the voices of the community asking them to please defund police by at least 50% and fund DCC. The police don't make us safer and cause a lot of harm. Thinks have incredible opportunity to create peer led and crisis response team as laid out by the commission. Please use your power to do so.

Emma Ryan, Ward 3, also has been to many of these meetings and has not yet spoken. Wanted to echo what everybody else has said that is their responsibility as elected officials to listen to what the community wants and needs. Not heeding those recommendations is to not heed the community. The only reason not to heed the voices of the community is that they do not believe these voices. Please use your power and this time to make the right choice.

Holly 50 years ago may have been in support and said defund the police but as she has aged, she thinks defunding the police is not the way to go. She believes the community-based program certainly needs more support. Also supports Councilor Jarrett and Bill Ryan's amendments to ZLL ordinance.

Danielle Amodeo, Ward 3, supports defunding police by as much as possible and at least 50%. Requests that not kneecap DCC by underfunding it and setting it up for failure. Got email from Councilor Nash that many people in Ward 3 in favor of funding the police. Wanted to know if councilors could make data available about calls in support and against defunding police. Would like to see transparent data about that. Her perception is support is overwhelmingly for defunding the police.



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CONDUCTED AS AN ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING
Northampton, MA

A special meeting of the City Council was called to order by Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra.

Roll Call

At 7:02 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| At-Large Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra | At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight |
| Ward 1 Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr. | Ward 5 Councilor Alex Jarrett |
| Ward 2 Councilor Karen Foster | Ward 6 Councilor Marianne LaBarge |
| Ward 3 Councilor James B. Nash | Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore |
| Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe | |

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

Councilor Sciarra explained that the meeting is a continuation of the June 3, 2021 regular City Council meeting. She announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)

Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)
21.290 An Order to Appropriate \$435,653 Free Cash for AOM Restroom Expansion and Renovation - 1st reading

Councilor Sciarra took this item out of order to accommodate Academy of Music representatives present for the discussion. She reminded councilors there had been a request Thursday night for a second reading at tonight's meeting.

Councilor Dwight moved to suspend rules to allow a second reading. Councilor Quinlan seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor Foster seconded.

As councilors may recall from Thursday, this was a request to provide some additional funding to the Academy of Music (AOM) to allow them to complete a significant bathroom renovation and expansion, Mayor Narkewicz recounted. Bids for the project came in higher than expected so he was bringing an order before council to allow AOM directors to get the work completed in time for their September 8th reopening.

Councilor Dwight moved to recognize AOM Executive Director Debra J'Anthony and AOM Board of Trustees President Andrew J. Crystal. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

AOM officials started entertaining renovating the restrooms a little over two years ago based on the need because the theatre's attendance had grown exponentially, Ms. J'Anthony explained. Over the last five or six years, the theatre has gone from serving 40,000 to over 62,000. This is demonstrated through the bathroom lines. The theatre only has four stalls in the stalls-only bathroom and the men's room only has two stalls and two urinals. During a full sellout show, the women usually take over both bathrooms and send the men upstairs to the handicapped-accessible bathroom. The arrangement is just not tenable and does not serve the public. During COVID, they also started to reassess the need for safety features such as touchless sinks and faucets and the need for a ventilation system. (The bathrooms have literally no ventilation system, she presented.) Administrators sought funding a little over two years ago and received partial funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund and Smith College and small grants from the state Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development and the Beveridge Foundation. They kicked off a capital campaign this past fall and raised an additional \$82,000 from individuals and the public, but when they put the bids out and numbers started coming back, every time they put out an estimate the numbers just kept getting higher. At this juncture, the bids have increased to where they cannot move forward without further support from the city.

Academy operators began planning this two years ago, and from the time they began planning until now, the cost of lumber virtually tripled, Mr. Crystal reported. They did an early estimate with Elder Lumber and saw that estimate go up each time. Also, they had to launch a fundraising campaign in the middle of a pandemic when people were far more concerned with social issues and food insecurity. They raised \$82,000 but that was only half of what they raised in their last capital campaign. Dozens of shows are already booked for the fall and they feel it is critical to address the health and safety concerns in the bathrooms. Plans call for new ventilation that is 100% fresh air and 100% exhausted with a heat exchanger between the two to recapture lost energy. Taking public health concerns into consideration, the faucets and toilets will be touchless and hand dryers have HEPA filters. The last thing that aligned for them is that now is the ideal time to move forward because they have nothing booked since everything is cancelled or delayed until September 8th.

It is really critical that they receive funding quickly, Crystal stressed. The city has gone out to bid twice and the successful bidder is DA Sullivan. Once they know the funds have been allocated, the city can award the bid and the contractor can begin ordering materials. The timing is good because they don't have any shows but the timing is bad because construction costs have doubled and in some cases tripled. They are hoping the city can once again step in and help the theatre, which is quite an economic driver for the city. They appreciate anything the council can do to help them meet their goals.

Councilor Jarrett asked if Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds were an option for this project.

Ms. J'Anthony said no; they were already awarded \$55,000 in CPA funding for renovation of the lobby areas.

The theater had two renovation projects, Crystal clarified. They ran out of funds several years ago when they renovated the upstairs and never finished renovating the front lobby, the inner lobby where the concession area is located or the handicapped restroom. They were granted CPA funds for the lobby work upstairs. They ended up combining the remaining work on the lobby with the restroom expansion and renovation for bidding purposes to achieve efficiencies in general charges and overhead, thereby achieving some significant savings. The contracts are still separate since the funding sources are different.

There being no further questions, the motion to approve the order in second reading passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
 MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

June 3, 2021

 Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.290 An Order to Appropriate \$435,653 Free Cash to AOM Restroom Expansion and Renovation

Ordered, that

the sum of \$435,653 be appropriated from the FY2021 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) to the Academy of Music for expansion and renovation of the restroom facilities.

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

21.217 Ordinance to Move Zero Lot Line from Section 10.14 to Section 6.13 - 2nd reading

21.217 An Ordinance to Move Zero Lot Line from Section 10.14 to Section 6.13 - 2nd reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the ordinance in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

The following ordinance passed two readings:

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty One

Upon the Recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

21.217 AN ORDINANCE TO MOVE ZERO LOT LINE FROM SECTION 10.14 TO SECTION 6.13

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended to refer Zero Lot Line projects to a new subsection 6.13

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:

Amend Chapter 350 Attachment 7 & 8

Zero lot line single-family; see § 350-~~10.14~~6.13

Anywhere else in Chapter 350, Replace Zero Lot Line 10.14 to §6.13.

Passed two readings, ordained and enrolled.

21.218 Ordinance to Amend Zero Lot Line Section of Code - 1st reading

21.218 An Ordinance to Amend Zero Lot Line Section of Code - 1st reading

Action on this ordinance was continued May 20, 2021, Councilor Sciarra reminded. The Office of Planning and Sustainability (OPS) has submitted clean language, she noted.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the ordinance in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Councilor Sciarra read the revised language incorporating amendments jointly crafted by Councilor Jarrett and OPS.

Councilor Jarrett explained his reasons for putting forward the proposed changes. The first is to provide more flexibility. Requiring a house to sit right on the lot line as originally proposed has disadvantages, he noted. Such a placement automatically requires obtaining an easement for access, while the reduced lot line (RLL) proposal requires an easement only if the setback is less than five feet. The ordinance as amended allows the zero lot line (ZLL) option but also allows the structure to be placed in the location best for the site, taking development features such as trees into consideration.

The second is to set the width between structures to be consistent with historic development patterns. In Urban Residential B (URB), the minimum distance between principal structures would be 20 feet, while in Urban Residential C (URC) it would be 10 feet; the same as in the original proposal but with more flexibility for location of the structures in relation to the lot line.

The term "reduced lot line" is more accurate than "zero lot line" since "zero lot line" is only one of the many options, he added.

Ms. Misch confirmed this accurately described the modifications. She noted a scrivener's error in the legend on the final page and said it should be amended as follows:

Modify Chpt 350-Attachment 7 (URB) & 9 (URC) by adding a reference to reduced lot line section 6.13

Setbacks
Front =10 feet min.

Side = 15 feet min. **(URB): 10 feet (URC)**

Side = 0 feet on ~~one a~~ side for ~~zero lot line~~ **reduced lot line**- See §6.13

Councilor Dwight so moved. Councilor Maiore seconded. The motion to amend passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

In response to a question from Councilor Nash, Ms. Misch confirmed that this provision can only be used on adjacent properties under common ownership. The provision could not be used by agreement with an adjacent property owner, she clarified. The lot still needs to meet minimum dimensional standards for lot size, frontage, open space, etc., she added.

Councilor Maiore expressed her understanding that after creating the reduced setback, the owner could sell the lot to someone else. Ms. Misch confirmed that once the Approval Not Required (ANR) plan is endorsed by the Planning Board and recorded at the registry, the newly-created lot could be sold with the reduced setback as noted.

DEVELOPMENT TOOL

Allowing a property owner to carve off a lot for a family member is one use of this provision and does promote affordability, Councilor Jarrett acknowledged. However, they are also seeing ZLL used as a development tool where a developer may buy a house and either tear it down or keep it and add other lots around it. That is also happening and is one reason they are trying to modify this ordinance.

Councilor LaBarge referred to the complaint heard from Bay State residents that new construction there is too large and out of scale with the neighborhood. She asked Ms. Misch how the size of the new houses in Bay State compares to houses on Riverside Drive.

The short answer is every lot is different, Ms. Misch responded. Historically, lots carved off in URB and URC were between 40 and 50 feet wide and some houses on those lots have less than 10- or 15-foot setbacks. These older homes are larger or the same size as what Bill Ryan referred to in his email to the council as an "extra-wide house." Mr. Ryan gave a 30-foot width as an example of a house that was too wide, but there are many houses that wide, she pointed out.

There is not one uniform house or uniform lot size, she noted. From a district perspective, the requirement of minimum frontage of 50 feet and minimum lot size of 5,000 square feet is intended to match existing patterns of development.

Councilor Nash expressed the opinion that the work Councilor Jarrett and Ms. Misch have done on this is very creative and thoughtful and the amendment is a really nice solution. He thanked them both, saying he can see it represents a lot of time and energy.

ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT

At Councilor Jarrett's request, the administrative assistant screen-shared an additional proposed amendment:

To be inserted after **§350-6.13 A:**

B. For any lot with a reduced lot line, the sum of its side yard setbacks must be equal to or more than two times the standard side yard setback minus 5 feet

The amendment is intended to address the issue of wider houses on smaller lots, Councilor Jarrett explained. In URB, it would allow a 20-foot wide structure on a 50 foot lot and, in URC, a 35-foot wide structure on the same lot. It is supposed to encourage the construction of smaller dwellings, which should presumably cost less and be more affordable.

He has heard from many of his constituents that they would like the city to regulate this, so he thought it was important for councilors to have a discussion and weigh the pros and cons.

Councilor Jarrett moved to approve the amendment. Councilor Dwight seconded for purposes of discussion.

Councilor Dwight wondered whether the amendment was significant enough to require re-

advertising and restarting the public hearing. He said he is never quite sure when that threshold is reached.

Councilor Sciarra said she spoke to the city solicitor and it was his opinion that this amendment does not trigger that process. His belief is that it still falls within the topic and scope of the ordinance, she shared.

Councilor Dwight noted they've all been on the receiving end of a lot of testimony from one particular neighborhood and one of his concerns is the ever-changing terms. Neighbors first talked about 'McMansions' and now they're talking about 'extra-wide' homes. He believes almost all of them live in what is being described as an extra-wide home, and that makes him uncomfortable. He is a little concerned about custom-fabricated zoning to target one particular developer and one type of development. "I want to feel a damn sight more comfortable than I do right now about this," he said.

When asked for her input, Ms. Misch advocated for the ordinance as presented prior to the amendment. She pointed out that many of the existing 50-foot wide lots built out decades ago don't have a standard 15-foot setback and accommodate capes, ranches and other architectural styles that happen to be wider on the side facing the street. The intention of ZLL is to create that flexibility for narrower lots.

The ordinance as presented tonight allows the flexibility to avoid features such as ledge or trees yet at the same time maintain enough separation between principal structures to preserve the development pattern typical for the neighborhood, she suggested. "The more you chip away at that by reducing that flexibility, the less opportunity there might be to create different housing styles that meet people's family needs or individual needs as well as trying to preserve certain site features," she observed.

She thinks the ordinance as presented tonight has the safeguard of assuring adequate space between structures without being burdensome. The intent of the ordinance wasn't to try to minimize development options but to create flexibility. Planners have never tried to dictate the width of structures through zoning, she noted.

Councilor Foster said she has heard from constituents about the need to balance the goal of encouraging infill development with ensuring that new development fits the character of the neighborhood. She personally sees the need for that balance and wondered if this amendment is something they would want to refer to the Planning Board for further discussion.

As he interprets it, a natural outcome of the amendment would be to promote structures with front-facing pediments and to discourage ranches and colonials which tend to be broader on the street side, Councilor Nash commented. He agreed with Councilor Foster that more discussion would be advisable. "For us to legislate that tonight without a little more research might not be appropriate," he commented.

Councilor Dwight made the observation that the width limitation would force a tendency to have the gabled side of a house facing the street. If the street faces south, that orientation would not facilitate the most extensive use of solar. Houses with south-facing roofs are better able to accommodate solar panels, a feature the city has been attempting to promote through zoning.

As Ms. Misch has alluded to, limiting the width of a house is somewhat unprecedented, he added. He would like to be a lot more comfortable that this did not limit the potential for some unique structures. His thinking conforms more with the intent as Ms. Misch described it, which is to create more opportunities rather than limit them. As they have repeated over and over, the intent is to expand inventory, expand housing, expand opportunity and develop and expand affordable housing.

He thinks this is a significant change and he sees Councilor Foster's recommendation of referring it to the Planning Board as appropriate. Something this substantive needs further deliberation and discussion by people with more expertise in this field than they have, he asserted.

Fellow councilors raise a number of points and he sees the need to think about this issue with the Planning Board, Councilor Jarrett said. One of the things he's talked about with people in eastern Massachusetts is the idea of 'guiding the bulldozer of gentrification.' Huge forces they do not control such as higher prices on houses and tear downs are pushing them, and the question is how to guide those forces to create more affordable housing and what to allow when they give a zoning bonus. ZLL/RLI is a bonus, he stressed. He'd like to look at that more holistically without just looking at one dimension such as width. He would like to look at how they can address these huge issues of affordability and design.

Councilors discussed whether to refer the entire ordinance back to the Planning Board or to pass the ordinance as already amended and just refer the amendment on the floor as a stand-alone amendment.

As the sponsor of the pending amendment, he is in favor of passing the ordinance as presented tonight and introducing the most recent amendment separately, Councilor Jarrett advised. He withdrew his motion.

Councilor Dwight called the question, and the motion to approve the ordinance as amended in first reading passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.

See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.

<p><u>Recess</u></p>	<p><u>Recess</u> The City Council recessed briefly at 8:33 p.m. The council reconvened at 8:38 p.m.</p>
<p><u>Consent Agenda</u></p>	<p><u>Consent Agenda</u> Councilor Sciarra reviewed the items on the consent agenda, offering to remove any item for separate discussion upon request. Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.</p> <p>The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda:</p> <p>A. <u>Minutes of April 15, 2021 and May 6, 2021</u></p> <p>B. <u>21.291 Appointments to Various Committees - for referral to City Services Committee</u></p> <p><u>Energy & Sustainability</u> Ashley Muspratt, 15 Franklin Street, Northampton Term: July 2021-June 2024 <i>Reappointment</i></p> <p><u>Board of Health</u> Cynthia Suopis, 19 Ford Crossing, Northampton Term: July 2021-June 2024 <i>Reappointment</i></p> <p>Laurent Levy, 4 School Street, Northampton Term: July 2021-June 2024 <i>Reappointment</i></p> <p><u>Transportation & Parking Commission</u> Diana Day, 44 Berkshire Terrace, Apt. 2, Northampton Term: July 2021-June 2024 <i>To fill a vacancy</i></p>
<p><u>Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting</u></p>	<p><u>Recess for Committee on Finance Meeting</u> At 8:40 p.m., the City Council recessed for the Committee on Finance. The Committee on Finance adjourned at 8:49 p.m. The City Council reconvened at 8:49 p.m.</p>

Financial Orders (on 1st reading pending Finance)
21.286 Order Authorizing Acquisition of a Parcel on the Easterly Side of the Mill River - 1st reading

Financial Orders (on 1st reading pending Finance review)
21.286 An Order Authorizing Acquisition of a Parcel on the Easterly Side of the Mill River - 1st reading
 Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.
See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.

Financial Orders (in 2nd reading)
21.292 Order to Appropriate Additional \$608,500 from Various Sources for Roundhouse Parking Lot Reconstruction - 1st reading

Financial Orders (in 2nd reading)
The following order passed two readings:
21.292 An Order to Appropriate Additional \$608,500 from Various Sources for Roundhouse Parking Lot Reconstruction - 1st reading
 Mayor Narkewicz reminded the Council President that he made a request last Thursday for a second reading on this order.
 Councilor Dwight moved to suspend rules to allow a second reading. Councilor Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.
 Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor Quinlan seconded.
 Central Services Director David Pomerantz gave a brief overview of the Roundhouse project, which the city has already bid and is ready to get to work on. The project started over three years ago with a capital appropriation to just redo the lot and evolved into a project involving some land-taking and increasing the number of parking spaces by 22. In addition, work includes rerouting the bike path toward the Northampton Housing Authority, addressing a number of safety concerns with upgraded lighting, putting in some storm water diversion at the request of the DPW and making some accommodations to better serve Northampton Fire Rescue in case firefighters have to bring apparatus into the lot to access the back of the apartment building on the west side. The project has grown. There was going to be a solar piece but because of all the infrastructure under the parking lot, that has been dropped.
 The project received site plan approval in April. The city has bid the project and he has prepared an initial letter of award which is ready to send out to the contractor. With the Masonic Street parking lot closed, they want to move this project as fast as they can and hopefully have the parking lot back in operation before Smith College returns in session.
 Councilor Jarrett thanked Director Pomerantz for working with him and Chris Mason for thinking about the lighting issues and how they could be improved within the existing contract.
 The motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.
The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 3, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.292 An Order to Appropriate Additional \$608,500 from Various Sources for Roundhouse F Lot Reconstruction

Ordered, that

\$608,500 be appropriated from the following accounts to provide additional funding for the reconstruction of the Roundhouse Parking Lot:

\$200,000	Receipts Reserved for Appropriation – Parking (Fund 2312)
\$ 26,925	Remaining funds from prior Parking Maintenance Vehicle Purchase (193030 585613)
\$381,575	Capital Stabilization (5000 340616)

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

Orders
21.278 an Order Transferring Care, Custody and Control of a Certain Area of Land from Smith Voke to DPW - 1st reading

Orders
21.278 An Order Transferring Care, Custody and Control of a Certain Area of Land from Smith Voke to DPW - 1st reading
Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Mayor Narkewicz described the parcel's location. Heading up Route 9 toward Leeds across from Scotty's is a dirt road with a gate that is part of the Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School (SVAHS) property. The location is on the left of the dirt road leading up to the Horticulture/Forestry Department.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) approached SVAHS about the possibility of using the site for a small facility to house a pressure-reducing valve for one of the city's main water lines. DPW staff did a site visit with the board of trustees and received permission to use the property. Since the underlying land belongs to the city, the City Council now needs to authorize assigning the use of the land to the DPW for this pressure-relieving valve and appurtenances.

The administrative assistant screen-shared an aerial photo of the site with the location of the proposed building and 36-inch water main outlined. It happens to be in proximity to the 36-inch water line, so it is an ideal location, Mayor Narkewicz noted.

In response to a question from Councilor LaBarge, the Mayor said the building is approximately 20 by 15 feet. She asked how much land Smith Vocational owns, and Mayor Narkewicz said it is many, many acres.

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

See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.21.288 An Order Further Amending Order 20.062 Entered on June 4, 2020, as Amended by Order 20.149 and Order 21.211 - 1st reading21.288 An Order Further Amending Order 20.062 Entered on June 4, 2020, as Amended by Order 20.149 and Order 21.211 - 1st reading

Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Foster seconded.

This is the order they've kept amending [to suspend certain ordinances to allow outdoor dining], Mayor Narkewicz presented. A similar thing is happening at the state level. On June 15th, the governor lifted his state of emergency. Many state regulations are tied to the lifting of that order, such as the extension of premises that allowed restaurants to move alcohol service outside. Similar to the council's order, that bill also is scheduled to expire 60 days following the expiration of the state of emergency.

Administrators are hoping to remove the 60-day expiration clause locally so outdoor dining can continue until the end of the year. A bill filed by the governor is simultaneously racing through the house and senate that would remove the 60-day provision in the prior emergency legislation. The state legislature is also assessing whether some of the changes to outdoor dining and premises could be made permanent. Here in Northampton, the whole 'Summer on Strong' project and other outdoor dining areas set up in the public way would all essentially become illegal on August 15th if they didn't amend the previous order allowing it to happen. This would merely extend the order until November 1st which would get them through the outdoor dining season at which time hopefully there will be further guidance from the state.

Councilor Dwight said he expressed earlier and is going to continue to express that 1) it is a public right of way and public land; in other words, property held in common by the public. Problematically, in the past, when the city has given land over to private businesses, sometimes there's been a sense of ownership that comes to be assumed and a primacy that businesses are not entitled to, and that concerns him, particularly if this becomes permanent. That is to say, what has been done is a good thing insofar as it is being enjoyed by many people, and he would imagine businesses that have benefitted from it are very grateful. Other business owners have complained about other issues downtown that unfortunately assumes this sense of ownership or primacy that is not theirs. In the absence of state law that determines where the public's right ends and private ownership begins, this is an experiment. He is going to vote to support this because it is not a hill he chooses to die on, but it is a social equity issue and he can't let this pass without acknowledging it.

Councilor Nash said he appreciates Councilor Dwight's carefulness around this and said he absolutely agrees, they need to be careful. What's happened on Lower Main Street has really highlighted the vitality that people have been talking about. That vitality is linked to restaurants and businesses rather than public space but does demonstrate that Main Street can be narrower and traffic can still flow and that there can be a lot of lively happenings and it will attract people downtown. Most of this is in Ward 3, and he's done a lot of outreach with many of these businesses to get them on board with this. As they move forward with their downtown design, there is going to be a tension that they need to attend to; that people and businesses aren't allowed to just mark out space that belongs to everyone.

Councilor Maire said she wanted to express how glad she is that Councilor Dwight brought that up so it is something they can have in their consciousness.

Councilor Jarrett thanked Councilor Dwight and said he's been very pleased with the additional outdoor seating and public pedestrian space. They have taken most of that space from places dominated by motor vehicles. He asked if a person who is not a paying customer has a right to sit at one of those spaces.

In terms of the places that have liquor licenses, the owners have to control those premises and can't allow people to just flow in and out, Mayor Narkewicz advised. Places without a liquor license do not have same issue. It is a mixture depending on whether a liquor license is involved.

	<p>There being no further questions, the motion passed unanimously 9:0 by roll call vote.</p> <p><u>See minutes of June 17, 2021 for second reading.</u></p>
<p><u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>21.277 Ordinance Relative to Off-Street Handicapped Parking Spaces</u></p>	<p><u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>21.277 An Ordinance Relative to Off-Street Handicapped Parking Spaces</u> Councilor Foster said she would need to abstain because, as the director of All Out Adventures, her organization runs programs at this location.</p> <p>Councilor Sciarra read the ordinance.</p> <p>Councilor Dwight moved to refer the ordinance to Legislative Matters. Councilor Nash seconded. The motion passed 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Foster abstaining.</p>
<p><u>New Business</u></p>	<p><u>New Business</u> None.</p>
<p><u>Motion to Adjourn</u></p>	<p>Upon motion made by Councilor Dwight and seconded by Councilor Jarrett, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m. The motion passed 9:0 by roll call vote.</p> <p>Attest: _____ Administrative Assistant to the City Council</p>



MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

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: June 3, 2021

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor David J. Narkewicz

SUBJECT: Appointments to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

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

Energy & Sustainability

Ashley Muspratt, 15 Franklin Street, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Board of Health

Cynthia Suopis, 19 Ford Crossing, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Laurent Levy, 4 School Street, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Transportation & Parking Commission

Diana Day, 44 Berkshire Terrace, Apt. 2, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy



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

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Tue, May 25, 2021 at 9:18 AM

To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Ashley
Last Name	Muspratt
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	15 Franklin St
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060-2009
Home Phone	781
Work Phone	492
Cell Phone	6946
Occupation & Place of Employment	Director of Innovation, Center for EcoTechnology
Email	murray.ash@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	4
Age	40 - 49

Sex	Female
Racial / Ethnic Background	white
Boards and Committees	Energy & Sustainability Commission
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	<p>Through my work at CET I have comprehensive knowledge of Mass Save and Mass Clean Energy Center programs and incentives; expertise in energy efficiency and building electrification; have developed a whole-property decarbonization program for the Ipswich Electric Light Department; and helped develop an air source heat pump consultation program for customers of municipal light plants in Massachusetts. I also have expertise in waste management, particularly food waste and establishing commercial food waste prevention, donation, and diversion programs. All of this work is highly relevant to the goals and objectives of Northampton's Climate Resilience and Regeneration Plan.</p> <p>I hold an MS in Environmental Engineering and PhD in Energy and Resources at UC Berkeley.</p>
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Energy & Sustainability Commission
<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	Ashley Muspratt
Date	5/25/2021



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

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Tue, May 18, 2021 at 8:14 PM

To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	CYNTHIA
Last Name	SUOPIS
Title, if applicable	PhD
Address1	19 Ford Crossing
Address2	Field not completed.
City	Northampton
State	Massachusetts
Zip	01060
Home Phone	4136954357
Work Phone	Field not completed.
Cell Phone	4136954357
Occupation & Place of Employment	Retired. Faculty, UMASS Amherst
Email	CSUOPIS@UMASS.EDU
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	30
Age	Field not completed.

Sex	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Racial / Ethnic Background	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Boards and Committees	Health, Board of
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	I have 17 years of healthcare administration experience and I have taught Health Communication classes at UMASS-Amherst. I am on two committees at Cooley Dickinson Hospital, the Patient and Family Advisory Council and the Patient Care Excellence Committee. I am a Board member of Grow Food Northampton.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Northampton

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.

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.

Signature	Cynthia Suopis
Date	5/18/2021

[Quoted text hidden]



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

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Tue, May 18, 2021 at 5:23 PM

To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Laurent
Last Name	Levy
Title, if applicable	Ph.D., P.E.
Address1	4 School St
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060
Home Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	617 417 5340
Occupation & Place of Employment	Senior Technologist and Vapor Intrusion Practice Leader at the Jacobs Engineering Group
Email	levy@alum.mit.edu
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	4.5 years
Age	40 - 49

Sex	Male
Racial / Ethnic Background	White
Boards and Committees	Health, Board of
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	I am an environmental engineer, familiar with public health and risk assessment issues. I have served on the Bord of Health for 3 years.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	N/A

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.

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.

Signature	Laurent C. Levy
Date	5/18/2021

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**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

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

Fri, Mar 26, 2021 at 5:26 PM

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Diana
Last Name	Day
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	44 Berkshire Ter
Address2	Apt 2
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	4802417000
Work Phone	(413) 233-9588
Cell Phone	(413) 636-2002
Occupation & Place of Employment	Attorney at Doherty, Wallace, Pillsbury & Murphy, P.C. (Springfield and Northampton)
Email	diana@dianaday.org
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	3 mo.
Age	40 - 49
Sex	Female

Racial / Ethnic Background *Field not completed.*

Boards and Committees Transportation & Parking Commission

Please list "other" board or committee of interest *Field not completed.*

What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment? Thank you for considering my application for the Transportation and Parking Commission. I have recently relocated to Massachusetts from Arizona, where I worked in the City Attorney's office for a large municipal government and, before that, I worked for the state government representing the Arizona Department of Transportation.

In both of my government attorney roles, I defended claims and liability lawsuits arising out of the design and construction of public streets. I also provided risk management and safety advice to my government clients. Through my work, I have gained working knowledge of the standards and practices applicable to roadway design and signage, including the AASHTO Green Book and the MUTCD. I also presented by invitation to the AzDOT District Engineers Meeting regarding safety issues involving hydrological defects in roadway surfaces.

I have a strong personal interest in multimodal transportation systems that are safe, sustainable, and accessible. I greatly enjoyed my work as an attorney handling roadway issues for state and local governments, and I would like to be involved as a citizen regarding transportation in my new community.

Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee? No

Please list other city committees you have served on *Field not completed.*

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.

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.

Signature Diana Day

Date

3/26/2021

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

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: June 17, 2021

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor David J. Narkewicz

SUBJECT: Appointments to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please find the attached appointment to City Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Agricultural Commission

Stan Zawalick, 538 Sylvester Road, Florence, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Disability Commission

Jeremy Macomber-Dubs, 20 Hampton Avenue, Apt. 301, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Linda Kakos, 220 Rocky Hill Road, Florence, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Northampton Housing Authority-Board of Commissioners

Maureen Carney, 13 Church Street, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021- June 2026

To fill a vacancy

Council on Aging

Gerriann Butler, 46 Autumn Drive, Florence, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Anne Romano, 351 Pleasant Street, Unit 6, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021- June 2023

To fill a vacancy

Planning Board

Corinne Coryat, 26 Bedford Terrace, Apt. 2, Northampton

Associate Member

Term: July 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy



City of Northampton

Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

Name: Stan Zambich
 Address: 538 Sylvester Road
 Email: Zambich.Made@Comcast.net
 Home Phone: 413-864-3648 Work: SAME Cell: _____
 Occupation: Self-employed Years lived in Northampton: 55
 Northampton Resident: Yes No

Please indicate the Committee(s) you have interest serving on: *(Appointment subject to vacancies)*

Agricultural Commission	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	License Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Almoners, Board of	<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parks and Recreation Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assessors, Board of	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning Board	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central Business Architecture Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Shade Tree Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Preservation Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Works Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conservation Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>	Redevelopment Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council on Aging	<input type="checkbox"/>	Registrars, Board of	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation & Parking Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy & Sustainability Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trust Fund Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health, Board of	<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historical Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>	Zoning Board of Appeals	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Human Rights Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>		

What skills and experience will you bring to this Committee assignment:

(attach additional sheet or resume if necessary)

From related Resident for 30 yrs

Are you currently serving or have you served on any City committee: _____ No Yes*

*(*If yes please state what committee)* Ag Commission 10+ years

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree:

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!**

SIGNATURE

Stan Zambich

DATE

6/2/2021

Please Return Form To: Mayor@northamptonma.gov or
 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor, 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060



**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

1 message

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Tue, Jun 8, 2021 at 3:35 PM

To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Jeremy
Last Name	Macomber-Dubs
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	20 Hampton Ave
Address2	Apt. 301
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060
Home Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	7175719947
Occupation & Place of Employment	Musician
Email	jeremydubspresents@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	16
Age	40 - 49
Sex	Male

Racial / Ethnic Background	Caucasian
Boards and Committees	Disability Commission
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	I am currently the chair on the Disability Commission and I would like to continue serving on the commission. My lifelong experience as a disabled person gives me a unique perspective that I would like to continue sharing with the commission in the hopes of making Northampton more accessible to everyone in our community.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	I currently serve on the Disability Commssion only.
<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	Jeremy Macomber-Dubs
Date	6/8/2021

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**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

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

Wed, Jun 9, 2021 at 11:43 AM

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Linda
Last Name	Kakos
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	220 Rocky Hill Road
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Florence
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	4135827050
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Occupation & Place of Employment	Retired
Email	omakakos@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	26
Age	70 plus
Sex	Female

Racial / Ethnic Background	White/German
Boards and Committees	Disability Commission
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	Handicapped due to Post Polio
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Florence

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.

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.

Signature	Linda Kakos
Date	6/9/2021

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**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

1 message

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

Thu, Jun 10, 2021 at 4:34 PM

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Maureen
Last Name	Carney
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	13 Church St.
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060
Home Phone	4134787615
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Occupation & Place of Employment	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email	mtcarney@comcast.net
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	42 years
Age	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Sex	<i>Field not completed.</i>

Racial / Ethnic Background	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Boards and Committees	Northampton Housing Authority- Board of Commissioners
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	I served as the Labor Representative on the Northampton Housing Authority prior to and during my first term as City Councilor from Ward One. I am very familiar with NHA properties, not only as a past Commissioner, but also having represented Hampshire Heights residents during 14 years on City Council. I look forward to once again serving the City of Northampton in this capacity. Thank you for your consideration.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Northampton
<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	Maureen T Carney
Date	6/10/2021

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**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Mon, Jun 7, 2021 at 1:25 PM

To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Gerriann
Last Name	Butler
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	46 Autumn Drive
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Florence
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	413-584-5549
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Occupation & Place of Employment	Retired
Email	gerrb@me.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	27
Age	60 - 69
Sex	Female

Racial / Ethnic Background	Caucasian
Boards and Committees	Council on Aging
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	38 years working for the Commonwealth of MA as a social worker/ rehabilitation counselor with individuals aged 20 - 100. Currently serving on COA board.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Building committee for COA to assist in finding & building our current senior center.

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.

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.

Signature	GerriannButler
Date	6/7/2021

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

9 messages

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Tue, Jun 1, 2021 at 11:56 PM

To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Anne
Last Name	Romano
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	351 Pleasant Street
Address2	Unit 6
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060
Home Phone	4135314485
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Occupation & Place of Employment	Contracts Manager, Raytheon Technologies-working remotely from Northampton
Email	iamval9999@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	32
Age	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Sex	Female

Racial / Ethnic Background	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Boards and Committees	Council on Aging
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	I am interested in teaming to develop innovative programs activities and services that meet the needs of the senior community in Northampton. I would draw on my previous legal experience to help advocate for and educate our community on elder law issues. About 5 years ago, I volunteered at the Northampton Senior Center. As a volunteer, I learned about Senior Center programs and helped match seniors' needs to available Senior Center services. I would look forward to serving on the Council and implementing the goals and mission of the NCOA.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Planning Board, Capital Improvements Committee
<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	Anne V. Romano
Date	6/1/2021

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

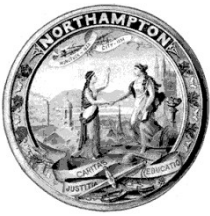
Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>
To: Marie Westburg <mwestburg@northamptonma.gov>

Wed, Jun 2, 2021 at 9:46 AM

Hey Marie-

Any thoughts on Anne Romano for COA?

Thanks.



City of Northampton

Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

Name: Corinne Coryat

Address: 26 Bedford Terrace apt 2 Northampton, MA 01060

Email: corinnecoryat@gmail.com

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____ Cell: 413 345 8985

Occupation: Legislative Aide Years lived in Northampton: Less than 1

Northampton Resident: Yes No

Please indicate the Committee(s) you have interest serving on: *(Appointment subject to vacancies)*

Agricultural Commission	License Commission
Almoners, Board of	Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees
Arts Council	Parks and Recreation Commission
Assessors, Board of	Planning Board
Central Business Architecture Committee	Public Shade Tree Commission
Community Preservation Committee	Public Works Commission
Conservation Commission	Redevelopment Authority
Council on Aging	Registrars, Board of
Disability Commission	Transportation & Parking Commission
Energy & Sustainability Commission	Trust Fund Committee
Health, Board of	Youth Commission
Historical Commission	Zoning Board of Appeals
Housing Partnership	
Human Rights Commission	

What skills and experience will you bring to this Committee assignment:

Though I recently moved to Northampton, I grew up in Williamsburg and attended Northampton High School. I feel deeply rooted in Northampton, and consider all of western Massachusetts to be my 'hometown'. I completed a degree in political science at Clark University, with a concentration in food studies. My rural background led me to doing research on agricultural policy under the farm bill, and at the local level with specific interests in urban planning and access. This year I joined the office of State Representative Natalie Blais, where I engage with planning related issues and policy on a daily basis in infrastructure, capital planning, and transportation. I have a strong network in the region regarding planning through FRCOG and PVPC, and I am looking for an opportunity to continue to learn and participate in my own community. As a young, queer woman I bring a diverse perspective to the board and I would hope to draw attention to related priority issues. Thank you for considering my application, and please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree:

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!**

SIGNATURE Corinne E. Coryat DATE 6/3/21

Please Return Form To: Mayor@northamptonma.gov or
David J. Narkewicz, Mayor, 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

*This information will be used for diversity purposes only.
Complete it only if you wish to do so.*

Age:

Under 29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70 plus

Sex: M F Non-Binary **Racial/Ethnic Background** White

City of Northampton
Application for Annual License

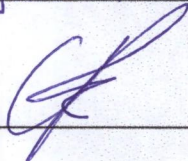
NORTHAMPTON, MASS., _____

To the Honorable City Council of the City of Northampton:

The undersigned respectfully petitions your honorable body for a License as follows:

Name of Business: **Le BonNton, LLC**
Type of License: **Second Hand dealer**
Location of Business: **150 Main Street, Suite 292**

Print Name of Applicant: (V) Cigdem Turkomer

Signature of Applicant: (V) 

Address of Applicant: (V) No. 150 Street main suite 292

In City Council, _____

Referred to Committee on Licenses.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

In Committee on Licenses, _____

Voted to recommend that Petition ___ be
granted, _____ not granted

ATTEST:

Clerk

In City Council, _____ (date)

Voted that Petition be _____ granted
_____ not granted

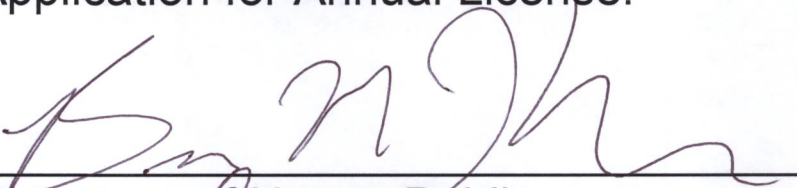
Attest: _____ Clerk to City Council

SIGNATURE WITNESS

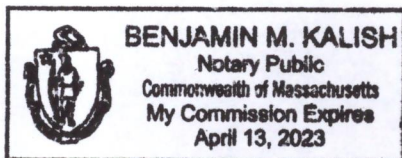
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Hampshire

On this 11th day of June, 2021, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Cigdem Turkomer, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was a Republic of Turkey passport, to be the person who signed the attached document in my presence.

This certificate is attached to a City of Northampton Application for Annual License.



Signature of Notary Public



City of Northampton

AFFADAVIT OF WAGE COMPLIANCE

Name of Business: Le BonNton, LLC

Location of Business: 150 Main Street, Suite 292

The Northampton City Council, in determining whether to issue, re-issue, modify, suspend or revoke a license. under G.L. c. 140, shall require that a potential or current licensee certify that they are not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act. The City Council may require a wage bond or insurance be posted by any potential licensee who does not certify that they are not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act. Licensees that are subject to a state or federal debarment for violation of the above laws, either voluntarily or involuntarily, or that have been prohibited from contracting with the Commonwealth or any of its agencies or subdivisions shall be prohibited from holding, or continuing to hold, licenses issued under G.L. c. 140, for the entire period of debarment or other stated time period.

Applicants must check box 1 or box 2 as applicable and must sign this Form, certifying compliance with the requirements set out in this Form. This Form must be included with the application.

AFFADAVIT: (V) (Choose 1 below)

- This License applicant is not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act within the last three years.
- This License applicant is subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act within the last three years. This applicant will provide a wage bond or wage insurance for the period of the license.

(v) Cigdem Turkomer
(Typed or printed name of applicant)

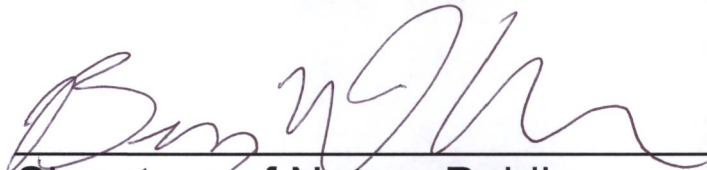
(v) 
(Signature)

SIGNATURE WITNESS

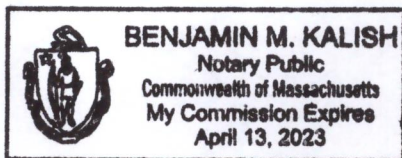
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Hampshire

On this 11th day of June, 2021, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Cigdem Turkomer, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was a Republic of Turkey passport, to be the person who signed the attached document in my presence.

This certificate is attached to a City of Northampton Affidavit of Wage Compliance.



Signature of Notary Public



City of Northampton


STATEMENT OF ALL TAXES FILED AND PAID

Name of Business: Le BonNton, LLC

Location of Business: 150 Main Street, Suite 292

The license (as a/for a) **Second Hand dealer** will not be issued unless this certification clause is signed by the applicant listed on the license.

I, (v) Cigdem Turkomer (print name of owner or authorized agent of the business) certify under the penalties of perjury that I, to my best knowledge and belief, have filed all state tax returns and paid all state taxes as required under law.

(v)  _____
Signature of Owner or Agent



or (v) _____

Social Security Number

Federal Identification Number

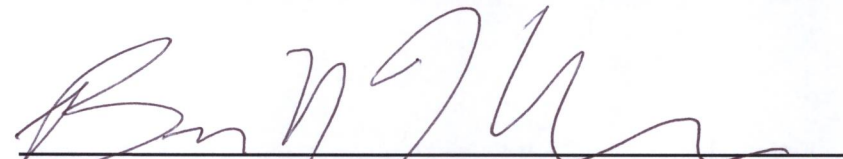
Your social security number will be furnished to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue to determine whether you have met tax filing or tax payment obligations. Licenses who fail to correct their non-filing or delinquency will be subject to license suspension or revocation. This request is made under the authority of Massachusetts General Law, chapter 62C, section 49A.

SIGNATURE WITNESS

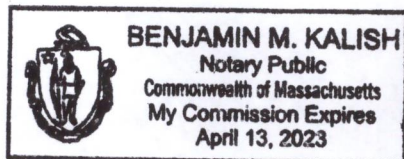
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Hampshire

On this 11th day of June, 2021, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Cigdem Turkomer, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was a Republic of Turkey passport, to be the person who signed the attached document in my presence.

This certificate is attached to a City of Northampton
Statement of All Taxes Filed and Paid.



Signature of Notary Public



City of Northampton
Application for Annual License

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., _____

To the Honorable City Council of the City of Northampton:

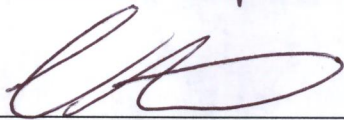
The undersigned respectfully petitions your honorable body for a License as follows:

Name of Business: **Sun Music, LLC dba Birdhouse Music**

Type of License: **Secondhand Dealer**

Location of Business: **164 Main Street**

Print Name of Applicant: (V) Glenn A per

Signature of Applicant: (V) 

Address of Applicant: (V) No. 17 Street Vernon Street

In City Council, _____

Referred to Committee on Licenses.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

In Committee on Licenses, _____

Voted to recommend that Petition ___be
granted, _____ not granted

ATTEST:

Clerk

In City Council, _____(date)

Voted that Petition be _____ granted
_____not granted

Attest: _____ Clerk to City Council

City of Northampton

STATEMENT OF ALL TAXES FILED AND PAID

Name of Business: Sun Music, LLC dba Birdhouse Music


Location of Business: 164 Main Street

The license (as a/for a) Secondhand Dealer will not be issued unless this certification clause is signed by the applicant listed on the license.

I, (v) Glen Alper (print name of owner or authorized agent of the business) certify under the penalties of perjury that I, to my best knowledge and belief, have filed all state tax returns and paid all state taxes as required under law.

(v) 

Signature of Owner or Agent

(v) _____ or (v) 

Social Security Number

Federal Identification Number

Your social security number will be furnished to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue to determine whether you have met tax filing or tax payment obligations. Licenses who fail to correct their non-filing or delinquency will be subject to license suspension or revocation. This request is made under the authority of Massachusetts General Law, chapter 62C, section 49A.

City of Northampton

AFFADAVIT OF WAGE COMPLIANCE

Name of Business: Sun Music, LLC dba Birdhouse Music

Location of Business: 164 Main Street

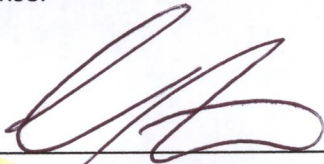
The Northampton City Council, in determining whether to issue, re-issue, modify, suspend or revoke a license. under G.L. c. 140, shall require that a potential or current licensee certify that they are not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act. The City Council may require a wage bond or insurance be posted by any potential licensee who does not certify that they are not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act. Licensees that are subject to a state or federal debarment for violation of the above laws, either voluntarily or involuntarily, or that have been prohibited from contracting with the Commonwealth or any of its agencies or subdivisions shall be prohibited from holding, or continuing to hold, licenses issued under G.L. c. 140, for the entire period of debarment or other stated time period.

Applicants must check box 1 or box 2 as applicable and must sign this Form, certifying compliance with the requirements set out in this Form. This Form must be included with the application.

AFFADAVIT: (Choose 1 below)

- This License applicant is not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act within the last three years.
- This License applicant is subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act within the last three years. This applicant will provide a wage bond or wage insurance for the period of the license.

Glenn Alper
(Typed or printed name of applicant)


(Signature)

City of Northampton
Application for Annual License

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., _____

To the Honorable City Council of the City of Northampton:

The undersigned respectfully petitions your honorable body for a License as follows:

Name of Business: The Vintage Cellar

Type of License: Secondhand Dealer

Location of Business: 11 Bridge Street

Print Name of Applicant: (v) DANIEL EGAN

Signature of Applicant: (v) Daniel Egan

Address of Applicant: (v) No. 70 Street JUNIPER DRIVE
WINDSOR LOCKS, CT. 06096

In City Council, _____

Referred to Committee on Licenses.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

In Committee on Licenses, _____

Voted to recommend that Petition ___ be
granted, _____ not granted

ATTEST:

Clerk

In City Council, _____ (date)

Voted that Petition be _____ granted
_____ not granted

Attest: _____ Clerk to City Council

City of Northampton

STATEMENT OF ALL TAXES FILED AND PAID

Name of Business: The Vintage Cellar

Location of Business: 11 Bridge Street

The license (as a/for a) Secondhand Dealer will not be issued unless this certification clause is signed by the applicant listed on the license.

I, (v) DANIEL EGAN (print name of owner or authorized agent of the business) certify under the penalties of perjury that I, to my best knowledge and belief, have filed all state tax returns and paid all state taxes as required under law.

(v) *Daniel Egan*

Signature of Owner or Agent

(v) _____

Social Security Number

(v) _____

Federal Identification Number

Your social security number will be furnished to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue to determine whether you have met tax filing or tax payment obligations. Licenses who fail to correct their non-filing or delinquency will be subject to license suspension or revocation. This request is made under the authority of Massachusetts General Law, chapter 62C, section 49A.

City of Northampton

AFFADAVIT OF WAGE COMPLIANCE

Name of Business: The Vintage Cellar

Location of Business: 11 Bridge Street

The Northampton City Council, in determining whether to issue, re-issue, modify, suspend or revoke a license. under G.L. c. 140, shall require that a potential or current licensee certify that they are not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act. The City Council may require a wage bond or insurance be posted by any potential licensee who does not certify that they are not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act. Licensees that are subject to a state or federal debarment for violation of the above laws, either voluntarily or involuntarily, or that have been prohibited from contracting with the Commonwealth or any of its agencies or subdivisions shall be prohibited from holding, or continuing to hold, licenses issued under G.L. c. 140, for the entire period of debarment or other stated time period.

Applicants must check box 1 or box 2 as applicable and must sign this Form, certifying compliance with the requirements set out in this Form. This Form must be included with the application.

AFFADAVIT: (V) (Choose 1 below)



This License applicant is not subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act within the last three years.



This License applicant is subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of G.L. c. 149, c. 151, or the Fair Labor Standards Act within the last three years. This applicant will provide a wage bond or wage insurance for the period of the licensé.

(V)

DANIEL ESAN

(Typed or printed name of applicant)

(V)

Daniel Esan

(Signature)



MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

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: July 15, 2021

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor David J. Narkewicz

SUBJECT: Appointments to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please find the attached appointment to City Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Council on Aging

Michael Ford, 6 Massasoit Street, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Historical Commission

Steven Moga, 89 Marian Street, Northampton

WMAIA Nominee

Term: August 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy as the WMAIA representative

Trust Fund Committee

Joseph Wilhelm III, 54 Prospect Street, Northampton

Term: August 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy

Urban Forestry Commission

Robert Postel, 44 Washington Avenue, Northampton

Term: July 2021-June 2024

Reappointment

Whiting Street Fund Committee

MariJon "MJ" Adams, 60 Norwood Avenue, Florence

Term: August 2021-June 2024

To fill a vacancy



**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

1 message

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Wed, Jul 7, 2021 at 6:17 PM

To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Michael
Last Name	Ford
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	6Massasoit St.
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060
Home Phone	413-586-3427
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	413-530-8829
Occupation & Place of Employment	Retired college professor
Email	michaelford@comcast.net
Are you a Northampton resident?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Years Lived in Northampton	48
Age	70 plus
Sex	Male

Racial / Ethnic Background	African American
Boards and Committees	Council on Aging
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	I will be a returning member of the Council on Aging. My years of living in the city and my active engagement in civic affairs provide me with the knowledge, relationships and commitment to serve effectively on the Council on Aging.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Affirmative Action Committee , Northampton Council on Aging
<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	Michael D.. Ford
Date	7/7/2021

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

7 messages

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

Tue, May 25, 2021 at 10:36 AM

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	Steven
Last Name	Moga
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	89 Marian Street
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060
Home Phone	617-894-1855
Work Phone	617-894-1855
Cell Phone	617-894-1855
Occupation & Place of Employment	Associate Professor, Smith College
Email	smoga@smith.edu
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	6 years 9 months
Age	50 - 59
Sex	Male

Racial / Ethnic Background	White
Boards and Committees	Historical Commission
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	None
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	I worked professionally as a preservation planner for about 10 years prior to becoming a professor. This experience includes consulting work as an employee of a private firm and independent work for a revolving loan fund (Historic Boston Inc.) on a project involving neighborhood commercial centers (Main Streets). I worked as a field representative "circuit rider" providing outreach to cities and towns in Eastern Mass. (a project of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Preservation Massachusetts). My M.A. and Ph.D. are in urban planning. I recently completed an urban history published in the U. Chicago's series Historical Studies of Urban America. I have extensive experience in public meetings and community outreach. As a consultant, I worked on two award-winning preservation plans.
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	No
Please list other city committees you have served on	None
<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	Steven T. Moga
Date	5/25/2021

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>
To: Sarah LaValley <slavalley@northamptonma.gov>

Tue, May 25, 2021 at 12:47 PM



**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

Historic District Nomination - City of Northampton

3 messages

director@wmaia.org <director@wmaia.org>
To: mayor@northamptonma.gov
Cc: slavalley@northamptonma.gov, kw@joneswhitsett.com

Tue, Jun 22, 2021 at 3:10 PM

Dear Mayor Narkewicz,

In response to a vacancy on the Northampton Historical Commission in compliance with the ordinance, and state law, that requires "one member appointed from two nominees from the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects," WMAIA supports the application of Professor Steven Moga for the position.

Sincerely,

Lorin Starr

Executive Director

AIA Western Massachusetts

director@wmaia.org

413-253-9744 (office/fax)

413-834-3783 (cell)

www.wmaia.org

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! Go to www.facebook.com/westernmassachusettsAIA

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>
To: David Narkewicz <dnarkewicz@northamptonma.gov>

Tue, Jun 22, 2021 at 3:32 PM

Hi Mayor-

Should I go ahead and add Steven Moga's name to your appointment memo for the Historical Commission?

Thanks.

~Court

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Office of Mayor David J. Narkewicz
City of Northampton
210 Main Street, Room 12
Northampton MA 01060

413-587-1249 phone
413-587-1275 fax
www.northamptonma.gov

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>
To: David Narkewicz <dnarkewicz@northamptonma.gov>

Wed, Jun 23, 2021 at 11:15 AM

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <director@wmaia.org>
Date: Tue, Jun 22, 2021 at 3:10 PM
Subject: Historic District Nomination - City of Northampton
To: <mayor@northamptonma.gov>
Cc: <slavalley@northamptonma.gov>, <kw@joneswhitsett.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

5 messages

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

Fri, Jul 9, 2021 at 11:55 AM

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	JOSEPH
Last Name	WILHELM
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	54 Prospect St
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01060
Home Phone	413-586-0643
Work Phone	413-586-3480
Cell Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Occupation & Place of Employment	Income tax preparer. (retired lawyer). Elected Trustee of Hampshire County Retirement Board since 2003.
Email	wilhelmjoe@aol.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	Since 1990
Age	70 plus
Sex	Male

Racial / Ethnic Background *Field not completed.*

Boards and Committees Trust Fund Committee

Please list "other" board or committee of interest *Field not completed.*

What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment? I am a Trustee of Hampshire County Retirement Board. When I joined in 2003 it invested \$99 million; the fund is now \$419 million. I have attended national conferences on investing for public funds every year (except last year and this year) and attended the Wharton program for pension investing.

Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee? No

Please list other city committees you have served on Used to represent Northampton on the Council of Governments -- 1991 - 2003.

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.

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.

Signature Joseph A. Wilhelm III

Date 7/9/2021

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



City of Northampton

Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

Name: Robert Postel

Address: 44 Washington Ave

Email: robjpostel@gmail.com

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____ Cell: 617/669-3680

Occupation: Retired Years lived in Northampton: 12

Northampton Resident: Yes No

Please indicate the Committee(s) you have interest serving on: *(Appointment subject to vacancies)*

Agricultural Commission	License Commission
Almoners, Board of	Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees
Arts Council	Parks and Recreation Commission
Assessors, Board of	Planning Board
Central Business Architecture Committee	Public Shade Tree Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Community Preservation Committee	Public Works Commission
Conservation Commission	Redevelopment Authority
Council on Aging	Registrars, Board of
Disability Commission	Transportation & Parking Commission
Energy & Sustainability Commission	Trust Fund Committee
Health, Board of	Youth Commission
Historical Commission	Zoning Board of Appeals
Housing Partnership	
Human Rights Commission	

What skills and experience will you bring to this Committee assignment:

(attach additional sheet or resume if necessary)

During the last 9 years I have had the opportunity to plant and care for trees as volunteer in Northampton.
Under the watchful eye of the tree warden , Rich Parasiliti , I have learned a lot about arborculture
and the Northampton landscape. This knowledge brings, I think, a valuable perspective to the commission.

Are you currently serving or have you served on any City committee: _____ No Yes*
 (*If yes please state what committee) Urban Forestry Commission

Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree:

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!**

SIGNATURE

RA RA

DATE

6/27/21

Please Return Form To: Mayor@northamptonma.gov or
 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor, 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

*This information will be used for diversity purposes only.
Complete it only if you wish to do so.*

Age:

Under 29 ___ 30-39 ___ 40-49 ___ 50-59 ___ 60-69 ___ 70 plus

Sex: M F ___ Racial/Ethnic Background White



**City of
Northampton**

Mayor of Northampton Mass. <mayor@northamptonma.gov>

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

3 messages

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

Fri, Jul 9, 2021 at 11:30 AM

Application for Appointment 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 David J. Narkewicz, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

First Name	MariJon
Last Name	Adams
Title, if applicable	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	60 Norwood Ave
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Florence
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	14132103284
Work Phone	413 772 1548
Cell Phone	413 210 3284
Occupation & Place of Employment	Director of Community & Economic Development, City of Greenfield
Email	mjadams9@msn.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes
Years Lived in Northampton	46 total (first 20 years and the last 26 years)
Age	60 - 69
Sex	Female

Racial / Ethnic Background	White
Boards and Committees	Whiting Street Fund Committee
Please list "other" board or committee of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	years of work on social and economic justice.- connections to Habitat for Humanity and faith communities
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	Yes
Please list other city committees you have served on	Planning Board in late 1980's
<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	MJ Adams
Date	7/9/2021

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

July 15, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.301 An Order to Appropriate FY2022 Cash Capital Funds to Various Capital Projects

Ordered, that

Pursuant to the FY2022-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, the following Capital Projects are appropriated from the General Fund FY2022 Cash Capital Account:

Central Services – Replace 2005 City Maintenance Vehicle	\$ 45,000
Central Services – Senior Center – Lobby & Reception Upgrades	\$ 30,000
IT – Dispatch – Radio Computer Servers & Stations	\$ 16,000
IT- Northampton Public Schools – High School PA System Replacements	\$ 30,000
Planning – Multi-Use Trails	\$ 50,000
Planning – Conservation Equipment Storage	\$ 15,000
Fire Rescue – Replace 1998 Quad with UTV	\$ 26,500
Parks and Recreation – City Field Improvements	\$ 15,000
Northampton Public Schools – JFK Cafeteria – Replace Walk In Freezer	\$ 30,000
Northampton Public Schools – Leeds – Playground Fencing	\$ 25,000
Northampton Public Schools – JFK – Window Repairs	\$ 20,000
Northampton Public Schools – Leeds – Window Replacement Engineering/Design	\$ 30,000
Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School – Window Replacement	\$ 50,000
<u>DPW – Traffic Calming</u>	<u>\$ 25,000</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 407,500

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

July 15, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.302 An Order to Approve FY2021 Budget Transfers

Ordered, that

The following FY2021 budgetary transfers be made:

Department	Description		Org	Object	Transfer From:	Transfer To:
Collector / Treasurer	PS	Longevity	11461	514002		\$ 408
Legal Services	OM	Legal Services	11512	530002		\$ 9,458
Health	OM	Office Supplies - General	15112	542000		\$ 222
Medical Insurance	PS	Employee Insurance Benefits	19141	519400	\$ (10,088)	
Total Budgetary Transfers:					\$ (10,088)	\$ 10,088

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, July 15, 2021

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

21.303 An Order to Surplus City Land for Affordable and Attainable Housing at Chapel Street, Oak Street, and Evergreen Road

WHEREAS, Consistent with the city's *Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan, Open Space, Recreation, and Multi-Use Trail Plan, Housing Needs Assessment and Strategic Housing Plan*, and *Unlocking Opportunity: An Assessment of Barriers to Fair Housing*, the city has a comprehensive limited development, funding and regulatory program to create and fund affordable and attainable housing, including surplus unneeded city-owned land;

WHEREAS, In the last year, for example, city efforts include 1) transferring land from a limited development project on Burts Pit Road for nine affordable units, 2) authority to transfer land at the former state hospital on Burts Pit Road for two or three affordable units, 3) authority to transfer land on Laurel Street for multiple rental affordable units, and 4) authority to transfer land at Woodland Drive from a back tax transaction for an affordable unit;

WHEREAS, An inventory of potential city land includes the opportunity to create affordable units (available to those earning at or less than 80% of area median income) and attainable units (the "missing middle" to those who can't afford market rate units but are not eligible for affordable housing) at three sites:

- o Chapel Street (Map ID 38A-149) for a 99-year lease
- o Oak Street (Map ID 17C-001) for sale, with a portion of the property being retained by the city for future conservation or recreation uses
- o Evergreen Road (Assessors Map ID 11A-002) for sale

WHEREAS, As with the other recent projects, once City Council approval is received the city will do due diligence and further neighborhood engagement to determine the final parameters and conditions, with authority needed to allow the expenditure of those resources, apply for any needed grants or funding, and ensure legislative affordable housing support for these projects.

Ordered, that

The City Council declares these parcels surplus to City needs;

Further that the Mayor is authorized to transfer deeds and/or leases for the land subject to restrictions and conditions that the Mayor imposes to accomplish these needs.

Current and Recent City Affordable Housing on Surplus City Land

Project	Source of Land	Ward	Type of Housing
Burts Pit Road	Limited development (conservation and housing)	6	9 units affordable homeownership
Burts Pit Road	Surplus from state to city for affordable housing	4	2 or 3 units affordable homeownership
Laurel Street	Surplus from state to city for affordable housing	2	To be determined for affordable rental
Woodland Drive	Parcel to the city in lieu of tax title foreclosure	6	1 unit affordable and one unit market homeownership
Chapel Street	Surplus from state to city for municipal uses	2	To be determined for affordable rental
Oak Street	Surplus city land	7	To be determined affordable and attainable housing
Evergreen Road	Surplus city land	7	2 units affordable and attainable housing

