

Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

**10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1**

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

1

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING (off election year) JANUARY 13, 2015

The meeting was called to Order by the City Clerk as the Organizational Meeting for 2015.

On Roll Call the following responded: Councilors Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Councilor Breen absent.

**A moment of silent Reflection was observed
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

The Clerk called for nominations for Council President for the year 2015.

Councilor Wilkinson placed the name of Councilor Blackmer in nomination, seconded by Councilor Merrigan.

With no further nominations, the Clerk called for a motion to cease nominations.

On motion of Councilor Bullett duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED to cease nominations.

The Clerk called for a voice vote on the nomination of Councilor Blackmer as Council President for 2015. All were in favor.

The Clerk declared Councilor Blackmer to be Council President.

The Clerk administered the oath of office to the Council President elect Blackmer.

The President takes the Chair.

The President calls for nominations for Council Vice-President.

Councilor Bona nominated Councilor Bullett for Council Vice-President, seconded by Councilor Lamb.

With no further nominations to come before the Council, the President called for a motion to cease nominations. Councilor Buddington made a motion to cease nominations, seconded by Councilor Wilkinson.

Councilor Bullett was declared Vice-President.

The President asked the Clerk to administer the oath of office to Councilor Bullett.

The President presented the Council Rules of Order.

The President asked Council and audience members to be considerate when using electronic devices.

Without objection the President postponed the rules to the next meeting, so Councilors could review the rules.

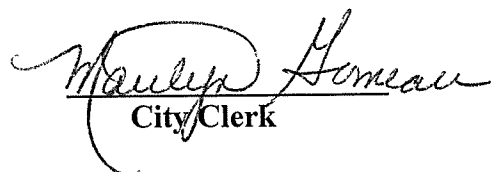
The President presented the Committee and Liaison assignments for the year 2015, noting there are no changes from last year.

The President called for Councilors Wilkinson and Bona to draw the seating for 2015.

Seat 1 Councilor Bona; Seat 2 Councilor Merrigan; Seat 3 Councilor Breen; Seat 4 Councilor Buddington; Seat 5 Councilor Wilkinson; Seat 6 Councilor Moran; Seat 7 Councilor Lamb; Seat 8 Councilor Bullett.

The President announced this concludes the organizational portion of the meeting and presented the first agenda item of the regular meeting.

A True Record
Attest,


City Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

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City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

3

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL January 13, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.
Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering Gerald Burdick former Chairman of the North Adams Parks and Recreation Commission, Marianne Beinecke Founder and Chair of the Hoosuck Community Resources Corporation and Michael Marran 28 year North Adams Firefighter.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of December 23, 2014.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

Councilor Bullett noted the time of adjournment was incorrect, should have been 7:36pm.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to amend the minutes as presented.

11,382-1a The President called for the report of the General Government Committee submitted by Councilor Merrigan.

Councilor Merrigan gave the report of the committee noting that the City Solicitor was reviewing the Ordinance regarding the Arts Commission but the committee was comfortable in recommending the adoption of this Ordinance, Councilor Merrigan pointed out the language suggesting the Mayor submit 10 names to the Council and Council would choose 5 members. Councilor Merrigan also noted the staggering of the appointments from 1 to 5 year terms. Councilor Merrigan was hoping Councilors would have some input on these issues.

Councilor Merrigan also noted the committee reviewed the farming Ordinance and found no legal prohibition against the enactment of the farming Ordinance in its present form. The committee also recommends the adoption of this Ordinance.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the report as presented.

- 11,382-1** The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams entitled Administration by adding a new section; Farming, which was postponed at the meeting of December 9th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

- 11,407** The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was postponed at the meeting of December 9, 2014.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilors Bona and Wilkinson were in agreement that the term of 5 years was too long. Councilor Bona noted that Councilors terms were only two years and administration could also change bringing new philosophies. Councilor Buddington said he was in favor of longer terms since visual art does not change that fast.

Michael Canales, Administrative Officer explained this was just the establishment of the commission and then we can go from there. The terms would be staggered after the commission is started. The terms could be less if that is the consensus of the Council. The Solicitor is reviewing the Ordinance, so it might be in the best interest if this is postponed till the next meeting, when we have the opinion of the Solicitor.

Councilor Buddington withdrew his original motion, seconded by Councilor Bullett.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of January 27th.

- 11,434** The President presented Mayor's communication #68 recommending the re-appointment of Justyna Carlson to the Historical Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2018.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

- 11,435** The President presented Mayor's communication #69 recommending the re-appointment of William Mahoney to the Historical Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2018.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of January 27th. Councilor Bona noted that Mr. Mahoney may no longer be living in North Adams.

- 11,436** The President presented a request from Cumberland Farms, 580-594 Mohawk Trail for a Public Hearing regarding underground fuel storage.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for January 27th at 7:30pm.

The President presented an application submitted by Raymond Foster, 75 Church Street to drive taxi for Michael McMillian, City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Jim Lipa, 171 Houghton Street asked Council if the letter to BMC was sent and if they ever sent a response. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street reminded Councilors about Freedom of Speech.

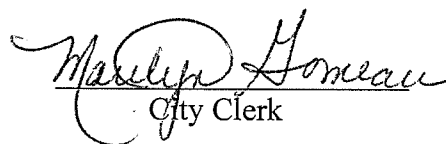
The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Council President reminded everyone that Monday January 19th is Martin Luther King Day. There will be a celebration at MCLA Church Street Center at 9:00am. Councilor Bullett noted Winter Fest will be expanding activities at Windsor Lake.

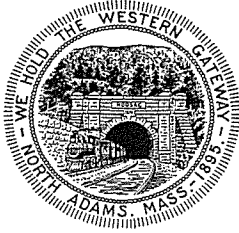
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:30pm.

A True Record.

Attest,


City Clerk



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(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

6

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL February 10, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Breen, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering Joan Rivers, longtime North Adams Elementary School Teacher and member of the Friends of the North Adams Public Library. Mary Dean, Administrative Assistant to the North Adams Public Schools, Administrative Assistant to the North Adams Redevelopment Authority and founder and Executive Director of North Adams LifeRight. Reinee Breen, Grandmother of North Adams City Councilor Jennifer Breen. Edward Sinderman, member of both the North Adams Fire and Police Department.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the Organizational meeting of January 13, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Moran, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of January 13, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,436 The President declared the PUBLIC HEARING OPEN regarding Cumberland Farms, 580-594 Mohawk Trail for underground fuel storage, which was postponed from the January 27th meeting due to a snow storm.

Thomas Reidy, attorney for Cumberland Farms said that they have met all the requirements and permits from the Planning Board, Zoning Board and the Conservation.

Councilor Wilkinson asked Mr. Reidy how long it has been since Cumberland Farms replaced the existing tanks, and the location of the tanks.

Mr. Reidy said it was about 11 years ago and they would be in the same location as the other three tanks.

Councilor Lamb noted the store was fairly new and why was this not done then. Mr. Reidy sited there was not a need at the time, but now they feel a need for a larger store, and to accommodate larger vehicles on the site.

Councilor Buddington questioned if the three existing tanks were double wall. Mr. Reidy said they were. Council President asked why the price of gas at two of the stations were higher than the Cumberland Farms on Curran Highway.

The Mayor said he would certainly talk to Cumberland Farms and send the message, Mr. Reidy cannot be expected to answer that question. Thomas Cleary an abutter to Cumberland Farms said he has been maintaining the property at 606 Mohawk Trail for the past twenty years. He put the property up for sale, but was unable to sell because there were environmental issues, which Mr. Cleary said cost him \$40,000 to correct.

Councilor Merrigan ask Mr. Cleary if he could explain what the environmental issues were. Mr. Cleary said it was pot ash and petroleum from a diesel tank. Mr. Reidy said there is no leaking, that these are very sophisticated tanks. Councilor Bona noted that the site was a salvage yard before Cumberland Farms. Mr. Reidy said Cumberland Farms will do a cleanup when the store is built if necessary.

The President closed the Public Hearing.

11,436 The President presented an Order granting permission to Cumberland Farms, 580-594 Mohawk Trail to install an additional 8,000 gallons of underground fuel storage, which was postponed from the meeting of January 27th due to a snow storm.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to grant the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Breen, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11, 417 The President presented a communication by Councilor Bullett regarding junk motor vehicles in residential areas, which was postponed from January 27th due to the snow storm.

Councilor Bullett requested to file the communication at this time since the committee feels more research is necessary.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,382-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams entitled Administration by adding a new section; Farming, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law and postponed from the January 27th meeting due to a snow storm.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

The Ordinance was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Breen, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,407 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was postponed from the January 27th meeting due to a snow storm.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of March 10th.

Councilor Buddington said he had several issues with the wording of the Ordinance as he has outlined his concerns in a report he handed out before the meeting. Councilor Buddington would like to have this go back to the General Government Committee for further review.

Councilor Merrigan withdrew her original motion.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to refer to the General Government Committee and postpone to the meeting of March 10th.

The Mayor suggested that the Solicitor be invited to the committee meeting.

11,435-a The President presented Mayor's communication #69-a requesting amending Council Paper 11,434 and 11,435 and withdraw Council Paper 11,435, which was postponed from the January 27th meeting due to a snow storm.

The Mayor noted his communications should have started the New Year with communication #1 and 2. The appointment for William Mahoney to the Historical Commission he would like to withdraw because Mr. Mahoney no longer lives in North Adams.

Without objection the President amended the papers and filed the communication.

11,435 The President presented Mayor's communication #69 recommending the re-appointment of William Mahoney to the Historical Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2018, which was postponed from the meeting of January 27th due to a snow storm.

Without objection the President withdrew the paper.

11,437 The President presented Mayor's communication #3 recommending the appointment of Wendy Champney to the Historical Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2018, which was postponed from the January 27th meeting due to a snow storm.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

11,438 The President presented Mayor's communication #4 recommending an appropriation from the Parking Meter Account to Unclassified, which was postponed from the meeting of January 27th due to a snow storm.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,438 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of \$49,860.75 from the parking meter Account to Unclassified-Capital Items, which was postponed from the meeting of January 27th due to a snow storm.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Wilkinson asked what the balance was in the Parking Meter Account after taking the \$49,860.75 out.

The Mayor said there was \$60,000 now and there will be approximately \$10,000 left.

Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned why this was not factored into the budget and if it is supposed to be three equal payments, why is the last one \$4.00 more. The Scanlon report said the City should not use up all their reserves.

The Mayor explained it was a revolving account and cannot be used for capital items, and capital items cannot be worked into the budget. The Mayor said the extra \$4.00 was the buyout. We are in the process of doing a capital items study and hope to have a report in the next sixty days so we can bring this to the Finance Committee.

Councilor Bona said this is nothing new, the Parking Meter account has been used for this in the past. He remembers times when the account was completely depleted.

Councilor Buddington was glad to hear that the Mayor was working on a capital item plan.

The Order was adopted by ye and nay vote as follows; ye Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Breen, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,439 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Wilkinson regarding a new Zoning Ordinance allowing homeowners in a nonconforming lot the ability to rebuild their home.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to refer to the General Government committee and postpone to the meeting of March 24th.

Councilor Wilkinson said this will allow homeowners the ability to rebuild without getting permission. We are the only community in Berkshire County that does not allow this. New homeowners have been turned down because financial institutions have a problem with this.

11,440 The President presented Mayor's communication #5 requesting time to give the State of the City Address, which was postponed from the January 27th meeting due to a snow storm.

Without objection the President postponed till the meeting of February 24th.

11,399-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #6 recommending the appointment of the North Adams Historical District Committee.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to confirm.

The Mayor noted the Committee will consist of five people and will spend the next several months studying, selecting, hearing community input and proposing to the City Council, local historic districts that would fall under a set of determined guidelines of MGL Chapter 40. The Committee will serve between 6-12 months for a full cycle from study to City Council approval. The Mayor recommended Josh Colon, North Adams Historical Society, Paul Marino, North Adams Historical Commission, Frances Buckley, Realtor, Emily Schiavoni, Community Member. He noted he would be recommending an architect member at a later date.

11,441 The President presented Mayor's communication #7 recommending the re-appointment of Robert Burdick to the Planning Board for a term to expire February 1, 2020.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to confirm the re-appointment.

11,442 The President presented Mayor's communication #8 recommending the re-appointment of James Neville to the Airport Commission for a term to expire February 2, 2018.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to confirm the re-appointment.

11,443 The President presented Mayor's communication #9 recommending the re-appointment of Armand Boillat to the Airport Commission for a term to expire February 2, 2018.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to confirm the re-appointment.

11,444 The President presented Mayor's communication #10 recommending the re-appointment of Phil Sellers to the MASS MoCA Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2018.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to confirm the re-appointment.

11,445 The President presented Mayor's communication #11 recommending the re-appointment of Thomas Bernard to the Human Service Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2018.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to confirm the re-appointment.

The President presented an application submitted by Emma Tasker, 23 Central Shaft Road, Florida to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Gregory Lattanzi, 116 Prospect Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Moran it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue said the money from the Parking Meter account should be used to hire another guy for the DPW. I have also challenged everyone to go onto Commonwealth Connect and I don't believe anyone has. It is a great tool and there are two streets, Walker and Burnham Streets that people have been complaining about for two years and they still have not been corrected. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street suggested that Mr. Eurbir look at McCann School to build a nice metal sign, instead of a wooden sign. We should do something we can be proud of.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Buddington asked if the City was down three plows. Councilor also noted to the Mayor he would like to see the classification plan with the budget. Councilor Merrigan said BART was holding an opening for their new space on February 25th at 8:30am. She

also noted the Tuesday night group will be having a press conference on Wednesday at 5:00pm regarding a change to their name, calling it the North County Coalition. Councilor Moran noted that MoCA was extending their free days, adding February 18th, March 18th, April 18th and May 18th. Councilor Bona noted Snow Cross was this week-end. Councilor Bullett said Winter Fest is next Saturday and they have added sledding and ice skating on the lake along with snow shoeing. There will be a fire at the campers pavilion and hot chocolate will be served. Councilor Wilkinson asked the Mayor when Council would be getting the budget. The Mayor said it would be sometime in March.

The Mayor asked the citizens to be patience with the DPW as they are struggling to keep ahead of the winter storms. He noted the snow and ice account is already spent out and the overtime account is down to about \$10,000. We have 600 tons of salt on order and hope to have the shipment sometime this week. There are 220 miles of road to clear. Snow removal is expected to start at 2:00am this morning and three 10 wheelers are being leased because the dump trucks can't keep up with the new snow blower, which can fill a truck in about 16 seconds. The downtown corrodors will be done first. The department has also been dealing with water line breaks since January 1st and there is a concern with the continued deep freeze and more snow in the forecast. The Mayor also noted that he would be submitting the budget to the Finance committee the first week of March.

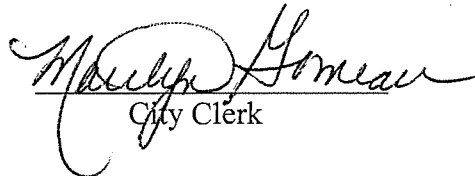
The Mayor presented a proclamation to Rachel Branch declaring Saturday February 14th "KIDS' PLACE/ONE BILLION RISING FOR REVOLUTION DAY"

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:49pm.

A True Record.

Attest,


City Clerk



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(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

12

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL February 24, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.
Councilor Breen absent.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of February 10, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

The President called for the approval of the Council Rules of Order, which was postponed at the Organization of Government meeting.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to approve as presented.

11,446 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Merrigan regarding a parking amnesty program.

Councilor Merrigan said she was interested in knowing if the Council was interested in piloting a similar program.

The Mayor admitted that the City as a whole does not do a great job with enforcement due to staffing. There are definite issues that we need to review and discuss.

Councilor Bona also noted part of the discussion should include who is handling the fines and what the process would be.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,440 The President presented Mayor's communication #5 requesting time to give the State of the City Address.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor gave his address to the Council noting a variety of issues, including budget issues, economic development and education for drug/heroin abuse. The Mayor noted this fiscal year we passed the first balanced budget since his involvement in City Government in 2001. The City is entering the 2016 fiscal year with an anticipated \$800,000 deficit.

The President presented an application submitted by Craig Amos, 56 Tyler Street to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Tracy Jalbert, 93 Cleveland Avenue #11 to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street wanted to clear up the negative comments concerning the Cemetery Commission. It consists of three members and conforms to all the rules of the open meeting laws. There has been no Commission since 1987 and we are now reviewing the Cemetery Department. The meetings are open to the public and we welcome any input regarding the cemeteries.


The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Wilkinson commended the DPW workers for the job they are doing with the recent water breaks in the City. Councilor spoke with Tim Lescarbeau and the guys worked 40 hours over the week-end. The highway department goes above and beyond. The Mayor congratulated Council President on her election as Vice President of the MMA. He also commended the DPW on the work they are doing this winter, we live in a society of instant gratification and it has been very difficult referring to the water break on Overlook Terrace. The Mayor also thanked Wendy DeSanty the events planner for the Winter Fest. Councilor Bona suggested since we just received notification for the parade that maybe the DPW should lead the parade this year. We tend to forget around August what a great job they do.

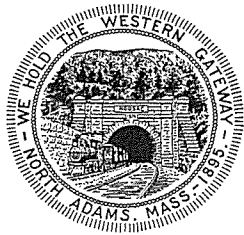
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:09pm.

A True Record.

Attest,


City Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

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City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

14

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL March 10, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Wilkinson. Councilor Breen and Merrigan absent.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of February 24, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

Councilor Bullett requested an amendment to the minute in the last paragraph to read MMA.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to amend and accept as presented.

11,447 The President presented Mayor's communication #12 regarding the swearing in of Police Officer David Lemieux.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The President called for the Clerk to swear in Police Officer David Lemieux.

Michael Cozzaglio, Police Director noted this brings the department to 21 police officers. In two weeks we will be down to 20 with the retirement of Lt. David Sacco. In July there will be two graduating from the academy.

The Mayor welcomed Officer Lemieux and said it was very important for him to stay safe.

11,407 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was referred to the General Government Committee and postponed at the meeting of February 10th.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of March 24th.

Councilor Buddington noted we should possibly ask for input from the City Solicitor. His communication noted a few grammar changes the committee had voted on.

Councilor Bona said it would make sense to refer the original paper along with the changes to the Solicitor.

On motion of Councilor Bullet, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to refer to the Solicitor with Councilor Buddington's communication and postpone to the meeting of March 24th.

Council would also like the Solicitor to attend the next meeting.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said that on a recent TV show that the information stated was false. The cemetery commission has not doubled the rates for the lots and the new rates were approved by the Council. Richard Dassatti, 472 Walnut Street invited elected officials to join the North County Care Group on March 28th to caravan to BMC and call for a full service hospital. It will be one year on the 28th that North Adams lost its full service hospital.

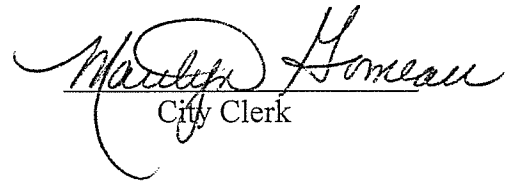
The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, the Mayor thanked the DPW on doing a great job on the recent water breaks, as well as the residents for their patience. It is also pothole season and the DPW is out patching with the hot box mixer. Council President noted the MMA annual dinner meeting has been cancelled.

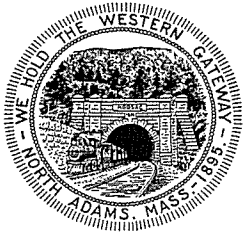
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:53pm.

A True Record.

Attest,


City Clerk



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City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

16

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL March 24, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Buddington, Bullett, Moran, Wilkinson. Councilor Bona, Breen, Lamb and Merrigan absent.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering Jean Downey former teacher at Freeman, Johnson and Sullivan Schools. Mitchell Braman, 16 year custodian at Sullivan School. Sara Marino former Election Worker for many years.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of March 10, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,407 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was referred to the Solicitor and postponed at the meeting of March 10th.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to refer back to the General Government Committee.

11,439 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Wilkinson regarding a new Zoning Ordinance allowing homeowners in a nonconforming lot the ability to rebuild their home, which was referred to the General Government Committee and postpone at the meeting of February 10th.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of April 28th.

Councilor Wilkinson was upset about the length of time it is taking for the committee to meet on a Council item

that was referred to committee. Two months is too long if a Councilor puts something forward, if the committee members are too busy they should step aside.

Councilor Bullett said the committee was trying to find time that all the members could meet.

Councilor Wilkinson said that there are only five Councilors here tonight, it appears everyone has something more important, we are elected officials.

Council President said she does understand Councilor Wilkinson frustration but everybody has things come up. There have been many items before the committees, which have taken time and I believe they are doing their due diligence.

Councilor Buddington does agree with Councilor Wilkinson in the respect of the length of time it takes for committee to review things that are referred to committees.

Councilor Bullett said she would discuss this with Councilor Merrigan and work something out with their schedules.

Council President suggested that when the General Government Committee meets, this agenda item be their first discussion.

11,448 The President called for the liaison reports for the 1st quarter of 2015.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept the liaison reports as presented.

11,449 The President called for the committee assignments for the 1st quarter of 2015.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the committee reports as presented.

The President presented an application for a renewal of a secondhand license submitted by Mary Ann George, 656 Ashland Street in the business name of "Maryann-tiques" located at 615 Ashland Street.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application for a renewal of a secondhand license submitted by Jeffrey Hudson, 223 White Oaks Road, Williamstown in the business name of "Hudsons" located at 1112 Mass MoCA Way.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Berney Wilder, 44 Liberty Street to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by David Bushey, Sr, 42 Mill Street, Williamstown to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Richard Dassatti, 472 Walnut Street invited elected officials to join the North County Care Group on March 28th to caravan to BMC and call for a full service hospital. It will be one year on the 28th that North Adams lost its full service hospital.

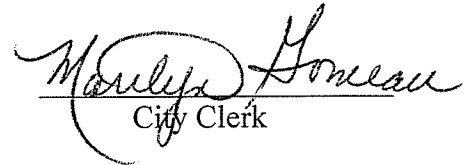
The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Buddington said he has spoken with the Mayor and Joann DeRose about installing new street lights with less glare. Councilor Wilkinson said he was interested in changing the lights and would like to work alongside of Councilor Buddington on this. He noted Chicopee has done this and they have saved about 50%. Councilor Blackmer was happy to see the Governor has given the City and Towns more money for potholes.

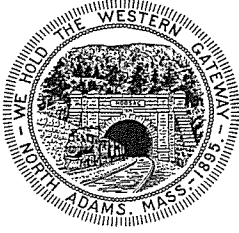
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:00pm.

A True Record.

Attest,


City Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

19

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL April 14, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Breen, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of March 24, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,407 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was referred back to General Government Committee.

Councilor Merrigan gave the report of the General Government Committee noting the Solicitor will make changes to the Ordinance and bring it back with the amendments at the next meeting.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of April 28th.

11,450 The President presented Mayor's communication #13 recommending the re-appointment of Marilyn DeRosa to the Board of Registrars for a term to expire April 1, 2018.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

11,451 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the discussion of an Open Checkbook System.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Service Committee.

Councilor Buddington thought the Public Service Committee would be the best place at this time since the other committees are busy with other things.

Councilor Bona was not sure he could justify it being referred to the Public Service Committee based on the fact that this committee is less busy.

Councilor Bullett was concerned that she was not sure sending this to that committee was the correct place.

Councilor Wilkinson said he has no problem with an open checkbook system, but it could be very costly and at this time it would not be cost effective. He felt it should be referred back to the Mayor's office.

Councilor Moran said this could be a long process and to get the ball rolling, sending it to Public Services would be a start. It could then be referred to any other committee.

The Mayor noted he would like it to go to the Finance Committee along with IT, but would like this to wait until after the budget was complete. The Mayor suggested possibly the last meeting of July.

Councilor Buddington would like the committee to meet sooner and possibly have a couple of meetings, since there seems to be a lot of discussion on this issue.

Councilor Bona again said he was opposed to sending this to the Public Service Committee.

Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said some Cities and Towns have done the open checkbook system in house and wonders how a price tag can be put on transparency.

Wayne Goodell of Barbour Street thanked Councilor Buddington for bringing this forward and noted other Cities that are financially strapped have been able to establish an open checkbook policy.

Aaron Crandall of North Adams said he has requested information from Michael Canales and they have been sent in a pdf file, he feels this would be beneficial.

The President called for a roll call vote on the motion to refer to the Public Service Committee and postpone to the meeting of August 11th.

On roll call the following responded; yea Councilor Breen, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay Councilor Blackmer and Bona.

The President presented an application for a renewal of a secondhand license submitted by James Montepare, 100 McLain Court, Williamstown in the business name of "Empire Antiques" located at 63 Main Street.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to grant the license. Councilor Bona and Lamb abstaining.

The President presented an application for a taxi license submitted by Nathan McMillian, 257 Houghton Street to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Rebecca Cohen, 211 Church Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said the State working on State Road filling the cracks in the road which extends the life of the highway. He noted that the City is not doing that on their roads.

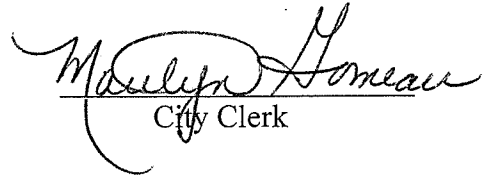
The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Moran gave a brief overview of his committee referring to the transfer station and they hope to have a new model by July 1st. Councilor Buddington said he would not be at the next meeting. Councilor Merrigan said the Mayor's fitness challenge would be starting again. Councilor Bona noted he has been questioned by some about the taxi license issued for City Cab in light of the recent drug arrest. The person in question said he was a part owner, which the City has no record of him being on the license for City Cab. It is under investigation by the Police department. The Mayor said he had the opportunity to attend an event at MCLA sponsored by Child Care of the Berkshires regarding child prevention abuse. Sixty pairs of shoes were placed on the steps to represent the 60 children who are abused or neglected each month. This was a very powerful event and if you know of any children who are abused or neglected please report it to the proper agencies.

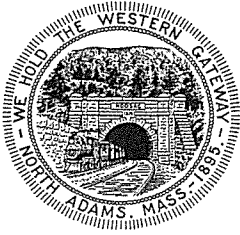
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:15pm.

A True Record.

Attest,


City Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

22

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL April 28, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Breen and Buddington.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of April 14, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,407 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was postponed at the meeting of April 14th.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of May 12th.

11,439 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Wilkinson regarding a new Zoning Ordinance allowing homeowners in a nonconforming lot the ability to rebuild their homes, which was postponed at the meeting of March 24th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to refer to the Solicitor and postpone to the meeting of June 9th.

Councilor Wilkinson noted that about 75% of the lots today are nonconforming, now at this point someone would need the City's permission to rebuild their house. This creates an uncertainty with banks if the property cannot be rebuilt, the bank has no collateral. Councilor Wilkinson said he would work with the Solicitor on the language for the Ordinance.

- 11,452** The President presented Mayor's communication #14 presenting a Proclamation regarding Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor presented the proclamation to Carrie Crews of the Brien Center. They are trying to reduce the stigma around children's mental health in the ages of 0-22. Children' Mental Health Awareness Week is May 3-9. On May 7th from 4:30 to 5:30 there will be a public rally at City Hall.

- 11,453** The President presented an update of the Traffic Commission given by Councilor Bullett.

On motion of Councilor Bullett duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to submit to the MASS DOT.

Councilor Bona said he would think this should also be referred to committee, but was uncertain which committee would be appropriate. He asked for clarification from the Clerk as to what committee it should be referred. The Clerk said that it usually would be referred to the Public Safety Committee.

Barbara Allen, 243 Church Street, whose driveway is located on Elmwood Avenue said she had sent several letters to the City and Traffic about being blocked in by parking on the street. Many days she could not get out of her driveway because cars parked across from her driveway. There is some confusion about if the no parking would be on the south or north side of the street.

Councilor Bullett said she would get clarification on this before sending it to DOT.

Councilor Bullett amended her original motion to include referring this paper to the Public Safety Committee and postpone to May 28th, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb.

The President presented an application from Michael J. Powers, 51 Bracewell Avenue to drive taxi for Tunnel City

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to grant the license.

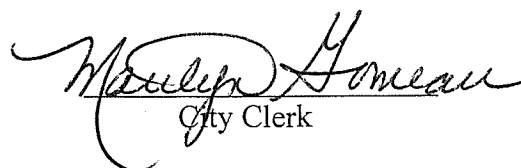
The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none the President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Bona said May 3rd is Zumba in the streets and May 9th is the Spring Expo. Councilor Bullett noted May 2nd is the Community Day of Service with MCLA. Councilor Bona mentioned the graffiti that was done recently on the River Street playground. Mr. Grant from UNO along with City workers cleaned it up immediately so the children would not see it. It was unfortunate, but it was positive at the quick response of people. Council President reminded residents about burning brush, a permit is needed and it ends on May 1st. The Mayor said the street sweeper is out and it is a very slow process, so he asked residents to please be patient, they will get it done in time. He also said the Mayor's fitness challenge is May 8th to June 16th.

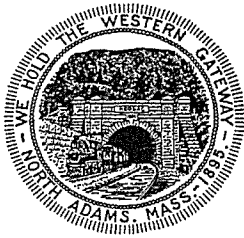
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:15pm.

A True Record.

Attest,


City Clerk



Office of the City Council

City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

24

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL May 12, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Absent Councilor Breen, Bullett, and Wilkinson.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of April 28, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,407 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was postponed at the meeting of April 14th.

The President asked for discussion of the Ordinance and asked Councilor Merrigan to give her report. Councilor Merrigan noted that the idea of an Arts Commission was started last fall by Administrative Officer Canales and his intern. The General Government Committee has spent several meetings going over the proposed Ordinance. She had received the final draft from the Solicitor late that afternoon. The final draft changed the spirit of the Commission which originally gave the Mayor jurisdiction to allow art to be placed on City property owned or controlled by the City. The final version will consist of seven voting members, five experts in relation to art and architecture and two members of the general public. The Mayor will be the appointing authority with the Council confirming the appointments. Councilor Buddington pointed out four errors in the draft. It was noted that public property would not include leased or assigned property such as MoCA or MCLA. Mark Trottier of 131 Woodlawn Ave was concerned that in Sec. 2-179 "shall" had been changed to "may" and that it would stop the public from being allowed to speak.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Moran it was VOTED: to amend the draft.

On motion of President Blackmer, duly second by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

- 9,686-d** Mayor's communication #15 submitting a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a revised loan agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The loan is a contract with the City and MoCA. The Mayor explained that this would only be changing the interest rate on the HUD loan allowing Mass MoCA to get a lower rate, which could save \$24,000 a year for the life of the loan. An upfront charge of approximately \$8,375 dollars to do this would be paid by MoCA. The Mayor acknowledged that the papers had to be filed by May 2, 2015 and that he had signed the papers with the Solicitor.

- 9,686-d** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a revised loan agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly second by Councilor Moran it was VOTED: to adopt the Resolution.

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Lamb, Merrigan Moran. Nay none.

- 9,513-24** Mayor's communication #16 submitting an Ordinance relative to disposal of waste at the Transfer Station.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor read his communication asking the Council to set the new scale rate and fees for the large blue bags and the smaller green bags. He has been made aware of a commercial haulers plant in Pownal which could affect our Transfer Station. Councilor Moran reported that the Public Services Committee after several meetings decided to raise the rate in an effort to make the Transfer Station neutral. The rate had not been raised since 2008. The Committee had initially considered eliminating acceptance of commercial waste in light of the opening of a major commercial transfer station in Pownal, VT, but the committee voted to hold off until they see what the effect is.

- 9,513-24** An Ordinance amending Chapter 7, entitled Department of Public Services, Section 7-11 Disposal of Waste at the Transfer Station, Charges.

On Motion of Councilor Bona, duly second by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilor Bona asked if we had looked at what Pittsfield and Pownal rates were. They have the ability of offering different rates per hauler, we have a set rate. Councilor Buddington asked if we had seen any increase or decrease in haulers as yet. Robert Lefebvre of RL Waste, a local hauler stated that this would be an 18 present increase for haulers and as a small business owner it would hurt his business. He said the estimates given on how much weight trash bags could hold was incorrect, it depends on what is put in the bags. John Barrett, III of 229 Corinth St. said the calculations were way off base and un-researched. He insisted the

Transfer Station was a money maker for the City and chastised officials for not speaking to former employees. Administrative Officer Canales said the rate calculations were basic math looking at the cost to operate the Transfer Station now and the tonnage of waste being shipped out. The Transfer Station is running a deficit of around \$370,000. He spot checked a couple of days and found one day the City took in \$191 net but the next day was in the red \$119. A third of the stickers are sold to non-residents and haulers bringing trash from around the region. Administrative Officer Canales said the added cost is expected to be about \$46 more a year for the average family, but by recycling the increase could be as little as \$10.00. The Mayor stated that if the Council did not wish to raise the rate, he would have to add \$300,000 back into the City budget. Robert Moulton of 985 Massachusetts Ave. asked the Administrative Officer if he had looked at the Pittsfield and Pownal rates to see how competitive we are. Robert Cardimino of 173 East Quincy St. did not observe himself but was told by several people that trucks were bypassing the scales and not paying. There has to be more security to stop this. He asked if anyone had looked at Adams or Williamstown as to how they run their stations. Mr. Canales reported that he had been to Williamstown, Cheshire and Dalton to see how they ran their resident only station. He did not check Adams, they do not have a transfer station. Wayne Goodell of 564 Barbour St. asked what the mills of the bags were. Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Ave. thought an 18% increase was high and that the Council should wait three months and to see how Pownal effects the transfer station. Councilor Moran said non-residents don't contribute to the debt. Councilor Bona added that there had not been a hauler increase since 2008 and that the increase was only to cover the cost of running the Transfer Station.

The President presented an application for a renewal of a secondhand license submitted by Timothy Randall, 50 Walker Street, in the business name of "Sanford & Kid, located at 160 Houghton Street.

On Motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Moran it was VOTED: to grant the license. Councilor Bona abstained.

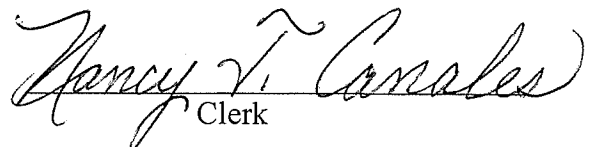
The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy St. wanted to correct a statement that he had made at the last meeting stating that the Mayor had said he gave the Skating Rink Manager a \$10,000 raise which would help him because his wife was pregnant. It was actually said about the Assistant MIS Director. Mr. Cardimino complained about the sweeping of the streets and said that the City sweeper was in need of new brushes. The machine is leaving sand behind which is dangerous. Brushes are only around \$500.00 and Williamstown changes theirs every year. John Barrett asked if the abstention was made on paper #9,513-24 concerning the Transfer Station or the second hand license. The President stated it was the license. He repeated that the Transfer Station figures and salaries are wrong. The price to dispose of trash has been the same since Jan. 2009 at \$72 a ton and the rate could be increased less than the 18% proposed. He hoped that the Council would reconsider and not pass the Ordinance at the next meeting. Mark Trottier wanted to know why the Mayor has yet to have Mr. Scanlon come and speak as he said he would. Linh Brown, 488 West Main St. feels that there is mismanagement at the Skating Rink and would like to see a committee formed to oversee what is happening there. The President reminded everyone that MCLA would be graduating this weekend and congratulated all graduates.

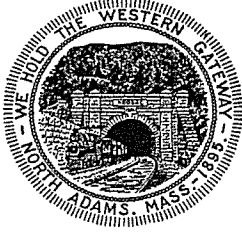
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Council City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

27

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL May 26, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Blackmer, Breen, and Lamb.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Leon “Kim” Berry founding Director of the North Adams Ambulance Service.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of May 12th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to accept as presented, with Councilor Wilkinson abstaining.

Without objection the President moved Council Paper **11,455**.

11,455 The President presented Mayor’s communication #18 recognizing two Police Officers and a Dispatcher.

The Mayor noted that the City was fortunate to have very dedicated Public Safety employees who make a positive difference in the lives of all our residents. Understanding the urgency of a situation in which an elderly woman was choking, these three individuals Acting Sargent Jason Wood, Officer Ben Austin and dispatcher Joseph Filkins immediately contributed to saving this individual’s life. Amalio Jusino from the North Adams Ambulance Service said this was a prime example of how seconds count when saving a life. The Mayor said we really have a fine Police Department in the City of North Adams, highly trained and responsible.

Police Director Michael Cozzaglio said their actions showed the level of commitment to our community.

Without objection the President moved Council Paper **11,454**.

11,454 Mayor’s communication #17 regarding the Scanlon Report.

Thomas Scanlon from Scanlon & Associates expressed the audit still had concerns over the lack of reserves but found few other issues in reviewing fiscal year 2014. He said for the first time in several years, the City had free cash of about \$143,000. The City is in fact going in the right direction. The free cash was from turn back of assessments for the charter school. He noted generally free cash should be about 3 to 5 % of a municipal budget, which would be about \$1.2 million based on the City budget. Mr. Scanlon said that looking at the last three fiscal years, they found variances between budgets and actuals.

The Mayor said it was unlikely based on the tight budgets that the City would see significant free cash in the near future.

The auditors recommended the City work on the \$2.3 million in outstanding property liens, which are sitting on the books.

Councilor Bona asked what other communities were doing to improve their finances with the drop in State funding. Mr. Scanlon said they were doing it with overrides for capital improvements. If the City is going to go with an override, then you need to have a plan in place. Councilor Bona asked how many communities did Scanlon Associates audit. Mr. Scanlon said they audited about 80 other communities.

Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned discrepancies in the airport's funds and why were these accounts not audited. Aaron Crandall, 22 Burnham Street felt there should also be an audit at the skating rink. Mr. Scanlon noted the cost benefit is of greater value reviewing larger accounts, unless they see a significant drop in the revenues. Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour Street said that in previous audits it was recommended to put procedures in place for loss of theft. Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue asked if our bond rating was better or worse. Mr. Scanlon said he did not know the answer to this question, but because of the reserves the City was not in a good place. Mr. Scanlon said they gave their audit program to the Auditor so he can look at the departments that they do not focus on.

The Mayor noted there were three comments without any findings. I give credit to our financial team, they work very hard and it shows.

11,407 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams by adding a new section; Arts Commission, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of May 12th.

The President noted this Ordinance was a second reading, if there was no new information to add, a motion to adopt would be in order.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

The Ordinance, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

9,513-24 An Ordinance amending Chapter 7, entitled Department of Public Services, Section 7-11 Disposal of Waste at the Transfer Station, Charges, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of May 12th.

The President noted this Ordinance was a second reading, if there was no new information to add, a motion to adopt would be in order.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

Councilor Bona said he had the opportunity to check with trash removal bills with his father who owns apartments what the added cost to residents would be, and the average would be about 8 to 12 cents per week, per person.

Councilor Wilkinson noted there has been several meeting on this issue and there was no need for more discussion.

Councilor Buddington was concerned about the effect the raise would have on businesses, but his concerns have been answered to his satisfaction.

Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street questioned why nonresidents are paying less than residents. Aaron Crandall, 27 Burnham Street was hoping Council would postpone this paper, noting 18% was going to have a huge impact on the community. Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour Street said he had requested a copy of the contract with Casella under the freedom of information and was wondering how many of the Councilors had read the contract.

The Ordinance, as amended was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour said he was disappointed the Councilors had not bothered to read the contract the City has with Casella to remove trash and recyclables from the Transfer Station before voting on the rate hike.

Linh Brown, 488 West Main St. feels that there is mismanagement at the Skating Rink and would like to see a Board of Directors to oversee what is happening at the rink.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Merrigan said she would like to hear from a broader group of residents regarding issues coming to Council; often I have to reach out to people to get their feelings on the issues. Councilor Wilkinson was disappointed with the loan agreement with MoCA, the City is missing out. We should have a Pilot Program with MoCA. They pay no taxes and rent space out and if the City had a Pilot Program, "Payment in lieu of Taxes" with them, this money could be used for more Police, Fire or DPW workers.

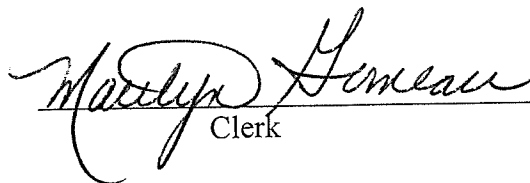
The Mayor thanked everyone involved in the Memorial Day Ceremonies and Roger Eurburn for the great job at Hillside Cemetery. Councilor Bona said when he was leaving Soldiers Circle, he noticed a couple of chairs by a sign on the corner of West Main Street and Brown Street, there were two gentlemen hanging a wreath in memory of Mr. Lopretta, who was a class mate and served in the Korean War. The mayor said a gentleman that went to Drury High School called and their class wanted to put a sign in his memory on that corner in his, as far as he could remember Mr. Lopretta lived across the street from the cemetery.

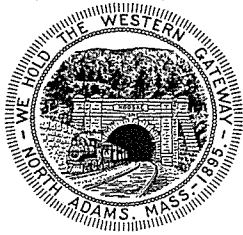
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

30

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL June 9, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Breen, and Buddington.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Arthur Wilk, seven term North Adams City Councilor. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of May 26th.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,439 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Wilkinson regarding a new Zoning Ordinance allowing homeowners in a nonconforming lot the ability to rebuild their homes, which was referred to the City Solicitor and postpone at the meeting of April 28th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to refer to the General Government Committee and postpone to the meeting of July 14th.

Councilor Wilkinson said that he had met with the Mayor, Solicitor and the Building Inspector, Mr. Mirante regarding this matter and found there were additional amendments dealing with catastrophic events that the Council should look at. The Solicitor recommended this matter be referred back to the General Government Committee to draft a proposed Zoning Ordinance.

11,453 The President presented a communication from the Traffic Commission given by councilor Bullett, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee, submit changes to the DOT and postponed at the meeting of April 28, 2015.

Councilor Bullett gave a report of the Traffic Commission noting there were several issues with signage. Mary Ann King is going to continue on the board to help out with several of these issues, including being in contact with the DOT.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to accept the report.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to accept the update.

11,456 The President presented Mayor's communications #19 regarding rules for the rifle range.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said he received a communication from James DeMarco regarding the safety of the range. I have met with Director Cozzaglio to tighten up and address most of the concerns of Mr. DeMarco. We have come up with new rules to address the following, a reduction in allowable hours, children at the facility, alcohol at the facility, trash issues and enhanced enforcement. The Director will send the new rules to all those currently permitted to use the range, effective July 1, 2015.

David Whitney, 51 Burnham Street said it would be nice if McCann could build a new bench up there. He also wondered if the range could be extended a full 100 yards. Robert Felix, 29 Gunter Street said there have been no problems up there for 50 years; it just seems to be litter. The Mayor said he has received many complaints from neighbors about liquor, and young children running around up there.

Councilor Bona wondered if there was a way there could be a sign up sheet, so if there is a problem they would know who was using it at the time. Councilor Lamb asked how they were going to communicate the new rules. The Mayor said they would be posted at the range and possibly on the City web site.

Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said that the litter is a problem and many times he has cleaned up the site. He was not in agreement with the age ban for children, since he likes to bring his grandson up there. Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue asked if the perimeters of the range could be marked a shooting zone, especially for hikers.

The Mayor said he would not hesitate to close the range; we have had these problems far too long. He encouraged guys who shot to look at the situation up there and come up with a plan for improvement and he would certainly work with them.

11,457 The President presented Mayor's communication #20 presenting the Budget, Classification and Compensation Plan for FY'16.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said he was pleased that the budget is fully balanced both City and School and he does not anticipate the use of reserves to cover costs. He thanked the Council Finance Committee and his internal team for the great work that has been done.

11,457 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of \$38,569,857 to be raised by taxation for FY'16.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee and postpone to the meeting of June 23rd.

- 11,458** The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, the Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'16.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee and pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin as required by law.

- 11,459** The President presented Mayor's communication #21 recommending an appropriation from Certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Account.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said by moving Certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Account it assures these funds will be available in the future.

- 11,459** The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of \$140,822 from Certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Account.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

- 11,460** The President presented Mayor's communications #22 recommending an appropriation from the Overlay Surplus Account to General Government.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained the Board of Assessors declared an overlay surplus in fiscal year 2013 in the amount of \$51,570.00. This amount will cover the last third of the cost of the cyclical inspection mandated by the State.

- 11,460** The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of \$51,570.00 from the Overlay Surplus Account to General Government; Assessor.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

- 11,461** The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Merrigan regarding Richard Dassatti speaking in reference to the City Charter.

Councilor Merrigan said she would like Mr. Dassatti to address the Council about his petition and the General Government Committee would definitely look more closely at the details.

Richard Dassatti, 472 Walnut Street was asking the City to reflect on the choice in government. He does not feel the form of government in place now fits our community. He said he felt the strong Mayor form of government in this community is like cutting butter with a chainsaw. Mr. Dassatti wanted voters to understand that they could change their government, or decide not to change it.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Edward Morandi, 722 West Shaft Road said he and 12 other people recently went to visit our Sister City in Italy. Gifts were exchanged and they held a joint session at their Town Hall. A State Plaque from our State Representative, Gailanne Cariddi was presented. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street put in a formal complaint about the sand in the intersections.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Bona wanted to congratulate Councilor Breen on the birth of her son Joseph "Joey". The baby came very early, but she and baby are doing well. Councilor Lamb noted this Saturday was the adult prom. Councilor Bullett said there will a benefit golf tournament on June 20th sponsored by the Drury alumni. The funds raised from this event go right back to the schools.

The Mayor mentioned the fitness challenge was having a 100 people walk a mile event on Friday. He also said the Drury alumni's event shows small things can make a big difference.

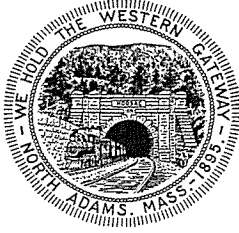
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

34

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL June 23, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.
Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Rose Cariddi employed by the North Adams School system at Drury High School and many of the other public schools as an assistant in the cafeteria, retiring in 1986. Eugene Lyons, 18 years at McCann as the AV Director. Theresa Louison, Executive Director of the Northern Berkshire Community Action for 25 years. Don Trombley, North Adams Firefighter for 27 years. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of June 9th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,457-1 The President presented a report of the Finance Committee regarding the Budget, Classification and Compensation Plan for FY'16.

Councilor Bullett gave the report of the Finance Committee, noting the committee held six meetings from March through June to discuss the FY'16 budget. The committee unanimously recommended the adoption of the FY'16 Budget and the Classification and Compensation Plan to the full Council.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the committee report as presented.

Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street questioned how the City could have a balanced budget when there was an anticipated shortfall of \$500,000.

11,457 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of \$38,569,857 to be raised by taxation for FY'16, which was referred to the Finance Committee and postponed at the meeting of June 9th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED; to adopt the Order.

The Finance Committee presented each department for approval.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT **\$1,211,434**

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to adopt General Government.

PUBLIC SAFETY **\$4,959,539**

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to adopt Public Safety.

PUBLIC SERVICES **\$3,117,870**

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED to adopt Public Services.

SCHOOL **\$16,415,880**

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to adopt the School Department.

PENSIONS **\$2,463,529**

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to adopt Pensions.

UNCLASSIFIED **\$7,485,139**

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to adopt Unclassified.

CAPITAL **\$780,500**

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to adopt Capital.

INTEREST **\$512,130**

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to adopt Interest.

DEBT **\$1,623,836**

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to adopt Debt.

GRAND TOTAL **\$38,569,857**

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to adopt the Grand Total for FY'16.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett,

Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

The Mayor said this has been a very long process and thanked the Finance Committee and City Council for their cooperation with the City's finance team, bringing forward a balanced budget. This is the first time in a long time.

Councilor Bullett also thanked her committee and the financial team, noting the amount of work that went into this budget making it a very smooth process.

The Mayor noted most line items were level-funded with increases in workman comp, Hoosac Water assessments, health insurance, pension obligations and a 3% raise for non-union employees.

11,458 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, the Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'16, which was referred to the Finance Committee and pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin as required by law at the meeting of June 9th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance as amended.

Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said the Compensation Plan has been in place for a long time and why is the City not following it?

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,399-2 The President presented Mayor's communication #6-A regarding the appointment of Kurt Koloc to the North Adams Local Historic District Committee.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

11,462 The President presented Mayor's communication #23 recommending the appointment of Christine Naughton to the North Adams Human Services Commission.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Moran it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

10,639-2 The President presented Mayor's communication #24 requesting a Resolution for Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Program.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained the PARC grant requires a 30% match by the City and we will be including that match in our FY16' CDBG funding round. In other words, we are leveraging approximately \$276,000 of CDBG funds to get approximately \$400,000 in PARC funds. This grant funding will be used for a Skateboard Park at the Noel Field Athletic Complex. This happens with no financial commitment to the City. The youth of this community have wanted this for eons.

Councilor Merrigan asked if there were more expansive plans for the plan. Councilor Buddington questioned if there was a decision date for this grant.

The Mayor said that we have a design, which is not completed, but we can submit for the grant. The Mayor noted the deadline was the day after the next meeting and Mr. Nuvaille will be on vacation the first week of July so we want to get this done as quickly as possible:

10,639-2 The President presented a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to file and accept any grant funds from the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs'.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED to adopt the Resolution.

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Carol Boucher, 429 East Main Street, was concerned about the trees that have been planted at Sullivan School in memory of students and teachers. There is meaning to these trees and they should not be left sitting in an empty space.

The Mayor responded to her concern noting that he was not aware the trees were memorial, but he would bring the issue to the School and Building Committees to either replant them at Colegrove Park Elementary School or new trees could be dedicated. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street, said we are the poorest City in the State and now we are living with a new school that is already falling apart. Is this going to be a safe school for our children? Linh Brown, 488 West Main Street questioned why people outside of North Adams pay less than residents to use the transfer station.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Moran noted it was Wilco week-end and residents should enjoy the crowds and respect the visitors who have come to our community. Councilor Bona said residents should not hesitate coming downtown this week-end because of Wilco, there is going to be a lot of things going for residents to enjoy. Councilor Bullett thanked everyone for supporting the Drury golf tournament, it was a huge success. She also commented on Councilor Moran's involvement with the Appalachian Trail, people comment that of all the Cities and Towns the trail goes through, North Adams is the friendliest. Councilor Buddington thanked the Mayor and Dave Fierro for catching him up on the budget, since he was away for a couple of meetings. Council President mentioned the Ziti Supper on Thursday to benefit LaFesta Baseball Exchange.

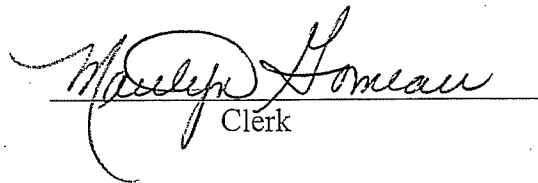
The Mayor thanked Alan Bashevkin for his 25 year involvement with the Coalition, he certainly will be missed.

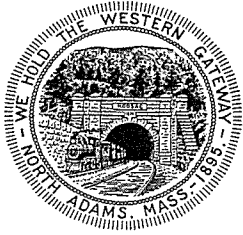
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:11 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

38

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL July 14, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Breen, Lamb, Merrigan.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of June 23rd.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,439-1 The President presented the report of the General Government Committee regarding a Zoning Ordinance on nonconforming lots.

Councilor Moran gave the report of the Committee noting the changes are being reviewed by the City Solicitor.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to accept the committee report as presented.

11,439 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Wilkinson regarding a new Zoning Ordinance allowing homeowners in a nonconforming lot the ability to rebuild their homes, which was referred to the General Government Committee and postponed at the meeting of June 9th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of August 11th.

Councilor Wilkinson said the Solicitor was reviewing the Ordinance and would be bringing in the proper language for this Ordinance. The new language would ensure the right to rebuild in two years. He noted it would also allow the Zoning Board to issue special permits to allow commercial buildings to retain their use in residential zones. Councilor Bona wondered if this meant any building could be converted to commercial through a special permit. Councilor Wilkinson said only buildings that were historically commercial would be eligible for a special permit. The Zoning Ordinance does not currently have this option.

11, 438-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #25 recommending year end transfers.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Councilor Breen entered the meeting at 7:43pm.

The Mayor said what was really good, was that we are able to close the budget without our reserves. I think this is a "banner year for the City". Monies were taken from salary and expense accounts in General Government, Public Safety, Public Services and Unclassified. The largest transfer was for snow and ice, we had a bad winter, along with all the water breaks in the City. David Fierro, Auditor for the City said the City is anticipating free cash coming back, after the State certifies the numbers this fall. He estimated \$400,000 in turn backs, but there are a number of factors, such as State reimbursements. The Mayor feels this is turning point in the City's fiscal condition.

Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue asked if there was really \$145,000 or \$340,000 to swap out of the landfill. Aaron Crandall, 22 Burnham Street questioned if there would be a surplus after the transfers. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said \$140,000 was appropriated for Windsor Lake and most of the work was done in house, some of that was ADA money.

11,438-1 The President presented an Order transferring the sum of \$488,548.75 from Several Accounts to Several Accounts.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Breen, Buddington, Bullett, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,453-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding no turn on red; River, Marshall and Houghton Streets.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The President explained that this definitely needs approval from DOT and we are waiting for a letter of approval.

11,453-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV, entitled Operation of Vehicles, Section 13-41, entitled Obedience to traffic-control signals.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to postpone till the next meeting.

11,463 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding a designated school zone on East Main Street and Brayton Hill.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,463-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-26.1 entitled School Zones.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilor Bona wondered why this was not being referred to Committee, since most times it does get referred for review. Councilor Buddington also agreed with Councilor Bona.

Councilor Wilkinson withdrew his original motion.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Safety Committee.

11,448-1 The President called for the Liaison reports for the second quarter of 2015.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the reports as presented.

11,449-1 The President called for the Committee assignment reports.

There were no reports at this time. It was decided that the committee assignments were not necessary, since when the committees meet they always give a report.

The President presented an application submitted by Noel Bostwick, 1 Dubuis Street, Adams to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street noted that not only are we the poorest City in the State, we are highest in smoking. Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue said the law suit that was settled with Freight Yard Pub and the Redevelopment Authority will be coming before the Council to pay the settlement. One year ago today in the Berkshire Eagle the Mayor stated the City would not be on the hook for this and what impact will it have on reserves or the budget. George Perras, 76 East Quincy Street questioned if the school was not finished by the September contract, will a new contract be opened. Linh Brown, 488 West Main Street was concerned about the condition of the roads by the fire station.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns. Councilor Moran said there will be a celebration for the Appalachian Trail at Greylock School, August 1st at 9:30. Councilor Breen explained why she has not been present at so many meetings; she recently gave birth to a baby boy named Joey who was born early. Her time was fully devoted to her son. Councilor Breen said there are so many people to thank for their support. The Mayor said he had received three books from the Sister City Tremosine, one being a cook book, which he noted he has found some good recipes. These books will be available if anyone wants to view them in the City Clerk's Office. The Mayor also congratulated Fire Director, Steven Mirante on his award for emergency management. He does a great job, but Steve is the type of guy that gives credit to his team, none of this would be possible without them.

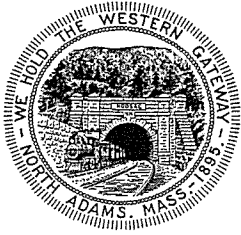
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

41

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL July 28, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering Vincent DeMarsico, 26 year Police Officer for the North Adams Police Department and a member of the Massachusetts Police Association.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of July 14th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,453-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV, entitled Operation of Vehicles, Section 13-41, entitled Obedience to traffic-control signals, which was postponed at the meeting of July 14th.

Without objection the President postponed this paper until the meeting of September 8th. Pat Tierney from DOT is away at this time and we are waiting for an approval letter.

11,463-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-26.1 entitled School Zones, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee at the meeting of July 14th.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of August 11th.

11,464 The President presented Mayor's communication #26 recommending a sewer connection.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,464 The President presented an Order granting permission to Raymond and Jeanne Moulthrop, Map 207, Lot 20 (164 Cross Road) Clarksburg to hook into the North Adams Sewer System.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Bona asked the Mayor about delinquent payments. The Mayor said a system has been set up with the Treasurer to inform the Town of Clarksburg of late bills. The \$14,000 owed to the City has been paid.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,465 The President presented Mayor's communication #27 regarding the North Adams Redevelopment Authority.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said this is a very long and complicated process and I have not been able to fully complete with necessary clarity, the information you will need to make a well informed decision on this important matter. Needing a bit more time, please know that I will bring forward another communication with recommendations regarding this at a special meeting or the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The President presented a request for a Public Hearing from O'Connell Oil Associates regarding installation of a new diesel tank.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for August 11th at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers.

The President presented an application submitted by Robert Cook, 427 West Road, Clarksburg to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street requested an apology from the Mayor and Councilor Wilkinson for making remarks about him. He noted he was a disabled veteran. Justyna Carlson from the Historical Society said they had received a Community Development Block Grant which is allowing them to move into the next phase of the City's Historical survey update. Jennifer Berden of Grey & Pape, a consulting firm for historical resource management and preservation is doing the survey. Justyna Carlson said the focus will be on the business corridor including Union, Miner and River Streets as well as Mass Avenue. Historical residents in that area will also be surveyed.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Lamb reminded everyone of Down Street Art on Thursday from 5:00 to 9:00. Council President said that Wednesday's are concerts at the lake and Thursday at Noel Field is Party in the Park.

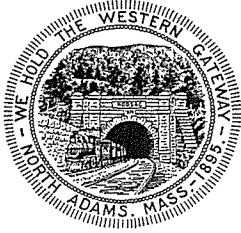
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk

City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

43

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL August 11, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.
Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering two very special men who touched thousands of our City's children and young men and women and left an enduring and lasting legacy for generations ahead. Eugene Wein, Mr. Drury High School Basketball. Attended virtually every men's and women's basketball games during his adult life. He served as Master of Ceremonies at the end of year sports banquets and in 2002, Drury High School renamed its annual Christmas Tournament the Gene Wein Holiday Tournament in his honor.

George Fairs was a long time Member and Chairman of the North Adams Parks and Recreation Commission. The Jim Fallon Little League Field, Joe Wolfe Baseball Field, Mary Jesyk Sunshine Park, and playgrounds, skating rinks and basketball courts in every section of the City were built during his chairmanship. He was Chairman of the Windsor Lake Commission, which was instrumental in the City's purchase of the lake and development of its beach, picnic and parking and the establishment of Historic Valley Campground.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of July 14th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

THE PRESIDENT DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING OPEN

There was no discussion regarding the installation of a new diesel tank at 458 Curran Highway, O'Connell Oil.

THE PRESIDENT DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

The President presented an application granting permission to O'Connell Oil Associates to install a new diesel tank at 458 Curran Highway.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to grant the license.

Councilor Wilkinson felt there should be some representation from the applicant. Councilors Buddington and Lamb had similar feelings. Councilor Bona noted it is not a requirement of the applicant to appear before the Council. It does have all the necessary approval from the Fire Director.

The license was granted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Nay Councilor Wilkinson.

- 11,439** The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Wilkinson regarding a new Zoning Ordinance allowing homeowners in a nonconforming lot the ability to rebuild their home, which was postponed at the meeting of July 14th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of September 8th.

- 11,451** The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the discussion of an Open Checkbook System.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Moran it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of September 8th.

- 11,463-1** The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-26.1 entitled School Zones, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee at the meeting of July 14th.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

- 11,465-1** The President presented Mayor's communication #27-A requesting authorization to borrow the sum of \$160,000.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained the events that gave rise to the settlement occurred in the year 2008, two years before I took office. The court action was that the North Adams Redevelopment Authority breached its lease and acted in bad faith toward the Freight Pub in its handling of parking at the Heritage Park during the reconstruction of the Hadley Overpass. The NARA vigorously defended the law suit, including filing a countersuit to recover back rent, and fortunately for the NARA the insurer assumed the costs of the litigation. Former Mayor Barrett, who was in office at the time of these events, cooperated fully in the defense of the lawsuit and testified before the jury in Berkshire Superior Court. We presented a strong defense to the merits of their claims. The jury however did not agree with us on all counts. They found that the NARA did not breach the lease and awarded us back rent, however, the jury determined there was a breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. They awarded damages to the Freight Yard Pub in the amount of \$300,000 with interest accruing at the rate of 12%. NARA has now exhausted every appeal, and has reached a settlement that I believe is in the best interest of NARA and the City.

As a City, we are moving in the right direction. This situation has been going on since my first month in office. And very simplistically, it is time to resolve it.

11,465-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of \$160,000 under the provisions of Chapter 121B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling authority.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilor Wilkinson questioned who the NARA was. The Mayor said Paul Hopkins, Mike Leary and Klye Hanlon. Councilor Wilkinson said it was a five member board and is there not a State appointee? Basically you have three people, who are all on the Planning Board making the decisions.

Councilor Bona would feel more comfortable if this went to committee before we approve this borrowing order. I don't like the idea of how we're going to pay for it afterwards. I think we need to see what our options are, if we say no what will our options be? Councilor Merrigan asked about the level of formality that could be pursued for repayment. Councilor Buddington noted the NARA was a separate entity; the City has no control of the NARA, although the Mayor appoints them. He questioned why the settlement was not covered under insurance. Councilor Bullett noted she did not like the City being accountable for the NARA. She said she would be more comfortable with a formal agreement for repayment.

Councilor Lamb said he too was uncomfortable approving a borrowing order without a written agreement. Councilor Moran said it was court ordered and what message was the City sending to the commercial sector and future investors. With low occupancy in the park, Freight Yard Pub is the park. Councilors were in agreement that it should not be on the backs of the tax payers.

City Solicitor John DeRosa and Richard Dohoney of Donovan & O'Connor were at the meeting to answer questions. The Solicitor noted the NARA was incapable of paying this settlement, and the City is responsible for its agencies or employees. Attorney Dohoney and DeRosa said if Council passed this borrowing order tonight an agreement could come to the next Council meeting with conditions for the NARA to meet their obligations. Mr. Dohoney, who litigated the case warned that this was the most advantageous settlement the City is going to get. If this does not pass tonight the consequence would be more severe than the offer on the table. DeRosa said at the end of the day it is still the obligation of the City. It makes good sense to put it to bed, I would anticipate FYP's attorney could file against the City and the NARA.

The Mayor said he would like to meet with the Finance Committee to review and make recommendation on this borrowing. Any payments would not be until the next fiscal year.

Mark Trotter, 131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned why the assets the NARA has could not be sold to help pay the settlement. It should not be the responsibility of the taxpayers. Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue questioned if this was in the best interest of the City. What assets do they actually have? Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street wondered who gets the rent from the tenants and how much do they pay. Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour Street feels the taxpayers are being blindsided and it should not be on the backs of the taxpayers. John Barrett, 229 Corinth Street was against getting involved on a bad decision. He read a Christmas card he had received from the Taylors shortly before they filed claiming the authority and the Mayor were at fault for not having enough money, because of buying the Sons of Italy in 2011 and allowing a proposed investor to force out Northern Berkshire Community Television. The Mayor said he inherited the lawsuit from the former Mayor.

The Order failed by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bullett, Merrigan, Moran. Nay Councilor Bona, Buddington, Lamb, Wilkinson.

11,466 The President presented a report of the General Government Committee meeting held July 21st submitted by Councilor Merrigan.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Councilor Merrigan said that the committee met to explore the possibility of establishing a Charter Commission to review the City Charter. Richard Dassatti has been exploring the possibility of putting this before the voters, which would have to go on the ballot for a vote. Councilor Merrigan just wanted to keep Councilors informed on what Mr. Dassatti's intentions were.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street is still requesting an apology from the Mayor and Councilor Wilkinson for making remarks about him. Linh Brown, 488 West Main Street voiced her concerns about permits for installing a fence. The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Moran noted that the 2030 master plan was mentioned in the article for the sale of the Cariddi Mill and is glad the City had a plan in place. Councilor Bona reminded everyone about the downtown celebration on Wednesday night from 5:30 to 9:00. Councilor Blackmer congratulated the Steeples Cats on their successful season.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:09 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

47

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL August 25, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Breen and Merrigan.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of August 11th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

Councilor Wilkinson noted that Council paper #11,439 was postponed to the meeting of September 8th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to amend the minutes as presented.

11,467 The President presented Mayor's communication #28 regarding the swearing in of two new Police Officers Klye Cahoon and David Sherman along with Firefighter Collin Boucher.

City Clerk Gomeau swore in the Officers and Firefighter in front of many family and friends.

The Mayor noted all three had been previously sworn in and have begun their duties, but he felt they should be presented to the Council and the public. He asked the officers and firefighter to keep themselves safe, it all comes down to training and instinct. Both Cahoon and Sherman completed the academy in July. Firefighter Boucher, was pinned by his father David, making Collin the third generation in the fire department. Collin's grandfather served for 25 years in the department.

11,463-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-26.1 entitled School Zones, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of August 11th.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,471 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bullett regarding a report of the Airport Commission.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Councilor Bullett said she had asked Trevor Gilman from the Airport Commission to be here for any question Council or the public may have. She noted the concerns were regarding the drones and other remote aircrafts in the area of the airport. The Commission adopted guidelines for the use of drones or small unmanned aerial vehicles to ensure safety for the operators of UAV's as well as air safety and safety of those on the ground. Trevor Gilman, 45 Meade Avenue and member of the Airport Commission explained the regulations promulgated by the Federal Aviation will likely be updated and only cover areas with 5 miles of the airport.

The President presented an application submitted by PWJ Corp.(Apkin & Sons), 80R State Street requesting a Public Hearing to store (2) 100 gallon tanks, (22) 9 gallon tanks, and (3) 22 gallons tanks.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for September 8th at 7:30pm.

The President presented an application submitted by Susan Brooks, 334 Union Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said there was a near drowning at the lake and we have heard nothing about it. Linh Brown, 488 West Main Street suggested the City adopt a drain cleanup. People put grass clippings and leaves in the road and this is a safety issue.

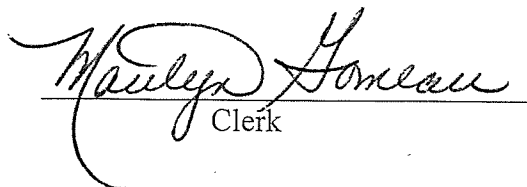
The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Buddington noted the Public Safety Committee did meet and there was some very interesting conversation regarding obtaining public records. The Mayor wanted clear up the issue at the lake and yes a child went under the water, the mother screamed and the lifeguard to go to her assistance. We are not in charge of the lifeguards at the lake, the YMCA does all the training. They did pull the lifeguard from the lake for a week and she went back to the Y for more training. The Mayor also noted September 8th is the ribbon cutting for the solar project.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk

11,470 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of \$65,000 from the Landfill Reserve Account to Department of Public Safety; Health Inspection Services, Transfer Station.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,471 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bullett regarding a report of the Airport Commission.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Councilor Bullett said she had asked Trevor Gilman from the Airport Commission to be here for any question Council or the public may have. She noted the concerns were regarding the drones and other remote aircrafts in the area of the airport. The Commission adopted guidelines for the use of drones or small unmanned aerial vehicles to ensure safety for the operators of UAV's as well as air safety and safety of those on the ground. Trevor Gilman, 45 Meade Avenue and member of the Airport Commission explained the regulations promulgated by the Federal Aviation will likely be updated and only cover areas with 5 miles of the airport.

The President presented an application submitted by PWJ Corp.(Apkin & Sons), 80R State Street requesting a Public Hearing to store (2) 100 gallon tanks, (22) 9 gallon tanks, and (3) 22 gallons tanks.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for September 8th at 7:30pm.

The President presented an application submitted by Susan Brooks, 334 Union Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said there was a near drowning at the lake and we have heard nothing about it. Linh Brown, 488 West Main Street suggested the City adopt a drain cleanup. People put grass clippings and leaves in the road and this is a safety issue.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Buddington noted the Public Safety Committee did meet and there was some very interesting conversation regarding obtaining public records. The Mayor wanted clear up the issue at the lake and yes a child went under the water, the mother screamed and the lifeguard to go to her assistance. We are not in charge of the lifeguards at the lake , the YMCA does all the training. They did pull the lifeguard from the lake for a week and she went back to the Y for more training. The Mayor also noted September 8th is the ribbon cutting for the solar project.

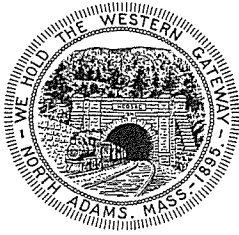
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

50

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL September 8, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Blackmer and Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering Morton Freedman, longtime City Councilor and President of the Council and former Clerk of the Northern Berkshire District Court.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of August 28th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

The President declared the Public Hearing Open, regarding fuel storage for PWJ Corp (George Apkin & Sons), 80 R State Street.

The Mayor noted that The Fire Director had sent a letter and the applicant has met all the necessary requirements.

Councilor Lamb questioned why the need for (9) 22 gallon tanks. Mr. William Apkin, 135 Old Cheshire Road, Lanesboro said they were for propane to be used for the fork lifts. Councilor Buddington asked if these were preexisting tanks. Mr. Apkin said they are all preexisting and he had to establish an emergency plan, so the Fire Director determined we needed a permit for these tanks.

With no further questions the President declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:33pm.

The President presented an Order granting permission to PWJ (George Apkin & Sons) , 80 R State Street for fuel storage.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license, by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.

11,439 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Wilkinson regarding a new Zoning Ordinance allowing homeowners in a nonconforming lot the ability to rebuild their homes, which was postponed at the meeting of August 11th.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Councilor Wilkinson noted that this has been vented on many occasions with the help of the City Solicitor John DeRosa, the Mayor and William Meranti, the Building Inspector and there was a need for other adjustments besides nonconforming lots. The Solicitor worked hard on this Ordinance and I would like to thank him for that. The Mayor said Councilor Wilkinson did a good job and it was long overdue.

11,439-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance entitled Nonconforming Buildings and Uses, Section 12.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to set a joint Public Hearing with the Planning Board for September 23rd.

11,451-a The President presented a report of the Public Services Committee submitted by Councilor Moran.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept the committee report as presented.

Councilor Moran gave his report of the committee noting the availability of residents to obtain public records and the committee also determined at this time the preliminary cost of an Open Checkbook system appears to be in the range of a half million dollars. Councilor Moran said he had included an article from iBerkshire for review.

Councilor Lamb noted that he would like to amend the minutes; **Bylaws** should read **Regulations** and in the same paragraph **behind** should be **beyond**.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to amend the minutes as presented.

11,451 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the discussion of an Open Checkbook System, which was postponed and referred to the Public Service Committee.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,453-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV, entitled Operation of Vehicles, Section 13-41, entitled Obedience to traffic-control signals, which was postponed at the meeting of July 28th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

11,472 The President presented Mayor's communication #31 recommending the appointment of Peter Breen to the License Commission for a term to expire June 1, 2021.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

- 11,473 The President presented Mayor's communication #32 recommending the re-appointment of Jeffrey Polucci to the License Commission for a term to expire June 1, 2021.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to confirm the re-appointment.

- 11,474 The President presented Mayor's communication #33 regarding a proclamation for "North Adams Recovery Month".

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted that September 12th from 4:00 to 8:00 there will be a rally-walk-vigil at Noel Field for Voices for Recovery 2015. The Mayor presented a proclamation to Susan and Jeff Deeley.

Jeff Deelymember of the group, Josh Bressette Commit to Save A Life said they have been raising awareness of heroin and opiod abuse. We hope to have a recovery center someday and a sober home.

The President presented an application submitted by Gary Wandrei, 29 Temple Street, Adams to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Moran, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street thanked Councilor Lamb and Williams College for their help in cleaning up at the cemetery. Linh Brown, 488 West Main Street said there is a fence law and it is the City's responsibility to have a fence viewer. Joanne Bates representing North County Care Group invites everyone to a forum on September 15th, discussion on health care and a road to a healthier economy.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Moran said Saturday September 12th is the Mt. Greylock Hill Climb. Councilor Bona reminded everyone about Fresh Grass coming to the City September 18-20, there will be a lot of tourist in the City and please treat them well. Councilor Merrigan said September 11th from 10:00 to noon is the Coalition forum. Councilor Wilkinson asked who the City fence viewer was. The Mayor said it was Mr. Meranti. The Mayor mentioned the new signs at the cemeteries, and this afternoon was the cord cutting for the solar project.

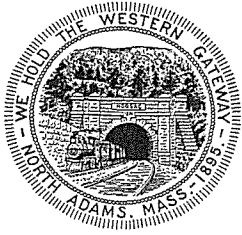
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:34 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

53

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL September 23, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Breen and Lamb.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of September 23rd.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,439-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance entitled Nonconforming Buildings and Uses, Section 12, which was referred to the Planning Board regarding a Joint Public Hearing at the meeting of September 8th.

Without objection the President read the communication from the Planning Board setting the Public Hearing for October 5th at 5:30pm.

11,453-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV, entitled Operation of Vehicles, Section 13-41, entitled Obedience to traffic-control signals, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of September 8th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,453-2 The President presented a communication submitted by the Traffic Commission regarding "no parking" on a section of Elmwood Avenue.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

- 11,453-2** The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-49 Parking prohibited on certain streets-Elmwood Avenue Southerly side.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

- 11,475** The President presented Mayor's communication #34 recommending the appointment of Colton Andrews to the North Adams Housing Authority for a term to expire July 1, 2017.

The Mayor said the North Adams Housing Board needs to have a representative of a labor union, which is required under MGL Section 121B. Colton is a Business Agent for Laborers' International Union of North America.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none the President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Bullett thanked MoCA for the wonderful week-end for Fresh Grass. The Mayor noted he had presented a proclamation on Tuesday in City Council Chambers for aging employees, paid or volunteers, these people just want to stay active.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:39 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

55

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL October 13, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.
Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Norman D'Amico educator in the North Adams school system and former member of the North Adams Police and Fire Departments. Dorothy DePaoli, North Adams School cafeteria worker and former employee at the Peter Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Skating Rink.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of September 23rd.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,476 The President presented Mayor's communication #34 regarding the Historic Consultant working with the Historical Commission.

The President read the Mayor's communication for the record, stating the purpose is to introduce Bonnie Parsons who is the historic consultant working with the commission to update historic records. Bonnie will be around the City photographing certain properties for this process.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Justyna Carlson of the Historic Commission introduced Bonnie Parsons explaining Ms. Parsons is hired through a grant awarded to the Historic Commission to do this historical survey. Bonnie Parsons consultant for the commission said she would be taking pictures of properties in the areas of Houghton Street, North Street and the streets off of them. She will submit a copy of photos and notes used to create architectural descriptions and history of the properties. A copy will also be given to the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

11,439-1a The President presented a communication submitted by the Planning Board regarding the Zoning Ordinance entitled Nonconforming Buildings and Uses.

The President read the communication from the Planning Board for the record noting the Planning Board recommends approval of the amendment of Section 12 of the North Adams Zoning Ordinances entitled

Nonconforming Buildings and Uses by deleting Section 12.2 and replacing the Section with new language and by adding a new Section 12.3.1 reconstruction of Nonconforming Structures Damaged by Fire or Other Casualty.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,439-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance entitled Nonconforming Buildings and Uses, Section 12, which had a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning Board on October 5th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilor Buddington voiced his opinion that he was not comfortable with the timing, he was looking for an additional approval for properties that have gone unused for more than two years. Councilor Buddington made a motion to amend the language, but it did not receive a second.

11,453-2 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-49 Parking prohibited on certain streets-Elmwood Avenue Southerly side, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of September 23rd.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,477 The President presented an Order calling the City Election for November 3, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to amend the hours to 7:00am.

Councilor Bullett said she has heard many concerns from citizens about the hours, especially from working families. She noted the time change may capture more voters.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

The President presented an application submitted by Edward LaCosse, 98A Brayton Hill Terrace to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Denise L. Little, 94 Cardinal Blvd, Powanl, VT to drive taxi for City Cab.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED; to grant the license.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Merle Knight, 22 Temple Street had concerns about the help she was receiving from the Public Safety Department. Lhn Brown, 488 West Main again expressed her concerns about the fence issue she is having, she feels she is not being treated fairly.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Merrigan noted the scenic railway this past week-end was very impressive. Councilor Lamb said that Sunday was the Berkshire Food Festival.

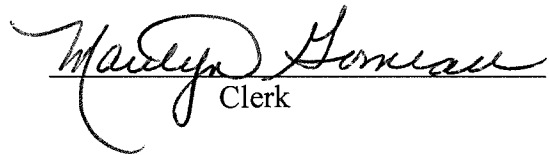
Councilor Blackmer noted this was alumni week-end at MCLA and please make our visitors feel welcome.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

58

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL October 27, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson.
Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Mary Rosasco former board member of the Berkshire Community College and help initiate the Carol Hess Award and received the award in 1979. Mary Campanardi former election worker for the City.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of October 13th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Wilkinson it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,439-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance entitled Nonconforming Buildings and Uses, Section 12, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of October 13th.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

The Ordinance, as amended was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

The President presented an application submitted by Jennifer J. Serre, 106 Veazie Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application for a secondhand license submitted by Eric Perry, 118 Eagle Street, in the business name of "Odds & Ends" located at 118 Eagle Street.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to grant the license.

Councilors had many concerns regarding this business; it seems Mr. Perry has been in violation of some of the conditions set forth by the Planning Board. Councilors would like to have Mr. Mirante and Mr. Perry at the next meeting to answer their questions.

Councilor Buddington withdrew his original motion, seconded by Councilor Bullett.

On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 10th and ask Mr. Mirante and Mr. Perry to attend the meeting. Councilor Bona abstained.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, David Whitney, Burnham Street questioned where the transparency was when he has been asking for a copy of the unfunded pension liability and has never received a copy.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Wilkinson thanked all those involved in the recent zoning ordinance that was just passed. It required a lot of work and research to get this completed.

Councilor Bullett mentioned the Amtrack ride through the Hoosac Tunnel.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

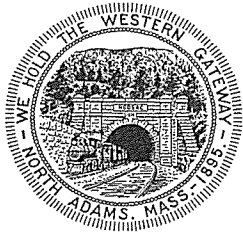
VOTED: to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,



Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL November 10, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Absent Councilor Breen and Wilkinson.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Alfred "Budd" Dougherty, longtime educator in the North Adams Public Schools. He was a dedicated and beloved teacher, guidance counselor, and special education coordinator in the City for 39 years. He also served on the City's Airport Commission for 31 years, many of them as Chairman. In 2010, the road to the airport was renamed Budd Dougherty Drive in recognition of his efforts for the airport. Francis Bush, Jr. who served as a member of the North Adams Planning Board for twenty years. He was developer of both the Franklin Court Apartments and Wheel Estates Mobile Home Park in the City.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of October 27th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

8717-34 The President presented Mayor's communication #35 requesting a Public Hearing be set establishing the percentage of tax levy for the various classes of property for FY'16.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to set the Public Hearing for November 24th at 7:30pm.

11,478 The President presented Mayor's communication #36 regarding an easement on the former Tannery Site to Blackinton Mill, LLC.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained this agreement would give them access to the former Tannery site. In return they will pay easement fees to the City, \$18,800 slightly above the assessed value of \$18,200. Broder Properties has expanded the scope of their investment of the Redwood Motel to include the purchase of the Blackinton Mill.

- 11,478** The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into an easement agreement with Blackinton Mill, LLC.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Buddington felt the City should sell the property instead of getting wrapped up in a complicated legal agreement. He feels the City could have a simple sale because the City retains the liability.

City Solicitor John DeRosa said the easement is more consistent with the use the developers want, and still allows the City to maintain some control since the future of the development is unknown.

Eric Kerns, project manager representing Blackinton Mill, LLC said the proposed green area connecting the motel to the mill will have walking paths, meeting area, river access, and possibly a portion of the planned Mohawk Bike Trail.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows, Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Nay Councilor Buddington.

- 11,479** The President presented Mayor's communication #37 recommending the appointment of Michelle Martinez to the North Adams Housing Authority Board to fill the unexpired term of Darrell Clermont to expire March 25, 2019.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

Without objection the President moved the taxi licenses forward.

The President presented an application submitted by Michael Jackson and Obilio Rodriguez, 37/38 Meadow Street to operate a taxi in the business name of RJ taxi, located at 429 Curran Highway.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Michael Jackson, 37 Meadow Street to drive taxi for RJ taxi.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Obilio Rodriguez, 38 Meadow Street to drive taxi for RJ taxi.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application for a secondhand license submitted by Ernest Perry, 118 Eagle Street, in the business name of "Odds & Ends" located at 118 Eagle Street, which was postponed at the meeting of October 27th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to grant the license. Councilor Bona abstained.

Councilors had many concerns regarding this business at the last meeting, but Mr. Meranti, Building Inspector for the City said he had no concerns and many of the issues Councilors had were placed in the conditions of the Planning Board. He noted that some of the complaints, such as the tags sales have stopped, the building in the back of the property will not be accessed by the public and the property has been cleaned out. Mr. Meranti said once the business is open the City can make sure the conditions set forth are followed.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, David Whitney, 51 Burnham Street said he was at the range and the trash barrels are full and have been for the last two years. He does not understand why the DPW has not picked up the trash. Roger Eurburn reminded everyone of the Veterans Day parade on Wednesday.

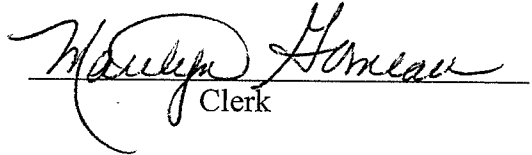
The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Lamb thanked all Veterans for their service. Councilor Moran noted the great job on the paving of Patterson Road.

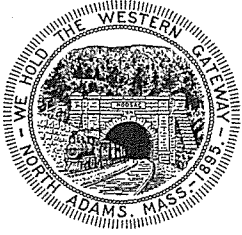
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL November 24, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Wilkinson. Absent Councilor Breen and Moran.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Joseph Morin, former custodian for the City of North Adams.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of November 10th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

The President **opened** the **PUBLIC HEARING**

8717-34 The President presented Mayor's communication #35a requesting the tax rate be set for FY'16.

The Mayor explained the increase from last year's \$16.69 to \$17.39 this year is expected to cost the average single family home valued at \$134,500 an extra \$65.00 a year. He noted that we are assuring the community that the City will be able to provide acceptable services. The Mayor recommended maintaining the 1.71 shift to the commercial side. The commercial rate rose from \$36.03 per \$1,000 to \$37.93.

Councilors questioned why there was a drop in the valuations. Ross Vivori, City Assessor explained the drop in values reflects slow and lower-priced real estate sales.

The President **closed** the **PUBLIC HEARING**

8717-34a The President presented an Order establishing the percentages of tax levy for the various classes of property for FY'16.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan. Nay none. Councilor Willkinson abstained.

11,407-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #38 recommending the appointments to the Arts Commission.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments. Councilor Blackmer abstained.

The President read a correspondence from the Zoning Board requesting Council to attend a public hearing with the Planning Board on Monday December 14th at 5:30pm.

The President presented an application submitted by Tracy Jackson, 37 Meadow Street to drive taxi for RJ taxi.

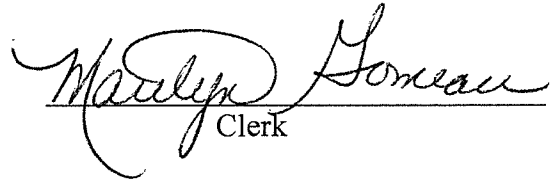
On motion of Councilor Wilkinson, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to grant the license.

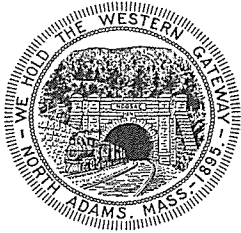
The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none the President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, the Mayor reminded everyone about the tree lighting ceremonies on Wednesday at 6:00pm. Councilor Blackmer noted the Santa Fund was kicking off.
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest,


Clerk



Office of the City Clerk City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL December 8, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Absent Councilor Breen and Wilkinson.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of November 24th.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none, the President called for any Councilor of Mayor's Concerns. Councilor Moran noted on Friday that the City has been awarded as an Appalachian Trail Community. Council President reminded Councilors about the Public Hearing with the Planning Board to be held on Monday December 14th at 5:30pm.

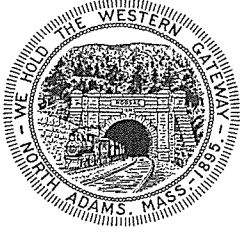
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:35pm.

A True Record

Attest,


City Clerk



Office of the City Clerk

City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

66

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL December 22, 2015

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Absent Councilors Breen and Buddington.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Patrick Sullivan, Chief of the North Adams Auxiliary Police Department for over 30 years. Marion Patashnick, elementary school teacher at the former Mark Hopkins Elementary School.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of December 8, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Wilkinson abstained.

11,480 The President presented Mayor's communication #39 requesting permission to accept a gift of real property from John Wadsworth located at 298 State Street.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained that it is the intent of my administration to locate a skate board park at the athletic complex. To facilitate parking within the scope of this project, this parcel will be committed to replace the parking lot adjacent to the north. I anticipate demolition of the building before the end of the calendar year 2016.

11,480 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to accept a gift of real property located at 298 State Street from John Wadsworth.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Wilkinson questioned who paid for the demo of this building, he understands the money for the Houghton Street demo was going to be used. The Mayor said no it will be paid with grant monies.

Councilor Lamb asked about the property being taken off the tax roll. The Mayor noted once the City takes possession of the building it will be off the tax role. He said there has been a lien on this property for some time

and the unpaid taxes have been paid to the City.

Councilor Bullett noted there is a business in the back that will be directly affected by this. The Mayor said he is not sure what the business is and the tenant can work with the administration to discuss the future.

John Arigoni, Jr. said he was the owner of the business located in the back, it's a hobby shop. Robert Davis, 261 State Street lives directly across from this property and in no way should the City not take this property as a gift, but as an abutter he would like to be involved when decisions are being made for the skateboard park.

The Order was adopted by ye and nay vote as follows: ye Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Wilkinson. Nay none.

11,458-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #40 recommending an increase in the Compensation Plan for FY'16, and the Classification Plan.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,458-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams, Schedule A, the Classification Plan.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilor Lamb wonders where the money would come from to cover these increases. The Mayor said they would draw from salaries and at the end of the year they would draw from the unrestricted reserve account to cover the cost.

11,458-1a The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-28(a) of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule B the Compensation Plan for FY'16.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin.

11,459-1b The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-28(a) of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule B the Compensation Plan for FY'16.

On motion of councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin.

11,482 The President presented Mayor's communication #41 regarding an Zoning Ordinance amendment.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,482 The President presented a communication submitted by the North Adams Planning Board regarding the new Zoning Ordinance.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Council President noted the Board voted for Council approval of this new Zoning Ordinance.

- 11,482** The President presented an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Chapter Z by deleting the entire Zoning Ordinance and insert a new Zoning Ordinance in its place.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin.

The Mayor noted the City Solicitor reviewed the Zoning change and found everything to be in order.

Brian Domina, Senior Planner for Berkshire Regional Planning Commission said this was simply a cleanup of the language.

- 11,483** The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding the use of scooters throughout the City.

Councilor Bona explained he brought this forward on behalf of Mary Ann Benoit-Albee, who is not present at tonight's meeting.

Jim Albee said he was hit in a cross walk on Main Street and thought the pedestrians always had the right of way. He was concerned in the way the matter was handled by the police department.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to file the communication.

- 11,484** The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding the naming of streets in Hillside Cemetery.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Lamb it was VOTED: to refer to the Cemetery Commission and postpone to the meeting of March 8th.

Roger Eurburn, 677 Ashland Street and member of the Cemetery Commission would like to see some of the streets in Hillside Cemetery named making it easier for people to do a walking tour of the cemetery. They would like to develop a map, showing the same tour that Paul Marino does.

Councilor Bona wonder if legally they should be named for 911 purposes. Councilor Lamb said it was a great idea, but was concerned about plowing them in the winter.

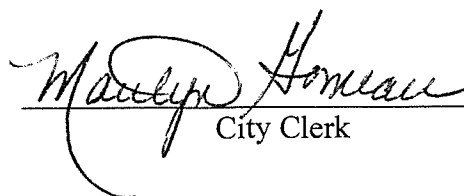
The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue acknowledge Councilor Wilkinson for the work he has done on the Council. The President called for any Councilor of Mayor's Concerns. Several Councilors echoed their thanks to Councilor Wilkinson and Jennifer Breen on their term with the Council. Councilor Bullett thanked Council President Blackmer for her work as President for the last two years. Councilor Wilkinson and Blackmer also thanked their fellow Councilors for their support in these last two years. The Mayor also thanked Councilor Wilkinson for his time on the Council.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:36pm.

A True Record

Attest,


City Clerk