

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS  
Office of the City Clerk  
February 19, 2020

I hereby notify that at twelve noon today the following items of business have been filed with this office and will be acted upon at the regular meeting in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, Tuesday Evening, February 25, 2020 at seven-thirty o'clock according to Section 8, Rules and Orders of the City Council.

Deborah M. Pedercini  
City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
February 25, 2020

Roll Call  
Moment of silent remembrance  
The Pledge  
Approval of the minutes of February 11, 2020

- 11,831** An Order accepting Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 90, Section 17C, The Berkshire Scenic Mountain Act which was postponed at the meeting of February 11, 2020.
- 11,840** An Order authorizing a study in regards to the restoration of children's pillar art located at Route 2, bridge, Veterans Memorial Drive, which was referred to General Government Committee and postponed at the meeting of January 14, 2020.
- 10,335-3** An Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams, Section 13-50, entitled Parking, time limited on designated streets, which was passed to a second reading and published as required by law at the meeting of February 11, 2020.
- 11,849** An Order authorizing the Mayor in accordance with MGL, Ch. 30B, Sec. 16, to declare property located at American Legion Drive, Map #151, Lot 62, available for disposition which was postponed at the meeting of February 11, 2020.
- 11,851** Communication from Councilor Moulton regarding public safety issues on Route 2 wall and building, which was referred to administration and postponed at the meeting of February 11, 2020.
- 11,853** Mayor's communication #12 regarding the swearing in of Public Safety officers.

- 11,854** Mayor's communication #13 recommending the reappointment of Shaun Dougherty to the North Adams Airport Commission for a term to expire March 1, 2023.
- 11,855** Mayor's communication #14 recommending the appointment of Charles Felix, Jr. to the North Adams Historical Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2023.
- 11,856** Mayor's communication #15 accepting donation from GreylockWORKS for the City's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- 11,856** An Order authorizing the Mayor in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53A, to accept a donation from GreylockWORKS valued at \$3,500.00
- 11,857** Communication from Councilor Bona requesting time for Viviana Dorfman, a student at Technical University in Berlin, Germany to present findings on her Thesis of North Adams.
- 11,858** Communication submitted by Councilor Harpin requesting time for Roger Eurbin to speak regarding an initiative to install banners honoring veterans in North Adams.
- 11,859** Communication submitted by Councilor Lamb addressing various safety issues regarding sidewalk ordinances.
- 11860** Communication submitted by North Adams Traffic Commission recommending stop signs at the intersection of East Main, Pleasant and Miner Streets.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

### LICENSES

### OPEN FORUM

### MAYOR'S CONCERNS

### LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCILOR CONCERNS

### CORRESPONDENCE



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
**Thomas W. Bernard**

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Communication #	Subject	Date
13	Reappointment to the North Adams Airport Commission	February 25, 2020

Honorable Members of the City Council  
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I am pleased to recommend Shaun Dougherty for reappointment to the North Adams Airport Commission for a term to expire March 1, 2023. **This recommendation is presented for Council approval.**

Mr. Dougherty has been an asset to the commission. I am confident he will continue to provide valuable insight and practical experience to the commission and its work.

I request Council confirmation of this appointment recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard  
Mayor

TWB/me



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
**Thomas W. Bernard**

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Communication #	Subject	Date
12	Swearing in of public safety officers	February 25, 2020

Honorable Members of the City Council  
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I request time at the February 25, 2020, meeting of the North Adams City Council to introduce several new and newly promoted representatives of the fire and police departments to the council, and for the City Clerk to publicly swear them into service with the department.

Reserve firefighter Ryan Richards recently joined the North Adams Fire Department as a permanent firefighter.

In addition, patrol officers Robert Barrett, Dana Clement, Taylor Kline, and Sakan Sadowsky recently graduated from the municipal police academy; and officer John Brack recently joined the department following prior service in the state of Florida.

Finally, I am pleased to inform the Council that detective Brad Vivori recently was selected for promotion to the rank of sergeant.

Sergeant Vivori has distinguished himself through his training, service, and commitment to the department and the residents of the City of North Adams; I am confident our new officers and our new firefighter will embody the same commitment to excellence, and will serve the City of North Adams with distinction.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard  
Mayor

TWB/me



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
**Thomas W. Bernard**

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Communication #	Subject	Date
14	Appointment to the North Adams Historical Commission	February 25, 2020

Honorable Members of the City Council  
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Charles Felix, Jr. to the North Adams Historical Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2023. **This recommendation is presented for Council approval.**

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard  
Mayor

TWB/me



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
**Thomas W. Bernard**

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<b>Communication #</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>
15	Acceptance of donation from GreylockWORKS	February 25, 2020

Honorable Members of the City Council  
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

Submitted for your consideration is an Order to accept a donation of space from GreylockWORKS to support the city's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

I request that the Council adopt this Order as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard  
Mayor

TWB/me



# City of North Adams

## In City Council

February 25, 2020

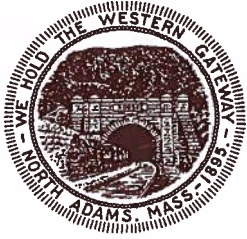
Ordered:

**Whereas**, GreylockWORKS has offered to donate their event space to the City of North Adams as a venue in connection with the city's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration; and

**Whereas**, the donation is valued at \$3,500.00; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 A, the North Adams City Council must accept the donation;

**Now, therefore, it is ordered**, that the North Adams City Council accepts the donation described above.



# Office of the City Council

## City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 104

North Adams, Massachusetts 01247

(413) 662-3000, Ext. 1

January 27, 2020

Dear Councilors

Please see the attached communication from Viviana Dorfman, she is a student at Technical University in Berlin, Germany who is doing her Bachelor Thesis on art and culture redevelopment, using the City of North Adams as her case study.

I am requesting that we allow Ms. Dorfman time to present some of her findings.

Thank you.

Keith J. Bona  
City Council



01.02.20

To whom it may concern,

I, Viviana Dorfman would like to give a presentation to City Council on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. I request for 20 minutes. My presentation will include me speaking and a PowerPoint presentation.

I am a student at the Technical University in Berlin Germany studying Urban and Regional Planning. Last year I chose to write my Bachelor Thesis on art and culture redevelopment strategies using North Adams as a case study. For the past five months I have been living in North Adams and intensively studying these topics. I would like to present some of my findings.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to seeing you there,

Viviana Dorfman

**RECEIVED AND FILED**

**JAN 27 2020** 20

At 8 o'clock 25 minutes A M

Deborah M. Pedercini  
City Clerk



# Office of the City Council

## City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 104

North Adams, Massachusetts 01247

(413) 662-3000, Ext. 1

February 25, 2020

TO: North Adams City Council  
FROM: Councilor Marie Harpin  
SUBJECT: Veterans Honor Banners

I received a communication from Roger Eurbin regarding setting up a community group to initiate the installation of Veterans Honor Banners in North Adams. He has been working with our neighbors in Adams to gain knowledge on the same initiative recently started in their town.

I would request the communication be sent to the Public Service Committee who can be a point of contact and assist with questions or issues related to the project.

I'm attaching Mr. Eurbin's communication and request he is given ample time to speak on this issue.

Thank you for your consideration.

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

To: Members of the City Council

From: Roger J. Eurbin

Subject: Veterans Honor Banners

Dear Council Members:

Attached please find a recent article regarding Honor Banners for our Fallen Veterans. As the article states, the Town of Adams has begun a project to create Banners which will show a photograph of a veteran who was killed in action. It also states that many local communities have such a project in place or have begun a project.

I have given this idea some thought and discussed it with Mayor Bernard. I am seeking Council Approval for North Adams to be among these communities. I would be willing to form an action group and will be pleased to make this proposal a reality.

We have a perfect spot to hang such banners which would be on the posts on both sides of Veterans Drive and continue to Veterans Memorial Park.

I believe that these banners would be a suitable remembrance of those service men and women who gave their all for country and community.

With your approval, I will form an action group to obtain funding and do the contact work to gain community input, as well as involving our Veterans Groups and create a final plan of action to accomplish this project. If approved, City Government will be kept informed of every stage of the plan.

I respectfully ask for your consent and would be happy to answer your questions.

Sincerely,

  
Roger J. Eurbin

cc: Mayor Thomas Bernard

# Adams seeks to honor fallen heroes with banners

By SCOTT STAFFORD  
*The Berkshire Eagle*

**ADAMS** — A little hero worship never hurt anybody.

In fact, Adams Select Board Member Jim Bush thinks it could help unify the community when he and some other volunteers install banners on utility poles that feature fallen Adams heroes who lost their lives defending American freedoms.

But first, Bush said, they need to hear from the families of the fallen to help them identify the late soldiers,

sailors and airmen, and provide photos of them to print on the banners.

"We will need to have them provide us with a photo, service and rank, birthdate and year of death," Bush said.

He noted that Adams Community Bank has offered to pay for the banners as a primary sponsor of the program. They still are seeking other sponsors and donors to help pay for the ongoing maintenance of the banners.

Eventually, Bush would like to have all Adams residents who were enlisted and killed in action to have a banner

hanging along the main thoroughfare of town.

Her said Callahan Signs will print the banners, and he hopes to have a dedication May 16.

"So far, we have 15 people, with one being from World War I," Bush said. "But, we're having a difficult time contacting people — nobody has landlines anymore. But, we've seen a lot of interest in it so far."

One of those people, Jackie Haddad, said she was driving through Grafton, N.Y., with her husband, George, when

HEROES, Page 4



**Jackie Haddad holds a photo of her late brother, Russell Roulier, who was killed in Vietnam in 1967.**

SCOTT STAFFORD THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

## Heroes

FROM PAGE 1

she saw the banners featuring soldiers who gave everything for their country hanging on poles through town. She mentioned that it might be nice to do that in Adams for her brother, who died in the Vietnam War.

So, her husband went to Town Hall and got the ball rolling.

Jackie Haddad's brother, Russell Roulier, was 20 years old in the U.S. Marines when he was killed by a grenade during fighting in Quang

Nam in 1967.

"He was friendly, a lot of fun and a little mischievous when he was younger," she said. "And it's important that he be remembered. Most of his friends are not around anymore, and his parents are gone. These people should all be remembered. I'm still very sad about my brother — I still cry when I think about him."

Bush speculated that there could be as many as 60 to 70 people from Adams lost to war.

"After the dedication, we will continue to hang ban-

ners — it's going to be an ongoing thing," Bush said.

Similar programs have been established in other communities, including Troy and Grafton, N.Y.

"We have a good committee working on this and they're pretty committed, so, I'm sure it's going to happen," Bush added.

Bush asked anyone wishing to identify a fallen Adams hero to call Deborah Dunlap in the Select Board office at 413-743-8300. There are also sign-up sheets at Adams Town Hall and at the Adams Council On Aging.



**Office of the City Council**  
**City of North Adams**  
10 Main Street Room 109  
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247  
(413) 662-3015



Tuesday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Fellow Councilors,

Recent incidents involving pedestrian/vehicular collisions are nothing new. We are faced with a critical and urgent issue when it comes to creating safe ways for people and vehicles to move throughout our city. While much of this has to do with roadways and points of crossing, an additional piece to this puzzle is our sidewalk infrastructure.

Currently, the administration has indicated that they are working on addressing direct vehicular traffic issues. Additionally, the Mayor has indicated to me that the city is working on a full audit of all of our sidewalks, and will be building a plan to address the need for our sidewalk infrastructure to be repaired and updated across the city. Because these aspects are being addressed, infrastructure is not the issue I seek to address with this communication.

This communication is presented to you tonight to address the issue of sidewalk obstruction. These obstructions come in many forms, including snow, ice, trash cans, and other impediments that prevent the regular operation of a sidewalk as a safe corridor for pedestrian use. When our sidewalks in the city are blocked in any way, it creates new pinch points that can instigate more locations where people and vehicles are forced to come into contact. We have all seen this, as people are forced to walk in the roads and medians because the sidewalks are impassible for a variety of reasons.

In some extreme cases, during the winter significant stretches of our sidewalks have been neglected to a point where they become so unsafe, and so obstructed, that children living on those streets not only have no place to stand to be picked up by the bus, but they cannot physically reach the point at which their bus is designated for a pick up because of the amount of uncleared sidewalk. This means that obstructed sidewalks are not only a public safety issue forcing people into the roads, but they are also preventing pedestrian travel and are creating an issue that is impeding the ability of some youth from going to school.

With the numerous issues that obstructed sidewalks cause, I am presenting this communication to begin the work needed to develop and implement steps to ensure safe, passable sidewalks across the city. Several aspects of this that I believe need to be addressed include:

- **Existing Ordinance Updates** – I do not find current ordinance to be reasonable when it comes to the expected timelines set forth. According to City ordinance (Sec 21-12) sidewalks in front of any property, residence, or building, must be cleared within 12 hours of the snow or ice accumulating. Not only is this a challenge for most residents, businesses, and property owners, but it is also a timeline that our own North Adams Department of Public Works cannot be reasonably expected to comply with due to the number of roadways that must take priority when clearing ice and snow. With this, I am recommending that we assess the existing ordinance and work to make it more reasonable to allow for all individuals, organizations, and the city, to be in compliance with clear sidewalk timelines.
- **New Ordinance Development** - Existing ordinance does not adequately address obstruction of our sidewalks by non-weather-related items or objects (i.e. trash cans). This has created a gap in ordinance whereby some residences block sidewalks in an ongoing manner with large trash totes and other items. This creates year-round critical safety pinch points, especially on major roadways, where individuals who should be able to walk or run on the sidewalks are forced into the roadway where the risk of collision increases significantly. Ordinance must address a requirement for keeping all sidewalks unobstructed except for short periods that allow for trash pickup days. This will take time and input to develop well, but examples of ordinance do exist in similar communities that we can learn from in this process.

- **Clear, Consistent Accountability Processes** -There must be accountability established across the city, both in an official manner with ordinance enforcement, and in a community-regulated manner, whereby we hold each other accountable as neighbors. Enforcement practices must be reformed to be consistent, manageable, and effective. This means that we must have a clear enforcement structure for clear sidewalks that fits our staffing capacity, and we must also establish meaningful fines associated with non-compliance to prevent ongoing failure to comply. Additionally, any ordinance associated with keeping sidewalks clear must be conveyed clearly to the community, including residents, businesses, and property owners, so that everyone can do their part to keep our sidewalks clear. It is also a responsibility upon all of us, as individuals and businesses, to hold each other accountable, and to help support our neighbors and friends that might need assistance in keeping their sidewalks clear.
- **Appropriate Equitable Supports for Physically Challenged** - We know that not everyone will be able to clear snow and ice from their own sidewalks due to physical disabilities and challenges. That said, beyond neighbors helping neighbors, the city must establish a process to recognize individuals' with valid physical ability constraints to comply with clear sidewalk ordinance, and help those individuals in need navigate ways to come into compliance so that they can get the support needed to keep their sidewalks clear as unobstructed transportation routes.

North Adams is a “Green Community,” a “Complete Street Community,” and a community that continually finds new and innovative ways to address issues that arise. We should be actively pursuing ways to make non-motorized transportation easier, safer, and a better fit for our incredible city. In order to better support safe pedestrian corridors and multimodal transportation options, to cut down on collision pinch points, and to help our community be healthier through the act of walking and running, we must act now to develop realistic policy, consistent accountability and enforcement, and appropriate equitable resource allocations that will help us become the safe, pedestrian friendly city that we all deserve.

Thank you for your time and commitment to these ends, and I look forward to working on this together.

Sincerely,  
Councilor Lamb

RECEIVED AND FILED  
FEB 19 2020  
At 8:02 minutes A.M.  
*Deborah M. Pedercini*  
City Clerk

# **NORTH ADAMS TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

## **Communication**

**To:** Councilor Jessica Sweeny

**From:** David Sacco, North Adams Traffic Commission Chair

**Subject:** East Main Street, Pleasant Street and Miner Street Intersection

**Date:** February 17, 2020

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Dear Councilor Sweeney,

The North Adams Traffic Commission recommends adding additional stop signs to the intersections of East Main, Pleasant Street, and Miner Street. The first recommended sign would be located on East Main and Miner. This sign would be located at the end of the median and would regulate West bound traffic. We would also recommend adding an additional "Stop Ahead" sign further up the hill. This would notify drivers of the new sign placement.

The second recommended sign would be placed on East Main at Pleasant. This sign would regulate East Bound traffic.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

David Sacco

North Adams Traffic Commission Chair