REGULAR MEETING OF THE PEABODY CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 10, 2024

PRESENT COUNCILLORS: TURCO, ROSSIGNOLL, WELTON, GAMACHE, MCGINN, GOULD, DAIGLE, MANNING-MARTIN, HIGGINS, AND PEACH

ABSENT COUNCILLORS: MELVILLE

An in-person and remotely held meeting of the Peabody City Council opened with a moment of silent prayer after being called to order by City Council President Stephanie R. Peach.

Salute to the American Flag.

COUNCILLOR PEACH – OPEN MEETING LAW STATEMENT: THIS MEETING IS BEING TELEVISED LIVE ON CABLE CHANNEL 9 AND BEING TAPED BY PEABODY ACCESS TV, AND ALSO BEING RECORDED BY OUR CITY COUNCIL STENOGRAPHER.

P447-24 COUNCILLOR GOULD – MOVE TO receive and approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 26, 2024.
(Unanimous)

P448-24 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-C communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Various Appointments/Re-appointments.
(Unanimous)

(MAYOR BETTENCOURT AND MS. CELESTE SULLIVAN APPEARED TO SPEAK REGARDING ITEM 7-C)

P449-24 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-C communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding the following Various appointments/re-appointments:

NAME:	**POSITION**:	**TERM TO EXPIRE:**
Celeste L. Sullivan 5 Trofin Lane Peabody, MA 01960	Cemetery Commission	12/31/2025 2-year term
Sharon Cameron 75 Lake Shore Road Peabody, MA 01960	Human Services Director	9/30/2025 1-year term

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Melville absent)

(MAYOR BETTENCOURT AND MR. KEVIN VINAGRO APPEARED TO SPEAK REGARDING ITEM 7-C)

P450-24 COUNCILLOR GOULD – MOVE TO approve the appointment of Kevin Vinagro, 3 Emery Street, to the Historical Commission (Alternate Member) for a two-year term to expire 12/31/2025.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Melville absent)

HEARINGS

A public hearing was duly held on the application submitted by Argelia Matta d/b/a Xpress Motor Group, Inc., 98 Foster Street, Peabody, MA. Ms. Scardy Liz Matta appeared to speak on behalf of the application. Mr. Jean Machado appeared to speak in favor. No one appeared to speak in opposition.

P451-24 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, the following communications:

Late 1 Randy Suckney and residents of 107 Foster Street re: 98 Foster Street
Late 2 Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk, re: Auto Xpress Inc., 98 Foster Street
Late 3 Scardy Liz Matta re: Plan for dropping off vehicles at Xpress Motor Group, Inc.
Late 6 Sgt. James T. Harkins re: Deliveries of motor vehicles to 20 Willard Street
(Unanimous)

P452-24 COUNCILLOR MCGINN - MOVE TO approve the Class 2 Motor Vehicle License transfer to Argelia Matta d/b/a Xpress Motor Group, Inc., 98 Foster Street, Peabody, MA, subject to all papers being in order and with the following conditions:

CONDITIONS:

1. Limit of eighteen (18) unregistered motor vehicles on the premises at any one time for sale or not for sale, sold or not sold, or in for repair;
2. Hours of operation shall be 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday;
3. Parking shall be in accordance with the 98 Foster St. Peabody-MA plan dated on 10/09/2019, as received by the City Council on 10/10/2024 as part of late communication 2;
4. There shall be no loading or unloading of vehicles on Foster Street; Applicant shall comply with vehicle drop off plan received by the City Council on 10/10/2024 as part of late communication 3; and
5. Any signage or façade changes shall comply with "The Peabody Downtown Design Standards – Foster/Walnut Street Subdistrict."

(Carried 10-0; Councillor Melville absent)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Industrial & Community Development Committee
October 10, 2024

P453-24 COUNCILLOR GOULD – Reporting for the Industrial & Community Development Committee – A very, very, very lengthy discussion tonight in regard to the expansion and housing (Section 3A). Present was myself, Councillor Daigle, Councillor Manning-Martin, Councillor McGinn, Councillor Turco, and all the other councillors were in attendance, other than Councillor Melville. The presentation was made by Community Development Director Curt Bellavance. There was a lengthy discussion, which involved all councillors. Discussion also involved the Mayor. All councillors were in agreement that they need more details. A motion was made by Councillor Manning-Martin to keep it in committee. (Report received)

Finance Committee
October 10, 2024

P454-24 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – Finance Committee met earlier this evening. Present for the committee were Councillors: Gamache, Gould, Manning-Martin, Turco, and myself as chair. There was one item on the agenda: Ride Share Transportation Enhancement Trust in the amount of $68,387.30. The item was presented to us by Mr. Bellavance, Director of Community Development, and indicated that these are monies that are collected from the ride fee that's charged to ride sharing services such as Uber and Lyft. They make an annual payment to the City. The request was to use that money for matching funds targeted for the Peabody Multiuse Path projects. They were recently awarded a grant of half a million dollars, but there was a requirement for some matching and they wanted to use this as a funding source. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P455-24 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – MOVE TO approve the recommendation of His Honor the Mayor to utilize the Ride Share Transportation Trust account 250-0000-35835 in the amount of $68,387.30 to be targeted to serve as additional matching funds targeted for Peabody Multiuse Path projects, as requested in a communication from His Honor the Mayor dated September 18, 2024.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Melville absent)

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

P456-24 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-B communication from Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk, regarding 2024 State Election Warrant for November 5, 2024.
(Unanimous)

P457-24 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, the following Item 9-A Taxi Driver License, subject to all papers being in order:

Dennis Fry - License 8
Elsie Simions - License 9

(Unanimous)

P458-24 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 4 Block Party Roland Road – October 26, 2024, subject to all papers being in order.
(Unanimous)

P459-24 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO request that the Building Commissioner provide the City Council with his interpretation of whether the offloading of used vehicles by car carriers in the IL District is acceptable under zoning.
(Unanimous)

P460-24 COUNCILLOR TURCO – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 5 from Councillor Stephanie R. Peach regarding Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month.
(Unanimous)

P461-24 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS AWARENESS MONTH AND OCTOBER 15, 2024, TO BE PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS REMEMBERANCE DAY.

WHEREAS, Pregnancy and Infant Loss is such a common occurrence, one that is usually not recognized; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy is usually a time of excitement and expectation as parents prepare for the arrival of their baby; and

WHEREAS, tragically, approximately 1 in 4 women in the United States suffers a miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss; and

WHEREAS, many of these parents live and work in our community; and

WHEREAS, this devastating tragedy often occurs suddenly, without warning, as a result of miscarriage, stillbirth, preterm birth, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), accident, or other causes or complications; and

WHEREAS, the tragedy of pregnancy and infant loss is a traumatic and heartbreaking event as families recognize that even a short life is impactful, and the grief of those who mourn the loss of these lives should be remembered by a compassionate public; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of the causes and impacts surrounding pregnancy and infant loss may lead to greater understanding, support, and resources in our community; and

WHEREAS, recognizing Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month and Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day on October 15th would enable the people of Peabody to consider how, as individuals and a community, they can meet the needs of bereaved mothers, fathers, and family members; and

WHEREAS, bereaved parents around the world remember their children annually on October 15th with a candle lighting at 7 p.m., known as the Wave of Light;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Peabody through its Honorable Mayor, Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr. and the Honorable City Council jointly proclaim October 2024 to be Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month and October 15, 2024, to be Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day and extend heartfelt condolences and compassion to the residents of Peabody who have experienced such loss.
(Unanimous)

P462-24 COUNCILLOR TURCO (Co-motion with Councillor Welton) – MOVE TO request that the Park, Recreation & Forestry Department trim the tree at 94 Lynnfield Street.
(Unanimous)

P463-24 COUNCILLOR MGGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-A communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfers of Funds-Police Salaries $379,100; Police - Overtime $119,200 and refer to the Finance Committee.
(Unanimous)

P464-24 COUNCILLOR MGGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-B communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfers of Funds - Cable Fund Expense $13,472.72; $2,993.94 and refer to the Finance Committee.
(Unanimous)

{10-A Gardner Road}
P465-24 COUNCILLOR MGGINN – BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Peabody that An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19 entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Peabody be adopted as advertised.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Melville absent)

{10-B Fulton Street}
P466-24 COUNCILLOR MGGINN – BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Peabody that An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19 entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Peabody be adopted as advertised.
(Carried 10-0; Councillor Melville absent)

P467-24 COUNCILLOR HIGGINS – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-A communication from Stephen J. Patten, Veteran's Agent, regarding Proper Disposal of American Flags and refer to the Public Services Committee.
(Unanimous)

P468-24 COUNCILLOR HIGGINS – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-C communication from Curt Bellavance, Dir., Community Development & Planning, regarding City Property-Lot 004-SIA; Response to Council Motion P435-24 and refer to the Legal Affairs Committee. (Unanimous)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

Previously received.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND OTHERS

Previously received.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES

Previously received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE PRECEDING MATTER

None.

MOVED: MOVE TO adjourn. Regular meeting of the Peabody City Council adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

SUBMITTED TO HIS HONOR THE OCTOBER 18, 2024
RETURNED BY HIS HONOR THE OCTOBER 18, 2024

ATTEST: Allyson M. Danforth
(Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk)

COMMUNICATIONS:
His Honor the Mayor re: Transfers of Funds – Police Salaries $379,100
Police - Overtime $119,200
His Honor the Mayor re: Transfers of Funds – Cable Fund Expense $13,472.72
$ 2,993.94
His Honor the Mayor re: Various Appointments/Re-appointments
Stephen J. Patten, Veteran's Agent, re: Proper Disposal of American Flags
Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk, re: 2024 State Election Warrant for November 5, 2024
Curt Bellavance, Dir., Community Development & Planning, re: City Property – Lot 004-51A; Response to Council Motion P435-24

TAXI DRIVER LICENSE:
Dennis Fry – License 8
Elsie Simions – License 9