REGULAR MEETING OF THE PEABODY CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 16, 2021

PRESENT COUNCILLORS: GOULD, MANNING-MARTIN, SASLAW, CHAREST, MOUTSOULAS, TURCO, ROSSIGNOLL, MELVILLE, AND O'NEILL

ABSENT COUNCILLORS: WELTON AND MCGINN

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 Mark J. O'Neill.

Salute to the American Flag.

COUNCILLOR O'NEILL – 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.

(COUNCIL PRESIDENT O'NEILL WELCOMED COUNCILLORS'-ELECT: JULIE DAIGLE, DAVID GAMACHE, AND STEPHANIE PEACH TO OUR MEETING THIS EVENING.)

P646-21 COUNCILLOR GOULD – MOVE TO receive and approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2021.
(Unanimous)

HEARINGS

None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Legal Affairs Committee
November 16, 2021

P647-21 COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – Reporting for the Legal Affairs Committee – We had one item on the agenda and we did an update on some other items that are in subcommittee. Joining us were members of the Committee: Councillor Saslaw, Councillor Turco, Councillor Rossignoll, and sitting in for Councillor McGinn was Councillor Moutsoulas. Also present was Councillors: O'Neill, Gould, Manning-Martin, and Charest. We had an update on the Council on Aging's request for an address change. This request is to change from the current address of the Peabody Council on Aging from 75R Central Street to 79 Central Street. We also had Carolyn Wynn, Executive Director, for the Peabody Council on Aging available for any questions. There were no questions. This was approved unanimously. (Report received)

P648-21 COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – Reporting for the Legal Affairs Committee – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 1 from Albert Talarico, Building Commissioner, regarding Address Change.
(Unanimous)

P649-21 COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – Reporting for the Legal Affairs Committee – BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Peabody that the address of the Peabody Council on Aging be changed from 75R Central Street to 79 Central Street.
(Unanimous)

P650-21 COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – Reporting for the Legal Affairs Committee – I also gave a quick update on some items within the committee. Another item in committee is regarding having a member of the Legal Department present at City Council meetings. Councillor Saslaw gave his thoughts on it and Councillor Turco made the following motion. (Report received)

P651-21 COUNCILLOR MELVILLE – Reporting for the Legal Affairs Committee – MOVE TO request that His Honor the Mayor and the Legal Department provide a framework to have a representative of the Legal Department attend City Council meetings.
(Unanimous)

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

P652-21 COUNCILLOR SASLAW – MOVE THAT the Municipal Safety Committee open a discussion regarding the dangerous road conditions on Route 114 in Peabody and invite Representative Walsh, Representative Kerans, Senator Lovely, Chief Griffin, and Captain Richards to the next Municipal Safety Committee meeting to hear the public's concerns that have resulted in numerous Peabody residents' deaths over the last 12 to 18 months.
(Unanimous)

P653-21 COUNCILLOR CHAREST – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-A communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Resolution to file and accept grants with and from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, for the parkland acquisitions and renovations for communities program for the creation of The James Street Eco-Campus.
(Unanimous)

P654-21 COUNCILLOR CHAREST - **MOVE TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO FILE AND ACCEPT GRANTS WITH AND FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, FOR THE PARKLAND ACQUISITIONS AND RENOVATIONS FOR COMMUNITIES PROGRAM FOR THE CREATION OF THE JAMES STREET ECO-CAMPUS HUB.**

WHEREAS, The James Street Eco-Campus Hub is by and far a community-wide asset and the preservation and improvements to this facility are a City priority as evidenced in the most recent Open Space and Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, The James Street Eco-Campus Hub is dedicated to park and recreation purposes under M.G.L. Chapter 45, Section 14; and

WHEREAS, The James Street Eco-Campus Hub's ultimate restoration, guided in principle by the 2015 Recreation and Open Space Plan and 2020 Perkins Street Eco-Campus Connectivity Report, will greatly enhance this facility with improved infrastructure, path systems, universal access, etc., and

WHEREAS, The main focus of the Plan is to create a system of pathways providing greater and enhanced access to the J. Henry Higgins Middle School, recreational parcels in the immediate area, and access and connection to surrounding neighborhoods. This overall cost and fiscal budget constraints prevented the City from proceeding forward with implementation; and

WHEREAS, The project was instead viewed with the intention of securing grant funding, when and if available, to assist in this effort; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is offering reimbursable grants to cities and towns to support the preservation and restoration of urban parks though the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities grant program (301 CMR 5.00); and

WHEREAS, the James Street Eco-Campus Hub will cost a total of $645,162 (Six Hundred Forty-Five Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars) and the City has allocated $645,162 in Community Preservation funds for the James Street Eco-Campus Hub Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED 1. That the Mayor, Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr., be and is hereby authorized to file and accept grants from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs; and 2. That the Mayor, Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr., be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of this grant to be administered by the Community Development and Planning Department; and 3. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.
(Carried 9-0; Councillor Welton and Councillor McGinn absent)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

Previously received.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND OTHERS

None.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE PRECEDING MATTER

None.

MOVED: MOVE TO adjourn. Regular meeting of the Peabody City Council adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

SUBMITTED TO HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, NOVEMBER 19, 2021
RETURNED BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, NOVEMBER 19, 2021



(Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk)

COMMUNICATIONS:
His Honor the Mayor re: Resolution to file and accept grants with and from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for the parkland acquisitions and renovations for communities program for the creation of The James Street Eco-Campus