

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PEABODY CITY COUNCIL
MAY 8, 2025

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

ABSENT COUNCILLORS: None

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 Julie K. Daigle.

Salute to the American Flag.

COUNCILLOR DAIGLE – 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.

P224-25 COUNCILLOR GOULD – MOVE TO receive and approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 24, 2025.

(Unanimous)

P225-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-A communication from His Honor the Mayor Regarding Re-appointment/ Appointment under date of May 1, 2025.

(Unanimous)

(MAYOR BETTENCOURT APPEARED TO SPEAK REGARDING ITEM 7-A)

P226-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, the appointment of Stacey Bernson, 68 Locust Street, Danvers, MA, to the position of Assistant Director of Community Development & Planning for a one-year term to expire 12/31/2025.

(Carried 11-0)

(MAYOR BETTENCOURT AND MS. DAGMAR WHITAKER APPEARED TO SPEAK REGARDING ITEM 7-A)

P227-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, the appointment of Dagmar Whitaker, 4 Cauldron Court, Salem, MA, to the position of Director of Human Services for a three-year term to expire 12/31/2027.

(Carried 11-0)

HEARINGS

P228-25 COUNCILLOR WELTON – MOVE TO receive and approve, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 2 from Atty. John R Keilty on behalf of 143 Lynnfield Street Holdings, LLC, regarding 143 Lynnfield Street Amendment to Zoning Ordinance; Request to continue until June 12, 2025.

(Unanimous)

P229-25 COUNCILLOR WELTON – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 1 from Lucia DelNegro regarding New flood maps for 143 Lynnfield Street and refer to the public hearing.

(Unanimous)

P230-25 COUNCILLOR WELTON – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-D Communication from Donald Conn, City Solicitor, regarding Proposed General Business 2 District (143 Lynnfield Street) and refer to the public hearing.

(Unanimous)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Finance Committee

May 8, 2025

P231-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – The Finance Committee met earlier this evening. Councillors: Gamache, Gould, Manning-Martin, Turco, and myself were present for the committee; and all other councillors also attended. There were four items on the agenda. The first item was transfer of funds, senior affordable housing, in an amount of \$958,000. This was brought to us by Mr. Gingras. This was a recommendation from the Community Preservation Committee in the support of an affordable housing initiative for a project that is going to take place on Endicott Street. This is a significantly downsized development from what was originally approved at that location under 40B. This is going to be 46 units of senior housing, one-bedroom senior rental units, and this \$958,000 leverages a \$30 million construction project. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P232-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, the following transfer, as submitted by His Honor the Mayor, under date of April 14, 2025:

FROM:

TO:

270-0000-33023	\$958,000.00	270-1811-58564-2025-349	\$958,000.00
CPC - Affordable Housing (Carried 11-0)		Senior Affordable Housing	

P233-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – The next item on the agenda is a Transfer of Funds, CPC Ross Park Playground Upgrades in an amount of \$250,000. This was presented to the committee by Mr. Gingras and His Honor the Mayor. This is, again, another Community Preservation Committee request for an appropriation for a new play structure at Ross Park. This is going to improve safety and accessibility for that park, which has currently been totally cleared of all the equipment that was there previously. The timeline on this is for it to be in place somewhere around the 4th of July or shortly thereafter according to the Mayor. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P234-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, the following transfer, as submitted by His Honor the Mayor, under date of April 14, 2025:

FROM:

TO:

270-0000-33021	\$250,000.00	270-01811-58562-2025-380	\$250,000.00
Community Preservation Act Open Space (Carried 11-0)		Community Preservation Act Ross Park Playground Upgrades	

P235-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – The next item on the agenda: Transfer of Funds – CPC Open Space in an amount of \$200,000. It was brought to us by Mr. Gingras. Again, another Community Preservation Committee request. This is essentially a housekeeping measure to make sure the funds are in the proper account to pay for the open space project, which was the last item, the Ross Park item. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P236-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, the following transfer, as submitted by His Honor the Mayor, under date of April 14, 2025:

<u>FROM:</u>		<u>TO:</u>	
270-0000-33011	\$200,000.00	270-0000-33021	\$200,000.00
Community Preservation Act Unreserved Fund Balance (Carried 11-0)		Community Preservation Act Open Space	

P237-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – The last item on the agenda was Ride Share Transportation Enhancement Trust in an amount of \$75,848.53. This was brought to us by Mr. Gingras, and Mr. Bellavance was also available to answer any questions that the Council or the committee might have. This is a funding source that comes from the Commonwealth Transportation Infrastructure Trust, which is a surcharge of \$0.20 per ride from ride sharing services such as Uber and Lyft. So this request was to appropriate that money as we have done in prior years, in this case, to the Peabody Multi-Use Path Projects. The following motion was made. (Report received)

P238-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – Reporting for the Finance Committee – MOVE TO approve the appropriation request Ride Share Transportation Enhancement Trust, account number 250-0000-35835, in an amount of \$75,848.53 and to request that the City Council reauthorize the remaining balances and appropriate up to the full amount of \$75,848.53 for the Peabody Multi-Use Path Projects.
(Carried 11-0)

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

P239-25 COUNCILLOR TURCO (Co-motion with Councillor Welton) – MOVE TO request an opinion from Donald Conn, City Solicitor, as to whether the 143 Lynnfield Street zone change would require a majority or a supermajority vote.
(Unanimous)

P240-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-B communication from Thomas St. Pierre, Building Commissioner, regarding Transfer of Special Permit 26-2018; Advanced Cultivators, LLC, 25 Newbury Street, subject to all papers being in order.
(Unanimous)

P241-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 4 from the residents of Benevento Circle regarding Request for street paving on entrance to Benevento Circle coming off of Goodale up to house number 3.
(Unanimous)

P242-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO approve, under suspension of the rules, the following Item 9-A Junk Dealers License (Renewal for 2025), subject to all papers being in order:

GameStop, 300 Andover Street
Golden Link, 515 Lowell Street #10

(Unanimous)

P243-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-C communication from Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk, regarding Proposed compensation increases for poll workers and refer to the Finance Committee.
(Unanimous)

P244-25 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 8-A communication from Donald Conn, City Solicitor, regarding Skating Rink (Response to Motion P141- 25 - James McVann-Louis O'Keefe Skating Rink lease), and refer to the Ad Hoc Committee on Municipal Golf Course and Skating Rink.

(Unanimous)

P245-25 COUNCILLOR MANNING-MARTIN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 3 from Sharon Cameron, Director of Public Health, regarding Update on status of hotel shelter and refer to the Municipal Safety Committee.

(Unanimous)

P246-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-B communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Bond Order- City Capital Projects \$2,350,000 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P247-25 COUNCILLOR MCGINN – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, Item 7-C communication from His Honor the Mayor regarding Transfer of Funds - South and West School Roofs \$139,800 and refer to the Finance Committee.

(Unanimous)

P248-25 COUNCILLOR GAMACHE – MOVE TO receive, under suspension of the rules, late communication Item 5 from Lt. Matt Dowling, Secretary, PFD Relief Association, regarding Firefighter Memorial Sunday June 8th.

(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 8:05 p.m.

SUBMITTED TO HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, MAY 13, 2025

RETURNED BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, MAY 13, 2025



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

COMMUNICATIONS:

His Honor the Mayor re: Re-appointment/Appointment under date of May 1, 2025

His Honor the Mayor re: Bond Order – City Capital Projects \$2,350,000

His Honor the Mayor re: Transfer of Funds – South and West School Roofs \$139,800

Donald Conn, City Solicitor, re: Skating Rink (Response to Motion P141-25 – James McVann-Louis O’Keefe Skating Rink lease)

Thomas St. Pierre, Building Commissioner, re: Transfer of Special Permit 26-2018; Advanced Cultivators, LLC, 25 Newbury Street

Allyson M. Danforth, City Clerk, re: Proposed compensation increases for poll workworn

Donald Conn, City Solicitor, re: Proposed General Business 2 District

JUNK DEALERS LICENSE: (Renewal for 2025)

GameStop, 300 Andover Street

Golden Link, 515 Lowell Street #10