



**Town of Amherst  
Town Council Meeting  
Monday, December 16, 2019 6:30 p.m.  
Town Room, Town Hall  
4 Boltwood Avenue**

**Minutes**

*Complete video is available online: <https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-december-16-2019>*

**1. Call to order and declaration of a quorum**

President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

Councilors present: Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, Swartz

Councilors absent: None

Councilors participating remotely: None

Others present: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Assistant Town Manager David Ziomek, Comptroller Sonia Aldrich, Sustainability Coordinator Stephanie Ciccarello, and Clerk of the Council Athena O’Keeffe.

President Griesemer announced audio and video recording by Amherst Media.

**2. Election of Officers**

**a. President – For a term to expire January 6, 2020**

Councilor Pam nominated Councilor Griesemer as President for a term to expire January 6, 2020; Councilor Griesemer accepted the nomination.

No other nominations were made.

Councilor Griesemer made a brief statement regarding her candidacy.

**VOTED** by roll call 11-0-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Brewer and Swartz abstained) to elect Councilor Griesemer as President for a term to expire January 6, 2020.

Councilors Schoen expressed a desire to discuss the role of president and vice president after a year Vis a Vis committees.

**MOTION:** Councilor Schoen moved, second by Councilor Pam, to delay the vote for President and Vice President one-year terms, from January 6, 2020-January 4, 2021, to the January 6, 2020 Town Council meeting.

Councilors discussed holding a discussion about the roles of president and vice president at the current or a future meeting, the option of reorganizing at any time, and timing.

**VOTED** 8-3-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, DuMont, Pam, Ross, Schoen, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilors De Angelis, Ryan, and Schreiber voted No; Councilors Griesemer and Hanneke Abstained) to delay the vote for President and Vice President one-year terms, from January 6, 2020- January 4, 2021, to the January 6, 2020 Town Council meeting.

Councilor Griesemer was sworn-in as President.

**c. Vice President – For a term to expire January 6, 2020**

Councilor De Angelis nominated Councilor Hanneke as Vice President for a term to expire January 6, 2020; Councilor Hanneke accepted the nomination and made a brief statement regarding her candidacy.

**VOTED** by roll call 11-0-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Brewer and Swartz abstained) to elect Councilor Hanneke as Vice President for a term to expire January 6, 2020.

Councilor Hanneke was sworn-in as Vice President.

**3. Announcements**

Swearing-in of Newly-Elected Town Officials at 6:00 p.m. on January 6, 2020 in the Town Room, Town Hall, prior to the Town Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**4. Hearings – None**

**5. General Public Comment**

Lincoln Avenue residents David Sloviter and Nancy Ratner spoke about issues with traffic, parking, and safety on Lincoln Avenue, suggesting that no parking be permitted on the street.

Lincoln Avenue resident Nancy Gilbert also expressed concerns about Lincoln Avenue.

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Chair Aaron Hayden commented that TAC is prepared to take on this issue, and that the TAC charge includes parking.

Amy Zuckerman of 117 Brittany Manor Drive spoke about the need to fund cybercrime training for Amherst Police, and expressed concerns about people hacking into Amazon author's pages.

Laura MacLeod read a letter from the League of Women Voters in support of the acquisition of the Hickory Ridge property.

**6. Proclamations and Commemorations - None**

**8. Action Items**

**a. Appropriation of Community Preservation Act Funds – Kendrick Park**

Community Preservation Act (CPA) Committee Chair Nate Buddington stated that typically the CPA produces a slate of proposed projects in January for approval during the budget process, however the grant the Town received requires funding of the Town's portion of the project before the end of the year. The proposed project received a unanimous vote and enthusiastic support from the CPA Committee.

Councilor De Angelis asked how funding this project will impact distribution of funds to other CPA projects. N. Buddington responded that it will cost the CPA Committee \$259,000 of CPA funds.

Sonia Aldrich explained the debt service the Town is currently paying will be paid off soon, the debt service on the new debt will be about level with the current level over the next 10 years.

Councilor Steinberg commented that this is a common practice, the wisest financial management approach recommended by the CPA over the years is to bond the funds for large projects and spread payments over the years so that the CPA can continue to consider proposals. The proposal was discussed in the Finance Committee report of December 16, 2019. The PARC grant requires transfer of the property to the LSSE Commission. The order contains three action items. The Finance Committee voted 4-0 to recommend the Council approve the order.

Councilor Brewer asked to clarify that LSSE is Town staff and LSSE Commission is a separate body. Councilor Brewer expressed concerns that \$600,000 is a high price for the playground; paving, benches, and equipment seems expensive especially in the context of capital projects.

D. Ziomek the Town has undertaken two recent playground projects and in short, ADA accessible sidewalks, structures, benches are more costly than they might seem. The estimate came from recent park renovations and experience of a Senior Planner and the LSSE Commission Chair.

Councilor Pam commented about the lack of public restrooms in the park and in the downtown in general.

Councilor Schoen commented about the cost of maintenance, and suggested natural low cost, low maintenance and sustainable materials for equipment.

D. Ziomek responded that the need for bathrooms has been common public comment, and is part of a larger conversation about the downtown; adding a bathroom would add about \$200,000 to the project.

Councilor Swartz commented that constituents in her district have urged more caution regarding spending. N. Buddington responded that the CPA Committee has been conservative and have not been hesitant to turn projects down that are not supported. Projects allow us to use the property tax surcharge that goes to CPA, to use for projects that typically have difficulty finding funding from other sources.

Councilor Brewer spoke in opposition to the project, and noted the lack of information provided by the LSSE Commission to the Council.

LSSE Commission member Rebecca Demling spoke about discussion of the project at LSSE Commission meetings, noting that Amherst playgrounds are run down, ADA accessible equipment is expensive, and the closest playground to the downtown is War Memorial, which is old and not accessible. If we want Amherst to be an open and accessible community, we need to invest in these projects.

Councilor Hanneke commented about the goal of attracting families to Amherst and the downtown, and this project is a step toward that goal.

Councilor Steinberg spoke in support of the project, and commented that being able to take a child to a safe inviting and accessible playground is important. The BID is supportive of the project as well.

Councilor Bahl-Milne spoke in support of the project, and added that a resident brought a concern about rubber with lead in it.

D. Ziomek the park has not been designed, but we will do our research with LSSE Commission, DPW, and Planning to determine safe materials, and take that strongly under consideration.

**MOTION:** Councilor Schoen moved, second by Councilor Pam, in terms of Council Order number 20-45, AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DEDICATION OF KENDRICK PARK FOR PARK AND ACTIVE RECREATION PURPOSES AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION THEREOF, as presented.

**VOTED** 11-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Brewer and Swartz voted No) in terms of

Council Order number 20-45, AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DEDICATION OF KENDRICK PARK FOR PARK AND ACTIVE RECREATION PURPOSES AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION THEREOF, as presented.

**b. Acquisition of Hickory Ridge Property**

Councilor Steinberg reported the Finance Committee voted 3-0-1, with one member absent, to recommend the Council approve the acquisition.

D. Ziomek commented that the project has been discussed at several meetings, it is an inter-disciplinary project that has received positive feedback about connecting the property, requests for community gardens, and so forth. If the property were successfully acquired, a master planning process would be undertaken to determine those details. The owner is proceeding with the plans for solar on the property.

Conservation Commission member Ana Devlin Gauthier spoke about the opportunity to conserve the land, and stated that the Conservation Commission supports the project.

Councilor Pam asked about the wait list for the SMART program. D. Ziomek responded that the owners are waiting to see what the block of tax credits they receive. If the SMART program tax credit block is not favorable to the owners, there is a possibility that they will not want to move forward. Approval of the funding tonight will put the Town in the best position for the sale.

Councilor Bahl-Milne spoke about support for the project in District five.

Councilor Schoen commented that only a small portion of the land is developable, so the Town should make use of the clubhouse and developable land in order to recoup the expense as quickly as possible.

D. Ziomek noted that some of the funds are CPA funds, and another portion is from a real estate account that may only be used for real estate.

Councilor De Angelis asked about the maintenance of the property as a golf course and the potential use of pesticides to maintain the green, flooding, and use of the trails. The ongoing maintenance costs estimates are \$100,000 per year, equaling the cost of a firefighter.

D. Ziomek responded that trails do flood all over town, and there may be times during the year when the trails are inaccessible. Would be more concerned about the property's use as an orchard—we will test in any areas we plan to create gardens. The annual maintenance of the property would be significantly less than \$100,000.

Councilor Hanneke noted two funding sources aside from CPA are real estate and stabilization. If the property were sold, the money would go back to the real estate fund, which can be used for capital projects.

Councilor Pam commented that this sounds like a place where you can find polliwogs.

Councilor Ross commented that the watershed scientist in him was excited about allowing the property to flood; the PILOT payments could potentially exceed the taxes collected on the property, and the sale of portions of the property would be another mode of recouping funds.

**MOTION:** Councilor Bahl-Milne moved, second by Councilor Steinberg, in terms of Council Order number 20-26, AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF THE HICKORY RIDGE PROPERTY, as presented.

**VOTED 12-1** (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz voted No) in terms of Council

Order number 20-26, AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF THE HICKORY RIDGE PROPERTY, as presented.

**c. Community Choice Aggregation**

Sustainability Coordinator Stephanie Ciccarello and CCA Task Force member Stan Swiercz spoke about the history of the process, noting that both Northampton and Pelham have received authorization to move forward, State legislators have secured funding to develop a business plan, and the authorization requested will allow access to the funds. The plan will align with the Council's adopted goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. S. Swiercz added that the law states this is an opt-out program, residents could opt out or they are automatically in the program. The CCA would be a valuable tool in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We need public engagement and support.

Councilor Schoen asked if there is cost involved in getting the proposal to the state. S. Swiercz responded that the Task Force is hoping to find funding outside municipal funds, but may need additional funding once we are ready to submit the plan. We could collect fees, and use those fees to pay back loans.

Councilor Schoen noted that the proposed wording differs from Northampton, and asked if the Town must authorize each step individually. S. Swiercz responded that the Task Force will come back to the various governments to approve.

Councilor Hanneke asked about cost savings to residents. S. Swiercz responded that the Task Force is aware of the need to keep costs down. The Task Force studied CCAs in the state, and about half the time there is a savings. If we retain those funds within the CCA, over several years we would have a funding source.

Councilor Hanneke asked if the Council could pull Amherst out of the agreement if the rates are higher. S. Swiercz responded that if the CCA cannot not get competitive rates, they may suspended operation. CCA can match Eversource prices.

S. Ciccarello explained that the proposed motion allows development of the plan; the plan will come back from the DPU and need approval before the Task Force moves forward.

Councilor Steinberg asked about the impact on residents who have invested in solar on their homes. S. Swiercz responded that whatever electricity they are getting from the grid, they would get from the CCA. The CCA is a municipal aggregation, not a utility.

President Griesemer asked how surrounding towns could join the CCA. S. Swiercz responded that an amended plan would need to be submitted to the DPU.

Councilor Bahl-Milne asked where the funding comes from. S. Swiercz responded that the CCA is trying to avoid hiring a broker who would charge a portion of earnings over the first three years, that total could be substantial, so we are looking for funding up front.

Intermunicipal Task Force member Adele Franks of Northampton commented that Northampton is eager to move forward but does not want to move forward alone. The CCA is a way of keeping our money in our communities, proposing to charge people the same amount for their electricity but keep the earnings local and used in the community.

Intermunicipal Task Force member Sam Titleman of Amherst urged the Council to authorize the development of the CCA. The current motion leaves the next step of the approval to the Town Manager. Spoke about other municipalities' efforts and experiences with CCA.

Energy and Climate Action Committee (ECAC) member Andra Rose commented that the ECAC voted to support authorization of the CCA program.

Chris Riddle of Strong Street spoke in support of the CCA.

Alisa Pearson of Pelham spoke in favor of the proposal.

President Griesemer asked if there would be any negative impact if the Council voted January 6. S. Ciccarello responded no, but beyond that date could become problematic, hope that you would make a decision on the sixth. President Griesemer asked that the motion be split into two and require a second authorization. Councilor Hanneke agreed, and asked for Town attorney input on the motion.

Councilor Ross noted that voting on this tonight would require the Council to suspend rule 8.4. If we will always suspend the rule, we should get rid of it. Two readings gives public opportunity to see coverage of the meeting and provide feedback. No emergency here, no harm in waiting until the next meeting.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor DuMont, to suspend rule 8.4.

**VOTED** 1-12 (Councilor DuMont voted Yes; Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted No) to suspend rule 8.4. The motion failed.

## **7. Presentations and Discussion**

### **a. General Bylaws, first reading**

Bylaw Review Committee members Bob Ritchie and Bernie Kubiak thanked committee members and staff in producing the documents presented to the Council. The committee was charged to review, make recommendations, and implement the proposed bylaws. The draft submitted by the committee is a draft that is less imperfect than the old bylaws, along with a list of potential future suggestions.

B. Kubiak it is a start to move forward. Thinking of a single page with Charter, Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Town, this is a step toward that goal.

B. Ritchie stated the committee created a template for future orders, and included an alphabetical index to ease navigation.

Councilor Brewer praised the work of the committee and the leadership.

Councilor Ross added that document is not perfect, but an improvement. Future considerations document contains some important changes as well.

Councilor De Angelis thanked the committee members for their work.

Councilor Hanneke commented the committee went above and beyond what the Charter Commission expected, and thanked the committee for taking Councilors' comments into consideration.

Councilor Schoen thanked the committee for their work, and asked about the condominiums and coop conversions bylaw, which is recommended not to be included by the Bylaw Review Committee, and includes some things that we might someday need. B. Ritchie responded that its utility when it was adopted is absent today. Zoning has limited reach on real estate. In the interest of producing a concise set of laws that govern our Town it was neater not to have it.

Councilor DuMont asked about the removal of the single use plastic bag prohibition aspirational statements. B. Ritchie responded that the view of the committee was to remove non-essential, and sought to reduce the volume of non-essential text. B. Kubiak added that the bylaws were written by Town Meetings over many years, the Council is free to put that language back, we tried to make the bylaws

readable and usable and kept only what we felt was explanative. Councilor Ross added that anything that was not enforceable or operational was removed.

President Griesemer asked that potential motions be sent by the Wednesday prior to the next Council meeting.

Councilor Brewer commented that rather than putting things back in via amendments, some things should be referred to a committee for review.

Councilor Hanneke commented about bylaw section A.4. of 3.24 (Unlawful Noise), which was added by the committee and is a significant addition to the unlawful noise bylaw that deserves its own discussion rather than being part of the whole rescind and replace.

#### **8.d. Town Manager Goals, First Reading**

President Griesemer spoke about the committee's process and the Town Manager's involvement in developing the goals.

Councilor Schoen commented that she thought about the end point in terms of evaluation.

Councilor Ross spoke about the expansion of the economic development as a category and objectives paired with that.

Councilor Steinberg thanked the committee for their work, commented that the list of expectations can become too lengthy, and suggested that Councilors send feedback to the committee.

Councilor Brewer asked about the goal and evaluation of item 1.b.2.

Councilor Hanneke commented that she would like a completed five-year plan, not just begin to develop one. Councilor Hanneke asked to clarify the section regarding health and safety concerns, expand community engagement, and address a discrepancy between the goals and the Charter regarding CPOs reporting to the Council.

Town Manager Paul Bockelman commented that over 50 goals is a lot, we tried to make them clear, measurable, and achievable. Looking at what else is on our plates for the next 6 months is challenging. The document should communicate the Council's values to the public, and should be big clear expectations that can be communicated clearly with the Town staff.

Councilor Brewer commented that the Town Manager goals are more important than the Council goals, as the Town Manager is the way the Council achieves their goals.

#### **8.g. Amendment to Rules of Procedure Rule 10.5h, regarding public comment at special meetings, first reading**

Councilor Ross explained that the proposed Outreach, Communications, and Appointments (OCA) Committee process includes public interviews, and the committee is hoping to prohibit public comment during the interviews. The committee is seeking a rule change, adding the word "regular," so special meetings do not require public comment. This would bring the language around committee meetings into conformity with the Charter and allow OCA to hold interviews during special meetings without public comment.

Councilor DuMont wondered if we should refine the language more to have public comment at meetings except interviews.

Councilor Schoen echoed Councilor DuMont's comments.

Councilor Schreiber asked what prevents a person to comment about candidates during the regular meeting.

Councilor Brewer commented that the Council cannot regulate public comment, and that “regular” does not mean anything.

**7.b. Outreach, Communication, and Appointments Committee (OCA) Process for OCA recommending candidates for Appointment per Charter by Full Town Council, including Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board**

Councilor Ross explained that the Council makes the appointments, but the recommendations come from OCA. The previous process worked but was flawed. The committee is looking to revise the process according to feedback from the Council. OCA discussed the feedback and revised the process accordingly. Looking to apprise the Council of the process and seek feedback prior to beginning the implementation phase.

Councilor Schoen spoke in opposition to group interviews.

Councilor Pam spoke in opposition to the group interview format, and commented that the CAFs should be public documents.

Councilor DuMont spoke in favor of making the application process completely transparent, including the CAFs.

Councilor Schreiber commented that the Planning Board and Zoning Board need a range of personality types, but are also political and need members to advocate and speak during public meetings.

Councilor Steinberg spoke in support of the process, adding that group interviews were conducted by the Select Board if there was a vacancy, and the process worked. Select Board members took turns asking questions and the feel of the interview did not discourage anyone from applying.

Councilor Bahl-Milne commented that the benefits of group interviews are that you can get a sense of the dynamic of the applicants, and that it is not clear what the benefits are of keeping the CAFs private.

Councilor Hanneke thanked OCA from soliciting advice from the Council on an internal process, and expressed concern that seeing another members’ qualifications may be discouraging to applicants.

Councilor Ross responded that OCA as a committee will ask the questions, not one person the whole time. OCA will work with applicants to find a date that works for all applicants, not set a date and require applicants attend. Regarding group interviews versus individual interviews, everyone is different and wanted to make a consistent experience for all the candidates. Best solution regarding CAFs is to have a larger discussion another time. One goal is to get people involved in government who have not been involved before, and releasing information about applicants can be discouraging and a barrier to entry.

Councilor Schoen commented that this is more than an internal process, and would like OCA to come back with revisions for the Council to vote, in order for the Council to be accountable to the entire process.

Councilor De Angelis commented that this is an internal process.

Councilor Pam noted that she has heard a lot of feedback from constituents about this process.

Councilor DuMont commented that the process should be considered a Council policy and voted on by the Council.



Councilor Hanneke commented that this is an internal process that does not require the Council's vote. The Finance Committee reviews the entire budget, and the Council does not set the process for reviewing the budget.

Councilor Steinberg the committee charge indicates that it makes recommendations on all appointments. OCA has been acting in a consistent way with their charge.

Councilor Brewer added that while these are important appointments, there are other appointments that the Town Manager recommends that the Council receives little information about, those positions make big decisions and wield a lot of power on behalf of the Town.

Councilor De Angelis commented that Councilors may attend OCA meetings, they have access to the applicants' CAFs, and do not need to approve this because it is not a policy.

### **8.e. Draft Council Budget Guidelines**

Councilor Steinberg stated that it is not ideal to work on the guidelines after the budget process has already begun, but the Finance Committee has taken the past Select Board and Finance Committee guidelines and incorporated them into a new document. The committee attempted to make sure that key financial policies were covered. The bottom of pages five and six lists suggestions to consider if there are additional funds available, which is a new addition.

Councilor Pam thanked the committee.

Councilor Brewer stated that the document is close enough to final that it makes sense to suspend rule 8.4 in order to adopt the guidelines today.

**MOTION:** Councilor Brewer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to suspend Rule 8.4.

**VOTED** 12-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont voted No) to suspend Rule 8.4.

**MOTION:** Councilor Griesemer moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to adopt the Council Budget Guidelines as presented in the document entitled "FY21 Council Budget Guidelines draft."

**VOTED** 12-0-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont Abstained) to adopt the Council Budget Guidelines as presented in the document entitled "FY21 Council Budget Guidelines draft."

### **8.f. Amendment to Rules of Procedure 10.8 (previously read as 10.9), regarding Town Council Liaisons, second reading**

Councilor Ryan reported that Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee incorporated the comments made at the first reading into the revised document.

**MOTION:** Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to rescind the current Rule of Procedure 10.8 Councilors as non-voting liaisons and replace it with the revised rule 10.8 as presented by GOL in the document entitled "ROP10.9 Liaisons Ryan Revisions 11-19-2019 – as amended at meeting".

**VOTED** Unanimously to rescind the current Rule of Procedure 10.8 Councilors as non-voting liaisons and replace it with the revised rule 10.8 as presented by GOL in the document entitled "ROP10.9 Liaisons Ryan Revisions 11-19-2019 – as amended at meeting".

**9. Appointments - None**

**10. Committee reports**

**a. Audit Committee** –Councilor De Angelis reported that the committee will meet at the end of January to work on a request for proposal.

**b. Bylaw Review Committee** – No further report.

**c. Community Resources Committee** – Councilor Hanneke reported that the committee will have a written report for next meeting regarding the Master Plan process, and they are working on the Downtown Parking Working Group recommendations and other referrals.

**d. Town Manager and Council Goals Ad Hoc Committee** –No further report.

**e. Finance Committee** – No further report.

**f. Governance, Organization and Legislation Committee** – Councilor Ryan reported that a written report is in the packet, which provides a glimpse of the committee reorganization being discussed, and which will be brought to the Council at the next meeting.

**g. Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee** – Councilor Ross reported that the committee has adopted a process to handle Council liaisons, and the committee will discuss liaison appointments at the next meeting.

**h. Percent for Art Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee** – Councilor Schoen reported that the committee reached unanimous approval of a revised version of the bylaw, and it has been sent to CRC and Finance Committee.

## **11. Approval of Minutes**

### **a. Amend minutes of November 7, 2019 – Financial Indicators Meeting**

**MOTION:** Councilor Steinberg moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to amend the minutes of November 7, 2019 Financial Indicators Meeting by adding the words, “President Griesemer stated that per Charter Section 5.2, the Town Manager shall call a meeting of the Budget Coordinating Group, which shall consist of the Town Manager, representatives of the Town Council, School Committee, Regional School Committee, Library Board of Trustees. This meeting will be considered a meeting of the whole of the Budget Coordinating Group.”

**VOTED** 11-0-2 (Councilors Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, Swartz voted Yes; Councilors Bahl-Milne and DuMont Abstained) to amend the minutes of November 7, 2019 Financial Indicators Meeting by adding the words, “President Griesemer stated that per Charter Section 5.2, the Town Manager shall call a meeting of the Budget Coordinating Group, which shall consist of the Town Manager, representatives of the Town Council, School Committee, Regional School Committee, Library Board of Trustees. This meeting will be considered a meeting of the whole of the Budget Coordinating Group.”

### **b. November 18, 2019**

### **c. December 4, 2019**

**MOTION:** Councilor Pam moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2019 regular Town Council meeting and the December 4, 2019 special Council meeting, as presented.

**VOTED** 9-0-4 (Councilors De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, DuMont, and Swartz Abstained) to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2019 regular Town Council meeting and the December 4, 2019 special Council meeting, as presented.

12. **Town Manager Report** – Town Manager Paul Bockelman gave a brief report, noting the recent State of the Town address, Capital Projects Listening Sessions, and that no action was taken at the Four Towns Meeting. The previously scheduled School Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 17 is cancelled due to weather. The Superintendent of Schools will make a presentation to the School Committee on Wednesday regarding the MSBA process. The Town Manager will provide that information to the Council at the next regular Council meeting.
13. **Town Council Comments** – President Griesemer stated that the Capital Investments comment period will be open until December 20. All standing Council committee and ad hoc committee appointments will continue until the Council discusses committee reorganization. A Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Proclamation has a Councilor sponsor, and has been referred to Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee.

Councilor Brewer commented that the Council should discuss a policy regarding what Councilors may sign individually.

14. **Topics not anticipated**
15. **Executive Session** – *None*
16. **Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Councilor De Angelis moved, second by Councilor Pam, to adjourn the December 16, 2019 meeting of the Town Council.

**VOTED** Unanimously to adjourn at 11:58 p.m. on December 16, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



Athena O'Keefe  
Clerk of the Council

**Record of Agenda Packet Materials and Documents Presented**

0. 12-16-2019 FINAL Town Council Agenda - Kendrick Park Public Forum
0. 12-16-2019 FINAL Town Council Agenda rev 12-14
0. Draft Motions for Town Council 12-16-2019
2. 12-3-18 APPROVED Town Council Minutes.docx
5. LWV-HickoryRidgeMemo
- 7.a. Amherst Bulletin Board - Proposed General Bylaws
- 7.a. Bylaw Review Committee Final Documents
- 8.a. 2019-07-19 Kendrick Concept\_2
- 8.a. 20-45 Kendrick Park-CPA final 11.19.2019
- 8.a. 8.b. 8.e. Finance Committee report 12.16.19
- 8.a. CPAC Special Report FY20 - Final
- 8.a. Fy20 PARC grant budget Kendrick Park-CPA1
- 8.a. Kendrick Park Committee Report to the Town Manager May 2009\_201410241359408407
- 8.a. Kendrick Park CPA Proposal Request Form
- 8.a. kendrick park to finance committee
- 8.a. Kendrick Park-existing conditions
- 8.b. 09-23-2019 FINAL Town Council Agenda - Public Forum

- 8.b. 20-07 Council Order (2)
- 8.b. 20-26 Hickory\_Ridge\_Acquisition
- 8.b. Finance Committee report 10.21.19 with orders 20-23 and 20-26
- 8.b. Hickory Ridge - Fig 1 Site Locus 2
- 8.b. Hickory Ridge Memo
- 8.b. Hickory Ridge Proposal Fin Com - 10-7-19
- 8.b. Hickory Ridge Proposal TC - 8-26-19
- 8.c. 12-11-19 Memo to TC re CCA support.docx
- 8.c. CCA Inter-Municipal Task Force Report - Final
- 8.c. CCA Summary Report - Executive Summary
- 8.c. MGL - Part I, Title XXII, Chapter 164, Section 134
- 8.c. TC Authorization for CCA 12-11-19 (1)
- 8.d. Town Manager Goals DRAFT as of 12-9-19\_
- 8.e. FY20 Finance Committee Budget Guidelines
- 8.e. FY21 Council Budget Guidelines draft
- 8.e. Select Board FY 20 Budget Policy Guidelines
- 8.f. 2019-11-18 GOL Report to Town Council
- 8.f. 2019-12-16 GOL Report to Town Council
- 8.f. ROP 10.8 Liaisons, previously 10.9 - DRAFT GOL Revisions - Clean Copy
- 8.f. ROP 10.8 Liaisons, previously 10.9 - DRAFT GOL Revisions - Tracked Changes-1
- 8.f. ROP10.9 Liaisons Ryan Revisions 11-19-2019 - as amended at meeting
- 8.g. OCA memo to President regarding Rule 10.5(h)
- 10.g. 2019-12-16 OCA Report to Town Council
- 11.a. 11-07-2019 APPROVED Special Town Council Minutes - Financial Indicators - 11-18-2019
- 11.b. 11-18-2019 DRAFT Town Council Minutes
- 11.c. 12-04-2019 DRAFT Town Council Minutes
- 12. Town Manager Report 12-16-2019
- Lincoln Ave Public Comment 12-16-19
- Re H.2810 the Benson carbon pricing bill
- SOT remarks dec12 2019
- SOT SC Annual Report 2019 final
- SOT schools present dec2019 final
- We Cant Wait v2
- Zuckerman Public Comment 12-16-19