



**Town of Amherst  
Special Town Council Meeting**

**State of the Town Address**

**Thursday, December 12, 2019**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Amherst Regional Middle School Auditorium  
170 Chestnut Street**

**Minutes**

*Complete video is available online: <https://amherstmedia.org/content/2019-state-town>*

**Call to Order**

President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Councilors present: Councilors Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, and Steinberg.

Councilors Absent: Councilors Bahl-Milne, Schoen, and Swartz.

Councilors Participating Remotely: none

Others present: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, School Committee Chair Anastasia Ordonez, Library Trustee President Austin Sarat, Library Director Sharon Sharry, Town Clerk Shavena Martin, Superintendent of Schools Michael Morris, Fire Chief Tim Nelson, Fire Chaplain Bruce Arbour, Police Chief Scott Livingstone, State Senator for the Hampshire, Franklin, and Worcester District Jo Comerford, State Representative for the 3rd Hampshire District Mindy Domb, and Clerk of the Council Athena O'Keeffe

President Griesemer announced audio and video recording by Amherst Media.

Greetings – President Griesemer

Recognition of Amherst High School football team.

Performance by Amherst Regional High School Students

**Ceremonial Swearing-In of New and Promoted Firefighters and Police Officers** – Fire Chaplain Bruce Arbour, Police Chief Scott Livingstone, Fire Chief Tim Nelson, Town Clerk Shavena Martin

**State of the Town Address** – President Griesemer and Town Manager Paul Bockelman [*Charter Sec. 2.2(c)*] The President's remarks begin at 17:45, and the Town Manager's remarks begin at 37:35 of the video. The full text of the President's remarks is available [here](#), the full text of the Town Manager's remarks are available [here](#).

President Griesemer spoke about the Charter requirements fulfilled by the Council in its first year, including required hearings, public forums, district meetings, formation of standing committees, adoption of rules, completed review of zoning bylaws and the near-completion of review of general bylaws.

Minutes approved by Town Council on January 6, 2020

**Remarks – School Committee Chair Anastasia Ordonez**

Remarks begin at 55:20 of the video and full text of the remarks is available [here](#).

**Remarks – Library Trustees President Austin Sarat**

Remarks begin at 1:02:45 of the video and full text of the remarks is available [here](#).

**Remarks – State Senator Jo Comerford and State Representative Mindy Domb**

Remarks begin at 1:19:50 of the video.

**Adjourn**

President Griesemer declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Athena O'Keeffe".

Athena O'Keeffe

Clerk of the Council

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

2019 STATE of the LIBRARY

2019 State of the Town Address - Lynn Griesemer 12-12-19

Schools SOT remarks dec12 2019

State of the Town - Town Manager Remarks

State of the Town Slides FINAL