



**Town of Amherst  
Town Council Meeting  
Monday, October 5, 2020  
6:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting  
Minutes**

Complete video is available online: <https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-october-5-2020>

**1. Call to Order**

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

Councilors Absent: None

Others Participating Remotely: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Acting Health Director Jennifer Brown, Finance Director Sean Mangano, and Clerk of the Council Athena O’Keeffe

After confirming all participants could hear and be heard, President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and announced audio and video recording by Amherst Media.

Note: Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the Town Council was conducted via remote participation.

**2. Announcements**

Upcoming Town Council Meetings:

- October 19, 2020: Public Hearing on the Master Plan, 6:30 p.m.; Regular Town Council Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
- Special Joint Town Council, School Committee, and Library Trustees Meeting - Financial Indicators: November 9, 2020, 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Council Meeting: November 9, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
- Budget Forum: November 19, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Council Committee Meetings:

- Community Resources Committee: October 13, 2020 2:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee: October 6, 2020 2:30 p.m.
- Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee: October 7, 2020 10:30 a.m.
- Town Services and Outreach Committee: October 8, 2020 6:30 p.m.

All meeting agendas and details are posted at [www.amherstma.gov/calendar](http://www.amherstma.gov/calendar)

**COVID-19 Call-in Number and Email:**

The COVID-19 Concern Line **(413) 259-2425** and email address [covidconcerns@amherstma.gov](mailto:covidconcerns@amherstma.gov) are now available for residents to communicate their concerns about masks, social distancing, gatherings, etc.

The **Community Preservation Act** Committee has opened the call for proposals. Proposals are due October 12, 2020. See [www.AmherstMA.Gov/CPA](http://www.AmherstMA.Gov/CPA) for details; propose a project online at: [www.AmherstMA.Gov/3511/](http://www.AmherstMA.Gov/3511/)

Town Opens 2nd Round of COVID-19 **Emergency Rental Assistance Funding**. The Town of Amherst and the Amherst Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund announce the availability of Round Two for short-term emergency rental assistance available for Amherst renters experiencing a loss or reduction of income due to COVID-19. Rental assistance is available for up to 3 months.

**3. Hearings – None**

**4. General Public Comment**

Dorothy Pam joined the meeting at 6:37 pm.

Allison McDonald, Amherst resident, spoke about the increase in COVID-19 cases, and in favor of additional steps to control the spread in Amherst such as mask and gathering size limit enforcement.

Brian Yellen, Amherst resident, support of the Wage Theft Bylaw, noting that the bylaw is easy to comply with and makes sense for the Town.

Meg Robertson, Amherst resident, support of the Wage Theft Bylaw, and commented that it would make the community stronger to adopt the bylaw.

**5. Consent Agenda**

Consent Agenda: The following items were selected because they were considered to be routine and it was reasonable to expect they would pass with no controversy. To remove an item from the consent agenda for discussion later in the meeting, ask that it be removed when the President lists the consent agenda items. The request to remove an item from the consent agenda does not require a second.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to move the following items, and the printed motions thereunder and approve those items as a single unit:

- Suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8.4 for the following agenda items:
  - 8.d. Ranked Choice Voting Commission Charge
  - 8.e. Participatory Budgeting Commission Charge
- Waiver of Town Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8.6 for the following agenda items:
  - Joint Resolution: Hold Harmless Aid is Essential and Equitable
  - 9.a.5. Extension of appointments to the Ranked Choice Voting Commission
  - 9.a.6. Extension of appointments to the Participatory Budgeting Commission
- 8.d. Approval of changes to Ranked Choice Voting Commission Charge
- 8.e. Approval of changes to Participatory Budgeting Commission Charge
- 9.a.1-4. Approval of Town Manager Appointments to the following boards/committees:
  - Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees
  - Community Preservation Act Committee
  - Disability Access Advisory Committee

- LSSE Commission
- 9.a.5. Approval of extension of terms to Ranked Choice Voting Commission
- 9.a.6. Approval of extension of terms to Participatory Budgeting Commission
- 11.a-b. Approval of Minutes:
  - September 15, 2020 Joint Town Council and Community Resources Committee Meeting minutes
  - September 21, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes

**VOTED** unanimously, 13-0 by roll call to move the following items, and the printed motions thereunder and approve those items as a single unit:

- Suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8.4 for the following agenda items:
  - 8.d. Ranked Choice Voting Commission Charge
  - 8.e. Participatory Budgeting Commission Charge
- Waiver of Town Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8.6 for the following agenda items:
  - Joint Resolution: Hold Harmless Aid is Essential and Equitable
  - 9.a.5. Extension of appointments to the Ranked Choice Voting Commission
  - 9.a.6. Extension of appointments to the Participatory Budgeting Commission
- 8.d. Approval of changes to Ranked Choice Voting Commission Charge
- 8.e. Approval of changes to Participatory Budgeting Commission Charge
- 9.a.1-4. Approval of Town Manager Appointments to the following boards/committees:
  - Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees
  - Community Preservation Act Committee
  - Disability Access Advisory Committee
  - LSSE Commission
- 9.a.5. Approval of extension of terms to Ranked Choice Voting Commission
- 9.a.6. Approval of extension of terms to Participatory Budgeting Commission
- 11.a-b. Approval of Minutes:
  - September 15, 2020 Joint Town Council and Community Resources Committee Meeting minutes
  - September 21, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes

## **6. Resolutions and Proclamations**

### **Agenda Item 14. Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting**

President Griesemer spoke about the resolution, and thanked School Committee member Peter Demling and others for putting the resolution together so quickly.

Finance Director Sean Mangano explained “hold harmless,” the intent of the resolution, and the Chapter 70 funding formula.

Councilor Brewer spoke about the resolution, commented that the assumption that communities would make up lost funding elsewhere is not the case and that many communities would not be capable of making up a loss of funding.

Councilor Schoen asked how many communities would be effected.

S. Mangano responded that approximately 62-63% of Massachusetts school districts benefit from hold harmless.

Councilor Steinberg spoke about the legislative history of the Student Opportunity Act, the Council and School Committee's resolutions in support of the act with the understanding that communities not be penalized, and the mechanism for submitting comments to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to waive Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.6 for the current agenda item.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Steinberg, to adopt the Joint Resolution: Hold Harmless Aid is Essential and Equitable, as amended.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 to adopt the Joint Resolution: Hold Harmless Aid is Essential and Equitable, as amended.

**7. Presentations and Discussion**  
**a. COVID-19 Update**

Town Manager Paul Bockelman and Acting Health Director Jennifer Brown spoke about the following:

- Case numbers in Amherst and statewide
- Amherst in the 4-8 cases per 100,000 range
- Higher education institutions status
- UMass case count increase
- Cases increased to 80 on October 3, and have dipped to 75 today
- UMass asymptomatic testing facility at Mullins Center
- Education and outreach efforts
- Contact tracing

Councilors discussed the following:

- CDC guidelines regarding social distancing
- Mitigation strategies
- Case numbers among UMass students
- Potential fears of reporting contacts
- Consequences of the increase in case numbers
- Potential consequences for individuals gathering in groups
- COVID-19 Ambassadors
- Cluster of cases linked to a group of 8 students
- UMass encouraging off campus students to be tested

P. Bockelman and J. Brown Spoke about the following:

- Continuity of operations – minimal impact on Town operations
- Communications: call in show at noon on Thursday via phone and Zoom Q&A with Jennifer Brown geared toward seniors
- Hotline for COVID-19 concerns, now answering live during work hours and Friday and Saturday nights
- Ambassadors
- Recent updates: testing for Town first responders and inspectors, Mass DOT grant for downtown businesses to utilize outdoor areas and create a more inviting streetscape

Councilors discussed the following:

- Halloween guidelines
- Racial demographic of ambassadors
- Ambassadors collection of data regarding interactions
- How calls to the COVID-19 hotline are dispatched

After a 5-minute break, President Griesemer confirmed that Councilors can hear and be heard.

## **8. Action Items**

### **a. November 3, 2020 Presidential Election Warrant**

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to authorize the warrant for the Presidential Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

- District 1, Voting Precinct 1: North Zion Korean Church, Church Hall, 1193 North Pleasant Street
- District 2, Voting Precinct 2: Amherst-Pelham Regional High School, 21 Mattoon Street
- District 1, Voting Precinct 3: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 867 North Pleasant Street
- District 3, Voting Precinct 4: Amherst-Pelham Regional High School, 21 Mattoon Street
- District 4, Voting Precinct 5: Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk
- District 2, Voting Precinct 6: Fort River School, 70 South East Street
- District 5, Voting Precinct 7: Crocker Farm School, 280 West Street
- District 5, Voting Precinct 8: Munson Memorial Library, South Amherst Common, 1046 South East Street
- District 4, Voting Precinct 9: Wildwood School, 71 Strong Street
- District 3, Voting Precinct 10: Amherst- Pelham Regional High School, 21 Mattoon Street

Councilor Bahl-Milne asked about crowding at Crocker Farm School on Election Day.

Town Manager Paul Bockelman spoke about arrangements at different polling locations to allow for social distancing outside, staggering shifts of election workers, designated areas for observers, and mail-in ballot tracking.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 by roll call to authorize the warrant for the Presidential Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

- District 1, Voting Precinct 1: North Zion Korean Church, Church Hall, 1193 North Pleasant Street
- District 2, Voting Precinct 2: Amherst-Pelham Regional High School, 21 Mattoon Street
- District 1, Voting Precinct 3: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 867 North Pleasant Street
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- District 5, Voting Precinct 8: Munson Memorial Library, South Amherst Common, 1046 South East Street
- District 4, Voting Precinct 9: Wildwood School, 71 Strong Street

- District 3, Voting Precinct 10: Amherst- Pelham Regional High School, 21 Mattoon Street

**b. Zoning Bylaw 14 – Temporary Zoning**

President Griesemer explained the Planning Department will submit recommended changes to the bylaw to the Council; the agenda item seeks to automatically refer changes to the Planning Board and Community Resources Committee (CRC) in order to avoid a later Council referral and speed the process.

Councilor Hanneke spoke about preliminary planning with the Community Resources Committee and Planning Board to identify an acceptable date for a joint hearing and required deadlines. With the Council vote, changes will be automatically referred and will come back to the Council for approval. Without changes the bylaw expires in December.

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to automatically refer any proposed changes to Zoning Bylaw 14 – Temporary Zoning recommended by the Planning Department to the Planning Board and Community Resources Committee for review, joint hearing, and recommendation, and to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee for review and recommendation, by November 9.

Councilor Brewer asked that if the changes are extensive it would benefit the Council to see recommended changes as soon as possible.

Councilor DuMont spoke in opposition to extending the expiration of the bylaw.

Councilor Hanneke noted the Council passed an amendment to the Town Council public ways policy, and asked the Town Manager to see if any changes are needed there as well.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 to automatically refer any proposed changes to Zoning Bylaw 14 – Temporary Zoning recommended by the Planning Department to the Planning Board and Community Resources Committee for review, joint hearing, and recommendation, and to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee for review and recommendation, by November 9.

**c. Amendment to Bylaw 3.28 – Single Use Plastic Bag Prohibition – Second Reading – Charter Sec. 2.10(a)**

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor DuMont, To amend Bylaw 3.28 – Single Use Plastic Bag Prohibition, by deleting the language shown in strikethrough and adding the language in bold:

3.28 – SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAG PROHIBITION

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PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAG PROHIBITION BYLAW

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Criminal Enforcement for first violation: warning notice to the establishment

Criminal Enforcement for second, and subsequent, violations: \$100.00 fine

Noncriminal Disposition: the above violations may be enforced with a penalty equal to the maximum criminal fine associated with the violation (enforcement by: Board of Health)

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**A. Purpose**

**The primary purpose of this bylaw is to reduce the negative effects of single-use plastic bags on the environment, reduce contamination of plastic bags in residential recycling streams, and, most importantly, to encourage consumers to bring reusable bags while shopping, eliminating the environmental impacts of any single-use bags.**

**B. ~~A.~~ Definitions**

~~"ASTM D6400 standard" means the testing standard developed by the American Society for Testing and Materials used to determine the ability of a material to be composted.~~

**"Biodegradable bag" means a bag that: a) contains no polymers derived from fossil fuels and b) is intended for single use and will decompose in a natural setting at a rate comparable to other biodegradable materials such as paper, leaves, and food waste.**

**"Compostable bag" means a bag that a) meets the ASTM D6400 standard for compostable plastic and b) is able to be municipally or industrially composted.**

**"ASTM D6400 standard" means the testing standard developed by the American Society for Testing and Materials used to determine the ability of a material to be composted.**

**"Recyclable Paper Bag" means a bag that: a) is 100% recyclable overall b) contains a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled content and c) displays the words "Recyclable" or "Please Recycle" on the outside of the bag.**

**"Reusable bag" means a bag that is specifically designed for multiple use and is made of thick plastic, cloth, fabric or other durable materials.**

**"Thin-Film Single-Use Plastic Bag" means a bag, typically with plastic handles, with a thickness of 3 mils (thousandths of an inch) or less and intended for single-use transport of purchased products. Thin-film plastic bags used to contain dry cleaning, newspapers, produce, meat, cheese, bulk foods, wet items, or other similar merchandise, typically without handles, are permissible.**

**CB. Use Regulations**

~~(1) Thin-Film Single-Use Plastic Bags shall not be distributed, used, or sold for checkout or other purposes at retail, retail food, or service retail establishments.~~

~~(2) Thin film plastic bags used to contain dry cleaning, newspapers, produce, meat, cheese, bulk foods, wet items, or other similar merchandise, typically without handles, are permissible.~~

~~(3) Customers are encouraged to bring their own reusable or biodegradable shopping bags to stores. Retail establishments may provide biodegradable bags, reusable bags, compostable bags, or recyclable paper bags for free or for a fee. Retail establishments are strongly encouraged to make reusable bags available for sale to customers at a reasonable price.~~

**2. If any retail establishment provides a checkout bag to customers, the bag shall comply with the requirements of being either a recyclable paper bag, a compostable bag, a biodegradable bag, or a reusable bag.**

**DC. Enforcement**

~~(1)~~**1.** The Board of Health or its designee may inquire on an annual basis regarding an establishment’s compliance with this bylaw.

~~(2)~~**2.** Residents of the Town who observe potential violations of this bylaw may file a complaint with the Board of Health or its designee who shall investigate the complaint.

~~(3)~~**3.** Fines are cumulative and each day or portion thereof shall constitute a separate offense. If more than 1, each condition violated shall constitute a separate offense.

~~(4)~~**4.** Warnings issued for the first violation shall specify the violation, the appropriate penalties in the event of future violations, and a statement that the retail establishment might be closed if it fails to comply.

~~D. Deferments~~

~~Upon written application from a retail establishment, the Board of Health, after a public hearing, may temporarily defer application of this bylaw for a retail establishment for up to 1 year, up on a showing by the retail establishment that the conditions of this bylaw would cause undue hardship. The Board of Health shall determine whether the hardship of the establishment is cause for a deferment. The establishment shall reapply prior to the end of the exemption period and demonstrate continued undue hardship if it wishes to have the deferment extended. Deferments may only be granted for intervals not to exceed 1 year.~~

Councilor Ryan reported he reached out to the Chamber, BID, and Board of Health and heard no objections to the proposed amendments.

Councilor DuMont noted that the additions were part of the bylaw when it was adopted by Town Meeting.

Councilors briefly discussed the Governor’s suspension of plastic bag bans due to COVID-19, and that when the Governor removed the suspension the bylaw was restored.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 to amend Bylaw 3.28 – Single Use Plastic Bag Prohibition, by deleting the language shown in strikethrough and adding the language in bold:

**3.28 – SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAG PROHIBITION**

---

**PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAG PROHIBITION BYLAW**

---

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#### **B. A. Definitions**

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**"Compostable bag" means a bag that a) meets the ASTM D6400 standard for compostable plastic and b) is able to be municipally or industrially composted.**

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## **DC. Enforcement**

~~(1)~~**1.** The Board of Health or its designee may inquire on an annual basis regarding an establishment's compliance with this bylaw.

~~(2)~~**2.** Residents of the Town who observe potential violations of this bylaw may file a complaint with the Board of Health or its designee who shall investigate the complaint.

~~(3)~~**3.** Fines are cumulative and each day or portion thereof shall constitute a separate offense. If more than 1, each condition violated shall constitute a separate offense.

~~(4)~~**4.** Warnings issued for the first violation shall specify the violation, the appropriate penalties in the event of future violations, and a statement that the retail establishment might be closed if it fails to comply.

## ~~D. Deferments~~

~~Upon written application from a retail establishment, the Board of Health, after a public hearing, may temporarily defer application of this bylaw for a retail establishment for up to 1 year, up on a showing by the retail establishment that the conditions of this bylaw would cause undue hardship. The Board of Health shall determine whether the hardship of the establishment is cause for a deferment. The establishment shall reapply prior to the end of the exemption period and demonstrate continued undue hardship if it wishes to have the deferment extended. Deferments may only be granted for intervals not to exceed 1 year.~~

### **d. Ranked Choice Voting Commission Charge – Consent Agenda**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to waive Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to approve the changes requested by the Town Manager to the Ranked Choice Voting Commission charge, as shown in the Town Manager's memo dated September 30, 2020.

### **e. Participatory Budgeting Commission Charge – Consent Agenda**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 to waive Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 to approve the changes requested by the Town Manager to the Participatory Budgeting Commission charge, as shown in the Town Manager's memo dated September 30, 2020.

## **9. Appointments**

### **a. Town Manager Appointments – Consent Agenda**

#### **(1) Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to approve the Town Manager appointment of Francis Goyes to the Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees, with a term to expire on June 30, 2022, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 17, 2020 and updated on September 28, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 30, 2020.

#### **(2) Community Preservation Act Committee**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Community Preservation Act Committee, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 17, 2020 and updated on September 18, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 30, 2020:

- Ana Devlin Gauthier, representing the Conservation Commission, for a term to expire June 30, 2021
- Robin Fordham, representing the Historical Commission, for a term to expire June 30, 2021
- Sarah Marshall, representing the LSSE Commission, for a term to expire June 30, 2021
- Andrew MacDougall, representing the Planning Board, for a term to expire June 30, 2021
- Sarah Eisinger, reappointment, as an at-large member for a term to expire June 30, 2023
- Katie Zobel, as an at-large member, for a term to expire June 30, 2023

### **(3) Disability Access Advisory Committee**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Disability Access Advisory Committee, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 17, 2020 and updated on September 28, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 30, 2020:

For terms to expire June 30, 2023:

- Christopher Blount
- Zander Crowley

### **(4) LSSE Commission**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to approve the Town Manager appointment of Carolyn Mailler to the LSSE Commission, with a term to expire on June 30, 2023, as filed with the Town Clerk on September 17, 2020 and updated on September 28, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of September 30, 2020.

### **(5) Ranked Choice Voting Commission Extension of Terms**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to waive Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.6 for the current agenda item.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to extend the following appointments to the Ranked Choice Voting Commission to December 1, 2020:

- John Bryan
- Jesse Crafts-Finch
- Tanya Leise
- Ellen Lindsey
- Peggy Shannon

### **(6) Participatory Budgeting Commission Extension of Terms**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to waive Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.6 for the current agenda item.

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to extend the following appointments to the Participatory Budgeting Commission to June 30, 2021:

- John Fenske
- Meg Gage
- Elizabeth Larson
- Jonathan McCabe
- John Page
- Cathy Schoen

**b. Town Council Appointments – None**

**10. Committee and Liaison Reports**

- a. Community Resources Committee** – Councilor Hanneke reported the committee has tentatively scheduled a hearing on the Zoning article 14 changes on November 4 at 8 p.m. She is working on that to make sure the hearing is noticed in time. The committee will continue discussion on zoning priorities and the housing policy.
- b. Finance Committee** – Councilor Steinberg reported that the next meeting will be held Tuesday at 2 pm. The meeting packet is available on the Town website.
- c. Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee** – Councilor Ryan reported the committee will meet next on Wednesday October 7 to continue review of two wage theft bylaws and the wild animal bylaw. The committee struggled with procedural issues, detailed in the report.  
Councilor De Angelis spoke about the committee’s discussion of sponsors’ participation in review of bylaws.  
Councilor Brewer commented on the KP Law summary.  
President Griesemer commented that Councilors have a right to vote at all times, it should be clear who sponsors are and that GOL did not yet take any votes, and did not make a decision to restrict sponsors from voting.  
Councilor Pam spoke in favor of sponsors voting.  
Councilor Steinberg commented that sponsoring the resolution does not create a conflict of interest; for the plastic bag bylaw there was a lot of discussion between the sponsor and committee, the committee had a clear responsibility to see that the amendment was clear, consistent, and actionable, and the sponsor had a clear role in advocating that the amendment came out in a way that it would satisfy the committee and sponsor; there is a dual role that sponsors are advocating and reviewing.
- d. Joint Capital Planning Committee** – Councilor Schoen reported that the group held a meeting in September, the next meeting is planned for February.
- e. Town Services and Outreach Committee** – Councilor DuMont reported that the committee heard a presentation on Lincoln Ave parking and will hear from sponsors of the facial recognition technology bylaw and review appointments to Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee and Design Review Board at the next meeting. Hope to receive appointments to the Community Safety Committee by October 22 for Council action on November 9. Councilor Ross spoke about the committee

discussion of Lincoln Avenue parking which may lead to a wider conversation about parking in Town.

- f. Liaison Reports: Affordable Housing Trust, Board of Health, Board of License Commissioners, Community Preservation Act Committee, Council on Aging, Disabilities Access Advisory Committee, LSSE Commission, Transportation Advisory Committee:** Councilor DuMont reported that the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) held their first meeting after a very long break, discussed what they want to do as a committee in the future, and will join the Town Services and Outreach (TSO) Committee meeting on October 8 to present what they see as the relationship between TAC and TSO. Members agreed they will meet every two weeks.

Councilor Schoen left the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

### **11. Approval of Minutes – Consent Agenda**

- a. September 15, 2020 Joint Town Council and Community Resources Committee Meeting minutes**
- b. September 21, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes**

**VOTED** unanimously 13-0 via consent agenda to approve the following Town Council minutes as presented:

- September 15, 2020 Joint Town Council and Community Resources Committee Meeting minutes
- September 21, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes

### **12. Town Manager Report**

Town Manager Paul Bockelman highlighted the following items from the Town Manager report:

- The Town Clerk department has received a grant to be used to make improvements at polling locations
- Poll worker training will be conducted this week
- The Council will see a revised design for the north Common
- Craig's Doors is making progress on securing locations for shelter during the winter
- Use of CARES Act funds

Councilors asked about the following:

- Community Activity Form for the Community Safety Committee
- Public restrooms
- Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners grant decision, earliest decision will be July 1, 2021
- Cutoff date for Community Safety Committee applications on October 22
- Closed captioning service during meetings
- Stipends for Community Safety Committee members
- Posting public comments on the Town website
- Childcare for Town staff
- Decrease of renewal fees for liquor licenses and how to make up lost revenue from licenses
- Pamphlet for COVID-19 suitable activities

**13. Town Council Comments**

**a. President Report**

**b. Future Agenda Items** – President Griesemer reviewed topics raised by Councilors for future agendas, spoke about lessons that the Council can retain when in-person meetings resume, noted the automatic referral of a Resolution regarding East West Rail to Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, noted the approval of the following executive session minutes:

- June 17, 2019
- August 19, 2019
- August 26, 2019
- September 23, 2019
- August 31, 2020

President Griesemer noted the release of the following executive session minutes:

- June 17, 2019
- August 26, 2019
- September 23, 2019
- August 31, 2020

**c. Councilor Comments**

Councilor Pam spoke about establishing Town-wide wireless internet service.  
Councilor DuMont spoke about increasing Councilor stipends.  
Councilor Bahl-Milne spoke about renaming streets after Black leaders.

**14. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting**

**15. Executive Session - None**

**16. Adjourn 9:43 pm.**

President Griesemer declared the meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m. on October 5, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Athena O’Keeffe  
Clerk of the Council

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

- 00. 10-05-2020 Draft Motions for Town Council - as of 10-5-20
- 00. 10-05-2020 FINAL Town Council Agenda
- 7.a. COVID-19 Town Council Presentation 10-05-2020 FINAL
- 8.a. 11-3-20 State Election Warrant
- 8.b. Emergency Zoning Bylaw\_Article 14, Adopted by Town Council, Effective Date 06-16-2020
- 8.c. 2020-09-14 GOL Special Memo Plastic Bag Ban\_FINAL Complete
- 8.d., 9.a.5. Ranked Choice Voting Commission Memo - Charge and Appointments - 09-30-2020

- 8.e., 9.a.6. Participatory Budgeting Commission Memo - Charge and Appointments - 09-30-2020
- 9.a.1. Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees Appointment - 09-17-2020 Updated 09-28-2020
- 9.a.2. Community Preservation Act Committee - Appointments - 09-17-2020 Updated 09-18-2020
- 9.a.3. Disability Access Advisory Committee Appointments - 09-17-2020 Updated 09-28-2020
- 9.a.4. LSSE Commission Appointment - 09-17-2020
- 10.c. 10-05-2020 GOL Report to Town Council with attachments
- 10.e. 2020-10-05 TSO Report to Town Council
- 11.a. 09-15-2020 DRAFT Joint Town Council Community Resources Committee meeting Minutes
- 11.b. 09-21-2020 DRAFT Town Council Minutes
- 12. Town Manager Report 10-05-2020
- 14. 2nd DRAFT JOINT RESOLUTION - as of 10-2-2020 - Clean with letterhead
- 14. 2nd DRAFT JOINT RESOLUTION - as of 10-2-2020 - Markup
- 14. 3rd DRAFT JOINT RESOLUTION - as of 10-5-2020 - clean
- 14. 3rd DRAFT JOINT RESOLUTION - as of 10-5-2020 - markup