



**Town of Amherst
Town Council Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2020
6:45 p.m.
Virtual Meeting
Minutes**

Complete video is available online: <https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-november-16-2020>

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, Principal Assessor Elizabeth Duffy, Finance Director Sean Mangano, Comptroller Sonia Aldrich, Board of Assessors Member Ken Hargreaves, Planner Ben Breger, Communications Manager Brianna Sunryd, Department of Public Works Superintendent Guilford Mooring, IT Director Sean Hannon, 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 6:48 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:

- November 19, 2020, 6:30 p.m. – Budget Forum
- December 5, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – Four Towns Meeting
- December 7, 2020, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Town Council Meeting, including State of the Town
- December 21, 2030, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Town Council Meeting

Upcoming Council Committee Meetings:

- Community Resources Committee: November 17, 2020 2:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee: November 17, 2020 2:00 p.m.
- Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee: November 18, 2020 10:30 a.m.
- Town Services and Outreach Committee: November 19, 2020 4:30 p.m.

All meeting agendas and details are posted at 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 are now available for residents to communicate their concerns about masks, social distancing, gatherings, etc.

3. Hearings

a. Tax Classification Public Hearing

Principal Assessor Elizabeth Duffy and Board of Assessors member Ken Hargreaves spoke about the tax policy option and Board of Assessors recommendations for the FY21 tax rate and exemptions.

Councilor Pam asked how this rate compares to surrounding towns, and about the benefit of residential exemptions.

Duffy spoke about the residential exemption and the residential exemption survey.

Councilor DuMont commented that last year the Council asked for information about other communities who have adopted the residential exemption.

Councilor Hanneke asked how the Town would address residential exemptions for families on sabbatical.

Duffy responded that residents must show residency and if a home is rented while the owner lives elsewhere for the year, the owner would not be eligible.

Councilor Schreiber commented about a homestead exemption and property tax cap in Florida and taxes passed on to tenants.

Board of Assessors member Rich Morse commented that the Town does not have enough information at this point to know if a change would increase the tax burden for residents who would be unable to pay more tax.

Councilor Steinberg spoke about the cost of administering an exception and how to manage in the event of appeals, which could amount to tremendous costs.

Duffy stated the department would need another full time employee to administer a residential exemption.

No public comment in support or in opposition and no questions.

Town manager Paul Bockelman recognized the efforts of the Board of Assessors and previous Principal Assessor David Burgess.

President Griesemer declared the hearing closed at 7:33 p.m.

4. General Public Comment

Christina Scaringe of Animal Defenders International spoke in support of the Wild Animal Bylaw, and stated the list of applicable species is a finite list but that the parenthetical list is not inclusive.

Shrila Leslie Luppino of Berkshire Voters for Animals spoke in support of the Wild Animals Bylaw.

Laura Hagen, Massachusetts Director of the Humane Society of the United States spoke in favor of the Wild Animal Bylaw.

Sheryl Becker, President of Western Mass Animal Rights Advocates spoke in support of the Wild Animal 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.

- Suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for agenda items 8.c. and 8.g.
- 8.b. Adoption of Council Order FY21-05B
- 8.c. To adopt a minimum residential factor of one, equal tax rate for all classes of properties for Fiscal Year 2021 and that no open space discount be granted
- 8.c. To not adopt a Residential Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021
- 8.c. To not adopt a Small Commercial Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021
- 8.e. To amend Zoning Article 14 – Temporary Zoning
- 8.g. Adoption of the 2021 Town Council Meeting Schedule
- 9.a. Approval of Town Manager Appointments to the following boards/committees:
 - 9.a.(1) Community Safety Working Group
- 9.b.(1) Approval of Town Council Appointment of Four Towns Meeting Representative

Councilor DuMont asked to remove suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for agenda item 8.c., 8.c. to adopt a minimum residential factor of one, equal tax rate for all classes of properties for Fiscal Year 2021 and that no open space discount be granted, 8.c. to not adopt a Residential Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021, and 8.c. To not adopt a Small Commercial Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, 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 agenda items and 8.g.
- 8.b. Adoption of Council Order FY21-05B
- 8.e. To amend Zoning Article 14 – Temporary Zoning
- 8.g. Adoption of the 2021 Town Council Meeting Schedule
- 9.a. Approval of Town Manager Appointments to the following boards/committees:
 - 9.a.(1) Community Safety Working Group
- 9.b.(1) Approval of Town Council Appointment of Four Towns Meeting Representative

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 agenda items and 8.g.
- 8.b. Adoption of Council Order FY21-05B
- 8.e. To amend Zoning Article 14 – Temporary Zoning
- 8.g. Adoption of the 2021 Town Council Meeting Schedule
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 - 9.a.(1) Community Safety Working Group
- 9.b.(1) Approval of Town Council Appointment of Four Towns Meeting Representative

After a short break, President Griesemer confirmed all participants can hear and be heard.

6. Resolutions and Proclamations – None

7. Presentations and Discussion

a. COVID-19 Update

Town Manager Paul Bockelman and Health Director Emma Dragon spoke about the following:

- Current cases in the State and Town
- Cumulative cases at UMass, Amherst, and Hampshire Colleges
- Updated metrics
- Stay at home advisory
- Mandatory closing period
- Implications for restaurants
- Increase in the face covering order in all indoor and outdoor public places
- Gatherings order – limited to 10 people at private residences
- Town operations update
- CARES funds expire December 30
- Reduced alcoholic beverage license fees by 40%
- Testing of first responders
- End of semester for all three higher education institutions
- Pandemic fatigue
- Small family gatherings
- Increased number of cases

Councilors, Bockelman and Dragon discussed the following:

- Town employees testing at UMass; employees are not required to be tested
- Use of tents for outdoor events, ventilation; tents that inhibit airflow are not a good long-term solution, tents with four walls must follow indoor regulations
- Gyms and fitness centers are closed from 9:30 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.; the safest way to exercise is outdoors
- UMass employees who tested positive were included in UMass numbers, but age differences are reflected in reports
- Majority of local cases are in 18-23 age range
- Low concern for college population transmitting to school age children
- General population positivity rate versus UMass testing rate
- High number of asymptomatic cases at UMass, but residents seek tests only with known exposure or symptoms
- UMass is encouraging testing before students leave campus for vacation

8. Action Items

a. North Common Presentation

Planning Director Christine Brestrup and Assistant Town Manager David Ziomek and Department of Public Works Guilford Mooring spoke about the following:

- Project overview

- History of the North Common
- Fredrick Law Olmstead design
- Design process
- Plans
- Funding sources: CPAC, PARC Grant, Fundraising
- Cost reduction
- Historical Commission and LSSE Commission support the project

Councilor De Angelis commented about an earlier plan that made Boltwood Ave a one-way street; the current plan maintains two-way traffic, expressed concerns about finances and asked about capping the project budget at available funds.

D. Ziomek spoke about the plan and costs related to drainage, lighting, ADA accessibility, and parking. It will be a challenge to pare the plan back from what was presented.

G. Mooring cutting down the trees would save money, but saving the existing trees costs more.

Councilor Schreiber spoke about the parking lot and Spring Street cut-through that removes part of the common, expressed concern that the Town will end up with a newly-paved version of the existing common, and noted that the bus stop on Main Street is not paired with the bus stop in the opposite direction.

Councilor Pam asked about the Civil War tablets.

Ziomek responded that the Town is searching for a permanent place for the civil war tablets.

Councilor Ross spoke about the need for seating and outdoor dining on the common.

Councilor Hanneke echoed Councilors Schreiber and Ross, and asked about making the plaza large enough to accommodate the farmer's market, adding tables, sidewalks, and about the lifespan of the existing trees.

Councilor Schoen commented about the loss of parking, maintenance costs, and the likelihood of getting a grant.

Councilor Bahl-Milne commented about budget limits and parking.

Councilor Brewer spoke about lack of maintenance of the current common, and the need to hear Councilor questions now for a committee to address in the future.

President Griesemer stated that a joint meeting of the Town Services and Outreach Committee and Town Council can be held to have a more public conversation about the project, and added that the current state of the common is an eyesore that needs improvement that will make the Town proud and increase economic activity in the downtown.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Ross, to refer the Planning Director Memo 11-13-20 Regarding the North Common and Main Street Parking Lot Project – A First Look to the Town Services and Outreach Committee, for review and recommendation to the Town Council within 90 days.

Councilor Schoen requested that the TSO Committee Chair to reach out to Councilors to submit questions for committee review.

VOTED unanimously 13-0 by roll call, to refer the Planning Director Memo 11-13-20 Regarding the North Common and Main Street Parking Lot Project – A First Look to the Town Services and Outreach Committee, for review and recommendation to the Town Council within 90 days.

b. Appropriation outside the annual budget – Council Order FY21-05B Purchase of a new ambulance – Second discussion

VOTED 13-0 via consent agenda in accordance with Charter Sec. 5.6, having been reviewed and recommended by the Finance Committee report of November 16, 2020, published on the Town Bulletin Board for a minimum of 10 days on November 4, 2020, and held a Public Forum on November 16, 2020, to adopt Council Order 21-05B, An Order Appropriating Funds for the Town of Amherst Capital Program – Purchase of a new Ambulance, as presented.

c. Tax Classification

Councilor DuMont spoke about residents who might not be aware of the issue.

Councilor Brewer commented that this is the same recommendation the Town has been getting for decades.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Schoen, to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

Hanneke spoke to the motion, stating that between the two meetings, there have been no comments submitted to the Council regarding the tax classification.

Councilor Schoen stated the Council does not have an alternative action to take, the Council does not know that half the Town could benefit, and the Council cannot make another decision right now. Just because someone has a high valued house does not mean they have a high income. Don't have info about distribution of income.

Councilor DuMont stated there is a reason why the Council has a rule to discuss things twice, stating that this is the kind of thing that makes sense to look at twice, and that it feels like the Council is not looking at it from the perspective of people.

Councilor Steinberg responded that that conclusion cannot be made without more information; the Town would need to consider each home by tract, and that once the Council acts there is a process that must take place in order for the Town to bill for taxes for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Town Manager Paul Bockelman stated the Town needs the vote of the Council to send appropriate forms to the Department of Revenue in order to certify the tax rate and send tax bills by the end of December.

President Griesemer added that the Town has not done a survey in 10 years, and there is impact from a staffing standpoint that has budgetary implications.

VOTED 12-1 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont voted No) to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to adopt a minimum residential factor of one, equal tax rate for all classes of properties for Fiscal Year 2021 and that no open space discount be granted.

VOTED 12-1 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont voted No) to adopt a minimum residential factor of one, equal tax rate for all classes of properties for Fiscal Year 2021 and that no open space discount be granted.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to NOT adopt a Residential Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021.

VOTED 12-1 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont voted No) to NOT adopt a Residential Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Steinberg, to NOT adopt a Small Commercial Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021.

VOTED unanimously 13-0 by roll call, to NOT adopt a Small Commercial Exemption for Fiscal Year 2021.

d. Use of the Public Way – First Discussion
(2) Public Information and Emergency Communication Signs

Communications Manager Brianna Sunryd presented a proposal of a pilot project for communication signs and charging stations.

Councilor De Angelis asked about costs for maintenance.

Sunryd responded that the charging cores would belong to the Town; there is no ongoing cost.

Councilor Schoen asked about cost, assessment of use, and advertisements.

Sunryd responded that there are options to gauge success, the signs will not capture photo or video.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to refer the permanent use of public ways request for Public Information and Emergency Communication Signs to the Town Services and Outreach Committee for a report and recommendation to the Council by December 21, 2020.

Councilor Steinberg asked about the time limit on CARES Act funds.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to amend the motion by changing the date from December 21, 2020 to December 7, 2020.

VOTED unanimously 13-0 by roll call, to amend the motion by changing the date from December 21, 2020 to December 7, 2020.

VOTED unanimously 13-0 by roll call, to refer the permanent use of public ways request for Public Information and Emergency Communication Signs to the Town Services and Outreach Committee for a report and recommendation to the Council by December 7, 2020.

(3) Bus Stop Improvements

Planner Ben Breger spoke about Mass DOT grant to improve bus shelters in the Downtown.

Councilor Hanneke asked about the possibility to reuse the old bus shelters.

Councilors discussed the need for committee review.

MOTION: Councilor Brewer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

VOTED 11-2 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilors Pam and Schreiber voted No) to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the improvements to PVTA Bus Stops located at:

- One (1) new bus shelter at the intersection of North Pleasant Street and Cowles Lane (in front of St Brigid’s Parish);
- One (1) new bus shelter at the intersection of South Pleasant Street and Spring Street (in front of the Town Common);
- One (1) replacement bus shelter on the south bound side of Main Street, adjacent to the Town Common;

VOTED 11-2 by roll call (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilors Pam and Schreiber voted No) to approve the improvements to PVTA Bus Stops located at:

- One (1) new bus shelter at the intersection of North Pleasant Street and Cowles Lane (in front of St Brigid’s Parish);
- One (1) new bus shelter at the intersection of South Pleasant Street and Spring Street (in front of the Town Common);
- One (1) replacement bus shelter on the south bound side of Main Street, adjacent to the Town Common;

(1) Revision to Policy Regarding the Control and Regulation of the Public Ways

Town Manager Paul Bockelman explained the changes extend the current authority to the Town Manager to bring the policy into alignment with how public way request currently work.

Councilor Hanneke stated that the Council is already on a deadline to update the policy, as two readings starting December 7 is already past 180 days. The Town Council is operating on good faith with what the intention of what the public ways policy was, and is actually covered under an emergency order, but that the sooner the Council amends the policy the better.

Councilors discussed committee workload and capacity.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to refer the Town Manager Memo 11-12-20 “Revisions to Policy Regarding the Control and Regulation of the Public Ways” to the Town Services and Outreach Committee and to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, for review and recommendation to the Town Council by December 7, 2020.

The motion was retracted.

MOTION: Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to refer the Town Manager Memo 11-12-20 “Revisions to Policy Regarding the Control and Regulation of the Public Ways” to the Town Services and Outreach Committee and to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, for review and recommendation regarding section 4 of the policy to the Town Council by December 7, 2020 and remaining sections of the public ways policy by January 25, 2021.

VOTED unanimously 13-0 by roll call, to refer the Town Manager Memo 11-12-20 “Revisions to Policy Regarding the Control and Regulation of the Public Ways” to the Town Services and Outreach Committee and to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, for review and recommendation regarding section 4 of the policy to the Town Council by December 7, 2020 and remaining sections of the public ways policy by January 25, 2021.

e. Amendments to Zoning Article 14 – Temporary Zoning – Second Reading Charter Sec. 2.10(a)

VOTED 13-0 via consent agenda to amend Zoning Bylaw Article 14, Temporary Zoning, as follows:

1. In the first paragraph, delete the phrase "for a period of 180 days, beginning on June 16, 2020" and replace with the phrase "until December 31, 2021".
2. In the first sentence of Affected Uses, delete the word "and" before "COM," and add the phrase "OP, and PRP" after the word "COM,".
3. In Affected Uses, add "Section 3.360 Medical Uses" as a new line after the phrase "Section 3.3.52 Food and Drink Establishments".
4. Add the following language immediately before the section Waivers and Modifications as part of the section Affected Uses:

For Temporary Use or changes in response to COVID-19 issues, including the placement of temporary structures, in any zoning district for the following uses:

Section 3.312 Class I and Class II Farm Stand

Section 3.330.0 Non-profit educational institution

Section 3.333 Church or other place of worship, parish house, rectory or convent

Section 3.334 Not for profit library or museum

Section 3.336 Medical or residential institutions

Section 3.342 Governmental Administration building, fire or police station

Section 3.344 Other governmental use not specifically listed herein

Temporary Use: A use or alteration established for a fixed period of time with the intent to discontinue and return to the original condition upon expiration of the time period.

5. Add the sentence “At the time of application and for no less than 10 days, applicant shall prominently place notice of its application, with contact information for the Building Inspector and Planning Director, at the main entrance of the building on a front window, door or siding.” to the end of the first paragraph of Application Process.

f. Prohibiting the Use of Wild and Exotic Animals in Traveling Shows and Circuses Bylaw – Second Reading Charter Sec. 2.10(a)

Councilors discussed feedback received from Rebecca Schwartz and Animal Welfare Officer Carol Hepburn.

MOTION: President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Bahl-Milne, to adopt the Prohibiting the Use of Wild and Exotic Animals in Traveling Shows and Circuses Bylaw as a General Bylaw, as shown on the motion sheet.

VOTED unanimously 13-0 by roll call, to adopt the Prohibiting the Use of Wild and Exotic Animals in Traveling Shows and Circuses Bylaw as a General Bylaw, as follows:

3.XX PROHIBITING THE USE OF WILD AND EXOTIC ANIMALS IN TRAVELING SHOWS AND CIRCUSES

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE PROHIBITING THE USE OF WILD AND EXOTIC ANIMALS IN TRAVELING SHOWS AND CIRCUSES BYLAW

Criminal Enforcement for Violation: \$150 - \$300 fine per animal per day

Noncriminal Disposition: \$300 fine per animal per day (enforcement by: Police Department, Animal Welfare Officer)

A. Purpose

It is the intent of the Amherst Town Council to protect the public against hazards that Wild and Exotic Animals used in Traveling Shows and Circuses pose to society and to protect Wild and Exotic Animals from cruel and inhumane treatment.

B. Definitions

For the purpose of this Bylaw only, the following words and terms shall be deemed to mean and to be construed as follows:

1. "Circus" means a class C licensee that is licensed under the Animal Welfare Act (7 USC Section 2131 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments, regulations, and standards adopted pursuant to the Act, that offers performances by live animals, clowns and/or acrobats.
2. "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, joint venture, association, trust, estate, or any legal entity, and any officer, member, shareholder, director, employee, agent or representative of these.
3. "Traveling Show" means any mobile or stationary act or exhibition, Circus, public show, trade show, photographic opportunity, carnival, city or county fair, ride, parade, race, performance, or similar undertaking incorporating Wild or Exotic Animals wherein the animals are taken from their permanent residence and required to walk or travel for any distance.
4. "Wild or Exotic Animal" means any or all of the following orders and families, whether born in the wild or in captivity, and also any or all of their hybrids, including hybrids with domestic species. The animals listed in parentheses are intended to act as examples and are not to be construed as an exhaustive list or limit the generality of each group of animals, unless otherwise specified:

- a. Non-human primates and prosimians (such as chimpanzees, baboons, monkeys, etc.) –All species.
 - b. Felidae (such as lions, tigers, cougars, leopards, ocelots, servals, etc.) – All species except domestic cats.
 - c. Canidae (such as wolves, coyotes, etc.) – All species except domestic dogs.
 - d. Ursidae (such as bears) – All species.
 - e. Marsupialia (such as kangaroos, etc.) All species.
 - f. Proboscidae (such as elephants) – All species.
 - g. Crocodylia (such as crocodiles, alligators, etc.) – All species.
 - h. Artiodactyla (such as hippopotamuses, giraffes, camels, etc.)- All species except domestic cattle, swine, sheep, goats, llamas, or alpacas.
 - i. Perissodactyla (such as zebras, rhinos, and tapirs) - All species except domestic horses, donkeys or mules.
 - j. Struthioniformes (such as ostriches) -All species.
 - k. Casuariiformes (such as emus) - All species.
 - l. Pinnipeds (such as sea lions) – All species.
5. “Wildlife Sanctuary” means a 501 (c)(3) organization described in Section 170 (b)(1)(A)(vi) Internal Revenue Code 1986, and its subsequent amendments where:
- a. No commercial trade in animals occurs (including, but not limited to, sale of animals, animal parts, by-products, offspring, photographic opportunities or public events for financial profit, or any other entertainment purposes);
 - b. No propagation of animals occurs in the facility; and
 - c. No unescorted public visitation is allowed; no direct contact between the public and wild animals is allowed; animals are not taken from the sanctuary or enclosures for exhibition.

C. Prohibition

It shall be unlawful for any Person to conduct, sponsor, walk, exhibit, or operate a Traveling Show or Circus that includes live Wild or Exotic Animals on any public or private land within the Town of Amherst, MA.

D. Exceptions

The provisions of this Bylaw shall not apply to:

- 1. Institutions accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums;
- 2. Any Wildlife Sanctuary as defined under this Bylaw;
- 3. An exhibition that takes place at a non-mobile, permanent institution or other fixed facility, provided that the covered animal is not transported to such location for the purpose of such exhibition; or
- 4. Any demonstrations or exhibitions by a college or university for bona fide educational or research purposes, and not for amusement or entertainment purposes.

g. 2021 Town Council Meeting Schedule

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

VOTED 13-0 via consent agenda to adopt the 2021 Town Council meeting schedule, as presented.

9. Appointments

a. Town Manager Appointments

(1) Community Safety Working Group

VOTED 13-0 via consent agenda to approve the following Town Manager appointment to the Community Safety Working Group, effective immediately, as filed with the Town Clerk on November 10, 2020, and recommended by the Town Services and Outreach Committee report of November 12, 2020:

- For a term to last the length of the Working Group's efforts:
 - Russ Vernon-Jones

b. Town Council Appointments

(1) Four Towns Meeting Representative

VOTED 13-0 via consent agenda to designate Councilor Steinberg as the Town Council representative and to speak on behalf of the Town Council during the Four Towns Meeting on December 5, 2020 and any subsequent deliberations and meetings.

10. Committee and Liaison Reports

- a. Community Resources Committee** –Councilor Hanneke reported that the committee will take up zoning tomorrow including the 40R report.
- b. Finance Committee** –Councilor Steinberg referenced the committee's written report, adding that resident member Sharon Povinelli resigned; her term ends June 30, 2021, Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee will take up appointment of a new member.
- c. Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee** – No further report.
- d. Joint Capital Planning Committee** – No report.
- e. Town Services and Outreach Committee** – Councilor DuMont reported that the committee held a brief meeting last week and came up with recommendation for 7th member of community safety committee. Overwhelmed by number of referrals. The committee will consider Surveillance Technology Bylaw and a Town-wide residential parking policy on Thursday.
- 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 Schoen reported that the Community Preservation Act Committee is at the point of ranking proposals before them. There are large requests this year that are bond financed.

11. Approval of Minutes – None

12. Town Manager Report – Town Manager Paul Bockelman spoke briefly about gift bags that were distributed by Town staff to veterans, and that the Town Clerk has certified the election results.

13. Town Council Comments

- a. **President Report** – President Griesemer noted referral of a proclamation to the Governance, Organization and Legislation Committee. President Griesemer added that the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission needs an alternate, the President will poll the Council and bring to next meeting after checking the regulations in the PVPC bylaws.
- b. **Future Agenda Items**
- c. **Councilor Comments**

14. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting -
None

15. Executive Session - *None*

16. Adjourn

President Griesemer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Athena O’Keeffe

Clerk of the Council

Record of Agenda Packet Materials and Documents Presented

- 00. 11-16-2020 Draft Motions for Town Council as of 11-13-20
- 00. 11-16-2020 FINAL Special Town Council Agenda - Public Forum on Ambulance Appropriation
- 00. 11-16-2020 FINAL Town Council Agenda
- 3.a. 11-16-2020 Tax Classification Presentation - revised
- 7.a. COVID-19 Town Council Presentation 11-16-2020 pb
- 8.a. Memo BRESTRUP on North Common 11-13-2020
- 8.a. Town Council - North Common 11-16-2020
- 8.b. Ambulance Replacement Memo to Town Council - 11-05-2020
- 8.b. CO FY21 - 05B PURCHASE OF A NEW AMBULANCE
- 8.b. Finance Committee report 11.16.20
- 8.c. Memo on Assessors Residential Exemption 11-12-2020 - revised
- 8.d. Bus Shelters presentation to Town Council Nov16
- 8.d. Public Ways Policy - Town Manager Revisions Memo 11-12-20
- 8.d. Solar Signs and Chargers Town Council
- 8.d. Town Council Public Ways Policy
- 8.d.2. DRB FY2021-04, Approved Recommendations - Soofa Signs and Charing Cores
- 8.d.3. DRB FY2021-06, Approved Recommendations Bus Shelters
- 8.e. 2020-11-06 CRC Report to Town Council
- 8.e. Article 14 - Memo to Town Manager Revised 10-29-2020
- 8.e. Article 14 amendment - voted by PB and CRC
- 8.e. Article 14 Amendment Memo to the Town Council - 11-06-2020

- 8.e. PB Report to TC on Article 14 Amended 11-6-2020
- 8.f. 2020-10-19 GOL Report to Town Council
- 8.f. 2020-11-06 Wild Animal Bylaw - Sponsor Memo
- 8.f. animal bylaw presentation
- 8.f. Wild Animal Act Bylaw - recommended by CRC 2020-07-21 - as voted GOL 2020-10-07
- 8.f. Wild Animal Bylaw - Schwartz Email 11-11-20
- 8.g. Proposed 2021 Town Council Regular Meeting Schedule
- 9.a.1. 2020-11-16 TSO Report to Town Council
- 9.a.1. Community Safety Working Group Appointments - 11-10-2020
- 9.b.1. Memorandum on Four Towns Meeting appointed by Council 11-12-2020
- 12. Town Manager Report 11-16-2020