

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

-MINUTES-

Present: Vice Chair, Councilor Steven LeBlanc, Jr.; Councilor Melissa Cox; Councilor Valerie Gilman; Councilor Kenneth Hecht; Councilor Jennifer Holmgren; Councilor Scott Memhard; Councilor Sean Nolan; Councilor James O’Hara

Absent: Councilor Lundberg

Also Present: Joanne Senos; Jim Destino; Kenny Costa; John Dunn; Jill Cahill; Vanessa Krawczyk

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The Council Vice President announced that this meeting is recorded by video and audio in accordance with state Open Meeting Law.

Flag Salute & Moment of Silence.

Oral Communications: None.

Presentations/Commendations: None.

Confirmation of New Appointments: None.

Consent Agenda:

- **MAYOR’S REPORT**

1. Management Reappointments:

General Counsel	TTE 02/14/21	Charles Payson	(Refer O&A)
Human Resources Director	TTE 02/14/21	Donna Leete	(Refer O&A)
Inspector of Buildings	TTE 02/14/21	William Sanborn	(Refer O&A)
Information Services Director	TTE 02/14/21	James Pope	(Refer O&A)
Public Works Director	TTE 02/14/21	Michael Hale	(Refer O&A)
Director of Veteran Services	TTE 02/14/21	Adam Curcuru	(Refer O&A)
Principal Assessor	TTE 02/14/21	Nancy Papows	(Refer O&A)
Harbormaster	TTE 02/14/21	Thomas Ciarametaro	(Refer O&A)

New Appointments:

Capital Improvement Advisory Board	TTE 02/14/22	Joseph M. Orlando, Jr., Howard “Ted” Costa	(Refer O&A)
Shellfish Advisory Committee	TTE 02/14/22	Andrew Gossom	(Refer O&A)

Reappointments:

City-owned Cemeteries Advisory Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Sandy Barry, Patti Amaral, Beverly McKean	(Refer O&A)
Clean City Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Ainsley F. Smith	(Refer O&A)
Conservation Commission	TTE 02/14/22	William Cook, Ann Jo Jackson, Helene Shaw-Kwasie	(Refer O&A)
Council on Aging	TTE 02/14/22	Robert Quinn	(Refer O&A)
Downtown Development Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Robert K. Whitmarsh	(Refer O&A)
Fisheries Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Scott O. Swicker	(Refer O&A)
Historical Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Sandy Barry (Alternate)	(Refer O&A)
Magnolia Pier Advisory Committee	TTE 02/14/22	Richard D. Wilson	(Refer O&A)
Planning Board	TTE 02/14/24	Douglas Cook, Shawn Henry	(Refer O&A)
Planting Committee	TTE 02/14/22	Carolyn Benson, Bonnie Angus, William Taylor	(Refer O&A)
Shellfish Advisory Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Ann Jo Jackson (Conservation Commission Rep.), Dan Molloy, William Nugent	(Refer O&A)
Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee	TTE 02/14/22	William Fonvielle	(Refer O&A)
Tourism Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Carla O’Connor, Doug Silva	(Refer O&A)
Traffic Commission	TTE 02/14/22	Anthony Bertolino, Robert Ryan	(Refer O&A)
Waterways Board	TTE 02/14/22	Mark Lacey	(Refer O&A)

2. Memorandum from City Clerk re: acceptance of a donation to the Archives Committee in the amount of \$500

3. Memorandum from Assistant DPW Director re: payment of FY18 invoice with FY19 funds

4. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from Planning Director re: request acceptance of a Planning Assistance Grant in the amount of \$12,500

5. Memorandum from Community Development Director re: Community Preservation Committee off-cycle recommendation

6. Memorandum from Harbormaster re: request acceptance of Great Marsh Green Crab Trapping Program grant in the amount of \$12,500

7. Memorandum from Community Development Director re: Land Disposition Committee Recommendation - Ram Island

8. Response from Mayor’s Office to Oral Communications of December 11, 2018 City Council Meeting

9. Salem News article outlining benefits re: host community agreements between the City of Salem & marijuana establishments

10. Massachusetts Municipal Association’s Agenda/Schedule for the Annual Meeting & Trade Show, January 18-19, 2019

- **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**

- **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**

1. SCP2019-001: Chestnut Street #6-#8, Map 13, Lot 53, GZO Sec. 2.3.1(7) “Conversion to or new multi-family or apartment dwelling, four to six dwelling units”; Sec. 3.1.6(b) “Building Heights in Excess of 35 feet”; Sec. 3.2.2(a) & (b) “Dimensional Requirements for Multi-Family Dwellings and their Accessory Uses (other than signs)”

(Refer P&D)

2. SCP2019-002: School House Road #2, #3, & #4, Map 262, Lots 14 & 37, and Gloucester Crossing Road #7, Map 43, Lots 4 & 5, for the modification of Condition #18 of SCP2017-012 pursuant to GZO Sec. 1.5.13 "Compliance with Approved Plans; Modification of Plans" (Refer P&D)
- **COUNCILORS ORDERS**
1. CC2019-001 (Nolan): Amend GCO Ch. 21 "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places", Art. IV "Repair of Private Ways" re: Proxy votes (Refer O&A)
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
1. City Council Meeting: 12/11/2018 (Approve/File)
2. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 01/03/19 (under separate cover), O&A 12/31/18 (no meeting), P&D 01/04/19 (Approve/File)

Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda:

Councilor Nolan asked to remove under the Mayor's Report, Item # 1, Reappointments, Richard D. Wilson, Magnolia Pier Advisory Committee. He advised that as Mr. Wilson will be out of the city for an extended period of time and requested that Mr. Wilson's reappointment be revisited upon his return.

By unanimous consent of the City Council the Consent Agenda was accepted as amended.

Committee Reports:

Budget & Finance: January 3

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a Massachusetts State FY2019 Council on Aging Formula Grant Allocation from the Mass. Executive Office of Elder Affairs for a total of \$88,848.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox conveyed this is an annual grant from the state with no match to fund personnel expenses for the Senior Center.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a Massachusetts State FY2019 Council on Aging Formula Grant Allocation from the Mass. Executive Office of Elder Affairs for a total of \$88,848.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a Massachusetts Seaport Economic Council Grant for a total award of \$110,000. The purpose of this grant is to fund projects and programs in support of the City of Gloucester's Gloucester Fresh Seafood Program, which promotes and markets the city's fresh seafood catch. This grant expires June 30, 2020 and requires a 20% grant match.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that the city is in receipt of a Mass. Seaport Economic Council Grant for the city's Gloucester Fresh seafood marketing and branding program for \$110,000. She noted that the 20% grant match requirement is made up of \$10,000 from the city's budget traditionally used for the Seafood Expo; the Dept. of Marine Fisheries grant funding which the city accepted in late spring of 2018; and additional in-kind services. The grant funds will support the continuing work of the Gloucester Fresh Seafood program; the exhibition space at the Seafood Expo North America, as well as marketing, branding, promotion of not only the city's sustainable seafood but also for locally landed lobster which is new this year.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a Massachusetts Seaport Economic Council Grant for a total award of \$110,000. The purpose of this grant is to fund projects and programs in support of the City of Gloucester's Gloucester Fresh Seafood Program, which promotes and markets the city's fresh seafood catch. This grant expires June 30, 2020 and requires a 20% grant match.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A a state grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council a FY19 Cultural District Initiative Grant in the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of supporting the virtual marketing efforts of the Rocky Neck Cultural District. The grant period is from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 and all financial activity must occur prior to June 30, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that these grant funds will be used towards the Rocky Neck Cultural District's economic development. The Cultural District will utilize the Essex County Creates Calendar to drive all the Cultural District's events and information into a central location on line and use a digital media marketing campaign to increase awareness, drive traffic and revenue to the organizations of the Cultural District.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A a state grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council a FY19 Cultural District Initiative Grant in the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of supporting the virtual marketing efforts of the Rocky Neck Cultural District. The grant period is from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 and all financial activity must occur prior to June 30, 2019.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2019-SA-18 in the amount of \$18,000 (Eighteen Thousand Dollars) from Receipts Reserved for Appropriation, Highway Force Fund, Transfers to the General Fund, Account #32085-596001, to DPW-Public Services Repair & Maintenance - Paving, Account #0147052-524014 for the purpose of funding the repair and maintenance of the Lyndale Avenue Retaining Wall.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox conveyed that this is for work to shore up the Lyndale Avenue retaining wall.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2019-SA-18 in the amount of \$18,000 (Eighteen Thousand Dollars) from Receipts Reserved for Appropriation, Highway Force Fund, Transfers to the General Fund, Account #32085-596001, to DPW-Public Services Repair & Maintenance - Paving, Account #0147052-524014 for the purpose of funding the repair and maintenance of the Lyndale Avenue Retaining Wall.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2019-SA-19 in the amount of \$600,000 (Six Hundred Thousand Dollars) from the Sewer Enterprise Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance ("Retained Earnings"), Account #6400-359000 to the Schoolhouse Road Sewer Infrastructure Improvements, Transfers in from the Sewer Enterprise Fund, Account #64194-497005 for the purpose of funding Schoolhouse Road infrastructure improvements, the City of Gloucester's portion of a state grant funding for the same purpose.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox gave the following information: The work for sewer infrastructure on Schoolhouse Road will be mostly funded by a \$3 million MassWorks Grant, but in order to fund the city's portion of the proposed sewer infrastructure improvements, the city will need to take \$600,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Certified Free Cash and move it to a newly created account within the Sewer Enterprise Fund specifically for the infrastructure work. The MassWorks award letter is received and the contract is being finalized, which the Administration confirmed at the B&F meeting, and is taking this step now to begin the design work so they don't have to wait on the rest of the funding.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2019-SA-19 in the amount of \$600,000 (Six Hundred Thousand Dollars) from the Sewer Enterprise Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Retained Earnings”), Account #6400-359000 to the Schoolhouse Road Sewer Infrastructure Improvements, Transfers in from the Sewer Enterprise Fund, Account #64194-497005 for the purpose of funding Schoolhouse Road infrastructure improvements, the City of Gloucester’s portion of a state grant funding for the same purpose.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that this transfer is to enable more Munis training as the city moves into a new billing module.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2019-SBT-6 in the amount of \$8,287.50 from Sewer Enterprise Fund, Bond Issuance Costs, Account #640052-530027 to Sewer Enterprise Fund, Capital Outlay, Account #640058-580000 for the purpose of funding additional Munis vendor implementation days to complete data conversion and train city staff.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that this transfer is the second of the equal parts funding that is needed to be paid for Munis training to run (utility) billing through Munis.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2019-SBT-6 in the amount of \$8,287.50 from Sewer Enterprise Fund, Bond Issuance Costs, Account #640052-530027 to Sewer Enterprise Fund, Capital Outlay, Account #640058-580000 for the purpose of funding additional Munis vendor implementation days to complete data conversion and train city staff.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2019-SBT-7 in the amount of \$8,287.50 from Water Enterprise Fund, Bond Issuance Costs, Account #600052-530027 to Water Enterprise Fund, Capital Outlay, Account #600058-580000 for the purpose of funding additional Munis vendor implementation days to complete data conversion and train city staff.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox advised that this is equal parts of the funding to run utility billing from Munis, and is why it is partly funded through the Sewer and Water Enterprise Funds.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2019-SBT-7 in the amount of \$8,287.50 from Water Enterprise Fund, Bond Issuance Costs, Account #600052-530027 to Water Enterprise Fund, Capital Outlay, Account #600058-580000 for the purpose of funding additional Munis vendor implementation days to complete data conversion and train city staff.

Ordinances & Administration: December 31, 2018 - No Meeting

Planning & Development: January 2

There are no matters from this meeting for Council action under this heading. **Councilor Gilman** reported that the P&D Committee will conduct a Site Visit on Thursday, Jan. 10 at 2:30 p.m. She pointed out that the start time of the Site Visit was incorrectly reported in a Gloucester Daily Times article; a correction was published in today’s issue. The Committee will meet in front of the Petco store to review the drive-through areas, the pedestrian walkways and the layout of the three Special Council Permits for Gloucester Crossing. She reminded the Council

there will be no deliberation during the Site Visit, rather it is the Committee's opportunity to view the area and ask questions.

Scheduled Public Hearings:

1. PH2018-005: SCP2018-005: Gloucester Crossing Road #1 & #7, Map 262, Lots 13 & 37, for a retail drive-through pursuant to GZO Secs. 1.5.3(g) "Drive-Through Facilities" and 5.17 "Special Regulations; Drive-Through Facilities" in the EB District (TBC 01/22/19)

This public hearing is opened at 7:14 p.m.

Council Vice President LeBlanc opened the public hearing and continued it to January 22, 2019.

This public hearing is continued at 7:14 p.m.

2. PH2018-006: SCP2018-006: Gloucester Crossing Road #1 & #7, Map 262, Lots 13 & 37, for a coffee shop drive-through pursuant to GZO Secs. 1.5.3(g) "Drive-Through Facilities" and 5.17 "Special Regulations; Drive-Through Facilities" in the EB District (TBC 01/22/19)

This public hearing is opened at 7:14 p.m.

Council Vice President LeBlanc opened the public hearing and continued it to January 22, 2019.

This public hearing is continued at 7:14 p.m.

3. PH2018-007: SCP2018-007 Gloucester Crossing Road #1 & #7, Map 262, Lots 13 & 37, for the modifications and reconfigurations of Building C and Building E, the replacement of the proposed hotel with additional retail, a reconfiguration of the parking fields to eliminate underground parking and to comply with the requirements of two proposed drive-through facilities pursuant to GZO Secs. 1.5.3(c) "CCS" Special Permits and (d) "Major Projects" and 5.7 "Major Project"

This public hearing is opened at 7:14 p.m.

Council Vice President LeBlanc opened the public hearing and continued it to January 22, 2019.

This public hearing is continued at 7:15 p.m.

4. PH2019-001: Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-283 "Bus stops and taxi stands" by ADDING "Lincoln Avenue, westerly side in a southerly direction from a point 150 feet from Emerson Avenue for a distance of 40 feet"

This public hearing is opened at 7:15 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 7:16 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-283 "Bus stops and taxi stands" by ADDING: "Lincoln Avenue, westerly side in a southerly direction from a point 150 feet from Emerson Avenue for a distance of 40 feet."

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Holmgren explained that a constituent of Lincoln Park approached Councilor LeBlanc and she expressing concerns over safety issues especially during the winter months. She thanked the Chair of the Traffic Commission, Robert Ryan, for taking measurements of the area in question and then made some recommendations. She advised she and Councilor LeBlanc felt this was appropriate to be brought forward for the Council's consideration.

Council Vice President LeBlanc expressed his support saying that there is a covered bus stop on Lincoln Avenue, and vehicles are parking in front of the actual bus stop making it difficult for people to access buses when they pull in for pick up. He pointed out that by this designation, there won't be lost parking for this one space on the street -- it is to ensure ease of access to the bus stop.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-283 "Bus stops and taxi stands" by ADDING: "Lincoln Avenue, westerly side in a southerly direction from a point 150 feet from Emerson Avenue for a distance of 40 feet."

5. **PH2019-002: Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-270 "Prohibited parking at all times" by ADDING "Chestnut Street, westerly side from its intersection with Main Street from 150 feet in a northerly direction (to #6 Chestnut Street)"**

This public hearing is opened at 7:18 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 7:19 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-270 "Prohibited parking at all times" by ADDING: "Chestnut Street, westerly side, from its intersection with Main Street for 150 feet in a northerly direction (to #6 Chestnut Street)."

Discussion:

Councilor LeBlanc conveyed that this was brought to him and Councilor Hecht that there is a very small amount of curb between two pieces of property. He described that there are two driveways, for a taxi stand and a residential property. This space has less footage than a regulation parking space and causes any vehicle parked in it to frequently block the adjacent driveways.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-270 "Prohibited parking at all times" by ADDING: "Chestnut Street, westerly side, from its intersection with Main Street for 150 feet in a northerly direction (to #6 Chestnut Street)."

6. **PH2019-003: Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersections" by ADDING "Vulcan Street at its intersection with Emerald Street"**

This public hearing is opened at 7:20 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 7:20 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersection" as follows: "Vulcan Street at its intersection with Emerald Street."

Discussion:

Councilor Gilman noted that this action is for the area near the Lanesville Community Center which has had an increase in use. People aren't stopping at all at this "T" intersection, and she pointed out that there have been several "close calls."

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersection" as follows: "Vulcan Street at its intersection with Emerald Street."

7. **PH2019-004: Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersections" by ADDING "Lookout Street at its intersection with Commonwealth Avenue"; "Lookout Street at its intersection with Beacon Street"; "Beacon Street at its intersection with Washington Street"**

This public hearing is opened at 7:22 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 7:22 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersection" as follows:

"Lookout Street at its intersection with Commonwealth Avenue

Lookout Street at its intersection with Beacon Street"

and

"Beacon Street at its intersection with Washington Street"

Discussion:

Council Vice President LeBlanc reported that a resident of Lookout Street had an accident in the neighborhood and reached out to him to have stop signs installed. He expressed his surprise finding no stop signs in the neighborhood.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersection" as follows:

"Lookout Street at its intersection with Commonwealth Avenue

Lookout Street at its intersection with Beacon Street"

and

"Beacon Street at its intersection with Washington Street"

For Council Vote:

1. **Special Speed Regulation from the MassDOT re: Bond Street**

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Lundberg) absent, to adopt MassDOT Special Speed Regulation #7959 as follows:

BOND STREET - NORTHBOUND:

Beginning at the junction of Route 127 (Western Avenue) thence northerly on Bond Street 0.67 miles at 20 miles per hour ending at the junction of Route 133 (Essex Avenue); the total distance being 0.67 miles.

BOND STREET - SOUTHBOUND:

Beginning at the junction of Route 133 (Essex Avenue); thence southerly on Bond Street 0.67 miles at 20 miles per hour ending at the junction of Route 127 (Western Avenue); the total distance being 0.67 miles.

Unfinished Business: None.

Individual Councilor's Discussion including Reports by Appointed Councilors to Committees:

Update on the Downtown Development Commission by City Council Representative, Councilor Melissa Cox who advised there hasn't been a meeting in a month due to the busy holiday season and that the Commission will meet in the nearby.

Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:

Councilor Memhard expressed his appreciation for the Council's affirmation of the city's traffic ordinances, calling it, "the nitty gritty of good governance."

Councilor Cox announced she will be representing the city at a Climate Leadership Summit on Saturday, Jan. 12 in Andover. She expressed she will share with the Council what she learns.

Councilor Hecht noted a good meeting with Mike Hale, Public Works Director and members of Generous Gardeners regarding 18-inch high wrought-iron planters for installation on Main Street. He reported that Mr. Hale also conveyed the Mayor's desire to install larger hanging plants this coming summer on the downtown's lampposts.

Councilor Gilman highlighted the Dogtown nomination for the National Register of Historic Places, reporting that she reached out to the Chair of the Rockport Board of Selectmen and learned that the Board of Selectmen will put this matter on its agenda this month to start that town's forward momentum.

Councilor O'Hara requested that the Mayor through her Administration investigate the great increase of Comcast bills. He advised that many senior citizens living on a budget find this increase onerous and asked they speak to the city's Comcast representatives. He announced there is a Red Cross Blood Drive to be held at the Magnolia Library on Monday, Jan. 14 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. -- for more information call: 1-800-Red-Cross.

Councilor LeBlanc announced that this Thursday evening, Jan. 10 he will be at the Cape Ann Brewery, 11 Rogers Street, as the guest celebrity bartender. He advised that a percentage of that evening's proceeds from not just the sale of adult beverages but on food as well will go to support the Gloucester Veterans Center

The following Councilors announced their dates for their turn as a guest celebrity bartender at the Cape Ann Brewery benefitting charity:

Councilor Holmgren, Thursday, Jan 31 for Ocean Alliance; **Councilors Lundberg & Holmgren**, Thursday, Feb. 7 for Wellspring; **Councilor Memhard**, Thurs. Jan 24 for Maritime Gloucester; **Councilor Nolan**, Thursday, Jan. 17 to the Magnolia Pier for its rebuild; **Councilor Cox**, Thursday, Feb. 28 to Cape Ann Animal Aid;

Councilor Hecht, Thursday, March 14 to the Lobster Trap Christmas Tree Fund; **Councilor Gilman**, Thursday Feb. 21 to the Gloucester Education Foundation; **Councilor O'Hara** March 7 in support of Pathways for Children.

Councilor Memhard extended the Council's thanks to Jeremy Goldberg, owner of the Cape Ann Brewery for this opportunity to see local charities benefit from these events and perking up slow winter months downtown.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgenson
Clerk of Committees

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.