

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, July 23, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

-MINUTES-

Present: Chair, Councilor Paul Lundberg; 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: None.

Also Present: Joanne M. Senos; Jim Destino; Kenny Costa; Chip Payson; Vanessa Krawczyk

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The Council President announced that this meeting is recorded by video and audio in accordance with state Open Meeting Law.

Flag Salute & Moment of Silence. Councilor Nolan called upon members of Gloucester’s Troop 60 to conduct the flag salute who were represented by Owen Parsons, Caden and Ryan Lewis, Henry Jacques and Evan Wood with Scout Master Brad Parsons and Scout Advancement Chair, Kim Parsons present.

The Moment of Silence was dedicated by Councilor LeBlanc to his father who passed away Monday, July 22nd. He recounted his father’s life briefly saying he was a good father and great person who loved his family, his community and life; a kid at heart. He expressed his thanks to those who reached out to him to express their condolences.

Oral Communications: None.

Presentations/Commendations:

1. Karin Carroll, Director of Public Health re: Update on city’s CBD (Cannabidoil) regulations (TBC 08/13/19)

This matter is continued to August 13, 2019.

2. Sawyer Free Library Architectural Team re: Update on the library’s concept design for renovation and construction

Deborah Kelsey, Director of the Sawyer Free Library prefaced the presentation by introducing seven of the 12 Board members of the Sawyer Free Library: John Brennan, President; Simon Paddock, Capital Projects Committee Chair; Fred Cowan; Joanne Riley, Mern Sibley, Vice President; Peter Fineststein and Fran Alberti. Also present to make the presentation was Matt Oudens, Designer, Oudens Ello Architecture accompanied by Maria Fernandez-Donovan, Dore & Whittier Architects – Project Manager.

Mr. Oudens then made a Power Point presentation (on file) on the Sawyer Free Library’s Concept Design for Renovation and Construction. Highlights were as follows:

- Completed recently was a six month study following a successful state grant application last year – the library was awarded about \$9 million. That previous submission was based on a new library building. They were asked to review a possible renovation and expansion scheme to be able to compare the two and develop it to the same level of completeness including costs. This is the preferred plan by the Building Committee and Trustees;
- The process was termed as very long. At this juncture the project is in a holding pattern for fundraising by the Fundraising Committee and funding from the state making the timeframe unclear, but it was suggested it could be as long as years or shorter. This is contingent on the Libraries that are ahead of the Sawyer Free Library on the wait list for state funding (there are six). It was noted the Library is fairly certain of the state funding in the latest bond. A schedule was touched on briefly from funding to the expectation of the building’s opening in the Spring of 2025 or 2026;
- Because of the length of process there will be many opportunities to engage the community;
- The Preferred Plan was reviewed. Architectural renderings were shown of the Library as it was now. The history of Saunders House was recounted that it was the first library building, expanded in 1913 and then in the 1970’s the larger addition designed by Charles Monell was built. They are focused on preserving that and Saunders House. The expanded building more than doubles the library.

- The Plan preserves the look of the existing Monell building with an addition primarily to the back of the building (west side into the parking lot) but at the same time trying to retain the look of the existing building; preserve the landscaping and the gardens. Work will be done to develop an ADA path from Dale Avenue, and to create an ADA entrance and features for Saunders House which currently has no ADA features;
- The main building will be gutted and completely renovated. With the renovations there will be improved interior wayfinding and a better connection between the main library building and Saunders House.
- The site is a sloped with a current three-story structure with two entrances on two different levels. On the lower level is parking, and entry there will be through a covered porch with the building's current back wall becoming an interior wall. There will be an elevator. The lower level will primarily be community space – flexible study and community meeting rooms, restrooms; gallery space; staff to monitor the level with main staff offices;
- The middle level accessible to Dale Avenue will contain the main circulation desk and houses the bulk of the adult program; seating will be organized around the perimeter and an improved connector between Saunders House and the Library with covered outdoor seating and a shared landscape. There will be a sloping walkway negating the need for railings making the front entrance accessible. The front gardens will be preserved the front gardens and gardens on the north side will be embellished with a pathway towards the lower level and entrance.
- The upper level will contain the children's section (in the footprint of the existing building) and teen area (in the new portion of the building). Each level has a variety of flexible meeting rooms. Children have a dedicated program room and the teen area has dedicated space with a flexible area in-between;
- A secondary review of the preferred planned building renovation with addition highlighting three-dimensional views were shown and a brief overview of the plans were recounted. It was noted that the design concept is to make all areas feel open and bright as well as appropriate ADA accessibility;
- It is believed that they can get some benefit out of the south-facing roof with solar panels on the addition but deference to form and scale;
- Interior Development of the Preferred Plan were shown of all three levels and were described briefly
- Exterior Development of the Preferred Plan were shown saying the preservation of the look of the Monell building was being attempted, and that there would be a lighter glass connector between the Saunders House and the main Library building. It was pointed out the views presented were conceptual with the intent to differentiate between the Monell building and the new addition;

COUNCILOR QUESTIONS:

Councilor LeBlanc expressed he was pleased with the conceptual design. He conveyed questions asked of him by residents: Why do they need a new library; and what does the library do to help the city's children, elderly and other particular segments of the city's population. **Mr. Oudens** advised his firm does a lot of work with public libraries throughout the state. He conveyed that in general they find that despite the debate of books versus digital media usurping the need for books, and suggested that it isn't true. He conveyed that library circulation has gone up, and that libraries are a way for people to connect to their communities. He mentioned libraries help people to learn job skills, start a new job, start a business, take classes, and attend children's' group activities. They see those kinds of community services as a valid part of the community. Most libraries aren't set up for that kind of use, he pointed out, and this preferred design is providing the kind of space that the Library currently doesn't have by noting the many different flexible spaces incorporated into the design. **Ms. Kelsey** added that her vision is to create a library for a community platform – for the library to become whatever the community needs in order to learn and grow which the current library space doesn't meet.

Councilor Cox asked about access to library services under the Library is under construction, noting it will be a two-year process. **Ms. Kelsey** suggested they would be housed in a temporary central site with satellite library services throughout the community. She suggested there could be a "pop up" libraries in city schools and community centers, a model used in the community before. Between those two things she assured they'll have good outreach. **Councilor Cox** asked how long the Library will be out of service during those two years. **Ms. Kelsey** advised it is anticipated that it may be one month in total for moving out of and back into the Library spaces.

Councilor Memhard conveyed his thanks saying he is excited by the plans that respect what the community has asked of a library – a bridge between need and history with public community spaces.

Councilor Holmgren expressed similar sentiment, noting the hurdle of fundraising the Library faces.

Councilor Gilman asked about the new security measures planned for the renovated and new portion of the library's infrastructure. **Ms. Kelsey** advised there is natural security with the new open sight lines. As to a professional security force, that will be decided moving forward as well as the usual surveillance system. **Mr. Oudens** added that security is important to the state board that oversees this construction grant program. He indicated that the open sight lines maximize visual supervision which helps. Making open spaces, and placing use spaces thoughtfully, such as putting the children's rooms on the top floor rather than a lower level accessible to a parking lot and restroom. It was assured that the Library does use security cameras in many of their libraries; security is taken very seriously.

Councilor Hecht asked about the three-year period of fundraising and administrative approval noting that the availability of the state grants is tied to libraries ahead of the Sawyer Free Library in the queue. **Ms. Kelsey** advised they're now sixth on the grant funding list. They need to be ready when they get the green light from the state, she pointed out as it is a 40% matching grant, and they have to spend money then be reimbursed. Some of the renovations aren't covered by the state grant such as the work on Saunders House. The number is under \$30 million and will be in line with what they can raise, she mentioned.

Councilor O'Hara asked about accommodation for time and Building Code changes. He also asked about the plans for Saunders House. **Mr. Oudens** advised they try to keep up to date with the state Code, and the state is good about advising of Code changes. Generally, from the time the property is permitted the Code is locked into that moment in time at the time of permitting. As to the Saunders House, there was a preservation architect that did a feasibility study that identified structural upgrades and the like which was outside the Ouden's study and purview although they met several times to coordinate that work but Oudens Ello isn't involved in it.

Councilor Cox appreciated that the Library's listening to the expressed concerns regarding the first presented plan that would have gotten rid of the Monell building. The area that is at the front entrance on Dale Avenue, there's an area just past the fountain that's darker in the evening she pointed out, expressing a concern for security. **Ms. Kelsey** noted this new plan is a much lighter, open plan and the building connector can be seen through. There will be some coverage at that entrance. Overall it will be safer, she assured. **Councilor Cox** asked how many parking spots will be lost by the west end of the building's expansion. **Ms. Kelsey** advised there are 36 parking spaces in all, and it is anticipated they'll lose six spaces. She noted that in talking to the Mayor they may be able to offer the staff alternate parking. **Councilor Cox** asked about the leased spots to firefighters. **Ms. Kelsey** advised that's a gift to the Trustees to the Fire Department and can be revisited if necessary.

Councilor Holmgren, mentioning an NPR article about local libraries offering resident social workers and noted there are people who need the Library's services that struggle with homelessness and other social issues. She asked if this kind of program could be considered. **Ms. Kelsey** advised that some of the staff members hold other certifications – one is an ordained minister and a counselor and many have had other certifications in their careers. There is a difference in professional standards as to what they can do. They can connect patrons with services but don't work as case managers, she highlighted. She suggested it would be ideal to provide such a service at a central location on a scheduled basis for community members to access social services. She noted that such a program is being discussed with service providers in the community.

Council President Lundberg thanked those present representing the Library for their presentation on behalf of the Council, and expressed his appreciation to the Library Board to being sensitive to community input on the original iteration of the Library's expansion.

Confirmation of New Appointments:

Records Management Advisory Board

Stephanie Buck

TTE 02/15/22

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 appoint Stephanie Buck to the Records Management Advisory Committee, TTE 02/15/22.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor LeBlanc explained that Ms. Buck was unable to be present but that she does sit on another (related) city committee, and that they look forward to her serving on the Records Management Advisory Committee.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, City Clerk voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Stephanie Buck to the Records Management Advisory Committee, TTE 02/15/22.

Consent Agenda:

- **CONFIRMATION OF REAPPOINTMENTS**
 - **MAYOR'S REPORT**
1. Update on Red Tide (Info Only)
 2. Update on Harborwalk Outdoor Movie Cinema Series (Info Only)
 3. New Appointments:

Economic Development and Industrial Corporation	TTE 07/01/20	Carl Gustin	
Gloucester Cultural Council	TTE 02/14/22	Elizabeth Neumeier	
Gloucester Housing Authority	TTE 05/28/24	Irene Frontiero (fulfilling unexpired term of Dorothy Martins)	
Records Management Advisory Board	TTE 02/15/22	Jane W. Mead	
Zoning Board of Appeals	TTE 02/14/22	Catherine A. Schlichte (alternate member)	(Refer O&A)
 4. Memorandum, grant application and checklist from Police Chief re: request acceptance of a FY19 Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Grant from the Drug Enforcement Agency for FY19 overtime in the amount of \$18,042 (Refer B&F)
 5. Memorandum from Police Chief re: requesting permission to pay FY19 Language Line Services, Inc. invoice with FY20 funds in The amount of \$90.89 (Refer B&F)
 6. Memorandum, grant application and checklist from DPW Director re: request acceptance of a MassWorks Infrastructure Program Grant in the amount of \$3,000,000 for offsite utility and transportation improvements relative to the FMUV project (Refer B&F)
 7. Memorandum, grant application and checklist from Public Health Director re: request acceptance of a Healthy Summer Jobs Youth Grant in the amount of \$2,217.60
 8. Memorandum from CFO requesting a loan order in the amount of \$500,000 for the cost of permanent repairs and paving of Engle-Wood and Lake Roads (Refer B&F)
 9. Supplemental Appropriation Budgetary Request 2020-SA-1 in the amount of \$35,000 to fund 50% of contractual cost for the Cape Ann Study for Education by UMass Donahue Institute (Refer B&F)
 10. Memorandum from HR Director re: requesting permission to pay FY19 Sentinel Benefits invoice with FY20 funds in the amount of \$1,145 (Refer B&F)
 11. Memorandum from Conservation Agent regarding the 2019 Piping Plover breeding season and the environmental management Decision to remove the symbolic fencing on July 12, 2019 (Info Only)
 12. Memorandum from Mayor's Office regarding the Riverfest Event (Info Only)
 13. Response to Oral Communications at the June 25, 2019 City Council Meeting to Caroline Haines, Gardner Winchester, Neil Costa Loren French, Linda Amero and Rev. Richard Emanuel (Info Only)
 14. Resignations from a City Board, Commission or Committee (Info Only)
 - **INFORMATION ONLY**
 - **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**
 - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**
 1. PP2019-006: Request by Comcast to install from existing Comcast vault new underground conduit system to provide Comcast Service to 374 Main Street
 2. SCP2019-006: East Main Street #116, Map 59, Lot 53, GZO Sec. 2.3.1(8) & 1.8 for conversion to 8-unit residential dwelling, Sec. 3.2.2 fn (e) distance between principal buildings, Sec. 3.2.2 fn (a) minimum lot area per dwelling unit, Sec. 3.2.2 fn (a) minimum open space per dwelling unit (Refer P&D)
 - **COUNCILORS ORDERS**
 1. CC2019-025 (Lundberg) Amend GCO Chapter 11, Sec. 11-10(a) "Special events; transient vendors; parades" by adding a member Of the City Council appointed by the City Council President to the Committee (Refer O&A)
 2. CC2019-026 (Gilman) Request City Council vote to request Legislature file legislation to officially preserve for open space and Recreational purposes the city-owned land known as #5 Shore Hill Road, Assessor's Map 99, Lots 30 & 31 (FCV 08/13/19)
 3. CC2019-027 (Cox) Request that the City of Gloucester accept Sec. 33 of Chapter 5 of the Acts of 2019 re: AirBnB community Impact fee (Refer B&F)
 - **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
 1. City Council Meeting: 07/09/2019 (Approve/File)
 2. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 07/18/19 (no meeting), O&A 07/15/19, P&D 07/17/19 (Approve/File)

Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda and Unanimous Consent Calendar:

Council President Lundberg asked to pull Item #3 from the Mayor's Report, "New Appointments" specifically the appointment of Catherine A. Schlichte to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) as an alternate member. He pointed out that under the City Charter Sec. 2-10 says that, "No unelected appointee shall be appointed to more than one multiple member body, unless aid board or commission is inter-related." He highlighted that Ms. Schlichte serves with "great distinction" on the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), and would do so on the ZBA, but there is an issue with that section of the Charter. He advised he wished to learn what the Administration's thought was on that because this is contrary to the Charter. He expressed concern that both the CPC and ZBA are voting bodies. The ZBA votes on permits and the CPC votes on granting of funding; and that if there was some issue that with one of those votes and someone took exception to Ms. Schlichte's vote, because she is on two committees in contravention to the Charter there could be a potential problem. He suggested perhaps this needed to be revisited with General Counsel. **Jim Destino**, CAO, advised they've worked full time to fill boards, committees

and commissions especially the important boards that keep the business of the city moving. He highlighted that the ZBA has been difficult to maintain full membership as there's been a lot of turnover for a variety of reasons. He advised that **Ms. Schlichte** had a 90-day appointment and then asked she be appointed full time. She does a great job, he conveyed, and will continue to do so. As someone who votes on two boards, she may have to recuse herself on a vote, he suggested. He pointed out that the CPC has representation of certain specific groups such as the Conservation Commission, the Open Space & Advisory Commission, and others, which were all attributes of the CPC committee. The ZBA provides relief for variances to preserve the neighborhoods of the city. You have to live in the city for three years before appointment to the ZBA for that reason in order to know the city's neighborhoods. The work provided by these committees is interrelated, particularly the CPC, he asserted. He offered the example of Fred Cowan, another city volunteer who serves on the Council on Aging Board as the Board of Health representative and is also a member of the Board of Health. He offered that the Administration's stands by Ms. Schlichte's appointment to the ZBA. **Council President Lundberg** advised that as long as they vet this issue at O&A, he would not object and wanted to ensure the issue is on the record. **Councilor Cox** advised she is currently working on language for a Home Rule Petition to be forwarded to the State Legislature on this very subject, and that her Council Order will be referred through the Consent Agenda on August 13th. The language needs change to be able to serve a maximum of two boards moving forward without indicating that they must be complimentary, she highlighted. **The Council voted unanimously to refer the matter of the appointment of Catherine A. Schlichte as Zoning Board of Appeal Alternate Member, TTE 02/14/22 to the O&A Committee.**

Councilor Cox asked to remove under Council Orders, Item #3, "CC2019-027 (Cox) Request that the City of Gloucester accept Sec. 33 of Chapter 5 of the Acts of 2019 re: AirBnB community impact fee." She advised that originally the state gave municipalities the right to manage their own impact fees and Gloucester decided to wait to see how much revenue was in play. Over time the state laws changed and now the state will manage it. She conveyed that in her role as the Budget & Finance Committee Chair, it was her responsibility to bring this matter forward for the betterment of the city. This will be taken up at the B&F Committee on Thursday, August 22nd when she can be present for the discussion. **The Council voted unanimously to refer the matter of CC2019-027 (Cox) to the B&F Committee.**

Councilor Gilman asked to remove Item #2 under Council Orders," CC2019-026 (Gilman) Request City Council vote to request Legislature file legislation to officially preserve for open space and recreational purposes the city-owned land known as #5 Shore Hill Road, Assessor's Map 99, Lots 30 & 31." She described the "For Council Vote" item slated for a vote on August 13th by the Council saying that that the Council in 1990 requested that the legislative body take action in order to dedicate the #5 Shore Road property as a public park. She noted that the vote was overlooked and expires at the end of the next biennial season and that the Council has to re-vote to pass this onto the State Legislature. She noted the research by City Clerk, Joanne Senos; General Counsel, Chip Payson; State Representative Ann-Margaret Ferrante; State Sen. Bruce Tarr and Wheeler's Point and Shore Road neighbors, and the Clerk of Committees. There is no need for the subcommittee to take this matter up, she indicated, saying that this is simply a re-vote for a public park. **The Council voted unanimously to accept Item 2, CC2019-026 (Gilman) under the heading of "For Council Vote" on August 13, 2019.**

Councilor Memhard asked to pull Item #11 from the Mayor's Report. He highlighted that the Conservation Agent's summary on the successful 2019 Good Harbor Beach Piping Plover Program saw three chicks surviving to fledge and fly south. He conveyed that the report doesn't give "adequate" credit to the group of dedicated Piping Plover volunteer monitors, more than 60, who protected the nest and chicks from April to July 12th, often 12 to 16 hours a day. Work was done by Alicia Pensarosa, the Animal Advisory Committee and others in coordinating and scheduling the monitoring work. Local bird experts were also involved – Kim Smith, Deborah Cramer and Chris Leahy which garnered notational attention as did their volunteers. He also credited the city's partner, Essex County Greenbelt Association's Dave Rimmer that installed protective fencing around the nesting Plovers and their habitat; as well as the Mayor's Office, the Council, Animal Control and Police – the passage and enforcement of the city's updated Dog and Beach Regulations. He reminded the Council there is a sunset clause for the Good Harbor Beach protections, which now needs the Council's review and renewal before next season. He recounted that the beach is busy and crowded especially in hot weather and at high tide saying that the city did a "remarkable" job balancing required legal protections for the nesting Piping Plovers and chicks with the enjoyment of the beach by residents and visitors (written statement placed on file). **Council President Lundberg** expressed appreciation for the Councilor's recounting of the efforts by the groups involved in protecting the Piping Plovers at Good Harbor Beach this year describing giving recognition to their efforts. **The Council voted unanimously to accept the Conservation Agent's Report.**

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

Committee Reports:**Budget & Finance: July 18 – No Meeting****Ordinances & Administration: July 15**

Councilor LeBlanc advised that at the July 15 O&A meeting the Committee voted to put forward for the Council's consideration a proposed Home Rule Petition to eliminate sodium fluoride from the city's public water supply under "For Council Vote". He asked that the Council open up this part of the meeting for a discussion on whether the Council pushes the matter to "For Council Vote" or to a public hearing. **Council President Lundberg** advised that the O&A Committee heard this matter, had a discussion, and voted a Committee Recommendation on the Home Rule Petition. He pointed out such a matter would normally go to "For Council Vote" and would normally not be a public hearing. He conveyed the Council could still hold a public hearing if they want – that is the discussion Councilor LeBlanc is suggesting and he is as well. The Council can decide if they want to conduct a public hearing on the merits.

By unanimous vote of the Council the matter was opened for discussion on whether there is to be a public hearing on the Home Rule Petition or to be taken up under the heading of "For Council Vote."

The following Councilors offered their input as to whether there should be a Council public hearing or whether the matter of a vote on the Home Rule Petition would come under the heading on August 13th of "For Council Vote."

Councilor O'Hara noting his two Council Orders related to sodium fluoride this year, one of which was the Home Rule Petition for the Council's consideration. He asked for a public hearing on the matter.

Councilor Gilman expressed concern that any action to remove sodium fluoride from the public water supply at this juncture would be controverting a non-binding vote in 2015 by city voters where 6,000 voted in favor of keeping sodium fluoride in the public water supply and 3,000 voted in opposition. She was, however, in favor of a public hearing.

Councilor Hecht advised he would like to have a public hearing on the matter.

Councilor Holmgren who initially voiced she was in favor of a public hearing expressed a further opinion after rethinking her stance that she would prefer the option of the matter falling under "For Council Vote." She also mentioning the overwhelming number of voters who were in favor of keeping sodium fluoride in the public water supply.

Councilor LeBlanc, who requested the discussion on the matter of whether there should be a Council public hearing or for the matter of the Home Rule Petition fall under "For Council Vote," recounted the history of the matter as it has come before the O&A Committee that he chairs several times now through the last several years. He mentioned the enormous amount of information on the matter, pointing out that he's been on the Council eight years and in that time has received enough information on the issue. He highlighted that many people put their faith in the Council as they don't pay close attention to a lot of issues, rather they look to the Council to vote in their best interests. He urged that the Council take up the matter of the Home Rule Petition under "For Council Vote."

Councilor Cox expressed concern for Council process which she went into in some detail, also recounting the various methods by which the Council and the public can ask for and cause a Council public hearing to occur. She suggested that if the Council moved forward with a public hearing, they wouldn't be voting on anything. If it is "For Council Vote" the Council needs to vote on it at the next Council meeting and send it to the State Legislature (if it passes). **Councilor Nolan** also contributed to this portion of the discussion.

Council President Lundberg advised that the Council has the discretion to hold a public hearing on any issue they see fit. He reminded the Council that they did have a citizen petition of 150 citizen voters that came forward and had a public hearing a year ago on this very matter and suggested he didn't know what more they would hear on it. He conveyed he wasn't in favor of a public hearing but would yield to the will of the Council because they can just vote on the matter and move on. He explained that the Councilors are elected to do that -- there is a point in their process where they can make a decision as a Council and vote on the matter from O&A. He added that he was comfortable making a decision on the Council's behalf.

After some further Council debate, **Councilor LeBlanc** withdrew his request for a Council discussion on whether the Council should vote the matter of the Home Rule Petition under For Council Vote or hold a public

hearing, saying the matter is already on the Council's agenda under the heading of "For Council Vote for August 13th."

Council President Lundberg confirmed that it was his decision to maintain the Council's normal procedures for matters that are "For Council Vote" which does not include a public hearing. The Council will take this matter up under "For Council Vote" at its meeting on August 13th, he announced.

Planning & Development: July 17

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Holmgren, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council, on behalf of the City of Gloucester, accept the property, and any buildings contained thereon, known and numbered as 35 Concord Street in Gloucester and recorded at Book 7977, Page 496 at the Southern Essex District Registry of Deeds.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Gilman conveyed the following information: The Chargers Youth Program has changed since the 1980's when by vote of the City Council the property at 35 Concord Street and the building on it was conveyed to them. As a result they recently approached the city through Councilor Nolan to return the property to the city. It was noted this wasn't a default of any of the conditions being violated but that the nature of the Chargers organization had changed. The Boy Scouts hold a 90-year lease at \$1.00 a year for a portion of the building, and that lease will be conveyed with the deed which will allow the Boy Scouts to continue to use a portion of the building on the 35 Concord Street property. The P&D Committee learned that another portion of the building is intended to be used for storage for two if not three city departments. The original intent of the conveyance of the property to the Chargers Youth Program in the 1980's was that this property was to be used for a public purpose -- and the Boy Scouts meet that use. There is a deed on file, and if approved the deed will be signed after the vote. If another non-profit wishes to use the building they simply need to make a request through the Mayor's Office. She expressed this is great for the city and thanked Councilor Nolan

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, on behalf of the City of Gloucester, to accept the property, and any buildings contained thereon, known and numbered as 35 Concord Street in Gloucester and recorded at Book 7977, Page 496 at the Southern Essex District Registry of Deeds.

Scheduled Public Hearings:

1. **PH2019-040: Amend GCO Ch. 11, Sec. 11-10(f) "Special Events; transient vendors; parades" by ADDING the following sentence: "Further, the Special Events Advisory Committee and/or Licensing Commission shall refer all special events/parades request that involve the use of Stacy Boulevard or Stage Fort Park to the City Council for final approval"**

This public hearing is opened at 8:31 p.m.

Council President Lundberg advised that at this time he was calling for this public hearing to be continued to the August 27th Council meeting.

This public hearing is continued to August 27, 2019.

Other Business: None.

For Council Vote: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

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

1. **Update of the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee by City Council Representative, Councilor Sean Nolan:**

- He highlighted the recent improvements to the Stage Fort Park; the renovation to the Visitor Center, the renovation of the tennis courts. The DPW is doing a great job with the trash.
- Magnolia Woods are still waiting for a condition report on the membrane to determine if there can be winter sports such as cross country skiing at the Woods during winter months.

2. Update of the Affordable Housing in Assisted Living Facilities by City Council Representative, Councilor Jen Holmgren:

- This ad hoc committee was formed at the request of Council President Lundberg at the Planning & Development Standing Committee in conjunction with the Mayor's Office. The ad hoc committee was formed based on a need vocalized by the public for over a decade for Assisted Living Residences (ALR) in Gloucester, not just for those in the upper income threshold, but for senior citizens within a range of incomes.
- On the committee are: Gregg Cademartori, Planning Director; Jill Cahill, Community Development Director; Karin Carrol, Public Health Director; David Houlden, Executive Director of the Gloucester Housing Authority; Scott Trenti, CEO of SeniorCare; Sunny Robinson, local advocate and our former Public Health Nurse; Jen Beloff, Housing Director of Action, Inc. and Councilor Holmgren is appointed as the Council Ex-Officio Representative.
- There has been two productive meetings to date with discussions centering on the changing standards of ALR's across the North Shore; options different communities have depending on a variety of factors including - first and foremost - grant funding, zoning, involvement of nonprofit and for-profit developers, and market needs.
- Currently, the Ad Hoc Committee is researching the issue from many different angles. Andrew DeFranza of Harborlight Community Partners will be present at the next Ad Hoc Committee meeting on August 8 at 3:00 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, 3 Pond Road in the lower level CATA training room. We are also pursuing an audience with a director of a local assisted living facility and hopefully with a representative from Medicaid.

Councilor Holmgren concluded her remarks by saying it is likely the Committee will look into working in conjunction with other Cape Ann municipalities who are dealing with the same housing crunches as Gloucester.

Council President Lundberg conveyed briefly his impetus for seeking the creation of this Ad Hoc Committee and expressed that he looked forward to hearing more from the Ad Hoc Committee with possible solutions to come to the fore.

Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:

Councilor Memhard mentioned the unveiling of the Gloucester Sea Serpent sculpture by Chris Williams in the courtyard of the Cape Ann Museum commissioned by 60 supporters in honor of Rhonda Faloon, the retiring Director of the museum.

Councilor Nolan announced that on Saturday, August 3rd there will be a second fundraiser to rebuild the Magnolia Pier taking place at the Magnolia Landing. He urged the community to come out starting at 5:00 p.m. It is wholly enclosed by a tent so the event will go forward rain or shine.

Councilor Cox noted that the Harborwalk summer movie series is back on Wednesdays through August starting around 8:00 p.m. at 65 Rogers Street.

Councilor Hecht reminded that there is a Seaside Sustainability fundraiser "Sip for the Sea", on August 3rd at 7:30 p.m. on the Seven Seas leaving from 63 Rogers Street.

Councilor Gilman expressed she was pleased that Councilors had signed up to help to facilitate the transportation survey focus groups. She then touched on the schedule of Councilors who would assist at Lincoln Park; Sheedy Park; the Curtis Clark Building and at the McPherson Building. It was noted that there was a focus group conducted at Poplar Park today. She conveyed that seniors are excited about City Councilors coming to these meetings. She announced that the Annisquam Sea Fair is Saturday, July 27th, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The musical, "Mamma Mia" will be presented by the Annisquam Village Players beginning Monday, August 5th with a Dress Rehearsal to which Rockport and Gloucester Seniors are invited through the Council on Aging free of charge, and public performances are Tuesday, August 6 through Monday, August 12 at the Annisquam Village Hall.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgensson
Clerk of Committees

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING:

- **Under Consent Agenda:** Written statement by Councilor Memhard
- **Update of the Affordable Housing in Assisted Living Facilities by City Council Representative, Councilor Jen Holmgren:** Written statement by Councilor Holmgren