

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

-MINUTES-

Present: Chair, Councilor Paul Lundberg; Vice Chair, Councilor Steven LeBlanc, Jr. (entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.); 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 Senos; Jim Destino; John Dunn; Kenny Costa; Fire Chief Eric Smith; Vanessa Krawczyk; Grace Poirier

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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. The Moment of Silence was dedicated by **Dana Jorgensson**, Clerk of Committees as follows: “On the eve of 9/11, and as a 9/11 veteran, this Moment of Silence is dedicated to the 2,997 who lost their lives 18 years ago; and to the Tri-State emergency personnel, some professionals, many from volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Departments, who went into New York City when so many were fleeing, to face down the unknown, unselfishly leaving their families and communities in a time of great uncertainty. Some of them succumbed that day, some of them succumbed from that day years later; and we will never forget their sacrifices.”

Oral Communications:

Name: Craig Hamilton

Address: 46 Grove Street

Subject: Mr. Hamilton reported that as follows: At 31 & 34 Grove Street sewer manholes are repeatedly overflowing over the past several years. While these manholes are pumped out and sanitized by the city, and they are aware of the issue, the problem is on-going and a solution has yet to be addressed. He also mentioned the poor condition of the Grove Street sidewalks and pavement that is continuing to deteriorate.

Name: Mary Lou Tierney

Address: 5 Hesperus Circle

Subject: Highlighted her opinions of a lack of following of processes and protocols, and purported conflict of interest on Zoning Board of Appeals (written statement placed on file).

Presentations/Commendations:***City Council Citation to former Council President Paul McGeary and Catherine McGeary***

Council President Lundberg highlighted that he and Councilor Cox served with Councilor McGeary during his tenure on the City Council, including two years as Council President. **Councilor Cox** and **Council President Lundberg** both read portions of the City Council citation in honor of Council President Paul McGeary and Catherine McGeary as follows:

“WHEREAS Catherine and Paul McGeary have been important participants in Gloucester City life for many years, and are now embarking on a new life with their family in California;
WHEREAS Paul McGeary served the Gloucester City Council as Councilor from Ward 1 for 6 years, and as City Council President during the 2014-2015 term; and has continued to serve the City as a member of the Clean Energy Commission;
WHEREAS Catherine McGeary has worked tirelessly for the good of the Community, and especially its young people, through her work with the Gloucester Prevention Network and support of the Arts; and
WHEREAS together Catherine and Paul McGeary have lent their time, talents and treasure to making Gloucester a community that embraces and supports all of our citizens;

NOW THEREFORE the Gloucester City Council, on behalf of the citizens of Gloucester, extends its deep gratitude to Catherine and Paul McGeary for their service to the City of Gloucester, and wish them well in their new life.

Signed this 10th day of September 2019.”

Mr. McGeary made the following remarks (written statement placed on file): “Councilors: Catherine and I would like to thank you for honoring us tonight. I personally treasure the memory of having worked with you and with the members of the city staff present here during my time on the Council.

It was almost exactly 45 years ago that I first came to this rugged and resilient place and its rugged and resilient people. Like so many others I stopped and had my picture taken at the Man at the Wheel. Unlike many of them, I decided to stay. In those 45 years, I often made my living elsewhere, but Catherine and I made our life here. It was here that we raised our family and made our home, and here that we both tried to give something back to this gritty, sturdy city that we had come to love.

Now, we are moving on. The call of family is strong. But know that we take a little of Gloucester with us. And when, as we hope to, we return to visit you, and people in California ask us where we are going, we will say: “We are going home.”

Finally, Councilors, I would like to leave with two thoughts that guided me when I sat where you do now. The first is on the mural on the wall behind you. Like so many who come before you I cite its words: “Build not for Today Alone, but for Tomorrow as Well.” For all its history, Gloucester cannot be preserved in amber. It must grow and adapt. If we are to provide a future for our children and grandchildren, we must find a way to embrace change while preserving what is special to this spit of land reaching out into the boundless ocean, or change will sweep us away. And the second thought that I always kept in mind when I was on the Council was from Mark Twain. Twain said that when you are given a choice of two actions, always do the right thing. This, he said, will gratify some people—and astonish the rest.”

The Council recessed at 7:18 p.m. and reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

Confirmation of New Appointments: None.

Consent Agenda:

- **CONFIRMATION OF REAPPOINTMENTS**
 - **MAYOR’S REPORT**
1. New Appointments:
 - Community Preservation Committee TTE 02/14/20 Robert Whitmarsh, Historical Commission Rep. *Fulfilling unexpired term* (Refer O&A)
 2. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from the Fire Chief re: request acceptance of a State Legislative Exempt Grant in the Amount of \$50,000 (Refer B&F)
 3. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from the Public Health Director re: request acceptance of a 5-year Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grant (SAMHSA) in the amount of \$1,261,615 (Refer B&F)
 4. Memorandum from Veterans Services Director re: request acceptance of donations to support Cape Ann Veteran’s Services in the amount of \$1,248 (Refer B&F)
 5. Memorandum from Community Development Director re: request approval of an off-cycle recommendation for the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee – Landscape Design (Refer B&F)
 6. Response from Mayor’s Office to Oral Communications of August 13, 2019 (Info Only)
 - **ADDENDUM TO THE MAYOR’S REPORT**
 1. Memorandum from Planning Director re: request acceptance of an award from the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Division for the Gloucester High School Energy Projects in the amount of \$112,852 (Refer B&F)
 - **INFORMATION ONLY**
 - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**
 1. City Council Vote of 04/26/2019: to make permanent the amendments to GCO Ch. 4 “Animals”, Sec. 4-16a “Dogs allowed on public beaches at certain times” (FCV 9/24/2019)
 - **COUNCILORS ORDERS**
 1. CC2019-034 (LeBlanc/Nolan): request O&A and Traffic Commission review the parking at all times of motor vehicles and RVs on Western Avenue from the County Way Landing to the Avis R. Murray Tennis Courts (Refer O&A & TC)
 2. CC2019-035 (LeBlanc): amend GCO Ch. 9 “Trash, Recycling and Litter,” Sec. 9-8 “Littering Prohibited” by ADDING subsection (f) re: prohibition of putting items on curbs on days not scheduled for trash collection or scheduled to be picked up by licensed hauler or donation facility (Refer O&A)
 - **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
 1. City Council Meeting: 08/27/2019 (Approve/File)
 2. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 09/05/19 (under separate cover), O&A 09/02/19 (no meeting), P&D 09/04/19 (Approve/File)

Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda:

Councilor Memhard asked to remove Item #1 under Applications/Petitions City, “Council Vote of 04/26/2019: to make permanent the amendments to GCO Ch. 4 “Animals”, Sec. 4-16a “Dogs allowed on public beaches at certain times (FCV 9/24/2019)”. He highlighted that the Council vote to be taken up at the next Council meeting is to make permanent the dog ordinance amendments passed last year which had a sunset clause. The recommendation from the Animal Advisory Committee is that it be reinstated as it is now. **By unanimous assent of the Council the matter was moved For Council Vote 09/24/2019.**

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

Committee Reports:

Budget & Finance: September 5

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 in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 approve payment of prior year invoices from Comak Bros. Inc., 647 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA, serviced city facilities sprinkler systems for the purpose of paying for the following invoices for June 2019 to be paid with FY2020 General Fund – DPW Public Services budgeted funds for a total of \$4,187.86:

<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>City Facility</u>	<u>Total</u>
50969	6/5/2019	O’Maley School	\$486.91
50970	6/5/2019	Parisi Field	\$508.75
51575	6/5/2019	West Parish School	\$541.15
50754	6/5/2019	Lower Boulevard	\$899.49
50753	6/5/2019	Upper Boulevard	<u>\$1,751.56</u>
		TOTAL:	\$4,187.86

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox advised this is the case of invoices coming in June with no purchase order in place which need payment with FY20 funds. She explained that this will be found in successive motions because of a timing issue. She conveyed that the Public Works and Police Departments are inherently busier than any other city departments at that time of year which is why these kinds of matters come forward more frequently from that timeframe. She added she would give them leniency because of that fact.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 to approve payment of prior year invoices from Comak Bros. Inc., 647 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA, serviced city facilities sprinkler systems for the purpose of paying for the following invoices for June 2019 to be paid with FY2020 General Fund – DPW Public Services budgeted funds for a total of \$4,187.86:

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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 approve payment of a prior year invoice from Mechanical Air Controls, Inc., P.O. Box 706, Marshfield, MA, provided city facilities protective maintenance program, second half, for the purpose of paying invoice #26933, dated June 28, 2019 to be paid with FY2020 General Fund – DPW Facilities budgeted funds for a

total of \$8,700.00.

DISCUSSION: None.

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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 in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 approve payment of a prior year invoices from the Gloucester Police Department for the purpose of paying the following road detail invoices from FY2019 to be paid with FY2020 General Fund – DPW Public Services budgeted funds for a total of \$8,364.07:

<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total</u>
19-253-DV	6/13/2019	\$1,296.00
19-273-DV	6/27/2019	\$745.92
19-277-DV	6/27/2019	\$4,302.31
19-299-DV	7/2/2019	<u>\$2,019.84</u>
TOTAL:		\$8,364.07

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 to approve payment of a prior year invoices from the Gloucester Police Department for the purpose of paying the following road detail invoices from FY2019 to be paid with FY2020 General Fund – DPW Public Services budgeted funds for a total of \$8,364.07:

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<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total</u>
19-217-DV	5/30/2019	\$1,440.00
19-283-DV	6/27/2019	\$8,947.93
19-303-DV	7/02/2019	<u>\$2,417.76</u>
TOTAL:		\$12,805.69

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 to approve payment of a prior year invoices from the Gloucester Police Department for the purpose of paying the following road details from 2019 to be paid with FY2020 Water Enterprise Fund budgeted funds for a total of \$12,805.69:

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TOTAL:		\$12,805.69

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 in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 approve payment of a prior year invoice from the Gloucester Police Department for road details, invoice #19-297-DV, dated July 2, 2019, to be paid with FY2020 Sewer Enterprise Fund budgeted funds for a total of \$384.00.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 to approve payment of a prior year invoice from the Gloucester Police Department for road details, invoice #19-297-DV, dated July 2, 2019, to be paid with FY2020 Sewer Enterprise Fund budgeted funds for a total of \$384.00.

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 Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, a FY20 State 911 Department Support & Incentive Grant in the amount of \$86,795. The grant period is from August 20, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox noted that this is an annual grant from the state based on a formula by population that assists the Police Department in maintaining its 911 system software to support Emergency Dispatch with no match.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a state grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, a FY20 State 911 Department Support & Incentive Grant in the amount of \$86,795. The grant period is from August 20, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

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, Sec. 53A-1/2, a gift of tangible goods to the City of Gloucester from The Friends of Avis Murray related to the restoration of the Avis R. Murray Boulevard Tennis Courts in the amount of \$89,734.03.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Gilman recused herself as a member of The Friends of the Avis Murray under MGL Ch. 268A and left the dais.

Councilor Cox explained that this is an outstanding example of a successful public/private partnership between the Friends of Avis Murray and the Public Works Department to completely renovate the Avis Murray Tennis Courts on Stacy Boulevard. The budget was \$120,000 to redo the courts, and the Friends raised \$122,014.24, only expending \$119,734.03. Of those funds raised, \$30,000 came from CPA funds; \$89,734.03 was from private donations, leaving a balance of \$2,280.21 which the Friends are donating to start an Avis Murray Tennis Courts Maintenance Fund. She extended her thanks to J.J. Bell and the 12 other members of the Friends of Avis Murray and to all those members of the public who donated funds to bring this project to completion.

Council President Lundberg added his agreement that this was a great example of a public/private partnership for a tennis court free and open to the public on the ocean, which he termed as a rarity.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Gilman) recused, to accept under MGL c. 44, Sec. 53A-1/2, a gift of tangible goods to the City of Gloucester from The Friends of Avis Murray related to the restoration of the Avis R. Murray Boulevard Tennis Courts in the amount of \$89,734.03.

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, Sec. 53A a cash donation of \$2,280.21 from the Friends of Avis Murray to be held in a donation fund for the purpose of maintaining the Avis R. Murray Tennis Courts on Stacy Boulevard.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Gilman) recused, to accept under MGL c. 44, Sec. 53A a cash donation of \$2,280.21 from the Friends of Avis Murray to be held in a donation fund for the purpose of maintaining the Avis R. Murray Tennis Courts on Stacy Boulevard.

Councilor Gilman returned to the dais.

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 in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 approve payment of a prior year invoice #19F0442310744 dated July 2, 2019 for water deliveries between 06/01/19-06/30/19 from Ready Fresh, #215 6661 Dixy Highway, Suite 4, Louisville, KY to pay an outstanding balance of \$26.95 with FY2020 General Fund – Community Development Department budgeted funds.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 to approve payment of a prior year invoice #19F0442310744 dated July 2, 2019 for water deliveries between 06/01/19-06/30/19 from Ready Fresh, #215 6661 Dixy Highway, Suite 4, Louisville, KY to pay an outstanding balance of \$26.95 with FY2020 General Fund – Community Development Department budgeted funds.

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 in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 approve payment of a prior year invoice for claims processed by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, Department of Unemployment Assistance EAN Number 78303680, for May 2018 activity totaling \$6,512.00 and for June 2018 activity totaling \$4,299.00 for a total of \$10,811.00 to be paid with FY20 funds, General Fund – Human Resources - Unemployment Department budgeted funds.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64 to approve payment of a prior year invoice for claims processed by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, Department of Unemployment Assistance EAN Number 78303680, for May 2018 activity totaling \$6,512.00 and for June 2018 activity totaling \$4,299.00 for a total of \$10,811.00 to be paid with FY20 funds, General Fund – Human Resources - Unemployment Department budgeted funds.

Planning & Development: September 4

There are no matters for Council action from this meeting.

Ordinances & Administration: September 2 (No Meeting – Holiday)

Councilor LeBlanc noted that the Straw Ban ordinance that was continued to today's date, will now be heard September 24th because the content of the subsection to be added changed the ordinance enough to warrant re-advertisement and will be heard as a new public hearing.

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 requests that involve the use of Stacy Boulevard or Stage Fort Park to the City Council for final approval (TBC 9/24/2019)**

This public hearing is opened at 7:32 p.m.

Council President Lundberg opened the public hearing and continued it to August 24, 2019. He advised this is similar to another ordinance amendment for public hearing which is later on this agenda; and if they are all satisfied with that vote, then this matter will be withdrawn.

This public hearing is continued to September 24, 2019 at 7:32 p.m.

2. **PH2019-048: Loan Order 2019-011: Loan Authorization Request for the permanent repairs and paving of Saville Road in the amount of \$55,000**

This public hearing is opened at 7:33 p.m.

Those speaking in favor:

John Dunn, CFO, conveyed that the City Clerk's Office had certified to the Mayor in mid-July that the requirements of the Ordinance had been fulfilled and was signed off by the Mayor. This loan order for \$55,000 is for the purpose of moving forward on the private way (paving) betterment.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 7:34 p.m.

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 pursuant to GCO Ch. 21 "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Places," Sec. 84 "Permanent construction or repair" subsection (j) make the determination that the construction or repair of Saville Road is required by public necessity and that an authorization of funding for the project should move forward.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, pursuant to GCO Ch. 21 "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Places," Sec. 84 "Permanent construction or repair" subsection (j) make the determination that the construction or repair of Saville Road is required by public necessity and that an authorization of funding for the project should move forward.

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 the following a loan authorization of \$55,000 as follows:

Ordered: That the City of Gloucester appropriates Fifty Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) to pay costs of permanent repairs, including paving, to the Saville Road private way, including costs incidental or related thereto. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Sec. 7(5), or pursuant to any other enabling authority. Although any borrowing by the City to meet this appropriation shall constitute a general obligation of the City and a pledge of its full faith and credit, one hundred percent (100%) of the amount needed to repay any borrowing pursuant to this order shall be raised in the first instance through the assessment of betterments upon the abutters of the private way, in accordance with M.G.

L. Chapter 80, and any other applicable authority. The Mayor and any other appropriate official of the city are authorized to take any and all actions necessary to access the betterments described above, the term of which will not exceed 10 years, or such shorter time as proscribed by Massachusetts General Law. Any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Further Ordered: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any or all of the bonds authorized by this order and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Municipal Finance Oversight Board may require for these purposes.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve the following a loan authorization of \$55,000 as follows:

Ordered: That the City of Gloucester appropriates Fifty Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) to pay costs of permanent repairs, including paving, to the Saville Road private way, including costs incidental or related thereto. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Sec. 7(5), or pursuant to any other enabling authority. Although any borrowing by the City to meet this appropriation shall constitute a general obligation of the City and a pledge of its full faith and credit, one hundred percent (100%) of the amount needed to repay any borrowing pursuant to this order shall be raised in the first instance through the assessment of betterments upon the abutters of the private way, in accordance with M.G. L. Chapter 80, and any other applicable authority. The Mayor and any other appropriate official of the city are authorized to take any and all actions necessary to access the betterments described above, the term of which will not exceed 10 years, or such shorter time as proscribed by Massachusetts General Law. Any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Further Ordered: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any or all of the bonds authorized by this order and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Municipal Finance Oversight Board may require for these purposes.

- 3. PH2019-049: Application of NSDJ Real Estate LLC to amend the license granted June 12, 2018 for the storage of ammonia, gas and oil at 159 East Main Street, Map 63, Lot 26, MGL Ch. 148, Sec. 13 and GCO Ch. 8, Sec. 8.1 "License for storing inflammables"**

This public hearing is opened at 7:39 p.m.

Those speaking in favor:

Nicholas Osgood, Managing Partner of NSDJ Real Estate LLC, Weymouth, MA and President, Atlantic Fish & Seafood, located at 159 East Main Street, asked to amend the inflammables license for 159 East Main Street. He explained the following: The amendment is asked for due to an oversight that the amount of ammonia (stored on site) originally listed was understated in the application of 2018. When he acquired the company (Atlantic Fish & Seafood), in May 2019, it was determined that the amount of ammonia was actually in two different systems. The amount of ammonia listed on the license amendment reflects two separate systems for a total of just over 10,000 lbs. It was pointed out that this amount of ammonia has always been stored at the facility since 1968. He asked that the application for the amended license be approved.

Those speaking in opposition:

Michael Faherty, owner of Reed's Wharf Marina, Inc., Pirates Lane, and a direct abutter to the subject property, advised he is not in opposition to license approval, but was expressing his concerns. He noted that, on file,

on August 16th the Fire Chief sent a “letter” (email) to Mr. Osgood suggesting they set up a date to meet to tour and inspect the facility. “The Gloucester Fire Department doesn’t currently have a Tier II Report, Evacuation Map, Emergency Action Plan or an NH3 Ammonia Emergency Response Action Plan from NSDJ Real Estate.” He quoted further from the August 16th email regarding the Fire Chief’s request that all necessary documentation be on file with his department, and that it be reflective of the facility’s current ownership. **Mr. Faherty** noted at the time of the September 4th P&D meeting those documents hadn’t been provided to the Fire Department, and suggested that they weren’t on file to date. Saying that this is a safety issue, he asked that the Council add a condition that the license not be issued until all reports are on file.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions:

Councilor Gilman asked about the need to have the information current before an amended license is granted. **Chief Eric Smith** explained that there isn’t a substantive difference between what was there before (National Fish & Seafood) to now with Atlantic Fish & Seafood. He indicated that it’s been an ongoing conversation to get Atlantic Fish & Seafood documentation switched over from the Americold label so that all documentation on file reflects the current ownership of Atlantic Fish & Seafood. He highlighted that it’s a housekeeping issue, not an operational issue saying that the plans aren’t going to change much. The only change is who their emergency response personnel are with their contact information. He then touched on some of the types of documentation that is required under the law to be on file with his department. He indicated that it should reflect that they’ve taken ownership of the operation in full and should include certain plans because if there is a release it is considered a cost recovery situation under federal law. He noted that his department has the beginnings of the documentation updates and are waiting for the Tier II Report which is processed through the state and does take time. He expressed his expectation that it wouldn’t take too long to get matters up to date, suggesting 45 to 90 days at most. **Councilor Gilman** noted that in addition to the Tier II Report, the Chief is still then waiting for the updated Evacuation Map, and an updated Emergency Action Plan. **Chief Smith** advised he has the updated Ammonia Emergency Action Response Plan and the Evacuation Map, pointing out the facility hasn’t changed. It was confirmed that the Tier II Report is processed through the state then comes back to the department for filing, and the Emergency Action Plan is required by OSHA rules for all facilities in the city, not just this one specifically. He added that the Ammonia Emergency Action Response Plan as well as the Tier II Report are “absolutes” and highlighted that he had at least one of the response plans, also critical. He touched briefly on the difficulties of software that facilities must utilize to input their information into the state system for their Tier II Report saying he couldn’t speak to what it takes to get it done in terms of a possible date by which he could expect receipt of the new Tier II Report.

Councilor Memhard asked for an update on calls the department received regarding leaks at this facility. **Chief Smith** advised they’ve been called/notified for standard minor leaks because of very sensitive detection equipment and described the low level settings which triggers an internal alarm, to ensure any leak is taken care of and noticed by employees right away and at another slightly higher level triggering an alarm to the Fire Department. They’ve had very few of those notifications if any, he noted. Any leak is brought to his attention immediately that gives his officers any concern, but he assured there hasn’t been anything that would trigger his department’s concern -- at most they’ve been nuisance or minor leaks alarms. **Councilor Memhard** mentioned MEMA protocols for the delivery of ammonia which is included in the Tier II Report and how the city would respond to an incident during delivery that is filed with the department and the state. These deliveries aren’t often coming through the city, **Chief Smith** conveyed, and mentioned briefly maintenance of the ammonia systems. **Councilor Memhard** asked about NSDJ’s moving over a 10,000 lb. ammonia storage level, and if it is a compliance issue or are there other issues in terms of reporting. **Chief Smith** explained city licensing is different than the Tier II Report which has a higher level of accuracy, as it is not just what is stored in the tanks but what is contained in the plumbing and machinery and equipment. The inflammables license is only reflective of what is in storage vessels, he added. He expressed he anticipated that the Tier II Report on file is accurate to date and that the updated Report won’t change very much.

Councilor Cox asked if there was any reason why the Council couldn’t continue this matter to their meeting of October 8th or 22nd to give more time (for NSDJ) to get (updated) documentation on file. **Chief Smith** advised he didn’t object if it worked for the Council adding that the company can continue to operate in the interim as certain safety controls are in place and his department would respond appropriately if needed. **Councilor Cox** asked if there is anything the department doesn’t have on file that could equate to any possible harm to city firefighters. **Chief Smith** said, “No.” He advised this is a marine/industrial use and is being operated as it should be. **Councilor Cox** confirmed with **Chief Smith** that the information on file from 2018 is indicative of a Tier II site and that they tour the facility twice a year. **Councilor Cox** advised she isn’t satisfied with the paperwork and asked that this matter be continued.

Councilor LeBlanc asked how a continuation will affect the operation. **Mr. Osgood** advised if they're able to operate it was okay but if not, they'd be putting 150 people out of work immediately. He assured that it is a high priority for them, and that they are working on this matter. **Councilor LeBlanc** noted the Council permits other things with conditions but advised he didn't see adding a condition was appropriate in this case.

Councilor Nolan confirmed that what they need for this to be legal, the Fire Department has. He asked if the Tier II Report was or wasn't part of the city's requirement for the inflammables license. **Chief Smith** advised it's not a necessary element of the city licensure -- as to the compliance of the facility and the Fire Department's sign off on it, it is.

Councilor O'Hara confirmed with **Chief Smith** that he had been to the plant and that the plant, in his estimation, was safe. **Chief Smith** advised the plant is operating as it was previously; he saw no significant maintenance issues; proper notifications have been made when there has been a requirement to provide reporting to the federal level with plans for remediation. He reiterated there's been nothing significant that rose to the level to make a report of that nature. He expressed he assumed that business will continue as it has previously. **Councilor O'Hara** noted the facility is surrounded by a densely populated residential neighborhood. Out of concern should an unfortunate event occur that required evacuation of the neighborhood, he asked was there a way to educate the facility's neighbors as part of a protocol. **Chief Smith** noted that they do that on the emergency management side in terms of outreach but it isn't solely his department's responsibility. **Councilor O'Hara** asked Mr. Osgood if he would offer to educate the facility's neighbors as to what happens if there is an issue. **Mr. Osgood** advised that they can have the neighbors over and talk about it which may give them a better comfort level.

Councilor Memhard offered his congratulations to Mr. Osgood saying that as a new owner he's been through a challenging time of transition. He noted they brought two operations under one roof, which **Mr. Osgood** confirmed. He then asked about the plant maintenance. **Mr. Osgood** advised they contract with American Refrigeration, a top company in the industry, for maintenance repairs and recurring maintenance. They have a strong relationship, and that when anything arises, American Refrigeration is involved. He assured they knew how to handle such matters correctly. He pointed out that much of the plant staff is the same for 30 years, expressing that they are comfortable as it is.

Councilor Hecht asked if the licensing tonight doesn't go through would it affect the company's loan documents in terms of default, not being licensed and operating; and would it affect the facility's insurance policy if there was a catastrophic event and not being licensed. **Mr. Osgood** advised he didn't believe it would affect the loan documents. He confirmed that it would have an impact on the facility's insurance policy should there be a catastrophic event. He pointed out that an operating facility is less risk than a vacant facility; they don't want to shut the plant down. It would most likely affect their insurance, he conveyed.

Councilor Gilman noted that as to the updated Evacuation Map, Chief Smith has said it is the same and asked how difficult it was to put the new corporate name on it to be filed immediately. **Mr. Osgood** advised it was done last week and is on file.

Councilor Cox asked how long they've known they needed to get these documents in. **Mr. Osgood** conveyed upon acquisition, in doing their due diligence, and in closing on the property they found the discrepancies in the ammonia license with the city of Gloucester. He advised that the document referenced earlier sent from the Fire Chief he didn't have in his files, but it may have gone to his facility manager at National Fish because he was the contact handling these items at the time. **Chief Smith** advised it's been since mid-to-late August when he sent the email.

This public hearing is closed at 8:04 p.m.

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 grant an Amendment to a license previously granted on June 12, 2018 under GCO Ch. 8 "Fire Prevention and Protection," Sec. 8-1 "License for storing inflammables," MGL. Ch. 148, §13 and 527 CMR 1.00 for storage of inflammables at 159 East Main Street, Assessors Map 63, Lot 26, owner NSDJ Real Estate LLC, specifically to store Ammonia (9,730 lbs.); Argon Gas (225 lbs. in 3 cylinders); Oxygen Gas (50 lbs. in 2 cylinders); Acetylene Gas (50 lbs. in 2 cylinders); Cooking Oils (11,500 gallons - two (2) 5,000 gal. tanks and three (3) 500 gallon tanks by DECREASING one Ammonia storage from 9,730 lbs. to 9,032 lbs. and ADDING one 1,700 lbs. of Ammonia storage separately. Total quantity of Ammonia stored on site is now 10,732 lbs. The modification of this License for storing inflammables is contingent upon the receipt of an update of a Tier II report, including an updated Evacuation Map; an updated Emergency Action Plan or NH3 Ammonia Emergency Response/Action Plan from NJSD Real Estate LLC to be on file with the Gloucester Fire Department.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor LeBlanc noted the Council heard from the (Fire) Chief and the applicant that some of the conditions have been met. He pointed out they heard from the applicant that from an insurance standpoint this will affect them if something were to happen -- there are 150 employed by this business. While he conveyed he had no issue to amend the main motion, he urged it not be complicated saying that it needs a simple condition that the paperwork be on file within 30 days which he indicated seemed reasonable and to leave the rest of the language as written.

Councilor Cox voiced her agreement that the motion didn't need amending in detail. She advised she didn't want to place the City Clerk's Office in a position of chasing documents. If they continue the public hearing there'd be no harm, thereby placing the responsibility on the Council, not city staff. She pointed out that they agree they don't want to affect this business's operations.

Councilor Nolan asked if by the Code of Ordinance standard the applicant had met all the requirements.

Joanne Senos, City Clerk, advised that the applicant has met the Code of Ordinance's requirements. It's only due to the change in the amount of ammonia stored that the license needed amendment after consultation with Chief Smith. She recounted that the abutters were noticed, and that a legal advertisement was paid for by the applicant. She conveyed that Chief Smith did relay to her he was going to speak to the applicant to have the paperwork given to him and would sign off when the paperwork was all on file. She also noted that the requirements under MGL Ch. 148, Sec. 13 were met.

Council President Lundberg recounted that the license is contingent on receiving all the necessary documentation as contained in the motion which the Council wants, and asked if the Council wanted to add a date certain to it.

Councilor Gilman offered she'd not be opposed that there is 30 days to submit documentation from September 11, 2019 inserted into the motion. The items that they need are in the motion, **Council President Lundberg** noted, expressing agreement they could add a date certain.

Chief Smith, in response to concerns expressed by **Councilor Cox** about updated documentation from the applicant and the time it's taking to obtain it, he conveyed the following information: The original application was complete with no conditions, and that they expected that the updates would come in due course as updates are submitted annually. The Tier II Report comes through the federal government to the department. The current license was done, "appropriately and prudently." The applicant found more material in storage and they're doing the right thing by amending the license. The plant hasn't changed, and they have no serious concerns. They just want to have their paperwork filed appropriately. **Chief Smith** advised that the 30 day timeframe seemed reasonable.

Councilor Gilman moved to amend the main motion by add at the end of it "... 30 days from September 11, 2019." The motion to amend was seconded by **Councilor Holmgren**. **By a unanimous vote of the Council the main motion was amended.**

Councilor Hecht advised this is a self-reported change, and that there's a lot that happens when taking over a company. He mentioned that whether there is an error or a small or catastrophic spill, if the insurance company learns that the company is unlicensed, the insurance company won't be responsible for the facility or the abutting properties. He conveyed it was important that the Council supports this motion and that the paperwork be on file in 30 days.

Councilor Gilman expressed her support for the license amendment. She reported as follows: The P&D Committee discussed the application to amend the inflammable license not only with Nick Osgood but with Fire Chief Eric Smith and Fire Inspector Adam DeBrigard. The Committee was informed that NSDJ only took over the assets of the former business, National Fish & Seafood two months ago, and then learned of a discrepancy in the ammonia systems documentation. This amendment to the inflammables license is to ameliorate that situation, and she expressed appreciation for the amendment to add a date certain to the documentation compliance.

Councilor O'Hara, saying this was a serious issue, noted that Chief Smith made it known he was comfortable with the plans. He conveyed his support for the license amendment.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to grant an Amendment to a license previously granted on June 12, 2018 under GCO Ch. 8 "Fire Prevention and Protection," Sec. 8-1 "License for storing inflammables," MGL. Ch. 148, §13 and 527 CMR 1.00 for storage of inflammables at 159 East Main Street, Assessors Map 63, Lot 26, owner NSDJ Real Estate LLC, specifically to store Ammonia (9,730 lbs.); Argon Gas (225 lbs. in 3 cylinders); Oxygen Gas (50 lbs. in 2 cylinders); Acetylene Gas (50 lbs. in 2 cylinders); Cooking Oils (11,500 gallons - two (2) 5,000 gal. tanks and three (3) 500 gallon tanks by DECREASING one Ammonia storage from 9,730 lbs. to 9,032 lbs.

and ADDING one 1,700 lbs. of Ammonia storage separately. Total quantity of Ammonia stored on site is now 10,732 lbs. The modification of this License for storing inflammables is contingent upon the receipt of an update of a Tier II report, including an updated Evacuation Map; an updated Emergency Action Plan or NH3 Ammonia Emergency Response/Action Plan from NJSD Real Estate LLC to be on file with the Gloucester Fire Department 30 days from September 11, 2019.

4. PH2019-042: Amend GCO Ch. 11, Sec. 11-10(a) "Special events; transient vendors; parades" by ADDING the following sentence: "The committee shall also include a member of the City Council appointed by the City Council President or another Council designee"

This public hearing is opened at 8:25 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: Bill Sanborn, Building Inspector and Chair of Special Events Advisory Committee, expressed support of a City Council member as an ex officio member to the Special Events Advisory Committee.

Councilor Questions:

Councilor Cox asked why they need to appoint a City Councilor as ex officio member, as they would have no vote, and pointed out that any Councilor can attend a public meeting. **Council President Lundberg** noted the Special Events Advisory Committee (SEAC) votes on applications, and saw this amendment as a way to gain public input into the special events process by placing a City Councilor on the SEAC as it is composed solely of city staff. **Councilor Cox** noted that if there is a complaint SEAC does take public input. She noted as a Councilor she's been to their meetings to express concerns; an ex officio member has no real say. **Council President Lundberg** pointed out the amendment is for a full membership, not ex officio as the Building Inspector suggested. **Councilor Cox** advised she wasn't comfortable with one City Councilor expressing an opinion for all of them.

Councilor Gilman asked the City Clerk, what is to prevent her from letting the Councilors know what's coming up in advance of a SEAC meeting for any Councilor to sit in on a meeting. **Ms. Senos** noted she can forward that agenda to the Council. She mentioned the Mayor has asked she be copied on all upcoming events, and advised she could add the Councilor to the copied list for the agenda. **Councilor Gilman** asked that if an event was taking place in Ward 4, would she be allowed to ask questions. **Ms. Senos** advised the Councilor could ask questions, but it is up to the Chair. She advised that SEAC tries to limit public comment when addressing the event in the permitting process, adding that SEAC members want to hear post-event concerns and ensure they are rectified.

Councilor Hecht asked if there are events that come to the Council of certain sizes. **Ms. Senos** advised that the Council permits events with road closures. Before the advent of SEAC, she pointed out, all special events went before the City Council for permitting.

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

COMMITTEE REPORT: 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. 11, Sec. 11-10(a) "Special events; transient vendors; parades by ADDING the following sentence: "The committee shall also include a member of the City Council appointed by the City Council President or another Council designee."

DISCUSSION:

Council President Lundberg advised that for the approval of city events the public should have a say. There are many events that are small and have little or no impact on the life of the city but others are big and the Council has no say. He gave the example of Riverfest which was a large event that the Council had no say in. He pointed out that Riverfest was an event without a lot of the public safety plans in place. The Council had to ask for the plans which was a long time in coming to the Council, he indicated. He explained that he put this Council Order forward to enable the Council to have a say and satisfy their constituency, voicing his support for the ordinance amendment.

Councilor LeBlanc expressed he wasn't in favor of a Councilor as a member of SEAC, either as a full voting member or ex officio member.

Councilor Holmgren voiced her opinion that she'd leave SEAC as it is now.

Councilor Nolan noted that there are issues with Stage Fort Park but that there has been great collaboration with the Administration. If they do have someone on SEAC it may be an odd situation. This committee has all

members that are appointed to their job. He noted he liked the idea that the City Clerk give them the agenda. If a Councilor has an issue, they can go before SEAC and be voice their concerns, he added.

Councilor Cox conveyed she wouldn't support the amendment.

Councilor Gilman expressed SEAC does a good job, its members all department heads, making decisions. She conveyed she relied on the advice of the City Clerk who sits on SEAC and speaks with her prior to any event coming before P&D for permitting which she indicated she found satisfactory.

Ms. Senos mentioned that when SEAC has learned of concerns or complaints about an event that has been held, the Committee calls back the event organizer so concerns can be aired. She advised she already had a list compiled for certain events that had compliance issues and assured that these issues would be brought up with the event organizers at a SEAC meeting. She added that the SEAC Chair does allow public input.

Councilor Cox noted that these are public meetings, and the agendas are posted saying that it isn't the City Clerk's obligation to email the SEAC agendas to Councilors as it is the same as any other Board, Committee or Commission. She advised she wasn't in favor of adding anything further to the City Clerk's "to do" list.

Council President Lundberg mentioned the proposal of an ordinance amendment related to events held on Stacy Boulevard and Stage Fort Park was on the Council agenda as public hearing #1. He recounted that he'd had a conversation with the Mayor about that matter and that the Mayor said she wouldn't be in favor of that ordinance change but thought that a member of the Council on SEAC would be a good idea. He advised he put the matter forward to discuss the concern whether the public has input into these events that can become serious matters. Saying that the Council seemed to be comfortable that public input is being heard, he then moved to withdraw the amendment which was seconded by **Councilor Memhard**.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Lundberg, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to permit the withdrawal of CC2019-025 to Amend GCO Ch. 11, Sec. 11-10(a) "Special events; transient vendors; parades by ADDING the following sentence: "The committee shall also include a member of the City Council appointed by the City Council President or another Council designee." without prejudice.

For Council Vote:

1. **CC2019-031 (Gilman/LeBlanc): request City Council, based on a Traffic Commission Speed Study, petition the MassDOT to reduce the speed limit on Poplar Street from 30 MPH to 25 MPH**

Councilor Gilman explained that she and Councilor LeBlanc put this Council Order forward because at a site meeting on Bertoni Road regarding the Cape Ann Museum speeding cars were brought up, and she had heard from several Poplar Street Ward 4 residents as well. They requested that the Traffic Commission conduct a speed study, and the study showed an average vehicular speed of 29 mph or less for 85% of all vehicles during the study period. This showed there wasn't a need to reduce the speed limit on Poplar Street. Recently they learned that Poplar Street will be repaved, noting that the street is a walking route to the O'Maley School and Poplar Park residents, as well as a disabled child also living on that street. Because of that information, department heads were asked to convey their opinion on reducing the speed limit. She reported that the Fire Chief advised that it doesn't affect his jurisdiction because of response time. Police Chief Conley conveyed through a statistical analysis that he didn't see any incidents on that street, such as accidents that were caused by speed. He suggested that if they were to move forward more community input should be sought. Public Works Director, Mike Hale, conveyed he liked the idea (memos on file). She advised that she and Councilor LeBlanc briefly conferred and are suggesting that this vote be put off for two weeks in order to and get opinions from neighbors.

Councilor LeBlanc asked to withdraw this matter for the time being saying that he believed that the speed study was flawed because at this time Poplar Street is in disrepair which slows drivers down; but with the road paving completed, vehicle speed levels could change. He suggested this Council Order should be withdrawn, and that they can refer another Council Order to the Traffic Commission when the road is repaved to get a better speed study that will also give them time to reach out to the community. **Councilor Gilman** expressed her agreement.

Councilor Cox noted in the state of Arizona, all residential streets are 25 mph pointing out that it seemed the city was doing this street by street by street. She asked if there was a way to petition the state to do this. **Councilor Gilman** noted she and Councilor Holmgren have submitted a Council Order that will be heard by O&A on Sept. 16th on that same subject and briefly described the initiative per Mass. General Law with **Councilor LeBlanc** confirming that Council Order will be on the September 16th O&A agenda.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to permit the withdrawal of CC2019-031: petition the MassDOT to reduce the speed limit on Poplar Street from 30 MPH to 25 MPH without prejudice.

Unfinished Business: None.

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

Update on the Tourism Commission by City Council Representative, Councilor Ken Hecht highlighted the following matters: It was a good summer season. There are currently four members on the Tourism Commission. The Administration is trying to fill vacant spots in order to have a quorum to hold meetings. They have had discussions as to what the Commission could do and do well, and are looking to narrow that scope. He mentioned the recent addition of Jennifer Amero to the Commission.

Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:

Councilor Holmgren announced the following (statement placed on file): "This week, September 8-14, is Direct Support Professionals Week. Direct Support Professionals - home health aides, nursing assistants, personal care attendants, and group home workers - help the people we support and their families to live meaningful, productive lives in their communities. They build close relationships with the people they serve, who rely on them for assistance with tasks such as eating, bathing, dressing, taking medications, overcoming mobility issues, and attending school, work, religious, and recreational activities. Please join me in thanking and observing Direct Support Professionals during this week and honoring these workers' vital contributions."

Councilor Memhard conveyed an invitation to join him on Thursday, Sept. 12th from 6:00 p.m. to about 8:00 p.m. at the Rocky Neck Cultural Center for a follow-up discussion on Ward 1 development issues relating to housing, that came to the forefront as a result of a recent public hearing about a project for 116 East Main Street. He noted that project won't be a matter up for discussion.

Councilor Nolan reported briefly on some Ward 5 projects saying that the Magnolia Pier is coming along; Englewood and Lake Roads work is progressing and made note of several other projects. He expressed his thanks to the Council and Administration for their support.

Councilor Cox announced that the Phyllis A Art Show is taking place on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21st and 22nd and that they're still looking for artists to participate -- interested artists can email her. She also highlighted the Fishbox Derby taking place on Sunday, Sept. 29th relaying that event organizers are looking for sponsors in certain categories and will appreciate interested businesses and citizens to contact them.

Councilor Gilman expressed thanks to the Mayor and all involved in the organization of this year's successful Schooner Festival. She added that on Wednesday, Sept. 11th at 9:55 a.m. at the Gloucester Fire Department will hold a remembrance ceremony commemorating the loss of lives on 9/11 with a reception immediately following at City Hall. She thanked the DPW for the great job on completing the street and sidewalk improvements on Reynard Street and part of Cherry Street.

Councilor O'Hara expressed his thanks to the Fire and Police Departments and the U.S. Coast Guard Station Gloucester for their successful prompt response to rescue a 13 year old boy swept off the rocks by high seas at Rafe's Chasm. He also offered his thanks to the 37 people yesterday who gave blood at the Magnolia Library's Red Cross Blood Drive.

Council President Lundberg mentioned the public hearing the evening before conducted by the East Gloucester School Building Committee, reporting that it was very well attended. He commended that Committee whom he termed a great group that spent a lot of time working on the project. He noted that the Chair of the School Committee also announced that on Thursday, Sept. 19th at 5:00 p.m. the East Gloucester School Building Committee will vote to winnow the nine site options to a lesser amount. He pointed out that the Council doesn't have a role in choosing the site, just in the financing of the project. He closed his remarks by saying that the Building Committee has done a tremendous job through a difficult process.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgensson
Clerk of Committees

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING:

- **Written statement by Paul McGeary under Presentations/Commendations forwarded by email;**
- **Written statement by Mary Lou Tierney under Oral Communications;**
- **Written statement by Councilor Jen Holmgren under Councilors Requests to the Mayor forwarded by email.**