

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 10, 2020– 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

-MINUTES-

Present: Chair, Councilor Steven LeBlanc, Jr.; Vice Chair, Councilor Valerie Gilman; Councilor Melissa Cox; Councilor John McCarthy; Scott Memhard; Councilor Sean Nolan; Councilor James O’Hara; Councilor Barry Pett

Absent: Councilor Holmgren

Also Present: Mayor Sefatia Theken; Joanne Senos; Kenny Costa; John Dunn; Karin Carroll; Vanessa Krawczyk; Fred Cowan; Dr. Richard Sagall

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 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.

Oral Communications: None.

Presentations/Commendations:

Karin Carroll, Public Health Director re: Coronavirus Update

Ms. Carroll conveyed the following information:

- COVID-19 or Coronavirus arrived in the United States and that the city started planning as to how the virus might affect the community;
- The Health Department is monitoring hourly the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) websites seven days a week. There are 91 presumptive cases as of this moment in the state. The city is the fourth ranked state in the country. This was not unexpected as testing has just become available and will rise for a while.
- The governor declared a State of Emergency with funding and different resources to be mobilized and requested.
- There are daily updates in the early morning with the Mayor on the issue and her office acts as a conduit for information and keeping in touch with elected officials. There is also daily communication with Beverly Hospital and other medical resources with information flowing both ways.
- An incident command structure was established about a week ago as a planning tool -- a model used worldwide to respond to emergencies -- not new to Gloucester. The Assistant Health Director is now taking over the day-to-day supervision of the department while the Public Health Director devotes her time to communication and preparedness. The Public Health Nurse is solely available to monitor the clinical situation and steps that can be taken. The Public Information Officer (PIO) function for information outreach has been established.
- The Mayor has established a team that meets twice a week and has met for several weeks – The Mayor’s Office; Health Department staff; School Department representatives; Fire Department members; long-term care facilities (highest risk population for this disease) and local partner agencies that are serving that population. The rest is communicated via the city’s Emergency Alert System. As of Friday they will move to virtual meetings so as not to communicate any possible contagion. The IT Director is assisting them in that effort.
- The city’s state representatives are assisting the city by liaising with state departments. Insurance coverage is in the works for COVID-19 testing at the behest of the Mayor; sick leave is also being discussed to help prevent the spread of any virus so that people can stay home if they are sick but still provide for their families. Until that legislation goes through, they have been talking to businesses about this issue. If people are going to be without pay due to self-quarantining, they are working to be able to connect them with support services.
- The city’s website is updated with the CDC and the MDPH links which are highlighted as the best sources of information on Coronavirus. The Health Department is relying on those sources as their information conduit as well.

- A short video has been produced, and through the PIO there is a clear structure for putting out information. This situation is similar to a flu in that the message is the same and consistent. The PIO is through the city and the Mayor's office and city Facebook managers have been established.
- The Gloucester Daily will publish a second article on Wednesday, March 11th to share some of the things the city is working on proactively for the protection of the community.
- The main area of concern is the city's seniors, considered the most vulnerable population, to COVID-19. Coronavirus is different than the flu in that babies and children appear to be immune which is one of the mysteries of the virus. The average death age is 80 years old, particularly for those older adults who have co-morbidities or that have other certain chronic diseases.
- A memo was issued to all long-term care facilities in Gloucester on March 9th requiring in-person screening of all visitors for the three main risk factors based on CDC recommendations – travel history, signs and symptoms. There has been full cooperation -- nursing homes reported they will go to the next level either as of today or the following day by restricting visitors to a shorter window of time, allowing for more careful screening, reduce committed nursing time and reduce the number of visitors coming in and out these facilities. Through a Health Dept. memo, all senior service agencies in the community were asked to post signage, self-screen and utilize hand sanitizer.
- There are limitations for senior activities now. The direction of the CDC is to avoid crowded situations for older adults and populations at risk. The Health Department is working on a case-by-case/event-by-event basis. To date, a good guideline is about half the capacity of a room would be the number of people allowed in it for gatherings. Publicity is being done to reach out to seniors, and neighbors are asked to check on neighbors, especially if they are elderly.
- The homeless population is a concern because they are in close quarters and is a situation that is difficult to plan for. The department is working closely with Action, Inc., and the state, to come up with a plan to isolate some of the homeless clients if necessary. This is a work in process, and it is hoped by tomorrow to have a plan.
- The School District has developed a protocol based on CDC guidance as to when and how long they would close schools if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19. The schools partnered with the Health Department on this, and are preparing to work on off-site learning and support for students without internet access and other necessary student support structures.
- The Public Works Department implemented as of Friday enhanced cleaning protocols including more frequent wiping down of high touch surfaces in schools and buses. CATA also partnered with the Health Department as of Friday and is wiping down their high touch surfaces on buses between each shift.
- Continuity of operations – how the city would continue to run and how to continue the Health Department's essential functions such as food safety, Title V, etc. All managers have been given the operational plan to ensure essential functioning of the city.
- The city's PIO officer is Carol McMahon (a contractor with the Fire Department's Emergency Management Department) with Assistant Fire Chief Joseph Aiello as back-up PIO. They are prioritizing seniors. There will be canned messages ready to roll. A city inventory manager has been appointed, Jonathan Sanger of the Fire Department's Emergency Services. He is coordinating orders for hand sanitizers to give to the homeless and will work on a plan for distribution.
- Sal DiStefano, the city's Economic Development Director, is liaising with city businesses and fielding all calls about events taking place in Gloucester.
- Supportive care, hydration and possible hospitalization is necessary to deal personally with Coronavirus.

Councilor Gilman asked if the Health Department could take the short video and put on a "road show" to the five housing authority facilities so that people can go to the common area and watch it. She mentioned it is a good video that is very reassuring. **Ms. Carroll** assured she would mention it to the PIO.

Councilor Memhard expressed his thanks to Ms. Carroll and the Administration. He mentioned that if someone feels ill, they shouldn't necessarily take themselves to the hospital but should contact their primary care physician. He further asked what people should do if they are anxious or concerned. **Ms. Carroll** conveyed that if patients are sick they should reach out to their primary care provider. There is a lot of information available on key criteria. They would have to have travelled to certain countries, have certain symptoms, contact with someone that has a confirmed case of COVID-19. If they feel it necessary they should call 911 and go to the hospital. If it is flu-like symptoms, there are questions that are asked to learn if the patient was exposed to certain risk factors. There are protocols in place to deal with it at the doctor's office. If the doctor is not sure, they'll reach out to the state. The

process of getting tested is first to test for all other things like the flu, and if all is eliminated a patient will then be tested for COVID-19 -- to be tested strict criteria must be met.

Councilor Cox asked if a person didn't have insurance and/or a primary care physician, what is suggested, if they meet the criteria and are feeling ill. **Ms. Carroll** advised the department would work with their partners to get that person linked up with a primary care physician. If they were symptomatic they would probably have to go to the emergency room, she suggested. This is where the health care gaps are concerning, she highlighted. **Councilor Cox** noted there's been a lot of conversation that travel has slowed down; flights are less full; and asked if there are any countries with automatic quarantine other than China and Italy, and if passport control in Boston is screening. **Ms. Carroll** conveyed that guidance is changing rapidly. If coming from China, you would have been directed to one of 11 airports for screening. If asymptomatic, the community where a person lives would be notified of that fact to their local Health Department. No one is going to their house to check for self-quarantining. South Korea, Iran have been added and the second wave countries are coming in every day with people are being asked to self-quarantine for two weeks. Yesterday the CDC added anyone getting off a cruise ship is to self-quarantine.

Councilor Pett asked about government operations – meetings for Council, its subcommittees, other commissions, boards and committees. He mentioned several weeks ago the auditorium was full for a City Council meeting. What is the decision process to tell the city that they have to put a hold on city business, he asked. **Mayor Theken** advised as to the City Council and its Standing Committees it is the call of the Council President as to how they would proceed. She advised the Council that she sent out an email to the interfaith community saying they were not cancelling worship services, but there is a concern about large meetings with over 25 people. She noted that Town meetings are being postponed. She mentioned having spoken with the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce noting their event scheduled for March 11th is now cancelled. They have to make calls that sometimes there won't be much notice. There will be activities cancelled, she conveyed, like the Senior Center's popular bingo event for the time being. Governor Baker has declared a state of emergency in Massachusetts. She pointed out that colleges aren't having students return from spring break, mentioning Harvard University and Amherst College -- their students will stay home and arrange for on-line participation in classes. She assured she would be working closely with the City Council. She noted that should they have to close the schools they are already considering what to do about supporting those children who receive free lunches. There are six elderly housing complexes in the city, day care facilities, the Grace Center, Action, Inc., to name a few, with vulnerable populations, and are all working together to put protocols in place. She lauded the Board of Health saying that are on top of the situation with a great team in place. This is a training in process and not an overreaction, she highlighted.

Council President LeBlanc assured that it will be business as usual, but precautions will be taken. It is about self-policing, he added. **Ms. Carroll** offered her assurance they are monitoring the situation constantly and will do all that they can to make sound decisions for the health of the community.

Councilor Memhard recognized Dr. Richard Sagall, Fred Cowan of the Board of Health who were present saying the Board is very active in the community as is Ms. Carroll and her staff at the Health Department. **Ms. Carroll** encouraged the Council that if they have any questions they should email her.

Council President LeBlanc added his thanks to Dr. Sagall and Mr. Cowan for attending this evening.

Confirmation of New Appointments:

Human Rights Commission

Maiuza Alves

TTE 02/14/23

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Mauiza Alves to the Human Rights Commission, TTE 02/14/23.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Pett commended the choice of Ms. Alves for the Commission.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O'Hara, City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to appoint Mauiza Alves to the Human Rights Commission, TTE 02/14/23.

Open Space & Recreation Committee

Dave Sargent (fulfilling unexpired term)

TTE 02/14/21

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O’Hara, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Dave Sargent to the Open Space & Recreation Committee, TTE 02/14/21.

DISCUSSION:

Council President LeBlanc expressed appreciation for Mr. Sargent’s former service to the city as well as his new role as a volunteer.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O’Hara, City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to appoint Dave Sargent to the Open Space & Recreation Committee, TTE 02/14/21.

Tourism Commission Patricia Gates, Francesco Margiotta TTE 02/14/23

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O’Hara, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Patricia Gates to the Tourism Commission, TTE 02/14/23.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O’Hara, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to appoint Patricia Gates to the Tourism Commission, TTE 02/14/23.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O’Hara, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Francesco Margiotta to the Tourism Commission, TTE 02/14/23.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O’Hara, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to appoint Francesco Margiotta to the Tourism Commission, TTE 02/14/23.

Consent Agenda:

- **CONFIRMATION OF REAPPOINTMENTS**
- 1. Community Preservation Committee Robert Whitmarsh TTE 02/14/23
- **MAYOR’S REPORT**
- 1. New Appointment:
 - Laura Crook Waxdal Gloucester Cultural Council TTE 02/14/23 (Refer O&A)
 - Arley Pett (fulfilling unexpired term) Historic District Commission TTE 02/14/22 (Refer O&A)
 - Nicole Richon-Schoel Human Rights Commission TTE 02/14/21 (Refer O&A)
- 2. Memorandum from Veterans Services Director re: request acceptance of donations to support Cape Ann Veterans Services in the Amount of \$275 (Refer O&A)
- 3. Memorandum from Asst. Fire Chief re: request acceptance of additional funding for a FFY20 Washer-Extractor Grant in the amount Of \$6,448.94 (Refer O&A)
- 4. Memorandum from Police Chief re: request acceptance of Police Chief re: request acceptance of the Addison Gilbert Hospital Community Grant in the amount of \$13,000 (Refer B&F)
- 5. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from the Police Chief re: request acceptance of the FY20 MED-Project Grant in the Amount of \$1,300 (Refer B&F)
- 6. Memorandum from the City Auditor re: Gloucester Public School’s End of the Year Financial Report – Independent Accountant Report (Refer B&F)
- 7. Memorandum from the CFO re: request acceptance of a Construction Manager at Risk Procurement Method for the East Gloucester/Veterans Memorial Consolidated Elementary School (Refer B&F)
- 8. Supplemental Appropriation-Budgetary Request 2020-SA-28 & -29 from the CFO (Refer B&F)
- 9. Printable poster handwashing awareness (Info Only)
- 10. Press release outlining Gloucester Officials’ preparation for potential Coronavirus impacts (Info Only)
 - **INFORMATION ONLY**
- 1. 2020 Yearly Operational Plan from Keolis Commuter Services re: herbicide application (Info Only)
 - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**

TRUE COPY ATTEST
Joanne M. Seno

CITY CLERK

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Dave Sargent to the Open Space & Recreation Committee, TTE 02/14/21.

DISCUSSION:

Council President LeBlanc expressed appreciation for Mr. Sargent's former service to the city as well as his new role as a volunteer.

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Tourism Commission

Patricia Gates, Francesco Margiotta

TTE 02/14/23

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Patricia Gates to the Tourism Commission, TTE 02/14/23.

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DISCUSSION: None.

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Consent Agenda:

- **CONFIRMATION OF REAPPOINTMENTS**
- 1. Historical Commission Robert Whitmarsh TTE 02/14/2q3
- **MAYOR'S REPORT**
- 1. New Appointment:

| | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Laura Crook Waxdal | Gloucester Cultural Council | TTE 02/14/23 | (Refer O&A) |
| Arley Pett (fulfilling unexpired term) | Historic District Commission | TTE 02/1422 | (Refer O&A) |
| Nicole Richon-Schoel | Human Rights Commission | TTE 02/14/21 | (Refer O&A) |
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- 9. Printable poster handwashing awareness (Info Only)
- 10. Press release outlining Gloucester Officials' preparation for potential Coronavirus impacts (Info Only)
 - **INFORMATION ONLY**
- 1. 2020 Yearly Operational Plan from Keolis Commuter Services re: herbicide application (Info Only)
 - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**

1. Special Events Permit Application: Request to hold the Operation Safe Boat Day on May 16, 2020 w/rain date May 23, 2020 (Refer P&D)
2. Special Events Permit Application: Request to hold the St. Peter's Fiesta on June 24-28, 2020 (Refer P&D)
3. Request from St. Peter's Fiesta Committee for the use of St. Peter's Park on June 24-28, 2020 (Refer P&D)
4. PP2020-002: Request by National Grid for the installation of 2 J.O. Poles on Washington St., beginning at a point approximately 254' North of the centerline of the intersection of Wheeler St. & Washington St. & continuing approximately 120' in a north direction (Refer P&D)
5. PP2020-003: Request by National Grid for the installation of 1 J.O. Pole on Washington St. beginning at a point approximately 176' North of the centerline of the intersection of Ferry St. & Washington St. & continuing approximately 73' in a north direction
 - **COUNCILORS ORDERS**
 - 1. CC2020-003 (LeBlanc): request City Charter review pursuant to City Charter Sec. 10-1(b) (Refer O&a & CC)
 - 2. CC2020-004 (LeBlanc/Nolan): Election of the City Clerk pursuant to City Charter Sec. 2-7(a) (Refer O&A)
 - 3. CC2020-005 (Cox): Election of the City Auditor pursuant to City Charter Sec. 2-7(a) (Refer O&A)
 - **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
 - 1. City Council Meeting: 2/25/2020 (Approve/File)
 - 3. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 3/5/2020 (under separate cover); O&A 3/2/2020; P&D 3/4/2020 (no meeting) (Approve/File)

Council President LeBlanc, Vice Council President, Councilor Gilman and Mayor Sefatia Theken presented Dana C. Jorgenson, Clerk of Committees, a citation commemorating her service to the City of Gloucester on the occasion of her last City Council meeting and wishing her well on her retirement.

Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda:

Councilor Cox asked to remove Item #3, CC2020-005 (Cox): Election of the City Auditor pursuant to City Charter Sec. 2-7(a) under Councilor Orders. She advised this matter should be referred to B&F not O&A. **A motion was made, seconded and the Council voted unanimously to refer CC2020-005 to the B&F Committee rather than the O&A Committee.**

By unanimous consent of the Council the Consent Agenda and Unanimous Consent Calendar was accepted as amended and presented.

Committee Reports:

Budget & Finance: March 5

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-27 in the amount of \$255.00 (Two Hundred Fifty Five Dollars) from the City Clerk, Dog License Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund, Transfers to the General Fund, Account #32145-596001 to City Clerk, Purchase of Services, Account #0116152-520000 for the purpose of purchasing transcription services for transcribing minutes until the Clerk of Committees position is filled.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-27 in the amount of \$255.00 (Two Hundred Fifty Five Dollars) from the City Clerk, Dog License Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund, Transfers to the General Fund, Account #32145-596001 to City Clerk, Purchase of Services, Account #0116152-520000 for the purpose of purchasing transcription services for transcribing minutes until the Clerk of Committees position is filled.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences' passed through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, for the Library Services and Technology Grant Direct Grant Program, "Social Infrastructure" for FY2020, for \$1,000 for the purpose training Library personnel for an eight hour training on Mental Health First Aid. This grant expires September 30, 2020 with no local matching funds.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that this is an eight hour class on Mental Health First Aid. She expressed she was impressed that while the grant doesn't expire until September, the Library has been proactive by already scheduling the training for the end of this month.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences' passed through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, for the Library Services and Technology Grant Direct Grant Program, "Social Infrastructure" for FY2020, for \$1,000 for the purpose training Library personnel for an eight hour training on Mental Health First Aid. This grant expires September 30, 2020 with no local matching funds.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-24 in the amount of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) from the DPW, Highway Force Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund, Transfers to the General Fund, Account #32085-596001 to DPW - Public Services, Purchase of Services, Account #0147052-520000 for the purpose of funding various Public Works road and roadside spring projects.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox conveyed that this is an annual occurrence, with the funding coming from the DPW account for which road opening permit monies are placed.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-24 in the amount of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) from the DPW, Highway Force Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund, Transfers to the General Fund, Account #32085-596001 to DPW - Public Services, Purchase of Services, Account #0147052-520000 for the purpose of funding various Public Works road and roadside spring projects.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2020-SBT-8 in the amount of \$4,924.85 from Police - Uniform, Salaries, Account #0121151-511000 to Police - Criminal Investigations, Salaries, Account #0121251-511000, for the purpose of funding a projected deficit in the Police - Criminal Investigations salaries account due to the Superior Officers contract settlement that included retroactive pay.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2020-SBT-8 in the amount of \$4,924.85 from Police - Uniform, Salaries, Account #0121151-511000 to Police - Criminal Investigations, Salaries, Account #0121251-511000, for the purpose of funding a projected deficit in the Police - Criminal Investigations salaries account due to the Superior Officers contract settlement that included retroactive pay.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A ½, a state grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Criminal Justice Information Services for a Motor Vehicle Automated Citation and Crash System Equipment Grant with a value of up to \$2,555 for the purpose of receiving six (6) electronic citation printers, associated software, thermal paper for printing citations, installation and training for the Police Department. There is no local match for this grant.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that this grant will see six printers installed in six police cruisers which will be a better system to issue citations. This system is integrated with the state system; and hopefully there will be less loss, and less paper to deal with.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A ½, a state grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Criminal Justice Information Services for a Motor Vehicle Automated Citation and Crash System Equipment Grant with a value of up to \$2,555 for the purpose of receiving six (6) electronic citation printers, associated software, thermal paper for printing citations, installation and training for the Police Department. There is no local match for this grant.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the City Council voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council accept \$36,824.86 from the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority to be held in a City Agency Fund for a period of five (5) years from date of acceptance of these funds by the City Council. Should the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority become active again within the five year timeframe and request the funds, that money will revert to the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority. If the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority remains inactive for five (5) years from date of acceptance by the City Council, then the funds will revert to the City of Gloucester General Fund. In accordance with MGL c. 121B, 4, if the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority is determined that there is no further need for its existence, then the City Council approves the dissolution of the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority.

Councilor Barry Pett declared under MGL Ch. 268A that he is the sole signatory on the bank account held by the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority as well as he's only remaining active member of the GRA. As such he is unable to participate in a discussion or vote on this matter. He left the dais.

Councilor Cox explained as follows: The Gloucester Redevelopment Authority had money in an off-site account, which is the normal course of business for a group such as this where they took money in. Councilor Pett is the only remaining member of a non-active group. He is giving the money to the city to place in a reserve account. Should the GRA become functional in the next five years, they can ask for the money back; but if after five years they aren't active, the money goes into the General Fund. In five years, the Council by its vote could direct the funds to go to a similar group like the EDIC.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Pett) recused, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to accept \$36,824.86 from the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority to be held in a City Agency Fund for a period of five (5) years from date of acceptance of these funds by the City Council. Should the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority become active again within the five year timeframe and request the funds, that money will revert to the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority. If the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority remains inactive for five (5) years from date of acceptance by the City Council, then the funds will revert to the City of Gloucester General Fund. In accordance with MGL c. 121B, §4, if the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority is determined that there is no further need for its existence, then the City Council approves the dissolution of the Gloucester Redevelopment Authority.

Councilor Pett returned to the dais.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-25 in the amount of \$100,000 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) from the Sewer Enterprise Fund, Fund Balance - Retained Earnings ("Free Cash"), Account #6400-359000 to Sewer Enterprise Miscellaneous Capital Projects Fund, Infrastructure - Water/Sewer, Account #64175-588500 for the purpose of funding drain repairs on Warner Street.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained as follows as conveyed by the DPW Director at the March 5th B&F meeting: that the money from the Sewer Enterprise Fund to the Sewer Enterprise Infrastructure – Water/Sewer account is to fund unanticipated drain repairs on Trask and Warner Streets associated with the MassWorks project. The project was to

support the Fuller Project, the catalyst behind the MassWorks grant for the housing being developed. While they were investigating the stormwater system, they noted the Warner Street system wasn't functioning as it should mostly due to old rotted corrugated piping with no way to rehabilitate it other than its replacement. While the road is opened the repairs will be effected.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-25 in the amount of \$100,000 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) from the Sewer Enterprise Fund, Fund Balance - Retained Earnings ("Free Cash"), Account #6400-359000 to Sewer Enterprise Miscellaneous Capital Projects Fund, Infrastructure - Water/Sewer, Account #64175-588500 for the purpose of funding drain repairs on Warner Street.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (McCarthy) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-26 in the amount of \$200,000 (Two Hundred Thousand Dollars) from the Building Maintenance Stabilization Fund – Undesignated Fund Balance, Account #7700-359000 to the O'Maley Innovation Middle School Repairs - Building Improvements, Account #770009-582003 for the purpose of funding various building repairs that includes the upgrades to the restrooms at the O'Maley Innovation Middle School.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox conveyed that this appropriation is for restroom improvements, for the most part, at the O'Maley Innovation Middle School. She noted that this is the school district's second biggest school, and there is a need to continue to invest in the facility along with additional site repairs. She recounted the DPW will replace the rusting metal restroom partitions with PVC partitions that are durable. New flooring, epoxy based, will be laid through a contractor as that is a special process which will be easier to keep clean. They are working in coordination with the school principal on the school's needs. She mentioned the DPW will be replacing panels in the school's courtyard along with handicap accessibility upgrades.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2020-SA-26 in the amount of \$200,000 (Two Hundred Thousand Dollars) from the Building Maintenance Stabilization Fund – Undesignated Fund Balance, Account #7700-359000 to the O'Maley Innovation Middle School Repairs - Building Improvements, Account #770009-582003 for the purpose of funding various building repairs that includes the upgrades to the restrooms at the O'Maley Innovation Middle School.

Ordinances & Administration: March 2

There are no matters for Council action under this heading.

Planning & Development: March 4 – No Meeting - Cancelled

Scheduled Public Hearings:

- 1. PH2020-008: Loan Authorization Request for the Brier Neck Neighborhood Paving Betterment in the amount of \$435,000**

This public hearing is opened at 8:05 p.m.

Those speaking in favor:

John Dunn, CFO, mentioned at the last meeting, the Council approved funds for water work and some of that is in the Brier Neck area. The paving betterment will take place after the infrastructure work is done. The paving project will be 100% bettered by the abutters, he noted.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 8:07 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor McCarthy, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve the following loan authorization:

Ordered: That the City of Gloucester appropriates Four Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$435,000) to pay costs of permanent repairs, including paving to private ways in the Brier Neck neighborhood, 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, Section 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 assess 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:

Councilor Pett conveyed his compliments to the DPW Director and the CFO for working together to get this program done, noting how important this is for the city. He conveyed that this is a wonderful way to partner with the city to get this work accomplished.

Councilor Memhard expressed his compliments to the residents of Brier Neck for their efforts mentioning that it is a complicated project covering eight streets. He pointed out that not only is the road being repaved, but that the water infrastructure and the natural gas infrastructure is being addressed as a part of the project. He indicated it is a remarkable accomplishment mentioning the efforts of Doug Fifield, Sam Silverman and Chuck Everett on behalf of the Brier Neck Association saying that they've accomplished this complicated project in concert with the DPW Director and the city's Administration.

Councilor Gilman noted she lived on Brier Neck for 29 years, mentioning that this is a great opportunity to see the roadways fixed. She expressed the Brier Neck residents worked well with their Ward Councilor and the Administration. She offered thanks to Councilor Nolan whom she conveyed worked hard on streamlining the public/private paving (betterment) ordinance.

Councilor Nolan expressed his thanks to all involved which ended with a great result. He mentioned briefly other areas of the city that such a project was successfully undertaken some of which were in Ward 5.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to approve the following loan authorization as follows:

Ordered: That the City of Gloucester appropriates Four Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$435,000) to pay costs of permanent repairs, including paving to private ways in the Brier Neck neighborhood, 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, Section 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 assess 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.

For Council Vote: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

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

1. Update on the Magnolia Woods Oversight & Advisory Committee by City Council Representative, Councilor Sean Nolan:

- There is nothing new to report as the DPW is working with the state on final information. It is hoped to have some projects in the works taken care of shortly.

Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:

Councilor Pett conveyed his thanks to Ms. Jorgensson for her assistance as a rookie Councilor and wished her well.

Councilor O'Hara thanked those who donated blood yesterday highlighting there were 49 donations which will help in excess of 150 people. He mentioned that Councilors LeBlanc and Cox were two of yesterday's donors. The next scheduled Red Cross event will be held at the Magnolia Library on May 11th.

Councilor Memhard recounted that when he was a rookie Councilor on the Budget & Finance Committee, Ms. Jorgensson as the Clerk of Committees was a great help to him. He announced that this past Thursday Martha Rose Cahoon arrived, his third granddaughter, and the next day he celebrated his mother, Holly Ann Hunter Memhard's 90th birthday.

Councilor Cox offered her congratulations to Ms. Jorgensson on her retirement. She announced that there will be an Action, Inc. ground breaking for Harbor Village at the site of the former Cameron's Restaurant on Friday, March 20th at 9:30 a.m.

Councilor Gilman expressed her appreciation to Ms. Jorgensson, saying she has been a great help to the Planning & Development Committee and will be missed. She noted her daughter is getting married on March 21st and they've bought 150 wedding favors of hand sanitizers. She asked her colleagues to hope this wedding goes off in a week and a half at the Mt. Washington Hotel.

Council President LeBlanc announced that The Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce & Job Fair to be held March 11, 2020 has been postponed to a later date and will update the Council when the Chamber has a new date.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgensson
Clerk of Committees

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.