

**GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 24, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.  
Sawyer Free Library, 2 Dale Avenue  
-Minutes-**

**Councilors Present (in person): Council President, Councilor Val Gilman; Council Vice President, Councilor Sean Nolan; Councilor Frank Margiotta; Councilor Scott Memhard; Councilor Jamie O’Hara; Councilor Tracy O’Neil; Councilor Jeff Worthley**

**Absent: Councilor Tony Gross; Councilor Jason Grow**

**Also Present (in person): City Clerk, Joanne Senos; Assistant City Clerk, Grace Poirier; IT Director, Ryan Knowles**

**Also Present (remote): CAO, Jill Cahill; Auditor, Kenny Costa; Director of Public Health, Max Schenk; Assistant Public Health Director, Rachael Belisle-Toler; Pam Tobey, Director of Communications and Constituent Services**

*This meeting was conducted with the City Council in person and the public participating remotely through Zoom*

*All votes were ROLL CALL votes*

**Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m.**

**Flag Salute and Moment of Silence:** A moment of silence was held in memory of the students and teachers that were killed in a school shooting at the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

**Councilor Gilman** introduced the City Council members and City staff in attendance.

**Councilor Gilman** announced: “In the interest of government transparency, consistent with chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, with regards to deliberations and decisions made by the City Council and according to open meeting law, since this meeting was posted as a Zoom meeting, this meeting is recorded by video and audio and will be conducted by remote participation. Additionally, all votes taken by the City Council during this and future remote meetings will be by roll call vote. If you are calling in on a phone, you can press Star 9 (\*9) to request to speak. If you are watching on a computer or device, there is a “raised hand” button that you can tap or press to request to speak. Please use either of these options during oral communications and the public hearing to be recognized to speak.”

**Matters were taken out of order. Minutes reflect the order in which matters were taken.**

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS:**

Director of Public Health, Max Schenk re: Presentation on Policy Changes from the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board

**Summary of Discussion:** The **Public Health Director, Max Schenk**, stated that last year the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board, as well as the State Department of Public Health and Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, collaborated to decide if there should be a declared emergency regarding EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis) and should spraying be performed to help prevent any possible contagions. He reminded the Council that last year the State provided an opportunity for communities to opt-out of the spraying, which the City did (via presentation of a plan for mosquito control, education and outreach)

as, he stated, that in his sixteen years with the Health Department the City has never had a case of EEE or West Nile Virus. **Mr. Schenk** stated that on April 8, 2022, it came to his attention, through the Department of Public Health via the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, that the rules had changed where before the City was considered a low-risk community and now the City was part of a high-risk region, which changes the City response to the issue. He stated that in order for the City to opt-out this year, the City would have to be able to provide the same level of response action capability as the State. He explained that the community as a whole cannot opt-out, but individual property owners can opt-out. He stated that there is a Frequently Asked Questions [FAQ] section on the Health Department website, developed with the help of **Councilor Grow**, that outlines how to opt-out individually, as well as how to obtain information on how a property owner can be notified if spraying is going to take place. **Mr. Schenk** added that if areas within the community are declared as an emergency, then the State could still step in and spray regardless of whether or not individual property owners have opted out.

**Questions from Councilors:**

**Q1. (Worthley):** Asked if the high-risk region is working collaboratively to opt-out. Also asked if **Mr. Schenk** has colleagues in other communities that can provide the capacity to opt-out by having their own ability to perform the control measures.

**A1. (Schenk):** Stated what is being proposed is above and beyond what would be done for a community that is part of the Mosquito Control District, which is a year-round opportunity provided at cost to different communities for mosquito control, monitoring, sampling and testing. Added that the only other local community that he is aware of, that is part of the high-risk region, is Essex.

**Q2. (Worthley):** Stated that **Mr. Schenk** said that the State typically responds in 48 hours to react to an emergency. Asked if 48 hours was also the requirement that the State is asking communities to demonstrate.

**A2. (Schenk):** Stated in order to opt-out as a community, the process would need to be completed by May 27; however, individual property owners can opt-out anytime during the year. Also stated that a property owner would need to opt-out before the 48-hour response time.

**Q3. (Worthley):** Asked if a plane is spraying how can residents that opted-out be assured that the spray would not be done on their property.

**A3. (Schenk):** Stated that the idea is that this program would be progressive. Stated that the program would start with education and outreach. If the situation is progressively worsening, then truck spraying would be employed and stated that the maximum distance that the spray can go is approximately 300 feet. Stated that he was unsure how aerial spraying would be managed.

**Q4. (Margiotta):** Asked **Mr. Schenk** to be more specific regarding what the spray is and the effect it would have on gardens or anyone breathing it in.

**A4. (Schenk):** Stated the information provided on the State's website for the most common spray used is that it is derived from geraniums. Suggested that if anyone has any questions to refer to the FAQ on the Health Department's website.

**Councilor Nolan** stated that the guidelines on this matter are set by the State and the Board of Health, which are the same people looking out for the safety of the State's residents. He stated that he did not see the spraying as being a negative thing and that residents/Council should listen to the experts on this matter.

**Q5. (Gilman):** Asked how severe the cases were of local residents who had contacted EEE.

**A5. (Schenk):** Stated that he remembers one possible case of EEE that was nearby and stated it can cause death. Stated that West Nile Virus causes allergy or flu-like symptoms at its worst.

**Q6. (Gilman):** Asked if medications for EEE have improved through the years. Stated that she has a constituent that relayed to her that approximately thirty years ago there was a horseback riding camp in Essex where riders came down with EEE and died.

**A6. (Schenk):** Stated he has no recollection of that happening.

**Q7. (Memhard):** Asked how the spray would affect pollinating bees.

**A7. (Schenk):** Stated that supposedly there would not be an impact. From the FAQ, he read an excerpt that states *“aerial spraying takes place at night partly to reduce the chance of negative impacts on honeybee colonies; however, for bees are congregating outside the hive boxes, consider applying a cover to the hive entrance or over the entire hive box using a loose wet cloth, burlap, cotton, etc., to prevent bees from exiting, thus preventing them from having direct contact with the spray during application. Remove the covers and additional boxes placed on hives as soon as possible in the morning.”* *“The product being applied has a very short half-life, one day, and breaks down rapidly in sunlight. The Department of Agricultural Resources have conducted monitored of honeybee hives during past aerial spraying events and has seen no negative effects on honeybees.”*

**A7. (Gilman):** Stated to access this information, go to [www.gloucester-ma.gov](http://www.gloucester-ma.gov), click Department, click Health Department, and on the left side there is a menu where you would find Mosquito Spraying Opt-Out. Stated that all the FAQs could be found here as well.

**Q8. (O’Neil):** Asked, as a community, if the City is still considered low risk.

**A8. (Schenk):** Stated as far as he was concerned, yes, but due to a neighboring community having a case/cases the City gets grouped into the high-risk region.

**Q9. (O’Neil):** Asked if Rockport was considered in the same region.

**A9. (Schenk):** Stated that Rockport is still considered a low risk community due to their location (ocean on one side and Gloucester on the other).

**Q10. (O’Neil):** Asked **Mr. Schenk** to confirm that the State would provide the City with 48-hours’ notice if they were to spray.

**A10. (Schenk):** Stated that it is 48 hours. Stated that residents can sign up to receive automatic notifications from the State.

**Councilor Worthley** wished to encourage the residents of the City to opt-out and stated that the process is easy. **Councilor Gilman** reminded everyone that it is a personal choice.

By the will of the City Council, without objection, the **Assistant Public Health Director, Rachael Belisle-Toler**, was asked to provide an update on the Good Harbor Creek. She stated that there are three possibilities as to what the pollution could be, including an infrastructural problem that was fixed with routine repairs throughout the winter and is no longer affecting the creek, animal activity responsible for the bacteria in the creek, and the third being an infrastructural issue that is ongoing (for example, a sewer line that has been compromised). She stated that there are some abnormalities in two sewer lines with cause for concern and stated that she is confident that the sewer lines are likely a contributing factor. She stated downstream, closer to the swimming area, there are documented higher bacteria levels and that testing is scheduled for Thursday, May 26, 2022, to hopefully confirm the source. **Ms. Belisle-Toler** added that signs have been hung to inform beachgoers of the risk and added that additional testing has been down today to determine if the creek can be opened.

**Councilor Worthley** asked what the consequences are for someone who is affected with 800 CFU of enterococci (with 104 CFU being the high level of acceptable). **Ms. Belisle-Toler** stated that if someone ingested water with 800 CFU of enterococci then the likely result would be a bacterial infection and the severity would depend on one’s immune system. **Councilor Margiotta** asked if a “No Swimming” sign could be placed

at the entrance. **Ms. Belisle-Toler** stated that a sign had been placed at the entrance of the footbridge. She added that signage at the car entrance was under the authority of the DPW. **Councilor Memhard** asked if the testing performed last fall had indicated higher levels of bacteria. **Ms. Belisle-Toler** stated testing done last October showed over 2,000 CFU of enterococci, which is the highest concentration of enterococci in recorded history at the creek. **Mr. Schenk** added that the number of CFUs is historic. **Ms. Belisle-Toler** stated that the Health Department has publicly available data regarding the creek (weekly testing) from the early 2000s and previous to last year the highest levels they had seen before were 400 to 600 CFUs after an isolated event such as a storm.

To **Councilor Worthley's** request, **Ms. Belisle-Toler** gave a brief outline of her educational background. He then asked what the City's liability is in terms of the public being exposed. **Councilor Gilman** informed **Councilor Worthley** that he could submit a Request to the Mayor to get that question answered. **Councilor Worthley** asked if there would be lifeguards patrolling in the area of the creek. The **CAO, Jill Cahill**, stated that it is the lifeguard's job to keep their eyes on people in the water and swimmers at all times and that **Mr. Schenk** and **Ms. Belisle-Toler** are both working hard to spread the message. She reminded everyone that there is a lifeguard shortage, as well as limited resources, and stated to the extent possible the lifeguards will be informed about the issue and emphasized that safety is the priority. **Councilor Gilman** suggested that the parking lot attendants inform people that there is no swimming at the creek as they drive in with their cars.

**Councilor O'Hara** asked if the City would identify where the line of demarcation is, safe to unsafe. **Ms. Belisle-Toler** stated that generally the mouth of the creek as it opens up to the water is safe as the water is diluted. He then asked if the City should be erecting barriers to keep people out of the creek water, as the levels of bacteria are unprecedented. **Ms. Belisle-Toler** said that signage is not under the purview of the Health Department. **Mr. Schenk** stated that they need to be mindful regarding what types of signage or barricades are used as a storm event could wash any of those items into the ocean waters creating navigational hazards.

**CONFIRMATION OF NEW APPOINTMENTS:** None.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Rosemary Loranger, 74 Thatcher Road**

Expressed concern regarding the intersection around Witham Street and Thatcher Road. Asked that the crosswalk be repainted. Asked that the City add some safety measures in the area as new townhouses have been added which means additional traffic and residents. Stated that there have been two accidents at this intersection over the past two weekends.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

● **CONFIRMATION OF REAPPOINTMENTS**

- |  |               |             |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Board of Commissioners of Trust Funds | Rick Ciolino  | TTE 2/14/25 |
| 2. Gloucester Housing Authority          | Andrew Nickas | TTE 5/28/27 |

● **MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Appointment of Suzanne P. Egan as General Counsel (Refer O&A)
2. Memorandum from Veterans Services Director requesting acceptance of donations in the amount of \$400 (Refer B&F)
3. Memorandum from Director of Veterans Services requesting acceptance of donations in the amount of \$1,600 (Refer B&F)
4. Memorandum from Harbormaster and Supplemental Appropriation-Budgetary Request (#2022-SBT-3) in the amount of \$450 (Refer B&F)
5. Memorandum from Fire Chief re: Fire Dept. Ambulance Service Billing & Collection Policy for FY23 budget (Refer B&F)
6. Mayor's response to May 10, 2022 City Council oral communications (Info Only)
7. Memorandum from Public Health Director re: Board of Health's recommendation to continue the use of BioBot Analytics to monitor levels of COVID-19 virus in the community (Info Only)

● **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**

● **INFORMATION ONLY**

● **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**

1. PP#2022-003: Request by National Grid to install beginning at a point approx. 10' west of the centerline of the intersection of Windermere Road and continuing approx. 15' in a northwest direction. Installation of 15' of 2-3" concrete encased PVC conduit and all appurtenances from MH 392-1 to customer owned heavy duty handhole on Windermere Road (Refer P&D)
- **COUNCILORS ORDERS**

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

1. City Council Meeting: 5/10/2022 (Approve/File)
2. Special City Council Meeting: 5/17/2022 (under separate cover) (Approve/File)
3. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 5/19/2022 (under separate cover), O&A 5/16/2022, P&D 5/18/2022 (Approve/File)

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**

1. Invitation from the Gloucester Fire Department Relief Association to the Firefighter's Memorial Services on June 12, 2022 (Info Only)
2. City Council to weigh in on the Massachusetts Municipal Association's recommendations on proposed Senate Bills for the FY23 State Budget (FCV 5/26/2022)

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED/REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:** Councilor Gilman removed item #2 under the Mayor's Report: *Memorandum from Veterans Services Director requesting acceptance of donations in the amount of \$400.* Councilor Gilman asked that the matter be amended to reflect acceptance of donations in the amount of \$40. She placed the item back on the Consent Agenda.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted by **ROLL CALL 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 (Gross, Grow) absent, to accept the Consent Agenda as amended.**

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED/REMOVED FROM THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT CALENDAR:** Councilor Gilman removed item #2, *City Council to weigh in on the Massachusetts Municipal Association's recommendations on proposed Senate Bills for the FY23 State Budget,* from the Unanimous Consent Calendar. She explained that she is requesting a special meeting of the City Council on Thursday, May 26, 2022, from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. for discussion so that Council can make a recommendation to the Senate. The item was placed back on the Unanimous Consent Calendar.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted by **ROLL CALL 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 (Gross, Grow) absent, to accept the Unanimous Consent Agenda.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Budget & Finance – May 19, 2022**

1. *Memorandum from the Economic Development Director requesting acceptance of a grant from the Massachusetts Office of Business Development – City of Gloucester Retail Commercial District Signage Program in the amount of \$100,000*

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the Budget & Finance Committee voted by **ROLL CALL 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Worthley) absent, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a state grant from the Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD) and passed through the North Shore Alliance for Economic Development, Inc., a 2022 Regional Economic Development Organization Grant Program, in the amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of supporting Gloucester's Retail Commercial Districts Signage Program. The grant period is from May 2, 2022 to May 15, 2023. There is no match or in-kind requirements.**

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Worthley explained that the vote on this matter (as well as the next B&F matter) was 2 in favor, 0 opposed. He explained that he was part of the dialogue but had to step away to attend a Traffic Commission meeting and stated that he would have voted in favor of the matter as well. He further explained that local small businesses throughout the City's retail areas can receive, via an application process, up to \$5,000 for signage for their business. Councilor Memhard added that the grant is designed to cover all aspects of signage from design, production, installation and permitting. The **CAO, Jill Cahill**, stated that the Chamber of Commerce is the City's partner in administering the grant and that the details and applications are currently being developed. She added that the intent is to help as many forwarding-facing businesses as possible and stated that she would pass along Councilor O'Neil's input of including businesses along the

waterfront for the program. The CAO added that the program will be advertised via social media and that members of the EDIC and Chamber of Commerce would be visiting the stores downtown (as well as the other retail districts within the City at a later date) to disseminate information regarding the program.

There was a brief discussion regarding the kiosks for parking. The CAO stated that the parking kiosks would be operational as of Friday, May 27, 2022.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 (Gross, Grow) absent, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a state grant from the Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD) and passed through the North Shore Alliance for Economic Development, Inc., a 2022 Regional Economic Development Organization Grant Program, in the amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of supporting Gloucester's Retail Commercial Districts Signage Program. The grant period is from May 2, 2022 to May 15, 2023. There is no match or in-kind requirements.**

**2. Memorandum from the Economic Development Director requesting acceptance of a grant from the Massachusetts Office of Business Development – Retail Pop-Up Incubator Program in the amount of \$50,000**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the Budget & Finance Committee voted by ROLL CALL 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Worthley) absent, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a state grant from the Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD) and passed through the North Shore Alliance for Economic Development, Inc., a 2022 Regional Economic Development Organization Grant Program, in the amount of \$50,000 for the purpose of supporting "Pop-up Gloucester Retail Incubator," a pilot pop-up program held in a commercial unit in the building owned by Action Inc. at 206 Main Street. The grant period is from May 2, 2022 to May 15, 2023. There is no match or in-kind requirements.

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Worthley stated that this is a grant to help businesses get started. He stated that resources including legal and advertising would also be included within the grant. He stated that the pop-up location would be at 206 Main Street (Harbor Village Building) in partnership with Action, Inc., and that idea is that one (or several) of the pop-ups would eventually fill a vacant space downtown. Councilor Memhard explained that this program would be through a competitive application process.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 (Gross, Grow) absent, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A, a state grant from the Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD) and passed through the North Shore Alliance for Economic Development, Inc., a 2022 Regional Economic Development Organization Grant Program, in the amount of \$50,000 for the purpose of supporting "Pop-up Gloucester Retail Incubator," a pilot pop-up program held in a commercial unit in the building owned by Action Inc. at 206 Main Street. The grant period is from May 2, 2022 to May 15, 2023. There is no match or in-kind requirements.**

• **Ordinances & Administration – May 16, 2022 (no items under this heading)**

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Nolan stated that there are no items under this heading.

• **Planning & Development – May 18, 2022 (no items under this heading)**

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Gilman explained that at P&D the Horribles Parade was approved. She also stated that P&D had a preliminary discussion on possible outdoor dining for the summer.

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None.

**FOR COUNCIL VOTE:** None.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Ryan Knowles, IT Director re: Hybrid City Council meeting update and introduction of post meeting zoom public feedback surveying as City Council begins to transition back to in person meetings.

**Summary of Discussion:** **Councilor Gilman** stated that the **IT Director, Ryan Knowles**, would be updating the Council on different options to use for hybrid technology for City Council meetings. She explained that he will also be performing a Zoom survey that will ask the public who are on the call, as attendees, to provide feedback in terms of how members of the public viewed the meeting. The **IT Director, Ryan Knowles**, further explained that attendees of the meeting should see the option to take a brief hybrid meeting poll on the screen which will be used to gauge the performance of new meeting technology. He read the questions:

1. Did you have any difficulty hearing any portion of the meeting?
2. Did you have any difficulty seeing any of the panelists?
3. Did you have any difficulty viewing any of the presentations? (not applicable to tonight's meeting)
4. Compared to previous public Zoom meetings, would you say that the technical quality of this meeting was about the same or worse?

The **IT Director** stated that any feedback would be appreciated and informed the public that any feedback would remain anonymous.

The **IT Director** stated that the Governor's order that allows the City to have remote meetings ends on July 15, 2022. He explained that a meeting, as it is being held this evening, with the councilors in person and the public remote is an option. He stated that another option is to have everyone in person, including Council and the public, and the meeting is broadcasted via Zoom or 1623 Studios and the public access channel which, he stated, could happen immediately for the next meeting, and could happen in Kyrouz Auditorium. He stated that the technical challenge, as well as staffing challenges, will be if part of the meeting is in person and part of the meeting is remote. There was also discussion about hosting the meetings in person and having the public sign up beforehand to speak at a particular public hearing where the participant would be sent a panelist invitation.

**Councilor Nolan** stated that he is of the opinion that many resources, as well as staff, are being utilized to have this meeting in person when the meeting could be held remotely via Zoom until an actual solution is found. He stated that he felt that it is a waste of the City's resources on a matter that has been working well via Zoom.

**Councilor Worthley** stated that the Council is in person this evening as the July 15 deadline is fast-approaching. He stated that the ultimate goal is safety and public participation. He thanked the IT Director, as well as the City Clerk's office, for their part in making this in-person meeting of the Council happen.

**Councilor O'Neil** asked if Kyrouz Auditorium would be able to have the technology to host an in-person/Zoom meeting. The **IT Director** stated that the technology could be installed in Kyrouz for a cost but a member of the IT staff would have to be present as well. **Councilor O'Neil** asked if attendees of a Zoom meeting could see the full list of all attendees at a particular meeting. The **IT Director** stated that you could not and it is a limitation of the webinar feature of Zoom.

**Councilor Margiotta** stated that he agreed with the comments of **Councilor Nolan** regarding the cost. He stated that he believed that it would be more cost effective to have the Council participate via Zoom until there is additional guidance from the State. **Councilor O'Hara** stated that he also supports the comments of **Councilor Nolan** regarding cost and stated that he did not believe that the Council meeting in person had any

additional benefits. He also stated that there has been great public participation via Zoom, more so than most in-person meetings in the past.

**Councilor Worthley** asked if the Council had a capacity to convey to the Governor that the City wants to continue with remote technology. **Councilor Gilman** explained that there is a proposed Senate Bill relating to this matter which is in the packet for discussion at the Special City Council meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2022.

**Councilor Memhard** stated that it is forward-thinking of the Council to be prepared and stated that the expense does not justify the cost at this time. He agreed with the comments of **Councilor O'Hara** in that public participation overall has grown via the Zoom platform but recognized that some members of the public wished to be back fully in person. **Councilor O'Neil** agreed with the comments of **Councilor Memhard**.

**Councilor Gilman** stated that she believed that the Zoom recordings are a benefit to the community and stated that she believed that Zoom promotes transparency, as anyone can watch any of the City's public meetings at any time. **Councilor Gilman** explained that the Council meetings at least through June will be in person at the Library until further directives are received from the State.

**INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLOR'S DISCUSSION INCLUDING REPORTS BY APPOINTED COUNCILLORS TO COMMITTEES:** Update on the Council on Aging Board and the Dogtown Preservation Commission by City Council Representative, Councilor Val Gilman

**Summary of Discussion:** **Councilor Gilman** stated that the Council on Aging has an energetic staff, including a strong leadership team, as well as a new Outreach Coordinator. She stated that the leadership team is looking at ways to bring the outlying groups of people in the community into the mission of the Council on Aging to allow them to benefit as well from the programs offered by the Council on Aging.

**Councilor Gilman** stated that she is also the City Council representative for the Dogtown Preservation Commission. She stated that the Commission is currently working on mapping for Dogtown, as well as looking at alternatives for the compost facility, in collaboration with the DPW Director as well as the Conservation Agent. She reminded the Council that the Dogtown Preservation Commission is an advisory board.

**COUNCILORS' REQUESTS TO THE MAYOR:**

- **Councilor Memhard** requested through the Mayor to the DPW to repaint the crosswalk at the intersection of Thatcher Road and Witham Street, as well as the installation of a Pedestrian Crossing sign, as well as additional crosswalks in that area due to the addition of townhomes/additional residents in the area.
- **Councilor Memhard** requested through the Mayor to the DPW to paint a crosswalk near Barn Lane/Eastern Avenue due to the addition of new homes/residents in the area.
- **Councilor Memhard** requested to the Mayor to set up safety protocols/evacuation plans in the event of an emergency at City Hall (and referenced the recent manhole cover fire on Dale Avenue).
- **Councilor Worthley** requested through the Mayor to the DPW to repaint the Welcome to Gloucester sign at the rotary.
- **Councilor Worthley** requested through the Mayor to the DPW that the crosswalk on Taylor Street (in front of Our Lady of Good Voyage Church) be moved 40 to 45 feet up Taylor Street from the corner of Prospect Street, and to extend the crosswalk to the other side of Taylor Street to be in line with the Church's handicap ramp. Also requests that both sides of the crosswalk be handicap-accessible via a curb cut.
- **Councilor Worthley** requested to the Mayor a list of City-owned properties to possibly help support the efforts of Backyard Growers. He stated that this would be his fourth request.

- **Councilor Gilman** requested through the Mayor to the DPW that potholes on Lanes Cove Road be fixed.
- **Councilor Gilman** requested through the Mayor to the DPW that the steps next to the Fish Shack at Lanes Cove that access the beach be repaired.
- **Councilor Gilman** requested through the Mayor to the DPW that the steps at Plum Cove Beach be repaired. By way of background, she received a call from a constituent whose husband struggled going down the stairs. She also requested weed-whacking on one side of the stairs to allow access to the railing.
- **Councilor Gilman** requested through the Mayor that the DPW provide the Councilors with a schedule for crosswalk painting.

**COUNCILORS' THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

- **Councilor O'Hara** thanked his fellow councilors for attending the first in-person meeting of all the councilors for this Council. He also thanked the **City Clerk, Assistant City Clerk** and **IT Director**.
- **Councilor O'Hara** thanked **Councilor Margiotta** and his wife, **Councilor O'Neil** and **Councilor Gilman** for donating at the blood drive held jointly by the Red Cross and Dana Farber on May 23, 2022. He stated that 56 units was collected and conveyed that there is blood shortage in the New England area. He stated there would be a blood drive on Thursday, June 2, 2022, from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m., as well as on June 17 and June 27, and July 8 and July 12. He asked his fellow councilors to inform the public about the upcoming blood drives. He explained that the New England Organ Donor Bank participates in the blood drives to educate the public on organ donation.
- **Councilor Worthley** wished to acknowledge that the Magnolia Library is the third busiest donation location in the state behind Gillette Stadium and the TD Garden. He wished to acknowledge the hard work of **Councilor O'Hara**.
- **Councilor Memhard** wished to acknowledge the retirement of some longtime City employees, including Adrienne Lennon and Max Schenk.

**COUNCILORS' WARD UPDATES AND COMMUNITY NEWS:**

- **Councilor Nolan** conveyed that he would be hosting a Ward 5 meeting on June 1, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Magnolia Library.
- **Councilor Worthley** wished to acknowledge the efforts of Rose LoPiccolo. By way of background, he stated that his son had noticed a 'Fire Lane' sign that needed attention near O'Maley School and within 24 hours the sign was repaired after using the See-Click-Fix option via the City's website.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 (Grow, Margiotta) absent to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 p.m.**

**Submitted by: Sherry Karvelas, Clerk of Committees**

**Items submitted at the meeting:** None.

**Results of poll taken during May 24, 2022, City Council meeting:**

Poll Report								
Report Generated:	6/3/2022 10:57							
Topic	City Council Remote Meeting							
Webinar ID	820 5438 2175							
Actual Start Time	5/24/2022 18:48							
Actual Duration (minutes)	171							
Poll Details								
#	User Name	User Email	Submitted Date/Time	1. Did you have any difficulty HEARING any portion of the meeting?	2. Did you have any difficulty SEEING any of the panelists?	3. Did you have any difficulty VIEWING any of the presentations?	4. Compared to previous public Zoom meetings, would you say the technical quality of this meeting was:	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:35	Yes	No	No	About the same	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:45	No	Yes	No	About the same	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:48	Yes	Yes	Yes	About the same	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:47	Yes	Yes	No	Worse	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:56	No	No	No	Worse	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:36	No	Yes	No	About the same	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:37	No	No	No	About the same	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:39	No	No	No	About the same	
1	Anonymous	Anonymous	5/24/2022 20:35	Yes	Yes	No	Worse	
				<b>Yes</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1 Same</b>	<b>6</b>
				<b>No</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7 Worse</b>	<b>3</b>