

**GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING****Tuesday, August 8, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.****REMOTE MEETING****-Minutes-**

**Councilors Present: Council President, Councilor Val Gilman; Council Vice President, Councilor Sean Nolan; Councilor Tony Gross; Councilor Jason Grow; Councilor Frank Margiotta; Councilor Scott Memhard; Councilor Jamie O’Hara (arrived at 6:06 p.m.); Councilor Tracy O’Neil; Councilor Jeff Worthley**

**Also Present: City Clerk, Joanne Senos; Auditor, Kenny Costa; Director of Communications and Constituent Services, Pam Tobey**

*This meeting was conducted remotely through Zoom*

*All votes were ROLL CALL votes*

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

**Councilor Gilman** announced: “In the interest of government transparency 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 to be recognized to speak.”

“It is the finding of the City of Gloucester that no individual should be denied equal treatment or opportunity because of their age, ancestry, color, disability, including intellectual and developmental mental disability, family status, immigration status, gender identity or expression, military status, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.”

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

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Kimberly [Tipert], 61 Crafts Road - (last name not given by speaker)**

**Ms. Tipert** stated that she is calling on behalf of the pursuit of getting deep water on Rust Island. She stated getting deep water is in the best interests of public safety and health. She asked where the funding stands for this project and asked if the project would be completed in 2023.

**Anne Strong, 44 Crafts Road**

**Ms. Strong** stated that prior speakers on behalf of Rust Island have requested the strategic plan for water infrastructure work that the Mayor has referred to in his written responses to prior remarks from Oral Communications. She stated that she has not seen a copy of the strategic plan for water infrastructure work and that most recently Joanne Borselli in July had requested that the plan be made public, perhaps posted on the City website. She asked if it is a document that the public can, in fact, view, and asked if it can be posted to the City’s website.

**PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS:** None.

**CONFIRMATION OF NEW APPOINTMENTS:**

*Affordable Housing Trust**Larry Oaks (fulfilling unexpired term)**TTE 2/15/25*

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Margiotta, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted by ROLL CALL 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Larry Oaks (fulfilling unexpired term) to the Affordable Housing Trust, TTE 2/15/25.

**Summary of Discussion:** **Mr. Larry Oaks** stated that he has worked in the affordable housing business for almost thirty years. He stated that he believes that it is important to give back to the community where you reside and that he is looking forward to serving on the trust.

**Councilor Memhard** stated that **Mr. Oaks** is his brother-in-law and that he has extensive experience in addressing people in need of affordable housing. He stated that he is confident that **Mr. Oaks** will make a great addition to the Affordable Housing Trust. **Councilor Grow** stated that **Mr. Oaks** is passionate about affordable housing and agreed that he is a great addition. **Councilor Margiotta** offered his full support as well and stated that he is excited to see what **Mr. Oaks** can do to help. **Councilor Nolan** also offered his full support.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Larry Oaks (fulfilling unexpired term) to the Affordable Housing Trust, TTE 2/15/25.**

*Affordable Housing Trust**Robert Gillis (fulfilling unexpired term)**TTE 2/14/24*

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Margiotta, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Robert Gillis (fulfilling unexpired term) to the Affordable Housing Trust, TTE 2/14/24.

**Summary of Discussion:** **Mr. Robert Gillis** stated that he has been involved in the affordable housing arena for many years and is currently on the Board of Harborlight Homes. He stated that it is an honor to be a part of the Trust in trying to address the serious issues around affordable housing.

**Councilor Nolan** offered his full support for this appointment and thanked **Mr. Gillis** for his willingness to serve. **Councilor Worthley** stated that **Mr. Gillis** helped him many years ago with a first time homebuyer's loan through the Cape Ann Savings Bank. He added that he will be a great addition to the Affordable Housing Trust. **Councilor Grow** stated that he appreciates **Mr. Gillis'** ongoing work throughout the community. **Councilor Gross** thanked **Mr. Gillis** for his willingness to serve and his endless energy. **Councilor Gilman** echoed the sentiments of her fellow councilors and stated that **Mr. Gillis** is a terrific leader in the community. **Councilor Memhard** stated that he has worked with **Mr. Gillis** on a number of committees and task forces over the years and stated that **Mr. Gillis** is a practical person and strong advocate who listens well. **Councilor O'Hara** stated that **Mr. Gillis** is a true professional and thanked him for his willingness to help others within the City. **Councilor O'Neil** stated that she looks forward to working with **Mr. Gillis**. **Councilor Margiotta** echoed the sentiments of his fellow councilors.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Robert Gillis (fulfilling unexpired term) to the Affordable Housing Trust, TTE 2/14/24.**

*Conservation Commission**Peter Vetere**TTE 2/15/25*

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O’Hara, seconded by Councilor Margiotta, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Peter Vetere to the Conservation Commission, TTE 2/15/25.

**Summary of Discussion:** **Mr. Peter Vetere** stated that he is an environmental and land use attorney based out of Boston. He stated that he has professional experience working with conservation commissions and that he is looking forward to serving the community in this new role.

**Councilor Grow** stated that being a member of the Conservation Commission is a very important role. He stated that he appreciates **Mr. Vetere’s** willingness to serve. **Councilor Margiotta** stated that he is looking forward to working with **Mr. Vetere** and thanked him for stepping up. **Councilor Memhard** also thanked **Mr. Vetere** for agreeing to serve, as the position is demanding and very active. **Councilor Nolan** stated that the Conservation Commission is very important to the City and thanked **Mr. Vetere** for stepping up.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Margiotta, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Peter Vetere to the Conservation Commission, TTE 2/15/25.**

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- **CONFIRMATION OF REAPPOINTMENTS**
  - **MAYOR’S REPORT**
1. Memorandum from General Counsel re: Proposed amendments to Div. 8, “Human Rights Commission,” Sec. 2-496 et seq. and Div. 10A “Disability Rights Commission,” Sec. 2-515 et seq. (Refer O&A)
  2. Memorandum from Sustainability Coordinator requesting acceptance of Road Vulnerability Study – MVP Action Grant in the amount of \$58,506 (Refer B&F)
  3. Memorandum from MIS Director requesting acceptance of State Earmark Funding in the amount of \$300,000 (Refer B&F)
  4. Memorandum from Executive Director of Gloucester 400+ with a Gloucester 400+ update (Info Only)
  5. Mayor’s response to July 25, 2023 City Council oral communications (Info Only)
- **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**
  - **INFORMATION ONLY**
  - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**
  - **COUNCILLORS ORDERS**
1. CC#2023-045 (Grow): Amend GCO Ch. 2, Art. V, Div. 9 – Clean City Commission, Sec. 2-503(a) “Established; terms; compensation” by STRIKING “seven” members and ADDING “five” members (Refer O&A)
  2. CC#2023-046 (Worthley): Amend GCO Ch. 5 “Building and Building Regulations,” Art. IV “Construction or restoration of city-owned buildings” by ADDING a new Sec. 5-62 (Refer O&A)
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
1. City Council Meeting: 7/25/2023 (Approve/File)
  2. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 8/3/2023 (under separate cover), O&A 7/31/2023, P&D 8/2/2023 (Approve/File)

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED/REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept the Consent Agenda.**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **• Budget & Finance – August 3, 2023**

#### ***1. Memorandum from Regional Prevention Director – Gloucester Health Department requesting acceptance of a Peter & Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation Community Change Grant in the amount of \$150,000***

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Worthley) absent, to recommend that the City Council accept, under MGL c. 44, §53A, a private grant in the amount of \$150,000 from The Peter & Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation for the purpose of supporting the City’s Cape Ann/North Shore Youth-Led Mental Health Wellness Initiative for FY2024, that includes creating a youth-driven, adult-supported movement working

towards building communities more conducive to good youth mental health both regionally and community based. The grant period is from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. There is no local match required for this grant.

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Memhard explained that this is the second year of a three-year grant in the amount of \$150,000 and that the Regional Prevention Director, Ms. Chelsea Goldstein-Walsh, provided, at B&F, a detailed overview of how the grant funding will be used. Councilor Gilman added that mental health awareness is timely and appreciated.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept, under MGL c. 44, §53A, a private grant in the amount of \$150,000 from The Peter & Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation for the purpose of supporting the City’s Cape Ann/North Shore Youth-Led Mental Health Wellness Initiative for FY2024, that includes creating a youth-driven, adult-supported movement working towards building communities more conducive to good youth mental health both regionally and community based. The grant period is from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. There is no local match required for this grant.

Councilor Grow offered a motion for reconsideration of the vote.

**MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION:** On a motion by Councilor Grow, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 0 in favor, 9 opposed, to RECONSIDER the vote for acceptance of the private grant in the amount of \$150,000 from The Peter & Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation for the purpose of supporting the City’s Cape Ann/North Shore Youth-Led Mental Health Wellness Initiative for FY2024.

The motion fails.

*2. Memorandum from Director of Elder Services requesting acceptance of donations in the amount of \$490*

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept various cash donations, under MGL c. 44, §53A, to support the Council on Aging in the amount of \$490 from the following members and business partners within our community:

Associated Charities	\$150.00
Stephen & Betsy Whittey	\$250.00
Paul Fini	\$ 20.00
Amy Kaplan	\$ 20.00
Antonio Grillo	\$ 20.00
Sandra Shea	\$ 20.00
Phyllis Reardon	\$ 10.00
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	Total: \$ 490.00.

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Memhard thanked all the generous donors.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept various cash donations, under MGL c. 44, §53A, to support the Council on Aging in the amount of \$490 from the following members and business partners within our community:

Associated Charities	\$150.00
Stephen & Betsy Whittey	\$250.00
Paul Fini	\$ 20.00
Amy Kaplan	\$ 20.00
Antonio Grillo	\$ 20.00
Sandra Shea	\$ 20.00
Phyllis Reardon	\$ 10.00
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	<b>Total: \$ 490.00.</b>

• **Ordinances & Administration – July 31, 2023 (no items under this heading)**

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Nolan stated that there were no items for the Council’s consideration.

• **Planning & Development – August 2, 2023 (no items under this heading)**

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Grow highlighted that there are three upcoming special events – August 27, 2023, the Gloucester 400+ 1-Mile Race from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM; August 27, 2023, the Cape Ann Museum Brazilian Independence Day Celebration from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; and on September 17, 2023 (with rain date of September 24, 2023), the annual Fishbox Derby on Rogers Street all day long.

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- PH2023-041: Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles,” Sec. 22-270 “Parking prohibited at all times” and Sec. 22-291 “Tow-away zones” by ADDING “No parking at 128 Rogers Street for 25 feet in a southerly direction from the northern crosswalk and in a northern direction from the same northern crosswalk to the corner of Gorton’s parking lot entrance at 128 Rogers Street” and ADDING “No parking at 127 Rogers Street for 25 feet in a southerly direction from the northern crosswalk.”**

**The Public Hearing was opened at 6:35 p.m.**

**Those speaking in favor:** None.

**Those speaking in opposition:** None.

**Written communications:** The City Clerk, Joanne Senos, stated that there were no written communications received.

**Questions from Councilors:** None.

**The Public Hearing was closed at 6:35 p.m.**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** On a motion by Councilor Margiotta, seconded by Councilor O’Hara, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted by ROLL CALL 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council amend the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Chapter 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles,” Article VI. “Traffic Schedules,” Section 22-270 “Parking prohibited at all times” and Sec. 22-291 “Tow-away zones” by ADDING:

“No Parking at 128 Rogers St. for 25 feet in a southerly direction from the northern crosswalk and in a northerly direction from the same northern crosswalk to corner of Gorton’s parking lot entrance at 128 Rogers St.”

“No Parking at 127 Rogers St. for 25 feet in a southerly direction from the northern crosswalk.”

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Gross stated that he had received an email from the Operations and Safety Manager at Gorton’s Seafood, David Gazda, regarding safety issues while crossing Rogers Street and stated that a Gorton’s employee had been hit by a vehicle while crossing the crosswalk. Mr. Gazda felt that it would be advantageous, and far safer, if there was a clear line of sight for anyone entering the crosswalk. From personal experience driving on Rogers Street, Councilor Gross felt that not allowing parking 25 feet in each direction from the northern crosswalk would be a great service to one of the City’s largest employers in helping to keep their employees (and anyone else using the crosswalk) safe.

Councilor Grow thanked Councilor Gross for submitting this Council Order. He stated that he is disappointed as he felt that the Order was unnecessarily delayed but that he is glad that it is ready for the Council to vote on. Councilor O’Neil stated that she did not feel it was unnecessarily delayed as she had to get some “clearer information” regarding the crosswalks. She thanked Councilor Gross for his work on this matter and stated that having a clear sight line is important. Councilor Worthley also thanked Councilor Gross for his work on this matter and stated that he would be supporting this matter. Councilor O’Hara stated that safety is of the utmost importance and also thanked Councilor Gross for bringing this matter forward. Councilor Gilman stated that partnerships between businesses and the City Council are important and stated that she will be supporting this matter.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O’Hara, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to amend the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Chapter 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles,” Article VI. “Traffic Schedules,” Section 22-270 “Parking prohibited at all times” and Sec. 22-291 “Tow-away zones” by ADDING:**

**“No Parking at 128 Rogers St. for 25 feet in a southerly direction from the northern crosswalk and in a northerly direction from the same northern crosswalk to corner of Gorton’s parking lot entrance at 128 Rogers St.”**

**“No Parking at 127 Rogers St. for 25 feet in a southerly direction from the northern crosswalk.”**

Councilor Gross offered a motion for reconsideration. He stated that if the Council had acted on this matter when it was first brought forward the 31-day waiting period would have already been over and the change would have already been enacted. He asked that there be no other delays moving this matter forward.

**MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION: On a motion by Councilor Gross, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 0 in favor, 9 opposed, to RECONSIDER the vote to amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles,” Sec. 22-270 “Parking prohibited at all times” and Sec. 22-291 “Tow-away zones.”**

The motion fails.

**FOR COUNCIL VOTE:**

1. City Council vote to amend the purpose in a previous action taken on January 24, 2023 (COV 2023-029), by STRIKING the language “Waterfront Resiliency Survey” and INSERTING “Site Re-Elevation and Waterfront Resiliency Improvements project”

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Grow offered a motion to approve the amendment, seconded by Councilor Memhard.

The **City Clerk** confirmed that the language of the amendment is “re-elevation” (and not re-evaluation). **Councilor O’Neil** asked if the dock or the pier would be elevated. The **Auditor, Kenny Costa**, explained that the Council is amending a motion to match exactly what was voted on by the Community Preservation Committee [CPC]. He stated on September 20, 2022, the CPC voted on the language of “Site Re-Elevation and Waterfront Resiliency Improvements Project.” He explained that when he was reading the contract he noticed the differing language and brought it forward to the Council President and City Clerk to seek an amendment in the language and he confirmed that there is no change to the project. He reminded the City Council that this project was vetted by the CPC, as well as the Budget & Finance Committee and the full City Council earlier this year.

**Councilor O’Neil** asked for additional clarification as she stated she is still confused as to whether the funding is for a survey or whether it is a project. The **Auditor** confirmed that it is not a survey and that the matter before the Council is to simply correct the language. **Councilor O’Neil** reiterated that a survey is different from a project. The **City Clerk** explained that when the matter came through the Mayor’s Report it was incorrectly labeled as “survey” and that the language was carried over from the Mayor’s Report for referral to the City Council. **Councilor Grow** added that this project is under the purview of the CPC and that he does not see any reason in delaying the matter.

**MOTION TO AMEND: On a motion by Councilor Grow, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 1 (O’Neil) opposed, to AMEND Certificate of Vote 2023-029 by striking “Waterfront Resiliency Survey” and inserting “Site Re-Elevation and Waterfront Resiliency Improvements project.”**

The **Auditor** asked the Council to consider a Motion for Reconsideration so that the City can sign the contract as soon as possible.

**MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 0 in favor, 9 opposed, to RECONSIDER the vote to amend the vote to amend Certificate of Vote 2023-029.**

**The motion fails.**

#### **INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLOR’S DISCUSSION INCLUDING REPORTS BY APPOINTED COUNCILLORS TO COMMITTEES:**

##### **1. Councilor Val Gilman re: Administrative correction to Certificate of Vote #2023-096 pertaining to City Council Salary**

**Summary of Discussion:** **Councilor Gilman** explained that on April 25, 2023, the City Council voted 5 in favor, 4 opposed, to approve an increase to the councilors’ salary. She stated that she then announced that the motion passed on a vote of 5 in favor, 4 opposed. While working on the Annual Report recently she realized that, per the City Charter, to adopt a councilor salary increase a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote is required so the matter actually failed. **Councilor Gilman** explained that the matter stands as voted, the vote has failed, and that this is simply an administrative correction. The councilor salary, she stated, starting in January 2024 with continue at \$11,500/year and that there will not be an increase to \$14,000/year.

**Councilor Nolan** stated that as councilors they are all responsible for knowing and understanding what each vote means, and what the capacity of each vote is to pass/fail. He stated that the full Council should take responsibility.

**Councilor Gross** agreed that this is not the fault of a single councilor. He apologized for his part in not catching the error. **Councilor Grow** stated that the Council collectively is supposed to know the rules of the Charter. **Councilor Margiotta** thanked **Councilor Gilman** for all that she does to support the Council and agreed that the full Council is responsible. **Councilor O’Hara** thanked the full Council for their understanding and thanked **Councilor Gilman** for bringing this forward expeditiously for corrective action.

## 2. City Council statement regarding the Gloucester 400<sup>th</sup> celebration

**Summary of Discussion:** Councilor Nolan read a statement on behalf of the City Council in support of the Gloucester 400<sup>th</sup> celebration: “2023 marks 400 years since the English Dorchester Company landed on our shores. Gloucester sits on the ancestral homeland of the Pawtucket people and their neighbors, the Massachusetts Nipmuc and Penacook and Wampanoag tribes. Please enjoy the year-long and multiple events throughout 2023, most of which will be free or low cost. Visit [GloucesterMA400.org](http://GloucesterMA400.org) for a list of upcoming events, like and share the Gloucester 400 Facebook page. To receive major event notifications by email, send a request to [info@GloucesterMA400.org](mailto:info@GloucesterMA400.org) or stop by the Magnolia Farmers Market next Sunday to pick up a brochure about the Gloucester 400+ at the Ask a Councilor table.”

### **COUNCILORS’ REQUESTS TO THE MAYOR:**

- Councilor O’Neil requested to the Mayor that he contact National Grid to request a cleanup of their property at 109 Rogers Street which, she stated, is grossly overgrown, coming out onto the sidewalk, as well as behind the fence.
- Councilor O’Neil requested through the Mayor that the Public Works Director contact the trash hauler (Republic) to rearrange their schedule on Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as the new East Veterans Elementary School is opening so not to interfere with drop-off/pickup times.
- Councilor Worthley requested to the Mayor an update on the differences between the Council on Aging and Friends of the Council on Aging, including if the Friends of the Council on Aging is dissolved and the expectations going forward.
- Councilor Memhard requested through the Mayor that the Public Works Department place additional trash barrels and recycling barrels in the downtown area. By way of background, Councilor Memhard stated that he received an email from a constituent who walks the area regularly and is greatly concerned about the trash she sees throughout her walk.
- Councilor Memhard requested through the Mayor that the Public Works Department fix the curb that overlooks the public parking at Niles Beach. By way of background, Councilor Memhard conveyed that this past weekend a car jumped the curb, and was hanging out over the beach almost hitting beach-goers sitting underneath.

### **COUNCILORS’ THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

- Councilor O’Hara thanked the Mayor and Councilor Nolan for their efforts in moving the Magnolia Pier project forward.
- Councilor O’Hara wished to explain that he has been working out of state from Canada to Puerto Rico, from the East Coast to California and everywhere in between since 1985 after graduating from Wentworth. He stated that his business, like so many other businesses, has been decimated by COVID and impacted drastically. He apologized to any resident or councilor who thinks he is “shorting them” and stated that he answers or returns every phone call and tries to help each and every constituent as much as possible.
- Councilors Worthley and Margiotta thanked the Community Impact Unit for hosting the Lobster Crate Challenge.
- Councilor Worthley thanked the Gloucester 400+ Committee for their work on the Man at the Wheel Statue event recognizing the City’s fishermen. He stated that there is an event this coming weekend at the State Fish Pier.

### **COUNCILORS’ WARD UPDATES AND COMMUNITY NEWS:**

- Councilor Worthley asked that the community use additional caution while driving as school is starting at the end of the month.



- **Councilor Gross** pointed out that on Thursday there will be a COVID vaccine clinic from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the YMCA.
- **Councilors Gross, Grow and Margiotta** both highlighted that this Saturday is the Downtown Block Party.
- **Councilor Gross** stated that he will be at the Fisheries Heritage Festival on Sunday to showcase his fishing skills.
- **Councilor Gross** stated that this Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, “*Gloucester Story*” will be at Maritime Gloucester, put on by the Annisquam Village Players. **Councilor Gilman** highlighted that the dress rehearsal on Monday of the “*Gloucester Story*” was fantastic and the audience included twelve members of the Rockport Council on Aging and thirty-eight people from the Rose Baker Senior Center.
- **Councilor Grow** wished to inform the public that he contacted the Public Works Director regarding the hours that the Gloucester High School track is open, which is just after 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. (if there are no afterschool sporting events). If there are afterschool sporting events, then the stadium will be staffed and open to walk the track. **Mr. Hale** further stated that if there is a desire to have the stadium open additional hours then the first step would be to request additional staffing, which is an administrative issue through the Mayor’s Office.
- **Councilor Grow** wished to point out that he has learned through Toni Borge of the Human Rights Commission that Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, is Agent Orange Awareness Day as designated by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. He read a letter submitted by Ms. Borge regarding the use and effects of Agent Orange. **Councilor Nolan** added that Agent Orange was horrible and that there are many City residents that have been affected. He thanked **Councilor Grow** and Toni Borge for bringing awareness to this important issue.
- **Councilor Worthley** wished to give kudos to **Councilors Nolan and Grow** for starting the “Ask a Councilor” table at the Magnolia Community Farmer’s Market. He stated that he will be at the table this weekend and encouraged the public to come and ask questions.
- **Councilor Gilman** stated that October 11<sup>th</sup> is Dick Wilson’s birthday and that Council will be doing a Proclamation at City Hall to recognize his many contributions to the City. The event will include members of the public as well as proclamations from the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Mayor’s Office and the School Committee.
- **Councilor Gilman** stated that on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. there will be an open house and dedication at Seacoast in memory of Tom Lattof. She asked that all councilors attend.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Grow, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.**

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

**Items submitted at the meeting:** Email from Toni Borge to Councilor Grow regarding Agent Orange Awareness Day