

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING**Tuesday, September 12, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.****Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall****9 Dale Avenue****Gloucester, MA 01930****-Minutes-**

Councilors Present (in person): 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; Councilor Tracy O’Neil; Councilor Jeff Worthley

Also Present (in person): Mayor Greg Verga; CAO, Jill Cahill; City Clerk, Joanne Senos; Assistant City Clerk, Grace E. Poirier; Public Health Director, Dominique Hurley; IT, Shelly Ciolino

Also Present (remote): CFO, John Dunn; Auditor, Kenny Costa; General Counsel, Suzanne Egan

This meeting was conducted with the City Council in person with the public participating in-person and remotely via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 6:04 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, for the convenience of the public this meeting is recorded by video and audio and a zoom link was posted on the agenda. 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. Roll call votes will only be necessary if a specific matter requires one or a member of the council participates remotely.”

“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.

FLAG SALUTE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: **Councilor O’Neil** led the **Members of the City Council** with a flag salute and moment of silence.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**Jeff Brown, 145 Essex Avenue**

Mr. Brown read a letter entitled “Has Gilman Betrayed Us? The Truth Behind Dogtown” (on file in the City Clerk’s office).

Susanne Altenburger, 66 Atlantic Street

Ms. Altenburger stated the fishing industry has been ‘frozen in time’ since 1994 and that the City is celebrating its 400th anniversary without a modern fishing fleet as allowed by federal code. She proposed that the sitting City Council express a perspective of support in how the fishing industry can be changed for the better. She submitted newspaper articles (on file in the City Clerk’s office) regarding these issues.

Ann Strong, 44 Crafts Road

Ms. Strong wished to express the need for deep water on Rust Island for fire protection. She conveyed that since she last addressed the City Council a productive meeting was held with **Mayor Verga, Councilor Nolan; CAO, Jill Cahill; and General Counsel, Suzanne Egan**. She also stated that she is encouraged and relieved from the progress thus far.

Linda Anderson, 2 Dalton Ave

Ms. Anderson wished to make the Council aware on what she believes is a current youth mental health crisis. She asked that the Council do what they can to help the youth of the City.

Beth Ilges, 31 Bass Ave

Ms. Ilges thanked the Open Door and the fuel assistance program for their work in the community.

Laurie Johns, 44 Lexington Ave

Ms. Johns asked that the City Council “look at the City as a whole” and expressed that everyone deserves a “fair living wage.”

Matthew Lewis, 356 Forest Street

Mr. Lewis stated that a new civics curriculum has been developed in the Gloucester Public Schools that discusses city meetings and ordinances and wished to recognize his fellow educators for promoting democracy and discussion.

Saltanat Berdikееva, 33 Middle Street

Ms. Berdikееva stated that she and her husband, Peter Johnson, are direct abutters to the proposed development at 20 Main Street and that they were not informed about the development by the City and “accidentally” learned about it approximately a month ago. She stated that the development has undergone approvals by the ZBA and the Historic District Commission and has received variances over the past seven months and she was not able to attend the public hearings as she was not properly notified. She stated that she submitted a petition to the City Council, Mayor Verga and the Planning Department that has 196 signatures of “Gloucester residents and voters” to stop the 20 Main Street development. She asked that her concerns are heard when the matter comes before the City Council.

James O’Hara, 55 Lexington Avenue

Mr. O’Hara thanked Mayor Verga for assisting Ward 2 constituent Fatima Silva on School Street who experienced a fire at her home over a year ago. He stated this past week he received an email from General Counsel which he felt was “strong-arming” him to not reach out to anyone within the City. He stated that he had reached out to the Mayor and the Electrical Inspector at the request of National Grid. **Councilor O’Hara** stated that in consultation with his own attorney he felt it best to address the matter publicly.

Tracy O’Neil, 12 Friend Street

Ms. O’Neil stated that she too received a letter from General Counsel stating that she cannot reach out to any public employee. She stated that she also felt that she was being “strong-armed” and “bullied.” She stated that she had reached out to the Fire Inspector with questions as Ms. Silva had been without a home for over a year. She stated that the email she received from General Counsel is an overreach of government that prevents her from effectively doing her job.

Catherine Ryan, 17 High Rock Terrace

Ms. Ryan wished to call attention to the Open Door and the cause of hunger in those underserved in the community and the importance of equity. She stated that she has not received a response to her Oral Communications at City Council and School Committee meetings from May of 2023. She stated that the Gloucester Public School District enrollment plummeted from 2010 to 2019. In 2010, it was 3,372 and the current

year enrollment for the high school is 804 and that on any given day last year over 250 children were absent. She also stated that the percentage of children heading to college after graduation has plummeted. Since her comments in May, she stated that US News and World Report published that the district dropped further and now only 18% of Gloucester High School students are college ready. She stated that there is social class prejudice from members of leadership in the community and asked that the City Council address accountability at the city and school district leadership levels. She also asked that the consolidation plans for Beeman and Plum Cove Schools be halted.

Mary Ann Albert Boucher, 93 Mt. Pleasant Avenue

Ms. Boucher stated that she formerly was a paraprofessional. She stated that if the City Council did not support paraprofessionals then they are not supporting the children.

PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS:

1. Mayor Greg Verga re: Introduction of Public Health Director, Dominique Hurley

Summary of Discussion: Mayor Verga stated that he is pleased to introduce the new **Public Health Director, Dominique Hurley**. He stated that she has an extensive background in the healthcare, biotech and pharmaceutical industries along with extensive leadership skills. **Chair of the Board of Health, Joe Rosa**, stated that the City's Health Department has limited staff who perform a multitude of functions and has been without a director for a long period of time and thanked the **CAO** for her work in stepping up to be the acting manager of the department. He stated that he believes the Council, and the City, will be pleased with the new **Public Health Director, Dominique Hurley**.

Ms. Hurley stated that she is honored to serve the community in this role. She gave a brief overview of her professional career, which has been spent in the healthcare arena. She stated that she hopes she can bring both efficient and effective practices in leadership to the team. The **Members of the City Council** welcomed **Ms. Hurley** to the City.

2. City Council September Hunger Month Proclamation

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Gilman introduced **Ms. Sarah Grow** and **Ms. Julie Lafontaine** of the Open Door. **Ms. LaFontaine** gave a brief overview of the Open Door's mission which is to alleviate the impact of hunger in the community. She stated that she appreciated the wearing of the color orange, which is a call to action to raise awareness for the issue of hunger. She highlighted various ways members of the community, as well as businesses, can help by hosting food drives.

Councilor Gilman read the Proclamation to declare the month of September to be Hunger Action Month and presented it to **Ms. LaFontaine** and **Ms. Grow** for their work in supporting the Open Door.

Members of the City Council provided personal stories about their experiences with the Open Door, as well as offered thanks for the work that is done day in and day out throughout the community.

CONFIRMATION OF NEW APPOINTMENTS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- **CONFIRMATION OF REAPPOINTMENTS**
- **MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. New Appointments
Board of Registrars Kathleen Piaggese (*fulfilling unexpired term*) TTE 2/14/25 (Refer O&A)
2. Memorandum from Civil Engineer requesting grant of a Cathodic Protection Easement on Forest Lane (Refer P&D)
3. Memorandum from Veterans Services Director requesting acceptance of donations in the amount of \$210 (Refer B&F)
4. Memorandum from DPW Director and #2024-SBT-1 in the amount of \$150,000 for roadside vegetation cleanup and paving management (Refer B&F)

5. Memorandum from CFO & #2024-SA-1 in the amount of \$46,000 to purchase a new 2024 GMC Sierra pickup truck for Harbormaster (Refer B&F)
6. Memorandum from CFO and #2024-SA-2 in the amount of \$20,000 for funding match for MA DEP GAP Grant for improvements to West Gloucester and Babson Water Plants (Refer B&F)
7. Memorandum from CFO: Loan Authorization request for the Blueberry Lane paving betterment in the amount of \$68,000 (Refer B&F)
8. Memorandum from CFO: Loan Authorization request for the Ocean Highlands paving betterment in the amount of \$250,000 (Refer B&F)
9. Memorandum from Fire Chief requesting acceptance of the FEMA AFG 2022 Grant in the amount of \$82,500 (Refer B&F)
10. Memorandum from Fire Chief requesting to pay FY23 invoice with FY24 funds (Refer B&F)
11. Memorandum from Fire Chief requesting to pay FY23 invoice with FY24 funds (Refer B&F)
12. Memorandum from Fire Chief & #2024-SBT-2 in the amount of \$52,000 to fund purchase of two LUCAS 3 chest compression systems (Refer B&F)
13. Memorandum from Committee for the Arts requesting the city's acceptance of a painting of City Hall by artist Kari Ruiz (Refer B&F)
14. Memorandum from Committee for the Arts requesting the city's acceptance of a portrait of former Mayor Davis (Refer B&F)
15. Memorandum from Committee for the Arts requesting acceptance of four seascapes by Roger Curtis (Refer B&F)
16. Memorandum from Gloucester 400+ Executive Director with a Gloucester 400+ update (Info Only)
17. Mayor's response to oral communications from the August 22, 2023 City Council (Info Only)
 - **ADDENDUM TO THE MAYOR'S REPORT**
 - 1. Memorandum from General Counsel re: Private road paving of Ocean Highlands (Refer B&F)
 - 2. Memorandum from General Counsel re: Private road paving of Blueberry Lane (Refer B&F)
 - **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**
 - 1. City Council Resolution re: Gloucester Education Support Professional wages (FCV 9/26/23)
 - **INFORMATION ONLY**
 - 1. Memorandum from Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities re: Revision to Sec. 3A Compliance Guidelines (Info Only)
 - 2. Public notice from City Clerk on the September 19, 2023 Preliminary Municipal Election (Info Only)
 - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**
 - 1. SCP2023-007: Eastern Avenue #210, Map 264, Lot 23, GZO Sec. 1.8.6 "Lapse of Special Permit" to request finding of good cause that SCP2015-002 granted pursuant to GZO Sec. 2.3.4(6) "Businesses Uses" and Sec. 2.3.4(7) "Animal boarding, kennel – 24 hour operations," Map 264, Lot 23, has not lapsed (Refer P&D)
 - **COUNCILORS ORDERS**
 - 5. CC#2023-047 (Gross/Grow/Nolan): Amend GCO Ch. 21 "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places," Sec. 21-84 "Permanent construction or repair" subsection (b), condition 4, by adding "with a cap of \$500" (Refer O&A)
 - **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
 - 1. City Council Meeting: 8/22/2023 (Approve/File)
 - 2. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 9/7/2023 (under separate cover), O&A 9/4/2023 (no meeting), P&D 9/6/2023 (under separate cover) (Approve/File)

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT CALENDAR:

- **ADDENDUM TO THE MAYOR'S REPORT**
- 1. Memorandum from Mayor requesting an amendment to Gloucester Code of Ordinances re: Allowing vehicles with veterans plates to park for free at meters or lots (Refer O&A)

ITEMS TO BE ADDED/REMOVED FROM THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT CALENDAR: None.

By unanimous consent, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept the Unanimous Consent Calendar.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

• Budget & Finance – September 7, 2023

1. Memorandum from Public Works Director re: request to pay FY23 National Grid invoices with FY24 funds

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64, approve payment of prior year invoices from National Grid, PO Box 371396, Pittsburgh,

PA 15250-7396, for electrical services to various City buildings/streets, for the purpose of paying the following invoices to be paid with FY2024 General Fund – DPW and the Dorothy Talbot Rink Enterprise Fund budgeted funds for a total of \$97,829.44.

<i>Account</i>	<i>Billing Date</i>	<i>Billing Period</i>	<i>Service Location- Gloucester</i>	<i>Amount \$</i>
29892-12000	6/23/23	12/7/22 to 1/7/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	3,812.80
29892-12000	6/26/23	1/7/23 to 2/6/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	3,717.30
29892-12000	6/27/23	2/6/23 to 3/3/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	3,556.16
29892-12000	6/29/23	3/3/23 to 4/5/23	DPW – 15 Hickory St	2,937.50
29892-12000	7/3/23	4/5/23 to 5/5/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	2,188.36
29892-12000	7/7/23	5/5/23 to 6/7/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	1,040.76
07010-01005	6/23/23	5/24/23 to 6/23/23	DPW - 00 Street Lgts	5,421.60
77461-80000	6/26/23	5/4/23 to 6/2/23	DPW - 9 Dale Ave	3,083.31
77461-80000	7/10/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW - 9 Dale Ave	2,436.44
40983-61001	6/26/23	5/26/23 to 6/26/23	DPW - 40 Blynman Ave	18,707.88
90835-34006	6/28/23	5/24/23 to 6/23/23	DPW - 97 Western Ave	81.52
15178-08008	6/30/23	5/18/23 to 6/20/23	DPW - 88 Middle Street	346.42
26142-06005	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	30 Great Republic Way	10.00
13476-59000	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW - 57 Main St	107.37
63555-75009	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW - Prospect St	57.38
98681-91001	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW - Washington St, Pole 1 @CRN Main St	40.76
51081-22000	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	Washington St, Pole 179	10.00
52282-86007	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW - Western Ave, Seawall Lights	273.97
01234-39001	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW - Wolf HL Pole 4949	47.02
10339-73000	7/12/23	6/12/23 to 7/12/23	School Business Office – 10 Concord St	11,844.05
76570-62011	7/5/23	6/5/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – Davis Street, School	2,326.09
50884-17006	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Fire, Fuller St Pole 4854	201.63
26109-68004	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	School – Business Office – Gardner Ter Pole 7779	1,361.68
12281-55003	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 6 Green St	14.65
02403-82003	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 4 Harbor Loop	63.12
88469-96001	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 4 Harbor Loop	44.95
77070-33026	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 19 Harbor Loop	867.02
27241-70023	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 19 Harbor Loop UPPR UPST	130.83
03033-89004	7/6/23	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	DPW - Hickory St Pole 8373	1,659.15
25941-20002	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Schools – Hough Ave	70.86
01053-86007	7/7/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – Hough Ave Pole 4455	497.49
23283-51008	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	21 Hough Ave	13.34
63361-10006	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Kent Cir	30.57
27627-58003	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	City Hall – Main St	187.70
52172-00073	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Lyceum and Sawyer -21 Main St FL 3, 3 rd FL	888.25

15178-08008	7/20/23	6/20/23 to 7/20/23	DPW – 88 Middle St	951.36
88498-38006	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	Gloucester Little League DR Osman Babson Rd	275.98
15284-60014	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 75 Pleasant St, Park	80.58
13489-40000	7/6/23	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 3 Pond Road	2,653.98
26140-68005	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – City Hall – 22 Poplar St	10.00
38585-25008	7/7/23	6/7/23 to 7/6/23	DPW – 26 Poplar St	913.76
26114-78027	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 26 Poplar St	92.00
63558-39008	7/10/23	6/7/23 to 7/6/23	DPW – 26 Poplar St	327.87
13684-43002	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 28 Poplar St	477.41
13476-84003	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 9 Proctor St	10.00
02755-87016	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	51 Rogers St, Unit 2	359.55
13483-39007	7/7/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Stage Fort Park Ave Pole 4455	79.26
88500-50027	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 99 Thatcher Rd Pole 7555	38.59
88467-05000	7/7/23	6/7/23 to 7/6/23	DPW – 30 Cherry St	23,481.17
TOTAL:				\$97,829.44

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Memhard explained that this is a housekeeping issue where FY23 invoices are to be paid with FY24 funds totaling \$97,829.44. He explained that the City recently received the bills as they were not properly processed by National Grid.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64, approve payment of prior year invoices from National Grid, PO Box 371396, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7396, for electrical services to various City buildings/streets, for the purpose of paying the following invoices to be paid with FY2024 General Fund – DPW and the Dorothy Talbot Rink Enterprise Fund budgeted funds for a total of \$97,829.44.

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29892-12000	6/27/23	2/6/23 to 3/3/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	3,556.16
29892-12000	6/29/23	3/3/23 to 4/5/23	DPW – 15 Hickory St	2,937.50
29892-12000	7/3/23	4/5/23 to 5/5/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	2,188.36
29892-12000	7/7/23	5/5/23 to 6/7/23	DPW - 15 Hickory St	1,040.76
07010-01005	6/23/23	5/24/23 to 6/23/23	DPW - 00 Street Lgts	5,421.60
77461-80000	6/26/23	5/4/23 to 6/2/23	DPW - 9 Dale Ave	3,083.31
77461-80000	7/10/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW - 9 Dale Ave	2,436.44
40983-61001	6/26/23	5/26/23 to 6/26/23	DPW - 40 Blynman Ave	18,707.88
90835-34006	6/28/23	5/24/23 to 6/23/23	DPW - 97 Western Ave	81.52
15178-08008	6/30/23	5/18/23 to 6/20/23	DPW - 88 Middle Street	346.42
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10339-73000	7/12/23	6/12/23 to 7/12/23	School Business Office – 10 Concord St	11,844.05
76570-62011	7/5/23	6/5/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – Davis Street, School	2,326.09
50884-17006	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Fire, Fuller St Pole 4854	201.63
26109-68004	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	School – Business Office – Gardner Ter Pole 7779	1,361.68
12281-55003	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 6 Green St	14.65
02403-82003	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 4 Harbor Loop	63.12
88469-96001	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 4 Harbor Loop	44.95
77070-33026	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 19 Harbor Loop	867.02
27241-70023	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 19 Harbor Loop UPPR UPST	130.83
03033-89004	7/6/23	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	DPW - Hickory St Pole 8373	1,659.15
25941-20002	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Schools – Hough Ave	70.86
01053-86007	7/7/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – Hough Ave Pole 4455	497.49
23283-51008	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	21 Hough Ave	13.34
63361-10006	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Kent Cir	30.57
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15178-08008	7/20/23	6/20/23 to 7/20/23	DPW – 88 Middle St	951.36
88498-38006	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	Gloucester Little League DR Osman Babson Rd	275.98
15284-60014	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 75 Pleasant St, Park	80.58
13489-40000	7/6/23	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 3 Pond Road	2,653.98
26140-68005	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – City Hall – 22 Poplar St	10.00
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26114-78027	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 26 Poplar St	92.00
63558-39008	7/10/23	6/7/23 to 7/6/23	DPW – 26 Poplar St	327.87
13684-43002	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 28 Poplar St	477.41
13476-84003	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	DPW – 9 Proctor St	10.00
02755-87016	7/5/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	51 Rogers St, Unit 2	359.55
13483-39007	7/7/23	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	Stage Fort Park Ave Pole 4455	79.26
88500-50027	7/6/23	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	DPW – 99 Thatcher Rd Pole 7555	38.59
88467-05000	7/7/23	6/7/23 to 7/6/23	DPW – 30 Cherry St	23,481.17

TOTAL: \$97,829.44

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, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64, approve payment of prior year invoices from Sprague Operating Resources LLC, PO Box 782532, Philadelphia, PA 19178-2532, for the purpose of paying invoice #71069365, dated July 10, 2023 to be paid with FY2024 General Fund – DPW and the Dorothy Talbot Rink Enterprise Fund budgeted funds for a total of \$1,088.90.

	<i>Location</i>	<i>Billing Period</i>	<i>Amount</i>	
<i>Invoice Date:</i> 7/10/2023	6 Manuel F Lewis St	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$25.39	
	8 School St	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$84.94	
	26 Poplar St	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	\$0.86	
	197 Main St	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$37.39	
	138 Cherry St	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	\$1.53	
	<i>Account #:</i> 71069365	1 Davis St Ext	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$7.88
		40 Blynman Ave	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$336.86
		32 Cherry St	6/8/23 to 7/5/23	\$273.27
		32 Cherry Street	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	\$117.50
		891 Washington Street	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	\$16.33
	10 Concord St	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	\$186.95	
		TOTAL:	\$1088.90	

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Memhard stated that this matter is also a housekeeping matter. There was no additional discussion.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64, approve payment of prior year invoices from Sprague Operating Resources LLC, PO Box 782532, Philadelphia, PA 19178-2532, for the purpose of paying invoice #71069365, dated July 10, 2023 to be paid with FY2024 General Fund – DPW and the Dorothy Talbot Rink Enterprise Fund budgeted funds for a total of \$1,088.90.

	<i>Location</i>	<i>Billing Period</i>	<i>Amount</i>	
<i>Invoice Date:</i> 7/10/2023	6 Manuel F Lewis St	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$25.39	
	8 School St	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$84.94	
	26 Poplar St	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	\$0.86	
	197 Main St	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$37.39	
	138 Cherry St	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	\$1.53	
	<i>Account #:</i> 71069365	1 Davis St Ext	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$7.88
		40 Blynman Ave	6/2/23 to 7/3/23	\$336.86
		32 Cherry St	6/8/23 to 7/5/23	\$273.27
		32 Cherry Street	6/5/23 to 7/5/23	\$117.50
		891 Washington Street	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	\$16.33
	10 Concord St	6/6/23 to 7/5/23	\$186.95	
		TOTAL:	\$1088.90	

2. Memorandum from Asst. Public Works Director re: request to pay FY23 invoice with FY24 funds

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64, approve payment of a prior year invoice from Pine Ridge Technologies, Inc., 217R Main Street, North Reading, Massachusetts 01864, for repair and maintenance performed on the City's streetlights June 21-23, 2023, for the purpose of paying invoice #18429-0627, dated June 29, 2023 to be paid with FY2024 General Fund – DPW budgeted funds, Account #0149952-521000, DPW – Central Services – Energy for a total of \$16,434.70.

Summary of Discussion: There was no additional discussion on this matter.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to, in accordance with MGL c. 44, §64, approve payment of a prior year invoice from Pine Ridge Technologies, Inc., 217R Main Street, North Reading, Massachusetts 01864, for repair and maintenance performed on the City's streetlights June 21-23, 2023, for the purpose of paying invoice #18429-0627, dated June 29, 2023 to be paid with FY2024 General Fund – DPW budgeted funds, Account #0149952-521000, DPW – Central Services – Energy for a total of \$16,434.70.

3. Memorandum from Economic Development Director requesting acceptance of Gloucester's Essex National Heritage Commission Grant 2023-24 season in the amount of \$2,500

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 federal grant from the National Park Service passed through the Essex National Heritage Commission, a 2023 Essex Heritage Visitor Center Grant for a total of \$2,500 for the purpose of supporting activities of the City's Visitor Welcome Center at Stage Fort Park. The grant period is from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. There is no local match for this grant.

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Memhard explained that this is a grant to support the City's Welcoming Center. He stated that at B&F Ms. Carol Mondello spoke about the incredible season that the Welcoming Center has had thus far with visitors from forty out of fifty states, as well as many international visitors.

Council Worthley declared that his mother is a member of the Mondello family and that there is no conflict of interest with him voting on the matter.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept, under MGL c.44, §53A, a federal grant from the National Park Service passed through the Essex National Heritage Commission, a 2023 Essex Heritage Visitor Center Grant for a total of \$2,500 for the purpose of supporting activities of the City's Visitor Welcome Center at Stage Fort Park. The grant period is from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. There is no local match for this grant.

4. Memorandum from Director of Elder Services requesting acceptance of donations in the amount of \$325

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Gross, 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 \$325 from the following members within our community:

Dolores M. Mack

\$ 25.00

Peter J. Tarbox	\$ 25.00
Marilynn Grant	\$ 10.00
Marilynn Grant	\$ 10.00
Gerry Favaloro	\$ 15.00
Gerry Favaloro	\$ 15.00
Juanita Garron	\$ 25.00
Christopher Neubert	\$100.00
James Niles	\$100.00

Total: \$ 325.00.	

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Memhard thanked the Director of Elder Services, Elise Sinagra, for her work for the seniors of the City, as well as the generous donors.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Memhard, seconded by Councilor Margiotta, the City Council voted 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 \$325 from the following members within our community:

Dolores M. Mack	\$ 25.00
Peter J. Tarbox	\$ 25.00
Marilynn Grant	\$ 10.00
Marilynn Grant	\$ 10.00
Gerry Favaloro	\$ 15.00
Gerry Favaloro	\$ 15.00
Juanita Garron	\$ 25.00
Christopher Neubert	\$100.00
James Niles	\$100.00

Total: \$ 325.00.	

- **Ordinances & Administration – September 4, 2023 (no meeting)**
- **Planning & Development – September 6, 2023 (no items under this heading)**

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Grow stated that there are no items for the Council’s consideration. He explained that Councilor Worthley had requested that his Council Order, CC#2023-044, be withdrawn without prejudice after receiving a negative recommendation from the Planning Board.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. PH2023-043: Amend GCO Ch. 2 “Administration,” Art. V “Boards, Committees and Commissions” by DELETING Div. 10A “Disability Rights Commission” in its entirety. AMEND GCO Ch. 2 “Administration,” Art. V “Boards, Committees and Commissions,” Div. 8 “Human Rights Commission” by AMENDING Sec. 2-497 “Established; terms; compensation” and Sec. 2-499 “Purposes.” DELETE Sec. 2-500 “Powers and duties” and add NEW Sec. 2-500 “Disability Rights Subcommittee”

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:14 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: The General Counsel, Suzanne Egan, stated that the matter before the Council is to bring the Human Rights Commission of the Code of Ordinances into alignment with its true purpose, which is to provide human rights education and advocacy within the community. She provided an overview of the amendments and stated that the number of members of the commission is proposed to decrease from nine voting

members to seven, as well as adding two nonvoting student members to participate in the Commission and an ex-officio member. She stated that the same policies and provisions are kept but the proposed changes eliminates the Commission's role to work as an investigatory committee and, instead, provides that the Human Rights Commission will provide education and work to provide similar rights and community for all residents of the City.

Regarding Div. 10A, the Disability Rights Commission, she explained that it is currently a separate section of the Code of Ordinances which states that the Human Rights Commission will have a subcommittee that is the Disability Rights Commission. She explained that there is a proposed amendment to provide for a Disability Rights Subcommittee to combine the ordinance and eliminate the Disability Rights Commission currently in the ordinance.

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 7:17 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Margiotta, 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 Ch. 2 "Administration," Art. V "Board, Committees and Commissions," Div. 8 "Human Rights Commission," Sec. 2-497 (a). "Established; terms; compensation;" Sec. 2-499. "Purposes;" and Sec. 2-500 "Powers and duties" as follows:

Sec. 2-497. Established; terms; compensation.

- (a) There ~~[DELETE] shall be in the city a commission known as the "Gloucester Human Rights Commission" [DELETE] hereinafter called the commission, which shall consist~~ *[ADD] ("Commission")* consisting of ~~[DELETE] nine~~ *[ADD] seven* members appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council, to serve without compensation. ~~[DELETE] The commission [DELETE] There may [DELETE] have in addition one alternate member [DELETE] appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council and one ex-officio member selected by the majority vote of the commissioners. [ADD] and two nonvoting student members. A student member is defined as an individual, currently enrolled in ninth, tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade, but not older than twenty two, residing in Gloucester, including those enrolled in a General Educational Development "GED" Program.~~

Sec. 2-499. Purposes.

~~[DELETE] The purposes of the commission shall be to:~~

[ADD] The commission shall act as an advisory Commission to the mayor and work to enhance equal justice, inclusivity, and human rights for all members of our community.

~~[DELETE](1)Improve the life of city by enlisting individuals and community based groups in educational programs and campaigns to increase mutual self respect, harmonious intergroup relations and the peaceful enjoyment of life in our diverse community;~~

[ADD] (1) The commission shall serve as a resource to the City of Gloucester and the public. The commission may provide education and support on human rights, diversity, and inclusivity, with the goal of raising awareness and sensitivity to matters of human and civil rights.

~~[DELETE] (2) Assist persons in the city who believe that their human or civil rights, as defined by existing local, commonwealth and federal law, have been violated in the city, by providing voluntary mediation for all parties concerned, and informing such people of the local, commonwealth and federal agencies available to address their grievances; and~~

[ADD] (2) The commission may provide the public with contact to agents of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination or other appropriate federal, state, and local agencies.

~~[DELETE] (3) Work with all city departments, including the school department, commissions and boards, to increase compliance with appropriate local, commonwealth and federal laws and to raise the level of awareness and sensitivity to human rights issues in municipal business with the public.~~

[ADD] (3) The commission may conduct ongoing campaigns and host free public events each year to facilitate public education on diversity, discrimination, and inclusive community building as relevant to Gloucester.

[ADD] (4) Improve the life of city by enlisting individuals and community-based groups in educational programs and campaigns to increase mutual self-respect, harmonious intergroup relations and the peaceful enjoyment of life in our diverse community;

[ADD] (5) To promote the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in the city activities, services and employment opportunities for the community and to coordinate or carry out programs in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Office of Disability.

[ADD] (6) The commission shall not operate as an adjudicatory or investigatory body.

~~[DELETE in its entirety Sec. 2-500]—Sec. 2-500. Powers and duties.~~

~~The powers and duties of the commission shall include the following:~~

- ~~(1) To support and assist all city departments, including the school department, commissions and boards, in their efforts to celebrate the diversity of the city, promote tolerance, and comply with appropriate local, commonwealth and federal laws;~~
- ~~(2) To publish reports and other documents;~~
- ~~(3) To provide a public forum for hearing complaints and answers thereto in matters of alleged discrimination, and to resolve such complaints by mediation. No party to any alleged discrimination shall be compelled to appear before the commission, nor such party be compelled to submit to mediation;~~
- ~~(4) To refer complaints to the appropriate local, commonwealth or federal agency to address their grievances;~~
- ~~(5) To publish an annual report of the state of human rights in the city drawn from its own resources as well as records of other city departments, including the school department; and~~
- ~~(6) To render to the mayor, the city council and the school committee a full written report of its activities and its recommendations, not less than once a year.~~

[and ADD] Sec. 2-500. Disability Rights Subcommittee

The commission may establish a disability rights subcommittee for the purpose of promoting the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in the city activities, services and employment opportunities or the community and to coordinate or carry out programs in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Office of Disability.

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Nolan stated that when this matter was before O&A there initially were concerns that the Disability Rights Commission would be “left out;” after the discussion, he stated that the

concerns were alleviated. **Councilor Grow** stated that as the Council representative for the Human Rights Commission he endorses the changes. He stated that he believes the new language provides clarity as to the mission and responsibilities of the Commission. **Councilor Gilman** stated that she will be supporting the proposed changes as well.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Grow, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to AMEND the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Ch. 2 “Administration,” Art. V “Board, Committees and Commissions,” Div. 8 “Human Rights Commission,” Sec. 2-497 (a). “Established; terms; compensation;” Sec. 2-499. “Purposes;” and Sec. 2-500 “Powers and duties” as follows:

Sec. 2-497. Established; terms; compensation.

- (a) There ~~[ADD] is hereby established the [DELETE] shall be in the city a commission known as the "Gloucester Human Rights Commission" [DELETE] hereinafter called the commission, which shall consist [ADD] (“Commission”) consisting of [DELETE] nine [ADD] seven~~ members appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council, to serve without compensation. ~~[DELETE] The commission [ADD] There may [ADD] also be [DELETE] have in addition one alternate member [DELETE] appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council and one ex-officio member selected by the majority vote of the commissioners. [ADD] and two nonvoting student members. A student member is defined as an individual, currently enrolled in ninth, tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade, but not older than twenty two, residing in Gloucester, including those enrolled in a General Educational Development “GED” Program.~~

Sec. 2-499. Purposes.

~~[DELETE] The purposes of the commission shall be to:~~

~~[ADD] The commission shall act as an advisory Commission to the mayor and work to enhance equal justice, inclusivity, and human rights for all members of our community.~~

~~[DELETE](1)Improve the life of city by enlisting individuals and community-based groups in educational programs and campaigns to increase mutual self-respect, harmonious intergroup relations and the peaceful enjoyment of life in our diverse community;~~

~~[ADD] (1) The commission shall serve as a resource to the City of Gloucester and the public. The commission may provide education and support on human rights, diversity, and inclusivity, with the goal of raising awareness and sensitivity to matters of human and civil rights.~~

~~[DELETE] (2) Assist persons in the city who believe that their human or civil rights, as defined by existing local, commonwealth and federal law, have been violated in the city, by providing voluntary mediation for all parties concerned, and informing such people of the local, commonwealth and federal agencies available to address their grievances; and~~

~~[ADD] (2) The commission may provide the public with contact to agents of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination or other appropriate federal, state, and local agencies.~~

~~[DELETE] (3) Work with all city departments, including the school department, commissions and boards, to increase compliance with appropriate local, commonwealth and federal laws and to raise the level of awareness and sensitivity to human rights issues in municipal business with the public.~~

~~[ADD] (3) The commission may conduct ongoing campaigns and host free public events each year to facilitate public education on diversity, discrimination, and inclusive community building as relevant to Gloucester.~~

[ADD] (4) Improve the life of city by enlisting individuals and community-based groups in educational programs and campaigns to increase mutual self-respect, harmonious intergroup relations and the peaceful enjoyment of life in our diverse community;

[ADD] (5) To promote the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in the city activities, services and employment opportunities for the community and to coordinate or carry out programs in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Office of Disability.

[ADD] (6) The commission shall not operate as an adjudicatory or investigatory body.

~~[DELETE in its entirety Sec. 2-500]- Sec. 2-500. Powers and duties.~~

~~The powers and duties of the commission shall include the following:~~

- ~~(1) To support and assist all city departments, including the school department, commissions and boards, in their efforts to celebrate the diversity of the city, promote tolerance, and comply with appropriate local, commonwealth and federal laws;~~**
- ~~(2) To publish reports and other documents;~~**
- ~~(3) To provide a public forum for hearing complaints and answers thereto in matters of alleged discrimination, and to resolve such complaints by mediation. No party to any alleged discrimination shall be compelled to appear before the commission, nor such party be compelled to submit to mediation;~~**
- ~~(4) To refer complaints to the appropriate local, commonwealth or federal agency to address their grievances;~~**
- ~~(5) To publish an annual report of the state of human rights in the city drawn from its own resources as well as records of other city departments, including the school department; and~~**
- ~~(6) To render to the mayor, the city council and the school committee a full written report of its activities and its recommendations, not less than once a year.~~**

[and ADD] Sec. 2-500. Disability Rights Subcommittee

The commission may establish a disability rights subcommittee for the purpose of promoting the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in the city activities, services and employment opportunities or the community and to coordinate or carry out programs in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Office of Disability.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, 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 by DELETING Ch. 2 "Administration," Art. V "Board, Committees and Commissions," Div. 10A. – "Disability Rights Commission," Secs. 2-515, "Disabilities rights commission established; terms;" Sec. 2-516. "Election of chairperson; rules of procedure;" Sec. 2-517 "Purposes;" Sec. 2-518 "Definition of person with a disability;" Sec. 2-519 "Powers and duties;" and Sec. 2-519.5 "Records" in its entirety.

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Nolan explained that this is simply a housekeeping matter as the Commission and sub-commission will now be combined into one ordinance.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O'Hara, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to AMEND the Gloucester Code of Ordinances by DELETING Ch. 2 "Administration," Art. V "Board, Committees and Commissions," Div. 10A. – "Disability Rights Commission," Secs. 2-515, "Disabilities rights commission established; terms;" Sec. 2-516. "Election of chairperson; rules of

procedure;” Sec. 2-517 “Purposes;” Sec. 2-518 “Definition of person with a disability;” Sec. 2-519 “Powers and duties;” and Sec. 2-519.5 “Records” in its entirety.

2. *PH2023-044: Amend GCO Ch. 5 “Building and Building Regulations,” Art. IV “Construction or Restoration of City-Owned Buildings,” by adding a NEW Sec. 5.62*

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:29 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: Councilor Worthley provided a brief history of the timeline of the proposed ordinance to date. He outlined and highlighted positive impacts of the proposed language including environmental, as well as a benefit to the City’s operating budget due to energy cost savings in the long-term. He stated that the proposed ordinance is a collaborative effort with the Clean Energy Commission, is well-thought out and is forward-thinking.

Candace Wheeler, 8 Rockholm Road, Chairman of the Gloucester Clean Energy Commission

Ms. Wheeler stated that the proposed language represents a strong statement of intent of the City to follow the principles set up by the CARP (Climate Action and Resilience Plan) Plan. The purpose of having the municipality lead the way in using renewable technology and energy efficient technology in its own building projects is that it is a consciousness-raiser that can point out the advantages of this type of construction to all property and business owners. She stated that it is the belief of the Clean Energy Commission (CEC) that the City should lead by example. **Ms. Wheeler** explained that the proposed language approved by the CEC does not contain the language under #4 and #5. **Ms. Wheeler** stated that it is the recommendation of the Clean Energy Commission that the City adopt the ordinance as written by the CEC (with additional discussion on #4 and #5) as a statement of the City’s intent to design and build sustainably for municipal projects and renovations, and how those sustainable initiatives can be built into the current approval processes.

Valerie Nelson, 7 Sunset Point Road

Ms. Nelson stated that she would like to lend her support to the proposed ordinance for the reasons previously stated as she sees it as a tremendous step for the City Council to take and is a win-win for energy efficiency, renewable energy and other sustainability features in water and waste management, which can potentially save the City money in operational costs.

Linda Brayton, 527 Washington Street, Member of the Clean Energy Commission

Ms. Brayton stated that the Sawyer Free Library is an exemplary project, one that demonstrates how sustainability design can be incorporated into even the most challenging projects. She read a few quotes from an opinion column about the Library that appeared in the Gloucester Daily Times written by Carl Gustin that speaks to the state-of-the-art energy efficiency measures associated with heating and cooling, LED lighting and water management. She stated that the Library expects to meet all of its energy needs through local resources, primarily onsite generation from solar panels combined with onsite battery storage. She stated that the Clean Energy Commission has considered this ordinance over a number of months and that there are three potential ways that the recommended language can be utilized: 1. As an amendment to the Code of Ordinances; 2. As a Council Resolution; and 3. As policy, for example, standard language added to the Purchasing Department’s bidding documents. **Ms. Brayton** stated, as **Ms. Wheeler** has outlined both in writing and in public statements, the CEC is recommending that the appropriate City Administration Officials and staff review the proposed ordinance within the context of the existing regulations and conditions to determine how best to bring about the most effective outcomes.

Those speaking in opposition: The CAO, **Jill Cahill**, expressed that it is important for the Council to understand that the Administration fully supports the principles and goals of the ordinance and supports the idea that the City should lead by example. She stated that she is standing in opposition due to the form that the proposal is being presented. **Ms. Cahill** reminded the Council about the hiring of a sustainability coordinator who has a

primary goal of working across departments to address sustainability matters and added that the coordinator works diligently to ensure that information is disseminated. She stated that the Magnolia Fire Station and West Gloucester Fire Station have both been retrofitted with heat pumps. **Ms. Cahill** stated that the City is already a leader in sustainability and reducing carbon footprint and that a meeting is set up for next week on how to include sustainability measures into the City's procurement policies, as well as revamping the Capital Improvement Advisory Board to bring them into the process of including sustainability measures into capital planning. **Ms. Cahill** stated that the Administration believes that the City can get to the heart of the matter more efficiently through processes, policies and practice rather than through an ordinance which could "tie the City's hands" particularly with the language about specific technologies. She asked that the Council review how this would be put into practice when making their decision.

REBUTTAL:

Those speaking in favor: Councilor Worthley stated that he does not believe that there is anything within the proposed language that would "tie anybody's hands" and stated that the language is flexible. He stated that the legislative body legislates and that this is a tone-setter for future Administrations. Regarding items #4 and #5, **Councilor Worthley** stated that the language gives an exemption to buildings in the Historic District for external changes, as well as addresses the timeline for the return on investment. He stated that this ordinance sends a great message to the City's residents and businesses. **Councilor Worthley** added that this is the first time he has heard opposition from the Administration regarding this matter.

Those speaking in opposition: Ms. Cahill stated that the Administration sent an email and spoke at O&A in opposition. (**Councilor Worthley** stated that he did not receive any email nor does he remember any testimony at O&A.)

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

Questions from Councilors

Q1. (Grow): Asked for the **CAO** to describe how sustainability and green technology is brought into play during the design process in the development of a municipal project.

A1. (Cahill): Stated that, in projects she has been involved in, discussions about sustainability elements starts at the beginning from design and continues throughout the project. With capital planning, the goal is to have sustainability elements included in the bid documents.

Q2. (Grow): Asked, when there is a new project, does the Administration reach out to the Clean Energy Commission or other boards and commissions to discuss this issue.

A2. (Cahill): Stated that currently does not happen for a building project.

Councilor Grow stated that in the proposed language there are no actual requirements for the Administration and stated that the Administration is already reviewing sustainability matters in the best interest of each project. **Ms. Cahill** agreed and stated the piece about the return on investment in fifteen years is also something that the designers are already reviewing and is essentially happening in the process currently.

Q3. (Grow): Asked if **Ms. Cahill** could conceive on working with an architect or project planner that was not engaged in actively pursuing green technology.

A3. (Cahill): Stated that she could not and that one of the first parameters reviewed is what level of efficiency can be achieved.

Q4. (Nolan): Asked if **Councilor Gross** could give a summary of his experience with green technology when he was a member of the School Committee in the design and building of the West Parish School.

A4. (Gross): Stated that the reimbursement program through the School Building Assistance Program provides an additional 2.5% reimbursement for being a LEEDs [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design] building. Stated that both school projects received the full 2.5% reimbursement as they both exceeded the energy efficiency requirements.

Q5. (Margiotta): Asked if there are State regulations that need to be followed before building any buildings.

A5. (Cahill): Stated that the Energy Stretch Code was adopted when the City became a green community in 2010. Stated that a Specialized Stretch Code has recently been released, which has not yet been adopted locally. Stated that the contractors and building inspectors are working diligently to keep up with the updates to the Stretch Code as they are released so the City is conscious of what that means for each building project as they are released.

Q6. (Worthley): Asked if renewable energy was incorporated into the \$800,000 project to replace the roof of the Rose Baker Senior Center.

A6. (Cahill): Answered that it was not.

Q7. (Worthley): Regarding the Police and Courthouse Building project, asked how much of the \$19.5 million was earmarked for renewable energy.

A7. (Cahill): Stated that the Police and Courthouse Building project started prior to this Administration. Added that before the loan order came before the Council, the Administration reached out to the Sustainability Coordinator to find out if this project was reviewed for green technology and that the Sustainability Coordinator answered that it had been.

Q8. (Worthley): Asked if the next Administration would also factor in green technology to its projects.

A8. (Cahill): Stated that if green technology is incorporated into the procurement policy then the answer will be yes.

Q9. (Worthley): Asked if the proposed language of the ordinance precludes the Administration from incorporating green technology into the procurement policy.

A9. (Cahill): Stated that it would not.

Q10. (Worthley): Asked if the City Council passes this legislation would there be an ordinance that factors in the same exact elements that could be put into administrative functions.

A10. (Cahill): Stated that it is the Council's job to put the ordinance in place and it is the Administration's job to administer it.

Q11. (O'Hara): Asked **Councilor Worthley** to summarize the information received from the representative from Cazeault Solar who presented at an O&A meeting.

A11. (Worthley): Stated that the representative spoke specifically on solar and that the average return on investment would be 5-1/2 years and that the savings on the operational side would be seen immediately. Reminded the Council that the language in the proposed ordinance states that if a return on investment would not be realized by 15 years then the project would be exempt from the ordinance.

Q12. (O'Hara): Asked if the Cazeault representative referenced any specific buildings.

A12. (Worthley): Stated that he believes the High School, Senior Center and footprint of the new school. Stated that the data did not factor in any grant money.

Q13. (Margiotta): Asked if there are any restrictions to adding solar to any flat roofs. Asked if solar panels, for instance, could be damaged by snow. Referenced the lifespan of the panels and asked who would be responsible for the panels after 20 years.

A13. (Worthley): Stated that if there are additional costs (i.e. changing the roof type from flat to pitched to accommodate green energy) then those costs would need to be factored into the calculation of the return on

investment. As far as the 20-year period, stated that is when the efficiency of return would reduce but that the City would already be “in the black” after 5-1/2 years.

Q14. (Gilman): Stated that it seems that enforceability is missing from the proposed language. Asked if the Administration sees a downside to that.

A14. (Cahill): Stated that the Administration is not here to debate the principles of the ordinance, but questions the enforceability, long-term maintenance, change in technologies, as well as flexibility within the City’s policies and being able to fully administer the ordinance. Stated that the ordinance is not the correct vehicle for green technology in the Administration’s opinion.

Q15. (Gilman): Asked how long Ms. Cahill thinks it would take for the Administration to come up with a procurement policy that includes green technology.

A15. (Cahill): Stated that she does not foresee it taking a long time. Stated that City Hall is the next building to go out for bid and she can see green technology being part of the procurement policy.

Q16. (Worthley): Asked if Ms. Cahill knows the date of the email that she previously referenced.

A16. (Cahill): Stated that she had a phone conversation the day the email was sent and that she had called Councilor Worthley to inform him that the Administration would be sending an email opposing this matter.

A16. (Worthley): Reiterated that he has never received an email.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:15 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Margiotta, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted by ROLL CALL 1 in favor, 2 (Margiotta, Nolan) opposed, to recommend that the City Council AMEND the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Chapter 5 “Building and Building Regulations,” Article IV “Construction or Restoration of City-Owned Buildings” by adding a new Sec. 5-62 as follows:

Sec. 5-62. –

1. The purpose of this Section 5-62 is to apply the principles of sustainable design, construction, and usage to City-owned buildings. The basic objectives of sustainability are to reduce consumption of non-renewable resources, minimize waste, create healthy environments and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
2. In order to apply these principles, the following sustainable technologies will be considered during the design process, prior to the application for a Building Permit or commencement of any work for the construction, renovation or remodeling of a City-owned Building (“the Work”). These Technologies shall include, but not be limited to:

Energy Efficiency and Conservation such as HVAC Systems, Lighting Controls, Weatherization;
Renewable Energy such as Solar, Wind, Hydro; Water Conservation; Waste Management;
Transportation Efficiency such as electric vehicle charging stations, pedestrian walking paths, bicycle paths;
Usage of Environmentally Low Impact Building Materials; Operational and Maintenance Practices;
collectively hereinafter referred to as Sustainable Technologies.

3. In the event that certain Sustainable Technologies are not economically or otherwise feasible at the time the Work is to commence, the Work shall be designed and made so that it facilitates and optimizes the retrofitting, installation and usage of Sustainable Technologies at some future point after completion.

4. Municipal Buildings in the Historic District are exempt from external changes that could impact the aesthetics of said buildings but not necessarily internal ones.
5. If a building committee, designer, or a designated member of the City's administration can demonstrate that the projected Return on Investment cannot be achieved within a 15 year time frame beginning from installation, this section of the Code of Ordinance shall not apply.

This Section 5-62 shall be administered in accordance with Article 5, "Planning and Community Development," of the City Charter.

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Nolan offered a motion, seconded by Councilor O'Hara to amend the GCO to add a new Ch. 5, Article IV, Sec. 5.62. Councilor Nolan explained that Councilor Worthley worked with the Clean Energy Commission on this matter.

Councilor Worthley stated that he hears the Administration's concerns but feels that there is nothing that came up in opposition that cannot be factored into the ordinance. He stated that there is flexibility within the language and that there are exemptions and relief for buildings/projects that do not have a return on investment within a certain timeframe.

Councilor Gross offered an amendment to the main motion, seconded by Councilor Memhard, to amend #2 by deleting the proposed language in its entirety and adding "*To apply these principles, have standard language in the bid contract documents that require the design architect to do an analysis of renewable sustainable energy systems for the project. Technology shall include, but not be limited to the following:*

Energy Efficiency and Conservation such as HVAC Systems, Lighting Controls, Weatherization; Renewable Energy such as Solar, Wind, Hydro; Water Conservation; Waste Management; Transportation Efficiency such as electric vehicle charging stations, pedestrian walking paths, bicycle paths; Usage of Environmentally Low Impact Building Materials; Operational and Maintenance Practices; and Geothermal; collectively hereinafter referred to as Sustainable Technologies.

Councilor Grow asked how this ordinance would be enforced. He stated that he feels that it is a policy statement that does not have any actual substance in relation to law. Councilor Gross stated that the enforcement piece is that the language will now be in the bid documents and that a company cannot bid without answering the questions. Councilor Nolan stated that he feels as though the ordinance reads as a proclamation even with Councilor Gross' amendment adding a bit more "teeth" to the language. He added that even with the amendment he will have a hard time supporting the ordinance. Councilor Worthley stated that the Council would have a legislative role by, for instance, not approving a loan authorization that did not factor in green technology.

MOTION TO AMEND: On a motion by Councilor Gross, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to AMEND the main motion by DELETING #2 in its entirety and ADDING the following:

2. To apply these principles, have standard language in the bid contract documents that require the design architect to do an analysis of renewable sustainable energy systems for the project. Technology shall include, but not be limited to the following:

Energy Efficiency and Conservation such as HVAC Systems, Lighting Controls, Weatherization; Renewable Energy such as Solar, Wind, Hydro; Water Conservation; Waste Management; Transportation Efficiency such as electric vehicle charging stations, pedestrian walking paths, bicycle paths; Usage of Environmentally Low Impact Building Materials; Operational and

Maintenance Practices; and Geothermal; collectively hereinafter referred to as Sustainable Technologies.

Councilor Gross offered another amendment to amend #5 of the main motion, seconded by **Councilor Worthley**, to add “*or structural integrity shall be compromised.*” He stated that he recently renewed his contractor’s license and took continuing education credits that involved the Stretch Code where structural integrity was discussed.

Councilor Gross stated that the previous example of using the high school concerned him because he did not believe that it was possible to maintain integrity on the roof of the high school as the equipment would cause vibration and difficulties for that building. **Councilor Worthley** agreed with the amendment and thanked **Councilor Gross** for his years of wisdom.

MOTION TO AMEND: On a motion by Councilor Gross, seconded by Councilor Worthley, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to AMEND the main motion by adding “or structural integrity shall be compromised” to #5 of the main motion after “installation.”

Councilor Grow stated that he appreciates the work and intention that has been done on this matter thus far and stated that he does not like “legislating for legislation sake.” He stated that he does not feel it has enough substance and believes that it is a policy statement that is already reflected when the City engages in projects. He stated that he will not be supporting this matter. **Councilor Worthley** stated that he does not agree that it is simply a policy statement and that there would ultimately be a savings for taxpayers. He reiterated that the language provides flexibility. He asked that the Council support the work of the Clean Energy Commission. **Councilor O’Neil** stated that she will be supporting this matter as she believes it is an option for the City to generate money and that it is well-written, particularly with **Councilor Gross**’ amendments. **Councilor O’Hara** stated that he will be supporting this matter. He stated that there are many municipal buildings on the North Shore that have solar panels. **Councilor Grow** stated that there is nothing in the ordinance that requires the project to go before the CEC. He added that the proposed language lacks the substance to do much of anything other than support existing policy. **Councilor Memhard** stated that he does not feel that the ordinance as proposed is the correct way to legislate the matter. He added that he believes strongly in the principles but does not believe it is the right place/right time for the ordinance. **Councilor O’Neil** politely disagreed with **Councilor Memhard** and agreed that the City needs to start somewhere. **Councilor Gilman** stated that she will be supporting this matter. She agreed that it is not enforceable but it is a vision and a good opportunistic way to convey that the Council believes in where the City should be going in terms of green technology. She added that she does not see a downside to the fact that it cannot be enforced.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 6 in favor, 3 (Grow, Memhard, Nolan) opposed, to AMEND the Gloucester Code of Ordinances Chapter 5 “Building and Building Regulations,” Article IV “Construction or Restoration of City-Owned Buildings” by adding a new Sec. 5-62 as follows:

Sec. 5-62. –

- 1. The purpose of this Section 5-62 is to apply the principles of sustainable design, construction, and usage to City-owned buildings. The basic objectives of sustainability are to reduce consumption of non-renewable resources, minimize waste, create healthy environments and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.**
- 2. To apply these principles, have standard language in the bid contract documents that require the design architect to do an analysis of renewable sustainable energy systems for the project. Technology shall include, but not be limited to the following:**

Energy Efficiency and Conservation such as HVAC Systems, Lighting Controls, Weatherization; Renewable Energy such as Solar, Wind, Hydro; Water Conservation; Waste Management; Transportation Efficiency such as electric vehicle charging stations, pedestrian walking paths, bicycle paths; Usage of Environmentally Low Impact Building Materials; Operational and Maintenance Practices; and Geothermal; collectively hereinafter referred to as Sustainable Technologies.

3. **In the event that certain Sustainable Technologies are not economically or otherwise feasible at the time the Work is to commence, the Work shall be designed and made so that it facilitates and optimizes the retrofitting, installation and usage of Sustainable Technologies at some future point after completion.**
4. **Municipal Buildings in the Historic District are exempt from external changes that could impact the aesthetics of said buildings but not necessarily internal ones.**
5. **If a building committee, designer, or a designated member of the City's administration can demonstrate that the projected Return on Investment cannot be achieved within a 15 year time frame beginning from installation, or structural integrity shall be compromised, this section of the Code of Ordinance shall not apply.**

This Section 5-62 shall be administered in accordance with Article 5, "Planning and Community Development," of the City Charter.

FOR COUNCIL VOTE: None.

INDIVIDUAL COUNCILOR'S DISCUSSION INCLUDING REPORTS BY APPOINTED COUNCILORS TO COMMITTEES:

1. Councilor Gross re: Update on the Harbor Plan

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Gross stated that his presentation will be focused on economic development in the harbor. He stated that the plan functions primarily as a regulatory plan but explained that it also acts as a strategic document guiding economic development priorities and approaches. He provided a summary of the objectives and strategies of the Harbor Plan.

Objective 1.:

Strengthen organizational capacity and regulatory foundation to support harbor economic development.

- Reestablishing the Director of Harbor Planning position in the Community Development department
 - To lead, execute, and monitor economic development initiatives such as business development, promoting innovation, driving marketing, and conducting recruitment at the scale necessary to "move the needle."
- Build organizational capacity to support harbor economic development.
 - Due to the unique sizes (long and narrow) and private ownership of Gloucester's waterfront parcels the consultants pointed out that:
 - Gloucester needs to consider the creation of a new entity (or expand an existing entity) with resources and *ability to acquire* selected marine infrastructure and properties, drive reinvestment, support grant writing, and find sources of capital for renewal of the marine infrastructure.

Strategy 1.2 - Pursue aligned, supportive regulations at state and federal levels of government.

- ***Waiting on Coastal Zone Management to approve the changes for the new plan before it comes back to the Harbor Planning Committee***
 - Like all waterfronts, Gloucester has many layers of regulations governing development - including but not limited to state-level DPA and Chapter 91 regulations, state Harbor Line, and federal FEMA floodplain and Navigational Channel regulations.
 - Conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the Federal Navigational Channel boundary and Board of State Harbor Commissioners Line to determine if a change in boundary, for either or both, could support expanded commercial fishing vessel dockage, especially in Harbor Cove without limiting Gloucester's ability to (a) retain critical navigation in the harbor and (b) secure funding for future dredging needs.
 - Consider completing a technical evaluation of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the Inner Harbor, and if warranted, consider applying for a FIRM revision to more accurately account for present day coastal flood risks.

Strategy 1.3 - Build an integrated technical assistance and capital investment financing system.

- **Specific implementation recommendations include:**
 - Grow technical expertise within the lead organization to support adaptation of Gloucester's harbor and fishing fleet to increasing flood risk, emerging technologies, and industry changes.
 - Identify, attract, and develop grant and loan products to incentivize adaptation of private infrastructure to meet the needs and evolving nature of catch, technologies, and flood risk.
 - Explore an administrative and financial mechanism that can facilitate distribution of public and philanthropic grant and loan products to private applicants.
 - Advocate for Harbor Cove to be given special consideration and technical assistance support due to unique small-parcel condition.

Strategy 1.4 - Pursue local zoning updates that enhance strategic clarity and alignment with state and federal regulations.

- Over the course of the 2023 harbor planning process, several local zoning ideas emerged that could be beneficial to revisit outside of the harbor plan. Specific implementation recommendations include:
 - Review local MI District Zoning to ensure consistency with revised Supporting Use approach.
 - Introduce local zoning protections and incentives for water-dependent industrial uses.
 - Non-Industrial: Implement "right to farm" type legislation to reduce nuisance complaints and political advocacy from non-industrial neighbors that harms water-dependent industrial business operators.
 - Revisit local zoning height restrictions to incorporate the relevant design flood elevation (DFE).
 - In the DPA area, revise local zoning height within FEMA floodplain to be measured from the Design Flood Elevation instead of from the ground plane.
 - Address issues involving floodplain and height through typological studies and associated guidelines.
 - Refine local zoning to better reflect dimensional constraints, land use opportunities and urban design priorities of harbor planning sub-areas.
 - Clarify zoning related to building envelope size and public access (physical or visual) to the harbor. Consider rezoning the harbor based on districts that reflect the parcel size and existing and adjacent uses. Include more specific guidelines on things like view corridors, public access, parking and dimensional standards. Additionally, this sub-area zoning could address mixed-use transitions at the edges of the DPA. Specifically:
 - Height: Revisit 40 ft max height (consider view corridors, shadowing) given flood elevation and modern industrial floor-to-floor needs for uses like R&D. Currently MI zone height increases require variance vs. perhaps more appropriately a special permit.

c. Urban Design & Public Access: Revisit public access requirements (physical or visual), setback and buffering given the small parcel sizes of most of the Harbor.

Strategy 2.1 - Invest in publicly owned sites to serve as supportive infrastructure for Gloucester's maritime economy.

- Publicly owned sites can play an important role in indicating the community's vision and level of commitment to the private sector. Specific implementation recommendations include:
 - Conduct a geotechnical, harbor infrastructure, and Phase 1 Environmental study of 65 Rogers Street (I4-C2) to determine baseline development costs.
 - Explore feasibility of public sector preliminary design and investment in critical harbor infrastructure on 65 Rogers Street.
 - Identify funding and development partners to advance plans for 65 Rogers Street (I4-C2), consistent with the community vision established in the 2023 Gloucester Harbor Plan.
 - Conduct a community process to develop a vision for how 112 Commercial Street can best support Gloucester's maritime economy.
 - Explore public investment in and/or pursue public private partnerships on underutilized large privately held industrial sites (both inland and on the harbor) with good landside truck access and dockage potential to maximize their benefit to the maritime economy.

Strategy 2.2 - Invest in public infrastructure and utilities to support Gloucester's maritime economy.

- That plays an important role in conveying to the private sector what the community's vision and level of commitment is. Infrastructure also provides critical shared economic benefits. Specific implementation recommendations include:
 - Upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), to reduce economic barriers to Gloucester-based seafood processing operations.
 - Continue to establish high-speed fiber optic internet infrastructure around downtown, the harbor, and industrial and commercial districts.
 - Partner with National Grid to continue improving reliability of harbor electrical utility service.
 - Continue working with the state and USACE to assess and plan for dredging needs as they arise in the harbor to support the Harbor Plan.
- Shape the local hospitality and tourism economy to better leverage, support, and benefit core maritime industries.
 - Going forward, Gloucester should focus tourism economic development initiatives on distinctive, mutually beneficial tourism itineraries and experiences that offer co-benefits to downtown and water-dependent industries alike. Specific implementation recommendations include:
(Each of these recommendations work towards a more defined and mutually beneficial relationship between Harbor Cove and the downtown tourism and hospitality industry through clearer spatial and operational delineations of use, especially along Rogers Street and Commercial Street.)
 - Conduct an observational study of trucking operations along Rogers Street and Commercial Street to identify operational needs and conflict and congestion points with other users.
 - Make targeted streetscape, wayfinding, and pedestrian infrastructure improvements, especially around Rogers Street and Commercial Street where there are the most conflicts between working waterfront and hospitality and tourism uses.
 - Develop a Harbor and Downtown district parking plan that takes into account both working waterfront and hospitality and tourism parking demands.
 - Encourage expanded transient boating and charter fishing operations to locate in Smith Cove and the East Gloucester former DPA area ensure that DPA protection is prioritized for businesses that need it most.

Strategy 2.4 - Continue to pursue a spatially specialized strategy that maximizes economic development potential and strengthens the harbor-upland relationship.

- This spatially specialized economic development strategy needs to differentiate between traditional pier-style small lot areas of the harbor (Harbor Cove/East Gloucester) versus large lot industrial areas in terms of industry, and use, and relationship to tourism and hospitality. Specific implementation recommendations include:
 - Protect and prioritize maximum development of limited large-lot industrial properties for more intensive industrial and marine life science development, and invest in public sector site control where needed to ensure maximum utilization of these sites.
 - Recruit lower intensity and smaller scale water-dependent uses in the East Gloucester former DPA area to ensure DPA protection is prioritized for businesses that need it most.
 - Encourage and incentivize the relocation of complementary non-water-dependent tourism and hospitality functions to the adjacent residential and commercial areas.

Objective 3. Cultivate a high-profile, unified, supported, and well-resourced fishing and shellfishing network in Gloucester.

- Building a supportive foundation that grows the capacity of a network of individual operators in the fishing and shellfishing industry through investing in shared infrastructure, technical assistance, seafood processing and wholesale, marketing and recruitment, workforce development and related hospitality and tourism initiatives.

Strategy 3.1 - Protect and grow fishing capacity of the harbor in terms of permits, workforce, fleet, dockage, and processing.

- The two barriers that came up repeatedly in the harbor planning process as limitations on Gloucester's fishing capacity were commercial dockage and seafood processing. Potential implementation actions include:
 - Retain and continue to invest in the maintenance of the Gloucester fishing permit bank.
 - Retain and pursue opportunities to expand publicly controlled dockage for commercial fishing vessels.
 - Explore development of shared public loading, unloading, and berthing space that can provide shore-side access for moored vessels and operators with poor landside trucking access.
 - Conduct an economic feasibility study to establish or grow an existing local seafood processing and wholesale facility (on the harbor or in an accessible inland location) that could be used by local Gloucester operations, structured either as a fee-for-service or a co-op based model.
 - Recruit, train, and mentor local talent in living resources and fleet repair careers.

Strategy 3.2 - Help Gloucester fishing and shellfishing operations capture more value.

- Potential implementation actions include:
 - Develop innovative seafood products that expand the market and increase the profit margins for Gloucester fish and shellfish.
 - Invest in deepening the market influence and reach of Gloucester Fresh.
 - Pursue opportunities to expand direct-to-consumer seafood retail and wholesale.
 - Develop marketing and training programs to promote broad use of less-popular parts of the fish and shellfish.
 - Explore creation of a seafood co-op.
 - Explore feasibility of implementing a 100% fish strategy.

Objective 4. Advance relevant innovation in blue tech, marine life science, and offshore wind industries within and beyond Gloucester's working harbor.

- Gloucester should target growth in the marine biomaterials, unmanned undersea vehicles, and ocean observation sectors. There currently exists interest and investment by the private sector in this space.

- Going forward, Gloucester needs to navigate economic change in a way that balances preservation of the traditional fishing industry with emerging opportunities in the blue economy and marine life sciences. Finding the right balance of preservation and economic change will help create a more robust and resilient economy. Potential implementation actions include:
 - Partner to expand the local presence of institutional research.
 - Recruit marine biomaterials industry leaders and identify opportunities to attract private sector marine research and development industry investment.
 - Explore the level of interest and feasibility of establishing a blue economy business incubator and connector in close proximity to the harbor.
 - Explore feasibility of establishing a dedicated new fishing technology testing area.

Strategy 4.2 - Retain and grow Gloucester’s capacity to serve as a deployment center for marine construction and monitoring.

- Gloucester Harbor does not have the physical features and property ownership patterns needed to support large-scale offshore wind construction staging areas like Salem and New Bedford. This has been demonstrated in two MassCEC reports:
 - Port and Infrastructure Analysis for Offshore Wind Energy Development Summary Report (2010) which identified Boston and New Bedford as the two best locations to support offshore wind.
 - Massachusetts Offshore Wind Ports and Infrastructure Assessment 2022: North Shore (2022) which evaluated the Jodrey State Fish Pier and Americold, Gortons and North Atlantic Pacific Seafood properties in Gloucester among other sites throughout the North Shore, and ultimately concluded that the Footprint Power Site in Salem was the only site that was well-suited to the current needs of offshore wind.
- However, Gloucester can capitalize on growth in offshore marine renewable energy and fisheries monitoring in the Greater Boston Area (and Salem in particular) by advocating for the location of fleet deployment, fueling, maintenance, and repair operations in Gloucester. Potential implementation actions include:
 - Partner with regional offshore wind developments to assess gaps in Gloucester’s capacity to support servicing and repair.
 - Explore feasibility of establishing a Gloucester deployment center for marine construction and monitoring.

Councilor Gross stated that he would send the above update to the **City Clerk** to distribute to the full Council.

2. City Council statement regarding the Gloucester 400th celebration

Summary of Discussion: **Councilor O’Neil** read a statement on behalf of the City Council in support of the Gloucester 400th 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 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.”*



COUNCILORS' REQUESTS TO THE MAYOR:

- **Councilor Margiotta** requested through the Mayor that the Community Impact Unit perform a speed study to potentially lower the speed limit on Emerson Avenue. By way of background, a resident had reported that her dog was hit by a car and that vehicles constantly speed. He also stated that the Gloucester High School, The Open Door and Pathways for Children are located in the area.
- **Councilor O'Hara** requested through the Mayor to discuss with the Superintendent how "9/11 was forgotten at Gloucester High School." He added that 9/11 was recognized on September 12, 2023, and that "some of the students were mortified that it wasn't recognized the day prior."
- **Councilor O'Hara** requested through the Mayor to the Fire Chief that vehicles are to never park in front of apparatus doors. **Councilor O'Hara** stated that this continues to happen and that seconds count in an emergency.
- **Councilor O'Hara** requested through the Mayor to the Public Works Director to repair potholes on private roads. **Councilor O'Hara** stated that he believes MGL ch. 40, Sec. 6N allows the City to maintain private roads.
- **Councilor O'Hara** requested to the Mayor to have a discussion with the owner of the windmills to provide the City with a safety and rescue plan for when workers are at the top of a windmill.
- **Councilor O'Hara** requested through the Mayor to the Public Works Director to fix the clock in the Kyrouz Auditorium.
- **Councilor O'Hara** requested through the Mayor to the Public Works Department to fix the nonfunctioning windows at the Gloucester High School.

COUNCILORS' THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- **Councilor Worthley** thanked the City Clerk's Office for their work in preparing for the upcoming election.
- **Councilor Gross** informed the Council that he recently heard from a constituent, who is an abutter to the old YMCA, who is thrilled with how the current project is progressing and being run.
- **Councilor Memhard** thanked the Traffic Commission for their meeting with the residents of Witham Street who are concerned about the level of heavy trucks and speeding.
- **Councilor Memhard** thanked the Administration, as well as General Counsel, for their help in implementing a water pipe repair on Haskell Court.
- **Councilor O'Hara** thanked the **Mayor** and **Councilor Nolan** for bringing the Magnolia Pier closer to having a float.
- **Councilor O'Hara** offered his thoughts and prayers to the people of Leominster, Mass, who have recently suffered terrible flooding.
- **Councilor O'Hara** thanked the men and women of the armed services who protect us 24/7, 365 days/year.

COUNCILORS' WARD UPDATES AND COMMUNITY NEWS:

- **Councilor Worthley** informed the Council that the former Plumbing Inspector, Joe Guzzo, passed away.

- **Councilor Worthley** stated that there will be a community clean-up event in September 2023, at the area around Burnham's Field.
- **Councilor Margiotta** reminded everyone about the potential storm later this week. He asked that everyone check on their neighbors and elders.
- **Councilor Nolan** stated that the Fishbox Derby will be this Sunday, September 17, 2023. He added that he and **Councilor Gross** will be performing safety inspections.
- **Councilor Gilman** stated that Community Safety Day is Saturday, September 16th (with a rain date of September 17th) with the proceeds benefiting the Lanesville Community Center.

By unanimous consent, the Members of the City Council adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Submitted by: Sherry White, Clerk of Committees

Items submitted at the meeting: None.