

**GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, April 14, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

**-MINUTES-**

**Present:** Chair, Councilor Paul McGeary; Vice Chair, Councilor Robert Whynott; Councilor Joseph Ciolino; Councilor Melissa Cox; Councilor Steve LeBlanc, Jr.; Councilor Greg Verga; Councilor Paul Lundberg; Councilor William Fonvielle; Councilor Robert Stewart

**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Mayor Sefatia Theken; Linda T. Lowe; John Dunn; Jim Destino; Police Chief Leonard Campanello; Chip Payson; Sander Schultz; Noreen Burke; Joan Whitney; Harbormaster Jim Caulkett; Dr. Richard Sagall; Fred Cowan; Tony Gross; Debbie Laurie

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The Council President announced that this meeting is recorded by video and audio in accordance with state Open Meeting Law.

**Flag Salute & Moment of Silence.** Councilor Cox dedicated the Moment of Silence in honor of Dan Leahy, a volunteer in the city who was involved in local politics and brought the Berkley School of Music to many venues in the city. Council President McGeary also dedicated the Moment of Silence for those all people who were affected two years ago by the Boston Marathon bombing. He noted the city would observe a Moment of Silence on April 15 at 2:49 p.m.

**Oral Communications:** None.

**Presentations/Commendations:**

Council President McGeary announced that the commendation to be presented to the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative Gloucester Youth Council is postponed to the April 28 City Council Meeting.

**1 of 1: Presentation by the Board of Health and Health and Police Departments on opiate and opioid problem in the city and efforts to combat it**

Mayor Sefatia Theken said the issue of opiate and opioid abuse is an uncomfortable subject for many in the community, and it is a problem that has been present for a long time. Lauding the work of the High Risk Task Force (HRTF), she said that the HRTF works collaboratively with the city's Board of Health, the Health Department, Police and Fire Department representatives, the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative and many other stakeholders to implement change, and get treatment for those who need it. She pointed out that Gloucester was the first city in the state to put Nasal Narcan in the field. Narcan is a drug administered nasally to a person overdosing from drugs by a person trained to administer it. She noted the work taking place at the Gloucester Family Health Center where there is a clinic to dispense Suboxone, which is used for treating opioid dependence. She said the residents need to know there have been four deaths this year attributed to substance abuse in Gloucester, but that the community has worked closely together to try and stop deaths from drugs. She added that while prescription drug dependence can't be eliminated, there is a need to reduce the incidence of overdoses from drugs. She said there are many lives saved due to the concerted effort of the city's Police and Fire departments. The Addison Gilbert Hospital's Emergency Room is set up to handle these incidences, and the hospital is working collaboratively with the city.

She said that residents need to tell their state legislative team to let the legislature know that there is an urgent need for in-patient beds for persons needing treatment. There is hope, she said, through educational programs in the schools and outreach efforts for affected families

Police Chief Leonard Campanello said in 1999 he was selected to participate in a regional drug task force and has had many dealings since with the scourge of drug addiction in the communities he's served. He said what should be taken from this presentation is that opiate addiction is not a choice -- it is a disease that needs to be treated. His department is on the forefront in recognizing this fact above other Massachusetts communities, he said. He added that his department is ready to do outside-the-box thinking to work to solve this problem. The country's Drug Czar agrees there is not a supply problem but a demand problem. On March 6 he said he posted information about drug overdoses that has been viewed to date by 37,000 people -- 10,000 more than live in the city and pointed out this is an issue for every person in the community whether involved, not involved, an addict or a dealer. He said

what the Health Department has to say is eye-opening and and challenged the citizens of Gloucester to help stop this scourge and reiterated the need to think outside the box.

**Noreen Burke**, Health Department Director, said that opioid overdoses across the state are increasing, not just in Gloucester. She acknowledged Dr. Richard Sagall, Chair of the Board of Health, and member Fred Cowan who were present, Cindy Cafasso Donaldson, Vice President of the Addison Gilbert Hospital (AGH), and Sander Schultz, the city's Fire Department Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Director, and Joan Whitney, Director of the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative. She then conveyed the following information:

- Opioids include heroin and prescription drugs such as Oxycodone (known as Oxycontin), fentanyl, hydrocodone, and methadone. The Health Department's Healthy Gloucester Collaborative has implemented many policies, systems and environmental changes in the community and programs to combat this problem.
- The United States has 5 percent of the world's population and consumes 80 percent of the world's opiates (quote from the Mass. Department of Health Commissioner).
- Work on opioid abuse prevention efforts has existed in the city since 2007/2008. The pharmaceutical company, Purdue Pharma, was fined \$600 million by the federal government for misleading doctors, patients and regulators about the addictive effects of Oxycontin (a prescribed narcotic for pain relief) and was the first public awareness of a real systemic problem because of mismanagement by pharmaceutical companies. Gloucester received funding from that settlement as did other cities and towns across the state through one-time grants from the State Attorney General's Office which helped start the city's prevention efforts through a one-year planning process.
- Through the strategic planning process key goals were identified -- to reduce unintentional opioid overdose deaths: by decreasing the fear of calling 911; increase positive perception/experiences/awareness about this disease; increase awareness that addiction is a disease; increase access to treatment; increase Nasal Narcan use to save lives, and to increase data capacity. These programmatic efforts and all associated city staff continue to be underwritten by grants.
- The Healthy Gloucester Collaborative Partners Build Foundation (2008-11) was funded by the original settlement funds and consisted of the Gloucester Fire Department Overdose Data System; Gloucester Learn to Cope Program; the Gloucester Overdose Vigil; Medications Disposal Program (located at the Police Department for dropping off unused or no longer needed prescription medications); Physician and Police training; Physician Round Table; Mass. Prescription Monitoring Program and Youth Leadership, programs that continue today. An informational packet for each Councilor that was handed out prior to the meeting was mentioned.

**Joan Whitney**, Healthy Gloucester Collaborative Director, said the efforts were a collective action to prevent opioid addiction. She acknowledged the stakeholders with the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative throughout the community for their collective work over the years.

- The Physicians Roundtable, the prescription monitoring program in Massachusetts, got its start with 35 physicians and healthcare providers from the Gloucester. Physicians and health care providers said they needed better screening methods and better ways to manage their prescribing of drugs during 2008 and 2009, that effort is now a priority at the state level. From this roundtable, the AGH Emergency Department Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) starts with those persons who present in the AGH ER with a risk or identified risky behaviors and helps to turn them around by facilitating avenues for treatment. This program is sustained and ongoing.
- During 2008-2011, the Fire Department On-Line Overdose Data System was developed and is now on line and updated as events happen, as developed by Fire Department EMS Coordinator, Sander Schultz and is sustained through grant funding.
- Support for families through the Learn to Cope program now sustained in the community.
- The Gloucester Overdose Vigil is a sustained effort now handled by a volunteer group.
- The AGH Emergency Room (ER) is considered a hub for compassionate care and intervention as determined by the stakeholders. The SBIRT model is geared at prevention to capture people exhibiting at-risk behaviors to help them turn that around, and get high risk individuals necessary services. The pilot program was started in 2011 and is sustained at AGH. SBIRT has two health promotion advocates serving in the ER that are trained to have patient-centered conversations regarding substance use. As of March 16, 2015, approximately 2,200 patients have been screened. Of this number about 38 percent were identified as at risk. Of those, 68 percent have a more in depth conversation, and 39 percent of those get referred to treatment. Of the people who are positive for alcohol or drug use, many have no primary care physician

- and referrals are made for them. Screening is made starting with patients as young as 12, and at that age is used as a “teachable moment”
- The next phase of intervention from the SBIRT program has been expanded to these agencies: Build To-Lahey Health Pastoral Care; Grace Center Day Drop-in Center; Gloucester Family Health Center; Gloucester Public School Nurses Program, Community Agency Medical Intervention Training; and the Action Shelter. Training is on-going and happens continually for all involved with Boston-based medical groups coming to the city for state-of-the-art training.
  - In 2012 Gloucester was the first city in Massachusetts to have both its Police and Fire Departments to be Nasal Narcan trained and carry it in the field.
  - Programs offering new solutions: the High Risk Task Force started in 2012 with 30 key providers who meet every month for two hours to review cases and to get people into treatment who meet certain criteria. Over 70 percent of substance abuse cases have mental health issues, it was noted.
  - Opioid-related confirmed unintentional overdose deaths show a downward trend from 2004-2014:
    - 2011 – 2012: 9 deaths confirmed (50 percent less compared to 2004-2006)
    - 2013: 6 deaths confirmed
    - 2014: 5 deaths confirmed
    - January-March 2015: 4 “suspected” opioid related deaths.
  - Data from the Gloucester Fire Department 911 online EMS data – Nasal Narcan Reversals:
    - From May 2008 to December 2014: Nasal Narcan was used 247 times in 253 cases with 52 percent showing positive change.
    - From January 15 to March 15, there were 15 total calls for service; of these 67 percent showed positive change; 5 possible heroin
    - (In 2014 during the same period, there were 10 calls; 40 percent positive change, 1 heroin).
    - There has been a spike across the state in heroin overdoses.
    - Nasal Narcan effects are temporary -- those who have Nasal Narcan administered must go to the hospital to obtain further treatment.
  - Getting more people into treatment is a key goal. State data for 2008-2011 shows Gloucester is more successful than Massachusetts communities and five times more successful than surrounding communities in getting people into treatment. By coordinating care it helps individual to also utilize city resources more effectively.
  - An example of the cost effectiveness of an individual case from the High Risk Task Force was shown. From July 2011-February 2013 an individual had 22 EMS responses – billable transports – 15, charges \$17,886, of which only \$3,638 was covered. In terms of city services this strained the system. There were 46 incidents total for this individual. Through intervention by the High Risk Task Force the patient received treatment and since 2013 there have been no EMS calls for that individual.

**Ms. Burke** reviewed some of the prevention connections briefly in order to move people to care they need in the long term. She announced there will be a joint meeting of the Board of Health and City Council on the morning of Saturday, May 2, in Kyrouz Auditorium at City Hall. At the same time and place there will be a community forum and health services fair for anyone to come to learn about the topic of prescription drug abuse. She encouraged the community to stop in and learn more and obtain information for family and friends. She also encouraged support of the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative’s efforts. Seek help right here in Gloucester, she urged.

For more information: 978-281-0908; [asatterfield@gloucester-ma.gov](mailto:asatterfield@gloucester-ma.gov) ;  
<https://www.facebook.com/HealthyGloucesterCollaborative>

#### **COUNCILOR QUESTIONS:**

**Councilor Lundberg** thanked the Mayor for honoring the Councilor’s request to arrange the presentation, and thanked the Police Chief for his efforts. He said this is not just a law enforcement problem but a bigger public health problem, and raising awareness was very beneficial.

**Councilor LeBlanc** said a byproduct of the opiate problem is the indiscriminate disposal of hypodermic needles. He asked if users are being educated about proper needle disposal. **Ms. Burke** said that her predecessor did put a needle disposal kiosk at the AGH but acknowledged it is a problem and that there wasn’t a systemic solution in place. She said they need to train the city staff in safe needle removal and disposal noting more could be done. She pointed out that needle exchange programs are different and that the city doesn’t have one. She pointed out that the Mass. Department of Public Health oversees five to 10 needle exchange programs statewide but there are none close to the city. **Councilor LeBlanc** reiterated that the disposal of needles is a big problem.

**Councilor Cox** suggested placing appropriate sharps disposal containers at locations such as the Grace Center and to provide training to their staff. She said since the Grace Center moved downtown there has been an increase of needles on the ground across a wide area, she said. She further suggested that if the city is going to have such places offering help that sharps disposal containers should be available. She said she does clean ups at 8 a.m. Saturdays with the One-Hour-At-a-Time Gang and has to call the Police Department each Saturday to pick up the needles to be disposed of properly which takes that officer out of circulation. She offered to obtain training to enable her to properly dispose of those found used needles. **Ms. Burke** said with limited resources, the primary focus is sustaining the needle disposal kiosk at the hospital but would ask someone at the state to comment on this acknowledging the point was well taken and would get back to the Councilor.

**Chief Campanello** said that in the words of a mentor of his, "the wheels have fallen off the bus and they're talking about fixing the radio." He said they won't stop used needles on the ground until they stop the bigger problem which is addicts using those needles. He suggested they could put sharps containers everywhere in the city and it wouldn't stop the problem of needles on the ground. He said we need to look at the larger picture. When coming across a needle on the ground it can be disturbing, he said, and his department will always pick them up. He said collectively as a Police Department, Health Department, City Council and Administration, we need to think larger and not wait for the state to legislate. He said waiting will only produce half measures that reduce one problem and increase another. He suggested while needles on the ground are a problem, public health and law enforcement efforts are better aimed towards the larger picture.

**Councilor Cox** expressed her understanding of the Chief's position but said that there has to be a way to mitigate the issue of needles on the ground. **Chief Campanello** said he disagreed with the Councilor and said that thinking the terms she expressed would not eliminate the problem. He said that when the demand for opiates is reduced, there will be fewer needles on the ground. Containers everywhere will not stop the problem of needles on the ground, he said, although he recognized there is a problem.

**Councilor Fonvielle** asked to what the officials attributed the steep increase this year of opioid overdoses in the city. **Ms. Burke** suggested that there was a compound of heroin being circulated on the street that was particularly bad. **Chief Campanello** added that there is no such thing as a good or bad heroin, and said all heroin is bad.

**Councilor Ciolino** thanked the participants for bringing the Council up to speed and expressed his confidence in their ongoing efforts. He said that the North Shore Health Project does free HIV and Hepatitis C testing confidentially and their staff is available for counselling. He said the AGH sharps kiosk is located in the hospital's lobby next to the newspaper stands.

**Council President McGeary** thanked all the presenters. He said there is one health promotion advocate on duty in the AGH ER. **Cindy Cafasso Donaldson**, Vice President of the AGH said there is one health promotion advocate on duty 36 hours each per week. The position is shared and each advocate does high-risk screening with a brief intervention and referral to treatment. She noted that the AGH is the first hospital in the state to do pediatric screening from age 12 up. **Councilor McGeary** said that an example cited of the one person intervened with in the AGH ER, and the savings to the city was estimated to be about \$13,000 to \$14,000 which he said was money well spent. **Ms. Donaldson** said that the health promotion advocates' salaries are being partially paid for by Lahey and a grant by Amelia Peabody Foundation, but is being transitioned to be fully salaried by the Lahey Health System. That was not just the Emergency Department that turned the particular situation around, but by the High Risk Task Force. She pointed out that cost to the taxpayers doesn't include the ER visits which were much more than the savings.

**Former Police Chief Michael Lane** was acknowledged as being in the audience who was for many years a part of the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative and part of the start of the High Risk Task Force by **Council President McGeary**. He also reiterated that there would be a joint meeting of the City Council and Board of Health around a Health Services Fair and community forum taking place Saturday morning, May 2 in Kyrouz Auditorium to talk about this problem and raise awareness throughout the city.

**The City Council recessed at 8:04 and reconvened at 8:11 p.m.**

#### **Confirmation of New Appointments:**

Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee

Steve Kaity, David Benjamin,

TTE 02/14/18

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whyntott, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Steven Kaity to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee, TTE 02/14/18.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Mr. Kaity**, 5 Viking Street, said that for the last 12 years he has been involved in the Stage Fort Park playground and bandstand through the Gloucester Rotary Club, as well as involved with Pride Stride working on other city projects.

**Councilor Verga** said he appreciated Mr. Kaity and Mr. Benjamin stepped forward as volunteers to the new Committee, and noted that in this Council Consent Agenda there are three more individuals who are volunteering for the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee. He urged that the new Committee needs to think big not just what can be afforded. **Mr. Kaity** said that he believes there should be a short- and long-term plan for the maintenance and long-term improvement plans for the Park.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Steven Kaity to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee, TTE 02/14/18.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whyntott, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint David Benjamin to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee, TTE 02/14/18.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Mr. Benjamin**, 32 Revere Street, said that he has produced free public concerts for over years at Stage Fort Park and hoped to bring that experience to a positive light as part of the Advisory Committee.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint David Benjamin to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee, TTE 02/14/18.**

**Consent Agenda:**

- **CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS**

Affordable Housing Trust	Michael Luster	TTE 02/14/17
Capital Improvement Advisory Board	Joan Kimberly	TTE 02/14/18
Council on Aging	Fred Cowan, Barry McKay, Jay Gustafarro	TTE 02/14/18
Open Space & Recreation Committee	Noel Mann	TTE 02/14/18
Tourism Commission	Pauline Bresnahan, Paul Frontiero	TTE 02/14/18
Zoning Board of Appeals	Michael Nimon	TTE 02/14/18

- **MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Memorandum from General Counsel & pertinent material re: proposed Ordinance for the creation of the Stage Fort Park Committee (Refer O&A)
2. Memorandum from General Counsel & pertinent material re: proposed changes to the Acts of 1956 relative to the Gloucester Fisheries Commission (Refer O&A)
3. Memorandum from Harbormaster re: Waterways Board request to create a season pass for the Gloucester Harbor Launch For permitted mooring holders (Refer B&F)
4. Memorandum from Community Development Director re: acceptance of anticipated CDBG Entitlement Allocation PY2015 And HOME Funding Annual Appropriations (Refer B&F)
5. Communication, Grant Application & Checklist from Co-Chair of the Gloucester Historical Commission re: acceptance of 2015 Survey & Planning Grant from Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Dusky Foundation in the amount of \$30,000 (Refer B&F)
6. Memorandum from City Auditor re: City's FY14 Basic Financial Statements (Refer B&F)
7. Memorandum from City Auditor re: City's FY13 OPEB Actuarial Valuation Report (Refer B&F)
8. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from Public Health Director re: acceptance of grant in the amount of \$3,500 from National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) (Refer B&F)
9. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from the Community Development Department & the Department of Public Works re: U.S. Economic Development Administration Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant for the Blackburn Seafood Processing Cluster (Refer B&F)
10. New Appointments: Historical Commission TTE 02/14/18 Michelle Bader Mustone (Alternate Member)  
 Clean Energy Commission TTE 02/14/17 Robert Myers  
 Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee TTE 02/14/18 Marie Demick (representing interests of Glou. Dog Park)  
 Donna Polizza (representing gardening/landscaping)  
 David Dow (At Large) (Refer O&A)
11. Addendum to Mayor's Report: Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from Community Development Director e: City Council acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the Seaport Advisory Council (Refer B&F)
  - **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**
  - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**
1. Special Events Application re: request from Cape Ann YMCA to hold St. Peter's Fiesta 5K Road Race, June 25, 2015 (Refer P&D)
2. Special Events Application re: request to hold Mother of Grace Fiesta on September 12 and 13, 2015 (Refer P&D)
3. PP2015-001: Petition of National Grid & Verizon for installation of 1 (one) J/O Pole on Bray Street & Guy Stub Pole #462-84 in

- A public way on Bray Street (Refer P&D)
- **INFORMATION ONLY**
1. 2015 Yearly Operational Plan from Keolis Commuter Services, LLC, Commuter Rail System (Info Only)
    - **COUNCILORS ORDERS**
  1. CC2015-007 (Verga) Request the P&D Committee, Planning Board & General Counsel informally review GZO Sec. 5.13 "Personal Wireless Service Facility" and to retain expert legal counsel in order to amend & update the ordinance so that it is in Compliance with current applicable federal laws & regulations (Refer P&D)
  2. CC2015-008 (Verga) Request the P&D Committee, Community Development Director, Planning Director & the Building Inspector In regard to recommend revisions to the Ordinance which will facilitate permitting & request that the Administration fund the Proposal (Refer P&D & Administration)
  3. CC2015-009 (Verga) Request the P&D Committee review the matter of "Farmer's Markets" under the GZO & add new definition To Section VII "Definitions" (Refer P&D, PB & Administration)
  4. CC2015-010 (Verga) Request P&D Committee review the Special Event Advisory Committee & Amend GCO Chapter 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers & Transient Vendors" (Refer P&D & O&A)
  5. CC2015-011 (Cox) Amend GCO Sec. 22-287 "Disabled veteran, handicapped parking" deleting one parking space re: Chestnut Street #13 (No Referral Required)
  6. CC2015-012 (Cox) Amend GCO Sec. 22-287 "Disabled veteran, handicapped parking" deleting one parking space re: Liberty Street #14 (No Referral Required)
  7. CC2015-013 (Cox) Whether the City Council wishes to petition the state to lower speed limit on Burnham Street to 20 mph (Refer TC&FCV 04/28/15)
  8. CC2014-014 (Fonvielle/Ciolino) Amend GCO Sec. 2-556 "Tenure, composition, requirements re: Magnolia Woods Oversight And Advisory Committee (Refer O&A)
  9. CC2015-015 (Cox) Amend GCO c. 2, Division 10 "Committee for the Arts" Sec. 2-508-Created, subsection (b) (Refer O&A)
    - **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
  1. City Council Meeting: March 24, 2015 (Approve/File)
  2. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 04/09/15 (under separate cover), O&A 04/06/15, P&D 04/08/15 (Approve/File)

### **Unanimous Consent Calendar:**

1. CC2015-016 (Cox) Request the Traffic Commission review the area of the stairs (top & bottom) at Herrick Court and make their Recommendation to the Ordinances & Administration Committee on whether GCO Sec. 22-270 "Prohibited parking at all times" Be amended accordingly (Refer TC & O&A)

### **Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda and Unanimous Consent Calendar:**

**Councilor Lundberg** wished to remove Item #1 under Information Only, the 2015 Yearly Operational Plan from Keolis Commuter Services, LLC, Commuter Rail System. He said that this yearly operation plan from Keolis Commuter Services is the Mass. Bay Transportation Authority's (MBTA) contractor for Commuter Rail and concerns the yearly vegetation management plan along the right of way. Last year at the end of the year after the spraying was done, the city's environmental engineer informed him that a portion of the right of way at the Rockport line where they were spraying was still within in the Babson watershed. He asked that the Administration make sure with the Department of Public Works to resolve that issue with the spraying contractor and with Rockport because part of the Babson Watershed is in Rockport. He also noted that part of the right of way crosses the border. **James Destino**, CAO, assured he would see that this matter was addressed.

**By unanimous consent the Consent Agenda and Unanimous Consent Calendar was accepted as presented,**

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Budget & Finance: April 9, 2015**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor McGeary, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2015-SA-26 in the amount of \$44,000 (Forty Four Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund-Undesignated Fund Balance ("Free Cash"), Account #101000.10.000.35900.0000.00.000.00.000 to DPW Other, Streetlights Power and Service, Account # 101000.10.499.52130.0000.00.000.00.052 for the purpose of funding an Investment Grade Audit (IGA) to determine the guaranteed savings to be derived from a conversion of city owned street lights to LED lighting.

### **DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Cox** explained the following: Matt Coogan, Senior Planner with the Community Development Department, is working on a conversion of the city's street lights to Light Emitting Diodes or LED technology. The city took ownership of its street lights in October 2014 at a cost of \$1 for 2,800 street lights because they were depreciated. The entire project would cut the city's electric street light bill by half and improve the quality of light for both pedestrians and motorists and could also improve public safety. Unlike high pressure sodium street lights (as in all city street lights now) which also cause a great deal of light pollution, LED Street lights are directed downward so there reduced light pollution. This money would be used to fund a study which once completed will give the city a better sense of the savings to be realized by the conversion. She requested that Mr. Coogan return to the Council with the findings.

**Councilor Fonvielle** said that it is in keeping with the city's designation as a Green Community. He said in the short term this will save the city a good deal of money. The lights have a guarantee for 10 years and many last for much longer and will aid in reduction of light pollution.

**Councilor Ciolino** said that he is in favor of the funding, but cautioned that the city is always disappointed every time they change light sources whether it is the color or quality of light emitted. He asked that before the city goes forward with this change that there be samples put up to have a comparison in different city locations in terms of the quality of the light and color. **Councilor Cox** said that funding of the audit and its completion is the first step. She said when the results of the audit are back and a contract signed, a few areas will have test lights installed. If the city moves forward, the \$44,000 cost of the study will be rolled into the cost of the program, she noted. She said there is an application for a \$250,000 reimbursement Green Communities Grant, and there will be a one-time \$175,000 rebate from National Grid. It is a \$1 million project that will have estimated savings and grants to subsidize it. The cost of the conversion will be paid off in 6.7 years, she added.

**Councilor Fonvielle** said that part of the test will involve different light bulbs that have different characteristics, and that Councilor Ciolino's concerns will be addressed. One of the areas they spoke of at B&F, he said, is the intensity of the sodium vapor lights around the Visitors Center at Stage Fort Park where lights emit a great deal of light pollution to the surrounding neighborhood and can be seen from many areas in the city at night.

**Councilor Stewart** said he made the investment of LED lights in both his residences. The light in both his houses has been better than ever since converting to LED light bulbs, he noted. He said he is very happy to see this program going forward.

**Council President McGeary** asked about the "guaranteed savings" mentioned in the request to perform the study. **Councilor Cox** said that if the guaranteed energy savings are not realized by the city, Siemens, the company conducting the Investment Grade Audit, makes the necessary equipment adjustment, or repairs within 45 days. If that doesn't suffice, Siemens will pay the city the difference between the estimated savings and actual savings.

**Councilor Cox** added that she was requesting that the area to be tested with the LED light bulbs take place before a contract signed, but said she didn't know if that was possible. **Mr. Destino** said that this is a two-part process, the Investment Grade Audit (IGA) will be done, and then a loan order will follow to purchase the LED lights and replace all of them. He reiterated there is a savings to the city that will pay off in 6.7 years. Many cities and towns are going through the same conversion, and he assured the Councilors that a test will take place. This is a good project and is close to the Green Community goal of cutting the city's energy consumption with \$94,000 per year in savings, he said.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2015-SA-26 in the amount of \$44,000 (Forty Four Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund-Undesignated Fund Balance ("Free Cash"), Account #101000.10.000.35900.0000.00.000.00.000 to DPW Other, Streetlights Power and Service, Account # 101000.10.499.52130.0000.00.000.00.052 for the purpose of funding an Investment Grade Audit (IGA) to determine the guaranteed savings to be derived from a conversion of city owned street lights to LED lighting.**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** On motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor McGeary, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2015-SBT-41 in the amount of \$1,000 from Account #101000.10.163.52700.0000.00.000.00.052, Registration, Rental of Facilities to Account #101000.10.161.52550.0000.00.000.00.052 City Clerk, Office Furnishings, for the purpose of replacing window blinds.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Cox** said that the City Clerk's office said budgeted funds are being reprogrammed to use for just window blinds. She said the Council is well aware how bad the blinds now are, and the windows are uniquely sized.

**MOTION: On motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2015-SBT-41 in the amount of \$1,000 from Account #101000.10.163.52700.0000.00.000.00.052, Registration, Rental of Facilities to Account #101000.10.161.52550.0000.00.000.00.052 City Clerk, Office Furnishings, for the purpose of replacing window blind.**

**Ordinances & Administration: April 6, 2015**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whynott, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept the withdrawal by the Mayor of the reappointment of Louise Grindrod to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Stewart** said that the O&A Committee was informed by the Administration that another member of the Gloucester Dog Park Board will have their name put forward for membership on the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Whynott, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept the withdrawal by the Mayor of the reappointment of Louise Grindrod to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whynott, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept the withdrawal by the Mayor of the reappointment of Lee Harty to the Council on Aging.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Stewart** said Ms. Harty was unable to continue her long-time volunteer commitment.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Whynott, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept the withdrawal by the Mayor of the reappointment of Lee Harty to the Council on Aging.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whynott, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend that the City Council place on the November 3, 2015 municipal ballot a Non-Binding Advisory Question pursuant to City Charter Sec. 9-7 and notwithstanding *MGL c.111, §8C* as follows:

"Shall the City Council request the city's legislative delegation to file a Home Rule Petition allowing the City of Gloucester to exempt the city from the requirement of fluoridation of the city's public water supply? \_\_\_\_  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No"

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Stewart** said that the debate in Committee was about to what extent they should phrase the question in terms of complication and weight, and a recommendation that the question should read, "Shall the city's public water supply for domestic use in the City of Gloucester continue to be fluoridated?" He said this simplified language was rejected by the O&A Committee, as pointed out then by Councilor Whynott, that the only way the city can deal with the issue since it is state statute, that when a city begins fluoridation of the public water supply it can't simply opt out. The only recourse is to file a Home Rule Petition by the city's legislative delegation, should the Council vote to do so, to ask the state legislature to allow the city to stop fluoridation of its public water supply, he

added. He said that was why this particular language was recommended, he said. He also declined an offer to amend the language at the request of the Council President.

**Council President McGeary** then offered to amend the main motion by substituting the following language for the non-binding advisory ballot question: **“Shall the public water supply for domestic use in the city of Gloucester continue to be fluoridated?”** The motion to amend was seconded by **Councilor Fonvielle**.

**Chip Payson**, General Counsel, at the request of Council President McGeary, came forward and said there has been multiple conversations about the ballot question between himself and several Councilors about the draft language. He said that there had been expressed interest that the language be further shortened. The case law and statute, particularly MGL Chapter 111, 8C has language as Councilor Stewart has read, “Shall the public water supply for domestic use in the city of Gloucester continue to be fluoridated?” He suggested that if the Council wants to include language about a Home Rule Petition in the ballot question, that the statutory language would be broken into pieces, that he recommended that the bare minimum of the statutory language be included as well: “public water supply,” “domestic use,” “Gloucester,” and “continue to be fluoridated.” He further suggested that the Council could add language about Home Rule Petition and ask whether legislation should be filed.

**Councilor Verga** speaking to the amendment noted that at the last O&A meeting Dr. Sagall pointed out that there is naturally occurring fluoride in the public water supply, and that what the city does is supplemental fluoridation. He said to be clear should the public vote no, they would be indicating that the city should no longer add supplemental fluoride to the public water supply. He said the language should be kept simple, asking if people want the water to be continued to be fluoridated, and that he encouraged a simple yes or no question.

**Councilor Whynott** asked why the phrase, “domestic use,” was needed in the non-advisory ballot question language at all as he objected to it. **Mr. Payson** said according to his research in cases that have been challenged in trying to stop the fluoridation of water as well as state statute currently in place and an older statute, all refer to specific language, such as “public water supply” and “domestic use,” and “continue to be fluoridated.” He said he would recommend in order to be safe that the Council at least include what the courts have reviewed and accepted in what has been referred to in state statute. He reiterated that the Council could add to that to include “Home Rule Petition” should they wish to do so. **Councilor Whynott** said if the language about a Home Rule Petition weren’t included he was concerned the voting public would think by voting this there is no more fluoridation. He said he didn’t want to complicate the ballot question language but reiterated his concern about not including Home Rule Petition language.

**Councilor Lundberg** said that the reason for fluoridation is for domestic use and is why the public water supply is fluoridated, not for commercial use, and is why that term is important. **Councilor Whynott** said it stops the fluoridation for everybody, and it didn’t make sense to say for “domestic use” when Cape Pond Ice is using the city’s public water supply for its products. It is an extra phrase that has no meaning, he said. **Councilor Lundberg** said he had a larger concern than the phrase stating he was philosophically opposed to ballot questions that talk about Home Rule Petitions with without explanations -- they’re talking about asking people to vote on fluoridation of water with no explanation about the pros and cons of it. He said he was against that. It is a public service to explain the impacts of their vote so they fully understand what they are voting on, he added. He said this was not acceptable to him and asked the Committee to address those issues.

**On the amendment, the Council voted by ROLL CALL 6 in favor, 3 (Stewart, Whynott, Ciolino) opposed to replace the language for a non-binding advisory ballot question recommended by the O&A Committee with: “Shall the public water supply for domestic use in the city of Gloucester continue to be fluoridated \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No”**

**Councilor Verga** said he supported the amended question. He said he understood Councilor Lundberg’s concern about educating the public. He said it is up to the two sides to educate the public on the matter. He said he strongly supports giving the public the right to choose.

**Councilor Fonvielle** expressed concern asking if the amended language went far to make clear that the Council is not proposing to take all fluorides out of the water, but only continuing to supplement fluoride in the city’s public water supply.

**Councilor Stewart** said he agreed with Councilors Verga and Fonvielle in part. He said the problem is that if they added language to make the question clear that this is the supplementation the city does not the natural occurrence, they’d have to say: “Shall the public water supply for domestic use in the City of Gloucester continue to be fluoridated above natural levels,” which he said he thought would confuse voters further. He said if they’re going with a straightforward question, he would choose to take the question as amended.

**Councilor Ciolino** said he would support the question as presented now, as the public should be part of the decision-making process. He said there will be signs in people's yards that will alert the public. It is the Council's job to put the matter on the municipal ballot, he said, and let the proponents and opponents persuade the public one way or the other. He said the public will be well informed.

**Councilor Fonvielle** suggested alternative language, "Shall the City of Gloucester no longer add sodium fluoride to its domestic water supply." He said he has mixed feelings on the issue -- they should encourage public to vote on the matter to get a sense of the community's position, but having the public vote on matters of public health policy in general has never been a very good idea. There is an exceptionally smart citizenry, he added, and trusted them to sort through the pro and con positions.

**Councilor Cox** said it is a good idea to put this question on the municipal ballot to get a general consensus as this affects every single person in the city. She said she would offer to host an information session, debate between the two sides to educate her constituents on the matter. It is as important for constituents to educate themselves, she said.

**Councilor Lundberg** said he is not opposed to putting this question on the ballot, but is opposed to putting the question on the ballot without an explanation. In speaking about the two sides, one side is the city, he pointed out, who is fluoridating the public water supply pursuant to state law. They need to have a plan as to how they're going to educate the public why they're doing that, and without an educational plan he is not in favor it.

**Councilor Stewart** said he agreed with the proposed language by Councilor Fonvielle as an alternative. He said as to education he understood with an advisory question on the ballot, the proponents (the Council) and the opponents put an explanation right under the ballot question as in a state ballot which he said was put forward at the Committee meeting. He said essentially the education comes from the advocates of each side suggesting it will be an election issue and that there will be opportunities to explain the issue to the public whether or not they put an explanation of the pros and cons on the ballot question.

**Councilor LeBlanc** said the amended language is plain and simple and would support it.

**Council President McGeary** said he would oppose the question and oppose putting it on the ballot. He said the question will impact the lives of every man, woman and child in the city. He said he couldn't support this action. While the Council has the right to put the question of fluoridation to the voters, he said the real question for them as public servants is: Is it the proper thing to do. If the Council were to put this question on the ballot the Council is discounting the unanimous recommendations of the American Dental Association, the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, the American Medical Association, the World Health Organization and the law of the Commonwealth which mandates certain levels of fluoride in the drinking water as a matter of public health. He suggested that in a complex society of 350 million officials must rely for guidance on those charged with weighing the evidence and making the best scientific recommendations for the health of the community at large. He said that one's right to believe is absolute, but one's right to impose those beliefs on others is, and should be, strictly limited. He noted one group of voters no matter how much they hold their beliefs may not endanger the health of others, especially children who may not have easy access to good dental hygiene. He gave the example of his wife who was raised in a community where fluoride wasn't added to the drinking water who has followed best practices of dental hygiene all her life and gone to the dentist regularly. Despite that, he said, she has been beset with painful and expensive dental problems her whole life. He said the Councilors are elected to govern and are expected to exercise their best judgement in the interest of all the citizens. He added that while he has the greatest respect for the voters of the city he said that he believed that it would be a shirking of responsibility when in the fact of overwhelming medical and scientific evidence the Council asked the public to advise them on such a question. He concluded his remarks saying that if the proponents believed their views are widely held, they have recourse under the Charter, Sec. 9-2 which provides if they gather sufficient signatures on a petition drive they can force this question onto the ballot. He asked the Council to vote against what he termed an ill-advised referendum.

**Councilor Whynott** said that while he supported the non-binding advisory question being placed on the municipal ballot, although he believes in fluoridation and that when it comes forward to vote to discontinue to add fluoride to the water supply he would vote no.

**Councilor Fonvielle** said the non-binding advisory question is only one step. The state legislature would have to approve a Home Rule Petition in order for the city to be able to stop supplemental fluoridation of the public water supply. He said that this referendum is advisory only and would not compel the Council to take any action. The public needs to clearly understand this is an advisory question, he added.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 7 in favor, 2 (McGeary, Lundberg) opposed, that the City Council place on the November 3,**

**2015, municipal ballot a Non-Binding Advisory Question pursuant to City Charter Sec. 9-7 and notwithstanding MGL c.111, §8C as follows:**

**“Shall the public water supply for domestic use in the City of Gloucester continue to be fluoridated \_\_\_\_  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No”**

**Planning & Development: April 8, 2015**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Lundberg, seconded by Councilor Verga, the Planning & Development Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council permit the Cape Ann YMCA to hold on Friday, May 8, 2015 the Backshore 5 Mile Road Race with the following conditions:

1. Certificate of Insurance:  
A Certificate of Insurance naming the City as an additional insured party is on file with the City Clerk's Office.
2. Road Closure Plans:  
Applicant must have Police/Fire Department approval of any road closure/traffic plans 30 days before event, including any police details. Roads to be closed are to be marked with signage directing the public as to the duration of the closure and alternate routes. Any substantial changes, as determined by either the Police or Fire Chief or their designees to the route or related to safety issues will require Council approval.
3. Refuse and Comfort Stations:  
All refuse and recycling due to this event must be removed by the organizer. Any portable toilets (with two handicap accessible) are to be provided and maintained by the organizer, placed the evening before the event or early on the day of the event and removed by 9 p.m. the day of the event.
4. Emergency Services are as determined by City EMS Director.
5. Staffing:  
Event staff is to have cell phones and wear distinct shirts. A list of event staff and cell phone numbers is to be submitted to Police, Fire and DPW Departments.
6. Notification to Immediate Abutters and Businesses to Race Course:  
Written notice shall be made by event organizer at least seven days in advance of the event to function halls, motels and hotels and other businesses along the route.
7. Responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA:  
The applicant is also required to obtain any necessary approvals from the Licensing Board, the Public Health Department and the Licensing Commission. It is the sole responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA to ensure that all required documentation is timely filed with the appropriate City departments as indicated. Failure to comply with any conditions precedent may result in permit revocation.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Verga** said that this annual race has no changes from last year's plans and is well run with an okay from the Special Events Advisory Committee.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Verga, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to permit the Cape Ann YMCA to hold on Friday, May 8, 2015 the Backshore 5 Mile Road Race with the following conditions:**

1. **Certificate of Insurance:**  
A Certificate of Insurance naming the City as an additional insured party is on file with the City Clerk's Office.
2. **Road Closure Plans:**  
Applicant must have Police/Fire Department approval of any road closure/traffic plans 30 days before event, including any police details. Roads to be closed are to be marked with signage directing the public as to the duration of the closure and alternate routes. Any substantial changes, as determined by either the Police or Fire Chief or their designees to the route or related to safety issues will require Council approval.
3. **Refuse and Comfort Stations:**

**All refuse and recycling due to this event must be removed by the organizer. Any portable toilets (with two handicap accessible) are to be provided and maintained by the organizer, placed the evening before the event or early on the day of the event and removed by 9 p.m. the day of the event.**

4. **Emergency Services are as determined by City EMS Director.**

5. **Staffing:**

**Event staff is to have cell phones and wear distinct shirts. A list of event staff and cell phone numbers is to be submitted to Police, Fire and DPW Departments.**

6. **Notification to Immediate Abutters and Businesses to Race Course:**

**Written notice shall be made by event organizer at least seven days in advance of the event to function halls, motels and hotels and other businesses along the route.**

7. **Responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA:**

**The applicant is also required to obtain any necessary approvals from the Licensing Board, the Public Health Department and the Licensing Commission. It is the sole responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA to ensure that all required documentation is timely filed with the appropriate City departments as indicated. Failure to comply with any conditions precedent may result in permit revocation.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On motion by Councilor Lundberg, seconded by Councilor Verga, the Planning & Development Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council permit the Cape Ann YMCA to hold on Monday, September 7, 2015 the 25K Around the Cape Road Race and the 7K Run the Goose Road Race with the following conditions:

1. **Certificate of Insurance:**

A Certificate of Insurance naming the City as an additional insured party is on file with the City Clerk's Office.

2. **Road Closure Plans:**

Applicant must have Police/Fire Department approval of any road closure/traffic plans 30 days before event, including any police details. Roads to be closed are to be marked with signage directing the public as to the duration of the closure and alternate routes. Any substantial changes, as determined by either the Police or Fire Chief or their designees to the route or related to safety issues will require Council approval.

3. **Refuse and Comfort Stations:**

All refuse and recycling due to this event must be removed by the organizer. Any portable toilets (with two handicap accessible) are to be provided and maintained by the organizer, placed the evening before the event or early on the day of the event and removed by 9 p.m. the day of the event.

4. **Emergency Services are as determined by City EMS Director.**

5. **Staffing:**

Event staff is to have cell phones and to wear distinct shirts. A list of event staff and cell phone numbers is to be submitted to Police, Fire and DPW Departments.

6. **Notification to Immediate Abutters and Businesses to Race Course:**

Written notice shall be made by event organizer at least seven days in advance of the event to function halls, motels and hotels and other businesses along the route.

7. **Responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA:**

The applicant is also required to obtain any necessary approvals from the Licensing Board, the Public Health Department and the Licensing Commission. It is the sole responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA to ensure that all required documentation is timely filed with the appropriate City departments as indicated. Failure to comply with any conditions precedent may result in permit revocation.

DISCUSSION:

**Councilor Verga** said that these two races are also unchanged and the Committee was advised that the plans for these two races were met with the Special Events Advisory Committee approval, and approval of these two races was recommended by them as well as P&D.

**MOTION: On motion by Councilor Verga, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to permit the Cape Ann YMCA to hold on Monday, September 7, 2015 the 25K Around the Cape Road Race and the 7K Run the Goose Road Race with the following conditions:**

1. **Certificate of Insurance:**  
A Certificate of Insurance naming the City as an additional insured party is on file with the City Clerk's Office.
2. **Road Closure Plans:**  
Applicant must have Police/Fire Department approval of any road closure/traffic plans 30 days before event, including any police details. Roads to be closed are to be marked with signage directing the public as to the duration of the closure and alternate routes. Any substantial changes, as determined by either the Police or Fire Chief or their designees to the route or related to safety issues will require Council approval.
3. **Refuse and Comfort Stations:**  
All refuse and recycling due to this event must be removed by the organizer. Any portable toilets (with two handicap accessible) are to be provided and maintained by the organizer, placed the evening before the event or early on the day of the event and removed by 9 p.m. the day of the event.
4. **Emergency Services** are as determined by City EMS Director.
5. **Staffing:**  
Event staff is to have cell phones and to wear distinct shirts. A list of event staff and cell phone numbers is to be submitted to Police, Fire and DPW Departments.
6. **Notification to Immediate Abutters and Businesses to Race Course:**  
Written notice shall be made by event organizer at least seven days in advance of the event to function halls, motels and hotels and other businesses along the route.
7. **Responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA:**  
The applicant is also required to obtain any necessary approvals from the Licensing Board, the Public Health Department and the Licensing Commission. It is the sole responsibility of the Cape Ann YMCA to ensure that all required documentation is timely filed with the appropriate City departments as indicated. Failure to comply with any conditions precedent may result in permit revocation.

**Scheduled Public Hearings:**

1. **PH2015-015: Amend GCO Chapter 10 Waterways, Sec. 10-51 Regulations of Moorings, Subsection (3) Fees in order to increase Transient Mooring Fees (Cont'd from 03/24/15)**

**This public hearing is opened at 8:50 p.m.**

**Council President McGeary** explained that this public hearing was continued at the point of Councilor Questions, and that the Council had referred the matter of the suggested fee increase back to the Waterways Board for them to reconsider whether raising the fee to \$35 from \$25 was too much, and whether a \$5 raise in the fee to \$30 would be more appropriate.

**Councilor Questions:**

With the permission of the Chair and with no objection of the Council, **Cate Banks**, 8 Pilots Hill Road, a former long-time member of the Waterways Board, was allowed to speak on the matter who said that she is in favor of raising the transient mooring fee by \$5 to \$30. She said she would encourage the Waterways Board to continue to examine this fee annually because the public perception to raise it by \$10 would be a bit too much at once. As the harbor complex continues to evolve, then there will be more value offered and a higher fee would be warranted, she said.

**Tony Gross**, 18 Nashua Avenue, Chair of the Waterways Board, said the Council had posed questions to him about the costs associated with the maintenance of the transient moorings, and that over the last seven years it has been \$30,000 for the mooring maintenance. A new mooring costs \$1,500 including installation, he noted. He advised that currently there are nine transient moorings in the inner harbor, five at Stage Head (adjacent to the end of Stacy Boulevard near the Fishermen's Wives Statue), and 15 in Southeast Harbor (off Niles Beach). New transient mooring areas have been identified -- there are 5 new transient mooring sites in the Ten Pound Island mooring field on the inside of the island, and two are off of Stage Head. He said that in the last three years there has been a 30 percent increase for transient mooring occupancy, a considerable improvement. In 2011 there were 645 visitors, and in 2013, 844 visitors. For the previous summer, the second half, although not all the data is in yet, they are up to 655 visitors which he said indicated significant progress is being made. The Board, he said, had no major objection, informally, to accept a \$5 increase to the transient mooring fee. He made note of the packet of information that is given to all transient boaters who utilize a transient mooring (placed on file) or who anchor.

**This public hearing is closed at 9:07 p.m.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: The Budget & Finance and the Ordinances & Administration Committees voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Chapter 10 Waterways, Sec. 10-51 Regulations of Moorings, Subsection (e) Fees, by DELETING, “A daily fee of \$25.00 shall be charged....” and by ADDING, “A daily fee of \$35.00 shall be charged....”

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor LeBlanc** offered an amendment to the main motion to change, “and by ADDING, “A daily fee of \$35.00 shall be charged...” to, “and by ADDING, “A daily fee of \$30.00 shall be charged...” which was seconded by **Councilor Ciolino**.

**Councilor LeBlanc** said the \$5 increase is a good step. The \$10 increase may deter transient boaters, he said, and that at \$30 the fee is user friendly suggesting that any money saved by the transient boaters would likely be pumped back into the local economy while they visited. If raised by \$10 the fee would be off putting, he said.

**Councilor Ciolino** said that he would support the \$5 increase and with the remediation of the Harbor Loop area it will be easier for transient boaters to access the city. After the Harbormaster’s area is improved, the Council could then consider another increase, he suggested.

**By a unanimous vote of the Council the main motion was amended to raise the transient mooring fee to \$30.**

**Council President McGeary** said the Council does need to watch this fee, and as amenities are added to the Harbormaster’s complex, the Council should re-examine the fee. He inquired that if during the remediation and reconstruction project by National Grid in and around the Harbormaster’s complex the launch would still be in operation. **Harbormaster Caulkett** said that his department has to be operational between Memorial Day and Labor Day which is recognized by National Grid. The floats will remain as they are until after Labor Day when National Grid moves in to start their project. They will not be operational off season, he added, which is standard operating procedure.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Cox, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Chapter 10 Waterways, Sec. 10-51 Regulations of Moorings, Subsection (e) Fees, by DELETING, “A daily fee of \$25.00 shall be charged....,” and by ADDING, “A daily fee of \$30.00 shall be charged....”**

**2. PH2015-017: Off-Cycle recommendation from the Community Preservation Committee for the Preservation of Annisquam Woods project**

**This public hearing is opened at 9:14 p.m.**

**Those speaking in favor:**

**Debbie Laurie**, Senior Project Manager, Community Development Department, noted the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) recommended the additional \$50,000 in Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, and reminded the Council that it in the last round of Community Preservation Act funding in late 2014 a \$50,000 award to the Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) for the purchase of the Annisquam Woods located off of Tufts Lane and Hutchins Court, for the preservation and accessibility to open space. The ECGA didn’t receive a state grant which would have significantly helped finance this acquisition. The ECGA has raised most of the additional funding needed, but still has a \$50,000 gap to fund the land acquisition. She pointed out ECGA ownership will be a boon to public access. They will provide access trails through the property and a small parking area as well. This property was permitted to allow the development of 27 single family homes if this purchase doesn’t go through and negate the open space access to the public, she said.

**Vanessa Johnson**, Assistant Director of Land Conservation, Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) said this is a great open space opportunity for the residents of Gloucester. She noted that the property’s purchase price is \$800,000, with ECGA successfully raising \$750,000 which includes the 2014 CPA Grant authorized by the Council last year. They are slated to close May 15, she said and is hoping to have access to the additional \$50,000 to close the funding gap. She said ECGA would put in a parking area, a kiosk at a trailhead, owned and managed for public access as part of their 5,000 acre reservation system. This, she pointed out, completes a land corridor from Washington Street to Dogtown and connects to existing trails. She described the 27.4 acres citing some of the natural features of the property noting the rich geologic and cultural history. By preserving this property, she said it

will protect the clean water for Langsford Pond and associated wetlands as well as the stream that flows south from the property to Duck Pond and Goose Cove.

**Those speaking in opposition: None.**

**Communications: None.**

**Councilor Questions:**

**Councilor Stewart** asked where the parking area and the access points are. **Ms. Laurie** said access points would be off of Tufts Lane and Hutchins Court. **Ms. Johnson** assured a parking area would be made which typically fits five to six parking spaces. **Councilor Whynott** commented five or six spaces would be adequate. **This public hearing is closed at 9:19 p.m.**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** On a motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor McGeary, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council to appropriate up to \$50,000 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) from the Community Preservation Act funds as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for the purpose of the Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) purchase of the 27.4 acre property known as the Annisquam Woods parcel in Gloucester, Massachusetts upon the condition that the ECGA conveys a conservation restriction to the City of Gloucester or its designee. The appropriation will be allocated to the Open Space category and funded by \$15,000 from Open Space Reserves in Fund #270100 and funded by \$35,000 from Unrestricted Reserves in Fund #270000. The project will be tracked in the Community Preservation Fund – Open Space Projects Fund #271006.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Verga** said this is a great idea. Unlike Pole's Hill whose payments have gone on for many years, this is a \$50,000 investment and other money is raised to take this piece of property's development off the table. This is a great opportunity to add to the city's roster of open space not on the city's dime, he said.

**Councilor Cox** said the ECGA has done a great job with facilitating purchases of open space and giving the city conservation restrictions to those parcels they've funded through the CPA money. She pointed out that out of an \$800,000 purchase price, by this vote the city would have only committed \$100,000 towards the purchase of Annisquam Woods, and would give the city a conservation restriction to the land. She said it is the city investing in itself with wonderful partners and also noted that the ECGA privately raised the rest of the purchase price which the city benefits from.

**Councilor Ciolino** stated that he would support the initiative because open space is important, noting that every square mile of the city can't be developed. Every opportunity to purchase open space should be taken advantage of, he said, and noted that the ECGA does a great job of providing parking and managing their properties.

**Councilor Stewart** said before Bennett Street was developed it was a footpath, where one could walk from there to Rockport without seeing anyone. When the south part of Bennett Street was developed there was a lot of opposition to that which he described briefly. He said the battle was lost, but this is an opportunity to salvage some of that as Annisquam Woods is right in the middle of where houses are and is the best investment the city could make.

**Council President McGeary** said that he would support this funding, noting since he has been on the Council that the city has regularly acquired many open space parcels through this method. He said he agreed that at 12 cents on the dollar it is a sound investment. He also lauded the efforts of the Community Preservation Committee.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Stewart, the City Council voted by **ROLL CALL 9** in favor, 0 opposed, to appropriate up to \$50,000 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) from the Community Preservation Act funds as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for the purpose of the Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) purchase of the 27.4 acre property known as the Annisquam Woods parcel in Gloucester, Massachusetts upon the condition that the ECGA conveys a conservation restriction to the City of Gloucester or its designee. The appropriation will be allocated to the Open Space category and funded by \$15,000 from Open Space Reserves in Fund #270100 and funded by \$35,000 from Unrestricted Reserves in Fund #270000. The project will be tracked in the Community Preservation Fund – Open Space Projects Fund #271006.

#### **For Council Vote:**

1. **Decision to Adopt: Thatcher Road #78, GZO Sec. 2.3.1.7 conversion to or new multi-family or apartment**

**Dwelling, four to six dwelling units and Sec. 5.7.1 Major Projects**

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Verga, seconded by Councilor Cox, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to adopt the Special Council Permit (SCP2014-012) for Thatcher Road #78, pursuant to Sections 2.3.1.7 and 5.7.1 of the Gloucester Zoning Ordinance.**

**Unfinished Business: None.**

**Individual Councilor's Discussion including Reports by Appointed Councilors to Committees: None.**

**Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:**

**Councilor LeBlanc** requested through the Mayor that the DPW to look at repainting the city's crosswalks because they quite faded.

**Councilor Cox** urged the Council to sign up for the dunk tank fundraiser in conjunction the Relay for Life event in June, pointing out that Councilors Verga and LeBlanc as well as herself have signed on. She said there is a clean-up of Burnham's Field scheduled for April 25 at 10:00 a.m., and Saturday, April 18 at 8:00 a.m. for upper Rogers Street. She reminded everyone of the Pride Stride taking place on Sunday, April 26 starting at 12 noon.

**Councilor Ciolino** thanked the DPW for attacking the potholes around the city. He asked people to be patient.

**Councilor Verga** asked about a DPW schedule for street sweeping. He noted his wife attended a clean-up at Good Harbor Beach, who told him that there great deal of trash is being unearthed, and the fear as the trash like plastic water bottles makes their way to the top that they'll be blown around, and asked to learn from the DPW what their plan is for cleaning up the snow farm there and elsewhere in the city.

**Councilor Cox** said in the melting ice piles said there are a number of Barney bags being unearthed. She said residents have already paid for these bags and for their removal, and through no fault of the citizens, they were scooped up during the snow removal and deposited at various snow farm locations. She said she would like to know if the city is paying a second time to have that trash removed or if the city's contracted trash company will be contractually obligated to remove the Barney bags they didn't remove during the any of the snow storms.

**Councilor Ciolino** suggested the Councilors take a ride to Good Harbor Beach, which is illustrative of why DPW Director, Mike Hale and the Administration decided not to dump the snow in the ocean seeing all the trash as it is revealed by melting snow. He lauded that decision saying that although it was expensive and a struggle the trash is not in the harbor or being washed out to sea.

**Council President McGeary** said he's had conversations with Mr. Hale about "Mt. Snow" at the Good Harbor parking lot. He said that the idea of placing all the snow in several discrete places, that when it came time to clean up all the trash that was anticipated to remain it would all be in one place which he said was foresight on his part.

**Councilor Whynott** acknowledged Bob McGillvray.

**Council President McGeary** called attention to this Saturday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. at the Studio Restaurant the Beaux Arts Ball by the Rocky Neck Art Colony will take place with tickets available at the door or at [www.rockyneckartcolony.org](http://www.rockyneckartcolony.org). He congratulated the Gloucester High School students who were inducted into the National Honor Society this evening. Following this evening's discussion on opiates and opioids, he said there will be presentation at the Sawyer Free Library on Thursday, April 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. entitled, Pills, K2 and Dabs, Youth Substance Abuse in the City. This is a problem and said he hoped parents would attend. He noted that it is open enrollment for city staff for medical and dental insurance between now and the deadline of May 6. There are presentations and materials available for review, he noted, as the city is looking to adjust their health insurance coverage.

**Councilor Stewart** reminded the Council to file their tax returns by midnight tomorrow.

**A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Dana C. Jorgenson  
Clerk of Committees**

**DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING:**

- **Power Point presentation by the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative and the Gloucester Health Department**
- **Sailors Guide from the Harbormaster's Office**