

**GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, June 9, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

**-MINUTES-**

**Present:** Chair, Councilor Paul McGeary; Councilor Joseph Ciolino; Councilor Melissa Cox; Councilor Steve LeBlanc, Jr.; Councilor Greg Verga; Councilor Robert Whynott; Councilor Paul Lundberg (entered the meeting at 7:24 p.m.); Councilor William Fonvielle

**Absent:** Councilor Stewart

**Also Present:** Mayor Sefatia Theken; Linda T. Lowe; Kenny Costa; Jim Destino; John Dunn; Fire Chief Eric Smith; James Pope; Chip Payson; Tony Gross; Dr. Richard Safier; Melissa Teixeira; Michelle Sweet; Kathy Clancy; Jonathan Pope

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. During the meeting, the Council recessed at 7:48 p.m. and reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

**Flag Salute & Moment of Silence.****Oral Communications: None.****Commendation:**

Presentation of a Commendation to the First R Foundation on the Occasion of its donation of 4,000 books to the children of Cape Ann

**Council President McGeary** asked that Patricia Earle and her First R Foundation compatriots join him at the podium, as well as Mayor Sefatia Theken, for presentations on behalf of the Council and the Mayor to the First R Foundation celebrating a milestone of donating 4,000 books to school libraries in Gloucester and Rockport. He read the commendation lauding the work of the 13 year old volunteer organization that reads aloud to young children and donates books after reading them to classrooms across Cape Ann. The citation made note that those who participate by reading to the children are conveying their love of the written word for the next generation.

**Mayor Sefatia Theken** spoke of Ms. Earle and her accomplishments lauding her volunteering for the city in many capacities, but was made all the more special by her participation with the First R Foundation she founded. She invited Dr. Richard Safier to join her at the podium representing the city schools which benefit from the reading and book donation program enriching city children's lives.

**Ms. Earle** offered her thanks to the Mayor and Council for their recognition of the work of the First R Foundation. She thanked the Councilors who participate by reading to Gloucester's children, as well as the program sponsors, including Bank Gloucester and Cape Ann Savings Bank and highlighted the program's very first sponsor, the Cape Ann YMCA Teen Leaders Program. She said the heart and soul of the program are her readers who give an hour to read to the children and share the joy of books. She cited an observation by the filmmaker Ken Burns: "The most powerful invention of man is the book."

**Appointments:**

Clean City Commission

TTE 02/14/18 Donna Ardizzoni (Cont'd from 05/18)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a unanimous vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, the Ordinance & Administration Committee recommended that the City Council appoint Donna Ardizzoni to the Clean City Commission, TTE 02/14/18.

**Councilor Ciolino** said the Committee was familiar with Ms. Ardizzoni who had appeared at the O&A Committee, and her participation in keeping the city clean through the Saturday clean-up crew, and recommended her appointment.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Cox, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Donna Ardizzoni to the Clean City Commission, TTE 02/14/18.

Gloucester Housing Authority

TTE 02/14/20

Scott B. Duffany

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a unanimous vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, the Ordinance & Administration Committee recommended that the City Council appoint Scott B. Duffany to the Gloucester Housing Authority, TTE 02/14/20.

**Councilor Ciolino** observed that Mr. Duffany has been a city policeman for 28 years. He noted that a requirement of the particular position on the Housing Authority to which he was being appointed is that the person must be a union member. Mr. Duffany is a member of the police union. He noted that Mr. Duffany agreed to act as a liaison to the Housing Authority for the Council moving forward.

**Mr. Duffany** reviewed his background with the Council and his reasons for stepping forward to volunteer to work with the Gloucester Housing Authority board. He said that in his experience as a policeman patrolling central Gloucester for 15 of his 28 years with the department, he was familiar with the residents of housing authority properties. He said he believed he was a good listener and could act as an advocate. He said he looked forward to taking on this volunteer position.

**Councilor Whynott** said that Mr. Duffany is a consummate volunteer and will be a great addition to the Housing Authority Board.

**Councilor LeBlanc** said he has known Mr. Duffany for many years who has a passion for the city, and was pleased to endorse his appointment.

**Councilor Cox** said she enjoys working with Mr. Duffany and said she believed he would be a great liaison between the Council and the Housing Authority.

**Council President McGeary** said if anyone embodies the spirit and substance of community policing it is Mr. Duffany. He would be a welcome addition to the Housing Authority Board, he said.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Scott B. Duffany to the Gloucester Housing Authority, TTE 02/14/20.**

Historic District Commission

TTE 02/14/18

Jessica Mulcahy (Cont'd from 05/18)

**Ms. Mulcahy's** appointment was continued to June 23 as she is unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee

TTE 02/14/18

Frederick J. Geisel (rep. for neighborhood abutting park)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a unanimous vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, the Ordinance & Administration Committee recommended that the City Council appoint Frederick J. Geisel to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee, TTE 02/14/18.

**Mr. Geisel**, Steep Hill Drive, noted that he lives in a home that overlooks Stage Fort Park. He conveyed to the Council that he has lived in the city for 31 years. As a professional civil engineer, he said he has worked on many land development and land restoration projects, renovations and restorations of historic buildings, as well as public works projects during his career. He said he enjoys Stage Fort Park frequently using it to its maximum capacity. He said he believed he had a neighborhood perspective and with his engineering background has a good knowledge base what goes into maintaining and improving properties and has ideas how they might improve Stage Fort Park.

**Councilor Verga** said Mr. Geisel's background will be ideal for the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee. He advised that this new Committee is being urged to think outside of the box and what would be the best ideas, not being hung up on funding.

**Councilor Fonvielle** said the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee has already had its first meeting, and that Mr. Geisel has demonstrated he will be a valuable member.

**Councilor Ciolino** said as a member of the Planning & Development Committee he had worked with Mr. Geisel when he came before them in his professional capacity. He added that the city is celebrating its 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary in a few years and this Committee will lay the foundation of what the park will look like at that time of celebration. They want the park to be the showplace it was meant to be, he said.

**Council President McGeary** said he has seen Mr. Geisel coming before the Council in his professional capacity in the past and that he respected his professional background which would go to good use with this Committee to preserve and protect Stage Fort Park, a city jewel.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Verga, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, to appoint Frederick J. Geisel to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee, TTE o2/14/18.**

**Council President McGeary** asked for and received the assent of the Council in order to take up Public Hearing #3 and #4.

**Public Hearings:**

**3. PH2015-030: SCP2015-003: Eastern Avenue #210, GZO Sec. 2-3.4(7) Animal boarding kennel – 24 hour operation**

**This public hearing is opened at 7:23 p.m.**

**Those speaking in favor:**

**Attorney Ralph Pino**, 46 Middle Street, represented the joint petitioners, Paws at Play, Inc., and Ryann C. Flynn Trustee of Turner Farm Reality Trust. Also present were Philip and Tanya Joubert, principals of Paws at Play. Mr. Pino reviewed the Special Permit Application for the property at Eastern Avenue #210, Map 265, Lot 23, under GZO Sec. 2.3.4.(7) Animal boarding, kennel – 24 hour operations as follows:

**OVERVIEW:**

Currently at Paws At Play, Inc. functions as a dog day care facility that has been located on this property for approximately 14 years and consists of a retail store in the front and an interior dog day-care facility to the rear of the building as well as a large penned area. The company has found the demand for 24-hour kenneling to be substantial and seeks a Special Council Permit to allow it to run as such a facility.

There extensive public support for this proposal, including petitions signed by approximately 525 people, 25 letters of support including letters from new abutter, Common Crow and the Captains Lodge Motel across the (on file). He noted that there had been no expression of opposition throughout the application process. The application was vetted at a prior Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing (information on file). This matter was in front of the ZBA for a variance from a provision in the use ordinance that prohibited an outdoor pen less than 100 feet from a lot line. The abutting neighbors the CATA building and Mr. Burnham's property had no objection to this facility expansion, he said. This property is located adjacent to the City Hall Annex at Pond Road.

An enlarged site plan (on file) was shown to the Council and reviewed--the building has an existing garage at the rear of 210 Eastern Avenue which will be demolished. That building will be replaced by an addition of 28 feet by 70 feet added to the existing Paws At Play building which will have two sections. The area of 28 feet by 40 feet directly behind the existing Paws At Play facility will house a kennel, the rear 28 foot by 30 foot area will be a warehousing area. The kennel area will be extensively soundproofed with non-opening windows, with a full HVAC system providing heating and cooling, and no door opening directly to the outside (all to minimize sound). To the south will be ten 4 foot x 6 foot "outdoor" dog pens under a shed-type roof, with walls to the east and west. These pens will be used only during the daytime operation consistent with current dog day care facility times. The kennel will be able to accommodate up to 20 dogs. There have not been one noise complaint in 14 years, it was noted. Mr. Pino noted that is why the application has met with no expressions of opposition. He also pointed out the commercial enterprises surrounding the applicant's property as well as a conservation area that act as a buffer zone. The facility has operated smoothly and without complaint through all its years of operation.

He said there is a tremendous community need for a 24-hour kennel in Gloucester, which has 2,100 licensed dogs annually and reportedly many more unlicensed. (Note: dog license statistics were provided to the applicant's attorney by the Gloucester City Clerk). There are few local kenneling options with the nearest located in Ipswich and Topsfield. He said that area veterinarians have ceased on-site kenneling services, and there is no other similar kenneling facility in the city. People want a reliable, good place for their dogs to be cared for in their absence locally, he pointed out.

**SECTION 1.8.3 REVIEW:**

1. Social, economic or community need served: There are 2,100 licensed dogs in Gloucester. Dogs are very important to their owners, who need a safe and reliable place to kennel their dogs while on vacation or otherwise. Veterinarians who historically provided this service have stopped kenneling. There is a great need and demand for a 24-hour dog kennel in Gloucester as evidenced by the petitions and letters of support (on file).
2. Traffic Flow and Safety: The dog day care business has been operating on site for 14 years without incident or complaints. The addition of 24-hour kennel will have no significant increase in traffic, as most kenneled dogs will be day care customers already. There is more than adequate parking.

3. Adequacy of utilities and other public services: The premises are served by municipal water and sewer. The property is surrounded by commercial enterprises. The proposed kennel area will be entirely new construction.
4. Neighborhood character and social structure: The area is primarily business and industrial. This proposal received no opposition at the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hearing and received extensive support from neighborhood and community.
5. Qualities of the Natural Environment: The proposed site has an old barn/garage building on it which will be demolished. The new addition to the existing Paws at Play building will be outside the extensive tree planted area to the south. The proposal will have no adverse effects on the natural environment.
6. Potential fiscal impact: Increased real estate taxes, and keeping business in Gloucester.

**Those speaking in opposition: None.**

**Communications:** Those that were referred by Mr. Pino through petitions in support of the project with none in opposition, as reported by the City Clerk, **Linda T. Lowe**, are all on file.

**Councilor Questions:**

**Councilor Ciolino** asked a series of questions which **Mr. Pino** responded as follows: He confirmed that there will be up to 20 dogs. There is a residence on the second floor occupied by the Paws At Play owners. The new building is not fitted with sprinklers as it is not required by the Building Code, nor has the Building Inspector indicated it is required. It was noted the building will be built to all current fire codes.

**Councilor Lundberg** asked if the applicant requires their clients' dogs to be licensed. **Mr. Pino** said they don't require boarding dogs to be licensed, but the dogs are required to have proof that their shots are up to date. Noting this matter was discussed at the P&D Committee meeting, Mr. Pino said that the owners would not object to requiring that dogs that are resident of Gloucester be licensed to be kenneled at the facility, but that it would be difficult to enforce with dogs from outside communities. **Councilor Lundberg** said that given the recent dog issues in the city and that there are so many unlicensed dogs in the city that possibly making this a condition to the Special Council Permit would be appropriate and would offer it as an amendment when the motion was brought forward.

**Council President McGeary** asked for a description of the soundproofing. Mr. Pino pointed out on the drawings before the Council (on file) the existing dog daycare highlighting the non-opening windows and comprehensive HVAC system. The overhang from the building was pointed out as going beyond the dog kennels. The outdoor pens have walls on each end. There is soundproofing material installed in the rest of the building virtually eliminating any sound to the outside the building to the property lines. The back of the building will be warehouse space and add an additional buffer. The only potential noise is the dogs in the outside pen areas during the day for which have been there with no complaint for 14 years. The end walls will focus the sound towards Pond Road which is a significant distance. Dogs will always be indoors at night. It was reiterated that dogs will only be outside when the dog day care is functioning.

**Councilor Cox** suggested before making an amendment to the permit, to ask if this condition would be a hardship for the clients as a financial burden. **Mr. Pino** said the petitioners had no objection.

**Councilor Fonvielle** said given the soundproofing described he expressed concern for dogs that may become distressed kenneling overnight. **Mr. Pino** said the dogs will be monitored electronically in the evening hours.

**Councilor Ciolino** asked about animals in one room without fire protection and asked if he knew what other communities did under similar circumstances. **Fire Chief Eric Smith** said there was no requirement that a kennel have a sprinkler system.

At the request of the **Council President**, 21 people raised their hands in a show of support of the Special Council Permit application.

**This public hearing is closed at 7:39 p.m.**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** On motion by Councilor Lundberg, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council grant a Special Council Permit (SCP2015-002) pursuant to Sections 1.8.3 and 2.3.4(7) of the Zoning Ordinance, "Animal boarding, kennel – 24 hour operation," to Paws at Play, Inc., at 210 Eastern Avenue, as shown on Assessors Map #264, Lot 23, zoned GI-General Industrial, to operate a 24 hour animal kennel facility as shown on "Proposed Site Development Plan" dated 3/9/15 by Gateway Consultants, Inc., Lynnfield, MA, received by the City Clerk's Office May 7, 2015, and that this permit application is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the ordinance and meets with the requirements of GZO Sec. 1.8.3.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Lundberg moved to propose a condition to ensure dogs belonging to residents of Gloucester that board at the Paws At Play kennel are properly licensed by the City of Gloucester. Councilor Verga seconded the amendment.**

**Councilor Lundberg** stated that this amendment is a further way to codify having dogs licensed in the city which will help protect the community.

**Councilor Ciolino** said this is not singling out any one particular business or applicant, and spoke of the conditions placed on Petco when they were granted a Special Council Permit to conduct business in the city as an example.

**The amendment to add a condition to the Special Council Permit to have all dogs that are owned by Gloucester residents who board at the Paws At Play kennel be licensed passed 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent.**

**Councilor Ciolino** said he was in support of the application for a kennel facility saying he knows from personal experience it is a well-run operation. He lauded the applicant who is filling a niche and expanding their business to accommodate dog owners of the city with quality dog care.

**Councilor Whynott** asked why they are only requiring just dogs owned by Gloucester residents be licensed. **Mr. Pino** all dogs, regardless of where they are domiciled, have to have all their shots up to date and have documentation from their veterinarian. If the dog is owned in Gloucester they can require the licensing condition but dogs from out of town would be a different story, he said, and a licensing requirement would be difficult to enforce.

**Councilor Verga** added that by the permitting of this kennel it helps to keep money local by having a local option for kenneling dogs.

**Councilor Cox** said she has recently been acquainted with Paws at Play through caring for a friend's dog which was a positive experience.

**MOTION: On motion by Councilor Verga, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, to grant a Special Council Permit (SCP2015-002) pursuant to Sections 1.8.3 and 2.3.4(7) of the Zoning Ordinance, "Animal boarding, kennel – 24 hour operation," to Paws at Play, Inc., at 210 Eastern Avenue, as shown on Assessors Map #264, Lot 23, zoned GI-General Industrial, to operate a 24 hour animal kennel facility as shown on "Proposed Site Development Plan" dated 3/9/15 by Gateway Consultants, Inc., Lynnfield, MA, received by the City Clerk's Office May 7, 2015, and that this permit application is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the ordinance and meets with the requirements of GZO Sec. 1.8.3. with the following condition.**

1. Dogs that are owned by Gloucester residents must be properly licensed by the City of Gloucester.
4. PH2015-031: Public Hearing on FY16 Proposed Budget (supporting backup documentation) (<http://gloucester-ma.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=35&Type=&ADID=>) FY16 Mayor's Recommended Budget (<http://gloucetser-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3376> )

**Councilor Cox**, Chair of the Budget & Finance Committee explained that the Budget & Finance team has had 11 meetings to date going through each department's budget line by line with department heads and the Administration. While the Committee found small amounts of money, they also found some small holes that need filling. She noted that after this public hearing there are at least two to three more budget meetings for revisits, motions and adjournment of the FY16 Budget Meeting with the FY16 budget passage on Tuesday, June 16 at a Special City Council meeting.

**Council President McGeary** noted that during public comment it would be appropriate to allow speakers to simply express their opinions through open discussion, rather than to follow the normal public hearing procedure of alternating proponents and opponents in speaking. He asked that speakers limit their remarks to three minutes. He said any written comments would be spread upon the record, which was agreed to by the Council by unanimous voice vote for this public hearing only.

**This public hearing is opened at 7:55 p.m.**  
**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

**Mayor Sefatia Theken** thanked the Administration's team which worked closely with the Council's Budget & Finance Committee. She highlighted the work of the city's Chief Administrative Officer, Jim Destino. She said the administration also worked with the School Committee. She recounted that the city faced the unprecedented winter storms and the associated bills. They proposed a budget that is sound, sensible and sustainable that gives taxpayer protections they need and ensures the city's long-term fiscal stability. They are unable to continue to sustain things they can't maintain and maintain things they can't sustain, she said. She said the School Department and the Administration realizes that fact. Anytime the School Department has come forward to the Council and the Administration they have worked together to ensure that they are leaving no child behind, she said, and reiterated that the FY16 budget is sustainable and maintainable. She reiterated her thanks through the FY16 budget process which hasn't been easy. She concluded her remarks by stating it is one city and one team.

**Valerie Gilman**, 75 Revere Street, spoke positively of the 24/7 fire coverage for Bay View and Magnolia and mentioned her own experience with fires in her home 14 years ago and three years ago, when the first occurred, Bay View was open; when the second happened, it was not. She said she appreciated the efforts to keep open the outlying stations. She noted she attended the Police Department review, and urged continuing support for funding a second dog officer. She said although the position was a late approval last fiscal year, this second dog officer provides added efforts in educating the public, for seeing that dog waste is cleared up, to ensure that there is adequate coverage to respond to dog calls. She also stated her support of the city's public school district noting great strides have been made, with Gloucester High School being ranked in the state as a Level 1 school. She thanked Melissa Cox, Chair of B&F, as well as Committee members Councilors Fonvielle and McGeary for their efforts by a thorough review of the FY16 budget over a month and a half.

**Jonathan Pope**, 16 Marble Street, School Committee Chair, thanked Mayor Theken's Administration and her staff as well as the B&F Committee for the hard work they put in during their FY16 budget review, as the budget is not an easy project to undertake. The School Department, although having a discrepancy between the recommended budget they adopted and that put forward by the Administration would be able to compensate for the difference, he said. He noted they have the ability with a budget of its size to compensate for the differences. There are a number of outstanding financial supports they still don't have final word on such as state grants which could be significant with a \$120,000 possible shortfall. By right sizing staff to the appropriate number of the student population and the health care savings, he said that the School Department will be able to manage if they go forward standing pat with what they have budgeted for FY and urged passage of the budget.

**Melissa Teixeira**, School Committee member, Essex Tech School Committee member, asked for more funding for the school district budget in order to assure it is adequately funded. She expressed her respect for the Council and Administration but said she remains concerned that they may have to ask for funding in the future especially to meet special education requirements in the immediate future.

**Communications:** None.

**Councilor Questions:** None.

**This public hearing is closed at 8:06 p.m.**

**Council President McGeary** confirmed that the FY16 budget will be voted on at a Special City Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 16. There still more meetings for revisits and motions where having identified those few holes in the budget that may be filled and slight variances from what was proposed, they will see if an accommodation by the Administration can be reached. He said it was fair to say this has been an extraordinary year with a \$3.5 million snow deficit. Additionally there were eight firefighters that were out on disability in FY15 which profoundly affected costs in the Fire Department budget. The School Department had 11 children who showed up for enrollment this fall with special needs requiring special attention. None of these could be budgeted for nor were foreseen and at variance with past history. He pointed out that a typical year the city spends less than \$1 million for snow removal in a winter for the city. A typical annual additional enrollment of special needs children is two or three, not 11. A typical year for firefighter disability sees only two. In addition to the budget passed for FY15 in good faith, he said, there was this "triple whammy" that befell the city. He said it is to the credit of the Administration and the Council that they have managed to put together a good faith budget which took a lot of effort by all concerned, the School Department, the Administration and the Council, to get to the point to deliver needed city services with the minimum of inconvenience and disruption. There will be four fire stations open 24/7 in FY16. He said that the city will be able to meet the needs of children in their schools which he said was a tribute to them all working as a team and with the input of the public as well which was taken seriously. They literally reviewed the FY16 budget line by line which is a lot of work to formulate and produce it, he noted, and said that everyone in the room deserved credit as well as those not present this evening who did this for the citizens of Gloucester commending their work.

**Consent Agenda:**• **MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Memorandum from Director of Finance & Operation for the Gloucester Public Schools re: request permission to raise the revenue and Spending limit on Fund #22300, School Food Service from \$1,199,124 to \$1,324,124 (Refer B&F)
2. Memorandum from Fire Chief and Special Budgetary Transfer Request (2015-SBT-45) (Refer B&F)
3. Memorandum from Fire Chief and Special Budgetary Transfer Request (2015-SBT-46) (Refer B&F)
4. Memorandum from Fire Chief and Special Budgetary Transfer Request (2015-SBT-47) (Refer B&F)
5. Memorandum from Fire Chief and Special Budgetary Transfer Request (2015-SBT-48) (Refer B&F)
6. Memorandum from Chief Financial Officer and spreadsheet describing FY2015 interdepartmental transfer to Snow & Ice and Special Budgetary Transfer Request (2015-SBT-49) (Refer B&F)
7. Special Budgetary Transfer Request (2015-SBT-50) from the Treasurer/Collector (Refer B&F)
8. Supplemental Appropriation-Budgetary Request (2015-SA-28) from the Mayor's Office (Refer B&F)
9. Memorandum from Chief Financial Officer re: Norseman Avenue Extension Road repairs and an Order related to repurposing remaining Funds of a completed capital project to the Norseman Avenue Extension repair project (Refer B&F)
10. Memorandum from General Counsel re: grant of Utility Easements for 44 Whittemore Street (Refer P&D)
11. Memorandum from Administration re: National Grid lease for the Harbormaster's Building located at 19-21 Harbor Loop Road (Info Only)
12. City of Gloucester Health Department 2014 Annual Report (Info Only)
13. Administration's proposal to form an Ad Hoc Recreational Boating Advisory Committee (Info Only)
14. New Appointment: Shellfish Advisory Commission TTE 02/14/18 D. Nathaniel Mulcahy (Refer O&A)

• **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**

1. City Council vote of August 27, 2013 regarding renewal of Rogers Street Parking Lot at #65 Rogers Street (Refer P&D & B&F)
2. Invitation for the Relief Association of the Gloucester Fire Department to the Firefighter's Memorial Services on June 14, 2015 (Info Only)

• **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**

1. Special Events Application re: Request from Fishtown Horribles Parade Committee to hold Fishtown Horribles Parade July 3, 2015 (Refer P&D)
2. Special Events Application re: Request from The Gloucester Fund to hold concerts on Stacey Boulevard July 3 & September 5, 2015 (Refer P&D)
3. Special Events Application re: Request from the Gloucester Downtown Assoc. to hold Gloucester Sidewalk Bazaar Aug. 6, 7 & 8, 2015 (Refer P&D)

• **COUNCILORS ORDERS**• **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

1. City Council Meeting: May 26, 2015 (Approve/File)
2. Joint meeting of City Council and Board of Health: May 2, 2015 (Approve/File)
3. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 06/04/15 (under separate cover), O&A 06/01/15, P&D 06/03/15 (under separate cover) (Approve/File)

**Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda:**

**Council President McGeary** asked to remove Item #2 under Approval of Minutes, the Joint Meeting of the City Council and Board of Health: May 2, 2015. He explained that the minutes in the Council packet to be accepted were amended by the Board of Health and that a newly amended copy was received from the Director of the Health Department, Noreen Burke on Monday, June 8 by the City Clerk's Office and placed on file. That version of the Joint Meeting Minutes is what the City Council is to approve.

**By unanimous consent the Council accepted the Consent Agenda as amended.**

**Committee Reports:****Budget & Finance: June 4, 2015****1. Memorandum from EMS Coordinator re: updating City of Gloucester Fire Department Ambulance Service Billing & Collection Policy**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor McGeary, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve the Gloucester Fire Department Billing and Collection Policy as presented by the EMS Coordinator and approved by the Mayor dated May 14, 2015 and further to approve the proposed fee schedule attached to and incorporated into the policy effective July 1, 2015.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Cox** explained that: The proposed rate increase for ambulance services is 1.6 percent overall, generating an increase in revenue of 0.063 percent or about \$6,800 for FY16. The difference between this rate increase and previous increases is that in the past they were bringing the overall rates up to industry standards. For about the last year and a half the GFD Ambulance Service rates have been at industry standard and there isn't much

to increase to keep them at standard. They have also abandoned the rate statement of “Medicare plus a percentage” although in essence the rate model is Medicare plus 300 percent. The only rates that have increased for FY16 and which go into effect July 1, 2015, are the Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency and Advance Life Support 1 (ALS) Emergency, ALS2 Emergency, and the Special Care Transport Care fees. All the rest of the fees have remained the same. These changes are based on the recommendation of the EMS Coordinator in consultation with Intermedix, the Ambulance Service’s billing firm.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, to approve the Gloucester Fire Department Billing and Collection Policy as presented by the EMS Coordinator and approved by the Mayor dated May 14, 2015 and further to approve the proposed fee schedule attached to and incorporated into the policy effective July 1, 2015.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor McGeary, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council authorize the write-off of \$490,109.90 in uncollectible, outstanding ambulance billing.

#### DISCUSSION:

**Councilor Cox** said that each year the Fire Department’s ambulance service has outstanding Accounts Receivables that contain unpaid balances greater than 300 days old and considered uncollectable from 376 accounts totaling \$490,109.90. That breaks down to: Auto insurance claims; Medicare; Private insurance, Unknowns. The Unknowns account for \$240,000 and is the largest number of dollars missing--they just can’t find the people. It is the recommendation of the EMS Director that this uncollectible debt be authorized to be written off.

**Councilor Verga** suggested it was unfortunate but the ambulance must respond, treat and transport regardless of a patient’s ability to pay for the service. He said it seems that the amount of money being written off is rather large. The overall revenue expected is about \$1 million, **Council President McGeary** confirmed for the Councilor as well as this was accumulated debt, not just only 300 days old from date of service.

**Councilor Ciolino** asked how many years is this debt cumulative and how does the figure average historically. **Chief Smith** said annually there is a write off of 300-day-old inactive accounts that were pursued by a collection agency over a period of time seeking payment. These accounts had no contact with anyone for over 300 days. And there is no way to collect these funds, he said. The collections agency costs the department, and they are not pushing to do that further because there is no net return. The Chief said the number is about the same last year and prior to that was higher (Note: \$401,670.56 written off in May 2014). The service bills higher than what they take in as insurers pay only a portion of the overall bill of services. It is the difference between billable and outstanding, and collectible income averages about \$1 million annually. Writing off a portion of the annual ambulance service debt is a part of standard industry practices, **Chief Smith** pointed out. **Council President McGeary** said of 300 days of no activity, the bill can go back several years which **Chief Smith** confirmed, but that the account was idle after seeking the patient for payment, for at least 300 days.

**Councilor Cox** said of the majority of “unknowns,” under what circumstances are these people transported. **Chief Smith** said there is no one ambulance call type for these uncollected accounts. He said the billing company and the hospital follows up on these accounts just as they do to gather as much information as possible they can create a bill that can be paid. **Councilor Cox** suggested that the police detail accounts to be written off rather than ambulance write offs as it is a much higher amount owed.

**Councilor Ciolino** said they are in the business of providing service and if a call comes in the ambulance personnel has to do their job whether there is insurance coverage or not, and is the cost of doing business.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, to authorize the write-off of \$490,109.90 in uncollectible, outstanding ambulance billing.**

**2. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from the Community Development Department re: U.S. Economic Development Administration Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant-Blackburn Seafood Processing Cluster**

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 under M.G.L. c. 44,

§53A accept a grant from the United States Department of Commerce, U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Investments for Public Works and Development Facilities Program Grant for a total of \$555,500 for the purpose of making Sewer System Improvements in the Blackburn Industrial Park to allow expansion of the Cape Ann Seafood Processing Innovation District Project.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Cox** said that: The Community Development and Public Works Departments have received preliminarily a U.S. Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant of \$555,500 with a project total of \$1.111 million to support infrastructure work at the Blackburn Industrial Park, including replacement of one industrial park pump station, refurbishment of another industrial park pump station, and some sewer force main work. There are 10 conditions that will need to be met by on June 15 and submitted to the EDA, and then there will be an award letter and a federal contract will follow. The infrastructure at the Blackburn Industrial Park was installed in the 1970's. The Blackburn Center Pump Station will be completely redone. The Heritage Way station will have pump and line replacements. There will be added sewer force main lines because sewage is backing up at times as it travels down Harrison Avenue. As new businesses are added to the industrial park, the proposal is to upgrade that infrastructure capacity. The city would provide a 50 percent match for the project of \$555,500 in the form of a loan, under Public Hearing #2 this evening. The start date for the grant is July 1, 2015 and end date is December 31, 2016 according to the grant documentation.

**Council President McGeary** said as a Ward Councilor that he is pleased to see the Harrison Avenue sewers be upgraded as a part of this project. He noted that there has been much discussion that there was a special deal for the new Mazzetta Company that is moving into the Blackburn Industrial Park because Mazzetta's name was attached to the application. He said that this grant benefits the entire industrial park infrastructure and not just for the Mazzetta Company. The reason that company was specifically mentioned is because this grant is particularly tied to new jobs. The Mazzetta Corporation coming to the city, to the Blackburn Industrial Park from the Midwest, creates new jobs and is the premise on which the city was able to apply for the EDA grant and get half of the cost of this improvement to the city sewer system paid for by the federal government, he said

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, that under M.G.L. c. 44, §53A to accept a grant from the United States Department of Commerce, U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Investments for Public Works and Development Facilities Program Grant for a total of \$555,500 for the purpose of making Sewer System Improvements in the Blackburn Industrial Park to allow expansion of the Cape Ann Seafood Processing Innovation District Project.**

**3. Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from the Community Development Department re: PARC Grant from the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs – Light Up Mattos Field**

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 permit the Community Development Department to APPLY for a Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Program from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for \$106,400 to fund 56 percent of the total cost of the "Light-up Mattos Field Project."

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Cox** said that: The Community Development Department is requesting permission to apply for a grant from the Parkland Acquisition and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Program from the Mass. Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for \$106,400 in order to fund 56 percent of the total cost of the "Light-up Mattos Field Project." The rest of the funding would come from the funds raised by the Light-Up Mattos Field efforts of the Cape Ann Women's Softball League, headed by Patti Amaral. The cost to install the lights is estimated at \$190,000. The Community Preservation Committee has an application before it from the Cape Ann Women's Softball League for this project, and should that funding be approved, it could line up well which will help the application for a PARC Grant move forward. It takes about 3 months to learn if the grant has been awarded – about November. If awarded, the funds would be received in January 2016.

**Councilor Verga** expressed his support for the grant application for a park located in his old neighborhood. He said the ball field is frequently used. He noted that with the potential loss of the playing fields at the Fuller School, by lighting up Mattos Field, it appeared to be a logical step to take. He highlighted Ms. Amaral's efforts whom he said deserves a lot of credit. If the application helps the project it is worthwhile, he said.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, to permit the Community Development Department to APPLY for a Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Program from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for \$106,400 to fund 56 percent of the total cost of the "Light-up Mattos Field Project."**

#### **4. Special Budgetary Transfer Request (2015-SBT-44) from the Community Development Department**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On motion by Councilor McGeary, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2015-SBT-44 in the amount of \$3,900.00 from Account #101000.10.181.51990.0000.00.000.00.051, Community Development Stipends, to Account #101000.10.181.57000.0000.00.000.00.057, Community Development-Other Charges and Expenses, for the purpose of covering Early Bird Registration for the 2016 Seafood Exposition.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Cox** explained that following the highly successful showing by the city at the 2015 Boston Seafood Exposition in March, the Community Development Department wishes to preregister for the 2016 Boston Seafood Exposition and save money by doing so. An added benefit by preregistering is a better position for the city's booth which is an important factor as well.

**Councilor Fonvielle** said this is a smart thing to do and would support it. **Council President McGeary** also added his support lauding the contacts that were made at this past spring's Seafood Exposition, contacts that will only benefit the city moving forward. He highlighted that Councilor Fonvielle was among a delegation that went to Iceland to follow up on some of the contacts made at the seafood show.

**MOTION: On motion by Councilor Cox seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, to approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2015-SBT-44 in the amount of \$3,900.00 from Account #101000.10.181.51990.0000.00.000.00.051, Community Development Stipends, to Account #101000.10.181.57000.0000.00.000.00.057, Community Development-Other Charges and Expenses, for the purpose of covering Early Bird Registration for the 2016 Seafood Exposition.**

#### **Ordinances & Administration: June 1, 2015**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Verga, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council pursuant to MGL c. 40, §4A to approve the Inter-Municipal Agreement between the City of Gloucester and the Towns of Rockport and Manchester-by-the-Sea for a District Veterans' Services Office and authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement and require that the Council Certificate of Vote for said approval be attached to the Inter-Municipal Agreement.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Ciolino** said the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) holds that each participating town will pay \$14,500 to Gloucester, and from the total, \$10,000 will be paid to the Veterans' Services Veteran's Agent and his Senior Clerk in the form of a stipend. Rockport and Manchester-by-the-Sea veterans have already been using the city's Veteran's Services because neither town has a full-time Veterans' Services Agent. This IMA simply codifies that. This is a great move for the veterans of Cape Ann, he said, giving them a wider array of available services.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Verga, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, pursuant to MGL c. 40, §4A to approve the Inter-**

**Municipal Agreement between the City of Gloucester and the Towns of Rockport and Manchester-by-the-Sea for a District Veterans' Services Office and authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement and require that the Council Certificate of Vote for said approval be attached to the Inter-Municipal Agreement.**

**Planning & Development: June 3, 2015**

**2015 Block Parties:**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve a Special Events Application to hold the Downtown Block Party Series on Saturday, June 20, 2015; Saturday, July 18, 2015; Saturday, August 15, 2015; and Friday, September 4, 2015 in order to temporarily close Main Street from the open driveway of Bank Gloucester to Washington Street for each date for four separate occasions between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 11 p.m. with the following conditions:

1. No vendor/merchant set ups on the sidewalk blocking entrance ways to retail or residential units, hydrants, crosswalks, or handicap ramps.
2. All vendor set ups in the street are to allow for no less than a 10 foot unobstructed, drivable area along the entire route - slightly wider at the curve of Palazola's Sporting Goods- to maintain adequate access for emergency vehicles. Failure to provide a 10 foot unobstructed margin of drivable area may necessitate the removal or relocation of the vendor/merchant at the discretion of the Fire Department, the Police Department, or the Block Party Committee.
3. The organizers shall allow the Fire Department drive-through access with the fire engine at the convenience of the Fire Department.
4. Any restaurant/merchant set up of tables and chairs, tents, or area enclosures should extend into the street no further than the lines painted on the street for vehicular parking.
5. That all of the side streets – Short, Porter, Center, and Hancock Streets – shall not be blocked by vendors, food establishments, tables, chairs, enclosures, equipment, or vehicles, so emergency vehicles may enter and exit Main Street as needed.
6. Vendor/merchants shall be responsible for their own trash removal.
7. Signs indicating the location of comfort stations shall be the responsibility of the Block Party Committee.
8. Plumbing Codes and regulations shall be adhered to regarding use of restaurant bathroom facilities.
9. Special lighting and electrical requirements necessitate approval of the Inspector of Buildings and the Electrical Inspector.
10. The closure of the street at the intersection of Main and Short, Porter, Center, and Hancock Streets must be by means of sawhorses or the like, as directed by the Gloucester Police Department.
11. It is the responsibility of the Block Party Committee to procure any other necessary Federal, State, and local permits and approvals associated with this event.
12. That the Committee makes reasonable notification to all residents and merchants along the route that will be affected by the closure.
13. Restaurants or vendors wishing to serve food outside must notify the Board of Health 7 (seven) days in advance for approval and must obtain any necessary approval of the Block Party Committee.
14. Conditions or permitting requirements imposed by the Gloucester Licensing Board shall also apply and shall become incorporated herein as to the outdoor/sidewalk service of food and alcohol.
15. All other applicable laws, City ordinances, and/or regulations are in full force including Ordinances regarding blocking of sidewalks. The Police Department will enforce these requirements in the interest of public safety.
16. The Block Party Committee shall also adhere to any requirements expressed by the Special Event Advisory Committee including that:
  - (a) Written permission is to be obtained from the Assistant Public Works Director to close the public parking lot behind the Rogers Street entrance to the Dog Bar Restaurant for any performances, and
  - (b) That a letter from the office of the Mayor be provided assuring that the event is covered by the City of Gloucester Insurance, and
  - (c) This approval is based on the Gloucester Block Party 2015 Street Plan submitted to the Council to be filed with the Certificate of Vote.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Verga** said that this is a great opportunity to extend the downtown Block Parties. There is an outstanding issue of some licensing but that goes forward in a parallel process. The vote taken to allow P&D to sign off on such events is still in its 30 day waiting period before it is codified.

**Councilor Ciolino** acknowledged that he has a retail establishment on Main Street and is not an organizer of the event nor has a fiduciary interest other than running his business during the events and can vote on this matter.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Verga, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted 8 in favor , 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, to approve a Special Events Application to hold the Downtown Block Party Series on Saturday, June 20, 2015; Saturday, July 18, 2015; Saturday, August 15, 2015; and Friday, September 4, 2015 in order to temporarily close Main Street from the open driveway of Bank Gloucester to Washington Street for each date for four separate occasions between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 11 p.m. with the following conditions:**

1. No vendor/merchant set ups on the sidewalk blocking entrance ways to retail or residential units, hydrants, crosswalks, or handicap ramps.
2. All vendor set ups in the street are to allow for no less than a 10 foot unobstructed, drivable area along the entire route - slightly wider at the curve of Palazola's Sporting Goods- to maintain adequate access for emergency vehicles. Failure to provide a 10 foot unobstructed margin of drivable area may necessitate the removal or relocation of the vendor/merchant at the discretion of the Fire Department, the Police Department, or the Block Party Committee.
3. The organizers shall allow the Fire Department drive-through access with the fire engine at the convenience of the Fire Department.
4. Any restaurant/merchant set up of tables and chairs, tents, or area enclosures should extend into the street no further than the lines painted on the street for vehicular parking.
5. That all of the side streets – Short, Porter, Center, and Hancock Streets – shall not be blocked by vendors, food establishments, tables, chairs, enclosures, equipment, or vehicles, so emergency vehicles may enter and exit Main Street as needed.
6. Vendor/merchants shall be responsible for their own trash removal.
7. Signs indicating the location of comfort stations shall be the responsibility of the Block Party Committee.
8. Plumbing Codes and regulations shall be adhered to regarding use of restaurant bathroom facilities.
9. Special lighting and electrical requirements necessitate approval of the Inspector of Buildings and the Electrical Inspector.
10. The closure of the street at the intersection of Main and Short, Porter, Center, and Hancock Streets must be by means of sawhorses or the like, as directed by the Gloucester Police Department.
11. It is the responsibility of the Block Party Committee to procure any other necessary Federal, State, and local permits and approvals associated with this event.
12. That the Committee makes reasonable notification to all residents and merchants along the route that will be affected by the closure.
13. Restaurants or vendors wishing to serve food outside must notify the Board of Health 7 (seven) days in advance for approval and must obtain any necessary approval of the Block Party Committee.
14. Conditions or permitting requirements imposed by the Gloucester Licensing Board shall also apply and shall become incorporated herein as to the outdoor/sidewalk service of food and alcohol.
15. All other applicable laws, City ordinances, and/or regulations are in full force including Ordinances regarding blocking of sidewalks. The Police Department will enforce these requirements in the interest of public safety.
16. The Block Party Committee shall also adhere to any requirements expressed by the Special Event Advisory Committee including that:
  - (a) Written permission is to be obtained from the Assistant Public Works Director to close the public parking lot behind the Rogers Street entrance to the Dog Bar Restaurant for any performances, and
  - (b) That a letter from the office of the Mayor be provided assuring that the event is covered by the City of Gloucester Insurance, and

**(c) This approval is based on the Gloucester Block Party 2015 Street Plan submitted to the Council to be filed with the Certificate of Vote.**

**Easement – 91 Commercial Street:**

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Planning & Development Committee voted in 3 favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council pursuant to GCO Sec. 2-3(2)(d) grant to National Grid (d/b/a Massachusetts Electric Company) and Verizon New England an easement to install and maintain electric poles referred to as the “Overhead System” on city property at 91 Commercial Street and as submitted by National Grid as shown on the plan entitled, “Easement Sketch, Plan Number 14569222” and as described in the easement deed submitted with National Grid and Verizon New England’s request for disposition of said easement for a nominal fee of \$1.00. Verizon New England shall record the Easement at the Southern Essex County Registry of Deeds and shall pay all costs to do so including providing copies to the City of Gloucester.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Verga** said that part of this easement has to do with the city’s Fort infrastructure project currently underway.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Verga, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, pursuant to GCO Sec. 2-3(2)(d) to grant to National Grid (d/b/a Massachusetts Electric Company) and Verizon New England an easement to install and maintain electric poles referred to as the “Overhead System” on city property at 91 Commercial Street and as submitted by National Grid as shown on the plan entitled, “Easement Sketch, Plan Number 14569222” and as described in the easement deed submitted with National Grid and Verizon New England’s request for disposition of said easement for a nominal fee of \$1.00. Verizon New England shall record the Easement at the Southern Essex County Registry of Deeds and shall pay all costs to do so including providing copies to the City of Gloucester.**

**Scheduled Public Hearings:**

1. **PH2015-028: Amend GZO by adding a new definition to Section VI “Definitions for “Farmer’s Markets”**

**This public hearing is opened at 8:38 p.m.**

**Council President McGeary** continued the public hearing to June 23, 2015.

**This public hearing is continued to June 23, 2015.**

2. **PH2015-2015-029: Loan Order #2015-003: Loan Authorization in the amount of \$555,500, the city’s match funding re: U.S. Economic Development Administration Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant for the Blackburn Seafood Processing Cluster project**

**This public hearing is opened at 8:39 p.m.**

**Those speaking in favor: None**

**John Dunn**, Chief Financial Officer, noted that this is the city’s match to the EDA grant, just accepted by the Council, for the Blackburn Industrial Park infrastructure project. This will move the grant forward to full funding approval by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, he said.

**Those speaking in opposition: None.**

**Communications: None.**

**Councilor Questions: None.**

**This public hearing is closed at 8:40 p.m.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor McGeary, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council authorize the following loan order:

**ORDERED:** That the City of Gloucester appropriate Five Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$555,500) to pay the costs of improvements to the Heritage Way Pump station, constructing a new pump station servicing the Blackburn Industrial Park, and Harrison Avenue sewer force main extension to Eastern Avenue/Neptune Place, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Mayor and any other appropriate official of the City are authorized to apply for, accept and expend any and all grants or gifts that may be available to the City to pay costs of the projects.

**FURTHER ORDERED:** That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any or all of the bonds authorized by this order and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Municipal Finance Oversight Board may require for these purposes.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Councilor Cox** explained this loan represents the matching city's 50 percent match for the U.S. Economic Development Administration Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant for the Blackburn Seafood Processing Cluster project.

**Councilor Verga** highlighted that the Council President had spoken already on the misunderstandings surrounding the use of the Mazzetta Company's name in the grant application. He noted that there has been much criticism for not taking advantage of offered federal money to fund sewer infrastructure in Lanesville many years ago. He said that this is an opportunity once again to fund infrastructure work with federal money and it should be taken advantage of.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Fonvielle, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Stewart) absent, to authorize the following loan order:**

**ORDERED:** That the City of Gloucester appropriate Five Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$555,500) to pay the costs of improvements to the Heritage Way Pump station, constructing a new pump station servicing the Blackburn Industrial Park, and Harrison Avenue sewer force main extension to Eastern Avenue/Neptune Place, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Mayor and any other appropriate official of the City are authorized to apply for, accept and expend any and all grants or gifts that may be available to the City to pay costs of the projects.

**FURTHER ORDERED:** That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any or all of the bonds authorized by this order and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Municipal Finance Oversight Board may require for these purposes.

**For Council Vote:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

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

**Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:**

**Councilor Whynott** invited everyone to his Fiesta Saturday cookout.

**Councilor Ciolino** thanked his well-wishers on the event of his birthday today.

**Councilor Fonvielle** invited the public to an open forum he will be conducting in conjunction with the Open Space & Recreation Committee on Sat., June 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the West Gloucester Trinitarian Congregational Church, 488 Essex Avenue, to discuss improving hiking trails entry trail heads in West Gloucester.

**Councilor Verga** commented that Councilor Cox touched on the issue of police details and asked if they should create a deadbeat list so that when applicants come before the P&D Committee or apply for other city permits, they can put that information forward and require a bill be paid before a permit is issued. **Councilor Cox** noted that the City Auditor has a complete list. **Council President McGeary** added that it would be nice to see this list

maintained through the Administration. **Councilor Ciolino** recalled when Mr. Destino was Council President the list was given to the DPW, and if there were unpaid bills for city services, then the permit, such as to open the street, would not be granted until the bill was paid. **Councilor Cox** expressed her agreement. **Ms. Lowe** said the Council adopted state law many years ago to allow for this process. She said there is supposed to be a list kept by the Treasurer/Collector's office and as soon as an entity seeks a permit, departments who issue the permits are supposed to deny the permit until outstanding debt is made.

**Councilor LeBlanc** highlighted the Flag Day Ceremony on Thurs., July 11 at 6:00 p.m. at the Elks Lodge #892, 97 Atlantic Rd. He noted that the Washington Street work is underway from Exchange Street to the Grant Circle. Sidewalks are cut out and half are already completed. Trees have been cut down at the corners of Gloucester and Riverside Avenues were invested with insects and root bound which required them to be removed. If anyone has questions or complaints he asked they reach out to him to assist in resolving any issues.

**Councilor Cox** mentioned that the Relay for Life event is Sat., June 20 from 12 noon to 10:00 p.m. She noted there are a handful of Councilors who have volunteered for the dunk tank. The Magnolia Farmers Market opens on Mon., June 15 starting at 4:00 p.m. and finally a Special City Council Meeting June 16 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. She also wished everyone an early Happy Fiesta.

**Councilor Lundberg** acknowledged the impressive ceremony for the rededication of the Civil War Monument in Riverdale, which was an Eagle Scout project from the Riverdale troop, Bobby Trott. He said it was impressive to see what was done. Mr. Trott raised the funds with a spaghetti dinner at the Gloucester House and coordinated the work done with Adam Curcuru for contractors, City Veteran's Agent and the DPW. He said it was a great acknowledgement of public service by a young person from Gloucester.

**Council President McGeary** said he was present when the project was started and remarked that the difference is from the start to the complete restoration was remarkable, and also lauded Mr. Trott's Eagle Scout project. He announced that on Tues., June 16 at 3:30 p.m. at the City Hall Annex on Pond Road, the city's new electric vehicles and charging station will be dedicated and as the city hums its way into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Also on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Maritime Gloucester the final presentation will be made by the Climate Change Risk Assessment Panel that has been meeting to look at climate change and how it affects city infrastructure taking place at Maritime Gloucester Tuesday 22. And on the same evening at 7:00 p.m. the City Council will vote on the FY16 budget.

**Council President McGeary** highlighted that on Wed., June 17 he and some city officials will attend and participate in a special forum on opioid prevention sponsored by the Salem City Council. The initiative launched by the city, and especially by Police Chief Leonard Campanello to deal with the problem of opiate addiction has taken on a life of its own with more than 2 million hits on Facebook. Salem is very much interested in the work begun here and want to learn if it can work for their city as well. He noted that he met with the Chief last evening and learned that to date 8 people have availed themselves of this service which he said is a tribute to the Chief, the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative and the "angels" who are a critical part of this groundbreaking program. He offered his thanks to them all.

**Ms. Lowe** conveyed a reminder that on Mon., June 15 there will be an Office of Campaign Finance seminar at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall for anyone running or who may think to run for municipal office this year. For more information they may call her office at 978-281-9720x8 or email her at: [lloewe@gloucester-ma.gov](mailto:lloewe@gloucester-ma.gov).

**A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Dana C. Jorgensson**  
**Clerk of Committees**

**DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.**