

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

-MINUTES-

Present: Chair, Councilor Paul Lundberg; Vice Chair, Steven LeBlanc, Jr.; Councilor Melissa Cox; Councilor Valerie Gilman; Councilor Kenneth Hecht; Councilor Jennifer Holmgren; Councilor Scott Memhard; Councilor Sean Nolan; Councilor James O’Hara;

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joanne Senos; Jim Destino; Kenny Costa; Chip Payson; John Dunn; Donna Leete

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 Holmgren dedicated the Moment of Silence to her friend, Elizabeth Thomas who passed away on December 28, 2017. She recounted Ms. Thomas was a cum laude graduate of Bryn; a social worker and a computer engineer who moved to Gloucester many years ago with her husband, Art. She was a long-time member of the city’s Democratic City Committee and also a member of the Skeptics Club. She said she was kind and witty and will be missed.

Oral Communications: None.

Presentations/Commendations: None.

Confirmation of New Appointments: None.

Consent Agenda:

• **MAYOR’S REPORT**

- | | | | |
|---|--|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Reappointments: | | | |
| Affordable Housing Trust | Mary John Boylan, George Sibley | TTE 02/14/20 | |
| Board of Health | Robert Harris | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Board of Registrars | Mark Nestor | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Clean Energy Commission | Paul McGeary | TTE 02/14/20 | |
| Committee for the Arts | Catherine Ryan | TTE 02/14/22 | |
| Community Preservation Committee | John Feener, Catherine Schlichte, Barbara Silberman | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Committee for the Arts | Catherine Ryan | TTE 02/14/22 | |
| Council on Aging | Selma Bell, Frederick Cowan, Jay Gustafarro, Barry McKay | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Downtown Development Commission | Patty Gates, | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Gloucester Housing Authority | Barbara Snare (as Tenant Rep.) | TTE 02/14/23 | |
| Historic District Commission | Stephen Goodick, Robert Chandler, Jessica Mulcahy | TTE 02/21/21 | |
| Historical Commission | Jeff Crawford, Robert Whitmarsh | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Open Space & Recreation Committee | Heidi Wakeman, Noel Mann, Patricia Amaral | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Shellfish Advisory Commission | Nathaniel Mulcahy | TTE 02/13/21 | |
| Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee | David Benjamin (as Friends of Sawyer Free Library), Steve Kaity | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| | Donna Polizzia (as Gardner/Planter), David Dow (At Large mbr.) | | |
| Tourism Commission | Mike Mann, Paul Frontiero, Catherine Ryan | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Traffic Commission | Robert Francis | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Waterways Board | Karen Tibbits (as Recreational Member), Liam O’Connell | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | Michael Nimon, Joseph Parisi, III: Kristopher Howard (alternate) | TTE 02/14/21 | |
| Essex N.S. Agricultural & Tech. School | Melissa Joy Teixeira (City of Gloucester Representative) | TTE 12/31/20 | (Refer O&A) |
| 2. Memorandum from CFO re: General Fund Free Cash Distribution in the amount of \$10,000 for the restoration of cannons at Stage Fort Park | | | |
| 3. Memorandum from Senior Engineer Aide re: Proposed street naming and numbering plan | | | (Refer P&D) |
| • COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS | | | |
| • APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS | | | |
| • COUNCILORS ORDERS | | | |
| 1. CC2018-001 (LeBlanc): Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles” by ADDING definition of Compact Vehicles, definition of Compact Vehicle Parking Spaces, and penalty for violation re: Compact Vehicles | | | (Refer O&A & TC) |
| 2. CC2018-002 (Gilman): Request General Counsel review the GCO for proposed amendment to certain sections of GCO to insert “recreational marijuana” where appropriate | | | (Refer O&A & General Counsel) |
| • APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS | | | |
| 1. City Council Meeting: 12/12/2017 | | | (Approve/File) |
| 2. Special City Council Meeting: 12/13/2017 | | | (Approve/File) |
| 3. Special City Council Meeting: 01/01/2018 | | | |
| 4. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 01/04/18 cancelled, 01/09/18 (under separate cover), O&A 01/02/18, P&D 01/04/18 | | | (Approve/File) |

Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda:

Councilor Cox asked to remove Item #1 under the Mayor's Report, "Reappointments" for the Reappointment of Robert Francis, Traffic Commission. She pointed out that this well-known, long-time city volunteer has offered his resignation from the Traffic Commission and will not be up for reappointment.

By unanimous consent the Consent Agenda was accepted as amended.

Committee Reports:

Budget & Finance: Cancelled January 4 regularly scheduled meeting moved to special meeting on January 9

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL Chapter 44, §53A-½ the donation by the Gorton's Inc. of 350 cloth grocery bags with a monetary value of \$175.00 for the purpose of distribution to Gloucester senior citizens and low-income residents to aid in the transition from single-use plastic checkout bags, through the Clean City Commission.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox conveyed that Gorton's, Inc. donated 350 reusable cloth grocery bags with a monetary value of \$175 for the purpose of distribution to Gloucester senior citizens and low-income residents to aid in the transition from single-use plastic checkout bags, through the Clean City Commission Chair, Ainsley Smith, whom she thanked.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept under MGL Chapter 44, §53A-½ the donation by the Gorton's Inc. of 350 cloth grocery bags with a monetary value of \$175.00 for the purpose of distribution to Gloucester senior citizens and low-income residents to aid in the transition from single-use plastic checkout bags, through the Clean City Commission.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL c. 44, §53A a grant from the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) through the Massachusetts Secretary of State's Office in the amount of \$6,620 to the Gloucester Committee for the Arts for the purpose of supporting the preservation of the City of Gloucester's Civil War Uniform Coat.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox said that brothers, **George and Charles King** wrote a grant with the assistance of Catherine Ryan, a member of the Committee for the Arts, for a cabinet to preserve a Civil War uniform. She introduced George and Charles King to the Council, the young men who wrote the grant for the preservation of the Civil War coat and for the case it will be held in, which they said will be housed at Gloucester High School. They added that it is their hope that the uniform can be given on loan to be exhibited in other venues as it is a valuable historic item. The Council voiced their approbation of the brothers' efforts with a round of applause.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A a grant from the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) through the Massachusetts Secretary of State's Office in the amount of \$6,620 to the Gloucester Committee for the Arts for the purpose of supporting the preservation of the City of Gloucester's Civil War Uniform Coat.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept under MGL

c. 44, §53A a donation up to \$7,565 from the Gloucester Fund for the purpose of a monetary match for the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board Grant through the Massachusetts Secretary of State's Office for the purpose of supporting the preservation of the City of Gloucester's Civil War Uniform Coat.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that this is the match to the grant just accepted which is funded by private donations through the Gloucester Fund.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept under MGL c. 44, §53A a donation up to \$7,565 from the Gloucester Fund for the purpose of a monetary match for the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board Grant through the Massachusetts Secretary of State's Office for the purpose of supporting the preservation of the City of Gloucester's Civil War Uniform Coat.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve 2018-SA-14 in the amount of \$8,500 (Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) from Waterways Enterprise Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance-Retained Earnings ("Free Cash") Account #7000-359000, to Waterways Enterprise Capital Outlay, Boat & Marine Equipment, #700058-585022, for the purpose of purchasing a 2004, 19-foot Carolina Skiff Workboat for use by the Harbormaster's Department.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox said that this request is for the purchase of a 2004 19 foot Carolina Skiff for use by the Harbormaster's Department as a work boat replacing a boat last purchased in 1962.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve 2018-SA-14 in the amount of \$8,500 (Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) from Waterways Enterprise Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance-Retained Earnings ("Free Cash") Account #7000-359000, to Waterways Enterprise Capital Outlay, Boat & Marine Equipment, #700058-585022, for the purpose of purchasing a 2004, 19-foot Carolina Skiff Workboat for use by the Harbormaster's Department.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-7 in the amount of \$45,000 (Forty Five Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance ("Free Cash"), Account #0001-359000, to Fire Department, Telecommunications Equipment, Account #0122052-542009, for the purpose of funding the purchase of the Rave Smart911 system and Lexipol Public Safety Department Policy Manuals.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox highlighted that the majority of this appropriation from Free Cash to update policy manuals for the Police and Fire Departments.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-7 in the amount of \$45,000 (Forty Five Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance ("Free Cash"), Account #0001-359000, to Fire Department, Telecommunications Equipment, Account #0122052-542009, for the purpose of funding the purchase of the Rave Smart911 system and Lexipol Public Safety Department Policy Manuals.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-8 in the amount of \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) from the General

Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to City Legal, Purchase of Services, Account #0115152-520000 for the purpose of contracting with an outside vendor for a review of the City’s Code of Ordinances and Zoning Ordinance.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox conveyed that this is to fund a cursory glance at the Code of Ordinances and the Zoning Ordinance to ensure that what they have ties together, and that the links are appropriate. This will be followed up with a report to the Legal Department and then Council will take action after the report is reviewed. Zoning Ordinance amendments will go to the Planning Board, then to the Council for action, she noted.

Councilor Lundberg said this is a precursor to a more in-depth review of the Code of Ordinances and the Zoning Ordinance.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-8 in the amount of \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to City Legal, Purchase of Services, Account #0115152-520000 for the purpose of contracting with an outside vendor for a review of the City’s Code of Ordinances and Zoning Ordinance.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-9 in the amount of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Waterways Enterprise Ordinary Maintenance, Engineering and Architectural Services, Account #700052-530006, for the purpose of additional engineering services associated with pier/float reconstruction.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox said that the Harbormaster’s Office is looking to rebuild the finger floats and piers. The pilings and fittings weren’t what they should have been after National Grid finished their remediation project at Solomon Jacob’s Pier, she advised, which requires some redesign.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-9 in the amount of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Waterways Enterprise Ordinary Maintenance, Engineering and Architectural Services, Account #700052-530006, for the purpose of additional engineering services associated with pier/float reconstruction.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-10 for a total of \$95,000 (Ninety Five Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to DPW-Central Services, Capital Equipment, Account #0149958-585000 for the purpose of:

\$50,000	Improvements to fuel pumps and fuel management system
\$15,000	Down payment of new vehicle for Police Chief
<u>\$30,000</u>	Purchase of used bucket truck
\$95,000	TOTAL

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox noted the breakdown of the funding is just proposed in the motion. She highlighted that the vehicle the Police Chief is using is a truck that was obtained through a grant which will be repurposed for the DPW. She pointed out that the \$15,000 is a down payment on a new vehicle for the Chief, and that the bucket truck has been needed by the city for some time.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-10 for a total of \$95,000 (Ninety Five Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to DPW-Central Services, Capital Equipment, Account #0149958-585000 for the purpose of:

\$50,000	Improvements to fuel pumps and fuel management system
\$15,000	Trade-in value of Police Chief’s Truck to be repurposed
<u>\$30,000</u>	Purchase of used bucket truck
\$95,000	TOTAL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-11 in the amount of \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Human Resources, Training - Managers, Account #0115251-519008 for the purpose of various management training endeavors.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox conveyed that it was spoken about at budget time to set aside money for management training which had to be cut, and that this is now being made up by one-time money from retained earnings.

Donna Leete, Human Resources Director, said she “feels very strongly” that the city will greatly benefit from the funds allocated for management training. She reported that: The city has partnered with Endicott College which enabled them to introduce a leadership program for all senior managers. There are personnel training seminars scheduled for this spring – personnel management seminars for all managers and supervisors. A need has been identified for a legal expert to provide training in employment law for all managers and supervisors and these funds will assist in fulfilling those obligations. Many department accounts don’t have a training line item. In order for their managers to engage in their professional associations, those funds should come from the management training account as well. She concluded her remarks by saying that it is her hope the city continues to grow its management resources through training.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-11 in the amount of \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Human Resources, Training - Managers, Account #0115251-519008 for the purpose of various management training endeavors.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-12 in the amount of \$4,500 (Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Mayor’s Office, Other Expenses, Account #0112152-57800, Mayor’s Office, Other Expenses for the purpose of:

\$1,500	Fees for Massachusetts Area Planning Council North Shore
<u>\$3,000</u>	New Chairs for Conference Room Table
\$4,500	TOTAL

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that the chairs in the Mayor’s Office are quite old and need replacing. It was discovered after the budget was accepted that the city was not paying its dues for the Massachusetts Area Planning Council North Shore. She said it is expected that next year this expense will be budgeted.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-12 in the amount of

\$4,500 (Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Mayor’s Office, Other Expenses, Account #0112152-57800, Mayor’s Office, Other Expenses for the purpose of:

\$1,500	Fees for Massachusetts Area Planning Council North Shore
<u>\$3,000</u>	New Chairs for Conference Room Table
\$4,500	TOTAL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Hecht, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-13 in the amount of \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Board of Health, Public Safety Equipment not Capital, Account #0151052-542010 for the purpose of purchasing three Automatic Emergency Defibrulators (AED) units, refrigerator and microwave oven.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox said that the description is in the motion. She explained that the three automatic external defibrulators (AED) will be stationed at the Harbormaster’s Office, the Visitor’s Center and at a school. Responding to an inquiry by **Councilor Gilman**, she said that city schools and Harbormaster’s staffs are all trained to use these simple AED’s. She advised that the Fire Department will do the training for the Visitor’s Center staff.

Councilor Cox also reviewed that the Public Health Department doesn’t have a way to wash their equipment and dishes other than a restroom sink which highlighted the need to have a wash station installed for that purpose.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Supplemental Appropriation 2018-SA-13 in the amount of \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) from the General Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance (“Free Cash”), Account #0001-359000, to Board of Health, Public Safety Equipment not Capital, Account #0151052-542010 for the purpose of purchasing three Automatic Emergency Defibrulators (AED) units and wash station.

Planning & Development: December 6

Councilor Gilman Chair of the P&D Committee announced there were no action items under this heading for the Council’s consideration.

Ordinances & Administration: December 4

Councilor LeBlanc, Chair of the O&A Committee announced there were no action items under this heading for the Council’s consideration.

Scheduled Public Hearings:

1. PH2018-001: Proposed amendments to the job descriptions of the Harbormaster and Shellfish Warden and the proposed Harbormaster Department Reorganization Plan

This public hearing is opened at 7:29 p.m.

Those speaking in favor:

Donna Leete, Human Resources Director described the reorganization and consolidation of the city’s waterfront resources, equipment and staff before the Council as follows: Shellfish monitoring and conservation efforts fall within the Gloucester waterways to achieve maximum benefit for the community by sharing all resources between the two operations. An example was given that if the Harbormaster and his Assistant Harbormasters are on patrol they might observe clam flat operations and notify the Shellfish Warden of their findings. There is the potential for the Harbormaster staff to help to maintain the on-the-water resources for the Shellfish Warden and the Assistant Shellfish Warden. The Shellfish Warden and Assistant Shellfish Warden will be housed at the Harbormaster’s Office at Harbor Loop for more direct service and will no longer be housed at the City Hall Annex at Pond Road. The Harbormaster and Shellfish Warden are exploring the potential to improve enforcement

operations through shared services. It was highlighted that this model of blended services of Harbormaster and Shellfish Warden is now in effect in many Massachusetts communities including Rockport and Salem. **Ms. Leete** concluded her remarks by saying that this is a “natural fit.” She pointed out that the Shellfish Warden will report administratively to the Harbormaster which she said will achieve greater efficiencies with this shared service model.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications:

Councilor Questions:

Councilor Lundberg confirmed with **Ms. Leete** that the Shellfish Warden will report administratively to the Harbormaster but will continue to report on policy matters to the Shellfish Advisory Commission.

Councilor Hecht asked was there any economic impacts associated with this reorganization. **Ms. Leete** suggested that over time with shared services there will be savings by reducing some costs and creating efficiencies but it won't be “immediately evident.”

Councilor Cox noted the redesign of the Harbormaster's Office docks expressing concern that with the several Harbormasters' Department boats already docking at Harbor Loop, would there be enough dock space for the Shellfish Warden's boat. **Ms. Leete** confirmed that the Shellfish Warden's boat will be docked at Harbor Loop.

This public hearing is closed at 7:34 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, in connection with the Harbormaster's Department Reorganization Plan, to recommend that the City Council accept the amended Harbormaster's position job description and that of the Shellfish Warden's position job description as presented to the City Council on November 28, 2017.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor LeBlanc, noting he is the Council Liaison to the Waterways Board, said that the Shellfish Warden's office is currently at the Community Development Department at Pond Road, landlocked, which doesn't make sense. He explained that this is another set of eyes on the city's water sheet and will give more breadth to enforcement. He said he anticipates a smooth transition.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, in connection with the Harbormaster's Department Reorganization Plan, to accept the amended Harbormaster's position job description and that of the Shellfish Warden's position job description as presented to the City Council on November 28, 2017.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept the amended Harbormaster Department Reorganization Plan based on the chart as submitted to the City Council November 28, 2017 in accordance with the City Charter Sec. 7-2.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept the amended Harbormaster Department Reorganization Plan based on the chart as submitted to the City Council on November 28, 2017 in accordance with the City Charter Sec. 7-2.

2. PH2018-002: Amend GCO Ch. 15 “Parks and Recreation” Sec. 15-34 “Use and Activity Restrictions” re: recreational marijuana

This public hearing is opened at 7:37 p.m.

Councilor Gilman asked to withdraw Council Order CC2017-035 to amend GCO Ch. 15 “Parks and Recreation” Sec. 15-34 “Use and Activity Restrictions” re: Marijuana, the Council Order that this public hearing falls under. She said that the city's Recreational Marijuana Task Force suggested that General Counsel reviews the entirety of the Code of Ordinances and develops possible amendments to it; therefore it is prudent to withdraw this Order.

Council President Lundberg advised that the Recreational Marijuana Task Force on which Councilor Gilman sits has been very busy saying that there are a number of associated issues that have been raised. He said he asked Karin Carroll, Public Health Department Director, and Task Force Chair, to give the Council an update at its next meeting. Not only will changes to the Code of Ordinances be needed, but to the Zoning Ordinance as well, and will have to be addressed under a tight timeline.

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

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to withdraw CC2017-035 to amend GCO Ch. 15 “Parks and Recreation” Sec. 14-34 “Use and Activity Restrictions” re: Marijuana without prejudice.

For Council Vote:

1. **CC2017-059 (O’Hara): Petition the MassDOT re: placing divider lines on Essex Ave./Route 133 & Western Ave./State Rte. 127; placing traffic marking/directional arrows beginning at Kent Circle; and extend double lines on Western Ave./State Rte. 133**

Councilor O’Hara said his effort is to help ease traffic flow at Kent Circle. He noted there was a change two years ago to make a portion of the “Circle” one way, but cited its backed up traffic more entering onto Western Avenue. He said this will give drivers visual cues with painted directional arrows and additional signage.

Councilor LeBlanc noted he had a neighborhood meeting at Kent Circle with the Traffic Commission and concerned residents this past summer. He said he was sure they’d already petitioned the state on this same matter through the Traffic Commission. He pointed out that while it’s called Kent Circle it isn’t in reality, and the current situation is problematic for residents. He said he would support the effort to reach out to MassDOT.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O’Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to have the City Clerk on behalf of the City Council send a letter to MassDOT requesting the following:

1. **Place a traffic divider line on Essex Avenue/State Route 133 (east bound/into Gloucester) beginning At Kent Circle (west end) and continue to intersection of Western Avenue/Route 127.**
 2. **Request traffic marking/directional arrows (multiple beginning from Kent Circle) be placed in the roadway. North side of new divide, arrows to direct traffic onto Western Avenue towards bridge/north bound. South side of divide, arrows placed in roadway directing traffic onto Western Avenue or towards Magnolia/South bound. Erect signs prior to Kent Circle which notes traffic configuration ahead.**
 3. **Extend double lines/divider lines on Western Avenue/State Route 133 from north end of Kent Circle (Gloucester/bridge end versus Magnolia end) from present end point to new/future Essex Avenue/Route 133 divider line. This extension of the divider lines may keep drivers from turning left/west bound from Western Avenue/Route 127 (also known as “cutting the corner”) too soon.**
2. **CC2017-060 (O’Hara): That the City Council votes to petition MassDOT to perform engineering study concerning health of trees along both sides of all their state right-of-way throughout the City of Gloucester & subsequent to study, remove unhealthy trees and prune unhealthy limbs from trees on both sides of same**

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O’Hara, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to have the City Clerk on behalf of the City Council send a letter to MassDOT requesting it perform engineering study concerning health of trees along both sides of all their state right-of-way throughout the City of Gloucester & subsequent to study, remove unhealthy trees and prune unhealthy limbs from trees on both sides of same.

3. **Decision to Adopt: SCP2017-013: 120 Maplewood Avenue (Maplewood School), Map 39, Lot 4, Modification of SCP2015-004 (granted under GZO Sections 1.8.3, 2.3.1(8), 5.7.1, 1.10.1(a)(1), 1.10.1(a)(3), 3.2.2 footnote (a) and Major Project Sec. 5.7.1)**

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to adopt the Decision for SCP2017-013 -120 Maplewood Avenue, pursuant to previous granting of a Special Council Permit SCP2015-004 under GZO Sections 1.8.3, 2.3.1(8), 5.7.1, 1.10.1(a)(1), 1.10.1(a)(3), 3.2.2 footnote (a) and Major Project Sec. 5.7.1.

Unfinished Business: None.

Individual Councilor's Discussion including Reports by Appointed Councilors to Committees:

Update on the Waterways Board by City Council Representative, Councilor Steven G. LeBlanc, Jr., highlighted the following matters:

- The DOCKWA reservation system for transient moorings was noted as being very efficient and successful. Surveys from the 2017 summer season have come back very positive that the system is an asset for the city.
- With the Shellfish Warden being brought into the Harbormaster's Department it was reported that she will be an added asset to the department. Thanks were extended to the Administration for making this change possible.

Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:

Councilor Lundberg welcomed newly sworn in City Councilors Hecht and Holmgren on the occasion of their first City Council meeting and congratulated all the other Councilors on the event of their reelection. He added his thanks to his fellow Councilors for their vote of support in electing him Council President. He conveyed he was excited at the potential to work as a team and that they're all eager to do so. These are people who have a great feel for the citizens of Gloucester which is most important, he said.

Councilor Holmgren announced that on Sunday, Jan. 7 at St. John's Church, there will be a benefit concert in support of the Grace Center hosted by Marina Evans from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; suggested admission/donation is \$10.

Councilor Memhard expressed appreciation to the Administration and Bill Sanborn, Building Inspector, for advancing the concerns of neighbors of East Gloucester about the noise emanating from the Americold facility on East Main Street. He mentioned the news of the change of ownership of that facility also. He extended his thanks the DPW, Police and Fire Departments for their efficient services during the recent winter storm which took place under a Wolf Moon with unprecedented blizzard conditions and a damaging, surge tide. He briefly highlighted the difficulties in Ward 1 due to the storm that created a public safety hazard.

Councilor Cox requested that the Mayor through the appropriate enforcement authority ticket anyone that hasn't cleared their sidewalks of snow. She pointed out that while such an ordinance is difficult to enforce, children are walking in the street on their way to and from school. She said that if the ordinance can't be enforced then it should be stricken from the Code of Ordinances, and the city should manage its expectations. She also requested that the Mayor through the DPW Director review the cost to widen Kent Circle to two lanes with parking and report such findings to the Council. She conveyed she had received an email from Sen. Tarr's office that the Commonwealth has increased low-income heat and energy assistance to \$1,400 for deliverable fuel for those who qualify. She announced she would forward the email to the City Clerk's Office for posting that information on the city's website.

Councilor LeBlanc said the DPW did a great job in clearing the roads in the last storm. He requested that the Mayor through the DPW Director clear snow banks on street corners especially on side streets where it is packed high making it difficult for drivers to see on-coming traffic, particularly at bus stops. He asked that his fellow Councilors reach out to him first before there are any further asks pursuant to Kent Circle.

Councilor Hecht conveyed that he was "thrilled" to be a part of the Council.

Councilor Gilman thanked Joanne Senos, City Clerk, for her great work at the Inauguration and extended "kudos" to the Mayor's Office for arranging excellent speakers highlighting the musical talent which created a great inaugural celebration. She mentioned that due to the recent storm the restaurant, Capt'n Hook's, in Ward 4, didn't lose any business despite a four inch incursion of water. She reported that the adjacent Richdale store experienced an incursion of a foot of water and was negatively impacted but that the store was able to get right back into businesses. She said that when businesses suffer catastrophes such as this from storm surge it behooves the Councilors to offer their help in any way that they can, including advising the public that these businesses are now open. She added her thanks to the DPW.

Councilor O'Hara also added his thanks to the DPW for their storm efforts. He requested that the Mayor's Office investigate whether the city's insurance can do anything to help people impacted by flooding of vehicles at the Gloucester High School Parking Lot during the last winter storm. He also requested that the Mayor through the DPW/Fire Department mark hydrants that don't already have markers on them. He extended his thanks to those

residents who did shovel out their nearby fire hydrants. He thanked members of the public who did shovel hydrants out. He announced that on Monday, Jan. 29 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., there will be a Red Cross Blood Drive held at the Magnolia Library. He said there is an emergency shortage of blood products and asked area residents to come out and donate, noting that they can call the Red Cross for an appointment.

Councilor Lundberg thanked Cape Ann TV for its live audio and video of the Council meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgenson
Clerk of Committees

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.