

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 27, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

-MINUTES-

Present: Chair, Councilor Paul Lundberg; Vice Chair, Councilor 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; Mike Hale; Jill Cahill; James Pope; Grace Poirier

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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. The City Council dedicated the Moment of Silence in honor of Brian Tarr, former Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

Council President Lundberg expressed the condolences of the Council on the recent passing of Brian Tarr. Saying that Mr. Tarr was an “incredible citizen” that contributed so much to the City of Gloucester, he recounted how he and Mr. Tarr had known each other since they were in Sunday school together. He pointed out that of all Mr. Tarr’s accomplishments he was a friend to Gloucester. They will cherish his friendship which will continue forever, he added.

Councilor Gilman highlighted her 40+ year friendship with Mr. Tarr recounting their tennis and golf matches, and working with him during her six year tenure on the School Committee. She noted Mr. Tarr’s willingness to serve as interim principal at various schools throughout the district, and other positions including that of Acting Superintendent of Schools during vacancy transitions. She conveyed Mr. Tarr was a cohesive factor, not just a wonderful man, and a leader in the city schools and community, saying he will be missed.

Councilor Memhard recounted that since 1976 Mr. Tarr also supported families of Gloucester’s commercial fishing industry as a “tireless advocate” and president of the Cape Ann Commercial Fishermen’s Loan Fund, a Fund which is a “unique model for revolving lending institutions with a successful 35 year track record.” He described when times were difficult for fishermen to gain access to financial resources, when banks turned their backs on the fleet, Mr. Tarr was there with the Fund’s Board of Directors -- learning about the issues, understanding the problems faced by fishermen and finding way to finance whatever equipment was required, even new boats, to keep hundreds of fishing families fishing. It was Mr. Tarr’s “deep compassion, caring advice and encouragement” that was “priceless,” he offered, saying that with Mr. Tarr’s death it closes a chapter on the fishing industry’s struggles over the last three decades (written statement placed on file).

Oral Communications:

Name: Marjorie Grace

Address: 14 Hawthorne Road

Concern: Asked that Hawthorne Road be changed from a private road to a public way due to issues with poor roadway conditions, drainage, concerns for the safety of underground utilities and the immediate neighborhood of 13 residences some of whom experience heavy property flooding (written statement placed on file).

Name: Former City Council President Paul McGeary

Address: 24 Cobblestone Lane

Former Councilor McGeary thanked the Council, the Administration, the DPW, MassDOT, and Councilor Memhard, as well as the efforts of the Friends of Good Harbor for the recent paving work and installation of a pedestrian walkway on Thatcher Road near Good Harbor Beach, making the roadway safer for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles. He recounted that when he served on the Council he was concerned that there was a safety issue especially in the summertime in that area which is now rectified.

Presentations/Commendations:

John P. O'Rourke, Director of Marketing Northeast, Good Energy, LP re: municipal energy aggregation in Gloucester (Cont'd from 11/13/2018)

A brief power point presentation (on file) was made to the Council as to an update on Community Electricity Aggregation which showed previously stated electricity options for: Gloucester Local Green (standard product and the default); Gloucester Basic; and Gloucester Premium Local Green by **Mr. O'Rourke** as follows:

- Postcards were mailed on Oct. 6 to eligible customers currently on National Grid's basic service who weren't on a list with National Grid not to be disturbed by third-party solicitations. A week later a Customer Notification Letter was received by those same residents advising of the start of the 30 day opt-out period, a formal required period under law. Any time after that, residents can opt out whenever they wish without penalty or termination fee. November 14 was the end of the opt-out period and all names were collected for participation in any of the three program options.
- Public outreach sessions were touched on, including City Council presentations as well as advertising in various media. Mentioned was the city's Community Electricity Aggregation website, www.gloucester-cea.com.
- A chart of phone call inquiries was shown placed to the informational telephone number from September to the end of November which peaked from October 17 when letters were being received until October 29. There were 182 "unique" calls which aren't considered a lot of calls for a population of Gloucester's size. Website views were also noted, especially in October as 2,700 which tapered down to 600 in November once people learned more about the program and understood their options.
- Common questions and concerns were reviewed such as: Why is it an opt-out program (noted as the way the law was written); How do I opt-out? I participate in a discount program; how does the aggregation affect that (it was reiterated it has no effect); I have solar panels, how does the aggregation affect me. The Notification Letter was highlighted as a requirement by the Mass. Dept. of Public Utilities that it must be in the great detail as it was presented -- there were questions on the letter itself. **Mr. O'Rourke** emphasized that residents can opt out of the city's Aggregation program at any time without penalty or termination fee.
- As of Nov. 27: 13,190 Customer Notification Letters mailed; 189 were returned to sender; Received were 13,001; Customer Opt-outs is 1,492 (11%) leaving 11,509 participants. There was a very recent update and 24 people removed their names from the opt-out list and entered as participants. The program starts with the December meter reading and that bill will be received in January. It was predicted that once that bill is received many people will hear how they saved and as people learn about this they will tend to come into the program.

Mr. O'Rourke framed the city's Community Electricity Aggregation as a successful roll-out with no surprises and went forward as anticipated.

COUNCILOR QUESTIONS:

Mr. O'Rourke, responding to questions from **Councilor Gilman** advised the following: The opt-out rate in general falls between 5% - 7%, considered a stable number. He assured the city's 11% opt-out rate will likely fall to 7%. Information could be placed on the CEA website about how to opt into the program.

Mr. O'Rourke conveyed to the Council information that became available late that day that 91 people chose the basic option; 33 people chose the 100% green option. He pointed out that while the numbers seem low; the 33 people who chose the 100% green option are doing 16 times more green than those who went into the standard option at 5% green option. One of those 33 people equals 17 of those who chose the standard option which has a great impact on renewable energy projects and is considered good participation.

Councilor O'Hara confirmed that **Mr. O'Rourke** is the Chair of the Board of Selectman in Conway, MA. He confirmed for the Councilor that the program is ongoing and never stops; that Gloucester residents can opt in and out as they wish. **Councilor O'Hara** asked how the Good Energy is paid. **Mr. O'Rourke** advised his company is paid by the competitive supplier -- they make 1/10 cents per kilowatt hour.

Councilor Memhard confirmed with **Mr. O'Rourke** that the National Grid residential rates fluctuate every six months. Residents will be able to evaluate the Good Energy rates with National Grid's, every six months which will be placed on the CEA website. He asked if the CEA rates are attractive as other business rates through National Grid or other competitive suppliers. **Mr. O'Rourke** advised that commercial rates can be more attractive through National Grid, but any resident or business on National Grid's basic service or other supplier's basic service can opt into the program at any time.

Confirmation of New Appointments:

Councilor Gilman asked to remove Item #7, Memorandum from the Assistant DPW Director re: request approval of Sign Location Lease #19062 between the Gloucester House Restaurant and the City of Gloucester to refer this Land Disposition matter under the Mayor's Report is referred to the P&D Committee rather than to B&F. Responding to an inquiry by **Councilor Cox, Joanne M. Senos**, City Clerk, advised such matters are historically vetted by the P&D Committee. **By a unanimous vote of the Council Item #7 under the Mayor's Report was referred to the P&D Committee.**

By unanimous assent of the City Council, the Consent Agenda as amended and the Unanimous Consent Calendar was presented.

Committee Reports:

Budget & Finance: November 15 - Special

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 Special Budgetary Transfer 2019-SBT-5 in the amount of \$1,962.42 from Police Uniform, Salaries, Account #0121151-511000 to Police Investigations, Career/Educational Incentive, Account #0121251-519002 for the purpose of funding the projected shortfall in the Career/Educational Incentive account.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox noted that there was a shortfall in the Detectives Educational Incentive account due to a contract settlement after the FY19 budget was submitted and passed.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox seconded by Councilor Memhard, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2019-SBT-5 in the amount of \$1,962.42 from Police Uniform, Salaries, Account #0121151-511000 to Police Investigations, Career/Educational Incentive, Account #0121251-519002 for the purpose of funding the projected shortfall in the Career/Educational Incentive account.

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 U.S. Dept. of Justice FY18 Bullet Proof Vest Program Grant passed through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety & Security in the amount of \$11,925 with a grant expiration date of 08/31/2020 for the purpose of purchasing 15 ballistic vests for Gloucester Police Department officers.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that the Police Department is in receipt of an annual grant in the amount of \$11,925, and there is no match. She conveyed that all officers are issued a bullet proof vest in different timeframes. The vests have an expiration date, and the grant covers replacements for every officer whose vest is reaching its expiration date.

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 U.S. Dept. of Justice FY18 Bullet Proof Vest Program Grant passed through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety & Security in the amount of \$11,925 with a grant expiration date of 08/31/2020 for the purpose of purchasing 15 ballistic vests for Gloucester Police Department officers.

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 cash donation of \$5,137 from the Gloucester Fund for the purpose of purchasing two benches and a picnic table to be located at Burnham's Field.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that the city is in receipt of a donation to purchase two benches and a picnic table for Burnham's Field from the Friends of Burnham's Field through the Gloucester Fund, now installed. She recounted that a friend of a neighbor of Burnham's Field had a mother who passed away and made the donation in her honor.

Councilor Gilman asked if a thank you note will go to the donor from the city given the generous donation. **Councilor Cox** advised she wrote one herself because she knew the donor personally, but will circulate a thank you note for the Council to sign through the City Clerk's Office.

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 cash donation of \$5,137 from the Gloucester Fund for the purpose of purchasing two benches and a picnic table to be located at Burnham's Field.

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 2019-SA-11 in the amount of \$32,000 (Thirty Two Thousand Dollars) from the Building Stabilization Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance, Account #7700-359000 to O'Maley School Building Improvements, Account #770004-582003 for the purpose of replacing partitions in six O'Maley Innovation Middle School bathrooms and improvements to the school's Public Address System.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox advised that the DPW has requested a Supplemental Appropriation for \$32,000 in order to make improvements to the O'Maley Innovation Middle School which is: the replacement of bathroom partitions at a cost of \$22,000 and an upgrade to the existing school two-way public address system estimated to cost \$10,000.

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 2019-SA-11 in the amount of \$32,000 (Thirty Two Thousand Dollars) from the Building Stabilization Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance, Account #7700-359000 to O'Maley School Building Improvements, Account #770004-582003 for the purpose of replacing partitions in six O'Maley Innovation Middle School bathrooms and improvements to the school's Public Address System.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER:

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 0 in favor, 9 opposed, to reconsider the vote on Supplemental Appropriation 2019-SA-11 in the amount of \$32,000 (Thirty-Two Thousand Dollars) from the Building Stabilization Fund, Undesignated Fund Balance, Account #7700-359000 to O'Maley School Building Improvements, Account #770004-582003 for the purpose of replacing partitions in six O'Maley Innovation Middle School bathrooms and improvements to the school's Public Address System.

MOTION FAILS.

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 2019-SA-10 in the amount of \$376,441.69 (Three Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Dollars & Sixty Nine Cents) from the Stabilization Fund, Transfer to General Fund, Account #75005-596001 to Fund Balance Designated for Snow & Ice Deficit, Account #0001-359201 for the purpose of funding the FY18 Snow & Ice account deficit.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox explained that in order to clean up the city's Snow & Ice Deficit from FY18, the Administration is requesting to take funds from the city's Stabilization Fund prior to the filing of the FY18 Tax Recap. In the past this deficit has been made whole with Free Cash but timing is the issue. The funds will come from the Stabilization Fund and with the redistribution of Free Cash from this year the Stabilization Fund will be replenished.

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 2019-SA-10 in the amount of \$376,441.69 (Three Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Dollars & Sixty Nine Cents) from the Stabilization Fund, Transfer to General Fund, Account #75005-596001 to Fund Balance Designated for Snow & Ice Deficit, Account #0001-359201 for the purpose of funding the FY18 Snow & Ice account deficit.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER:

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Cox, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 0 in favor, 9 opposed, to reconsider the vote on Supplemental Appropriation 2019-SA-10 in the amount of \$376,441.69 (Three Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Dollars & Sixty Nine Cents) from the Stabilization Fund, Transfer to General Fund, Account #75005-596001 to Fund Balance Designated for Snow & Ice Deficit, Account #0001-359201 for the purpose of funding the FY18 Snow & Ice account deficit.

MOTION FAILS.

Ordinances & Administration: November 19

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor O'Hara, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 1 (O'Hara) in favor, 2 opposed, to recommend that the City Council Amend its Rules of Procedure "Rule 2: Order of Business" by placing "Councilors' Requests to the Mayor" after the Consent Agenda and renumber Rule 2 accordingly.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor O'Hara noted Councilor Requests to the Mayor were formerly at the beginning of a Council meeting and suggested by moving the Requests up on the agenda, members of the Administration would be present to hear in person the Councilor Requests.

Councilor Cox advised that with past Councils, Councilor Requests were always at the end of their meetings. She pointed out it is meant for "spur of the moment" issues and was never meant as a time to make requests that require "heavy lifting". She highlighted Councilors directly email the Clerk of Committees who places all requests through the proper process. She indicated that if there is a serious Request to the Mayor, it should be emailed to the Clerk of Committees so that it is in writing, formatted with her assistance to assure the Request is clear, and that it is tracked appropriately by her and the Administration. She put forward that Councilor Requests shouldn't be processed through a City Council meeting.

Councilor LeBlanc explained he didn't support this change at O&A saying that at a Council meeting where the public speaks to the Council especially during public hearings, it gives Councilors the opportunity to process that information and then make their Requests at the end of a Council meeting based on what the Councilors have heard. He expressed that this isn't the stage where they should have the Council engage with the Administration whom they are fortunate to always have present regardless of what is on any Council agenda. He pointed out that at the O&A meeting Councilor Lundberg didn't support this change to the Rules of Procedure either.

Council President Lundberg confirmed he didn't support this suggested change to the Council's Rules of Procedure saying it is important the Requests be in writing, pointing to a "robust" tracking system maintained by the Clerk of Committees.

Councilor Holmgren added that she didn't want to make members of the public wait any longer than necessary to speak at public hearings.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 1 (O'Hara) in favor, 8 opposed, to Amend its Rules of Procedure "Rule 2: Order of Business" by placing "Councilors' Requests to the Mayor" after the Consent Agenda and renumber Rule 2 accordingly.

MOTION FAILS.

Planning & Development: November 14 - Special Meeting

Councilor Gilman declared under MGL Ch. 268A that she is an abutter of Hutchins Court but has no financial interest in the matter coming before the Council and can participate in the discussion and vote.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Lundberg, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the Planning & Development Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve a Conservation Restriction from Samuel S. and Elizabeth Holdsworth of HC 68, Box 74, 102 East Fork Road, Silver City NM, in perpetuity, for the properties known as 225R, 287, 287R, 289R, 291R and 293 Concord Street, Assessors Map 249, Lots 7, 12, 11, 9, 10, and 8, Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 5832, Page 314, to the Essex County Greenbelt Association, Inc., for the purpose of the preservation of a natural resource of the city of Gloucester and being in the public interest pursuant to MGL c. 184, §31-33.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Gilman reviewed these privately owned parcels for restriction at Concord Street #293 owned by Sam and Betsy Holdsworth as follows: There is an existing home and barn on the road frontage at 293 Concord Street consisting of about 28 acres north of Concord Street immediately behind their home, upland open fields and woods adjacent to salt marsh. They are in the process of selling their property but prior to that sale they want to put a restriction on it to restrict it to its current residential uses on the frontage and permanently protecting the remaining property. The property for restriction was conveyed to the ECGA a year ago and the land they own across the road, about at the corner of Concord Street and Old Thompson, and will completely protect all of their land. She summarized that this is effectively a building envelope so that the homeowners can continue to maintain/replace/rebuild the existing structures that are on the frontage.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve a Conservation Restriction from Samuel S. and Elizabeth Holdsworth of HC 68, Box 74, 102 East Fork Road, Silver City NM, in perpetuity, for the properties known as 225R, 287, 287R, 289R, 291R and 293 Concord Street, Assessors Map 249, Lots 7, 12, 11, 9, 10, and 8, Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 5832, Page 314, to the Essex County Greenbelt Association, Inc., for the purpose of the preservation of a natural resource of the city of Gloucester and being in the public interest pursuant to MGL c. 184, §31-33.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Planning & Development Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve a Conservation Restriction in perpetuity from the Grantor, the Essex County Greenbelt Association, Inc. for the properties known as 7A, 7B & 17 Hutchins Court, Assessors Map 125, Lot 99 and Assessors Map 115, Lot 30, Essex County Registry of Deeds Document Number 561627, to the City of Gloucester, for the purpose of the preservation of a natural resource of the city of Gloucester and being in the public interest pursuant to MGL c. 184, §31-33.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Gilman recounted that the Hutchins Court properties were acquired by the ECGA with the help of the city in 2015 through two CPA Fund grants and substantial private fundraising. It was always contemplated that the ECGA would convey a restriction to the city as another level of protection on the land and consistent with the CPA grants. She advised that the ECGA representative told the P&D Committee that there is an expectation of building a trail system on the property with the end of Hutchins Court graded and finished prior to welcoming the public. ECGA would be the landowner responsible for all the management and maintenance of the land, and the city through the Conservation Commission would have an enforcement right over the ECGA to ensure they are protecting the conservation values of the property appropriately.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve a Conservation Restriction in perpetuity from the Grantor, the Essex County Greenbelt Association, Inc. for the properties known as 7A, 7B & 17 Hutchins Court, Assessors Map 125, Lot 99 and Assessors Map 115, Lot 30, Essex County Registry of Deeds Document Number 561627, to

the City of Gloucester, for the purpose of the preservation of a natural resource of the city of Gloucester and being in the public interest pursuant to MGL c. 184, §31-33.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Lundberg, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the Planning & Development Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 (Holmgren) absent, to recommend that the City Council approve a Conservation Restriction in perpetuity from the Grantor, the Essex County Greenbelt Association, Inc. for the properties known as 166 Atlantic Road, Map 73, Lot 32; and 170, 172, 178 Atlantic Road, Assessors Maps 76, Lots 3, 4 and 5, Essex County Southern District Land Court Document #588318, Certificate #91054, to the City of Gloucester, for the purpose of the preservation of a natural resource of the city of Gloucester and being in the public interest pursuant to MGL c. 184, §31-33.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Gilman reported that these Atlantic Road parcels were under discussion several years ago when there was a potential of one of the parcels would be developed. This started the Save Our Shores (SOS), a group that raised funds and created the opportunity to purchase the parcels for permanent conservation. SOS worked with a group that created an entity to temporarily hold the parcels, the Land Conservation Advocacy Trust (LCAT). At the time of SOS's fundraising efforts, they were awarded a CPA Fund grant. That award came with the obligation that the landowner conveys a restriction to the city in exchange for that grant. SOS and LCAT asked the ECGA to be the long-term owners of the parcels. ECGA's assessment was that the other groups had raised sufficient private funding for the project so that the city's CPA Fund grant was not needed and informed the city the summer of 2017 via a letter to the city's Community Preservation Committee saying that the CPA Fund grant monies weren't required.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to approve a Conservation Restriction in perpetuity from the Grantor, the Essex County Greenbelt Association, Inc. for the properties known as 166 Atlantic Road, Map 73, Lot 32; and 170, 172, 178 Atlantic Road, Assessors Maps 76, Lots 3, 4 and 5, Essex County Southern District Land Court Document #588318, Certificate #91054, to the City of Gloucester, for the purpose of the preservation of a natural resource of the city of Gloucester and being in the public interest pursuant to MGL c. 184, §31-33.

November 21-No Meeting

Scheduled Public Hearings:

- 1. PH2018-060: Adoption of a resolution to renew the state-authorized Harbortown (Downtown) Cultural District for at least five years**

This public hearing is opened at 8:05 p.m.

Those speaking in favor:

Jill Cahill, Community Development Director, advised that the Harbortown (Downtown) Gloucester Cultural District, originally established in 2013 for a five-year term, is ready to be renewed for another five-year term. She highlighted that the Cultural District is a partnership between the arts and culture community, the business community and the city. She noted the submission of the Cultural District's annual report (on file) that outlined 11 short-term and four long-term goals. She mentioned several goals: Preserve the integrity of the downtown; enhance arts, culture and innovation, noting the Gloucester Fresh program, city restaurants, the opening of GMGI; providing access to arts and culture is an important aspect to the Cultural District, noting several successful programs undertaken by the Cultural District; as well as walkability through road and sidewalk improvements, as well as the partnership between 50 stakeholders. She noted the downtown has currently a 92% occupancy rate. She pointed out the Cultural District applied for and received just recently a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) to be used to co-brand the Harborwalk which winds its way through the Cultural District, as well as undertaking further work to market it. She expressed hope that through the city's harbor and the renovation project on the Harbormaster's complex it will add to the Cultural District's ability to attract visitors to the city.

Council President Lundberg pointed out that with this Cultural District renewal there has been a request for a name change but that it is the same Cultural District. **Ms. Cahill** explained that when the Council passed the original Resolution it was passed as the "Downtown Cultural District" but the MCC encouraged the city to change it

to “Harbortown.” She pointed out that “Harbortown” isn’t a name that is associated with the city, and hasn’t been embraced by the community.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions:

Councilor Hecht asked if it (Cultural District) costs the city anything annually. **Ms. Cahill** advised it did not, adding that the funding the Cultural District received over the years has changed depending on the state funding to the MCC. Both of the city’s Cultural Districts will receive \$5,000 MCC grants this year.

Councilor Cox asked who is on the Cultural District’s Committee at this time. **Ms. Cahill** advised it is mostly herself and Catherine Ryan (Committee for the Arts member) to get through the paperwork process, but noted there are 50 partners, with the Cape Ann Museum as the founding partner. There was an actual committee at one point, and it will be reinvigorated with the redesignation, she noted.

This public hearing is closed at 8:11 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On motion by Councilor Holmgren, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council adopt a RESOLUTION by the City of Gloucester, Massachusetts to renew a state-authorized cultural district as shown on the map presented and incorporated by reference, for at least five (5) years, to be named:

Downtown Gloucester Cultural District

WHEREAS, the City wishes to pursue a state-authorized cultural district through the enabling legislation Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 10, Section 58A.

WHEREAS, the City has a mixed-use geographical area that has a concentration of cultural facilities and assets.

WHEREAS, the City has held a public hearing and adopted a resolution proclaiming its interest in reestablishing a state-designated cultural district.

WHEREAS, the City has created a broad and diverse partnership of stakeholders committed to cultural, community and economic development to provide oversight of the district.

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Cultural Council will be petitioned in accordance with its guidelines and criteria to designate said cultural district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Gloucester that the City of Gloucester:

Article 1. Endorses the submission of this application and agrees to foster the development of a cultural district.

Article 2. Endorses the state-sponsored cultural district goals: attracting artists and cultural enterprises, encouraging business and job development, establishing tourist destinations, preserving and reusing historic buildings, enhancing property values and fostering local cultural development.

Article 3. Will appoint a city official to represent the city within the district partnership of said cultural district.

Article 4. Encourages all who own property or businesses within said cultural district to involve themselves and participate in the full development of the cultural district.

Article 5. Directs city agencies to identify programs and services that could support and enhance the development of the cultural district and ensure that those programs and services are accessible to the cultural district.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Gilman conveyed that it is important to have the name change to easily identify the Cultural District and expressed her thanks to Catherine Ryan for her spirit of volunteerism and good work.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to adopt a RESOLUTION by the City of Gloucester, Massachusetts to renew a state-authorized cultural district as shown on the map presented and incorporated by reference, for at least five (5) years, to be named:

Downtown Gloucester Cultural District

WHEREAS, the City wishes to pursue a state-authorized cultural district through the enabling legislation Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 10, Section 58A.

WHEREAS, the City has a mixed-use geographical area that has a concentration of cultural facilities and assets.

WHEREAS, the City has held a public hearing and adopted a resolution proclaiming its interest in reestablishing a state-designated cultural district.

WHEREAS, the City has created a broad and diverse partnership of stakeholders committed to cultural, community and economic development to provide oversight of the district.

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Cultural Council will be petitioned in accordance with its guidelines and criteria to designate said cultural district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Gloucester that the City of Gloucester:

Article 1. Endorses the submission of this application and agrees to foster the development of a cultural district.

Article 2. Endorses the state-sponsored cultural district goals: attracting artists and cultural enterprises, encouraging business and job development, establishing tourist destinations, preserving and reusing historic buildings, enhancing property values and fostering local cultural development.

Article 3. Will appoint a city official to represent the city within the district partnership of said cultural district.

Article 4. Encourages all who own property or businesses within said cultural district to involve themselves and participate in the full development of the cultural district.

Article 5. Directs city agencies to identify programs and services that could support and enhance the development of the cultural district and ensure that those programs and services are accessible to the cultural district.

NOTE: PH2018-061 was taken up last with the assent of the Council.

- 2. PH2018-061: Amendments to GCO Ch. 11 “Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events”, Sec. 11-5 “Fixed vending; site specific locations (6)”; Sec. 11-6 “Conduct of Business”; Sec. 11-7 “Business, prohibited between certain hours”; Sec. 11-8 “Vendors prohibited upon certain streets, areas”**

This public hearing is opened at 8:35 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 8:35 p.m.

Councilor LeBlanc and **Council President Lundberg** confirmed that the following nine motions are technical corrections to GCO Ch. 11.

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6)" by Amending subsection (3) as follows: DELETE the word "two" and DELETE the word "sites." and add the word "site."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6)" by Amending subsection (3)" as follows: DELETE the word "two" and DELETE the word "sites." and add the word "site."

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6)", by DELETING subsection (4) in its entirety.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6)", by DELETING subsection (4) in its entirety.

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6), subsection (5)" by DELETING subsection (5) in its entirety and ADDING new subsection (5) as follows: "Visitor's Center parking lot, Stage Fort Park."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6), subsection (5)" by DELETING subsection (5) in its entirety and ADDING new subsection (5) as follows: "Visitor's Center parking lot, Stage Fort Park."

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6), subsection (6)" by DELETING the phrase, "The former "Duck Boat" area in" and ADDING the word, "In".

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6), subsection (6)" by DELETING the phrase, "The former "Duck Boat" area in" and ADDING the word, "In".

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific

locations (6)", by ADDING "Rogers Street. Twenty-five feet from its intersection with Harbor Loop at the southwest corner of the west entrance to Harbor Loop."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6)", by ADDING "Rogers Street. Twenty-five feet from its intersection with Harbor Loop at the southwest corner of the west entrance to Harbor Loop."

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6)", by DELETING subsections (7) and (8) in their entirety."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-5 "Fixed vending; site specific locations (6), by DELETING subsections (7) and (8) in their entirety."

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-6 "Conduct of Business" by DELETING the phrase "on public or" and ADDING a new last sentence, "Said vendor shall comply with the Gloucester Zoning Ordinance."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-6 "Conduct of Business" by DELETING the phrase "on public or" and ADDING a new last sentence, "Said vendor shall comply with the Gloucester Zoning Ordinance."

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-7 "Business prohibited between certain hours" by DELETING "9:00 p.m." and ADDING in its place, "8:00 p.m."; and ADDING a new last sentence, "Fixed vendors shall be exempt from prohibited hours during special events."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-7 "Business prohibited between certain hours" by DELETING "9:00 p.m." and ADDING in its place, "8:00 p.m."; and ADDING a new last sentence, "Fixed vendors shall be exempt from prohibited hours during special events."

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 Amend GCO Ch. 11 "Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events", Sec. 11-8 "Vendors prohibited upon certain streets, areas" by ADDING after the words "...with section 11-10...." the following phrase, "by deleting subsection (5) Hough Avenue and renumbering the remaining subsections."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Cox, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 11 “Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events”, Sec. 11-8 “Vendors prohibited upon certain streets, areas” by ADDING after the words “...with section 11-10...” the following phrase, “by deleting subsection (5) Hough Avenue and renumbering the remaining subsections.”

Councilor Nolan expressed his appreciation and thanks for the work done by Councilor Cox to bring these technical corrections to the Ordinance forward. He highlighted that stationary vendors will now be able to vend during city special events which he indicated was a positive change. **Councilor Cox** added her thanks for the support of Jim Destino, CAO; Chip Payson, General Counsel; Bill Sanborn, Building Inspector; Donna Compton, Purchasing Agent; and City Clerk, Joanne Senos who worked together on this effort. She pointed out that some of the fixed vendor locations hadn't been bid on in 10 years and was just another reason why it was time to revisit this Ordinance. **Council President Lundberg** expressed his agreement that this work was done by many people making things better for the city.

3. **PH2018-062: Amend GCO Ch. 22, “Traffic and Motor Vehicles” Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by DELETING “Western Avenue, northerly side from Centennial Avenue to Perkins Road**
4. **PH2018-063: Amend GCO Ch. 22, “Traffic and Motor Vehicles” Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by ADDING “Western Avenue, northerly side from its intersection with Centennial Avenue in a westerly direction for a distance of 30 feet”**

This public hearing is opened at 8:16 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 8:16 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, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles”, Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by DELETING “Western Avenue, northerly side, from Centennial Avenue to Perkins Road”.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor LeBlanc explained that several months ago the Council voted to create 15-minute parking in front of Poseidon's Restaurant but what happened was that they voted not one space but the length of that portion of the street. He reported that there is another business in that immediate area that has asked that the one space be allowed, but not anywhere else as their business needs a longer time frame for clients to conduct their business. This is a correction to make only one 15-minute parking space.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles”, Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by DELETING “Western Avenue, northerly side, from Centennial Avenue to Perkins Road”.

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 Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles”, Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by ADDING “Western Avenue, northerly side, from its intersection with Centennial Avenue in a westerly direction for a distance of 30 feet.”

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles”, Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by ADDING “Western Avenue, northerly side, from its intersection with Centennial Avenue in a westerly direction for a distance of 30 feet.”

5. PH2018-064: Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles”, Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by ADDING “Rogers Street, northerly side, one parking space located at meter #190 in front of Electric Pole #266”

This public hearing is opened at 8:18 p.m.

Those speaking in favor:

Hallie Baker, 9 Wonson Street, owner of Turtle Alley located at 42 Rogers Street, explained that her business has been in the city for 20 years. The parking spaces in front of her business are 10 hour meters and across the street is a public lot with 10-hour parking spaces, as is the lot at 65 Rogers Street. While there is parking above the business, it isn't officially parking for her business, she noted, saying that about 25% of their customers are older and aren't able to walk distances to come to her store. She noted there are six parking spaces on Main Street and six parking spaces on Washington Street that are 15-minute spaces but none on Rogers Street, pointing out that her business is the only business on Rogers Street that doesn't have dedicated parking. It is the locals who support her in the off-season, even though summer business is great, she highlighted, and encouraged the Council to consider that creating this 15-minute parking space will help local patrons who are her mainstay of support throughout the year.

At the request of **Council President Lundberg** 10 members of the audience raised their hands in support of the creation of a 15-minute parking space in front of Turtle Alley.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: Amanda Cabana, in support via email (no address given).

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 8:23 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, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles”, Sec. 22-280 “Fifteen-minute parking” by ADDING “Rogers Street, northerly side, one parking space located at meter #190 in front of Electric Pole #266.”

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Cox proposed that like her effort to work to overhaul GCO Ch. 11 “Hawkers, Peddlers, Transient Vendors and Special Events”, there should be a complete overhaul of metered parking areas through research to result in the creation of a parking layout. She suggested she could have the work completed within several weeks and return the matter to the Council, to take it through the referral process and back to the Council for its consideration. She recounted that the Council over the last several years has been adding 15-minute parking spaces but not looking at the larger parking picture. She asked the Council to “pause” on any future changes to metered spaces in order to undertake a systematic overhaul of the city's parking rather than taking a piece-by-piece approach.

Councilor Holmgren, while expressing her agreement with Councilor Cox regarding the review of metered parking areas, she pointed out that this change would benefit a local business owner who's invested a great deal in the community. She added that Ms. Baker, her family and friends have worked hard to bring this to the Council with the assistance of Councilor Hecht, expressing agreement that this change will benefit the community.

Councilor Cox advised that this doesn't change the fact that there could be a 15-minute spot in this location, and suggested they would work backwards to ensure there are 15-minute metered spots throughout the downtown area. She pointed out it doesn't mean they'd be eliminating this spot as proposed; it could be at that location but it could also be placed several spaces further along.

Council President Lundberg pointed out that a motion is on the table to approve this 15-minute parking space, and although agreeing the study was a great idea, he asked that they proceed first and then go forward the “overhaul” and not hold up this parking space change.

Councilor Gilman, noting she was a frequent patron of Turtle Alley, expressed agreement with Ms. Baker that it is one of those locations that is a “grab and go,” adding that Ms. Baker realizes that this space isn't exclusive to her business and will also assist other nearby businesses. She lent her support to the amendment.

Councilor Hecht agreed with Councilor Cox about planning for parking, and noted the CFO gave him the following information: there are 440 10-hour meter spaces in the downtown -- in the municipal parking lots there are 300 and on the street there are 140 spaces. He added that the creation of this 15-minute parking space was ¼ of 1% of the total of 10-hour parking spots. Ms. Baker, he pointed out, has a business that brings visitors to the city as a destination, and has been featured on the television show, “Phantom Gourmet” nine times. Mentioning that the Traffic Commission had recommended both parking spaces in front of the business become 15-minute parking

spaces, he noted the compromise was for one space. He offered his support, highlighting members of the audience present in support, and offered to assist Councilor Cox with her effort.

Councilor O'Hara expressed his thanks to Councilor Cox for bringing forward the idea of a parking overhaul noting the many 10-hour parking spaces when turnover is important to businesses. He offered his support for the 15-minute parking space. He, too, offered his assistance to Councilor Cox.

Councilor Holmgren offered an amendment to create two 15-minute parking spaces available as the Traffic Commission did make that recommendation. She expressed agreement there should be a cohesive parking plan. There was no second. **Council President Lundberg** noted that parking spaces are very specific, and as in this case has been vetted exactly to where it should be located. He suggested that voting on an amendment to add another space wouldn't be possible at this time.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-280 "Fifteen-minute parking" by ADDING "Rogers Street, northerly side, one parking space located at meter #190 in front of Electric Pole #266."

Council President Lundberg highlighted that everyone recognizes the importance of this as part of a way for the Council to help the city's small businesses. He commended Councilor Cox for her proposal to be more strategic about these 15-minute spaces, adding that there was a lot the Council could do to make the downtown better. **Councilor Hecht** added his thanks to the people who turned out for this public hearing.

6. **PH2018-065: Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersections" by ADDING "Northbound traffic on Church Street at the Intersection with Prospect Street"**

This public hearing is opened at 8:33 p.m.

Those speaking in favor: None.

Those speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: None.

Councilor Questions: None.

This public hearing is closed at 8:31 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, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersection" by ADDING: "Northbound traffic on Church Street at the intersection with Prospect Street."

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersection" by ADDING: "Northbound traffic on Church Street at the intersection with Prospect Street."

For Council Vote:

1. **FCV: PH2018-054: Amend GCO Ch. 22 "Traffic and Motor Vehicles" Sec. 22-270.1 "Resident Sticker Parking Only" by ADDING Babson St. (Cont'd from 11/13/18)**

The Committee Report was made at the 10/23/18 City Council meeting after the closing of the Public Hearing. During a Council discussion, it was learned that Babson Street was listed by the city as both a public and private way and if that was the case, it may not be eligible for the Council to legislate to make it "Resident Sticker Parking Only".

At the 11/13/18 City Council meeting Councilor LeBlanc asked the Council to continue this matter to the 11/17/18 in order to hold a neighborhood meeting.

Councilor LeBlanc moved to withdraw the Council Order which initiated this action.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Gilman, the City Council voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to permit the withdrawal of CC2018- 034 to Amend GCO Ch. 22 “Traffic and Motor Vehicles” Sec. 22-270.1 “Resident Sticker Parking Only” by ADDING “Babson Street” without prejudice.

Unfinished Business: None.

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

Update on the Downtown Development Commission (DDC) by City Council Representative, Councilor Melissa Cox highlighted that the DDC has worked hard to ensure the downtown is festive for the holiday season with wreaths and seasonal banners hung on light poles. She advised that the decorative banners have become problematic due to damage to the banners and the brackets caused by weather, the expense to replace them, and the time it takes the DPW to change them out. She asked the Council to let her know if in their travels they see alternatives in other cities for the DDC’s consideration.

Councilors’ Requests to the Mayor:

Councilor Holmgren congratulated Rosalie Nicastro, the Health Department’s Food Inspector, on her retirement after 18 years of service to the city and wished her the best. She announced the following upcoming events: The West Parish School Christmas Fair, to benefit the West Parish PTO, will be held on Friday, Nov. 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 1 there is a holiday fair at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; on the same day from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. the Beeman Elementary School PTO is holding a Penny Sale raffle and family activities; on Sunday, Dec. 9 there is a Disney Character and Santa Claus Breakfast to benefit the Fishtown Horribles Parade at the Legion Hall with a seating at 8:30 a.m. and another at 10:00 a.m. -- for tickets call Roseann Cody at 978-335-0755 or get in touch with the Councilor directly.

Councilor Memhard thanked former Council President Joseph Ciolino, the downtown merchants and First R’s Grand Marshal, Pat Earle, for a wonderful Christmas Parade enjoyed by many families this past Sunday.

Councilor Cox announced the following upcoming events: Friday, Dec. 7 there is the Magnolia Sip & Shop in conjunction with the display of Amy Kerr’s artwork at the Magnolia Library; Saturday, Dec. 8 is the Middle Street Walk, and is one of the only times in the year that the City Hall Clock Tower is open for viewing, weather permitting; and Thursday, Dec. 6 is Ladies Night downtown.

Councilor Hecht advised the Downtown Holiday Window Contest is underway and voting continues through Dec. 20. Noting that there are 72 participants, he thanked the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce, Discover Gloucester, Bridge Cape Ann, the DDC, and the city for all promoting this event to have this be the best downtown holiday season ever. He thanked Simon Prudenzi who is working on a prototype of the 18” fencing to be installed around trees on Main Street, and offered thanks to the Lobster Trap Christmas Tree team -- David Brooks and Shawn Henry and all the other volunteers for a tree that is “better than ever”; and finally he offered his thanks in advance to all the volunteers to finish the Main Street lights project. He noted the reopening of Dogtown Books on Saturday, Dec. 1 with new owners and on Tuesday, Dec. 4 there is a Charter Meeting at Mile Marker to collect signatures to get a review of the City Charter on the (municipal) ballot.

Councilor Gilman announced the following upcoming events: On Wednesday, Nov. 28, there is the tree lighting at the Addison Gilbert Hospital at 6:15 p.m.; on Saturday, Dec. 1 the Annisquam Village Sewing Circle will hold a fair at the Annisquam Village Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. She mentioned the joint meeting of the P&D Committee and the Gloucester Historical Commission (GHC) which took place the previous evening, highlighting several points taken up and mentioned those minutes will be released shortly. She added there will be a yearly strategic planning meeting with the GHC to review upcoming projects. She mentioned the CERT program with 75 certified volunteers, saying that now that there is a new Assistant Fire Chief, she asked that the Council President to take up with the Mayor how the Assistant Chief can help to better utilize CERT volunteers. This is important in community emergencies, she noted.

Councilor O’Hara expressed agreement that CERT volunteers need to be utilized. He announced the following upcoming events: Wednesday, Nov. 28 there will be another Red Cross Blood Drive at the Magnolia Library from 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. -- call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment; on Sunday, Dec. 1 there will be a Christmas Tree lighting at the Magnolia Library -- thanks to Councilor Nolan for supplying the tree; on Saturday, Dec. 15 the Wreaths Across Cape Ann event takes place, laying wreaths on veterans’ headstones. He highlighted the many city employees who work hard to support the city residents, offering his appreciation.

Council President Lundberg highlighted the annual tree lighting event at the Addison Gilbert Hospital situated on the hospital’s portico roof facing Washington Street which he indicated added to the city’s holiday

decorations. He noted there will be a decorated ambulance available for touring, caroling and an opportunity to make a donation to the hospital's cancer ward.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgensson
Clerk of Committees

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING:

- **Written Statement by Councilor Scott Memhard in remembrance of Brian Tarr**
- **Written Statement under Oral Communications by Marjorie Grace, 14 Hawthorne Road**