

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2021

Webex Conferencing System

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Ricketts.

CHAIRS STATEMENT: This meeting is being recorded and videotaped by the City Council and GCTV-15. If any other persons present are doing the same you must notify the chairperson at this time.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll Call was taken. All Councilors were present.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Roxann Wedegartner; City Clerk Kathryn J. Scott; School Committee Chairperson Amy Proietti; DPW Director Marlo Warner; Fire Chief Robert Strahan; GCTV-15 staff; Anita Fritz, *the Recorder* and members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Desorgher, second by Councilor Mayo, it was unanimously,

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF JANUARY 4 & JANUARY 20, 2021.

COMMUNICATIONS:

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chairperson Proietti reported the following:

- The School was working with TMS Management Solutions to help in hiring a new school Superintendent.
- Dr. Judy Houle had been appointed as interim School Superintendent to aid in administrative decisions.
- TMS Management Solutions was working with the Schools to improve internal and external communications with teachers, students and parents.
- The school would begin with a hybrid in person model for the students in April.

Ms. Proietti answered the following questions from Councilors:

- Had the Schools taken steps to begin to safely open the schools before the parents submitted a petition to the school committee to open the schools.
- Was the school using the same procedure for searching and hiring a new superintendent as previously used.
- Were there any additional costs anticipated in using the TMS Management Solutions team and how long the school would be using their services.

MAYOR, CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES: Mayor Wedegartner reported the following:

- The Department Heads had submitted their budgets for the upcoming FY2022 budget year.
- Completed the FY 2022 Capital Budget Review and would forward to the Councilors on March 2, 2021.
- The FY2022 Operating Budget would be discussing with Finance Director Gilman next week.
- A bid would go out for the apparatus bay units needed in the temporary fire station.
- Status on the purchase of property for the temporary fire station.
- The sellers of the property had agreed to remove all of the buildings and debris at their expense prior to closing.

- Awarded a grant to continue the “Shared Streets” program for spring projects that included outdoor dining and the 14 Court Square redesign project.
- Local rapid recovery grant to allow the City to hire a consultant with the Department of Housing and Community Development to assist with the City’s long term goals with regards to downtown redevelopment.
- Urban agenda grant that would offer summer youth employment for individuals aged 18-24 in partnership with Mass Hire and Community Action.
- The Community Development Block Grant monies received for FY2020 had been utilized for West Street construction as well as some social services and downtown revitalization.
- Greenfield had recently signed on as a partner with the Local Rapid Recovery as well as Greenfield Community College as the lead on their Rural Innovation at their downtown Center location.
- Working on the Community Economic Development One Stop to request grant money that would become available in May or June.
- Working with Mass Works and Mass Development for site assessments to find solutions for uses of underutilized buildings in Greenfield.
- The City of Greenfield’s IT Director was working on an efficiency grant that would be available in March to explore and implement consolidation with IT and the School’s technical department.
- The City’s Communications Director had set up a more prominent presence of the City on Facebook and other social media platforms to better inform the citizens of Greenfield.
- Notification had been sent out to the public for anyone interested in joining the Community Preservation Committee as well as the Zoning Committee.

Mayor Wedegartner answered the following questions from Councilors:

- Where would the additional monies be coming from in regards to the Apparatus Bays in the temporary fire station.
- What was the status on the establishment of the zoning committee that was voted on by the Council last year.

OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES AS NEEDED, BY INVITATION: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: President Ricketts opened the public hearing at 8:12 pm and read the public hearing notice:

PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Home Rule Charter, the Greenfield City Council will hold a public hearing on Wed., February 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at John Zon Community Center, 35 Pleasant St., or via Webex, if required: <https://greenfieldma.my.webex.com/greenfieldma.my/j.php?MTID=m77c828b9462bb9a7e51e9f538d95c64a> to receive public input on the following:

- Appropriate \$65,900 from Free Cash for the Phase B1 Main Street Improvement Project.
- Appropriate \$33,000 from Free Cash for SCBA Fire Department SCBA Gear Grant Match.
- Increase Fund 1563 Nursing Services Revolving Spending Limit ~~of~~ to \$300,000.

The City Council may consider the same on Wed., February 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at John Zon Community Center, 35 Pleasant St., or via Webex, if required: <https://greenfieldma.my.webex.com/greenfieldma.my/j.php?MTID=m77c828b9462bb9a7e51e9f538d95c64a> Materials can be obtained from the City Clerk’s Office by phone 413-772-1555, x. 6163., from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri.

Penny Ricketts, Greenfield City Council President

Councilor Forgey read the Second Reading:

City Council – Second Reading- February 17, 2021

- Appropriate \$65,900 from Free Cash for the Phase B1 Main Street Improvement Project.
- Appropriate \$33,000 from Free Cash for SCBA Fire Department SCBA Gear Grant Match.
- Increase Fund 1563 Nursing Services Revolving Spending Limit to \$300,000.

President Ricketts asked if anyone from the public would like to speak on these issues. Seeing none, she closed the public hearing at 8:16 pm.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order no. FY 21-045

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Forgey, second by Councilor Mayo, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, ORDERED THAT THE SUM OF \$65,900 TO BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH FOR THE PURPOSE OF PHASE B1 OF THE MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. Councilor Stempel-Rae inquired how the complete streets and master plans documents and the work that had been completed by applied to the Main Street project, if at all.

It was by roll call, 13 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-045.

Order no. FY 21-046

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Forgey, second by Councilor Desorgher, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, ORDERED THAT THE SUM OF \$33,000 TO BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH AS A MATCH FOR A FEMA GRANT TO PURCHASE SCOTT PACKS (SCBA) GEAR FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was roll call, 13 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-046.

Order no. FY 21-053

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Forgey, second by Councilor Mayo, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, ORDERED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZES INCREASING FUND 1563 NURSING SERVICES REVOLVING TO A REVISED SPENDING LIMIT OF \$300,000 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 FOR NURSING EXPENSES AND CLINIC WAGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH M.G.L. CHAPTER 44, SECTION 53 E-1/2.

RECEIPTS RECEIVED BUT NOT EXPENDED IN FISCAL YEAR 2021 SHALL BE CARRIED OVER TO FISCAL YEAR 2022.

NO FURTHER APPROPRIATION SHALL BE MADE IN EXCESS OF THE BALANCE OF THE FUND NOR SHALL TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR EXCEED THE ANNUAL SPENDING LIMIT OF \$300,000.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was by roll call, 12 yes, 1 abstention,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-053.

Order no. FY 21-054

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Guin, second by Councilor Mayo, it was,
MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, AFFIRMS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Adam Provost – Greenfield Redevelopment Authority, Term to expire June 30, 2023.
- Robert Williford – Commission on Disability Access, Term to expire December 31, 2023.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Guin reported the Appointments & Ordinances Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was by roll call, 13 yes, 0 no,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-054.

Order no. FY 21-055

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Guin, second by Councilor Mayo, it was,
MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, AFFIRMS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE SOLDIERS MEMORIAL:

- John Ambo, Term to expire December 31, 2023
- David Lewis, Term to expire June 30, 2023
- Sandy Magill, Term to expire December 31, 2023

DISCUSSION: Councilor Guin reported the Appointments & Ordinances Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was by roll call, 13 yes, 0 no,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-055.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE – None.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – None.

APPOINTMENTS AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- None.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE – None.

TREASURER REPORT None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Forgey held the following first reading:

City Council – First Reading- February 17, 2021

- Appropriate \$16,500 from Free Cash to Repair Traffic Lights.
- Appropriate \$20,000 from Water Retained Earnings to match grant for Millbrook Well Generator.
- Establish Municipal Pension Stabilization Fund as Authorized by MGL c. 40, §5B and Appropriate \$1,000,000 from Free Cash to the Municipal Pension Stabilization Fund.
- Appropriate \$500,000 from Free Cash to the General Stabilization Fund.
- Appropriate \$600,000 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund.
- Appropriate \$300,000 from Free Cash to the Contract Stabilization Fund.
- Appropriate \$25,000 from Free Cash to the Compensated Absences Fund.

Councilor Desorgher held the following notice of zoning amendment proposals:
The following zoning amendment proposals have been submitted to the Greenfield City Council for consideration:

- THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREENFIELD AMEND THE ZONING MAP TO EXTEND THE EXISTING GENERAL COMMERCIAL (GC) ZONING DISTRICT ALONG BERNARDSTON ROAD IN THE NORTHEAST SECTION OF GREENFIELD FROM RURAL RESIDENTIAL (RC) TO GC TO THE BERNARDSTON TOWN LINE. AND FURTHER AMENDS THE TABLE OF CONTENTS AND INDEX OF THE CODE. AND FURTHER THAT NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES TO THE NUMBERING OF THE ORDINANCE BE PERMITTED IN ORDER THAT IT BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NUMBERING FORMAT OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GREENFIELD.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Mayo, second by Councilor Desorgher, it was unanimously,

VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:47 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Kathryn J. Scott, City Clerk

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Webex Conferencing System
 Regular Meeting
 February 17, 2021

| | Attendance | FY21-045 | FY21-046 | FY21-053 | FY21-054 | FY21-055 |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Jarvis, Edward | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 2. Guin, Daniel | Y | Y | Y | A | Y | Y |
| 3. Desorgher, Virginia | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 4. Bottomley, John | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 5. Dolan, Timothy | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 6. Gilmour, Sheila | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 7. Wheeler, Otis | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 8. Mayo, Douglas | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 9. Hirschfeld, Norman | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 10. Elmer, Philip | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 11. Forgey, Christine | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 12. Ricketts, Penny | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 13. Stempel-Rae, Ashley | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | | 13 y 0 no | 13 y 0 no | 12 yes 1 abst | 13 y 0 no | 13 y 0 no |