

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 21, 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; Finance Director/City Auditor/City Accountant Elizabeth Gilman; Interim Greenfield School Superintendent Dr. Judith Houle; School Committee Chairperson Amy Proietti; Police Chief Rob Haigh; Fire Chief Robert Strahan; DPW Director Marlo Warner; Recreation Director Christy Moore; 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 MARCH 17, 2021.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE:** School Committee Chair Proietti and Interim Superintendent Dr. Houle reported the following:

- Committee Chair Proietti thanked Dr. Houle for joining the Greenfield School System and provided education and insight on the School Committee's role in improving the school system in Greenfield.
- The Schools had been re-opened for Pre K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade students for full time in-person learning per the Commissioner of Education's directive.
- The middle and high school students would return to full time in-person learning on Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

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

- The vaccination clinic at the John Zon Community Center would continue to provide vaccinations until May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- The City of Greenfield had vaccinated approximately 12,400 people.
- The John Zon Community Center was expected to reopen for seniors and public functions beginning in June, unless Massachusetts continued their directive.
- The City would provide assistance to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments with vaccinations at Greenfield Community College.
- The zoning ad-hoc committee was seeking a resident from each precinct to submit their interest and resume to the Mayor's office to be appointed to the committee.
- Brief summary on the FY2022 Capital Budget items submitted to Councilors.

**OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES AS NEEDED, BY INVITATION:** Clerk Scott announced papers to run for positions at this year's local election would be available in the Clerk's office beginning Monday, April 26, 2021, for anyone interested.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The following members of the public spoke:

- Anne Mislak, Silver Crest Lane, spoke to her concerns with the assessment discrepancies in Greenfield, as attached.
- Benjamin Miner, Chapman Street, spoke to his concerns with the assessment discrepancies in Greenfield, as attached. He also voiced his opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades. Thanked all of the Councilors who volunteered at the COVID vaccine clinic.
- Jackie Thibodeau, Silver Crest Lane, spoke to her concerns with the assessment discrepancies in Greenfield, as attached.
- Jim Geisman, East Cleveland Street, spoke to his concerns with the assessment discrepancies in Greenfield.
- Peter McIver, Carol Lane, spoke in favor for the lease to procure a new ambulance.
- Molly Merrett, Solar Way, spoke to her opposition for the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.
- Susan Worgaftik, Beech Street, spoke to her support for the Capital budget item for the new Skate Park. She spoke to the funds to be provided to the City from the American Rescue Act in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and hoped that it would go towards housing in Greenfield.
- Marianna Ritchey, Beech Street, spoke to her opposition for the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.
- Jennifer Stromsten, Russell Street, spoke to her concerns with the assessment discrepancies in Greenfield.
- Nikki Sauber, Conway Street, spoke to her opposition for the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades. She stated that she would like to see the majority of the funds go to more economic development and improvement issues.
- Bekki Craig, Davis Street, spoke to her opposition for the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades and suggested those funds be redirected to programs that could help the community.
- Douglas Skye Wight, Conway Street, spoke to his experience with the City in regards to the allowance of people that lived in his home and the fear of losing his home even after the City changed their bylaws to limit the number of people in a dwelling.
- Katherine Golub, Glennbrook Drive, spoke to her support for the Capital budget item request for a new Skate Park and opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.
- Louise Amyot, Madison Circle, spoke in opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.
- Nancy Hazard, Spring Terrace, spoke in support of the Capital budget item request for a new Skate Park.
- Andrew Ritchey, Beech Street, spoke in opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades. He also spoke to his concerns with the assessment discrepancies in Greenfield.
- Chelsie Field, Maple Street, Shelburne, spoke in opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades. She also expressed support for the new Skate Park.
- Erin Kelly, Canal Street, Turner's Falls, spoke in opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.
- Emily Miller, Russell Street, spoke to the need for Greenfield to have meaningful conversations in regards to public safety and establish programs that could help residents.
- Andrew Vernon, Sunset Square, spoke in opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.

- Sienna Valente-Blough, Forget Road, Hawley, spoke to her support to the Capital budget item request for the new Skate Park. She voiced her concerns with the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.
- Ilene Stahl, Chapman Street, spoke to her support to the Capital budget item request for the new Skate Park and opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades. She voiced her concern that the Clinical Support Options worker recently hired by the City for Public Safety would be shared by three separate Police Departments in Franklin County.
- Mike Nord, Solar Way, spoke in opposition to the Capital budget item request submitted by the Police Department for building upgrades.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** President Ricketts opened the public hearing at 8:19 pm. Councilor Forgey read the public hearing.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Home Rule Charter, the Greenfield City Council will hold a public hearing on Wed., April 21, 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=mc0fef5b2170baf79d6ccfcef372b855> to receive public input on the following:

- FY2022 Mayor Capital Budget
  - Authorize 5 to 7 year lease to procure an ambulance not to exceed a financed price of \$295,000.
  - Appropriate \$90,000 from Fund 8402 Capital Stabilization for DPW Gravel Crushing Costs.
  - Appropriate \$35,000 from Fund 8402 Capital Stabilization for DPW Yard HVAC Upgrades.
  - Appropriate \$100,000 for the Sidewalk Replacement Program.
  - Appropriate \$100,000 for the Highway Road Program.
  - Appropriate \$145,000 for Equipment & Related Costs of GCET Expansion and Customer Installation.
  - Appropriate \$492,687 for the Reconstruction of Sanderson Street.
  - Appropriate \$350,000 for the Design and Construction of a City Skate Park.
  - Appropriate \$50,000 for Beacon Park Recreation Upgrades.
  - Appropriate \$574,205 for Sewer Upgrades, Repairs & Replacement for Reconstruction of Sanderson Street.
  - Appropriate \$469,525 for Water Upgrades, Repairs & Replacement for Reconstruction of Sanderson Street.
  - Appropriate \$1,350,000 for the Police Station Update & Reconfiguration.
  - Appropriate \$200,000 for Replacement of a Water Dump Truck.
  - Appropriate \$25,000 for a Water Rates Study, Asset Management & Emergency Response.
  - Appropriate \$91,000 for Waste Water Treatment Plant Electrical Upgrades.

The City Council may consider the same on Wed., April 21, 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=mc0fef5b2170baf79d6ccfcef372b855> Materials can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 14 Court Sq. from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri. or phone 413-772-1555, x. 6163.

Penny Ricketts, Greenfield City Council President

President Ricketts asked if anyone from the public wished to speak:

- John Garrett, Conway Street, encouraged the Council to think about the priorities of the Community; were these reflected in decisions regarding the future of Greenfield.

President Ricketts asked if anyone else from the public would like to speak. Seeing none, she closed the public hearing at 8:23 pm.

**City Council – Second Reading- April 21, 2021**

- FY2022 Mayor Capital Budget
  - Authorize 5 to 7 year lease to procure an ambulance not to exceed a financed price of \$295,000.
  - Appropriate \$90,000 from Fund 8402 Capital Stabilization for DPW Gravel Crushing Costs.
  - Appropriate \$35,000 from Fund 8402 Capital Stabilization for DPW Yard HVAC Upgrades.
  - Appropriate \$100,000 for the Sidewalk Replacement Program.
  - Appropriate \$100,000 for the Highway Road Program.
  - Appropriate \$145,000 for Equipment & Related Costs of GCET Expansion and Customer Installation.
  - Appropriate \$492,687 for the Reconstruction of Sanderson Street.
  - Appropriate \$350,000 for the Design and Construction of a City Skate Park.
  - Appropriate \$50,000 for Beacon Park Recreation Upgrades.
  - Appropriate \$574,205 for Sewer Upgrades, Repairs & Replacement for Reconstruction of Sanderson Street.
  - Appropriate \$469,525 for Water Upgrades, Repairs & Replacement for Reconstruction of Sanderson Street.
  - Appropriate \$1,350,000 for the Police Station Update & Reconfiguration.
  - Appropriate \$200,000 for Replacement of a Water Dump Truck.
  - Appropriate \$25,000 for a Water Rates Study, Asset Management & Emergency Response.
  - Appropriate \$91,000 for Waste Water Treatment Plant Electrical Upgrades.

**MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Order no. FY 21-066**

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

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER. ORDERED WHEREAS, THE MAYOR HAS PROPOSED A COST EFFECTIVE LEASE - PURCHASE ARRANGEMENT ACCORDING TO THE USEFUL LIFE OF THE EQUIPMENT TO BE PURCHASED. WITH THE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL, THE MAYOR WILL ENTER INTO A FIVE (5) TO SEVEN (7) YEAR LEASE ARRANGEMENT TO PROCURE AN AMBULANCE NOT TO EXCEED A FINANCED PRICE OF \$295,000 AND SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AS TO FORM BY THE CITY'S LEGAL COUNSEL. THE ANNUAL LEASE COST WILL BE BUDGETED IN THE AMBULANCE DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUND. FURTHER, THE COUNCIL'S AFFIRMATIVE VOTE PERMITS THE MAYOR AND OTHER OFFICERS, JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY, TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTIONS AND TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES WHICH WE MAY DEEM NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT, GIVE EFFECT TO AND COMPLY WITH THE TERMS THE AGREEMENT.

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

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-066.

**Order no. FY 21-067**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Forgey, second by Councilor Jarvis, it was,  
**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$90,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR DPW GRAVEL CRUSHING COSTS AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION TRANSFER \$90,000 FROM FUND 8402 CAPITAL STABILIZATION.

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

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-067.

**Order no. FY 21-068**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Jarvis, second by Councilor Desorgher, it was,  
**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$35,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR DPW YARD HVAC UPGRADES AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION TRANSFER \$35,000 FROM FUND 8402 CAPITAL STABILIZATION.

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

- Was it essential to install an HVAC system in a municipal building.
- Did the current HVAC system pose a health issue to employees in the building.
- What was the current condition of the building's air conditioners.

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-068.

**Order no. FY 21-069**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Bottomley, second by Councilor Mayo, it was,  
**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$100,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM, AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION TRANSFER \$50,000 FROM FUND 8402 CAPITAL STABILIZATION AND THE TREASURER, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$50,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44 OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE. THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. Councilor Stempel-Rae voiced her disappointment that this appropriation was not for more funds than requested and she would help to obtain further funding to aide in this much needed project.

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-069.

**Order no. FY 21-070**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Forgey, second by Councilor Mayo, it was,  
**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$100,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE HIGHWAY ROAD PROGRAM AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$100,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS.

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

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-070.

**Order no. FY 21-071**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Desorgher, second by Councilor Mayo, it was,  
**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$145,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR EQUIPMENT AND RELATED COSTS OF GCET EXPANSION AND CUSTOMER INSTALLATION AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$145,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS.

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

- Councilor Elmer noted that residents of Briar Way have not been able to obtain GCET and inquired how GCET would be able to perform installation in that area. Councilor Forgey explained that GCET was in the process of providing service to that area; however, the cable lines were buried and not readily accessible to them.
- Councilor Guin asked for the status of past borrowings for GCET and if they had been reimbursed. Director Gilman explained that the funds were budgeted through the GCET Enterprise Fund.

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-071.

**Order no. FY 21-072**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Mayo, second by Councilor Hirschfeld, it was,  
**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$492,687 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SANDERSON STREET AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE

TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$492,687, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS.

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

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-072.

**Order no. FY 21-073**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$350,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A CITY SKATE PARK AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$350,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded by majority, 4 yes, 1 no, a positive recommendation. Other Comments included:

- Could the Council reduce the amount of the appropriation and still receive a grant match that could fund the entire project.
- Recreation Director Moore explained that the original request was for \$450,000; however, the Mayor had to reduce that by \$100,000 to be within the Capital Budget.
- The Skate Park was a long awaited project for the City and it does need to move forward.

It was by roll call, 12 yes, 1 no,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-073.

**Order no. FY 21-074**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$50,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR BEACON PARK RECREATION UPGRADES AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION TRANSFER \$10,000 FROM FUND 8402 CAPITAL STABILIZATION AND THE TREASURER, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$40,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44 OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE. THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS

AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT;

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded by majority, 3 yes, 2 no, positive recommendation. Other comments included:

- What process was used to determine the need for this project by the residents of Greenfield.
- Director Moore explained the appropriation would install a bocce ball court and improve handicap accessibility at Beacon Park.
- Concern was raised that the appropriation did not prioritize the issues that would need to be addressed in the park.
- Was there expectation to send this appropriation to the FY2023 budget so that the full funding of these compliance pieces could happen sooner rather than later.

It was by roll call, 10 yes, 3 no,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-074.

**Order no. FY 21-075**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$574,205 BE APPROPRIATED FOR SEWER UPGRADES, REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SANDERSON STREET AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$574,205 PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS.

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

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-075.

**Order no. FY 21-076**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$469,525 BE APPROPRIATED FOR WATER UPGRADES, REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SANDERSON STREET AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$469,525 PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS.



**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. Councilor Stempel-Rae inquired why this appropriation did not mention the I & I (Inflow & Infiltration investment program).

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-076.

**Order no. FY 21-077**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$1,350,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE POLICE STATION UPDATE AND RECONFIGURATION, AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION TRANSFER \$100,000 FROM FUND 8402 CAPITAL STABILIZATION AND THE TREASURER, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$1,250,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44 OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE. THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded by majority, 2 yes, 3 no, negative recommendation. Other comments included:

- The appropriation would go towards repairing a municipal building and not towards additional personnel or equipment for the police department.
- Majority of Councilors expressed concern to the lack of detailed explanation, through documentation, of the exact repairs, upgrades and reconfigurations needed for the police department building.
- It was noted that the Councilors had just voted for an appropriation for a new skate park without a provided plan or architectural scheme.
- The City had a responsibility to repair municipal buildings for the safety and security of all their employees regardless of the department.

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

**MOVED:** TO REDUCE THE APPROPRIATION FROM \$1,350,000 TO AN AMOUNT DEBATED ON THE COUNCIL FLOOR WITH INPUT FROM MAYOR WEDEGARTNER AND POLICE CHIEF HAIGH AND DETERMINE AN AMOUNT AS A CO-OPERATED ADVENTURE.

Mayor Wedegartner noted that the motion required a monetary amount to be indicated.

Clerk Scott asked Councilor Elmer if he wanted to second the newly introduced amendment; he withdrew his second. Councilor Wheeler noted that he would second the motion.

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

**MOVED:** TO REDUCE THE APPROPRIATION FROM \$1,350,000 TO \$600,000.

**DISCUSSION:** At this time the appropriation should not be approved unless there was a solid plan and inventoried estimate to bring the building up to health and safety standards.

Councilor Hirschfeld introduced a motion to table this item. It was noted that there was a motion on the floor, as well as the original motion that had not been addressed.

Councilor Forgey and Councilor Wheeler withdrew their motion, respectively. The main motion was still on the floor for discussion.

**DISCUSSION:** It was the consensus of the Councilors to postpone voting on this issue until a written plan and list of estimated costs were presented to enable a reasonable monetary amount to be voted on.

- Concern was raised that the Councilors need to change amounts for the sake of appeasing everyone involved. The vote for this appropriation should be for the entire amount requested or none at all.
- Suggestion was made that if this issue was to be tabled, it should come before the Council next month.
- Chief Haigh reiterated this was a Capital Budget issue for the repair of a municipal building.
- Mayor Wedegartner explained why the City could not pursue a Safety Complex that would house both the Fire and Police departments. She also noted that the Councilors did receive an itemized list in their Capital Budget; however, estimated costs were not listed.
- Chief Haigh defended the benefits of accreditation and certification for the Police Department.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Hirschfeld, second by Councilor Dolan, it was, by roll call, 13 yes, 0 no,

**TABLED:** ORDER NO. FY21-077 TO THE NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 19, 2021.

**Order no. FY 21-078**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$200,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR A REPLACEMENT OF A WATER DUMP TRUCK AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION \$200,000 BE TRANSFERRED FROM WATER RETAINED EARNINGS.

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

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-078.

**Order no. FY 21-079**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$25,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR A STUDY OF WATER RATES, ASSET MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION \$25,000 BE TRANSFERRED FROM WATER RETAINED EARNINGS.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. Vice President Gilmour inquired if this was a continuation from a water rates study from last year.

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-079.

**Order no. FY 21-080**

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

**MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER,

MOVED THAT IT BE ORDERED THE SUM OF \$91,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR ELECTRICAL UPGRADES AT THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION \$91,000 BE TRANSFERRED FROM SEWER RETAINED EARNINGS.

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

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-080.

**Order no. FY 21-085**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Desorgher, it was, **MOVED:** THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL CH.30B §12B, ORDERED THAT, THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A TWENTY (20) YEAR CONTRACT, BETWEEN THE CITY OF GREENFIELD AND RIVERSIDE WATER DISTRICT.

**DISCUSSION:** It was noted that this item was not discussed at a subcommittee. DPW Director Warner presented a brief rationale for this contract.

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21-085.

**Order no. FY 21-092**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Guin, second by Councilor Desorgher, it was, **MOVED:** THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, AFFIRMS THE FOLLOWING RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL: DONNA WOODCOCK, FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2024.

**DISCUSSION:** It was noted that this item was not discussion at a subcommittee.

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

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 21.092.

**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** – Chairperson Forgey noted that due to technical issues on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, the FY2022 Operating Budget discussion with the Mayor and Finance has been rescheduled to Thursday, April 22, 2021.

**TREASURER REPORT** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Councilor Stempel noted that Councilors had received notice from the Health Department that Greenfield would be opting out of the new Mosquito Reform bill passed by the State. The notice informed towns and cities a May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, deadline to submit a vote from the Council opting out of the bill. Clerk Scott noted that this issue could not be placed on tonight’s agenda due to the possibility of an open meeting law violation.  
An emergency meeting on this issue would be scheduled for Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at 5:30 pm before the Committee Chairs meeting.
- Councilor Forgey held the following first reading:  
**City Council – First Reading- April 21, 2021**
- FY2022 Operating Budget
  - Appropriate \$54,472,520 for FY2022 General Fund Budget.
  - Appropriate \$100,000 from Fund 8406 – OPEB Stabilization Fund – to reduce FY2022 Tax Rate.
  - Establish Spending Limits on Revolving Funds not to exceed \$540,950.
  - Appropriate \$1,403,465 for FY2022 Water Enterprise Fund.
  - Appropriate \$2,247,635 for FY2022 Sewer Enterprise Fund.
  - Appropriate \$1,771,602 for FY2022 GCET Enterprise Fund

**MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Councilor Stempel-Rae, second by Councilor Guin, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:17 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn J. Scott, City Clerk

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Webex Conferencing System  
 Regular Meeting  
 April 21, 2021

	Attendance	21-066	21-067	21-068	21-069	21-070	21-071	21-072	21-073
1. Jarvis, Edward	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2. Guin, Daniel	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3. Desorgher, Virginia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4. Bottomley, John	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5. Dolan, Timothy	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
6. Gilmour, Sheila	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
7. Wheeler, Otis	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
8. Mayo, Douglas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
9. Hirschfeld, Norman	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
10. Elmer, Philip	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
11. Forgey, Christine	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
12. Ricketts, Penny	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
13. Stempel-Rae, Ashley	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
		13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	12 y 0 no

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Webex Conferencing System  
 Regular Meeting  
 April 21, 2021

	21-074	21-075	21-076	21-077 Table to May 19th	21-078	21-079	21-080	21-085	21-092
14. Jarvis, Edward	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15. Guin, Daniel	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
16. Desorgher, Virginia	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
17. Bottomley, John	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
18. Dolan, Timothy	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
19. Gilmour, Sheila	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
20. Wheeler, Otis	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
21. Mayo, Douglas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
22. Hirschfeld, Norman	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
23. Elmer, Philip	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
24. Forgey, Christine	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
25. Ricketts, Penny	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
26. Stempel-Rae, Ashley	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	10 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no	13 y 0 no