

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2022

Webex Conferencing System

6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Gilmour.

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. Councilor Lapienski was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Roxann Wedegartner; City Clerk Kathryn J. Scott; School Committee Chairperson Amy Proietti; Community Development Director MJ Adams; GCTV-15 staff; Mary Byrne, *the Recorder*, and members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Forgey, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was unanimously,

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF DECEMBER 15, 2021 AND JANUARY 3, 2022.

COMMUNICATIONS:

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE: School Committee Chair Amy Proietti reported the following:

- Ms. Proietti was re-elected as Chair of the School Committee at their Organizational Meeting. Jean Wall was elected as Vice-Chair and Susan Eckstrom was elected as Secretary.
- Professional Development Day for School staff was scheduled for January 28th, 2022. No school would be held for students on that day.
- High School students involved in entrepreneurial studies held a successful “Pop-Ups” event during the holiday season.
- Retired High School teacher Jim Fotopulos donated \$1,000.00 toward rehabilitation of school libraries.
- The Elks Club donated 500 dictionaries for 3rd and 4th grade students.
- Newly hired High School Principal Derek Morrison began his position on January 3, 2022.
- Newly hired food service director Greta Shwachman implemented a grab and go meals for students who were out sick.

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

- Discussions with Department Heads regarding the FY2023 budget had begun.
- On Wednesday, January 26, 2022, the Mayor would give testimony before Senator Jo Comerford and others on Senate Bill 2457, which was an act creating a municipal and public safety building authority.

Councilors asked the following questions:

- Why a sub-slab depressurization system was not installed at the property located on 298 Federal Street and who made the decision to install a less effective passive mitigation system.
- The current Mayor’s inaction on the installation of the more effective sub-slab depressurization system at the property.
- Interview process for petitioners who submitted a PIP (Public Involvement Plan) on the property located on 298 Federal Street.

- Timeline for Senate Bill 2457 from submission to final vote.

OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES AS NEEDED, BY INVITATION: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The following members of the public spoke:

- Susan Worgaftik, Housing Greenfield, made a presentation on the current issues they would like to address involving affordable housing in Greenfield.
- Glen Ayers, Davis St., spoke to issues regarding the contamination and cleanup process on the property located at 298 Federal Street.
- Doug Selwyn, Forest Ave, spoke to the condition and much needed attention brought to the property located at 298 Federal Street. He also spoke to the housing issue in Greenfield.
- Pamela Goodwin, High Street, spoke to the housing issue in Greenfield.
- Carisa Clifford, Mohawk Trail, spoke to concerns with the current conditions on the property located at 298 Federal Street.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Councilor Forgey read the following public hearing notice and second reading: In accordance with Home Rule Charter, the Greenfield City Council will hold a public hearing on Wed., January 19, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., via Webex:

<https://greenfieldma.my.webex.com/greenfieldma.my/j.php?MTID=maaed0d37803e6d194d9454ac475cec45> to receive public input on the following:

- Appropriate \$221,055 from Free Cash for Greenfield Permanent Firefighters Local #2548, International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO-CLC Union Contract.

The City Council may consider the same on Wed., January 19, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., via Webex:

<https://greenfieldma.my.webex.com/greenfieldma.my/j.php?MTID=maaed0d37803e6d194d9454ac475cec45>. 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.

Sheila Gilmour, Greenfield City Council President

City Council – Second Reading- January 19, 2022

- Appropriate \$221,055 from Free Cash for Greenfield Permanent Firefighters Local #2548, International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO-CLC Union Contract.

President Gilmour opened the public hearing at 7:29 pm. She asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. See none; the public hearings were closed at 7:30 pm.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order no. FY 22-074

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THE GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, AFFIRMS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS AND RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR:

- Tracey Allen - Sustainable Greenfield Implementation Committee – Term Expires December 31, 2024
- Jonah Keane - Sustainable Greenfield Implementation Committee – Term Expires December 31, 2022 (to finish out Jay Lord's term)
- Carole Collins - Sustainable Greenfield Implementation Committee – Term Expires December 31, 2023 (Reappointment; two-year term to maintain staggered terms)
- Michelle Laurie - Public Safety Commission – Term Expires December 31, 2024

- ~~Jim Winn Fire Station Building Committee Term Expires Upon Project Completion –~~
Withdrawn by Mayor Wedegartner (see attached memo)

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

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-074.

Order no. FY 22-075

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, THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CITY OF GREENFIELD AND THE GREENFIELD FIRE AND POLICE SIGNAL OPERATORS ASSOCIATION, BE APPROVED.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

- a) FY22 WAGE SCALE INCREASED AND READJUSTED TO HAVE ONLY 4 STEPS: STEP A – D, PAY RANGE \$25.78 - \$28.75.
- b) COLA: FY22 0%, FY23 1%, FY 24 1%
- c) INCREASE IN SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL PAY
- d) ADDITION OF EDUCATION INCENTIVE PAY

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

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-075.

Order no. FY 22-076

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THE CITY COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR WEDEGARTNER, THE SUM OF \$221,055 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO FUND RETROACTIVE WAGE PROVISIONS OF A NEW CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH THE GREENFIELD PERMANENT FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL #2548, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS, AFL-CIO-CLC UNION.

SUMMARY

BASE PAY: FY22: 0% (CHANGES IN WAGE CHART GIVE EXISTING FIREFIGHTERS APPROX. 8 - 11.2% INCREASE)
 FY23: 1% + ADD STEPS
 FY24: 1% + ADDITION 1% FOR EMT LEVELS

STIPEND: TEMPORARY STATION STIPEND: \$30 PER WEEK FOR UP TO 24 MONTHS, \$35 PER WEEK FOR ANY DURATION THEREAFTER

LONGEVITY: 10 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE 1% INCENTIVE PAY INCREASE, 15 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE 2% INCENTIVE PAY INCREASE; AND 20 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE 3% INCENTIVE PAY INCREASE. FIREFIGHTERS HOLDING AN EMT CERTIFICATION RECEIVE ADDITIONAL LONGEVITY BENEFIT: 10 YEARS OF

CONTINUOUS SERVICE 1%, 15 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE 2%, AND 20 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE 3%.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Forgey reported the Ways & Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. She noted that included in the contract language is an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) which addressed the fact the Fire Department, with exception of the Chief, would no longer be involved in Civil Service.

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-076.

Order no. FY 22-068

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Guin, second by Councilor Elmer, it was,
MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY CHARTER ARTICLE 4: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, SECTION 4-2: SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR, SUBSECTION (A): ELECTION AND TERM, BE AMENDED AS INDICATED BELOW, WITH BOLD TEXT TO BE ADDED AND STRIKETHROUGH TEXT TO BE REMOVED:

SECTION 4-2: SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR, **VICE CHAIR AND SECRETARY**

(a) *Election and Term* – ~~As soon as practicable after the school committee members elect have been qualified following each City Election or~~ **On** the first business day of the new year, as provided in section 8-8, the school committee shall organize by electing 1 of its members to serve as school committee chair and 1 of its members to serve as school committee vice-chair **and 1 of its members to serve as secretary; all to serve** for the ensuing year. **The Mayor shall not be eligible to be Chair.**

AND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE CITY CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER.

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

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-068.

President Gilmour left the rail at 7:46pm. Vice President Guin took over the meeting.

Order no. FY 22-069

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Guin, second by Councilor Elmer, it was,
MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY CHARTER ARTICLE 4: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, SECTION 4-2: SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR, SUBSECTION (B): POWER AND DUTIES, BE AMENDED AS INDICATED BELOW, WITH BOLD TEXT TO BE ADDED:

SECTION 4-2: SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR

(b) *Power and Duties* - The School Committee chair shall preside at all meetings of the School Committee, regulate its proceedings and shall decide all questions of order. The School Committee chair shall appoint, **in accordance with School Committee Policy Manual**, all members of all committees of the School Committee, whether special or standing. The School Committee chair shall have the same

powers to vote upon all measures coming before the School Committee as any other member of the School Committee. The School Committee chair shall perform such other duties consistent with the office as may be provided by Charter, by ordinance or by other vote of the School Committee.

AND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE CITY CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER.

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

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-069.

President Gilmour returned to the rail at 7:48pm.

Order no. FY 22-070

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY CHARTER ARTICLE 4: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, SECTION 4-2: SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR, BE AMENDED BY ADDING NEW SUBSECTION (D): SECRETARY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 4-2: SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR

(d) Secretary - The Secretary of the School Committee will keep or cause to be kept an accurate journal and permanent record book of all Committee meetings in which all its votes, orders and proceedings shall be recorded; will comply with state law and Committee policy regarding notification of meetings; and will render such reports as may be required by the state.

AND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE CITY CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER.

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

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-070.

Order no. FY 22-071

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY CHARTER ARTICLE 4: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, SECTION 4-5: SCHOOL COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES, SUBSECTION (B), BE AMENDED AS INDICATED BELOW, WITH BOLD TEXT TO BE ADDED:

SECTION 4-5: SCHOOL COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES

(b) To make all reasonable rules and regulations for the management of the public school system and for conducting the business of the School Committee as may be deemed necessary or desirable, **and as required by and allowed by law.**

AND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE CITY CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER.

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

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-071.

Order no. FY 22-072

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY CHARTER ARTICLE 4: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, SECTION 4-6: FILLING OF VACANCIES; FILLING OF VACANCIES BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE, BE AMENDED AS INDICATED BELOW, WITH BOLD TEXT TO BE ADDED AND STIKETHROUGH TEXT TO BE REMOVED:

SECTION 4-6: FILLING OF VACANCIES

Filling of Vacancies by School Committee - Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of School Committee member **more than 90 days before the next regular biennial election**, the vacancy shall be filled ~~by the remaining members of the School Committee~~ **according to the procedures outlined in the School Committee policy manual at the time of such vacancy**. Persons ~~elected to fill a vacancy filling a vacancy~~ by the School Committee shall serve only until the next regular election at which time the vacancy shall be filled by the voters and the person chosen to fill such vacancy shall forthwith be sworn and shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacated seat. Persons serving as School Committee members under this section shall not be entitled to have the words "candidate for re-election" printed against their names on the election ballot. In the event of an impasse, the president of the City Council shall have a vote.

AND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE CITY CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Guin reported the Appointments & Ordinances Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. Councilor Terounzo inquired what the outlined procedure would be in the School policy manual.

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-072.

Order no. FY 22-073

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY CHARTER ARTICLE 6: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION; SECTION 6-14(A) & (C): BOARD OF ASSESSORS, BE AMENDED AS INDICATED BELOW, WITH THE BOLD TEXT TO BE ADDED AND STRIKETHROUGH TO BE REMOVED:

SECTION 6-14: BOARD OF ASSESSORS

(a) There shall be a Board of Assessors consisting of three (3) members, ~~one (1) appointed by the Mayor for an indefinite term, who would act as "chief assessor" and two (2) to be~~ elected at large by the voters, for staggered terms of 4 years.

(c) ~~Unless otherwise provided by law, the Assessor appointed by the Mayor shall be a full-time employee of the City and entitled to all the benefits occasioned thereby. The compensation of each Assessor shall be determined by bylaw.~~ **A Principal Assessor shall be appointed pursuant to the Provisions of the Department of Municipal Finances sec. 6-3 Charter.**

AND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE CITY CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER.

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

It was by roll call, 11 yes, 0 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 22-073.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS – None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE – None

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Chairperson Desorgher noted that Councilor Elmer would be taking over the Chair position beginning in February and zoning amendment.

APPOINTMENTS AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- Chairperson Guin reported on the ongoing Charter amendments the Committee had been working on for the past year.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE – Chairperson Forgey reported the Committee’s discussion on a Split Tax Rate.

TREASURER REPORT None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: President Gilmour thanked Councilor Ricketts for her role as President last year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Councilor Desorgher read the following notice of zoning amendment proposal:
 THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREENFIELD AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 200, SECTION 200-6.7: SIGN REGULATIONS, AS INDICATED BY ATTACHED EXHIBIT A, WITH STRIKETHROUGH TEXT TO BE DELETED AND BOLD TEXT TO BE ADDED:
 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.
- Councilor Ricketts requested that a page in the minutes be dedicated to (former Police) Chief Guilbault.
- Councilor Forgey noted the Fire Station proposal would be going out to bid shortly; however, due to the increase of the cost of materials and ability to obtain supplies had raised the cost from \$16 million to \$19 million (a \$3 million dollar increase). The Fire Station Building Committee had been

attempting to minimize the deficit without losing quality and was looking for guidance as to what the Council could do to support this matter. President Gilmour requested this issue be placed on Committee Chairs in February.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Elmer, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was unanimously **VOTED:** TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:28 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Kathryn J. Scott, City Clerk

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Webex Conferencing System
 Regular Meeting
 January 19, 2022

	Attendance	FY22-074	FY22-075	FY22-076	FY22-068	FY22-069	FY22-070	FY22-071	FY22-072	FY22-073
1. Jarvis, Edward	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2. Guin, Daniel	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3. Desorgher, Virginia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4. Bottomley, John	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5. Bullock, Marianne	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
6. Gilmour, Sheila	Y	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
7. Lapienski, Jasper	N									
8. Mayo, Douglas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
9. Helie, Derek	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
10. Elmer, Philip	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
11. Forgey, Christine	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
12. Ricketts, Penny	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
13. Terounzo, Michael	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
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IN MEMORY OF

DAVID F GUILBAULT

AUGUST 8, 1954 – NOVEMBER 21, 2021

