



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA • OCTOBER 21, 2019

Regular Meeting

Sullivan Chamber

5:30 PM

Cambridge City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139

I. RECONSIDERATION LIST

1. Reconsideration has been filed by Vice Mayor Devereux on a proposed amendment to City Ordinance 1.12.040 regarding City Solicitor opinion on proposed ordinances.

POR 2019 #341

Councillor Carlone, alongside Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Kelley, and Councillor Siddiqui, filed this order, which asks the City Solicitor to draft an opinion on the legality and applicability of an ordinance within a thirty day period after the ordinance has been introduced and referred to a committee. This order originally appeared on the agenda for the previous City Council Meeting. Vice Mayor Devereux filed for reconsideration to amend the order to remove a mistake where the "Ordered" section was written twice, and to refer the order to the Ordinance Committee for discussion, rather than the Government Operations Committee.

This order was adopted as amended.

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II. CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the reappointment of the following persons as a member of the Historical Commission for a term of three years: Bruce A. Irving and Kyle Sheffield.
CMA 2019 #264
This item was placed on file.

2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the reappointment of Ann Roosevelt as a member of the Water Board for a term of five years, effective October 21, 2019. ***CMA 2019 #265***
This item was placed on file.

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the reappointment of the following persons as a members of the Fresh Pond Advisory Board for a term of three years, effective October 21, 2019: Janice Snow, James Barton and Deborah Masterson.
CMA 2019 #266
This item was placed on file.

4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a supplemental allocation from the Office of the Attorney General, Local Consumer Aid Fund for \$11,000 to the Grant Fund License Commission (Consumer's Council) Salaries and Wages account (\$10,000), Grant Fund License Commission Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$500), and Grant Fund License Commission Travel and Training account (\$500) which will be used to allow the Consumers' Council to continue the mediation of consumer complaints from individuals in Cambridge as well as in Somerville, Arlington, Belmont, Watertown and Waltham which do not have their own complaint mediation program.
CMA 2019 #267
This item was adopted on the consent agenda (no discussion).

5. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 19-135, regarding the temporary relocation of the Taylor Square Firehouse.
CMA 2019 #268
The Taylor Square Firehouse (corner of Garden and Sherman Streets) is undergoing a large renovation and the operations have been moved temporarily to Smith Place in the Alewife Quad. Councillor Toomey had requested information on whether response times had seen any delays and when the project was scheduled to be completed. The City Manager and Acting Fire Chief advised that there have been no significant delays in response time during the temporary relocation of the Taylor Square Firehouse. The Taylor Square Firehouse is expected to be operational in roughly nine months.
This item was placed on file.

6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Fair Housing Assistance Program Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the amount of \$38,234 to the Grant Fund Human Rights Salary and Wages Account (\$25,034) and the Grant Fund

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Human Rights Travel and Training Account (\$13,200) which will be used to cover a portion of the salary of an Attorney-Investigator, who works on cases from the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP).

CMA 2019 #269

This item was adopted on the consent agenda.

7. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$30,000 from Free Cash to the General Fund Elections Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used for the storage, delivery and pick up of ballot boxes, as well as to cover increased costs for voter guide preparation and mailing, voter notification cards, election vendor services, and costs associated with truck rentals for the Municipal Election.

CMA 2019 #270

This item was adopted on the consent agenda.

8. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the appropriation of \$300,000 from the Parking Fund balance to the Public Investment Fund Traffic and Parking Extraordinary Expenditures account, to increase visibility of bus lanes that were installed in two locations in Cambridge in 2018.

CMA 2019 #271

In 2018, temporary red paint was applied to bus lanes in two locations, to enhance their visibility. Compliance went up when the markings were applied, but went down once the paint started to fade. This item would allocate funding to make the markings permanent.

This item was approved.

9. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$5,000,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Executive Department Extraordinary Expenditures account for the City's annual contribution to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Green Line Extension (GLX) project.

CMA 2019 #272

This item was adopted on the consent agenda.

10. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$110,000 from Free Cash to the General Fund Executive Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account to support the City of Cambridge 2020 Census Complete Count Committee.

CMA 2019 #273

This item was adopted on the consent agenda.

11. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$163,707 from Free Cash to the General Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account to increase funding for tenant eviction prevention services consistent with the recommendations of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement. Also, in response to Awaiting Report Item Number 19-90 and 19-99.

CMA 2019 #274

The Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement, which was chaired by Councillor Siddiqui, was tasked with finding the root cause of tenant displacement, and finding ways to mitigate the effects of displacement.

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This appropriation was one of the recommendations, and would be used to fill in gaps in housing efforts. One of the funding allocations will be used to continue funding that had previously through a CDBG to fund a position to supervise and organize pro-bono lawyers at housing clinics at the Middlesex County Housing Court in Medford. When tenants at risk for displacement are represented by legal counsel, their rates of eviction drop to 50% from 90%. This will be a critical tool to ensure residents can stay in their homes. The funding will be available immediately. Note: the recommendations report from Councillor Siddiqui's Blue Ribbon Task Force will be submitted to the City Council in the next few weeks.

This item was adopted.

12. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Friends of the Community Learning Center (CLC) grant from the Jacobs Foundation in the amount of \$38,000.00 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$33,437.00), to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$1,563.00), and to the Grant Fund Human Services Travel and Training account (\$3,000.00) which will provide support for Bridge Program advising, coaching and mentoring, advising for the ESOL/Certified Nursing Assistant Program, and education and career advising for other CLC students.

CMA 2019 #275

This item was adopted on the consent agenda.

13. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the additional appropriation of the Low-Income Heating Assistance Program grant in the amount of \$60,000.00, funded by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services and administered in Massachusetts by the Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development, to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$60,000.00) to allow the operation of the LowIncome Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP) serving Cambridge and Somerville.

CMA 2019 #276

This item was adopted on the consent agenda.

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III. CALENDAR

CHARTER RIGHT

1. An application was received from &Pizza, requesting permission for a sandwich board sign in front of the premises numbered 3 Brattle Street with a start date of December 1, 2019 thru March 31, 2020 and a start time of 11:00 am and an end time of 11:00 pm.

APP 2019 #77

During discussion, some Councillors voiced concerns on how a sandwich board in this location would impact pedestrian mobility, nearby construction, and snow removal.

This application was denied.

2. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Economic Development division of the Community Development Department to retain a financial/economic analyst to conduct a confidential financial analysis of NED's pro forma to inform the council in confidence on the value of the proposed upzoning.

POR 2019 #337

This order, which was sponsored by Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Kelley and Vice Mayor Deveraeux, seeks to retain a financial/economic analyst for the Council can better understand how and if NED's proposed community benefits sufficiently align with their upzoning request. Due to the City's laws surrounding government disclosure, there is a question as to whether the Council would be able to keep the pro forma confidential. As the Council has not yet heard word from the City Solicitor on whether it can be kept confidential, the order will be sent to the City Manager.

This order was adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to proposed amendments to the following ordinance: and proposed amendments to Chapter 14.04 of the Cambridge Municipal Code (the "Fair Housing Ordinance). Fair Housing (passed to a 2nd reading) **AWAITING HOME RULE LEGISLATION-BEFORE PROPOSAL CAN BE ORDAINED**

CMA 2018 #234

No action was taken on this item.

4. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 18-108, regarding a report on offering early voting in City Council and School Committee Elections. **PENDING RESPONSE FROM LEGISLATURE**

CMA 2018 #286

No action was taken on this item.

IV. APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Kho Chi Liao, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 406 Norfolk Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. No Response has been received from the neighborhood association.

APP 2019 #81

This application was approved on the consent agenda.

2. A refilling Zoning Petition Has been received from Joseph T. Maguire of Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc. transmitting a proposed revised amendment to the zoning ordinance by creating the Grand Junction Pathway Overlay District.

APP 2019 #82

This application was referred to the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Board for Hearing and Report.

VII. POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST

1. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Inspectional Services Department, the Department of Public Works, the Cambridge Historical Commission and other relevant City departments to determine the feasibility of expediting the Demolition and Rebuilding permitting process in the event of a natural disaster.

Councillor Mallon

POR 2019 #342

This order was adopted on the consent agenda.

2. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the Police Commissioner, the Director of the Cambridge Housing Authority, and all other pertinent individuals to determine the feasibility of piloting a program of assigning additional security officers to work collaboratively with and exclusively within Cambridge Housing Authority premises in and near Central Square and the Port.

Councillor Simmons, Councillor Mallon, Mayor McGovern

POR 2019 #343

This order was submitted by Councillor Simmons, Mayor McGovern, and I to address security issues in Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) buildings. In these buildings currently, tenant councils have tenants share the responsibility of watching the doors, as there have been instances of non-residents entering the building and making tenants feel unsafe. However, many of the tenants are not necessarily physically equipped to perform these duties, and the mixed-residency of the Manning Apartments in Central Square mean it can be difficult for someone to determine who is and is not a tenant. Mayor McGovern successfully amended the order to include Millers River in the areas covered by this order. Councillor Zondervan asked the order be amended to mandate that the security officers be unarmed, but, as the purpose of this order is for the City Manager and other relevant parties look into the problem further and to issue a recommendation on how to address the security needs in these buildings without significant limitations, the amendment failed to pass.

This order was adopted as amended.

3. That the City Manager is requested to form a “Dog Park Working Group” with representatives from neighborhoods throughout the City to discuss dog park issues.

Mayor McGovern

POR 2019 #344

This order would reinstitute a defunct group to address issues arising in dog parks. An amendment proposed by Councillor Kelley to change the name of the group to “Dog Issue Group” was approved. Vice Mayor Devereux was added as a co-sponsor.

This order was adopted as amended.

4. That the City Manager is hereby requested to confer with the Cambridge Fire Department, Human Resources, and other relevant departments to determine the feasibility of instituting and funding a Fire Cadet Program.

Councillor Mallon, Councillor Toomey

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POR 2019 #345

After the Police Cadet Program was instituted earlier this year, the Police Department saw both increased Cambridge residency, as well as gender and racial diversity on the force. The Fire Department expressed interest in creating a similar Fire Cadet program, which would offer a public service opportunity to residents aged 18-23 with a living wage and benefits. Creating this program would require a Home Rule Petition be approved by the State Legislature, and the City Solicitor will be responsible for drafting Home Rule Petition language. Councillor Simmons and Mayor McGovern were added as co-sponsors.

This order was adopted as amended.

5. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Department of Public Works and any other relevant City departments to evaluate changing the surface of the Tudor Street Dog Park to eliminate hazards created by ingestion of small stones from the surface of the park.

Mayor McGovern

POR 2019 #346

Ingesting small stones from the surface of dog parks can have devastating effects of a dog's health, as these stones turn into cement in their stomachs; changing the surface to a different material could prevent these incidents from occurring. An amendment proposed by Councillor Kelley to have the order apply to all dog parks with small stone surfaces, rather than just the Tudor Street Dog Park, was adopted. Vice Mayor Devereux was added as a co-sponsor.

This order was adopted as amended.

6. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Department of Public Works and residents of Fresh Pond Place to ensure that any sidewalk hazards are mitigated before winter, to include the potential resurfacing of the most weathered sections of the sidewalk.

Mayor McGovern

POR 2019 #347

This order was adopted on the consent agenda.

7. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Department of Public Health, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Human Services and any other relevant staff to review all the City's policies and procedures related to the procurement, installation and disposal of artificial turf.

Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Kelley, Councillor Zondervan

POR 2019 #348

This order was adopted on the consent agenda.

8. Zoning Amendment Articles 2.00 and 4.32 regarding opposition to permitting on-demand mobile fueling services to operate in Cambridge.

Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Kelley, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Zondervan
POR 2019 #349

This order was adopted on the consent agenda.

9. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Housing Liaison, housing staff in the Community Development Department, the Cambridge Housing Authority, CEOC, HRI, Wingate Companies, and the 808-812 Memorial Drive Tenants Association to provide immediate multi-lingual and individualized guidance and

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counseling to the tenants at 808-812 Memorial Drive, so that they can make fully informed decisions about their housing choices.

Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Kelley, Councillor Mallon, Mayor McGovern

POR 2019 #350

Residents at 808-812 Memorial Drive are being asked to convert their units from HUD 236 moderate income vouchers to Cambridge Housing Authority project-based vouchers to align with the property owner's refinancing plan. Many residents here are elderly or are immigrants who do not speak English as a first language, and therefore feel like they have been given enough information on how this conversion would affect them. This order would give them that information and guidance.

This order was adopted.

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VIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk, transmitting a memorandum from Assistant to the Council, Naomie Stephen regarding the recommendations for the Dedication Committee.

COF 2019 #55

This item was adopted on the consent agenda.