

CITY OF WORCESTER
JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 23, 2024
Esther Howland (South) Chamber
Convened: 6:34 P.M.
Adjourned: 7:59 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

AT-LARGE COUNCILORS

Morris A. Bergman
Donna M. Colorio
Khrystian E. King
Thu Nguyen
Kathleen M. Toomey



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DISTRICT COUNCILORS

Jenny Pacillo - District 1
Candy Mero-Carlson - District 2
George J. Russell - District 3
Luis A. Ojeda - District 4
Etel Haxhijaj - District 5

CITY CLERK

Nikolin Vangjeli

CITY MANAGER

Eric D. Batista

CITY AUDITOR

Robert V. Stearns

City Hall - 455 Main Street Worcester, Massachusetts

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. STAR SPANGLED BANNER

3. ROLL CALL - All present with Vice Chairman Councilor King as Chair, except for Mayor Petty. Councilor Pacillo participated in the meeting remotely.

4. PROCLAMATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, MOMENTS OF SILENCE

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5a. Order - That the City Council of the City of Worcester hereby approves the minutes of the City Council Meeting of January 9, 2024.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 6a. Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and recognized the following speakers:
1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor or opposed to items #8.19A CM and #8.39A CM
 2. Evelyn Darling, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #9c CC
 3. David Webb, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #9c CC and #12a CC
 4. Tasia Cerezo, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8.19A CM
 5. Geoffrey Killebrew, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #7f CC
 6. Margot Barnett, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #11a CC
 7. Mitsey Biphee, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #7a CC
 8. Matt Mahan, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #13a CC
 9. (Name Indiscernible), Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8.35C CM
 10. Danny Diaz, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #7a CC

7. PETITIONS

- 7a. Danny Diaz request City Council request City Manager consider reviewing the age requirement to become a police officer by raising the age limit from 32 to 38.
Vice Chairman Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Safety Committee. Referred to Public Safety Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)
- 7b. Frank C. Romano, President of West Side House, request the relocation of "No Parking Loading Zone" signage on the corner of 35 Fruit St. from its Fruit St. location to the Cedar St. side of the building.
Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer items #7b CC through #7e CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)
- 7c. Nathalie Gibson request installation of No Parking Anytime signage in the vicinity of the mailboxes in front of 5 and 7 Fourth St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #7b CC)
- 7d. Nathalie Gibson request installation of No Parking Anytime signage in the vicinity of the mailboxes in front of 35 and 37 Fourth St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #7b CC)
- 7e. Felix Osafo and Corinne Karanja request installation of additional handicap parking signage at existing handicap parking space on Leon St. opposite of 18 Plantation St. to provide further clarification that there are two (2) handicap parking spaces on the street.
Referred to Traffic and Parking on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #7b CC)

7f. Geoffrey Killebrew request an opportunity to present the attached "Worcester Renaissance Project" Plan.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee. Referred to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

7g. CROWN CASTLE NG EAST, LLC for a conduit location on: PLEASANT ST.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to set hearings for items #7g CC and #7h CC on January 30, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. Hearing set for January 30, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

7h. NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location on: REED ST.

Hearing set for January 30, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #7g CC)

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

8.1 APPOINTMENTS

Non-City Council Confirmation

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointment of Timothy Magliaro to the Community Preservation Committee as the Conservation Commission delegate.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to place items #8.1A CM through #8.1D CM on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointment of Kevin Durkan to the Off Street Parking Board.

Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.1A CM)

- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to the reappointments of Bernard Reese and Robert Bilotta to the Human Rights Commission.

Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.1A CM)

- D. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointment of Lenny Ciuffredo to the Civic Center Commission.

Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.1A CM)

8.2 APPOINTMENTS

City Council Confirmation

8.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

William Bagley, Jr., Esq., Chief Human Resources Officer

8.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

8.5 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Eric D. Batista, City Manager

8.6 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Division of Human Rights and Accessibility

Victor Perez, Interim Director

8.7 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Administration Division

Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner

8.8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS
Engineering and Architectural Services Division
Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Private Street Update.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and recognized Councilor Russell, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized the City Solicitor, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Russell.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Colorio, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized the Commissioner of Public Works and Parks and City Solicitor, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Colorio.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to, "Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks provide City Council with a report detailing the number of private streets in the city, the names of the private streets in the city, and the private lengths of said private streets in the city." (See Item #13a CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to, "Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks update any information listed on the city's websites relative to private roads to reflect information relative to the city's ability to assist residents on said private roads." (See Item #13b CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Russell for a second time, who moved to, "Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks complete a comprehensive update to the city's private road maintenance program that includes working with the City Solicitor to provide City Council with a home rule petition that would allow the city to aid residents on private streets by conducting temporary repairs to said private streets following a petition of abutters and a vote by City Council. Said private street maintenance should build upon on the city's 1996 approval of providing the sum of up to six dollars per linear foot and be amended to reflect cost of living increases that have occurred since its passage. Said cost of living increases should also always be included in this program without the requirement of a City Council vote." (See Item #13c CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Russell.

Vice Chairman Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

8.9 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Operations Division

Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to Snow Plow Contractors Conflict of Interest Form.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the January Snowstorm Recap

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

8.10 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Parks Division

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner

8.11 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to a study of traffic safety for the intersection of Franklin Street, Suffolk Street and Norfolk Street.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the use of rumble strips as a traffic safety measure.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved to Table the Item Under Privilege.

Tabled Under Privilege - King

- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to sidewalk accessibility and ADA self-evaluation.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved to Table the Item Under Privilege.

Tabled Under Privilege - King

8.12 FIRE DEPARTMENT

Martin Dyer, Fire Chief

8.13 POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul B. Saucier, Interim Police Chief

- 8.14 DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**
Charles R. Goodwin, Director
- 8.15 LAW DEPARTMENT**
Michael E. Traynor, Esq., City Solicitor
- 8.16 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Administration
Christopher P. Spencer, Commissioner
- 8.17 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Building and Zoning Division
David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner
- 8.18 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Housing and Health Inspections Division
Lee R. Hall, Director

8.19 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration

Dr. Matilde "Mattie" Castiel, M.D., Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to an Opioid Overdose Strategic Plan.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who spoke concerning the item.

Councilor Toomey recognized Vice Chairman Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Councilor Toomey recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Haxhij, who moved to, "Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report regarding the feasibility and benefits of establishing overdose prevention centers (OPC's) in the city, similar to OnPoint NYC." (See Item #13d CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Nguyen, who moved to, "Request City Manager allocate funding to support increasing partnerships and community education regarding overdose prevention and intervention, including providing people with stipends for work on said issue." (See Item #13e CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to amend Councilor Haxhij's motion: "Further, request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services include in said report alternatives for such a center that currently exist in the city, if such an alternative does exist." (See Item #13d CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Russell.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Colorio, who moved to, "Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with best practices associated with opioid overdose prevention." (See Item #13f CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Haxhij for a second time, who moved to amend her motion: "Further, request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services include a link to OnPoint's Annual Report in said report." (See Item #13d CC).

Vice Chairman Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Health and Human Services Committee. Referred to Public Health and Human Services Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

- 8.20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health
Soloe M. Dennis, MS, MEP, Director
- 8.21 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Elder Affairs
Amy Vogel Waters, Director
- 8.22 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Veterans Services
Dr. Joe Robinson, Veterans' Services Officer/Director
- 8.23 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Youth Services
Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Director
- 8.24 WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**
Jason L. Homer, Executive Director
- 8.25 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**
Election Commission Division
Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk
- 8.26 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**
Rachel Monarrez, Superintendent
- 8.27 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Assessing Division
Samuel E. Konieczny, City Assessor
- 8.28 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Budget Office Division
Erin E. Taylor, Director
- 8.29 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Purchasing Division
Christopher Gagliastro, Director

8.30 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Treasury and Collections Division

Timothy J. McGourthy, Acting Treasurer and Collector of Taxes

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Fiscal Year 2024 financial update, as of December 31, 2023.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee. Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

8.31 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

Julie A. Lynch, Chief of Public Facilities

8.32 DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

John W. Odell, Chief Sustainability Officer

8.33 DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer

8.34 FINANCE ITEMS

Capital Transfers

8.35 FINANCE ITEMS

Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a generous donation valued at Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$7,500.00) from Imperial Cars.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt items #8.35A CM through #8.35G CM, #8.36A CM, #8.37A CM and #8.37B CM. Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

Vice Chairman Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to reconsider the items. Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

- B. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a generous donation valued at Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$3,500.00) from Oerd Mena of Affordable Auto Exchange.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

- C. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of One Thousand Three Hundred Forty Dollars And No Cents (\$1,340.00) from the Worcester Public Library Foundation to the Worcester Talking Book Library.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

- D. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$200.00) from Our Lady of Vilna Parish for the McKeon Road Fire Station.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

- E. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of One Hundred Ninety Six Thousand Six Hundred Two Dollars And No Cents (\$196,602.00) from the MassHire Emergency Assistance (EA) Shelter Engagement Supplemental Funds program.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

- F. Resolution to apply for, accept, and expend a technical assistance grant of up to Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00) from the MassHousing Neighborhood Hub Program.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

- G. Recommend adoption of a resolution to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$17,500.00) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security through the Verification Program (AVP) Grant.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

8.36 FINANCE ITEMS

Operational Transfers

- A. Recommend approval to make necessary adjustments to finalize the FY24 City Budget.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

8.37 FINANCE ITEMS

Prior Year

- A. Recommend that Four Hundred Seven Dollars And Fifty Seven Cents (\$407.57) be authorized from various Fiscal Year 2024 Department of Public Works & Parks Cost Centers for the payment of prior year invoices.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

- B. Recommend that Ten Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Four Dollars And Thirty Five Cents (\$10,924.35) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2024 Cost Center #CC1038, Police Ordinary Maintenance, for payment of a prior year invoice.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.35A CM).

Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Petty absent).

8.38 FINANCE

Loan Orders

8.39 MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA TRANSMITTALS

- A. Transmitting Informational Communication Relative to the update on the administration of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee. Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

9. COMMUNICATIONS

- 9a. Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk, transmitting an informational communication regarding the filling of one (1) vacancy on the Library Board of Directors.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept the item. Accepted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

- 9b. Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk, transmitting an informational communication relative to the scheduled community hearings regarding adopting a statutory speed limit of 25 mph and the establishment of Safety Zones with 20 mph speed limits.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Russell and Councilor Colorio, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Colorio.

Vice Chairman Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to place the item on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

- 9c. Evelyn Darling, Executive Director of the Downtown Worcester Business Improvement District, transmitting an informational communication titled, "Downtown Worcester Business Improvement District Annual Report 2023."

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and recognized Councilor Haxhiaj, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized the Director of the Downtown Worcester Business Improvement District, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Haxhiaj.

Vice Chairman Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Economic Development Committee and Public Works Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee and Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

10. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

- 10a. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of Jim Chacharone request Southgate Pl. from Southgate St. to railroad property be discontinued as a public way and removed from the official map.

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

11. TABLED UNDER PRIVILEGE

- 11a. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the Worcester Knitty Council. (Tabled Under Privilege - Colorio January 9, 2024 and January 16, 2024)

Vice Chairman Councilor King read the item and moved for a roll call vote to place the item on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent)

12. TABLED ITEMS

- 12a.** ORDER of Councilor Konstantina B. Lukes - Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a legal opinion regarding the process of instituting a residential rent control program and the resulting impact of implementing such a program. (Tabled Under Privilege - Lukes September 17, 2019 and September 24, 2019 and Tabled - Lukes October 15, 2019)

No action taken

- 12b.** RESOLUTION of Councilor Khrystian E. King - That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby support Representative Rebecca Rauch and Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz's SD 699 HD 1283, An Act effectuating equity in COVID-19 Vaccination Bill. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman February 9, 2021 and Tabled - Bergman February 23, 2021)

No action taken

- 12c.** ORDER of Councilor Sarai Rivera - Request City Manager consider prioritizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for REC Worcester's capital project involving the development of the new REC Worcester headquarters and Center for Food Justice and Urban Agriculture (for Worcester and Central Massachusetts), in an effort to support community food security, as well as youth development and employment. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson October 26, 2021 and Tabled Under Privilege - Petty November 9, 2021 and Tabled - Rivera November 16, 2021)

No action taken

- 12d.** CHAIRMAN'S ORDER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - Request City Council work to ensure City Council and School Committee districts are parallel, so as to ensure public clarity. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson May 24, 2022 and June 7, 2022 and Tabled - Petty June 14, 2022)

No action taken

- 12e.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION Upon the Order of Councilor Morris A. Bergman and Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson - Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation Committee hold a public discussion with the WRTA Administrator relative to the removal of a bus route that passes the EcoTarium, 222 Harrington Way: recommend Communication be placed on file. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

12f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION
Upon the Order of Councilor Sarai Rivera and Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation meet with the WRTA Administrator to provide City Council with a report concerning the WRTA's winter weather plan, especially including information as to how snow will be removed at each of the bus stops: recommend Order be placed on file. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

12g. ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhijaj and Councilor Thu Nguyen - Request City Manager work with appropriate departments and stakeholders to establish an Office of Housing Stability in an effort to prevent the involuntary displacement of city residents who are in the process of being evicted or at the risk of losing their housing, as well as to enact policies to combat displacement, homelessness and enhance tenants' rights. (Tabled Under Privilege - Haxhijaj July 18, 2023 and Tabled - Haxhijaj August 22, 2023)

No action taken

12h. Hearing: NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. for a jointly-owned pole location on: APRICOT ST.

Granting permission to NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. for a jointly-owned pole location on: APRICOT ST. (Tabled Under Privilege - Haxhijaj October 17, 2023 and October 24, 2023 and Tabled - Petty November 14, 2023)

No action taken

13. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the January 16, 2024 City Council meeting.

13a. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report every six (6) months) relative to data collection associated with any Gender Identity Non-Discrimination Policy. –Item #13a CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

13b. ORDER of Councilor Morris A. Bergman – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks redouble the efforts for sanding and salting during snowstorms. – Item #13b CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

14. NEW BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the January 23, 2024 City Council meeting.

14a. Motion Bergman @ #8.8A CM – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks provide City Council with a report detailing the number of private streets in the city, the names of the private streets in the city, and the private lengths of said private streets in the city.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.8A CM)

- 14b.** Motion Toomey @ #8.8A CM – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks update any information listed on the city’s websites relative to private roads to reflect information relative to the city’s ability to assist residents on said private roads.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.8A CM)

- 14c.** Motion Russell @ #8.8A CM – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks complete a comprehensive update to the city’s private road maintenance program that includes working with the City Solicitor to provide City Council with a home rule petition that would allow the city to aid residents on private streets by conducting temporary repairs to said private streets following a petition of abutters and a vote by City Council. Said private street maintenance should build upon on the city’s 1996 approval of providing the sum of up to six dollars per linear foot and be amended to reflect cost of living increases that have occurred since its passage. Said cost of living increases should also always be included in this program without the requirement of a City Council vote.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.8A CM)

- 14d.** Motion Haxhiaj @ #8.19A CM – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report regarding the feasibility and benefits of establishing overdose prevention centers (OPC’s) in the city, similar to OnPointNYC.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Haxhiaj, who brought forth the item.

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to amend the item: “Further, request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services include in said report alternatives for such a center that currently exist in the city, if such an alternative does exist.”

Vice Chairman Councilor King recognized Councilor Haxhiaj for a second time, who moved to amend the item: “Further, request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services include a link to OnPoint’s Annual Report in said report.”

Vice Chairman Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.19A CM)

- 14e.** Motion Nguyen @ #8.19A CM – Request City Manager allocate funding to support increasing partnerships and community education regarding overdose prevention and intervention, including providing people with stipends for work on said issue.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.19A CM)

- 14f.** Motion Colorio @ #8.19A CM – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with best practices associated with opioid overdose prevention.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Petty absent) (See Item #8.19A CM)