

## **Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council**

*Councilor David A. Murphy, Chair  
Councilor Maureen T. Carney  
Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge  
(Vacant)*

**City Council Chambers, 212 Main Street  
Wallace J. Puchalski Municipal Building  
Northampton, MA**

Meeting Date: August 18, 2016

Note: The Finance Committee Meeting will take place during the City Council Meeting as announced.  
The City Council Meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:05 pm.

- 1. Meeting Called To Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approve Minutes Of The July 14, 2016 Meeting**

Documents:

[committee\\_on\\_finance\\_july\\_14\\_2016.pdf](#)

#### **4. Financial Orders**

##### **A. 16.139 An Order To Authorize Purchase Of Four Lots For Affordable Housing On Glendale Road**

Documents:

[16.139\\_kensington\\_estates\\_affordable\\_housing\\_on\\_glendale\\_road.pdf](#)

##### **B. 16.140 Order To Authorize The Purchase Of 17.9 Acres To Add To The Saw Mill Hills Conservation Area East Of Sylvester Road**

Documents:

[16.140\\_order\\_17.9\\_acres\\_saw\\_mill\\_hills\\_east\\_of\\_sylvester\\_road.pdf](#)

##### **C. 16.141 An Order To Authorize The Purchase Of 20 Acres To Add To The Broad Brook Greenway West Of North Farms Road**

Documents:

[16.141\\_randall\\_broad\\_brook\\_greenway\\_20\\_acres\\_west\\_of\\_north\\_farms\\_road.pdf](#)

##### **D. 16.143 Order To Authorize The Purchase Of 9 Lots For Limited Development Off Burts Pit Road And Overlook Drive**

Documents:

[16.143\\_brookwood\\_marsh\\_9\\_lots\\_off\\_burts\\_pit\\_overlook\\_drive.pdf](#)

**E. Accept A Deed Or A Taking For Pleasant Street From Holyoke Street To Hockanum Road**

Documents:

[16.146\\_pleasant\\_street\\_street\\_acceptance\\_order.pdf](#)

[16.146\\_pleasant\\_street\\_street\\_acceptance\\_order-massdot\\_map\\_additional\\_item\\_information.pdf](#)

**F. 16.144 Order To Authorize Payment For Prior Year Bills**

Documents:

[16.144\\_prior\\_year\\_bills.pdf](#)

**G. 16.145 Order To Accept A Gift Of A Van From PVTA For The IT Department**

Documents:

[16.145\\_gift\\_van\\_from\\_pvta.pdf](#)

**H. 15.382 Order Regarding Paid Sick Time - Referred To Committee On July 14, 2016**

Documents:

[15.382\\_earned\\_sick\\_time.pdf](#)

**5. New Business**

*-Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.*

**6. Adjourn**

*Prepared by:*

*P. Powers, Administrative Assistant to the City Council*

*[ppowers@northamptonma.gov](mailto:ppowers@northamptonma.gov), (413) 587-1210*



## **Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council**

*Councilor David A. Murphy, Chair  
Councilor Maureen T. Carney  
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(Vacant)*

**City Council Chambers, 212 Main Street  
Wallace J. Puchalski Municipal Building  
Northampton, MA**

Meeting Date: July 14, 2016

### **MEETING MINUTES**

- 1. Meeting Called To Order:** At 8:05 Councilor Murphy called the meeting to order.
- 2. Roll Call:** On a roll call the following councilors were present: Councilors Murphy, LaBarge and Carney. Also present from the City Council were: Councilors O'Donnell, Sciarra, Bidwell, Dwight and Klein.
- 3. Approve Minutes Of June 23, 2016 Meeting:** Councilor Carney moved to approve the minutes; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.
- 4. Financial Orders**

#### **16.125 Financial Order To Appropriate Capital Projects From The General Fund FY17 Cash Capital Account**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

Mayor Narkewicz explained that these are cash capital items in the FY17 Cash Capital plan. These are smaller sized projects that the City would not bond for which is why they are paid for out of Cash Capital.

Councilor Dwight asked about the radio study. The Mayor explained that this is different from the Dispatch console project that was already brought forward. Dispatch is leading this project that will look at all of the City's radio needs. There is a working group that has been established, including members of Police, Fire Rescue, Dispatch, Schools, DPW, and Central Services. The plan is for a communications expert to look for ways to combine towers and equipment to enhance cross communication between City

departments and perhaps save money. Councilor Murphy explained that the Capital Improvements Team has requested that the various departments look at the possibility of combining radio services, so he believes the project makes sense.

#### **16.126 Financial Order To Transfer Funds Into The Compensated Absences Reserve Fund**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

The Mayor explained that the DOR recommended that the City set up a sort of reserve account in case any monies need to be paid out to City employees outside of the budget. The account has been in place for a year or two. The money will not have to be appropriated again once it is in the reserve fund.

#### **16.128 Financial Order To Authorize Inter-Municipal Agreements For FY 2017**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

The agreements defined in this order are examples where Northampton has partnered with surrounding communities to regionalize various services. All are existing agreements being renewed, however, under Mass General Law, the City is required to renew the agreements yearly. In addition to the City Council voting on this, Select Boards in other communities are voting on these agreements as well.

Councilor Dwight asked about Pioneer Valley Bike Share Program; Mayor Narkewicz explained that it is a project with a longer term planning process. The City continues to work collaboratively with the four communities involved and have applied for CMAQ funding for this initiative. (CMAQ is for congestion mitigation funding through the regional Transportation Improvement Program). Some monies have been received for the planning phase; more is expected. Given the cost of capital needs, maintenance, etc., it is better that the City try to make the most by way of economies of scale.

Councilor Bidwell notes that the level of regionalization is impressive. He wondered if there were more opportunities; Mayor Narkewicz explained that the City continues to have conversations with different communities. A few years ago the City applied for a grant with the town of Easthampton to look at regional dispatch service. At the time the model didn't really work. The Health Department is trying to form a Mosquito Control District. This year the City has contracted with a private company to do mosquito monitoring and testing. They will also work on mitigation efforts. Setting up as a district will mean that the regional area may be eligible for funding from the State. There have been conversations among various communities, but the plans are in the early stages. The Mayor also notes that the City's IT Director also sits on a board with other community IT Directors. There have been discussions among the directors about the potential for the sharing of resources.

Councilor Klein asked about procurement of products in bulk; Mayor Narkewicz explained that the City does participate in some regional procurement programs where it makes sense to do so. Sometimes the City can find better deals outside of the regionalized programs. Energy is one area where the City gets better rates when representing itself rather than purchasing through a regional program.

#### **16.129 Financial Order To Reprogram Remaining Funds From An FY 15 Capital Project To The Fire Rescue Department Security Access System**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

Mayor Narkewicz noted that this project was already in the works, however, when the bids came in, the cost was \$7,000 more than anticipated. The monies will be coming from a completed project where there was money left over.

### **16.130 Financial Order To Appropriate Funds For Northampton Public Schools And Smith Vocational And Agricultural High School**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

The school's budgets were prepared using the Governor's proposed budget, which had projected a \$20 per child increase in Chapter 70 funds. The House Budget increased the Chapter 70 funds by \$55 per child. The Senate maintained that amount, but cut other funding, including the Kindergarten Incentive grants. The Mayor committed to the schools that if the Chapter 70 amount was increased, that additional amount would be passed on to the schools.

Councilor Dwight asked about the stipulation that monies be spent only on net school spending eligible items; Mayor Narkewicz explained that this is language suggested by DESE and is also in the orders that were presented when the budget was brought forward to the City Council.

### **16.132 Financial Order To Provide For FY2016 End Of Year Budget Transfers**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

Mayor Narkewicz explained that the bulk of the money is going to Street/Signal Light line item. When the budget was first put together, savings had been built in based on the estimates of using new more energy efficient lighting throughout the City. That project has been delayed so that more public input can be gotten. Some of the savings estimates have not been realized.

The Interest on Long Term Debt excess was realized when the City re-issued bonds this year. The City was able to save significantly on long term debt interest.

### **16.133 Financial Order: For The City Council To Accept A Gift Of A 1953 Jeep On Behalf Of The City From The Family Of Jack Joyce**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

Mayor Narkewicz noted that initially when the gift was made, they were trying to think of a way for the Veterans' Council to accept the gift. However, the VC is not really an entity, but rather a collaborative of veteran's organizations. The City would be able to register and the Veterans' Services department will be the constant entity that is able to take charge. The Jeep is currently being restored and it will only be used for ceremonial purposes.

Councilor LaBarge asked about the value of the Jeep. The Mayor is not aware of its value, but because it is real property, the City Council needs to vote on it and the Mayor needs to approve acceptance of the gift.

### **16.134 An Order For A Home Rule Petition To Authorize The Mayor To Seek Special Legislation To Amend The Acts Of 1994, Chapter 86**

Councilor LaBarge moved to send back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

Mayor Narkewicz explained that this is an issue that he has been working on with Representative Kocot for many months. The Legislature only has about two more weeks of formal session and Representative Kocot is trying to get this completed before the break.

When the Northampton State Hospital was closed, Chapter 86 of the Acts of 1994 was adopted and called for the disposition all of the land. Various organizations were given land, including the City. The Village Hill parcel was set aside for redevelopment. The agricultural land that Smith Voke controls is another parcel that was disposed of by this Act. The Grove Street Shelter was conveyed to the City and it is the City's obligation to run it as a homeless shelter forever. The City would like the flexibility to work with the Grove Street Shelter operator (ServiceNet) to have the option to convey the property to them. Right now the City leases the property to ServiceNet, however, under this arrangement ServiceNet is not able to apply for grants, or make improvements to the property when donation money is available. Also, Central Services maintains the property and this is not ideal for the City given that it is run by another organization.

There were two parcels given to the Northampton Housing Authority one parcel on Laurel Street, and one parcel on Grove Street. Part of the requirement when the land was conveyed was that the NHA had to build affordable housing on the land within five years. The NHA did not meet the five year requirement to build affordable housing due to funding. The City would like to have the property re-conveyed to the City for the purpose of working with other organizations to get the land developed for affordable housing. The Housing Authority supports the plan, and they will be voting on the proposal in the near future.

Councilor O'Donnell asked whether the Housing Authority still had authority over the decision to re-convey the property; the Mayor indicates that a vote of the Board is requested by the State to see whether this would be a non-adversarial sort of agreement. Councilor O'Donnell asked whether the City could place certain restrictions on the conveyance of the properties; the Mayor believes that this is a possibility. Councilor O'Donnell noted that the City would be eligible for CPA funds, while the NHA would not. The Mayor is not sure of the timetable for these development projects once the land is conveyed to the City; an RFP process will be established.

Councilor Bidwell notes that as the project unfolds, he would like to see community involvement in that neighborhood, and since the land is part of Ward 2, he would be willing to facilitate discussions with the residents.

## **5. New Business**

*-Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.*

**Adjourn:** Councilor LaBarge moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Vacant.

*Prepared by:*

*P. Powers, Administrative Assistant to the City Council*  
[ppowers@northamptonma.gov](mailto:ppowers@northamptonma.gov), (413) 587-1210

# City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

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## In City Council, August 18 2016

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

**16.139**

**An Order**

**To Authorize Four Lots for Affordable Housing on  
Glendale Road**

### Ordered, that

WHEREAS, On May 19, 2016, City Council approved purchase of 55± acres located between Glendale and Westhampton Roads, the approved 24 lot Kensington Estates subdivision, for open space and a limited housing development;

WHEREAS, The City has proceeded with its due diligence and designed a limited development scenario that preserves the quality open space and provides much needed affordable housing, taking advantage of existing utilities, the best soils, and the lowest development and permitting costs;

WHEREAS, The limited development scenario includes:

1. 53.13± acres as an addition to the Mineral Hills Conservation Area
2. Four building lots on 2.2± acres (instead of the developer's planned 24 lots)
3. The four lots being dedicated for first-time home buyer affordable housing
4. Two driveways (instead of the developer's planned one-third mile road)
5. 0.09± acres surplus to other city needs to be donated to the abutter who is most effected by the project
6. Community Development Block Grant will fund the purchase of the building lots to create permanent affordability.

WHEREAS, The previous approval remains in effect, which authorizes the city to purchase the conservation land, and no further conservation approval is required.

### ***Ordered, that***

The Mayor is authorized to accept a deed or deeds to the above referenced 2.29± acres;

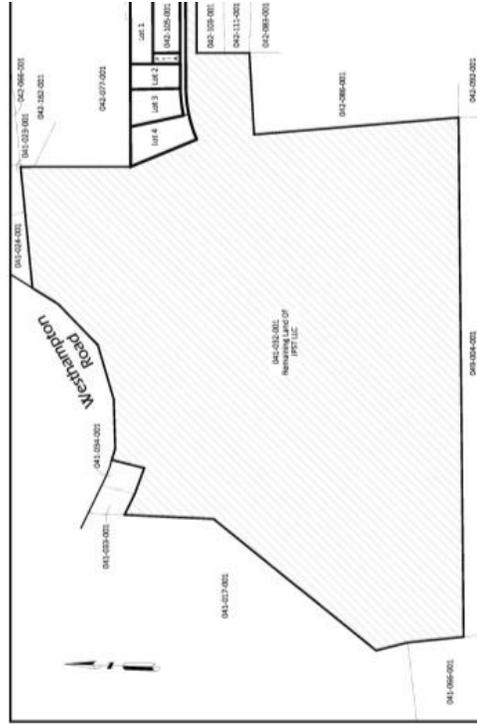
Further, that City Council declares such land surplus to City needs;

Further, that the Mayor is authorized to transfer deeds to:

1. The abutter for the surplus land (Parcel A, 0.09± acres)
2. An affordable housing developer for the four building lots (Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, 2.2± acres)

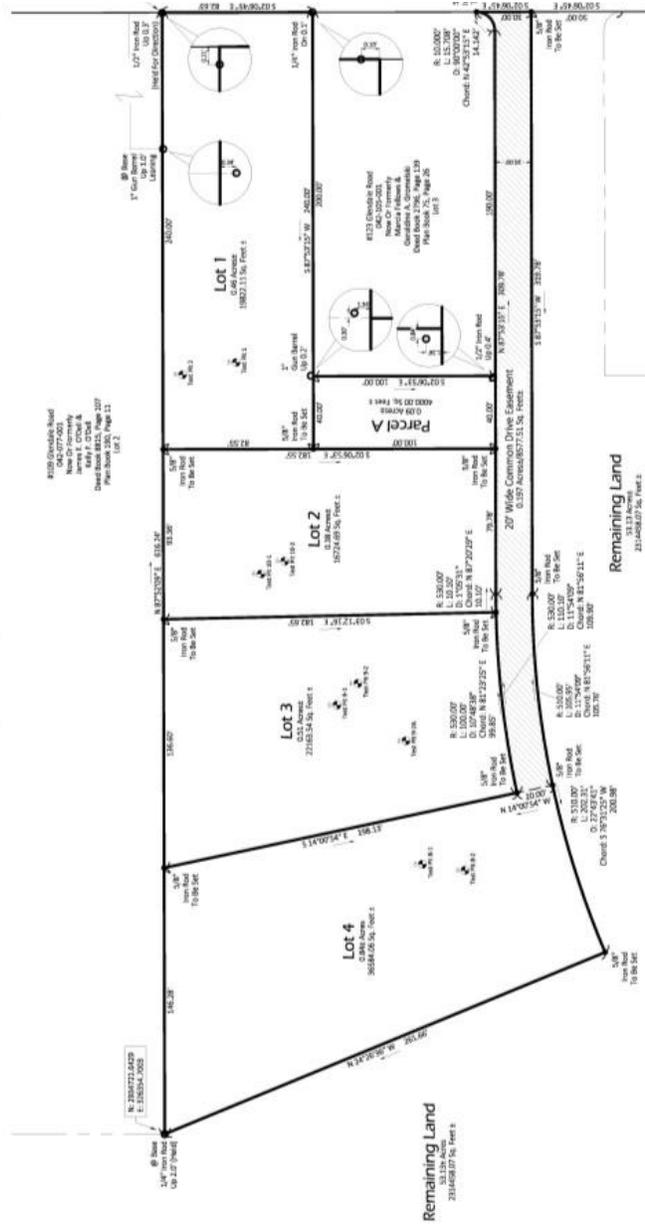
16.139





**Notes**

1. The Survey Depicted Herein Was Obtained By Field Surveys Performed Between 2020 & 2021, By The Landowners Designated On This Plan.
2. The Purpose Of This Plan Is To Provide A Clear Illustration Of The Surveyed Information Of The Property, And Any Other Plans And Documents Which May Affect The Land Property At The Time And Date Of THE FIELD SURVEY.
3. This Plan Does Not Show Any Unrecorded Or Unrecovered Easements Which May Exist. A Search Of The Public Records, And A Review Of The Plans And Documents Which May Affect The Land Property, Has Been Made, And No Such Easements Were Found.
4. This Plan And Survey Were Prepared Using GNSS And Conventional Survey Methods. A Leica TCM50 Total Station Was Used Having An Accuracy Of 17 And 5 MM.
5. The Sides OF Bearings, Azimuths, And The North Arrow Shown Herein Is The Magnetic North State Plane Coordinate System (NAD83). The Basis Of The Diagrams Depicted Herein Is In Accordance With The State Plane Coordinate System (NAD83). The Basis Of The Diagrams Depicted Herein Is In Accordance With The State Plane Coordinate System (NAD83).
6. This Plan Is To Be Read In Conjunction With Additional Plans Of The Same Subject, Which Are On File At The Office Of The Surveyor, And The Plans Of The Same Subject, Which Are On File At The Office Of The Surveyor.
7. The Lot This Survey Herein Were Field Located On June 20, 2020 By The Landowners Designated On This Plan.



# City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

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In City Council, August 18, 2016

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz, Planning & Sustainability, and the Conservation Commission

**16.140**

**An Order**

**To Authorize the Purchase of 17.9 Acres to add to Saw Mill Hill Conservation Area East of Sylvester Road**

Ordered, that

WHEREAS, The *Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2011-2018* recommends preserving open space in the Saw Mill Hills to fill in wildlife and walking trail gaps in the preserved conservation area;

WHEREAS, The owners, for over two centuries, of 17.9± acres located on Roberts Hill in the Saw Mill Hills Conservation Area, south of Chesterfield Road and east of Sylvester Road have agreed to sell their property for \$26,850;

WHEREAS, While the land is landlocked and has no development value, it fills a critical gap within the Saw Mill Hills Conservation Area;

WHEREAS, The city has already raised all of the purchase price from community contributions and no new city appropriation or CPA funds are required;

***Ordered, that***

The Conservation Commission is authorized to purchase or otherwise acquire for conservation and passive recreation purposes, as provided by MGL Chapter 40, §8C, any fee, easement or conservation restriction as defined in MGL Chapter 184, §31 or any other interest in the above land and any immediately adjoining land; that the City Council hereby accepts such conservation restrictions; that the Conservation Commission is authorized to grant conservation restrictions on any land so acquired;



# City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

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## In City Council, August 18, 2016

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz, Planning & Sustainability, and the Conservation Commission

**16.141**

**An Order**

**To Authorize the Purchase of 20 Acres to add to the Broad Brook Greenway  
West of North Farms Road**

### Ordered, that

WHEREAS, The *Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2011-2018* recommends preserving open space in the Broad Brook Greenway to fill in wildlife and walking trail gaps in the preserved conservation area;

WHEREAS, The owner of 20± acres located adjacent to the Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway, west of North Farms Road, has agreed to sell their property for \$20,000;

WHEREAS, This purchase will provide the first walking link from North Farms Road to the Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway, creating an exciting link;

WHEREAS, Funding will come from Community Preservation Act and from community contributions;

### ***Ordered, that***

The Conservation Commission is authorized to purchase or otherwise acquire for conservation and passive recreation purposes, as provided by MGL Chapter 40, §8C, any fee, easement or conservation restriction as defined in MGL Chapter 184, §31 or any other interest in the above land and any immediately adjoining land; that the City Council hereby accepts such conservation restrictions; that the Conservation Commission is authorized to grant conservation restrictions on any land so acquired;



# City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

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In City Council, August 18 2016

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

16.143

An Order

Authorizing the purchase of 9 Lots for limited development off  
Burts Pit Road and Overlook Drive

Ordered, that

WHEREAS, On May 19, 2016, City Council approved purchase of 110± acres located between Burts Pit Road, Stone Ridge Road, Overlook Drive, and Florence Road, for open space and a limited housing development;

WHEREAS, The City has proceeded with its due diligence and designed a limited development scenario that preserves the quality open space and provides much needed housing, taking advantage of existing utilities, the best soils, the most environmentally sensitive design, and the lowest development and permitting costs;

WHEREAS, The limited development scenario includes:

1. 110± acres as an addition to Brookwood Marsh Conservation Area
2. Up to nine building lots on 2.67± acres (as shown on the attached preliminary plan) as follows:
  - A. Overlook Drive Lot 1, only if there is not funding to keep as open space and
  - B. Burts Pit Road Lots 3 through 10, with one or two lots dedicated for first-time home buyer affordable housing if CDBG and other funding is available
3. Driveways (instead of the developer's planned roads)

WHEREAS, The previous approval remains in effect, which authorizes the city to purchase the conservation land, and no further conservation approval is required.

***Ordered, that***

The Mayor is authorized to accept a deed or deeds to the above referenced 2.67± acres;

Further, that City Council declares such land surplus to City needs;

Further, that the Mayor is authorized to transfer deeds for the building lots.







# City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

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In City Council, August 18 2016

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz

**16.146**

**An Order**

**To Accept A Deed for a portion of Pleasant Street**

Ordered, that

WHEREAS, On July 14, 2016, City Council approved a petition accepting Pleasant Street from Holyoke Street to Hockanum Road (currently a MassDOT layout);

WHEREAS, MassDOT has provided the City with the final survey for this work and City Council final approval to accept a deed or taking for this property is required.

***Ordered, that***

The Mayor is authorized to accept a deed or deeds to the above referenced Pleasant Street layout, substantially as shown on the attached survey.





**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

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*In City Council*

August 18, 2016

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**16.144**  
**An Order**  
**To Authorize Payment of Prior Year Bills**

BE IT ORDERED

that the Council authorize payment of prior fiscal year bills (FY2016) related to the DPW:

Comcast - \$154.83	Water Enterprise Fund
Comcast - \$260.66	Water Enterprise Fund
OESCO - \$698.11	General Highways
Jankowski and Spencer, PC - \$1,117.50	Legal Services
Jankowski and Spencer, PC - \$777.00	Legal Services
Jankowski and Spencer, PC - \$1,237.50	Legal Services
Jankowski and Spencer, PS - \$1,229	Legal Services

**City of Northampton**  
MASSACHUSETTS

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*In City Council*

August 18, 2016

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Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**16.145**

**An Order**

**To Authorize acceptance a gift of a  
2010 Ford Transit Connect van for the IT Department**

*Ordered, that*

The City of Northampton gratefully accepts the donation of a 2010 Ford Transit Connect van from the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA), in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53A, to be used by the Information Technology (IT) Department.



VAN DONATION

Know all men by these presents that **Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA)**, in consideration of the amount listed below the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, to hereby grant, sell, transfer and deliver unto **City of Northampton 210 Main Street Northampton, MA 01060** the following goods and chattels for the following amounts, namely:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Vehicle ID No.</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2010	Ford Transit Connect	NM0KS9BN3AT021342	91,366	\$0.00

To have and to hold all and singular the said goods and chattels to the said **City of Northampton** and his/her executors, administrators and assigns to their own use and behoove forever.

And I hereby covenant with the grantee that PVTA is the lawful owner of the said goods and chattels: that they are free from all encumbrances: that the PVTA has good right to sell and or donate the same as a foforeside: and that PVTA will warrant and defend the same against the lawful claims and demands of all persons.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said PVTA, by Mary L. MacInnes its Administrator, has hereunto set its hand and seal this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

In the presence of:

**PIONEER VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY:**

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON  
MASSACHUSETTS**

*In the City Council,*

Upon the Recommendation of Councilor Ryan R. O'Donnell

***Ordered, that***

WHEREAS, The City of Northampton recognizes the importance of providing earned sick time to its employees in order to safeguard the public health, keep the cost of healthcare down, and allow workers to take care of themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, Voters approved ballot initiative Question 4, entitled "Earned Sick Time for Employees" on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014, providing that employees may earn and use sick time if they must be absent from work for certain reasons; and

WHEREAS, Northampton voters approved Question 4 by a vote of 81% to 19%; and

WHEREAS, The law allows employees to use earned sick time to look after their own medical needs or the needs of family members, or to address issues related to domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, The law requires an employer to provide a minimum of one hour of earned sick time for every thirty hours worked by an employee; and

WHEREAS, Workers employed by a city are not included under this law unless the City Council votes to accept the law as required by Article CXV of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED**

That the City Council accepts the provisions of MGL Chapter 149, Section 148C, effective July 1st, 2015.