



Committee on City Services and the Northampton City Council

Committee Members:

Councilor Jeremy Dubs, Chair

Councilor Chris Stratton, Vice Chair

Councilor Meg Robbins

Councilor Deborah Klemer

On line Meeting Via Teleconference

MEETING AGENDA

Date: March 16, 2026

Time: 4 p.m.

The City of Northampton does not discriminate based on disability and is committed to hosting accessible meetings. To request a reasonable accommodation to attend any City meeting, please contact the ADA Coordinator at adacoordinator@northamptonma.gov or call (413) 587-1288.

The March 16, 2026 Special City Services Committee meeting will be conducted by remote participation. The public can follow the committee's deliberations by joining the virtual meeting by phone or computer. The meeting will be recorded for later broadcast on Northampton Open Media (Channel 15) and uploaded to the Northampton Government Video Archive on YouTube.

Live public comment will be available using telephone call-in or video conferencing technology beginning at 4 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CALLING IN OR JOINING THE MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING LINK

For telephone call-in, call:

+929 436-2866 US

Meeting ID: 880 9207 0092

Participant #: #

Password: 478762

- 1. Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Announcement of Audio/Video Recording**
This meeting is being audio/video recorded.

3. Public Comment

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings

A. Minutes of February 24, 2026 Organizational Meeting

Documents:

[2-24-2026 City Services Organizational Meeting.pdf](#)

5. Discussion of process for review of new Mayoral appointments/reappointments

6. Items Referred to Committee

A. 26.020 Appointments to Various Committees, referred by City Council - 3/5/2026

Board of Health

Luke Messac, 294 Cardinal Way

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

To fill a vacancy

Community Preservation Committee

Leticia Ward, 12 High Meadow Rd

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

Filling the position of Debin Bruce

Housing Partnership

Yakov Kronrod, 188 Rocky Hill Rd

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

To fill a vacancy

Documents:

[26.020 Appointments to Various Committees.pdf](#)

7. New Business

8. Adjourn

Contact: *Jeremy Dubs*
jdubs@northamptonma.gov
717.571.9947

Committee on City Services and the Northampton City Council

Committee Members:

Councilor Jeremy Dubs

Councilor Chris Stratton

Councilor Meg Robbins

Councilor Deborah Klemer

Present - all members

MEETING AGENDA

Date: February 24, 2026

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, 212 Main Street

Northampton, MA

1. Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call

All members present

2. Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

This meeting is being audio/video recorded.

3. Public Comment

Maciborski

Wolf

4. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

Vote for Chair

- Debbie Klemmer nominates Councilor Dubbs for Chair.
- Councilor Dubs gives his qualifications
- Council Vice President Klemmer gives endorsement
- Unanimous Vote for Councilor Dubs as Chair

Vote for Vice Chair

- Dubbs nominates Klemer
- Robbins nominates Stratton
- Klemer gives her qualifications
- Stratton give his qualifications
- Robbins speak on behalf of Stratton
- Dubbs speaks on behalf of Klemer

Member	Vote #1	Vote #2	Vote #3
Dubbs	K	K	S
Stratton	S	S	S
Klemer	K	K	K
Robbins	S	S	S

Councilor Stratton elected Vice Chair 3-1

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings

A. Minutes of December 15, 2025 Special City Services Committee Meeting

Documents:

12-15-2025_City Services Committee.pdf

Stratton moved to approve, 2nd by Klemer

Unanimously passes minutes

6. Items Referred to Committee

A. 26.008 Appointment of Attorney Alan Seewald as City Solicitor

History:

- Referred to City Services - 1/15/2026

Documents:

26.008 Appointment of Attorney Alan Seewald as City Solicitor.pdf

Seewald gives testimony

Q&A from Councilors to Attorney Seewald

Motion by Robbins for neutral recommendation 2nd by Dubbs

In discussing the recommendation, Councilor Robbins and Councilor Stratton indicated that, while they would positively recommend the reappointment of Attorney Seewald as city solicitor as defined in the charter, they felt strongly about the need to explore the establishment of a separate city solicitor position for the City Council itself. Thus, their reluctance to make a positive recommendation did not reflect dissatisfaction with Attorney Seewald's performance but a belief in the importance of separate legal representation for the executive and legislative branches of government.

Member	Vote #1
Dubbs	Yes
Stratton	Yes

Klemer	Yes - with reservation. Is really positive. Voting to break stalemate
Robbins	Yes

7. Set Meeting Schedule and Format for 2026 - 2027

Documents:

City Services 2026-2027 Meeting Schedule.pdf

Stratton moves to approve proposed schedule with 4 pm, cancel early march meeting Hybrid meetings; 2nd Dubbs

Unanimously Approved

8. New Business

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: Robbins; 2nd Klemner

Unanimous



MAYOR GINA-LOUISE SCIARRA

City of Northampton

Office of the Mayor

210 Main Street Room 12

Northampton, MA 01060-3199

(413) 587-1249 Fax: (413) 587-1275

mayor@northamptonma.gov

DATE: March 5, 2026

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra

SUBJECT: Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please find the attached appointments/reappointments to City Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Board of Health

Luke Messac, 294 Cardinal Way

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

To fill a vacancy

Community Preservation Committee

Leticia Ward, 12 High Meadow Rd

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

Filling the position of Debin Bruce

Housing Partnership

Yakov Kronrod, 188 Rocky Hill Rd

Term: March 2026 - June 2028

To fill a vacancy



Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 4:23 PM

Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

City of Northampton Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please return the completed form to: mayor@northamptonma.gov or Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Boards and Committees	Health, Board of
First Name	Luke
Last Name	Messac
Title/ Preferred Pronouns	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	294 Cardinal Way
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	5182756404
Work Phone	5182756404
Cell Phone	5182756404
Occupation & Place of Employment	Emergency physician and historian, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School
Email	Lukemessac@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes

Years Lived in Northampton	1 month (I just moved here with my wife and two kids, though have been visiting for seven years as my wife's parents and sister live here)
Age	30 - 39
Sex	Male
Racial / Ethnic Background	Black and white
Please list any other boards or committees of interest	Interested in Housing partnership as well, but I have two small children and may only have time to serve on one committee currently
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	<p>I am a board certified emergency physician, so I see the immediate and long-term effects of local and state health policies each day. During medical school I organized medical students and faculty to advocate for Medicaid expansion in Pennsylvania. During the early days of COVID I lobbied the Governor of Rhode Island for access to better personal protective equipment in health facilities. I have also researched and testified before The US Senate about medical debt and debt collection practices. I am passionate about bringing evidence and experience to the pursuit of public health. I want to make sure my two young children grow up in a city where everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential.</p> <p>I do not currently work clinically at a local hospital, but I am currently undergoing the credentialing process at Cooley Dickinson and hope to be working in the emergency department there in the near future.</p>
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	No
Please list other city committees you have served on	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<p>Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.</p> <p><i>The filing of this form does not guarantee my appointment. An application is kept on file for two (2) years; after that I must file a new application. Being appointed to a committee, board, or commission means that I am considered a Municipal Employee under MGL Chapter 268A and thereby subject to Conflict of Interest Law MGL Chapter 268A, Financial Disclosure Law MGL Chapter 268B, as well as Open Meeting Law MGL Chapter 39: Section 23B. I understand that I will take the conflict of interest test after being appointed and that I also must be sworn in by the City Clerk. I will contact the appointing authority with any questions about my service. Important: Once this form is submitted it becomes a public document, if there is information you do not want open to the public please do not include it on this form.</i></p>	

Signature	Luke Messac
Date	8/25/2025

Post Application Submission Process

Thank you for taking the time to submit an application to serve on one of the many volunteer city boards, committees, and commissions.

The Mayor's office staff reviews the application and determines if a vacancy exists on the desired board, committee, or commission. If no vacancy exists, your application is put on file for two years for consideration at a later date. If a vacancy exists, the application is sent to the board, committee, or commission staff person for a review of experience and qualifications. In some cases, you may be contacted and asked to attend a meeting of the board, committee, or commission to better confirm your interest.

After the Mayor's staff reviews your application, Mayor Sciarra will consider your application and schedule a brief telephone interview. At this time, she will decide whether or not to put your application forward to the City Council.

If the Mayor submits your name as an appointee to the City Council, the City Council will refer the appointment to its Committee on City Services where you will be further vetted. If you are approved by City Services, your appointment will be referred back to the City Council for a confirmation vote. After City Council confirmation, you will receive an appointment letter from the City Clerk's office with instructions on being sworn in for public service. After being sworn in by the City Clerk, you are ready to serve on your board, committee, or commission.

The appointment process, from application submission to official acceptance, can take 2-3 months, and the submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance. The Mayor appoints members to boards, committees, and commissions at her discretion.

If you have any questions about this process or your application status, please contact Mayoral Assistant, Sydney Fahey, at sfahey@northamptonma.gov or 413-587-1080.



Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
Reply-To: noreply@civicplus.com
To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Fri, Jan 2, 2026 at 2:42 PM

Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

City of Northampton Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please return the completed form to: mayor@northamptonma.gov or Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Boards and Committees	Community Preservation Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Board
First Name	Leticia
Last Name	Ward
Title/ Preferred Pronouns	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Address1	12 High Meadow Rd
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Northampton
State	MA
Zip	01062
Home Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Work Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone	508-221-1851
Occupation & Place of Employment	retired
Email	leticiaward@gmail.com
Are you a Northampton resident?	Yes

Years Lived in Northampton	1
Age	40 - 49
Sex	Female
Racial / Ethnic Background	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Please list any other boards or committees of interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	<p>Construction Project Manager & Director of Facilities for a Health & Human Services company in Cambridge for 10 years, where 30% of my time was dedicated to planning and design, with a particular focus to ADA and universal design standards (including retrofitting existing spaces).</p> <p>Capital Project Manager for the Charleston County Parks and Recreation Commission (SC) for 5 years - heavily involved in the setting the 10 year planning and implementation to retrofit Park spaces to ADA (and beyond) standards. One of 2 capital project managers to review disaster relief proposals and award the multi-year contracts. Capital Project Manager on a wide variety of park accommodations, building and repair projects. Worked with diverse range of communities and gathering public opinion within the Charleston county for park project.</p>
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	No
Please list other city committees you have served on	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<p>Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.</p> <p><i>The filing of this form does not guarantee my appointment. An application is kept on file for two (2) years; after that I must file a new application. Being appointed to a committee, board, or commission means that I am considered a Municipal Employee under MGL Chapter 268A and thereby subject to Conflict of Interest Law MGL Chapter 268A, Financial Disclosure Law MGL Chapter 268B, as well as Open Meeting Law MGL Chapter 39: Section 23B. I understand that I will take the conflict of interest test after being appointed and that I also must be sworn in by the City Clerk. I will contact the appointing authority with any questions about my service. Important: Once this form is submitted it becomes a public document, if there is information you do not want open to the public please do not include it on this form.</i></p>	
Signature	Leticia Ward
Date	1/2/2026

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Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
To: mayor@northamptonma.gov

Tue, Nov 4, 2025 at 10:43 AM

Application for Appointment and Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

City of Northampton Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Please return the completed form to: mayor@northamptonma.gov or Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Boards and Committees Community Preservation Committee, Housing Partnership, Human Rights Commission, Planning Board

First Name Yakov

Last Name Kronrod

Title/ Preferred Pronouns *Field not completed.*

Address1 [188 Rocky Hill Rd.](#)

Address2 *Field not completed.*

City Florence

State MA

Zip 01062

Home Phone *Field not completed.*

Work Phone *Field not completed.*

Cell Phone 508-410-0846

Occupation & Place of Employment Senior ML Engineering Manager, Spotify, Inc.

Email yakovkronrod@gmail.com

Are you a Northampton resident? Yes

Years Lived in Northampton 7

Age	40 - 49
Sex	Male
Racial / Ethnic Background	Russian Jewish
Please list any other boards or committees of interest	anything in the realm of housing and education is of interest, as are groups dedicated to the overall and long-term vision for the city
What skills and experience will you bring to this committee assignment?	<p>I have a range of experiences that may be relevant to different committees, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -degree in mathematics and experience in actuarial sciences -experience with emotional intelligence -non-profit work advocating for community power building -local, regional, and national advocacy around drug policy, housing, prison reform, and education -long-term experience as both an organizer with tenants as well as a landlord -human rights work locally, nationally, and internationally -small business owner in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and real estate investor in Pennsylvania -deep expertise in the area of Artificial Intelligence, both from an understanding of the theory and applications as well as general applicability for productivity and data processing
Are you currently serving or have you served on any city committee?	No
Please list other city committees you have served on	N/A
<p>Required: Please read the following, by signing below you state that you understand and agree.</p> <p><i>The filing of this form does not guarantee my appointment. An application is kept on file for two (2) years; after that I must file a new application. Being appointed to a committee, board, or commission means that I am considered a Municipal Employee under MGL Chapter 268A and thereby subject to Conflict of Interest Law MGL Chapter 268A, Financial Disclosure Law MGL Chapter 268B, as well as Open Meeting Law MGL Chapter 39: Section 23B. I understand that I will take the conflict of interest test after being appointed and that I also must be sworn in by the City Clerk. I will contact the appointing authority with any questions about my service. Important: Once this form is submitted it becomes a public document, if there is information you do not want open to the public please do not include it on this form.</i></p>	
Signature	Yakov Kronrod
Date	11/4/2025

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