



CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS

Councilors:

- President Gina-Louise Sciarra, At-Large
- William H. Dwight, At-Large
- Michael J. Quinlan, Jr., Ward 1
- Karen Foster, Ward 2
- Vice-President James Nash, Ward 3
- John Thorpe, Ward 4
- Alex Jarrett, Ward 5
- Marianne L. LaBarge, Ward 6
- Rachel Maiore, Ward 7

Meeting Agenda
On-line Video Conference
Meeting Date: March 18, 2021
Meeting Time: 7 p.m.

The March 18, 2021 City Council meeting will be held via remote participation. The public can follow the council's deliberations by watching the meeting live on Comcast channel 15, live-streaming it on YouTube or joining the virtual meeting by phone or computer. For the active YouTube link, please see Northampton Open Media's website: <http://northamptonopenmedia.org/>

Live public comment will be available using telephone call-in or video conferencing technology beginning at 7 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CALLING IN OR JOINING THE MEETING

Join virtual meeting: <http://bit.ly/3tioKWr>

For telephone call-in, call:

+253 215-8785 US

+301 715-8592 US

MEETING ID: 938 7017 0947

PARTICIPANT#: #

PASSCODE: 988341

1. Announcement that Meeting is Being Held Via Remote Participation and Audio/Video Recorded

This meeting is being held via remote participation and audio/video recorded.

2. Public Comment

3. Roll Call

4. Public Hearings

A. 7:05 pm **Public Hearing Concerning the Northampton Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY2022-FY2026**

In accordance with The Charter of Northampton, Massachusetts, Article 7 Finance and Fiscal Procedures, Section 7-5: Capital Improvement Program, the Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing via remote participation on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:05 p.m. The City Council will consider the Capital Improvement Program for FY2022-FY2026, and hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon. The CIP is available for inspection on the city website [here](#).

B. 7:15 pm **Public Hearing to consider FY2022 Water and Sewer Rates**

The Northampton City Council will hold a public hearing by remote participation on Thursday, March 18, 2021 @ 7:15 p.m. The City Council will consider the proposed FY2022 water and sewer rates and hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

5. Updates from Council President and Committee Chairs

6. Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors

7. Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor

8. Resolutions

A. **21.201 A Resolution in Opposition to State Incentives for Biomass Plants - 2nd reading**

History:

- Amended to add Springfield City Council to list of recipients - 3/4/2021
- Passed 1st reading - 3/4/2021

Documents:

[21.201 A Resolution in Opposition to State Incentives for Biomass Plants.pdf](#)

B. 21.207 A Resolution Decriminalizing Controlled Substance Possession as well as Cultivation and Distribution of Psychedelic Plants - 1st reading

Documents:

[21.207 A Resolution Decriminalizing Controlled Substance Possession As Well As Cultivation And Distribution Of Psychedelic Plants.pdf](#)

C. 21.208 A Resolution to Adopt the Capital Improvement Program for FY2022-FY2026 Submitted to City Council on February 24, 2021 - 1st reading

Documents:

[21.208 A Resolution to Adopt the Capital Improvement Program for FY2022-FY2026 Submitted to City Council on February 24, 2021.pdf](#)

D. 21.209 A Resolution Expressing Gratitude to Northampton Health Department, First Responders, Ancillary Staff and Volunteers for Efforts to Vaccinate Our Community - 1st reading

Documents:

[21.209 A Resolution Thanking Health Department, 1st Responders, Support Staff and Volunteers for Efforts to Vaccinate Community.pdf](#)

9. Presentations

A. FY2020 Independent Audit

Presentation by Scanlon & Associates, LLC (Thomas J. Scanlon, CPA)

Documents:

[Communication with Those Charged with Governance.pdf](#)
[FY2020 Management Letter.pdf](#)
[Northampton Single Audit Report 2020.pdf](#)
[Report on the Examination of Basic Financial Statements.pdf](#)

10. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of February 18, 2021

Documents:

[02-18-2021_City Council Minutes.pdf](#)

B. 21.210 Appointment to Planning Board - for referral to City

Services Committee

Planning Board

Samuel Taylor (Full Member), 245 North Street, Northampton

Term: July 2020-June 2023

Reappointment

Documents:

[21.210 Appointment to Planning Board.pdf](#)

11. Recess for Committee on Finance (See Separate Agenda)

12. Financial Orders (on 1st reading pending Finance review)

Rule 2.6 requires the Finance Committee to consider certain financial matters.

A. 21.205 An Order to Establish Water and Sewer Rates for FY2022 - 1st reading

Documents:

[21.205 An Order to Establish Water and Sewer Rates for FY2022.pdf](#)

13. Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)

A. 21.202 An Order to Authorize Acceptance of Gifts of Labor and Materials for Sidewalk Repair or Replacement - 2nd reading

History:

- Amended in Finance Committee to establish cap by adding "valued up to \$10,000" after "labor and materials" in final paragraph - 3/4/2021
- Positive recommendation, Finance Committee - 3/4/2021
- Passed 1st reading as amended - 3/4/2021

Documents:

[21.202 An Order to Authorize Acceptance of Gifts of Labor and Materials for Sidewalk Repair or Replacement.pdf](#)

B. 21.203 An Order to Discontinue a Portion of Sherman Avenue - 2nd reading

History:

- Positive recommendation, Finance Committee - 3/4/2021
- Passed 1st reading - 3/4/2021

Documents:

[21.203 An Order to Discontinue a Portion of Sherman Avenue.pdf](#)

14. Orders

A. **21.211 An Order Further Extending 20.062, Temporary Suspension of Certain Ordinances to Reopen Restaurants - 1st reading**

Process note: Two readings are respectfully requested.

Documents:

[21.211 An Order Further Extending 20.062.pdf](#)

15. Ordinances (Not yet Referred)

Rule 5.2.3 provides that no ordinance shall be voted on by the City Council until it has been considered by the Committee on Legislative Matters.

16. Ordinances

A. **20.181 An Ordinance Relative to Affordable Housing (350-6-12) - 1st reading**

History:

- Referred to Community Resources, Legislative Matters and the Planning Board - 1/7/2021
- Positive recommendation, Community Resources - 2/23/2021
- Joint Planning Board/Legislative Matters Committee public hearing held - 3/8/2021
- Planning Board unanimously recommends adoption (David Whitehill absent) - 3/8/2021
- Positive recommendation, Legislative Matters - 3/8/2021

Documents:

[20.181 An Ordinance Relative to Affordable Housing - 350-6-12.pdf](#)

[20.181 Report from Community Resources Committee.pdf](#)

B. **20.182 An Ordinance Relative to Demolition Review for Historically-Significant Buildings - 2nd reading**

History:

- Referred to Legislative Matters - 1/7/2021
- Positive recommendation, Legislative Matters - 2/8/2021
- Passed 1st reading - 3/4/2021

Documents:

[20.182 An Ordinance Relative to Demolition Review for Historically-Significant Buildings.pdf](#)

C. 21.189 An Ordinance to Create an Incentive for Smaller Houses by Allowing Two Half-Scale Units to Count as a Single-Family for Density Purposes - 1st reading

History:

- Referred to Community Resources, Legislative Matters and the Planning Board - 2/4/2021
- Positive recommendation, Community Resources - 2/23/2021
- Joint Planning Board/Legislative Matters Committee public hearing held - 3/8/2021
- Planning Board unanimously recommends adoption (David Whitehill absent) - 3/8/2021
- Positive recommendation, Legislative Matters - 3/8/2021

Documents:

[21.189 An Ordinance to Create Incentive for Smaller Houses by Allowing Two Half-Scale Units to Count as a Single-Family for Density Purposes.pdf](#)

17. Package of Zoning Amendments to Allow Two-Families by Right in All Residential Zoning Districts - 2nd reading

History:

- Referred to Planning Board and Legislative Matters - 12/17/2020
- Joint Public Hearing Held/Public Hearing Closed - 1/14/2021
- Joint Meeting to Deliberate/Make Respective Recommendations - 2/8/2021
- On a split vote of 6:2 (Christa Grenat and Alan Verson opposed, Samuel Taylor absent), the Planning Board voted to recommend nine out of 10 ordinances to move forward to the city council (pulling out 20.169) with no substantive edits - 2/8/2021
- Legislative Matters unanimously (4:0) approved the package of ordinances as amended with a positive recommendation with the exception of 20.169 - 2/8/2021
- Passed 1st reading - 3/4/2021

A. 20.163 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Amendment to Definitions

Documents:

[20.163 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Amendment to Definitions.pdf](#)

B. 20.164 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Amendment to URA Table of Use

Documents:

[20.164 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - MODIFIEDAmendment to URA Table of Use.pdf](#)

C. 20.165 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Amendment to URB-URC Tables of Use

Documents:

[20.165 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - MODIFIED Amendment to URB-URC Tables of Use.pdf](#)

D. 20.166 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Addition of Subsection to Ch. 350-6

Process note: Amended language to address tree issues has been proposed by the Planning Department.

Documents:

[20.166 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Addition of Subsection to Ch. 350-6 - POST 1st rdg.pdf](#)
[20.166 Section 4 Amendment proposed by AJ.pdf](#)

E. 20.167 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Addition of WSP District Table of Use

Documents:

[20.167 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - MODIFIED Addition of WSP District Table of Use.pdf](#)

F. 20.168 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Amendment to SR-RR Table of Use

Documents:

[20.168 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - MODIFIED Amendment to SR-RR Table of Use.pdf](#)

G. 20.170 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Delete Sections 350-10.10 and 350-10.11

Documents:

[20.170 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Delete Sections 350-10.10 and 350-10.11.pdf](#)

H. 20.171 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Amendment to Parking Standards

Documents:

[20.171 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - MODIFIED Amendment to Parking Standards.pdf](#)

I. 20.172 An Ordinance Relative to Two-Family By Right - Amendment to SC Table of Use

Documents:

18. Information Requests (Charter Provision 2-7) and Committee Study Requests

- A. Appointment of committee to review and recommend changes to council rules.**

19. New Business

20. Adjourn

Contact: G-L Sciarra, Council President
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