



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: September 17, 2020**  
**Meeting Time: 7 p.m.**

The September 17, 2020 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:** <https://bit.ly/3imzy0p>

For telephone call-in, call:

+253 215-8782 US

+301 715-8592 US

**Meeting ID: 950 0020 3939**

**Participant #: #**

**Passcode: 806842**

**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. **Announcement of Public Hearing - 20.109 National Grid/Verizon New England Pole Petition for Prospect Street (Petition #29914250)**

Per M.G.L. Chapter 166, Section 22, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, October 1, 2020 @ 7:05 p.m. on the petition of National Grid/Verizon New England to erect poles and wires upon, along, under or across one or more public ways (Pole Petition #29914250) - Prospect Street. The hearing will be held via remote participation. Please see the agenda for the October 1, 2020 City Council meeting for instructions for accessing the hearing.

Documents:

[20.109 DPW Recommendation.pdf](#)

[20.109 National Grid-Verizon Pole Petition for Prospect Street \(Petition 29914250\).pdf](#)

## 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. **20.112 A Resolution in Support of "An Act Improving Outdoor Lighting and Increasing Dark-Sky Visibility" - 2nd reading**

#### History:

- Passed 1st reading - 9/3/2020

Documents:

[20.112 A Resolution in Support of An Act Improving Outdoor Lighting and Increasing Dark-Sky Visibility.pdf](#)

## 9. Presentations

## 10. Consent Agenda

### A. 20.106 Appointments to Various Committees - positive recommendations w/changes as indicated, City Services Committee - 9/9/2020

#### Arts Council

~~Matthew Vanderslice, 231 Elm St. Rear, Northampton, MA~~

~~Term: July 2020-June 2023~~

~~To fill a vacancy~~

Application withdrawn

Lori Steiner, 18 Ridgewood Terrace, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2020-June 2023

*Reappointment*

#### **Board of Health**

Dr. Suzanne Smith, 134 State St., Northampton, MA

Term: July 2020-June 2023

*Reappointment*

#### **Conservation Commission**

Kevin Lake, 35 Washington Ave., Northampton, MA

Term: July 2020-June 2023

*Reappointment*

#### Downtown Business Architecture Committee

Emily Wright, 244 South St., Northampton, MA

Term: July 2020-June 2023

*To fill a vacancy*

#### Human Rights Commission

Nural Mohammed, 34 Michelman Ave., Apt. 2, Northampton, MA

Term: July 2020-~~June 2023~~ September 2020

*Reappointment*

**Human Rights Commission (continued)**

**Deidre Cuffee-Gray**, 2 Burts Pit Rd., Northampton, MA

Term: August 2020-June 2023

*To fill a vacancy*

**Chelsea Villareal**, 23A Lyman Rd. Northampton, MA

Term: August 2020-June 2023

*To fill a vacancy*

Documents:

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

**11. Deliberate and vote on Individual Charter Review Committee Recommendations**

**Process note:** This discussion is expected to take more than one meeting. Not all items listed may be reached for final action.

- Section 3.9 Vacancy in Office of Mayor (final action not taken - section was referred to the city solicitor for further review after members noted the need for clarification.)

**ARTICLE 8. ELECTIONS**

- Adopt ranked-choice voting for municipal elections
- Extend voting rights in municipal elections to non-citizens

The additional remaining items (Lowering the municipal voting age to 16, Mailing ballots for municipal elections to all registered voters, Removing the need to cite a specific reason to receive an absentee ballot for municipal elections) and any final discussion will happen at future meetings.

Documents:

[Status of Council Action on CRC Recommendations.pdf](#)

[CRC Annotated Charter - Approved 11-19-19.pdf](#)

[CRC\\_EXECUTIVE\\_SUMMARY - Approved 11-19-19.pdf](#)

**12. Recess for Committee on Finance (See Separate Agenda)**

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

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

**A. 20.118 An Order to Appropriate \$54,075 in CPA Funds for West Farms Road APR Project - 1st reading**

Documents:

**B. 20.119 An Order for FY2021 Budget Transfers - 1st reading**

**Process note:** Two readings are respectfully requested to allow prompt payment.

Documents:

[20.119 An Order for FY2021 Budget Transfers.pdf](#)

**C. 20.120 An Order to Authorize Payment of a Prior Year Bill - 1st reading**

**Process note:** Two readings are respectfully requested to allow prompt payment.

Documents:

[20.120 An Order to Authorize Payment of a Prior Year Bill.pdf](#)

**D. 20.122 An Order to Appropriate FY2021 CPA Funds for Community Preservation Purposes - 1st reading**

Documents:

[20.122 An Order to Appropriate FY2021 CPA Funds for Community Preservation Purposes.pdf](#)

**E. 20.124 An Order Authorizing Acquisition of Drainage Easement on the East Side of North Farms Road - 1st reading**

**Process note:** Two readings are respectfully requested to maintain adherence to the DPW's tight construction schedule.

Documents:

[20.124 Vollinger Release and Settlement Agreement.pdf](#)

[20.124 Plan of Drain Line Easement.pdf](#)

[20.124 North Farms Road Order of Taking.pdf](#)

[20.124 An Order Authorizing Acquisition of Drainage Easement on the East Side of North Farms Road.pdf](#)

**14. Financial Orders (on 2nd reading)**

**A. 20.111 An Order to Accept Land and Surplus it for Affordable Housing at Laurel Street and Burts Pit Road - 2nd reading**

**Process note:** the order has been amended to insert the appropriate citation (Chapter 169 of the Acts of 2020) now that the bills have been signed into law.

**History:**

- Positive recommendation, Finance Committee - 9/3/2020

- Passed 1st reading - 9/3/2020

Documents:

[20.111 An Order to Accept Land and Surplus it for Affordable Housing at Laurel Street and Burts Pit Road.pdf](#)

## 15. Orders

### A. **20.110 Order to Waive the City's Right of First Refusal under MGL 61 for Land on Turkey Hill Road - 2nd reading**

History:

- Passed 1st reading - 9/3/2020

Documents:

[20.110 An Order to Waive the City's Right of First Refusal under MGL 61 for Land on Turkey Hill Road.pdf](#)

## 16. 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.

### A. **20.121 An Ordinance to Amend Section 5.3 to Reduce the Setback from Street Lot Lines for Accessory Stables**

Documents:

[20.121 An Ordinance to Amend Section 5.3 to Reduce the Setback from Street Lot Lines for Accessory Stables.pdf](#)

## 17. Ordinances

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

## 19. New Business

## 20. Adjourn

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