

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

December 15, 2022

Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra

22.219 An Order to Appropriate \$3 Million Free Cash to Establish Climate Change Mitigation Stabilization Fund

WHEREAS, in 2018 Mayor Narkewicz committed the City of Northampton to becoming a net carbon neutral city by 2050 and City Council endorsed this goal; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Resilience and Regeneration Plan was adopted by the Northampton Planning Board and endorsed by City Council to further signify the City's commitment to addressing and mitigating climate change; and

WHEREAS, the decisions we make should increase our ability to anticipate, adapt and thrive in a changing climate and, reduce our carbon foot print and our impact on climate change; and

WHEREAS, the City needs to plan for the costs to implement changes to address our resilience and regeneration plans; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40 § 5B provides that City Council may create a stabilization fund for any lawful purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City received \$21.7 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding and allocated \$10 million as Loss Revenue in FY2022 which has been certified to the FY2023 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash).

Now, Therefore be it Ordered, that

Pursuant to Chapter 40, § 5B of the Mass. General Laws, the City Council hereby authorizes the creation of a Climate Change Mitigation Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding expenditures relative to the City's operations and capital needs to mitigate the impacts of climate change and to support the City's net carbon neutral goals, and vote to transfer from FY23

Undesignated General Fund (Free Cash) the sum of \$ 3,000,000 into the Climate Change Mitigation Stabilization Fund.