

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

March 30, 2023

Upon recommendation of Mayor Sciarra

23.287 An Order to Appropriate \$30,000 to Evaluate the Feasibility of Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems

Whereas, in 2022 Mayor Sciarra, with approval of the City Council, created a Climate Change Mitigation Stabilization Fund; and

Whereas, this Fund is for the purpose of allocating 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

Whereas, the city has adopted a goal to become net carbon neutral for energy in its municipal buildings and services by 2030; and

Whereas, in 2021 the city conducted a Capital Improvement Planning Study to Upgrade Seven Municipal Buildings to Net-Zero Energy Use and this study recommended ground source heat pump systems for municipal buildings; and

Whereas, Forbes Library has heating ventilation and air conditioning systems that are at the end of their functional and operational life cycles; and

Whereas, the city is in negotiation to purchase 298 Main Street for the Resilience Hub and is also exploring the possibility of alternative heating and cooling for this building in conjunction with Forbes Library.

Now, Therefore be it Ordered, that

the sum of up to \$30,000 be allocated from the Climate Change Mitigation Stabilization Fund to pay for a feasibility study to evaluate geothermal district heating and cooling systems for the downtown municipal campus, 298 Main Street, and Forbes Library.