ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING (off election year) JANUARY 8, 2013

The meeting was called to Order by the City Clerk as the Organizational Meeting for 2013.

On Roll Call the following responded: Councilors Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Councilor Bullett absent.

A moment of silent Prayer was observed remembering Gary Kelly, 37 year math teacher at Drury High School.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called for nominations for Council President for the year 2013.

Councilor Marden placed the name of Councilor Bloom in nomination.

With no further nominations, the Clerk calls for a motion to cease nominations.

On motion of Councilor Marden duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED to cease nominations.

The Clerk called for a voice vote on the nomination of Councilor Bloom as Council President for 2013. All were in favor, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

The Clerk declared Councilor Bloom to be Council President.

The Clerk administers the oath of office to the Council President elect Bloom.

The President takes the Chair.

The President calls for nominations for Council Vice-President.

Councilor Marden nominated Councilor Blackmer for Council Vice-President.

With no further nominations to come before the Council a motion to cease nominations is in order.

Councilor Blackmer was declared Vice-President.

The President asked the Clerk to administer the oath of office to Councilor Blackmer.

The President presented the Council Rules of Order.

Without objection the President postponed the rules to the next meeting, so Councilors could review the rules.

The President presented the Committee assignments for the year 2013.

The President called for Councilors Harpin and Bond to draw the seating for 2013.

Seat 1 Councilor Bullett; Seat 2 Councilor Bond; Seat 3 Councilor Breen; Seat 4 Councilor Harpin; Seat 5 Councilor Blackmer; Seat 6 Councilor Barrett; Seat 7 Councilor Bona; Seat 8 Councilor Marden.

The President announced this concludes the organizational portion of the meeting and presented the first agenda item of the regular meeting.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

2013 City Council
Liaison Appointments

Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Arts: Keith Bona

Berkshire Chamber of Commerce: Lisa Blackmer

Hoosac Water Quality District: Jennifer M. Breen

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts: John Barrett

McCann Regional Technical High School Committee: Keith Bona

North Adams Contributory Retirement Board: Alan Marden

North Adams Housing Authority: Jennifer M. Breen

North Adams Planning Board: Marie Harpin

North Adams School Committee: Nancy Bullett

Northern Berkshire Community Coalition: David Bond

Northern Berkshire Industrial Park & Development: David Bond

Office of Tourism and Cultural Development: Lisa Blackmer

Berkshire Visitors Bureau: John Barrett

Traffic Commission Member: Marie Harpin

North Adams Board of Health: Alan Marden

North Adams Park & Recreation: Nancy Bullett

2013 City Council Committee Assignments

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Chair: David Bond
Member: John Barrett
Member: Nancy Bullett

FINANCE
Chair: Alan Marden
Member: Lisa Blackmer
Member: David Bond

GENERAL GOVERNMENT
Chair: Keith Bona
Member: Marie Harpin
Member: Jennifer M. Breen

PUBLIC SAFETY
Chair: Lisa Blackmer
Member: Keith Bona
Member: Jennifer M. Breen

PUBLIC SERVICES
Chair: Nancy Bullett
Member: Alan Marden
Member: Marie Harpin

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
January 8, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Bullett.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mary Ann Benoit-Albee, 16 Rand Street spoke about the reappointments to the Handicapped Commission, she feels there should be new members who want to see change.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from December 26th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,281 The President presented Mayor's communication #1 recommending the re-appointments of Trevor Gilman and Jeffrey Naughton to the Airport Commission.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments.

11,282 The President presented Mayor's communication #2 recommending the re-appointments of Mark Patenaude and Brian McCarthy to the Commission on Disabilities.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments.

11,283 The President presented Mayor's communication #3 recommending the re-appointments of Jennifer Boland, Suzy Helme, and Maria Diamond to the Human Services Commission.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments.

11,284 The President presented Mayor's communication #4 recommending the re-appointments of Joanne Hurlbut and Jake Elder to the Historical Commission.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments.

11,285 The President presented Mayor's communication #5 recommending the re-appointments of JoAnn Bates and Sandra Thomas to the Mass MoCA Commission.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments.

11,286 The President presented Mayor's communication #6 recommending the appointment of Robert Burdick to the Planning Board to fill the unexpired term of Donald Keagan.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

11,240-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #7 recommending salary adjustments Public Safety/non-union employees.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,240-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'13.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee and pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin.

The Mayor explained the stipends of $5,000 for the Police and Fire Directors along with the Police Lieutenant are because of the increase in responsibilities and levels of command. These positions are exempt from overtime effective July 1, 2013. The stipends will roll into their salary when the City Ordinance reflects the new Public Safety structure. Included in this is a request for a 1% raise retroactive from July 2012 to December 31, 2012, and an additional 1% from January 1, 2013. Reclassification for the part-time clerical position in the Public Service office because the clerk is a backup for the Mayor's office, also an 8% adjustment for emergency dispatchers.

Councilor Barrett said the City cannot keep spending, spending, spending and questioned why some City workers were getting raises and others were not. I do agree that there are several positions in City Government that deserve raises, but there are several that do not. He objects to non-union employees making more than $60,000 a year getting a raise. The part time clerk should not be making more than the City's reserve police officers who are wearing guns. Councilor Barrett would like to know just what duties they have taken on. Councilor Barrett has no problem with the stipends for the directors, but again would like to know the additional duties the part time clerk has taken on to deserve them.
Councilor Breen felt they should vote it as is, since salaries are set by the administration and not under the jurisdiction of the Council.
Councilor Barrett said it was definitely the Council's jurisdiction since it was a spending request and none of the changes were union or contractual.
The Mayor said he would not respond at this time and would wait for the committee meeting.

Councilor Marden said there was no rush, since the raises were retroactive and would like to wait and see what the Governor's budget was going to be.

Councilor Blackmer suggested that if it was going to committee, then we should not be publishing it as a municipal bulletin until the Finance Committee meets.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to rescind the orginial motion.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee and postpone till the meeting of February 12th.

11,287 The President presented Mayor's communication #8 requesting the establishment of bond levels for City Officials for FY'13.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,288 The President presented an Order establishing the bond for the City Treasurer/Tax Collector at $250,000 for FY'13.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,289 The President presented an Order establishing the bond for the Assistant Treasurer at $62,500 for FY'13.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,290 The President presented an Order establishing the bond for the City Clerk at $15,000 for FY'13.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

The President presented an application submitted by Lawrence Bassett, 20 State Road to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Barrett it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Edward Bunn, IV, 165 Greylock Avenue to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Daniel Johnson, 26 Isbell Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Harpin reminded residents that the City Census was mailed and please take a moment to complete and return to the City Clerk's Office. Councilor Blackmer presented Peter Gentile the cameraman a token of their appreciation for taping the Council meetings. The Mayor said he was very saddened about the closing of Greenberg's. He also wanted to assure Wal Mart employees that he had spoken with Wal Mart and present employees' will not have to reapply for employment when the new store opens, and the some employees will be offered advancement. The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street would like to see the Ordinance changed for Public Safety to Police and Fire Directors. Roger Eurbin thanked Councilor Barrett for bring the charges from National Grid to everyone's attention. He took a closer look at his bill and more than half of the charges were not for electricity. Michael Chalifoux, 45 Monroe Street said the City is suffering the effects of cuts made from the State and Federal Government. Mary Ann Albee-Benoti, 16 Rand Street said the reason people are not coming to the meetings are because they are not being heard.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:25pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gonneau
City Clerk

Office of the City Council
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
January 22, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering Helen Burzamiti, Election Worker for the City of North Adams and Joseph Moresi, former Chairman of the North Adams Board of Registrars.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilor Breen entered the meeting at 7:32pm.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned just where the priorities of the City where, we are in need of a new police and fire station as well as work on the sewers. I do not understand why we can't wait another 4 years to do the school. Mr. Trottier objects to Council Rule 10-A, there is no case law banning signs. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street also objects to the school, I wonder just how the Mayor is going to pay for the City share of the project. He would like to see the citizens of this community decide if they really want the school project. Mr. Cardimino said the proposed Council Rule 10-A was unconstitutional. Katherine Montgomery, 67 Porter Street was concerned about the renovations at Conte School and would be definitely in favor of a new school, something more like what was done in Williamstown. I feel this is a poor investment of our community resources. Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue objected to the project at Conte sighting the unforeseen cost that will occur during the renovations. We all know that when you are renovating it always costs more than expected. John Franzoni, 83 North Street, Assistant Principal at Greylock and Sullivan schools said the school building committee has done their due diligence on this project and it is the best for our students.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of the Organization of Government held on January 8th.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 8th.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,211 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bullett regarding handicap parking in the downtown area, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee and postponed at the meeting of November 13, 2012.

Councilor Blackmer gave the report of the Public Safety Committee.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept the committee report as amended to reflect Mr. Trottier was in attendance at the meeting.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to refer the report of the General Government Committee to the Mayor's Office and file the communication.

11,279 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Harpin on behalf of Mark Trottier requesting a Public Hearing with the Traffic Commission on parking issues, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee and postponed at the meeting of November 27, 2012.

Councilor Blackmer gave the report of the Public Safety Committee.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to accept the committee report.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,209-2 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding amending Council Rules of Order for 2012, which was postponed at the meeting of November 27, 2012.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,209-2a Report of the General Government Committee regarding Council Rules of Order.

Councilor Bona gave the report of the committee recommending no changes to the Rules of Order for 2012.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to accept the committee report as presented.

11,291 The President presented the 2013 Council Rules of Order which were presented at the Organizational Meeting of Government on January 8th.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to amend Council Rule 1, 2nd paragraph by deleting shall be regularly held on the Tuesday following the first or third Monday of each month, in so far as possible, in the City Council Conference Room at 7:30 and insert in its place shall meet at City Hall.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to amend Council Rule 16 (E) Liaison assignments by adding North Adams Park and Recreation.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of February 12th.

10,990-2 The President presented Mayor's communication #9 recommending a borrowing Order for the renovations of Conte School.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to file the communication.

Councilor Barrett said he was in disagreement with the plan for Conte School; this has nothing to do with the money and everything that is best for our children's education. Councilor Barrett said the Mayor and the School Building Committee has not followed through with the recommendation of the New England School Development Council from 2007-2008, including developing a long term facility plan. The NESDC report offered several plans that were not looked at. The City should be more concerned about the low MCAS scores and the lack of a curriculum coordinator which was cut last year. The report offered fixes for Sullivan and Greylock Schools at a cost of about $21 million. The Mayor said that there was tremendous community support, but yet at the meetings at Sullivan School, parents and residents were against this project. The SBC said they did not believe the citizens of this City were in favor of the school project and the City should go back to the drawing board. Councilor Barrett also said that just a few weeks ago the City Auditor said the City has no more free cash and yet we are willing to spend money.
Councilor Bona wondered why the City would want to spend money on band-aid fixes that would most likely not be reimbursed, when we can get a new school for $6.5 million right now. I am on the School Building Committee and this has been a well thought out process and the committee did do their research on this project.
Councilor Marden questioned the impact the ADA would have on the debt schedule and the Public Safety Building will need to be looked at down the road.
Councilor Blackmer, who was opposed to the choice of Conte because of safety concerns and the wishes of Sullivan parents to keep their school has changed her mind because she has listened to people and it has been 2 to 1 in favor of this project, thanking those who have approached her. It may not be their first choice but they think now is the time to move forward.
Councilor Bond questioned how this would affect the average tax payer. He said there are parents with some real concerns but it is the best project we can put forward and the state has endorsed it.
Councilor Harpin said she attended public hearings at Sullivan and people did not like the Conte project, they were in favor of keeping a neighborhood school. The citizens of this community can no longer afford to keep digging in to pockets they do not have.
Councilor Bullet also has spoken to parents who believe Conte was their neighborhood school and noted that Drury High, St. Joseph's High and Notre Dame Schools had all been open in that area. I believe the timing is right and to wait another two or three years when it is already approved for funding, the longer the City waits the more money it will cost the City.
The Mayor answered several of the concerns from the Councilors, saying the debt could be absorbed into the budget, at $102,500 each the first two years on interest only and $370,000 annually over the balance. The numbers will be built into the budget and the City would still live within the constraints of local receipts, taxes and state aid. The Mayor said he believed most of the ADA issues will be addressed through Community Block Grant Funding.
Councilor Marden said he believes the community needs to grow, growth requires investment and it can come from outside and inside the community. Two major factors are education and quality work force. I believe in the Conte project, the Mayor said we can afford it, I do not think we cannot afford not to do it.

10,900-2 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $29,692,594 for the renovations of Conte School and to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor may borrow from time to time under MGL Chapter 44.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

FIRST READING

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, Harpin.

11,292 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor President nominating Marilyn Gomeau as the City Clerk for a term to expire January 2016.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to elect Marilyn Gomeau as the City Clerk.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Blackmer reminded everyone to stay safe with the extreme cold that is expected in the next few days. Councilor Bullett thanked everyone who took part in the snowshoeing event on Saturday, it was a great success and they are planning another event for February 25th. The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour Street said the report of the General Government Committee did not reveal the everything that went on in the meeting. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said he has never seen such hatred from Councilors at committee meetings. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:29pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

February 5, 2013

A special meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Sue Sullivan, Payroll Clerk in the Treasurer's Office

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said the economy in North Adams was in horrible shape and the City should look at what this project is going to do the residents of North Adams. Ronald Superneau, 2 Milton Drive, member of the building committee thanked the Council for their support and said that the perfect school would have been a new school at Greylock, but the best for the children turned out to be Conte. Mr. Superneau noted that the state money is taxes we already paid, it is ours. If we don't take it, someone else is going to. Robert Aeschback, member of the Mohawk Regional School District Committee said what should be considered here tonight is giving the students the best education North Adams can.

10,990-2 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $29,692,594 for renovations of Conte School and to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor may borrow from time to time under MGL Chapter 44, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of January 22nd. FIRST READING

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett said he did not want to labor the point, but he does not believe this is the best project, what is being missed in all of this is it's not going to solve all our problems in the school district. Greylock School has deficiencies that will need to be addressed. I also wonder what will happen to Sullilvan School, which has not been addressed yet. I have said it before

and will say it again; "bricks and motor" will not fix our problems.
Councilor Bona , member of the School Building Committee agreed that fixing Conte would not solve all the problems, the MSBA rejected the proposal of two schools at once. They all agreed Sullivan was more problematic and Greylock was usable for more years.
Councilor Breen said she felt the MCAS issues were due more to poverty and parents and is unrelated to the school building; Councilor Breen moved the question and all were in favor.

SECOND READING

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, and Harpin.

The Mayor noted that this would now have to go to the School Committee for a vote.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said he would knock on every door in the City in order to get enough signatures to put the borrowing order to the voters. I think the voters will have the last word, "You were wrong on 2 ½ and you're going to be wrong on this school".

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:00pm.

A True Record

Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau

City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
February 12, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue asked about the appropriation from the overlay surplus, he did not understand what it was all about. Mr. Trottier also questioned the purchase of land, why was this not surveyed when the City originally purchased the land.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting held on February 5th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to accept as presented. Councilor Blackmer motioned to amend the minutes by changing the date from January to February, all were in favor.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 22nd.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

Without objection the President moved the taxi license forward.

The President presented an application submitted by Jason Belanger, 45 Rand Street to drive taxi for Lori Smith.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to grant the license.

11,291 The President presented the 2013 Council Rules of Order which were presented at the Organizational Meeting of Government on January 8th and postponed at the meeting of January 22nd.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,240-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'13, which was referred to the Finance Committee and postponed at the meeting of January 8th.

Councilor Marden gave the report of the Finance Committee noting that the committee is recommending the approval of the paper, but would like the Solicitor to review the language in the proposed Ordinance.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to accept the report of the Finance Committee.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin.

Councilor Barrett said he has no objection to the pay raises for the non-union employees, but he does not agree that anyone making over $60,000 should be included in this. Councilor Barrett also is in disagreement with the part-time clerk in the public service office getting a 20% increase. He noted that other part time clerks have had increases in duties without added compensation. Councilor Barrett also questioned why the reserve police officers were not included.
The Mayor said he would be dealing with the reserve police officers when he considers the police budget.
Councilor Barrett urged the Council to take a better look at this paper and do it right.
Councilor Bond moved the question, with Councilor Barrett, Harpin and Marden opposed.
Councilors felt there was still more to discuss, so Councilor Bond withdrew his motion to move the question.
Councilor Barrett said we are very fortunate that we have loyal employees in City Hall who have stayed for many years. Three part-time employees were pushed out because they had their hours cut to 10 hours and now we are giving a part-time clerk grade advancement, plus she will be working 20+ hours, making her eligible for benefits and pension, which the City will have to contribute to. The Mayor took offense to Councilor Barrett's remarks on pushing 80 year old employees out the door.
Councilor Barrett was still concerned about the language in the Classification Plan, saying this language wipes out the entire Schedule A.
Councilor Marden was waiting for this to be brought up and said he is in agreement with Councilor Barrett and asked the Mayor to have the Solicitor review this language before it comes back to Council at the next meeting.
The Mayor submitted new language to the Council regarding the first paragraph of the Compensation Plan.
On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to amend and pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

11,293 The President presented Mayor's communication #10 recommending the appointment of Timothy Lescarbeau to the Hoosac Water Quality District to fill the unexpired term of Ronald Boucher.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to confirm.

Councilor Barrett said that this was not the Mayor's appointment, that it was Council's appointment.

A short recess was called to allow the Clerk to find a ruling on the appointment.

The meeting resumed and it was determined that the Mayor needed to research this matter.
On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to table this until the next meeting.

11,294 The President presented Mayor's communication #11 recommending the acceptance of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32B, Section 21-23 for the purpose of engaging in the process to change health insurance benefits.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained it is his intention to negotiate with Public Employee Committees, created to speak on behalf of the unions. The adoption of this law is a backup plan if an agreement cannot be reached.

Marie Kelly-Whitney from the North Adams Teachers Association said that the teachers felt the adoption of the law would is disrespectful to them. They have always had a good working relationship with the administration and the union. On behalf of the teachers she asked Councilors not to vote on the passage of this law.
She feels that if given the opportunity to work together at finding the best health plan possible, all parties will benefit.
The Mayor said this was in no way meant to be disrespectful to the teachers association, this gives Municipality's greater flexibility in providing health insurance plans.
Councilor Blackmer said health insurance takes a huge bite out of budget and insurance providers are being forced to be more competitive.
Councilor Barrett said this legislation is courageous and he was in full support of adoption.

11,294 The President presented an Order accepting the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 32B, Section 21-23.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

8717-32b The President presented Mayor's communication #12 regarding overlay surplus account from 2009.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

8717-32b The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $51,570 from the overlay surplus account to General Government-Assessor Expenses.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,295 The President presented Mayor's communication #13 regarding the purchase of 177 Rear River Street.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said the City has been in negotiation with Callahan for two years, when the City created the Houghton Street Park it made improvements on this land, which was not owned by the City. Michael Canales said the City will try to determine if the outside contractor was responsible for the error when the land was previous surveyed.

11,295 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to purchase property located at the rear of 177 River Street.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, Harpin.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Blackmer reminded everyone Saturday February 23rd is Winter Fest in the dowtown. Councilor Bullett noted there will be another snowshoeing event on Saturday February 24th at Windsor Lake. Councilor Bona thanked the DPW for the good job they did in the recent storm. Councilor Barrett said Berkshire Works will be available at the Library on Thursday from 1:00 to 4:00. The Mayor presented Janice Broderick from the Freeman Center a proclamation declaring Thursday February 14th "Violence against Women". The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Susan Gilman, 197 State Street was disappointed about the adoption of MGL on insurance. Teachers have worked very hard to work with the administration and wonder what impact the adoption of this law will have in negotiations.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:00pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
February 26, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Bloom.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, hearing none the President called for the approval of the minutes from February 12th.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,240-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'13, which was passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin at the meeting of February 12th, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to amend the section of the Compensation Plan for the Department of Public Services.

Councilor Barrett asked what was the difference in the amendment.

I was just the format of the language.

Councilor Barrett made a motion to amend PT-1B to 115.00 per diam+5.75 (5% differential) = 120.75.
Councilor Harpin seconded the motion.

Councilor Barrett said this amendment is for the reserve police officers, who have not seen a raise since 2010. This group of individuals are underpaid and have not been kept up with the nonunion employees.
Councilor Breen agreed with Councilor Barrett's observation but it was an arbitrary reason for the amendment. It is not the role of the City Council to approve or not approve of the budget.
Councilor Barrett reminded Councilor Breen that it is in fact the responsibility of this legislative body.
Councilor Breen moved the question, but it was defeated.

The Mayor asked Council to approve the changes, stating the increases were already approved as budget line items or is grant funded. I'm not asking for any additional money.

Councilor Barrett asked the Mayor if in June he will not be doing any transfers to cover these changes.
The Mayor again said these raises were already a line item in the budget; the only one will be Public Service Department.

The President called for a roll vote on the amendment.
On roll call the following responded, yea Councilor Barrett, Harpin. Nay Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden.

The President asked for a roll call on the motion to adopt as amended.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett.

11,293 The President presented Mayor's communication #10 recommending the appointment of Timothy Lescarbeau to the Hoosac Water Quality District to fill the unexpired term of Ronald Boucher, which was tabled at the meeting of February 12th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,293-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President recommending the appointment of Timothy Lescarbeau to the Hoosac Water Quality District to fill the unexpired term of Ronald Boucher.

Councilor Barrett said he would like to wait and see if there was anyone else interested in filling the seat.
The budget needs to be watched very closely.
Councilor Breen said she has been at numerous meetings with Mr. Lescarbeau at budget time and he has a lot of knowledge with water and sewer.
Councilor Barrett asked if Councilor Breen was at the last budget meeting. Councilor Breen said she had not.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

11,296 The President presented Mayor's communication #14 requesting Council to deliver the State of the City Address.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, hearing none, the President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:16pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS
February 26, 2012

As I come into my fourth year in office, I am here tonight to give you my thoughts relative to our fine City for this year to come.

Over the past several cycles, we faced many fiscal challenges as we tried to strengthen our financial position. We have had modest success however we have a long way to go in working towards balanced budgets and strong reserves. Despite the economy, we have positioned ourselves well for many good things to come.

We continue to spend many hours managing projects such as the Airport, the Hadley Bridge WILL be completed this year, privatization of Heritage State Park, partnership with MCLA on the Mohawk, a new solar project, Conte School renovation, Super Walmart, Crane expansion and other projects that are in the works.

There are two very important numbers that I continue to focus on and that I think are critical to our success, those numbers are...one and zero. The number "one" relates to our census. The City has seen declining population for more years than any of us care to remember. I think it will be a great day, when we see our population trend begin to tick upward.....even if only by "1". "Zero" is indicative of a balanced budget.....something that we have not had for many years. When we are able to set a budget and pay for it strictly from revenues....without utilization of reserves that will also be a very good day.

This year, as we build the budget, we are putting together a comprehensive capital plan outlining the short, mid and long term needs of the City. This list will include everything from vehicles to building infrastructure to our water and sewer systems. I am certain this document will bring to light the many capital and infrastructure issues facing the City and the reason why we all have to work together to begin to address what are truly overwhelming needs.

Public Safety will continue to be a priority as the City continues to deal with crime issues that are pervasive in more urban communities, not least of which are the problems caused by addiction. Over the past few weeks, there have been several major arrests in the City primarily people moving drugs here from outside of the City. We are very much aware of the problem(s) and our Police Department continues to work with Berkshire County Drug Task Force.

Additionally, there are several groups actively meeting to help bring awareness to addiction and the mental health issues that many times are the underlying factor. I sit on two committees, one that is working to bring awareness to Adolescents with Serious Emotional Disturbances and the other is working with a group to find solutions to the serious abuse of prescription medications The problems we see stem from much larger social issues that are plaguing not just this City but communities everywhere. The disease of addiction and resulting crime is prevalent at all socio-economic levels.

The past two years have seen significant growth of new businesses and business expansions….24 small businesses have either opened or expanded filling vacant store fronts and creating jobs and opportunity. I thank all of these entrepreneurs who have invested in our community.

With this growth and expansion in the small business community we will be working with the newly formed North Adams Chamber of Commerce to help facilitate the growth and development of our business community. We will work to further define the role of our Director of Culture and Tourism to be certain that community events grow but more importantly that North Adams is promoted as widely as possible as a destination in Berkshire County. Additionally I am working on a partnership with the Franklin County CDC to bring their small business loan program here to North Adams and northern Berkshire. This program could prove invaluable to small businesses looking for low cost capital.

My efforts to privatize Heritage State Park will continue as the fastest moving most actively supported public/private project currently underway in the City. With some $880,000 committed to the park from a MassWorks infrastructure grant coupled with blossoming discussions with the private sector, I am more convinced than ever that the re-birth of the park is right in front of us. With the support of Department of Housing & Economic Development, Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Transportation and the private sector, I am confident that this project will succeed. HSP has become the north side visitor's center for Mt. Greylock and the bike trail from Adams to HSP is well on its way.

I am thrilled with our most recent announcement of the "Hoosic Valley Service" that will connect North Adams and Adams with tourist train trips as soon as spring of 2014. This collaborative effort between the City, Town of Adams, Berkshire Scenic Rail Museum, MADOT, DCR, with support of the Governor, holds significant economic, social and cultural promise and further enhances the excitement of the re-birth of HSP. As MA DOT Rail works to acquire the rail and put back the last mile of track, we will be working with BSRM to further plan what programming will look like for the tourist train.

I continue to work with our community partner MCLA, on a sustainable project that will breathe life into the Mohawk Theater. With continued engagement, additional application for credits, looking to the state and federal governments for additional funding, I am very hopeful that we will be able to announce a solution. While I am disappointed that this project has not moved faster than I had hoped, there are many moving parts and we need to do this right. MCLA as a partner guarantees a project with long term sustainability providing daily use, revenue, management, programming and other attributes that will assure success. I am very much hoping to utilize cash realized from the privatization of HSP to further advance this project.

We are 18 or so months into our Master Planning process "Vision 2030". This process through the efforts and ideas of many is creating the roadmap that will allow the City to move forward. The plan addresses many issues concerning development, environment, neighborhoods, education, culture, recreation, healthy living and other topics vital to a healthy community. Our plan is unique to the City but we have aligned it with the larger county-wide master planning process currently being developed by Berkshire Regional Planning. We will continue to have community visioning sessions and discussions to fine tune the effort before adopting the final version.

I am very excited to be a part of the Partnership for North Adams, a "think tank" of sorts that has been established to look at different sectors of our economy and develop ideas and solutions for growth and development. The Partnership consists of a group of residents from Northern Berkshire who represent virtually every major economic sector and I am confident much good will come from these efforts.

We will continue the important work to bring the City into compliance with the ADA requirements identified by the DOJ audit last year. We are poised to begin work at the Mary Spitzer Center and the Joe Wolfe Field complex this year. This work will begin through a small borrowing and utilization of CDBG funding. We will continue to use CDBG funding over the next several cycles to complete our ADA work. This will all culminate with a study and hopefully a solution to our Public Safety building.

Super WalMart will be opening soon providing 100 or so new jobs, 40 of which will be full time positions.

As exciting, North Adams has officially become the headquarters for Crane's Fine Printing Division. In doing this, they have consolidated several of their business units into the North Adams plant and are

finalizing the acquisition of a company the William Arthur Stationary located in West Kennebunk, Maine. This acquisition will prompt $5 million dollars in plant and technology investment, create 75 new manufacturing jobs in North Adams assuring an employment level of 280 positions as early as this fall. I will be bringing a Special Tax Agreement to Council at the next meeting to help facilitate this great opportunity.

I will continue to build our budget in the same open, transparent and TEAM oriented fashion as I have since taking office. Containing costs will be our biggest challenge as labor, utilities, pensions and capital expenses rise. We are currently working with our unions on health insurance reform that could save the City and employees money on premium costs.

We are moving forward with a new solar project and pricing and terms are being negotiated at this time. When we have a solid power purchase agreement in place, I will come to Council with a comprehensive presentation of the project by the developers. This project is really gaining momentum and I remain hopeful that the City will see the resulting savings in the FY2015 budget.

I will continue to move forward with the Conte School project, one that has been fully endorsed and approved by the Mass School Building Authority our School Building Committee, our School Committee and this Council. We have done considerable financial analysis to support our assumptions of affordability. My administration has worked to be certain that the debt incurred by this project can fit within the current budget without the need for a tax override or a debt exclusion provision.

The Conte School renovation is worthy of overwhelming community support as are those who are appointed and elected that have been charged to make this decision. I will not let this project slip away.

I have very much appreciated the support of this council, the School Committee, our School Building Committee, the commitment of all of our boards and commissions, the guidance of my neighboring town leaders, our local delegation, the wonderful employees of our City and school system, and I am very thankful for the patience and support of the people of this great city.

There is an old saying "The wheels of government grind slowly" and THAT THEY DO! But with continued support and patience, we will continue to grow and make "our" City, nestled here in the palm of God's hand, a place of pride for all of us.

Thank you

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
March 12, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom,Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin. Absent Councilor Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Dr. John Moresi, chairman of the North Adams Board of Health, member and former chair of the Hoosac Water Quality District and faculty member of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Charles Bostwick member of the North Adams Auxiliary Police Department.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, hearing none the President called for the approval of the minutes from February 26th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,297 The President presented Mayor's communication #15 establishing an Economic Opportunity Area and a Tax Assessment Agreement.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to file the communication.

The Mayor explained that Crane will be making a $5,000,000 investment and with this expansion it will create 74 new jobs for North Adams, this will be an increase of the current employment of 206 positions to 280 and most likely will require the need for a second shift, solidifying Crane's commitment to their fine stationary division. All of the documents will be sent to the MA Office of Business Development for accuracy. Once approved it will be sent to the Economic Assistance Coordinating Council for final approval on March 26th.

Councilor Barrett asked why this was not a TIF agreement. The Mayor responded it was an investment in new jobs and not equipment.
Richard Kendall a representative from Crane said the company is not purchasing a big piece of equipment, that it was mostly IT.
Councilor Barrett expressed he was not opposed but cautioned Councilors that the City needs to watch our finances and reminded Council they walked away from the City and took the jobs to Dalton. He commended Crane's management team for getting things in order and is in full support of this but thinks we can get a better deal.
Councilor Breen said that Councilor Barrett's remarks were that of political platitudes, and she thanked Mr.

Kendall for coming before the Council. Councilor Blackmer wondered if this should go the Finance Committee since Councilor Marden is not in attendance tonight. He is involved with the economic development and he should be included in this discussion. Councilor Blackmer questioned how many of the 74 jobs would be filled by former employees from the Maine plant, saying the agreement stated that employees for the new jobs should be hired from the City and greater Northern Berkshire. Councilor Blackmer made a motion to refer to the Finance Committee with a second from Councilor Barrett.
Councilor Bona thanked Mr. Kendall for being here tonight and noted that we did lose jobs when Crane moved to Dalton and we do not want to lose 150 jobs to another community. Councilor Bullett and Bond also thanked Mr. Kendall for coming here tonight and feel this is a positive sign for things to come. Councilor Breen said its bizarre that Crane would be interrogated like this, and she feels that this is a fair agreement.
Councilor Blackmer withdrew her motion to refer to the Finance Committee.

11,297 The President presented a Resolution designating the property identified as Map 15, Lots 14B and 15 as Crane & Co. as an Economic Opportunity Area.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Resolution.

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay votes as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin. Nay none.

The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to execute a Special Tax Assessment Agreement with Crane & Co., Inc.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett asked if this will go before the State for approval. Mr. Kendall said it does have to go to the State for approval.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin. Nay none.

10,990-2a The President presented a communication submitted by the City Clerk regarding a referendum petition filed on February 28, 2013, regarding the borrowing order for the renovation of Conte School.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to file.

Councilor Breen said she was offended that someone can force us to put something on the floor that we don't want to do.

10,990-2b The President presented an Order rescinding Council Paper 10,990-2, which was adopted on February 5, 2013.

The President did not get a response from any Councilor for a motion.

The President explained a yea vote would rescind the Order and a nay vote would not.

Councilor Barrett wondered what the motion should be; Councilor Bona motioned to file, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett.

The President called for a roll call vote on the motion to file; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Bullet, Harpin. Nay Councilor Bloom and Breen.

10,990-2c The President presented an Order fixing the date of April 30, 2013 as the date for the Special Election to consider the referendum petition regarding the borrowing order for the renovations of Conte School.

Councilor Barrett said the Council had to vote on rescinding the order up or down in order to set the date of the election.
Councilor Breen said she was opposed to voting on this issue.

The President said we need to vote on the rescinding Order, that we cannot file the paper, but would like to call a short recess to talk with the City Solicitor.

The meeting resumed with John DeRosa, the City Solicitor in attendance. He explained that it is Council's duty to reconsider it. The Solicitor said that the borrowing order had been stayed as soon as the petition had been certified. Under the City Charter and State Law you must vote to either rescind the order or send it to the voters. You are all free to vote any way you wish, you have to reconsider it.

Council President asked Councilor Bona to withdraw his motion, but Councilor Bona said he did not want too. Councilor Breen again said she was unhappy that they are forced to put this on the floor when basically we are not in favor. The Solicitor said the Charter is very clear on the process and you have to reconsider.
Councilor Barrett said the fact that some 1,400 people signed the petition showed that not all questions have been answered.

The President placed Council Paper **#10,990-2b** back on the floor to be reconsidered; at the President's request Councilor Bona withdrew his original motion to file, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to rescind the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: no yeas. Nay Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin. The Order failed.

The President reintroduced Council Paper **#10,990-2c** to fix the date of the election.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Breen said the language on the petition was very deceiving.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin. Nay none.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, hearing none, the President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:59pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
March 26, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin.,Marden. Absent Councilor Bloom.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Peter Cardillo of McCann School and Ruth Riordan volunteer with the North Adams Historical Society.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned the transfer from the Tinker Fund. When was it established and can it be used for anything else beside the cemeteries, and how much is really in the fund.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of March 12th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,264-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #16 requesting a borrowing order to continue the process for ADA compliance.

The Mayor explained that this was to bring the City in compliance with the ADA, 90% of the issues can be addressed in the next few months, but not the big ones, which is the Public Safety Building and Alcombright Field. The Department of Justice sited the City with numerous violations when a complaint was filed over access to the police station. The Mayor gave a spreadsheet detailing the violations and which ones needed to be addressed.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,264-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of $250,000 for ADA Compliance under Chapter 44, Section 7(3a) of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Councilor Barrett would like to table this until the next meeting giving the Council more time to review the spreadsheet that was just given to them.
On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to table until the next meeting.

Administrative Officer Michael Canales explained this outlines everything from coat hooks to bathroom rails. This includes renovations to bathrooms, ramps, grab bars and signage as well as braille signs, elevator adjustment's, doors and bathroom renovation's at City Hall at a cost of $46,000. Windsor Lake and the campground also is a target area at a cost of $47,000. The final project will be the Police Station, which will could be in the millions.

The Mayor said that the City has three years to address these issues and the Department of Justice is aware that the Public Safety Building is a major undertaking.
Councilor Barrett asked if Council would see an analysis of the Public Safety Building.
Mayor Alcombright said a full study would be done and officials have informally met with a company who Does analyses and a request for a proposal would be forthcoming.

Councilor Breen could not understand how the City has fallen so far behind in compliance. Several times Councilor Breen pointed out the infractions at Alcombright Field.
Councilor Barrett said everything was done with the rules and regulations of the time, rules change.
The President cut off the debate of what was done in the past and reminded Council they were discussing a borrowing order.

Councilor's were in favor of tabling this until the next meeting.

11,298 The President presented Mayor's communication #17 requesting a transfer from the Tinker Fund to the Cemetery Department.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Mayor Alcombright explained that $8,000 was for removal of the existing building at Southview Cemetery, $2,000 was for a new sign and $10,000 maintenance of Hillside Cemetery. He explained he has been working with Roger Eurbin on improvements needed to Hillside Cemetery.
The fund has $42,000 and $4,000 a year is put into the trust to fund the cemeteries.

Councilor Barrett said the fund was established when E.R. Tinker died; he is in a mausoleum at Hillside Cemetery. Herb Anderson was a representative for the Tinker estate, the funds could only be used for Hillside.
Mayor Alcombright said in the past practices the fund was not just used for Hillside, it was used for the cemeteries.
Councilor Bona asked if in the past were funds ever used to purchase equipment.
Councilor Barrett acknowledged that funds had been used for equipment and labor at Southview.

The Mayor said he would come back with a split from the Tinker Fund and Perpetual Care, which has $12,000.

11,298 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $20,000 from the Tinker Fund to the Department of Public Services, Cemetery Expenses.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Barrett it was VOTED: to refer to the Mayor's Office.

Councilor Barrett noted it was important to preserve Hillside Cemetery, since it is the only cemetery divided by a highway.

11,299 The President presented an application submitted by National Grid and Verizon requesting a Public Hearing for a pole location located on Porter and Church Street.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to set the Public Hearing for April 9th at 7:30pm.

The President presented an application submitted by Mary Ann George, 656 Ashland Street for a renewal of a secondhand license in the business name of "Mary ann Antiques" located at 615 Ashland Street.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Jeffrey Hudson, 223 White Oaks Road, Williamstown for a renewal of a secondhand license in the business name of "Hudson" located at 1112 Mass MoCA Way.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by James Montepare, 100 McLain Court, Williamstown for a renewal of a secondhand license in the business name of "Empire Antiques" located at 63 Main Street.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to grant the license, with Councilor Bona abstaining.

The President presented an application submitted by Michael McMillian, 251 Houghton Street to drive taxi for David Smith, American Cab.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Barrett praised Joseph Gniadek for his hard work on the Rent control Board. His hard work and many long hours ensured the residents of Wheel Estates that their dream could happen. Councilor Marden agreed and said he has created a model for every other community. The President reminded Councilors that liaison and committee reports were due at the next meeting.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said if there is one person who can tell you about Mr. Tinker and his fund is Paul Marino. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said it is about the beautification of Hillside Cemetery, and it is a tragedy to see what has happened at the cemetery. Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street again spoke about the outreach center for the Veterans. Edward Morandi, 722 West Shaft Road asked the Mayor to please find out who is in charge of the Tinker Fund and exactly how much money is in the fund.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:35pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
April 9, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Absent Councilor Harpin.

A moment of silent prayer was observed,
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned the Tinker Fund, Perpetual Care and the cost of ADA compliance. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street thought the cost of the sign at Southview Cemetery was a little costly. Mary Ann Albee-Benoit said she wanted to clear up ADA, it consists of accessibility, services and programs.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of March 26th.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

The President declared the Public Hearing open.

11,299 An application from National Grid for a pole location on Porter Street and Church Street.

Bonnie Brown a representative from National Grid explained this new pole was because the pole in front of the new science center has to be removed.

Councilor Barrett questioned why these were not going to be underground. Bonnie Brown explained it was the main feed and we do not have the support here for underground service. It would have to come from Worcester and if the power goes out the City would be without power for quite a while. Ms. Brown explained this is the main feed unlike what is in the downtown.
Barbara Allen, 240 Church Street asked how it was affecting the abutters. Ms. Brown explained that abutters that are 300' from the location have to be notified, but this will not affect her property at all.

With no further comments the President declared the Public Hearing closed.

11,299 Application granting National Grid to erect a pole at Porter and Church Street.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to grant permission.

The Order was adopted by yea and any vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay none.

11,264-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of $250,000 for ADA Compliance under Chapter 44, Section 7(3a) of the Massachusetts General Laws, which was tabled at the meeting of March 26, 2013.

FIRST READING

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilors were given a spreadsheet at the last meeting to review for this meeting. Councilor Barrett wanted a specific time frame for the work to be completed and a definite plan on the projects.

The Mayor said it would take approximately a year to complete the work and much of the work would be done in house, probably some things on the list will not be done because some things may cost more. We do not intend to go over the $250,000 and if we don't need it we won't use it.
Councilor Barrett questioned the borrowing order of $150,000 that was done two years ago, was this not to address the issues at Windsor Lake, specifically the bathrooms.
The Mayor said yes in part, bathrooms were renovated as well as the sewer in the campground. We are talking about parking lot, the striping, ramps to get to the lake itself and play areas.
Councilor Blackmer said that it was referred to the Community Development Committee so she could answer the question, it was the bathrooms at the picnic area and the play area. It did not address the bathrooms at the campground., two different places with two sets of bathrooms.
The Mayor clarified that the handicapped bathrooms were done at the campground, not the concession area.
Councilor Barrett said he is not against this borrowing order, just wanted a see a more structured plan.
The Mayor asked Council to authorize the borrowing order and let the administration administrate.
Councilor Barrett said it is the Council's job to ask questions and I'm being criticized for doing my job.
Councilor Blackmer said at the last meeting there was discussion about St. Elizabeth's Center, and wanted to remind Council that St. Elizabeth's is not just used by the City for voting, but it is also the emergency shelter for the City.

11,298 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $20,000 from the Tinker Fund to the Department of Public Services, Cemetery Expenses, which was referred to the Mayor's Office.

Without objection the President filed the Order.

The Mayor explained at the last meeting there was concern about the proper use of the Tinker Fund. Council had requested the funds be split between the two accounts.

The Mayor said under the agreement with the Tinker Trust the money was for the maintenance or operation of Hillside Cemetery as well as St John's Church was in charge with caring for the Tinker mausoleum and it's immediate surroundings.

11,298-1 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $10,000 from the Tinker Fund to the Department of Public Services; Cemetery Expenses.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett asked if this is going to be used for the maintenance of Hillside.
Councilor Breen asked Councilor Barrett if in 2009, if the transfer from the Tinker Fund was used for Hillside Cemetery.
Councilor Barrett responded that it was used for the cemetery.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay none.

11,300 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $10,000 from Perpetual Care to the Department of Public Services; Cemetery Expenses.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden, Nay none.

11,301 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding the appointment of Michael Canales to the Hoosac Water Quality District to fill the unexpired term of Dr. John Moresi to expire March 31, 2014.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

Councilor Barrett questioned the appointment of another person from the administration. He was not questioning the ability of Mr. Canales to serve on the Board because he does have the experience.
The Board already has one representative from the administration, historically it has been a member from the public. Councilor Marden was in agreement with Councilor Barrett. Councilor Bond said this is only a year appointment and by this time next year maybe someone from the public will show an interest in serving.
Councilor Breen said the fact that Mr. Canales knows the City budget so this appointment makes sense for him to be the representative.

The Mayor felt that Mr. Canales has the knowledge of the District and he would be the perfect fit.

Councilor Barrett believes Mr. Canales is an excellent choice, but asked if the Mayor would ensure a layperson is on the board for the next appointment.

11,302 The President presented an Order calling the Special State Primary Election for April 30, 2013. Polls open at 7:00am to 8:00pm.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly second by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay none.

11,303 The President presented an Order calling the Special City Election for April 30, 2013. Polls open at 7:00am to 8:00pm.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Barrett it was VOTED: to substitute the paper.

11,303 The President presented a Substitute Paper, an Order calling the Special City Election for April 30, 2013. Polls open at 7:00am to 8:00pm.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay none.

11,260-1 Mayor's communication #18 recommending the appointments of Election Officers for a term to expire August 31, 2013.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments.

11,304 The President called for the committee assignment reports for the first quarter of 2013.

There were no reports for this quarter.

11,305 The President called for the Liaison reports for the first quarter of 2013.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

The President presented an application submitted for a renewal of a secondhand license in the business name of "Sanford and Kid", located at 160 Houghton Street, fromTimothy Randall, 181 Bracewell Avenue.
On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Brenda Wolfrum, 289 Mohawk Forest Blvd. to drive taxi for David Smith, American Cab.

Without objection the President postponed until the next meeting because the application was not able to be at the meeting.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Bullett said May 15th is the opening day for Windsor Lake Campground, and April 27th is the community clean up. Councilor Bond said April 17th at Murdock Hall there will be an informational meeting for the Conte School project.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said MCLA has students for the cleanup at Hillside. The college already has 600 students signed up for the community clean-up day.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:55pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Absent Councilor Harpin.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Carol Robare, Election Official for the City and those injured in the bombing at the Boston Marathon.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, several residents expressed their opinions on the school project. Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street, Edward Morandi, 722 West Shaft Road all spoke in opposition to the Conte School Project. Lynette Bond, 42 Holbrook Street, Eric Wilson, 116 Brayton Hill Terrace, Mary Lou Accetta, member of the North Adams School Committee, Ely Janis, 46 Davenport Street, Ben Jensen, 43 Arnold Place, Mark Moulton, member of North Adams School Committee and James Montepare, Superintendent all spoke in favor of the Conte School Project. Mary Ann Albee-Benoit noted that ADA was just not for people with disabilities.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of April 9th.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to amend the minutes regarding the opening date of Windsor Lake.

Without objection the President moved the Licenses forward.

The President presented an application submitted by Brenda Wolfrum, 289 Mohawk Forest to drive taxi for David Smith, American Cab.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Edward LaCosse, 98 Brayton Hill Terrace to drive taxi for Lori Smith, American Cab.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to grant the license.

11,264-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of $250,000 for ADA Compliance under Chapter 44, Section 7(3a) of the

Massachusetts General Laws, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of April 9th. FIRST READING

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay none. SECOND READING

11,306 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President supporting a Resolution for the Conte School Project.

Council President read his communication for the record and without objection filed the communication.

11,306 A Resolution supporting the Conte Elementary School Project.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED; to adopt the Resolution.

Council President read the Resolution for the record.

Councilors again all expressed their opinion on the Conte School Project. Councilor Barrett again said he does not believe this is the best project. Councilor Bond has spoken to some residents who are opposed to the project but he has not heard anyone come forward with a plan B.

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett.

11,307 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bond regarding Community Day of Service April 27th.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to file the communication.

Glen Maloney said it was the 21st annual Community Day of Service and if anyone would like to participate they can register at the Church Street Center at 9:00am. We currently have 15 projects slated for the day. Spencer Moser from MCLA feels the Community Day of Service forms a great relationship with the City and MCLA, we have approximately 250 folk's from MCLA and the community. There will be a group going to Hillside Cemetery to help Roger Eurbin.

11,308 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Barrett requesting the FY'12 Audit Report be placed on the City's web page.

Councilor Barrett said the Mayor has taken care of it.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to file the communication.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, hearing none the Mayor read a proclamation declaring May 5th to the 13th as Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said anyone wishing to help at Hillside Cemetery can meet between 8:00am and 9:00 am to begin the cleanup. Richie Ducett said Saturday the Better Block Project will be held on Eagle Street making temporary high impact changes. Young professionals do not want to wait for the downtown to change, it will be held from noon to 4:00pm.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:01pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
May 14, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present, due to the absence of the Assistant City Clerk the President read the roll call.

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Herbert Johnson, known as Coach, Phys. Ed. Teacher at Mark Hopkins School and Athletic Director for North Adams Public Schools, James Davis 30 year employee of the North Adams Public Works Dept. and Joanne Saltamartini 40 year North Adams pre-school teacher.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue said that he could not find the Mayor's Communication on line concerning the draft budget and asked if the Mayor would be attending the meeting. He was informed that the Mayor had a family emergency and would be unable to attend the meeting. He had several questions about the draft budget, city employees insurance, and the increase in the fees for parking on Main St. that he had wanted the Mayor to address. Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street stated that he feels the State is short changing the City and that we need to get Benjamin Downey and Gail Cariddi to help get the money that the City deserves. He also thanked the people involved in beautifying our City. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street, wanted to know why the Public Safety Committee was not involved in the decision to raise the fees for parking meters and keeping the diagonal parking on Main Street. He stated that if a van or truck were parked next to a car it was very hard to see to back out.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of April 23rd.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

Without objection the President moved the Licenses forward.

The President presented an application submitted by Alicia Moore, 211 Protection Avenue to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Matthew R. Sacco, 270 Walker Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to grant the license.

11,309 The President presented Mayor's communication #19 submitting the draft budget for FY'14.

Council President read the communication and without objection moved to file the communication. Councilor Blackmer questioned the meeting of June 28th that the Mayor referred to as the date of having the final budget adopted. The 28th was a Friday and due to the Special State Election on June 25th, according to ordinance the regular scheduled council meeting must be moved to Wednesday, June 26th. Councilor Marden said he believed that the final budget voting would be on the 26th of June.

11,309 The President presented a Draft Budget appropriating the sum of $36,612,003 for FY'14.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee.

Councilor Barrett objected to the budget being submitted in draft form and to not having the Classification and Compensation plans submitted at the same time. Looking at the Scanlon Audit it shows a cash deficient and that the council needs to look at spending. Councilor Barrett would like the school budget to be given to the council for review. He had heard of possible changes to departments and felt the public should be aware of them. Councilor Marden assured Barrett that formal budget hearings would be held following the June 11th meeting when the budget is officially submitted. He also would speak to the Mayor about getting the Classification and Compensation Plans and a copy of the School Budget. Councilor Blackmer requested that Councilor Marden urge the mayor to submit the compensation and classification plans within the next week, allowing the finance committee and council to have ample time to review them. Councilor Breen felt that the process of a draft budget was very simple and it was obvious that things will change during the three scheduled meetings. After much discussion between Councilor Breen and Councilor Barrett over the issue of a draft budget Councilor Barret moved the question with all in favor except Councilor Bloom.

11,310 The President presented a communication submitted by the Traffic Commission regarding parking meters in the downtown.

The President stated that due to a medical emergency in the Mayor's family that, the Mayor had requested that all three papers concerning parking meters in the downtown be referred back to the Mayor's office and would be presented in two weeks at the May 28th meeting.
Without objection the President referred the communication and accompanying ordinances back to the Mayor's Office.

The President read correspondence announcing the Drury High School Senior Citizens Prom to be held at the Drury High School Gym on May 21st and the invitation to attend the Hoosic River Revival Community Conversation to be held June 15th at St. Elizabeth Parish Center.

Councilor Marden stated that the Assistant Clerk and Administrative Officer were not present due to their own family emergency. He also wanted to send best wishes to the Mayor's Mother.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Breen reminded people about the Dancing In The Street benefit for the Relay for Life to be held Saturday May 25th on Main Street at 4:00pm to 5:30pm. Councilor Harpin said that the Councilor's were invited to the Sullivan School Memorial Day Ceremony to be held at the school on May 24th at 10:00a.m. and should let the principal know if they would be attending. Councilor Bullet wanted to congratulate all the graduates of MCLA and noted that the graduation was on

Saturday, May 18th. Councilor Blackmer stated that the Relay for Life will be held on May 30th, May 31st, and June 1st and people could still join or donate to the event. She reminded all the Councilor's about the MASS

Council Association meeting in Quincy. Councilor Bona wanted to welcome the new Bed and Breakfast named The Inn on East Main Street owned by Nancy Fritz Torkington. Nancy's great-grandparents Charles and Effie Cutting built the house in the 1800's.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street spoke about needing a veterans outreach specialist and outreach center for our veterans returning from war. He also said that he had brought Norman Damico to the meeting and due to the laughing and talking in the gallery Norm was unable to hear a lot of the meeting. He felt that the President needed to gavel the people causing the disturbance. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street stated that Councilor Breen had made a racist remark about his wife and he felt she owed him and his wife an apology and should resign. Roger Urban 677 Ashland Street said that funds from the Tinker Trust had again been questioned and that according to the agreement it can be used for maintenance and operation of Hillside Cemetery. Donations are still coming in for the restoration of Hillside Cemetery.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:20pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Nancy T. Canales
Assistant City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
May 28, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Ida Trabold, teacher at Freeman and Sullivan Elementary Schools, North Adams Election poll worker and the oldest living graduate of MCLA. Edmond Perras provisional patrolman for the City of North Adams.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street, asked why residents were being forced into the community power group, we should be able to say yes or no before it happens.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of May 14th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

Without objection the President moved Council paper 11,312 forward.

11,312 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President on behalf of Melissa Quirk to present the Drury High School's ninth grade Honors English class presentation of their visions for a better North Adams.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Melissa Quirk, English Teacher at Drury High School thanked the Council for the opportunity for these student to give their ideas for the future of North Adams.

Nikki Crews, Madison Marceau, Madison Tarsa, Lakeria Darkis, Jacob Keplinger, Molly Moulton, Ingrid Olsen, Katie Toomey and Katelynn LaCosse all gave their presentations on the future progress of North Adams.

11,310 The President presented a communication submitted by the Traffic Commission regarding parking meters in the downtown, which was referred back to the Mayor's office and postponed to the meeting of May 28th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of June 26th.

11,310 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article VI entitled Parking Meters, Section 13-58 Parking meter zones, which was referred back to the Mayor's office and postpone to the meeting of May 28th.

On motion of Councilors Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to June 26th.

11,310-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article VI entitled Parking Meters, Section 13-61 Fees for different zones, which was referred back to the Mayor's office and postpone to the meeting of May 28th.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of June 26th.

11,311 The President presented Mayor's communication #21 asking the Council to approve an Order for a residential electric Community Choice Aggregation Program.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to amend the communication # to read **#20** and file the communication.

Michael Canales, Administrative Officer explained that there were 10 other communities involved this aggregation. Florida, Williamstown, Dalton, Lenox, New Marlborough, Sheffield, Tyringham and West Stockbridge. Great Barrington is also looking at this proposal.

Several Councilors were just concerned about the process of opting in and out for the customers.

Mark Cappadona representative from Colonial Power Group who will manage the aggregation explained that National Grid would continue to be the distributor. The meters and billing will still come from National Grid. Thirty days before the switch customers will be sent a mailing explaining the program and they will have the option whether they would like to participate or not. Customers can opt out of the program at any time.

Mr. Canales said the he does not expect the savings to be dramatic, but with the rates at historic lows this is the prime time to lock in rates now, this would provide stability to the customers.

11,311 The President presented an Order adopting the Community Power Supply Program, Aggregation Plan as prepared by Colonial Power Group, Inc.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Barrett asked the Mayor when the contract with Time Warner will be settled. Councilor Barrett said that they are taking advantage of the customers. Councilor Bona said students from our community are going to compete in the State Science Fair this week-end and he

wishes them all good luck. Councilor Blackmer reminded residents about relay for life this coming week-end. Mayor Alcombright thanked Mark Sprague for his hard work in planning the Memorial Day Ceremony Saturday, May 18th.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned why the City was not joining in with Colonial Power along with the residents. Craig Baldessarini, 48 Lyman Street, Donna Gardner, 301 Walnut Street, Cheryl Gardner, 22 Front Street, Williamstown all complained about the conditions of Southview Cemetery. Fran Facchetti, 202 Furnace Street was concerned about the conditions on the footbridge, he walks every day and the blacktop is all broken up and it is very dark at night. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street was reminded not make any personal attacks, but he continued to do so. Council President asked Mr. Cardimino to please sit down and he refused, so a motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Blackmer.
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:00pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
June 11, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Councilor Bona absent.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering former Governor Argeo Paul Cellucci.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue was concerned about the school budget. The school offices are looking at renting space over Berkshire Bank at a cost of $69,000 and this is an expense that is not necessary, possibly City Hall could have room for these offices or put some money into Notre Dame School. The space over Berkshire Bank does not have adequate parking.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of May 28th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,309 The President presented a draft budget appropriating the sum of $36,612,003 for FY'14, which was referred to the Finance committee at the meeting of May 14th.

Councilor Marden said the Finance Committee did have three meetings but they did not have a report to present.
On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to filed the draft budget.

11,313 The President presented Mayor's communication #21 presenting the FY'14 Budget, and Classification & Compensation Plan.

The Mayor explained this budget shows an increase of .59% over FY'13 and since FY'11 the budget has increased only 1.55%. The major financial differences in this year's budget are the decrease in Health Insurance due to new changes in the City's insurance plans, an increase in pensions, Veterans Benefits, Hoosac Water Quality District and Public Safety. The budget is reflective of 6 full time and 1 part-time City employees. These positions are the Commissioner of Public Safety, DPW employee, police officer, Clerical position in the Treasurer's Office, Assistant Health Inspector, Library employee and Part-time clerk in

the Assessor's Office. The FY'14 budget is out of balance (deficit) with anticipated revenues by $335,005 and is truly reflective of necessary costs to maintain municipal and school services at expected levels. This compared to the more than $2.5 million deficit in FY'10 clearly shows that we have truly come a long way, and while we are closing the gap, our toughest days are in front of us.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,313 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $36,493,884 to be raised by taxation for FY'14.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee.

Councilor Barrett said the City did not have a structural deficit and in FY'11 the City had $4 million in reserves. Councilor Barrett also asked the Mayor if there were any big changes of the adjustments in the compensation and classification plan. The Mayor said there was not and the only one was the Assistant City Clerk, which was submitted by the clerk and the President. Councilor Barrett disagreed with the Mayor saying he has the classification in front of him and there are several reclassifications as well as changes in the comp plan. The Mayor said he did not have the figures in front of him. Councilor Barrett wonders why we were giving raises when we don't have enough money for overtime for our ball fields or our cemeteries but we have money for raises. Councilor Barrett hoped the rest of the Council would take a good look at the budget and the classification and compensation plan before voting on it June 26th.

The Mayor said the City has been using reserves for as long as he can remember, and we cannot continue to sustain our budget with reserves.

Councilor Barrett and the Mayor were continually going over past budgets, tax rates and the use of reserves.

Councilor Bullett suggested perhaps that it would be better to see any savings laid out, since there was such a difference of opinions. The past is the past and present is the present, we need to focus on the future.

11,314 The President presented an Order amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, the Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'14.

The President explained that a motion to amend would be in order, since it should be an Ordinance.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to amend to read **BE IT ORDAINED BY the City of North Adams as follows:**

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee and pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin as required by law.

11,315 The President presented a request for a Public Hearing from National Grid and Verizon for a joint pole located on Blackinton Street.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for June 26th at 7:30pm.

11,316 The President presented a request for a Public Hearing from National Grid and Verizon for a joint pole located on Hawthorn Avenue.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for June 26th at 7:30pm.

11,317 The President presented an Order calling the Special State Election for June 25, 2013. Pools open at 7:00am and close at 8:00pm.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED; to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Blackmer reminded everyone about the Hoosic River Revival on Saturday June 15th at 1:00pm at St. Elizabeth's Parish Center. Councilor Blackmer also reminded Councilors the next meeting would be on Wednesday June 26th because of the Election. Councilor Harpin said she did a TV show with the 9th grade students with their ideas for the future of North Adams, she hopes Councilors will help them with their dreams for North Adams. Councilor Harpin also wonder what has become of the Youth Commission.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Edward Morandi, 722 West Shaft Road thanked Keith Bona for his help in honoring Dr. John Moresi for all he had done with the Sister City Tremosine. Mr. Morandi was disappointed to see the money for the Sister City was removed from the budget. Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour Street questioned why the money was appropriated for the removal of the building at the cemetery and it not been used to remove the building as of yet and work to clean up the entrance, it is a real mess at the cemetery. Patricia Wol, 78 Tremont Street was concerned about the wasteful things the City is spending their money on, siting the brochures sent to the residents about the water. The residents could have been informed with a simple letter printed on both sides with the information need, not such a colorful expensive brochure. The City has more things they should be focusing their time and money on, such as the intersections around the downtown, they are very dangerous for walkers since they are all covered with sand, which also covers the storm drains. Ms. Wol also wonders how much time Mr. Canales spent on the electricity with Community Choice, it seems his resources could be put to better use. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said that good progress was being made at Hillside Cemetery. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:52pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
June 11, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Councilor Bona absent.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering former Governor Argeo Paul Cellucci.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Robert Moulton, 985 Massachusetts Avenue was concerned about the school budget. The school offices are looking at renting space over Berkshire Bank at a cost of $69,000 and this is an expense that is not necessary, possibly City Hall could have room for these offices or put some money into Notre Dame School. The space over Berkshire Bank does not have adequate parking.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of May 28th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

11,309 The President presented a draft budget appropriating the sum of $36,612,003 for FY'14, which was referred to the Finance committee at the meeting of May 14th.

Councilor Marden said the Finance Committee did have three meetings but they did not have a report to present.
On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to filed the draft budget.

11,313 The President presented Mayor's communication #21 presenting the FY'14 Budget, and Classification & Compensation Plan.

The Mayor explained this budget shows an increase of .59% over FY'13 and since FY'11 the budget has increased only 1.55%. The major financial differences in this year's budget are the decrease in Health Insurance due to new changes in the City's insurance plans, an increase in pensions, Veterans Benefits, Hoosac Water Quality District and Public Safety. The budget is reflective of the elimination 6 full time and 1 part-time City employees. These positions are the Commissioner of Public Safety, DPW employee, police officer,

Clerical position in the Treasurer's Office, Assistant Health Inspector, Library employee and Part-time clerk in the Assessor's Office. The FY'14 budget is out of balance (deficit) with anticipated revenues by $335,005 and is truly reflective of necessary costs to maintain municipal and school services at expected levels. This compared to the more than $2.5 million deficit in FY'10 clearly shows that we have truly come a long way, and while we are closing the gap, our toughest days are in front of us.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,313 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $36,493,884 to be raised by taxation for FY'14.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee.

Councilor Barrett said the City did not have a structural deficit and in FY'11 the City had $4 million in reserves. Councilor Barrett also asked the Mayor if there were any big changes of the adjustments in the compensation and classification plan. The Mayor said there was not and the only one was the Assistant City Clerk, which was submitted by the clerk and the President. Councilor Barrett disagreed with the Mayor saying he has the classification in front of him and there are several reclassifications as well as changes in the comp plan. The Mayor said he did not have the figures in front of him. Councilor Barrett wonders why we were giving raises when we don't have enough money for overtime for our ball fields or our cemeteries but we have money for raises. Councilor Barrett hoped the rest of the Council would take a good look at the budget and the classification and compensation plan before voting on it June 26th.

The Mayor said the City has been using reserves for as long as he can remember, and we cannot continue to sustain our budget with reserves.

Councilor Barrett and the Mayor were continually going over past budgets, tax rates and the use of reserves.

Councilor Bullett suggested perhaps that it would be better to see any savings laid out, since there was such a difference of opinions. The past is the past and present is the present, we need to focus on the future.

11,314 The President presented an Order amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, the Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'14.

The President explained that a motion to amend would be in order, since it should be an Ordinance.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to amend to read **BE IT ORDAINED BY the City of North Adams as follows:**

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee and pass to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin as required by law.

11,315 The President presented a request for a Public Hearing from National Grid and Verizon for a joint pole located on Blackinton Street.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for June 26th at 7:30pm.

11,316 The President presented a request for a Public Hearing from National Grid and Verizon for a joint pole located on Hawthorn Avenue.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for June 26th at 7:30pm.

11,317 The President presented an Order calling the Special State Election for June 25, 2013. Pools open at 7:00am and close at 8:00pm.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED; to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Blackmer reminded everyone about the Hoosic River Revival on Saturday June 15th at 1:00pm at St. Elizabeth's Parish Center. Councilor Blackmer also reminded Councilors the next meeting would be on Wednesday June 26th because of the Election. Councilor Harpin said she did a TV show with the 9th grade students with their ideas for the future of North Adams, she hopes Councilors will help them with their dreams for North Adams. Councilor Harpin also wonder what has become of the Youth Commission.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Edward Morandi, 722 West Shaft Road thanked Keith Bona for his help in honoring Dr. John Moresi for all he had done with the Sister City Tremosine. Mr. Morandi was disappointed to see the money for the Sister City was removed from the budget. Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour Street questioned why the money was appropriated for the removal of the building at the cemetery and it not been used to remove the building as of yet and work to clean up the entrance, it is a real mess at the cemetery. Patricia Wol, 78 Tremont Street was concerned about the wasteful things the City is spending their money on, siting the brochures sent to the residents about the water. The residents could have been informed with a simple letter printed on both sides with the information need, not such a colorful expensive brochure. The City has more things they should be focusing their time and money on, such as the intersections around the downtown, they are very dangerous for walkers since they are all covered with sand, which also covers the storm drains. Ms. Wol also wonders how much time Mr. Canales spent on the electricity with Community Choice, it seems his resources could be put to better use. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said that good progress was being made at Hillside Cemetery. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:52pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
June 26, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Martin Levin, school counselor at the South Forty Program at the transition room at Conte Middle School and at the Community Transition Program.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue complained about Council paper #11,310 parking meters said he has never heard about the parking on Main Street and the markings on the street. How much money are they going to borrow for these meters? We gave out parking spaces this week-end for Wilco. If the City had charged $10.00 to park, the City could have picked up some extra revenue. There are opportunities here and we are not taking advantage of them. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street was advised by Council President that he found his shirt disruptive and it was not conducive to the decorum of this meeting. Council President ruled Mr. Cardimino out of order and asked him to leave.

Council President called for a short recess to have Mr. Cardimino escorted out of the meeting.

Council President called the meeting back to order at 7:36pm.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of June 11th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

Councilor Marden made a small amendment to the last paragraph on the first page to read the budget is reflective of the elimination of 6 full time and 1 part time City employees, seconded by Councilor Bond.

The President declared the Public Hearing open.

11,315 The President presented the request from National Grid and Verizon for a joint pole located on Blackinton Street.

Rick Naleski a representative from National Grid explained the wires were going to be removed for the new science building at MCLA.
Mr. Stakenas, Vice President of Administrative Finance at MCLA said the relocation of the lines is for

the science building, giving the college full view of the new building and by doing so it will make it more assessable for fire trucks.

11,316 The President presented the request from National Grid and Verizon for a joint pole location on Hawthorne Ave.

Rick Naleski a representative from National Grid explained the span between pole 5 and 7 was too long so a new pole was needed.

The President declared the Public Hearing closed.

11,315 The President presented an Order granting National Grid and Verizon to erect and maintain one (1) pole on Blackinton Street.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to grant.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,316 The President presented an Order granting National Grid and Verizon permission to erect and maintain one (1) pole on Hawthorne Avenue.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to grant.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,310 The President presented a communication submitted by the Traffic Commission regarding parking meters in the downtown, which was postponed at the meeting of June 26th.

The Mayor said after reviewing the documentation he was recommending only one revision to the Ordinance, that being an increase in the rate from .10 cents per hour to **.25 cents per hour rather than .50 cents per hour.** To address Mr. Trottier's concerns, we will be reviewing the trouble spots identified and re-striping the spaces accordingly.

11,310 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article VI entitled Parking Meters, Section 13-58 Parking meter zones, which was postponed to the meeting of June 26th.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law and refer to the Public Safety Committee.

11,310-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article VI entitled Parking Meters, Section 13-61 Fees for different zones, which was postponed to the meeting of June 26th.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law.

Councilors Barrett and Blackmer felt a new ordinance should have been submitted. Councilor Barrett wanted the paper referred to the Public Safety Committee for review of the changes. Councilor Blackmer was

concerned about the time frame to schedule a meeting, with the holiday next week. Councilor Breen said this should not be labored any longer and was not in favor of sending it to committee. Councilor Breen noted she would not attend a meeting, and does not understand why the Council cannot just pass it tonight. Councilor Breen said it was ridiculous to send to Public Safety for striping the lines. Councilor Blackmer said it is not just about striping the lines, this is an Ordinance. Councilor Bona noted this is fairly new and it is important to have input about the meters. The striping of lines has been discussed many times by the committee.
Councilor Barrett withdrew his original motion, seconded by Councilor Bona.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to pass to a second reading and publish as required by law as amended and refer to the Public Safety Committee. Councilor Breen opposed.

11,313 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $36,493,884 to be raised be taxation for FY'14.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to waive reading the minutes from all the meetings of the Finance Committee.
Councilor Marden gave a verbal report of the Finance Committee from June 18th. Councilor Marden said the committee had five meetings on the budget and they are recommending the adoption of the FY'14 budget to the full Council.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

Councilor Barrett said the budget does not fully reflect the actual spending package of the City, several salaries only reflect a portion of what the City pays. Salaries should be reflected in the budget even though they are funded through grants. It should be noted by an asterisk for transparency.

The Mayor said the budget reflects what the City is actually spending and reflects what needs to be raised in taxes, less State aid.
Councilor Breen questioned why the $4,900 was added for the Assistant City Clerk. The Mayor explained it was voted on by this Council by the recommendation of the Clerk and Council President.
Councilor Barrett objected to the raises in the compensation plan for certain employees, the Treasurer's office has increases for all positions.
Mr. Canales, Administrative Office explained there is a savings of $35,000 despite the raises and reclassifying some positions to reflect added duties.
Councilor Barrett said these were all good people but I'm bothered that some people were left out.
The Mayor noted all the adjustments that have been made are rewarding people who are taking on additional responsibilities and who have been under paid for years.

Councilor Marden, chairman of the Finance Committee, Councilors Blackmer and Bond read the budget for approval.

TOTAL FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT $1,210,857.00 .

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve General Government as presented, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

TOTAL FOR PUBLIC SAFETY $4,583,106.00.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve Public Safety as presented, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

TOTAL FOR PUBLIC SERVICES $3,062,924.00.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to approve Public Services as presented, with Councilor Barrett Opposed.

TOTAL FOR SCHOOL DEPARTMENT $15,890,000.00.

Councilor Barrett motioned that $150,000 be reduced in the salary account, seconded by Councilor Bona. Councilor Barrett said the Superintendent salary is going from $121,000.00 to $123,000.00 at a time when we are cutting. The School Committee could replace it with funds from its School Choice account.
The Mayor noted this was a step increase for the Superintendent.
Councilor Barrett claimed the net school spending was wrong and the district was $200,000 over amount required.
After much discussion Councilor Barrett moved the question.
Council President called for a roll call vote on moving the question, yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Bloom, Bona, Bullett.
Council President called for a roll call vote on reducing the salary account by $150,000, yea Councilor Barrett. Nay Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond,Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve School Department as presented, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

TOTAL FOR PENSIONS $2,286,037.00.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED to accept as presented.

TOTAL FOR UNCLASSIFIED $6,863,595.00

Councilor Barrett motioned that $75,000 be reduced from Medical Insurance, removing elected officials from the insurance. Councilor Breen noted she ran her campaign on no health insurance for elected officials. With the cost of health insurance it is like receiving a huge salary from the City.
Councilor Bona said cutting the funding would not guarantee it would come out of the insurance line. Councilor Blackmer questioned Councilor Barrett's calculations, but felt any funds should not be removed until the policy is changed.
After much discussion on the reduction the President called for a roll call vote, yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to approve Unclassified as presented, with Councilor Barrett opposed.

TOTAL FOR CAPITAL $955,000.00.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve Capital as presented.

TOTAL FOR INTEREST $ 311,432.00.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve Interest as presented.

TOTAL FOR DEBT $1,330,933.00.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

RECAPITULATION SHEET $36,493,884.00.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept as presented.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order as presented.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden, Nay Councilor Barrett.

11,314 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, the Classification Plan and Section 2-28(a), Section B the Compensation Plan for FY'14, which was referred to the Finance Committee and passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin and postponed at the meeting of June 11th.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

Councilor Barrett motioned that PT-1B, reserve police officers be amended to $115.00 per diem + 6.00 differential for shifts B and C, duly seconded by Councilor Marden.
The Mayor said this is an administrative decision and he would be bringing the reserve police officers in when he settles with the police union. I have no idea how we can work this into the budget and what impact it would have at this time.
Councilor Breen said it is not only the reserve police who put their lives on the line, everyone does. This is very arbitrary and it is not our roll as Councilors.
Councilor Breen asked if there is money for this increase. The Mayor answered "no", could it work "yes".
Councilor Barrett said it is our job to act on recommendations and we do have the right. The last time the reserve officers had an increase was in July 2009, they are not part of the union.
Councilor Blackmer agreed and does not want to see them get lost in the shuffle and they should be considered, I will continue to advocate for them.

Council President suggested Council consider a salary increase for the Mayor, currently the Mayor's salary is $84,470 and it has not changes for several years. I would respectfully propose the increase effective January 1, 2014 to be $88,693. This is reflective of a 5% increase or $4,223 to the current salary for the Mayor. Funding this increase for a half year would be $2,111.

Consideration for the increase died without a motion. Councilor Marden said he supported giving the Mayor a raise but did not think the Council should be changing line items. Councilor Breen noted the Mayor has said at

the finance committee meetings that he did not want a raise, but perhaps giving him a basket of cookies would be nice, since he like cookies.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett.

11,317 The President presented Mayor's communication #22 recommending the re-appointment of Wayne Wilkinson to the Planning Board for a term to expire February 1, 2016.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

11,318 The President presented Mayor's communication #23 recommending the appointment of Lynette Bond to the Planning Board for a term to expire February 1, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

Councilor Barrett questioned the term of the appointment on the Planning Board, noting it should be a five year term.

Councilor Blackmer withdrew her original motion, seconded by Councilor Bona.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of July 9th.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Bona congratulated students who placed in the State Science Fair. He noted his daughter Elizabeth came in seconded for the 8th grade, as well as 4 other students from Brayton and Greylock School. Councilor Bond thanked everyone involved in the three day event of Wilco. Councilor Bullett thanked the Public Safety Committee for a job well done on Wilco week-end. President thanked the Finance Committee for their hard work on the FY'14 budget. The Mayor noted that the $500.00 for the City Sister was not cut from the budget.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street responded to a recent comment about Hillsdie Cemetery. The cemetery is making progress and there is a plan, it just takes time and the weather has not been on our side.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:52pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
July 9, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden absent Councilor Harpin.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors hearing none he moved to the next item on the agenda.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of June 26th.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,310 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article VI entitled Parking Meters, Section 13-58 Parking meter zones, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of June 26th.

Councilor Blackmer gave a report from the Public Safety Committee which met on July 8, 2013. The committee recommended that the hours of the operation of the meters be 8am –7pm, also increasing the meter rates from 10 cents to 25 cents per hour and increasing the time from 1 to 2 hours for parking.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to accept the Committee report.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance as amended.

Councilor Barrett asked about enforcement of the time change. The Mayor also asked if they had considered coverage for the extra hours from 5pm to 7pm. Councilor Bona said that the issue had been brought up at the meeting. There will be stickers on the meters telling people the fees and times of enforcement. The Parking Clerk is not on the streets all the hours that meters are required. Random check of meters and staggered hours for the Clerk was suggested. Councilor Barrett asked if the committee had looked at the fees of other

communities. Councilor Blackmer said that most communities charge and some like Adams charge as much as a dollar an hour. The committee did not take a survey of other communities. Councilor Barrett stated that Pittsfield has free parking. Councilor Barrett , through the chair, asked how much added revenue the new meters would produce. The Mayor stated that when he comes in with the transfers on July 15th he would have some numbers for the Council on the projected revenue.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden, nay none.

11,310-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article VI entitled Parking Meters, Section 13-61 Fees for different zones, which was passed to a second reading and oublish as required by law at the meeting of June 26th.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Ordinance.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay voted as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden, nay none.

11,318 The President presented Mayor's communication #23 recommending the appointment of Lynette Bond to the Planning Board for a term to expire February 1, 2015, which was postponed at the meeting of June 26th.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

Councilor Barrett objected to the appointment. He felt that Joseph Gniadek had done a great job for the City and should not be replaced. Councilor Breen also agreed that Joseph Gniadek , who had been her teacher, had served the City well but that Lynette Bond is qualified for the job. She has felt, since being on the Council, that it is good to have new people on the boards. Councilor Bona stated that several people have not been reappointed on the Planning Board when their term has expired. When any new administration takes over it is not uncommon to have new people appointed to the boards, a 50/50 mix of new and old can be an asset to the City. The Mayor feels that Lynette Bond will be an asset to the board. The Mayor noted that Councilor Barrett had been correct at the last meeting that the Ordinance states that it is a five year term therefore changing the expiration date to February 1, 2018. Councilor Blackmer said that she has always felt that if positions are becoming available in the City that the public should be made aware of them. Councilor Breen moved the question.

Councilor Blackmer withdrew her original motion, seconded by Councilor Marden.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment as amended with Councilor Barrett opposed and Councilor Bond abstaining.

11,319 Mayor's communication #24 regarding a Special Municipal Employee under the provisions of M.G.L., Chapter 121B, Section 4, and Chapter 268A, Section 1(n).

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,319 The President presented an Order accepting the provisions of M.G.L., Chapter 268A, Section 1(n) Special Municipal Employee under the North Adams Redevelopment Authority.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett strongly objected to the Mayor's order allowing the City's Redevelopment Authority to hire an outside attorney to represent the City during negotiations to privatize Western Gateway Heritage State Park. He questioned why it has taken a year since the RFP had been awarded for negotiations to begin and where the MassWorks grant funds had gone. The Mayor said the funds for the MassWorks Grant were recalled by Gov. Patrick prior to the end of the fiscal year with the promise of being released after the state budget was finalized. The negotiations were just beginning now as the NADT had secured a significant amount of investors to finance their proposal. Councilor Barrett told the Mayor he was not trying to delay the project, he was trying to stop, it he does not believe it is in the best interest of the City. Councilor Barrett agreed with Councilor Breen that the City Solicitor's affiliation with the interested parties in the negotiation has come into question before. Councilor Barrett asked why nothing has been done in over a year. He wanted to know why no other company or organization was given the option of developing the park only the North Adams Development Trust Inc. Councilor Breen said she felt that a separate lawyer should be hired and that if Councilor Barrett feels that something unethical is going on as he said he should report it to the Ethics Commission. Councilor Marden felt there was no need for the acceptance of this order. Councilor Blackmer said it is common practice to use this chapter of the law.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, nay Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Marden.

11,320 The President presented a Communication submitted by Councilor Bond regarding traffic on North Street.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Safety Committee.

Councilor Bona as a resident of North Street said that the speeding on North Street has been an ongoing problem and that the law states 30 miles an hour in a residential area. A speed sign had been placed on a lawn on North Street and that the Traffic Commission has been assessing the problem. Councilor Blackmer also has been approached about the speeding on North Street. Councilor Bullett as a person who walks in this area would like to see something done. The Mayor said that the North Street neighborhood is being looked at by the City with concerns about stop signs and children playing signs. Councilor Blackmer said she would like to see the Traffic Commission meet more often to address the speeding issues in the City.

Councilor Bond withdrew his original motion, second by Councilor Bullett.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to refer to the Traffic Commission and postpone to the meeting of September 24th.

11,304-1 The President called for the Committee assignment reports for the second quarter of 2013.

The President without objection postponed the reports to the meeting of July 23rd.

11,305-1 The President called for the Liaison reports for the second quarter of 2013.

The President without objection postponed the reports to the meeting of July 23rd.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Bona said that all the City Council Members were invited to the grand opening of the restaurant MediTerra which will be held July 10th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Councilor Blackmer reminded everyone about the Eagle Street Beach Party on July 12th from 3:30pm – 6:30pm family-oriented and from 7:00pm to 10:00pm is the adult-oriented Fiesta. Councilor Bullett asked for volunteers to help spread the sand for the Beach Party at 1:00p.m. The Mayor, on behalf of Shirley Davis, invited the community to the Uno Project Neighborhood tag sale, about 10 or 12 households in the Bracewell Ave. area will participate. The hours will be Saturday July 13th from 9:00am to

4:00pm. Part of the money made by the individual households will be donated to the Uno Project. Councilor Barrett asked the Mayor when the transfers for the end of the year would be available to the Council. The Mayor said they would try to have the papers on Friday but if that was not possible they would be emailed or be delivered before the meeting on Monday.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Edward Morandi, 722 West Shaft Road spoke about Heritage Park. He said he had stacks of papers about the park outlining different offers that were brought up and investors who were willing to take over the park. As far as he could see nothing is happening. The Redevelopment has no members and one member should be appointed by the Governor. He does not like the way things appear to be controlled by manipulation. The Mayor tried to respond to Mr. Morandi but Councilor Barrett interjected and said he felt under Open Forum there was no rebuttal allowed. The President responded and said that according to the Council Rules because the meeting is live the Mayor has the right to correct any information that may be incorrectly given by an individual. The Mayor withdrew his request to dispute what was said by Mr. Morandi and said he would have a report at the next meeting. Mr. Morandi asked to speak again but was told by the President that he had spoken more that his allowed two minutes. MaryAnn Benoit-Albee, 16 Rand Street wanted to congratulate the UKBT Gospel Music Channel on their 30 year anniversary which is listener supported.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:45 p.m
A True Record.
Attest,

Nancy T. Canales
Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
July 15, 2013

Vice President Blackmer in the Chair

On Roll Call the following responded: Councilors Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden, absent Councilor Bloom.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance

11,321 The President presented Mayor's communication #25 recommending year end transfers for FY'13.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,321 The President presented an Order transferring the sum $325,601.50 from several accounts to several accounts.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett asked for clarification in the increases in the salary accounts in departments outside the Police and Public Service. When I asked about pay raises, Mayor you said at the time every account had enough money to pay salaries except Police and Public Services. The Order shows several accounts having transfers from expense accounts for salaries. Councilor Barrett noted the latest audit recommended against year end transfers. He said he would not be voting for this transfer because they were adding to the FY'13 budget that has already been approved by this Council.
Councilor Bona noted that the salaries balanced themselves out. Councilor Harpin noted she did not receive her papers until Monday afternoon and has not had time to properly review them. Thereof she will be voting against this request.
The Mayor said the majority of the transfers were results of anticipated salary account overruns from overtime in Police, Fire and Public Services departments. Several employees received automatic step increases which result in increases.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona,

Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, Harpin.

11,322 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $252,241.53 from the Stabilization Account to several accounts.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, Harpin.

11,323 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $153,542.68 from the Landfill Reserve Account to Department of Public Safety.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett asked if there was a shortage of $150,000.00 in the Transfer Station. The Mayor said $50,000.00 was removal of trash and $100,000 for Tighe and Bond Engineering services. Councilor Barrett asked Councilor Marden if the Finance Committee was aware of this and Councilor Marden said they were not.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett,Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, Harpin.

11,324 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $17,978.67 from the Parking Meter Reserve Account to Department of Public Safety.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and Nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, Harpin.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:01pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
July 23, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Harpin, Marden, absent Councilor Barrett, Breen, Bullett.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Arthur Brule former McCann School Committee member.

Councilor Barrett entered the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors hearing none the President called for the approval of the minutes of July 9th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting of July 15th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,304-1 The President called for the committee assignments for the second quarter of 2013, which were postponed at the meeting of July 9th.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED; to accept the committee assignments as presented.

11,305-1 The President called for the liaison reports for the second quarter of 2013, which were postponed at the meeting of July 9th.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to accept the liaison reports as presented.

11,325 The President presented Mayor's communication #26 recommending permission for the Jehovah Witness, Clarksburg to make connection to the North Adams Sewer System.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,325 The President presented an Order granting permission to the North Adams Congregation of Jehovah Witness, Clarksburg to make connection to the North Adams Sewer System.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Harpin. Nay none. Councilor Marden abstained.

11,326 The President presented Mayor's communication #27 recommending permission to Richard Bernardi, Fairview Avenue, Clarksburg to make connection to the North Adams Sewer System.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,326 The President presented an Order granting permission to Richard Bernardi, Fairview Avenue, Clarksburg to make connection to the North Adams Sewer system.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,327 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Harpin regarding changes Ttime Warner is making.

Councilor Harpin said Representative Gailanne Cariddi was unable to attend the meeting since she was still in Boston, but Michael Putnam and David Fabino from Northern Berkshire Community Television were here to talk about the changes.
Michael Putnam, President of the Board of Directors for Northern Berkshire Community Television said all old TV's will need a converter (digital adaptor). Channels 2 to 22 will be digital by the end of the year. Dave Fabino, Executive Director of Northern Berkshire Community Television showed residents the box they will need and noted it comes with everything needed. If Time Warner comes to the house to install it will cost $40.00 and if any old wiring needs to be replaced there is no charge for the wiring. Mr. Fabino noted the public access channels will now be on 116.
Councilor Barrett asked Council President to send a letter to the director of Government Relations for Time Warner, inviting them to attend the next Council meeting to answer questions for the Council concerns.
The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, hearing none the President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none a motion to adjourn was in Order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:07pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
August 13, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden, absent Councilor Bullett.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Roger Eurbin 677 Ashland Street spoke in favor of the Veteran's Outreach Center.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of July 23rd.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,327-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President requesting a representative from Time Warner to speak to Council on the upcoming changes.

John Mucha, government relations representative for Time Warner spoke to the Council on changes from analogue to digital.
All Councilor's had questions and concerns for Mr. Mucha, concerning the networks and programming.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,328 The President presented Mayor's communication #28 recommending the appointment of Jennifer Flynn Bernard to the Human Services Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2016.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

11,329 The President presented Mayor's communication #29 recommending the appointment of JoAnn Lipa-Bates to the Human Services Commission to fill the unexpired term of Maria Diamond to expire February 1, 2016.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

11,330 The President presented Mayor's communication #30 recommending a transfer from the Parking Meter Reserve Account to General Government.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,330 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $19,236.24 from the Parking Meter Reserve Account to General Government.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett asked how much in new revenue would this generate. The Mayor and Mr. Canales did not have a figure for that, but the Mayor said about 50%.
Councilor Blackmer noted that replacement parts were no longer available and the City would need to be buying new meters in the future. She also asked how long it would take to implement the new meters.
The Mayor noted about 2 weeks, although the diagonal would take a little longer. Councilor Marden asked if there were plans to do the rest of the downtown area. The Mayor said all of Main Street, Eagle Street, Ashland Street and Marshall Street will be done.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett.

11,331 The President presented Mayor's communication #31 recommending a borrowing order for vehicle and equipment.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,331 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of $150,000 for the purpose of vehicles and equipment for various municipal departments. FIRST READING

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to pass to a seconded reading and publish as required by law.

Councilor Barrett questioned why the City is responsible for the lights that belong to the State. Mr. Mirante said the lights are the responsibility of the City. Mr. Mirante noted the bucket truck is unsafe and to purchase a used truck would be wasting money. The cost of repairs that the City would be facing is not cost effective. Councilor Barrett does not disagree that the truck needs to be replaced and he is concerned about the safety of the employees but we just do not have the money. Councilor Barrett asked how long the City has had the present bucket truck. Mr. Mirante said it was 26 years. Councilor Breen said she was concerned about the safety of the employees and the liability on the City and would like to move this along.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to amend the account number in the order to read 040-9300-5381.

11,332 The President presented Mayor's communication #32 recommending the sale of surplus land.

Councilor Barrett encouraged the Council not to vote on this. The Pownal land, to sell at this time is absolutely

crazy. The Pownal property is worth a million dollars, and could be developed into 10 to 15 building lots. Councilor Marden asked if the property has been used for logging over the years. Councilor Barrett said the Stamford land was land locked and not sure who would want to buy land on the side of a mountain.

The Mayor feels the City can make better use of the cash; the City has no use for the land. Administrative Officer, Michael Canales noted the 67 acres on West Shaft Rd was assessed at $65,000. The three parcels of land in Stamford 351 acres are landlocked; the firstis assessed at $106,900, $40,600 and $36,100. The Pownal land is 220 acres assessed at $378,300. Mr. Canales noted the property has been advertised and bids must be received by Friday August 30 at 11:00am.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,332 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to sell City owned land, under the provisions of MGL Chapter 30B, Section 16; Stamford, VT.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett, Harpin.

11,332-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to sell City owned land, under the provisions of MGL, Chapter 30B, Section 16; Pownal, VT.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett again urged Council to sit on it for a while, this land will have greater value when land prices rise. Councilor Bona asked Councilor Marden for his opinion on selling the land now. Councilor Marden pointed out there is a lot of potential with this land because of the close proximity to Williamstown.

The Order failed by yea and nay vote, two yeas, six nays.

11,332-2 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to sell City owned land, under MGL, Chapter 30B, Section 16; West Shaft Rd.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bone it was VOTED: to adopt the order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,333 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bond regarding a Resolution for aVeteran's Outreach Center.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,333 The President presented a Resolution supporting the establishment of a Veteran's Outreach Ceneter.

Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street and Richard McCarthy of Adams both spoke in support of the importance of the Veteran's Outreach Center.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED; to adopt the Resolution.

The President noted the resolution should be forwarded to State Representative Gailanne Cariddi, State Senator Benjamin Downing and Pittsfield Mayor Daniel Bianchi.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Resolution as amended.

The Resolution, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Barrett, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,334 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Barrett regarding the operations of the Transfer Station.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to table until the next meeting.

The President presented an application submitted by Charity R. Reardon, 39 Hall Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to postpone since the applicant was not present.

The President presented an application submitted by Edmond Raymond , 661 Main Rd, Savoy to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to postpone since the applicant was not present.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Barrett reminded everyone about the AYJ memorial fund raiser being held at the Range on Saturday. Councilor Bond explained how hard everyone was working on this in memory of Anna Arabia.
The Mayor reminded everyone about the downtown celebration on Wednesday from 5:30 to 9:00.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Moulton, Jr, 985 Massachusetts Ave spoke in favor of not selling the Pownal land at this time.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 10:07pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
August 27, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Betty Kelly, payroll clerk for the North Adams Public School system.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, hearing none the President called for the approval of the minutes of August 13th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

Without objection the President moved the application for the taxi licenses forwarded.

The President presented an application submitted by Edmond Raymond, 661 Main Road, Savoy to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi, which was postponed at the meeting of August 13th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President presented an application submitted by Charity Rondeau, 39 Hall Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi, which was postponed at the meeting of August 13th.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to file the application.

11,335 The President presented Mayor's communication #33 regarding a presentation for Officer Gregory Onorato.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor and Police Director Michael Cozzaglio presented Officer Onorato a letter of commendation for his courage and professionalism on June 15th. It was a serious incident and Officer Onorato had the presence of mind to access the situation, guard the victims, call for aid and provide a detailed description of a fleeing vehicle, which aided Officer Cardeno and Thomas in arresting the suspects.

11,331 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of $150,000 for the purpose of vehicles and equipment for various municipal departments, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of August 13th. SECOND READING

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett.

11,334 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Barrett regarding the operations of the Transfer Station, which was tabled at the meeting of August 13th.

Councilor Barrett had concerns over a transfer in July that included $100,000 for engineers Tighe & Bond for a study of the landfill at a time when the City is broke. Councilor Barrett also noted that using the Maxymillian building for recyclables is a violation of the permit. He does not understand why a committee was not appointed to look at it.
The Mayor said that he may have put the cart before the horse, but he was trying to be in compliance with the DEP. The Mayor also said the DEP was aware the City was using the Maxymillian building.
Councilor Barrett was upset because the Mayor was unable to answer his questions. The Mayor said he would be glad to have Administrative Officer Michael Canales and Timothy Lescarbeau, Superintendent of Public Service come to the next Council meeting to answer questions.
Councilor Barrett said Councilor Bullett, chair of the Public Service Committee should have asked the Mayor about the $100,000. Councilor Bullett responded that the committee asked for an update on capital projects and noted that anyone was welcome to attend the committee meetings. The Mayor accused Councilor Barrett of dwelling on conspiracies and both began to shout at each other. Councilor Breen asked if Council could get a copy of the DEP violations back to 2000. Councilor Breen noted that both the Mayor and Councilor Barrett were acting immature, shouting at each other. Councilor Barrett said Councilor Breen sits there trying to blame me for everything.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Barrett questioned why the RFP on Pownal Vermont was posted on the central registry before it came to Council.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street thanked the Council for supporting the recent resolution on the Veteran's Outreach Center.
Wayne Goodell, 664 Barbour Street questioned the RFP on Pownal Vermont. The Mayor said he would have a report of the RFP for the Council on Friday and available at the Clerk's office.
With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:30pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
September 10, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Bloom.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Doris Merlini, Johnson School cafeteria worker, Robert Mastroianni, Sullivan School teacher and Harvey Hinkell, over 40 year member of the North Adams Highway Department, retiring as Superintendent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, hearing none the President called for the approval of the minutes of August 27th.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,336 The President presented Mayor's communication #34 recommending the appointments of the Election Officers beginning September 1, 2013 to September 1, 2014.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Breen, it was VOTED: to confirm the appointments.

11,337 The President presented Mayor's communication #35 recommending the reappointment of Mary Ann Caproni to the Board of Registrars for a term to expire April 1, 2016.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to confirm the appointment.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, the Mayor read a proclamation declaring September 8, 2013 National Grandparents Day. Councilor Harpin questioned if there would have to be an Ordinance change for the new hours of City Hall. The Mayor said he intends to bring an Ordinance change forward at the next meeting. Councilor Harpin said that ABC and Time Warner have reached an agreement and channel 4 is back. Councilor Blackmer noted the Mass Municipal Councilor's meeting is approaching and if any Councilor's were interested to let her know. Councilor Bona said Saturday September 28th the All Saints Church would be having the electronic recycling day from 9:00 to 1:00 and there is a fee involved to recycle. The Mayor reminded everyone about the food fest on Sunday September 15th from 12:00 to 4:00 on the Main Street.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street was concerned about the crime and break-ins in the City. He wonders why the break-ins have not been published. Mr. Cardimino wondered why we were spending money on a police officer at the Council meetings to escort a Councilor out, when they the police could be out doing something else. David Cardimino, 57 Folsom Street was also concerned about the crime in the City. David Hoover of Pittsfield said he cleans windows at many businesses in North Adams and the North Adams Police Department does a good job. Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street was concerned about the motorcycle club going in on River Street. These people will bring in much bigger problems. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:45pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
September 24, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin, Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Ellen Depaoli cafeteria worker in North Adams Schools, retiring as Drury cafeteria manager. Dr. Norman Bianco brother of former Mayor Joseph Bianco and member of the McCann School Committee and founding member of the McCann dental assistance program.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A short recess was called, since Mr. Cardimino's head phones were not working.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street was in support of the senior tax abatement. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said officers could use a hand held radar unit to monitor the speed on North Street and all over the City. He also noted that the City should send the guys over to the transfer station in Williamstown because they run it very efficiently with one man. Mr. Cardimino said the tax abatement for the seniors it is a good idea, but what about the people who are not 60 and may be out of work, what are you going to do to help them.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of the September 10th meeting.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,320 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bond regarding traffic on North Street, which was referred to the Traffic Commission and postponed to the meeting of September 24th.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett, it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of October 22nd.

11,338 The President presented Mayor's communication #36 recommending Ordinances changes to the hours of City Hall.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Breen it was VOTED: to file the communication.

The Mayor said he has had no complaints from the employees or the public regarding these hours.

Several Councilors wondered how the proposed hours would help the community. Councilor Bona felt this should go to committee, since there are so many questions regarding this issue.

11,338 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-11 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Office Hours.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the General Government Committee.

11,338-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-10 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Hours of Employment.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to refer to the General Government Committee.

11,339 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Breen regarding Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-off Abatement.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee.

Several Councilors were in favor of helping the seniors, but were concerned about the impact it would have on the rest of the community.
Councilor Breen for the record noted she did not vote for the tax increase.

11,334-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Breen regarding the Transfer Station.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to file the communication.

Councilor Breen asked the Mayor to explain the situation at the Transfer Station that has already cost the City more than a $100,000 for engineers.

The Mayor said the DEP has given him a strong sense that enough is enough and Mr. Canales and Mr. Lescarbeau are working on the City's options and they will have a decision by the end of the calendar year. Whatever we decide is what we will have to live with for a long time. He said the biggest complaint is the trash being dumped outside of the building, where the wind sweeps it away. We are not operating a permitted facility and never have been.
Several Councilors agreed that something needs to be done, but Councilor Barrett questioned why there was missing documents to Councilor Breen's packet. Councilor Barrett is concerned that the mayor spent the $150,000 on the engineering study without Council approval. Councilor Breen and Councilor Barrett were in disagreement and Councilor Breen continued to bring up the past decade, which Councilor Barrett took offense too. Councilor Bond said Council did not need a history lesson, it is very clear we have issues at the Transfer Station, so let's think about where we are today and where we want to be in the future.

The President under correspondence publicly gave notice that the Department of Conservation and Recreation was considering acquisition of approximately 90+ acres located in North Adams for the expansion of Clarksburg State Forest and protection of the Appalachian Trail corridor.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Breen noted that the North Adams Crime watch would be holding a meeting on Friday from 6:30 to 8:00. Councilor Bullett thanked MOCA for a wonderful weekend with Fresh Grass. Councilor Bullett also said the Sam Gomez 5k race would be held on October 20th and the proceeds will be going to the Windsor Lake playground.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street was concerned about the crime and break-ins in the City. He wonders why the break-ins have not been published. Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street remembered Jim Gorman who worked under the Lamb administration. He was still concerned about the Veteran's Outreach Center and what is happening with the bridge. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street reminded everyone it was the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. He is also working with MCLA for another clean-up day at Hillside Cemetery on October 28th. Wayne Goodell, 564 Barbour Street questioned why a senior tax abatement was coming forward just 5 weeks before the election, when some Councilors voted for 2 1/2, which would have hurt the seniors. I hope you are sincere and not just because of the upcoming election. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:55pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
October 8, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bloom Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett. Absent Councilor Barrett, Harpin, Marden

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mr.Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said the employees are not in favor of changing hours. He was concerned about services being cut. Mr. Cardimino also was concerned about the senior tax work off, who is going to pay for the short fall.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of the September 24th meeting.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,338 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-10 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Office Hours, which was referred to the General Government Committee at the meeting of September 24th.

Councilor Breen said the committee meet, but recommends this paper be postponed to the meeting of November 12th.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 12th.

11,338-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-11 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Hours of Employment, which was referred to the General Government Committee at the meeting of September 24th.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 12th.

11,339 Communication submitted by Councilor Breen regarding Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-off Abatement, which was referred to the Finance Committee at the meeting of September 24th.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 26th.

11,340 The President presented an Order calling the City Election for November 5, 2013.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett. Nay none.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's concerns, Councilor Bloom noted that he had spoken to Councilor Marden's wife and she said he was home and doing well. Councilor Bond thanked all those involved in the parade.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue asked Councilors if they could speak up during the meeting, it is very hard to hear when you sit in the back. Mr. Trottier asked the press if they could publish the phone numbers of the candidates running for election. He said he has tried to call at least 5 of the new candidates and could not find their numbers. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said he will have his number published so people can reach him. Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street said he was still concerned about the Veteran's Outreach Center and what is happening with the bridge. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said MCLA clean-up day is Saturday October 26th at 10:00am at Hillside Cemetery. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:44pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Homesu
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
October 22, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bloom Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Harpin. Absent Councilor Barrett, and Marden.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering David Polumbo, former Board of Helath Member and Committee Chairman. Iris Angeli, former director of food services for the North Adams Public Schools. Gwendolyn Hayes, mother-in-law of Councilor Blackmer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said he has a solution for the traffic on North Street, speed bumps could be in installed not only there but on other streets in the City.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of the October 8th meeting.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,320 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bond regarding traffic on North Street, which was postponed at the meeting of September 24th.

Councilor Bond said he has been in contact with Mary Ann King and she would like to monitor the traffic a little while longer and collect some more data to see if there is really a problem and what solutions could be done to correct it.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer to postpone to the meeting of November 26th.

11,341 The President presented a petition from National Grid to hold a Public Hearing for a Pole Location on Union Street.

Without objection the President set the date of the Public Hearing for November 12th at 7:30pm.

The President presented an application submitted by Chelsea O'Neil, 515 Middle Road, Clarksburg to drive taxi for American Cab.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 12th because the applicant was not present.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Bona reminded everyone Saturday is a charity function for Pop Cares at Bounti Fare at 7:30pm. It is sold out by there is an auction and a raffle that people can attend. This was started by the St.Pierre family in memory of their father. Councilors Bullett said the Sam Gomez race was a huge success. They raised $2,000 for the friends of Windsor Lake and a volley ball court at Windsor Lake. Councilor Breen said the North Adams Nurse's Association is having an informational meeting on November 1st at 1:30 at the American legion addressing the needs of the hospital. Councilor Harpin said Saturday October 26th is medication drop off day from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Police Station. Councilor Bond thanked National Grid for stepping forward with a donation to the robotics club. Councilor Blackmer mentioned Saturday October 26th at the Berkshire Mall there is going to be a fair introducing young girls to Scouting. The Mayor presented a proclamation declaring October 24th North Adams Recovery Day. The North Adams Recovery Day Candlelight Vigil is an event to increase public awareness to drug misuse and drug addiction.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Lois Daunis, 58 North Holden Street spoke of the importance of drug awareness. National Recovery Day is in its 7th year and this is the first time North Adams is a part of it. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said the City should be have a proactive roll about drugs in the City. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said MCLA clean-up day is Saturday October 26th at 10:00am at Hillside Cemetery. Marilyn Gomeau City Clerk explained the process in doing write ins on the ballot for the November election. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:55pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
November 12, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden. Absent Councilor Bloom and Harpin.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering William Prevey former teacher at Drury High School.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, hearing none the President called for the approval of the minutes of the October 22nd meeting.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Bullett amended the minutes to read the volley ball court is at Windsor Lake and not the college. On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to amend the minutes as presented.

The President declared the Public Hearing Open.

11,341 A hearing granting National Grid to erect and maintain a new pole on Union Street.

Bonnie Brown representative from National Grid explained it was to replace a pole that was damaged from the truck accident. The new pole will be for the flashing light at the intersection of Union and Beaver Street.

With no further discussion the President closed the Public Hearing.

11,341 The President presented an Order granting National Grid to erect and maintain one pole on Union Street, at the intersection of Union and Beaver Street.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Bullett, Marden, Nay none.

11,338 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-10 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Office Hours, which was postponed at the meeting of October 8th.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 26th.

11,338-1 An Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-11 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Hours of Employment, which was postponed at the meeting of October 8th.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 26th.

The President presented an application submitted by Chelsea O'Neil, 515 Middle Road, Clarksburg, to drive taxi for American Cab, which was postponed at the meeting of October 22nd.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to file the application, the applicant was not in attendance.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Marden mentioned remembering Jane Fitzpatrick, who has been a major factor in our City.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Milton Overlock, 52 Seminole Drive was expressing his concerns about the hours of the polls. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:36pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
November 26, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Bullett.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Mike Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street spoke in regards to the speeding on North Street, this has been going on for a year and it seems that you should be able to know who this person is. Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue, does not understand why the general government committee has not been able to get a quorum for the hours of City Hall, He said if is not that important, then the hours should just go back to regular hours. He also questioned why the finance committee has not meet on the senior tax abatement, maybe this was just to get a vote. Mr. Trottier also commended Mary Ann King for her study on North Street traffic.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of the November 12th meeting.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,320 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bond regarding traffic on North Street, which was postponed at the meeting of October 22nd.

Councilor Bond noted that Mary Ann King had done an excellent job on the traffic study for North Street. Mary Ann King noted that on many occasions she watched the traffic on North Street, either in a police car or just sitting in front of her own home, she noted that it would appear that the cars are traveling too fast when you are just sitting and they go by, but the radar gun showed they were not in violation of the speed limit. Councilor Bona questioned about the speed in the morning during the hours when children are waiting for the bus. Mrs. King said she was on Veazie Street and Harris when the busses were picking up and she did not see any problems. Councilor Bond questioned if stop signs or school zone signs could be installed, but Mrs. King said state law does not permit stop signs to slow down the traffic. School zone signs are only 300' from the entrance of the school. Councilor Blackmer also could not understand why school zone signs cannot be installed, she also requested the traffic commission to hold their meetings at 6:00 so people can attend.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to file the communication.

11,320-1 The President presented the traffic study of Mary Ann King submitted by Councilor Bond.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to refer the study to the Traffic Commission.

11,338 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-10 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Office Hours, which was postponed at the meeting of November 12th.

Councilor Bona explained he was unable to get a quorum for the last two scheduled meetings. It was unfortunate that we could not hold our meetings because there were several employees who were planning on attending. Councilor Bona noted that there has been no complaints about the present hours and thought maybe this should be postponed to the new year. Councilor Barrett said that Council should make a decision on this, it is an Ordinance and that is what the hours should be, we have been in violation of the Ordinance since September.Councilor Breen also was in agreement with Councilor Barrett. Councilor Barrett suggested the hours remain as is until the first of the year and then the hours should be as stated in the Ordinance. Councilor Blackmer was in agreement. Councilor Marden moved the question, seconded by Councilor Breen, all Councilors were in favor of moving the question.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to file the paper.

The President requested a roll call vote; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Bloom.

11,338-1 An Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-11 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Hours of Employment, which was postponed at the meeting of November 12th.

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Barrett it was VOTED: to file the paper.

The President requested a roll call vote; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bona, Bond, Breen, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Bloom.

11,339 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Breen regarding Senior Citizen Property Tax work-off Abatement, which was postponed at the meeting of October 8th.

Councilor Breen asked Councilor Marden if the Finance Committee had met. Councilor Marden said they had not and it was his understanding from the communication that Councilor Breen had asked the administration for input. Councilor Marden said it is his understanding the administration will hold off till June. Councilor Blackmer would like it before next year's budget. Councilor Barrett said it won't cost the City more than a couple thousand dollars

On motion of Councilor Breen, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to file the communication.

8717-33 The President presented Mayor's communication #37 requesting Council set a Public Hearing for the purpose of establishing the percentages of the local tax levy to be borne by the various classes of real property.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for December 10th at 7:30pm.

11,314-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding the salary for the Mayor.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee of 2014 and postpone to the February 10th meeting.

Councilor Marden said under State Law no increase or reduction in the salaries of Mayor or City Councilors shall take effect during the year in which such increase or reduction is vote, and no change in such salaries shall be made between the election of a new Council and the qualification of the new Council. Councilors Marden suggested the new Council take up the issue in the first part of next year so the salary could be raised effective January 2015. The Mayor's salary cannot be increased in the same calendar year.

Councilor Barrett is opposed to telling the next Council what they should be doing. Councilor Breen was in agreement with Councilor Barrett.
Councilor Marden was just pointing out the mechanism because people think we missed it this year, Councilor Marden withdrew his original motion, seconded by Councilor Harpin.
On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to file the communication.

The President presented an application submitted by John F. D'Alessandro, 4 Griffin Hill Road, Savoy, to drive taxi for Tunnel City Taxi.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to grant the license.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Breen asked if the Tree Lighting was cancelled and Councilor Blackmer said it was postponed till next Wednesday same time. Councilor Blackmer reminded residents to be mindful of the cold weather, roads are slippery so allow a little extra time, clean off your cars and have safe and happy holidays. Councilor Bona reminded residents to shovel their sidewalks.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said committee meetings should be published in the Transcript and iberkshires. If City Hall is going to close on Friday afternoons, then those same hours should be worked in the evening. Mike Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street still is advocating for the veterans. Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue said it is the same old thing with Council, just keep putting things off and nothing gets done. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:24pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
December 10, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, Dr. Kenneth Sullivan-Bol questioned what would be gained by a medical marijuana moratorium, his property at 26 Roberts Drive was under lease for a Medical Marijuana Dispensary, and it meets all the State requirements. Mark Trottier,131 Woodlawn Avenue questioned the appropriation for the MIS asking if this was over and above what was done several months ago. He also wondered what was going to be left in the landfill account. Mr. Trottier would like the $51,070 for the cyclical inspection explained.

The President called for the approval of the minutes of the November 26th meeting.

On motion of Councilor Harpin, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

8717-33 The President declared the Public Hearing open at 7:34pm for the purpose of setting the tax rate for FY'14.

Mr. Trottier started to ask questions regarding the tax rate and Councilor Barrett as a point of information noted it should be asked for those speaking if in favor or opposed, I'm assuming the Mayor is in favor of the tax levy.
The Mayor for the record read his communication 37a for the record which would show his support.

To: North Adams City Council
Re: Tax Classification – FY2014

Dear Honorable Members:

Tonight you will be voting on establishing the CIP shift which sets the percentages of tax levy of the different classes of property; residential as well as commercial, industrial and personal property (CIP).

Within the attached tax package, you will find all pertinent information as to process, valuations, tax rates and tax levies, (current and historic). As in past years, I will review the information and the City Assessor and Administrative Officer will be available at the meeting to aid in answering any questions.

Based on factored assumptions, the FY2014 tax levy will be $14,434,111, an increase in levy of 5.37% over FY2013 which represents the legislated 2.5% increase plus new growth of $393,604. I am recommending that we maintain the CIP shift at 1.71. The increase in rates (per $1000 valuation) is as follows:

- Residential – from $15.30 to $15.93
  (A $91.95 increase on the average single family home valued at $135,833)
- CIP – from $33.95 to $34.55

As we establish this CIP shift tonight, we are assuring our community that we will be able to provide services at acceptable levels. Unfortunately and despite best efforts, we have not fully reduced our deficit and will be asking for reductions in the budget to set these rates. This will set us up for yet another challenging FY2015 budget cycle.

I respectfully ask for your support of this tax package.

Sincerely,
Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor

The Mayor explained that based on assumptions the FY'14 tax levy will be $14,434,111 an increase in levy of 5.37% over FY'13 which represents the legislated 2.5% increase plus new growth of $393,604. He is recommending that the CIP shift at 1.71, residential from $15.30 to $15.93 an increase of $91.95 on the average family home valued at $135,833. The CIP $33.95 to $34.55.
Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue was opposed to the tax rate, and raised several questions on the appropriations, which he was informed would be answered when the paper comes to the floor. Mr. Trottier questioned the purpose of the Public Hearing if questions could not be answered during this time. Councilor Barrett explained to Mr. Trottier that state if he is in favor or opposed and his reasons, then his questions would be addressed when the paper is put forth. The Mayor noted he would address any question Mr. Trottier has brought forth and answer them when the paper comes to the floor. Mr. Trottier stated he was opposed to the tax rate and had many concerns.
Councilor Barrett said he was in favor of the dual tax, but at the same time I'm opposed to the CIP shift. The shift only creates further hardship to the residents.

With no further comments the President closed the Public Hearing at 7:45

11,313-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #38 regarding FY'14 budget reductions.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,313-1 The President presented an Order amending the FY'14 budget to $36,235,804.00 less the amount of estimated revenue to reduce the tax rate.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett said there was confusion that people do not understand regarding the budget, nothing is being

added or taken away, except for the $18,000 as explained by the Mayor. You have to reduce the budget, which means you are reducing the amount to be raised by taxation, the money needs to be put back in from outside resources. Councilor Barrett said what bothers him is the Mayor says there is a budget deficit, there is not a budget deficit it's a structural deficit. He was concerned about statements that we will have enough money to maintain services, what if the snow account goes over or something happens in the fire department. How will emergencies be paid for? The Scanlon report said the City cannot continue to keep spending. Councilor Barrett said the Scanlon report recommended to cut spending and increase revenue.
The Mayor said we have cut spending and raised revenue through taxes, fees and State Aid. We should not be here debating the budget, but how we are going to fund it. We do not have much left in reserves, but we have a very tight handle on expenditures. I'm very nervous about those emergencies that may come up. Several Councilors had questions on the budget reduction, which were all answered by Michael Canales, Ross Vivori and David Fierro who were at the meeting to answer questions.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden, Nay none.

11,313-2 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $15,000.00 from Municipal Tech to MIS Data Processing for the Purpose of reducing the amount to be raised by taxation.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Marden it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,313-3 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $93,000.00 from Landfill Reserve Account to Department of Public Safety, Health Inspections for the purpose of reducing the amount to be raised by taxation.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote, yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,313-4 The President presented Mayor's communication #39 regarding an appropriation from the Overlay Surplus Account.

The Mayor read his communication for the record.

December 10, 2013
#39

The Honorable City Council
Re: Overlay Surplus - Budget

Dear Honorable Members:

Please be advised that the Board of Assessors is declaring an overlay surplus in the fiscal years as follows:

FY 2006	$25.68
FY 2007	$99.55
FY 2008	$1,305.92
FY 2009	$9,040.62

FY 2010	$58,369.89
FY 2011	$42,382.43
FY 2012	$20,855.91
TOTAL	$132,080.00

An overlay surplus results when any balance in the overlay account of a given year is in excess of the amount remaining to be collected or abated. All or a portion of that surplus amount is eligible to be transferred to an overlay surplus account by the Board of Assessors. Once the funds have been transferred they can be appropriated by the City Council for any lawful purpose.
We are asking that the amount of $132,080 be appropriated to cover the costs of Firefighters.
I respectfully request adoption.
Sincerely,

Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor
RJA:II

Without objection the president placed the communication on file.

11,313-4 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $132,080.00 from the Overlay Surplus Account to Department of Public Safety for the purpose of reducing the amount to be raised by taxation.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Barrett, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin , Marden. Nay none.

8717-33a The President presented Mayor's communication #37a requesting the tax classification for FY'14.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

8717-33a The President presented an Order establishing the percentages of tax levy or the various classes of property for FY'14.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett argued the commercial tax rate is lower than many other communities, large concerns like Walmart, Verizon, and Crane are getting tax breaks instead of the residents.
The Mayor said the City's assessment were comparable to communities such as Adams and Pittsfield, keeping the commercial slightly lower makes the City competitive, we are trying to send a message to businesses that we are friendly. Mayor Alcombright said he expected to see more increase in commercial values next year with Tractor Supply and Ocean State Job Lots in the former Walmart. The tax breaks given to Crane for expanding its work force will also begin to decline. The discussion was labored for some time, then Councilor Marden moved the question, seconded by Councilor Blackmer, all were in favoring of moving the question.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay Councilor Barrett.

11,342 The President presented Mayor's communication #40 regarding the adoption of qualified Bond Act.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,342 The President presented an Order accepting Chapter 44A of the MGL State Qualified Act.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett asked what the bond rate was. The Mayor said he thought it was 8.3. Councilor Marden asked what the most recent rate was; the Mayor said short term was 1.6.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,343 The Mayor presented Mayor's communication #41 regarding an appropriation from the Overlay Surplus Account.
Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,343 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $51,570.00 from The Overlay Surplus Account to General Government, Cyclical Inspection.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Barrett wonders if any of this was going to be done in house. The Mayor said it was not. Ross Vivori explained that residents have received letters telling them the inspectors are going around in their neighborhood and they have ID on them, as well as the Police Department is aware the inspectors are out there. Residents do not have to let them in if they chose not to, but then the assessor will base it on what they have on file.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Nay none.

11,344 The President presented Mayor's communication #42 regarding Medical Marijuana Moratorium.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,344 The President presented an Order imposing a Moratorium for Medical Marijuana Facilities.

Councilor Marden requested to abstain from this paper. Without objection the President granted.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adopt the Order.

Councilor Blackmer asked the Mayor if he had sent a letter of support, stating it was her understanding that without the support of the Mayor it would not be approved. The Mayor said he was not aware of the need for a letter. Councilor Blackmer said it seems that it is another one of those cases of hurrying it up and does not understand why. Several Councilors did not understand why we needed a moratorium; The Planning Board is requesting a six month moratorium. The Mayor asked that this be referred to the General Government Committee. Councilor Bona said he did not care if it went to his committee, but he has difficulties getting a quorum. Councilor Bullett withdrew her original motion, seconded by Councilor Blackmer.

On motion of Councilor Barrett, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to refer to the Community Development Committee.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Blackmer asked if State Representative Gailanne Cariddi could give a presentation. State Representative Cariddi read and presented each of the longtime Councilors Marden, Bloom and Harpin with a proclamation for their long years of service to the Council and the Community, who are all stepping down at the end of this year. Representative Cariddi also thanked Councilor Barrett and Bond for their services to the community. Councilor Blackmer also presented each with a gift from their fellow Councilors.
The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Ronald Superneau, 2 Milton Drive also thanked the Councilors who will not be returning next year for their service to the community. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:13pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Homeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3015

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
December 23, 2013

A meeting of the North Adams City Council was held at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers with the following present:

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Barrett, Blackmer, Bloom, Bona, Bond, Bullett, Harpin, Marden. Absent Councilor Breen.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Hearing of Visitors, hearing none the President called for the approval of the minutes of the December 10th meeting.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Harpin it was VOTED: to approve the minutes as presented.

11,344 The President presented an Order imposing a Moratorium for Medical Marijuana Facilities, which was referred to the Community Development Committee at the meeting of December 10th.

Councilor Bond Chairman of the Community Development Committee gave a verbal report.

On motion of Councilor Marden, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept the verbal committee report.

On motion of Councilor Bond, duly seconded by Councilor Breen it was VOTED: to file the Order.

11,345
The President presented Mayor's communication #43 recommending the appointment of James Neville to the North Adams Housing Authority to fill the unexpired term of James Canavan to expire July 1, 2014.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bond it was VOTED: to confirm.
Councilor Barrett asked the Mayor if the tenant position had been filed yet. The Mayor said he has not, he was trying to find a good fit. Councilor Barrett urged the Mayor to fill the tenant's position to the North Adams Housing Authority as quickly as possible.

The President called for any Councilor Concerns, Councilor Harpin thanked the community for the support for the last 16 years. The Mayor also thanked all City staff for their services. Councilor Blackmer read citations from Senator Downing for Councilor Harpin, Marden and Bloom. Councilor Bloom also thanked everyone for their support.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue thanked Council President, Councilor Marden and Harpin for their willingness to work with him. With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.

VOTED: to adjourn at 7:46pm
A True Record.
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk