Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 1, 2016

The meeting was called to Order by the City Clerk as the Organizational Meeting for 2016.

A moment of silent Reflection was read by the City Clerk saying there is an immense gap between saying "I am right" and saying "I believe I am right". Caring for each other in this community is of far greater importance than any differences we may have.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Clerk called upon the Rev. Mary Frances Curns from All Saints Episcopal Church to invoke the Inaugural Invocation.

The Clerk administered the oath of office to the following City Councilors who were elected on November 3, 2015, Lisa M. Blackmer, Keith J. Bona, Ronald A. Boucher, Nancy P. Bullett, Benjamin J. Lamb, Kate H. Merrigan, Joshua J. Moran and Robert Moulton, Jr. Eric R. Buddington was absent.

On roll call the following responded, Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

The Clerk called for nominations for Council President for the year 2016.

Councilor Boucher placed the name of Councilor Lamb in nomination, seconded by Councilor Bona.

With no further nominations, all were in favor of Councilor Lamb.
The Clerk declared Councilor Lamb as Council President.

The Clerk administered the oath of office to Council President elect Lamb.

The President takes the Chair.

The President calls for nominations for Council Vice-President.

Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)

For any questions about this form, consult the Voting Assistance Guide available in hard copy or on **FVAP.gov** or your Voting Assistance Officer.

For absent Uniformed Service members, their families, and citizens residing outside the U.S.

Please print in black ink.

Classification (Make only 1 selection. (In most States, you must be absent from your voting district to use this form).)

1 I request an absentee ballot for all elections in which I am eligible to vote **AND**:

- ☐ I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty **OR** ☐ I am an eligible spouse or dependent.
- ☐ I am an activated National Guard member on State orders.
- ☐ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States, and I intend to return.
- ☑ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States, and my return is not certain.
- ☐ I am a U.S. citizen and have never resided in the United States.

Political party

2 Your State may require you to specify a political party to vote in primary elections: -none-

Legal name

3 Last name Le Mense Suffix

First name Teresa Middle name M

Previous name (if applicable)

Identification (Some States require your full SSN. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on **FVAP.gov**.)

4 State Driver's License or ID

OR Social Security Number -7 1 9 7

Birth date 0 6 / 1 5 / 1 9 6 1 (M M D D Y Y Y Y) Sex ☐ M ☑ F Race See instructions

Contact information (Include international prefixes. No DSN numbers.)

5 Telephone 0 1 1 3 4 9 3 8 7 1 3 0 1 7

Fax

Email tlemense@gmail.com

Ballot receipt

6 Rank from 1-3 in order of preference; be sure appropriate contact information is provided above.

I prefer to receive my ballot, as permitted by my State, by: 1 Email/Online ___ Mail ___ Fax

Voting residence address (Usually your last U.S. residence or your legal U.S. residence. See instructions.)

7 Street Address (not P.O. Box) 455 Water Street Apt. #

City/Town/Village Williamstown

County City of North Adams State M A Zip Code 0 1 2 6 7 -

Where to send my ballot (This is your current mailing address and should be different from above. If required, place a forwarding address in Box 9.)

8 c/ Verge del Pilar, 120, 1-2

Cardedeu, Barcelona 08440

Spain

Additional requirements for your State (Such as: mail forwarding address, additional email address/phone number, or other State required information. See Voting Assistance Guide.)

9 Please send ballots to me at the indicated address ONE-time only - for the next upcoming federal election only

Affirmation (REQUIRED): I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

- The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.
- I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
- I am not disqualified to vote due to having been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense, nor have I been adjudicated mentally incompetent; or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated; and
- I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the United States, except the jurisdiction cited in this voting form.

Signature X Teresa M. Le Mense

Today's date 0 9 / 3 0 / 2 0 1 6 You must sign and send in.

Witness signature / date if required by your State.

Signature

Date

ADDENDUM

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

Name:	Teresa M Le Mense
Contact Information:	tlemense@gmail.com 011 34 938 71 30 17
State:	MA
County:	City of North Adams

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Federal Voting Assistance Guide indicates that MA does not require ID for voter registration and ballot request for overseas and military citizens, however I am providing the last four digits of my Social Security Number to aid in verifying my identity: .

Signed: Teresa M. Le Mense Date: 09/30/2016 (MMDDYYYY) Signed: NOT REQUIRED (Witness/Notary and Address (if required)) Date: (MMDDYYYY)

Councilor Bona nominated Councilor Bullett for Council Vice-President, seconded by Councilor Merrigan

With no further nominations to come before the Council, the President closed nominations.

Councilor Bullett was declared Vice-President.

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

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 and Liaison assignments for the year 2016.

Council President said as he looked around the room I see a superb collection of leaders, dreamers, thinkers, doers and spirted community advocates who are dedicated to making North Adams and the Northern Berkshire Region a place where we can be proud to live, work and play. We have been put in these seats for a reason and that is to represent the residents and work for the greater good.

The President called upon the Clerk to administer the oath of office to the members-elect of the North Adams School Committee Nicholas Fahey and Tara J. Jacobs. Karen M. Bond was absent.

The President called upon the Clerk to administer the oath of office to the members-elect of the Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School Committee Rachel Branch, George A. Canales, William R. Diamond.

The President called for Councilors Blackmer and Moulton to draw the seating for 2016.

Seat 1 Councilor Moulton; Seat 2 Councilor Blackmer; Seat 3 Councilor Buddington; Seat 4 Councilor Merrigan; Seat 5 Councilor Boucher; Seat 6 Councilor Bullett; Seat 7 Councilor Moran; Seat 8 Councilor Bona.

The President called upon Councilor Boucher and Councilor Merrigan to escort Mayor-elect Richard J. Alcombright to the Council Chambers.

The President called upon the Clerk to administer the oath of office to the Mayor-elect.

His honor, the Mayor delivers his inaugural address.

The President calls upon Father Matthew Alcombright from St. Thomas the Apostle Church Parish in West Springfield to give the Benediction.

The President announced this concludes the organization of government for 2016 and calls for a motion to adjourn.

On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED to adjourn.

Adjourned at 11:30am

Councilor Eric Buddington, City Councilor was sworn in on Monday January 4, 2016 at 12:20pm in the office of the City Clerk.

Karen M. Bond, North Adams School Committee was sworn in on January 4, 2016 at 1:00pm in the office of the City Clerk.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Honeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
January 12, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Absent Councilor Boucher.

A moment of silent prayer was observed, remembering Stanley Owczarski, "Mr. Volunteer", among the many organizations he served were: the Friendship Food Pantry, Northern Berkshire YMCA, National Ski Patrol, Big Brother Program, annual Rock and Rut Mountain Bike Festival. He was a Certified Red Cross CPR Instructor and volunteered at Sullivan School.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of December 22, 2015.

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

11,487 The President called upon Charles Cahoon from the Historical Society for a presentation of four photographs of former City Councilors.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Mr. Cahoon said the Historical Society was delighted to have the pictures back in City Hall where they belong.

The President presented the Council Rules of Order that were postponed at the Organization of Government on January 1, 2016.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to refer to General Government and postpone to the meeting of February 9th.

Councilor Bona has an amendment to Council Rule 10 that he would like the committee to review.

11,458-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams, Schedule A, the Classification Plan, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of December 22, 2016.

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

The Ordinance, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay votes as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

11,458-1a The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-28(a) of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule B the Compensation Plan for FY'16, which was passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin at the meeting of December 22, 2015; July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED to adopt the Ordinance.

The Ordinance, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

11,458-1b The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-28(a) of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule B the Compensation Plan for FY'16, which was passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin at the meeting of December 22, 2015; January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016.

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

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,482 The President presented an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Chapter Z by deleting the entire Zoning Ordinance and insert a new Zoning Ordinance in its place, which was passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin.

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

The Ordinance, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,485 The President presented Mayor's communication #1 regarding the bonding for the City Treasurer, Assistant City Treasurer and the City Clerk.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,485 The President presented an Order establishing the bond for the City Treasurer/Tax Collector at $250,000 for the year 2016.

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 Blackmer, Bona, Buddingotn. Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,485-1 The President presented an Order establishing the bond for the Assistant City Treasurer at $62,500 for the year 2016.

On motion of Councilor Moulton, 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 Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,485-2 The President presented an Order establishing the bond for the City Clerk at $15,000 for the year 2016.

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

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,486 The President presented Mayor's communication #2 regarding a Special Tax Assessment Agreement with Greylock Works, LLC.

The Mayor recommended postponing this until a later date. The mill developers want to go over the development figures and criteria in the Special Tax Assessment.

11,486 The President presented a Resolution designating the property identified as Map #133, Lot #2 and #3 as Greylock Works, LLC as an Economic Opportunity Area.

Without objection the President postponed until a later date.

11,486-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to execute a Special Tax Assessment Agreement with Greylock Works, LLC.

Without objection the President postponed until a later date.

11,488 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Moran regarding overnight parking in the winter.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Safety Committee and postpone to the meeting of February 23rd.

11,489 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding housing policies.

Councilor Bona is hoping this Ordinance would have the City notify landlords of criminal activities going on in their rental properties.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Safety Committee and postpone to the meeting of February 23rd.

11,490 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Merrigan regarding a Resolution relative to Gas Leak Repairs.

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

11,490 The President presented a Resolution supporting House Bill 2879 and 2871 regarding an Act Relative to Protecting Consumers of Gas and Electricity from paying for leaking gas.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED to adopt the Resolution.

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Buddington, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay Councilor Bona and Bullett. Councilor Blackmer abstained.

The President presented an application submitted by Christine Appel, 121, Front Street, to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Tanya Cravish, 32A Columbia Street, Adams to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Agnes Hillard, 103B Columbia Street, Adams to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

Councilor Bona and Councilor Blackmer were concerned about the applicant's application. Councilors feel that it may be time to review the taxi ordinance.

The President called for a roll call vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

The President presented an application submitted by Arlene Polumbo, 17 Prospect Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Sandra Whitney, 40 East Hoosac Street, Adams to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Jennifer Serre, 106 Veazie Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

The President presented an application submitted by MaryEllen Woodman, 113 East Quincy Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

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

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Bona it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:35pm.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

North Adams City Council 2016 Committee Assignments

Community Development

Eric Buddington, Chair
Nancy Bullett
Lisa Blackmer

Finance

Lisa Blackmer, Chair
Ron Boucher
Keith Bona

General Government

Kate Merrigan, Chair
Eric Buddington
Robert Moulton

Public Safety

Robert Moulton, Chair
Joshua Moran
Kate Merrigan

Public Services

Joshua Moran, Chair
Ron Boucher
Keith Bona

North Adams City Council 2016 Liaison Appointments

North Adams School Committee	Ron Boucher
McCann Regional Technical High School Committee	Keith Bona
BART Charter School	Kate Merrigan
Hoosac Water Quality District	Eric Buddington
North Adams Housing Authority	Joshua Moran
North Adams Planning Board	Robert Moulton
North Adams Contributory Retirement Board	Lisa Blackmer
Traffic Commission MEMBER	Nancy Bullett
Airport Commission MEMBER	Nancy Bullett
Mass MoCA	Benjamin Lamb

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
January 26, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Boucher, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of January 26, 2016.

On motion of Councilor Moulton, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

11,492 The President presented Mayor's communication #3 recommending the appointment of Christopher Wondoloski to the Historic Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2019.

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

11,493 The President presented Mayor's communication #4 recommending the appointment of Joanne Hurlbut to the Historic Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2019.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED to confirm the appointment.

11,494 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President Lamb regarding the reappointment of Marilyn Gomeau as the City Clerk, for a term to expire January 2019.

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

11,482 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding tax incentives for home improvements.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to refer to the Community Development Committee and postpone to the meeting of March 22nd.

Councilor Bona explained this would help target the blight in certain neighborhoods. There are a lot of questions on how this would work but I think it would be good to look at for some discussion.
Councilor Blackmer said she has spoken to the Division of Local Services and it cannot be done without a home-rule petition.
Councilor Merrigan and Buddington thought it was definitely worth looking at.

11,496 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding a presentation by Judy Grinnell with the design and development of the Hoosic River Revival

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Mrs. Grinnell and Nick Nelso of Inter-Fluve Inc. reviewed the plans that have been forwarded by the City to the Army Corps of Engineers hoping to have it approved by later this year.

The President presented an application submitted by Bonnie Rodriguez, 38 Meadow Street, to drive taxi for R.J Taxi.

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

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none the President called for any Councilor of Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Blackmer noted how wonderful the open house was at Colegrove School. Councilor Bullett commended Senator Downing on his accomplishments. Council President acknowledged two boy scouts who were in attendance of the meeting.
On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:40pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
February 9, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Boucher, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of January 26, 2016.

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

The President presented Council Rules of Order which were referred to the General Government Committee at the meeting of January 12th.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of February 23rd.

11,497 The President presented Mayor's communication #5 regarding a lease agreement with Child Care of the Berkshire.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted that Child Care of the Berkshire has been a tenant of the former Haskins School building for more than 34 years. During this time CCB has kept the facility bright , clean and up to date making it a place where children and parents feel welcome and nurtured. Over time they have greatly improved accessibility and safety for the children. Ann Nemetz Carlson, President and CEO of CCB are committed to providing excellent child care. Through private grants she has made many changes to improve the facility. The City has a short term lease with CCB whereby CCB provided maintenance and improvements while the City retained responsibility for the buildings larger capital items. CCB has applied for a larger grant through the USDA that will enable then to do significant building improvements. In order to qualify they need to have site control of the building, which means that they need a long term lease. To help them and maintain their services here in the City.

11,498 An Order authorizing the Mayor to execute a lease between the City of North Adams and Child Care of the Berkshire.

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

Ann Nemetz Carlson, President of CCB said with this grant they will bring the century old building up to code, including handicapped accessibility along with an elevator, new windows and a heating system.

Councilors were all in agreement that Child Care of the Berkshire is a big asset to the community. Councilor Moulton was a little concerned about the length of the lease, he feels that 25 years is a longtime.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

11,499 The President presented Mayor's #6 recommending the re-appointment of Jeffrey Naughton to the Airport Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

11,500 The President Mayor's communication #7 recommending the re-appointment of Trevor Gilman to the Airport Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

11,501 The President presented Mayor's communication #8 recommending the re-appointment of Suzy Helme to the Human Service Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

11,502 The President presented Mayors' communication #9 recommending the re-appointment of Jennifer Boland to the Human Service Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

11,503 The President presented Mayor's communication #10 recommending the re-appointment of Jo-Ann Lipa Bates to the Human Service Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

11,504 The President presented Mayor's communication #11 recommending the re-appointment of Jennifer Flynn Bernard to the Human Service Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

11,505 The President presented Mayor's communication #12 recommending the re-apoointment of Jay Walsh to the Planning Board for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

11,506 The President presented Mayor's communication #13 recommending the re-appointment of Brian Miksic to the Planning Board for a term to expire February 1, 2021.

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

11,507 The President presented Mayor's communication #14 recommending the re-appointment of Kyle Hanlon to the Planning Board for a term to expire February 1, 2021.

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

10,639-3 The President presented Mayor's communication #24-a regarding Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Program.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained in order to comply with PARC grant requirements, the City Council must deem this parcel of land to be used in perpetuity for parks and recreational purposes and for no other use.

10,639-3 The President presented a Resolution for Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Program for the installation of a new skateboard park at the Noel Field Athletic Complex.

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

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

The President stepped down from the chair and Council Vice President took the chair.

11,508 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President Lamb regarding shared economy service providers.

Councilor Lamb noted at the MMA meeting several weeks ago this topic came forward regarding AirBnb and Uber/Lyft and he felt the Council should be proactive regarding this issue. He would like to develop an ad hoc committee to focus on the various components and an ultimate plan for implementation.

On motion of Councilor Lamb, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to form the ad hoc committee and postpone the meeting of April 12th.

11,509 The President presented an Order calling the Presidential Primary for March 1, 2016 from 7:00am to 8:00pm

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

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none the President called for any Councilor of Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Blackmer noted Wednesday was the lst day to register to vote for the Primary. Winter Fest is February 20th and 21st. Councilor Buddington said he would be happy to be the contact person in helping to find a solution with the closing of Price Chopper. The Mayor he was very saddened by the closing of Price Chopper. Heathe rBoulger has set up a crisis team to help employees.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:40pm.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Homan
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
February 23, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Boucher, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.
The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of February 9, 2016.

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

The President presented the report of the General Government Committee regarding the Council Rules of Order.

Councilor Merrigan gave the report of the committee noted there was a wide range of discussion about the proposed change. The committee reviewed rule 7 and 10, both which concerned public participation at the Council meetings. The most significant change would be in moving Open Forum to the beginning of the meeting. The proposed Hearing of Visitors at the beginning of the meeting would eliminate the public input on agenda items when presented. The committee recommends that members of the public still be able to comment on agenda items as they come before the Council.
Councilor Bona and Bullett were not in agreement that members of the public do not need to speak on each individual item. They do not like the fact that the public can bring up anything even if not on the agenda and many times it turns into debates with the Mayor. There are other ways for residents of the community to bring their point forward. Councilors Blackmer, Boucher, Moulton, Buddington and Merrigan support public input.
Alan Marden former City Councilor for 20 years said Open Forum was instituted a quarter century ago and it has served the community well.

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

The President presented Council Rules of Order which were referred to the General Government Committee at the meeting of January 12th.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to amend the Council Rules and pass to a second reading.

11,488-a The Presented a report of the Public Safety Committee regarding overnight parking and housing policies.

Councilor Moran said the committee discussed the issue a great length and they recommend maintaining the winter parking ban. The committee also postponed discussion on the housing issue until it could be review further.

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

11,488 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Moran regarding overnight parking in the winter.

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

11,489 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding housing policies, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee and postponed at the meeting of January 12th.

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

11,510 The President presented Mayor's communication #15 recommending the re-appointment of Jo-Ann Lipa Bates to the MASS MoCA Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2019.

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

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

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

The President presented an application for secondhand license submitted by James Montepare, 100 McLain Court, Williamstown, in the business name of Empire Antiques, located at 432 State Road.

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

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, Mark Trottier of Woodlawn Avenue was concerned about the water issue in North Adams. The President called for any Councilor of Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Lamb noted he would be away for the two meetings in March.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:40pm.

A True Record
Attest,

City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
March 8, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Moran, Moulton. Absent Councilor Boucher, Lamb and Merrigan.

A moment of silent prayer was observed remembering Joan Gniadek, longtime member and President of the North Adams Garden Club. Beverly Canales, elementary school teacher at Greylock School. Margaret Senecal, art teacher for the City of North Adams for 35 years at the middle school.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of February 23, 2016.

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

11,511 The President presented Mayor's communication #16 regarding the swearing in of Joshua Tracy and Nicholas Penna as permanent Police Officers for the City of North Adams.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted these two officers have served the department in a reserve capacity and have distinguished themselves through their training, service and commitment.

The City Clerk swore in the two officers.

The President presented Council Rules of Order which were passed to a second reading.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to accept the Council Rules as amended.

The Rules of Order were adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Buddington, Moran, Moulton, nay Councilor Bona and Bullett.

11,484 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding the naming of streets in Hillside Cemetery, which was referred to the Cemetery Commission and postponed at the meeting of December 22, 2015.

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

11,458-2 The President presented Mayor's communication #17 recommending an amendment to the Compensation Plan for FY'16.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted the bargaining unit agreed to the same wage increases as Council previously approved for Police, DPW and non-union employees. The increase is 1% effective July 1, 2015 and 1% effective January 1, 2016. There will be retro pay back to July 1, 2015. The only other adjustment was in the compensation Plan is code z-2A which has been adjusted to comply with minimum wage requirements.

11,458-2 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2-28(a) of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule B of the Compensation Plan for FY'16.

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

11,388-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the Employee Handbook.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the General Government Committee and postpone to the meeting of April 12th.

11,508-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President Lamb regarding an ad hoc committee for shared economy business.

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

11,512 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President Lamb regarding the City's Wells (Greylock Well).

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

Tim Lescarbeau, Commissioner of the Public Works said the well is just an emergency backup for the City, if there is an serve drought. The problem lies with the fact the City tested a week too

early so it did not fall within the state guide lines.. The language comes directly from the DEP directly.

Without objection the President moved the taxi license forward.

The President presented a taxi license submitted by Todd Plumley, 14 Hall Street to drive taxi for R.J. Taxi.

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

11,513 The President presented Mayor's communication #18 requesting to present his State of the City Address.

The President called for anyone wishing to speak in Open Forum, hearing none the President called for any Councilor of Mayor's Concerns.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:25pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
March 23, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moulton. Absent Councilor Lamb and Moran.

A moment of silence was observed.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier of North Adams objected to the new Council Rules of Order, citing rule 17 and 18. Mary Wilson of Oak Hill was concerned about the zoning ordinances for the City. She noted that a neighbor leaves construction equipment parked on his property and it is very unsightly, making it very difficult for her to sell her home. Ed Morandi of West Shaft Road was concerned about a solar project that abutted his property and he was not notified by the Planning Board. Roger Eurbin of Ashland Street said spring cleanup at Hillside Cemetery will be April 9th from 9:00am till noon.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of March 8, 2016.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Merrigan abstained.

Without objection the President moved Council Paper #11,514 forward.

11,514 The President presented Mayor's communication #19 regarding the swearing in of Jason Wood to the rank of Sergeant.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted Jason has successfully completed the Civil Service Police Promotional Exam for the rank of Sergeant. This exam is no easy task as it encompasses both leadership and the interpretation of the laws.

The City Clerk swore Jason Wood in a Sergeant.

11,458-2 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2-28(a) of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule B of the Compensation Plan for FY'16, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of March 8th.

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

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moulton. Nay none.

11,495 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding tax incentives for home improvements, which was referred to the Community Development Committee and postpone at the meeting of January 26, 2016.

Councilor Buddington noted the committee has not had a meeting.

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

11,515 The President presented Mayor's communication #20 with an update regarding recommendations of the report presented by the MMA Municipal Opioid Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted in his communication that in January the MMA adopted "An Obligation to Lead" and in the presentation there were two outcomes;

1. That Council and the public will have a better understanding as to what the community is doing to address addiction and the stigma so associated.
2. That the Council will consider the appointment of one of its members to the Workgroup to broaden the City's Involvement.

Adam Hinds, Executive Director and Wendy Penner, Director of Prevention and Wellness spoke on what they are doing to find solutions around addiction.

Without objection the President moved the licenses forward.

The President presented an application submitted by Susan McMillian to operate a taxi under the business name of City Cab, located at 57 River Street.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Craig Amos, 57 Tyler Street to drive taxi for Susan McMillian, City Cab.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Nathan McMillian, 257 Houghton Street to drive taxi for Susan McMillian, City Cab.

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

The President presented an application from Ernest Perry for a renewal of a secondhand license in the business name of "Odds and Ends", located at 188 Eagle Street.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED; to grant the license. Councilor Bona abstained.

The President presented an application submitted by Mary Ann George for a renewal of a secondhand license in the business name of Maryann-tiques & Gifts located at 615 Ashland Street.

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

11,516 The President presented Mayor's communication #21 presenting the City's new Capital Improvement Plan.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said that his administration and the Office of Community Development has been working for close to a year with Edward J. Collins Institute Center for Public Management on the campus of UMass Boston.

Ms. Lamboy gave a presentation and the Mayor asked Council to refer this to the Finance Committee for a closer look and further discussion.

11,517 The President presented Mayor's communication #22 regarding a gift of money to the North Adams Police Department.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said a resident wanted to provide a cash gift to the Police Department, but this gifts brings certain conditions:

1. The name of the donor be kept anonymous until February 2021.
2. That the donated funds be expended only for the purpose of equipment to be used by the men and women of the NAPD.
3. That the donated funds be placed in a special municipal account.
4. That the account only be accessed by the Mayor, upon recommendations of the Police Director.

The Mayor on behalf of the City thanked the donor for their generosity.

Michael Cozzaglio, Police Director told the Council he has no plans to use this money all at once, hopes to spread it out over a three year period. This is specifically meant for the front line officers to keep them safe.

11,517 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to accept a gift of $30,000 for the North Adams Police Department.

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

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moulton. Nay none.

11,518 The President presented Mayor's communication #23 regarding a permanent easement for the property at 180 West Shaft Road.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,518 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into a permanent easement for the property at 180 West Shaft Road.

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

Several Councilors were concerned about the language and why was the City not selling the property instead of maintaining an easement with the owner. After much discussion Councilor Blackmer made a motion to amend the Order, seconded by Councilor Merrigan to include the language **for so long as said structure shall encroach on City Land.**

The Order, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Merrigan, Moulton. Nay none.

The President noted there was a correspondence from Mindy Hackner, City Librarian in regards to a retirement gathering for Robin Martin.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, hearing none a motion to adjourn was in order.

On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 9:25pm.

A True Record
Attest,

City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
April 12, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moulton. Absent Councilor Moran.

A moment of silence was observed, remembering Joan Parisien teacher at the former Haskins Elementary School. Claire Bianco Gamari special needs teacher in the North Adams School System.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Edward Morandi of West Shaft Road questioned something that went to the Planning Board regarding sound/noise. The City does not have to means to measure decimal sound. He also was questioning the tax incentives for home improvements.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of March 22nd, 2016.

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

11,508 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President Lamb regarding shared economy service providers, which was postponed at the meeting of February 9, 2016.

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

Council President Lamb noted he had already assigned an ad hoc committee at the last meeting.

11,388-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the Employee Handbook, which was referred to the General Government Committee and postponed at the meeting of March 8th.

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of May 10th.

11,495-a The President presented a report of the Community Development Committee submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the tax incentives for home improvements.

Councilor Buddington noted the committee decided after much discussion about the issue that this should be referred to Michael Canales for further review. He noted the problem is that North Adams is not considered a Gateway City because of the population, even though we do have urban problems.

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

11,495 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding tax incentives for home improvements, which was referred to the Community Development Committee and postponed at the meeting of March 22nd.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to refer to the administration and postpone to the meeting of April 26th.

11,486-a **SUBSTITUTE PAPER:** The President presented Mayor's communication #2-a regarding a Special Tax Assessment Agreement with Greylock Works, LLC.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Councilor Boucher abstained from any discussion and vote for personal reasons.

The Mayor said that the TIF agreement is in compliance with all state regulations and provides tax benefit to Greylock for the significant investment and eventual job creation while fully protecting the City should certain milestones within the agreement not be met.

Owners Salvatore Perry and Karla Rothstein intend to transform the 240,000 square foot State Road mill into a business incubator focused on food production, a restaurant, event space and a hotel. The last phase of the project is residential, which is not part of the TIF agreement.

Councilors had several questions for the Mayor, Mr. Perry and Ms. Rothstein. Councilor Buddington was not opposed to the TIF agreement but had questions about the exemptions and reporting section of this particular TIF. He noted this was a million dollar tax agreement and his concerns are not with the contract, but he would like to have more discussion on the details and how this fits with City policies in the future.

11,486-a **SUBSTITUE PAPER:** The President presented a Resolution designating the property identified as Map #133, Lot #2 and #3 as Greylock Works, LLC as an Economic Opportunity Area.

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

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moulton. Nay none. Councilor Boucher abstained.

11,486-1a **SUBSTITUTE PAPER:** the President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to execute a Special Tax Assessment Agreement with Greylock Works, LLC.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer this to the Finance Committee for further review.
Councilor Blackmer thought any financial piece and details should be reviewed by the committee.

Council President called for a roll call vote on Councilor Buddington's motion to refer.

On roll call the following responded; yea Councilor Blackmer and Buddington, nay Councilor Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moulton. Councilor Boucher abstained. Motion failed.

On motion of Councilor Bullett, 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 Blackmer, Bona, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moulton. Nay Councilor Buddington. Councilor Boucher abstained.

11,519 The President presented Mayor's communication #24 regarding a special tax agreement with Crane & Company.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained that the City had a STA with Crane in 2013 and now several members of its management team and in part by its employees under the name of Crane Stationary, LLC. The STA still has 3 years of benefit left and I have every reason to believe that this new model will be successful and preserve the hundreds of jobs.

Councilor Boucher suggested that Council postpone until it could be determined why Crane did not need to go to the Planning Board for the change of ownership, Councilor Moulton was in agreement with Councilor Boucher. Councilor Moulton questioned if Crane was meeting the criteria for employment and how does the City confirm this.

11,519 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to execute an Assignment and Assumption Agreement with Crane & Co.,Inc and Crane Stationary, LLC.

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

Councilor Boucher still felt it should be postponed for clarification by the Planning Board.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Lamb, Merrigan. Nay Councilor Moulton. Councilor Bullett abstained.

11,478-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #25 regarding the sale of land to Blackinton Backwoods, LLC.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said that Ben Svenson of Broder Properties has expanded the scope of their investment to include the purchase of property from the City. They were the only bidders for this property at $55,000.

11,478-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to convey the City property to Blackinton Backwoods, LLC.

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

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moulton. Nay none.

11,520 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Moran regarding a Resolution supporting the sale of tobacco in the City.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Council President explained that Councilor Moran has been working closely with the Board of Health since last September to raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco from 18 to 21.

Councilor Moulton noted he was not in favor of this, since it is nothing more than the government taking control of people, and he also questioned the enforcement of this.

11,520 The President presented a Resolution supporting the North Adams Board of Health regarding the sale of tobacco in the City.

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

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan. Nay Councilor Moulton.

The President presented an application submitted by Kevin Delisle, 143 West Main Street to drive taxi for City Cab.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Denice Little, 25 Fiege Avenue to drive taxi for City Cab.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Robert Cook, 427 West Shaft Road to drive taxi for City Cab.

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

The President presented an application submitted by David Bushey, 46 Mill Street, Williamstown to drive taxi for City Cab.

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

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, hearing none a motion to adjourn was in order.

On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 10:10pm.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gorneau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
April 26, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Absent Councilor Boucher.

A moment of silence was observed.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Mark Trottier of North Adams noted the State had just released two million dollars to check water in the schools and thought maybe the City should find out about this.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of April 12th.

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

11,508 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President Lamb regarding shared economy service providers, which was postponed at the meeting of February 9, 2016.

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

Council President Lamb noted he had already assigned an ad hoc committee at the last meeting.

11,489 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding housing policies, which was postponed at the meeting of February 23rd.

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

11,495 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding tax incentives for home improvements, which was postponed at the meeting of April 12th.

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

11,521 The President presented Mayor's communication #26 presenting a Proclamation declaring April 26th as "Children's Mental Health Awareness Week".

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor read his proclamation for the record.

11,522 The President presented Mayor's communication #27 recommending the re-appointment of Mary Ann Caproni to the Board of Registrars for a term to expire April 1, 2019.

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

11,523 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the opioid addiction crisis.

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

Sarah, representing North County Cause Coalition spoke about the importance of an inpatient detox unit at BMC North. The data from the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services said the number of people seeking treatment for addiction of any kind has increased by 47%. There is a huge need for clinical stabilization detox for 24 hours and education for inpatients. Sarah said the best chance for recovery is if BMC meets the needs of our community. Nykole Roach also spoke about the importance of opening a facility at BMC North for substance abuse.
Several Councilors were concerned about the percentages of North Adams residents seeking treatment for substance abuse. They questioned how North Adams percentages skyrocketed so much. Ms. Roach said it was because of economic distress and the lack of job opportunities in the community. Councilor Blackmer said that southern Berkshire faced a similar epidemic and various community groups came together to fight the problem and they did not rely solely on the hospital. Councilor Blackmer said it was a very interesting report and appreciates the work but I think sometimes information can be skewed to what you want it to represent. She noted that this was conducted by a group that has advocated for additional health care services at BMC in North Adams.

Henry Jaeschke of 62 Chase Ave was concerned about the frequent offenders when it is short term. It seems there should be more education about detox. A.J. Cote of Adams said he has lost several friends to drugs and what is needed is a cultural change and an economic revitalization. We lack health care and BMC should be held accountable.

11,524 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Moulton regarding signage on the lower half of Route 2.

On motion of Councilor Moulton, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the Traffic Committee and postponed at the meeting of June 14th.

Councilor Moulton said there is a serious safety issue on Route 2, Mohawk Trail on the eastern entrance into the City. His concern was that there was not proper signage once trucks come around the Harpin Turn there is no warning that they have another 4 miles of steep grade. The Mayor said he has spoken with Mass DOT and they are in full agreement and they definitely will do more signage and is very willing to work with the City.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Moran thanked his fellow Councilors for their support on the age of purchasing tobacco. Councilor Bona noted Saturday MCLA figment will be at Windsor Lake from 3:00 to 9:00 pm. Councilor Bullett said the community cleanup is Saturday at 9:30 from MCLA.

With no further business to come before the Council, the President called for a motion to adjoun.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moran it was 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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
May10, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.
A moment of silence was observed, remembering Jack "General Dempsey", longtime downtown merchant, former Trustee of the North Adams Regional Hospital, and Chairman of the Downtown Development, Inc.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Susan Rose, 30 Leonard Street was concerned about the substance abuse in the City. Mark Trottier, 131 Woodlawn Avenue spoke about the health issues concerning the local restaurants. Michael Wilbur of North Adams also expressed his concerns for a detox center in North Adams.

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

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

11,388-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the Employee Hand Book, which was postponed at the meeting of April 12th.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of June 14th.

11,525 The President presented Mayor's communication #28 recommending a transfer from the Tinker Fund to the Department of Public Services.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained that Mr. Eurbin and his volunteers have done a tremendous job at repairing many stones that have fallen over the years. Additionally, they have cataloged the entire cemetery, placed signs and much more. To continue the work Mr. Eurbin is asking for $8,000 from the Tinker Fund; $4,000 to purchase a lifting tripod that will allow them to move the stones. The additional $4,000 is to be used for stone repairs this summer.

Councilor Moran was wondering just what the Tinker Fund was. Roger Eurbin said that Mr. Tinker donated a sum of money to the city, which gains interest and it is too only be used for maintenance of Hillside Cemetery. Councilor Bona said that some of the money already used at Hillside was donations and that has been used for smaller equipment.

11,525 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $8,000.00 from the Tinker Fund to the Department of Public Services.

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

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,526 The President presented Mayor's communication #29 recommending the re-appointment of Cynthia Quinones to the Public Arts Commission for a term to expire May 1, 2021.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to confirm the re-appointment.

11,527 The President presented Mayor's communication #30 recommending the re-appointment of Julia Dixon to the Public Arts Commission for a term to expire May 1, 2021.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: confirm the re-appointment.

11,529 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President Lamb on behalf of the Josh Bressette Commit to Save a Life Inc.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The President noted that Kenna Waterman, founder of the organization wrote a letter to the council supporting the resolution that her organization addressing opioid addiction is frequently asked to help find recovery beds. To open a facility in Northern Berkshire would not only be a positive step for North County but the people in need in Southern Vermont as well.

11,529-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding a Resolution for providing opioid beds in North County.

On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Safety Committee and postpone to the meeting of June 28th.

Councilor Moulton asked the group exactly what the group wanted to accomplish by sending this to committee.

Richard Dassatti spokesman for the group said they were hoping for more community involvement. Councilor Blackmer said some of the organizations and individuals listed in this resolution were already involved in the opioid task force. Councilor Blackmer said she was not sure what referring this will do that has not already been done.

11,529-1 The President presented a Resolution supporting the urgent health care needs in North Adams and North County for opioid addiction.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Moran it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Safety Committee and postponed to the meeting of June 28th.

11,528 The President presented Mayor's communication #31 presenting the **"Draft Budget"** for FY'17.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Timothy Randall, 181 Bracewell Avenue for a renewal of a secondhand license, in the business name of "Sanford & Kid" , located at 160 Houghton Street.

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

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Bona said he was doubtful people would be afraid to eat at the local restaurants in light of the recent findings. The Mayor assured the Council The Health Inspector found no other restaurants in violation, and all the establishments and the schools have be inspected. Inspections will continue to be done in the fall and spring.

With no further business to come before the Council, the President called for a motion to adjourn.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:25pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
May 24, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Councilor Boucher absent.

A moment of silence was observed, remembering Marguerite Lampron, election worker for the City for many years. Maureen (Wood) Goodreau, President of the North Adams Historical Society, Chairman of the Historical Commission, Chairman of the 1996 Centennial Celebration and served as the Assistant City Clerk from 1993-1997.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street spoke on St. Francis Church. Merle Knight, 22 Temple Street also had concerns regarding her neighborhood.

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

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

11,530 The President presented Mayor's communication #32 presenting the 2015 Scanlon Audit.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted he was pleased with the management letter noting only three comments and recommendations with no substantial findings. The Mayor said the Finance Team does a great job in keeping our financial records in order.

Tom Scanlon of Scanlon Associates has been doing the City's audit for the past five years and noted the City still needs to work on free cash and reserves.

Councilors had question regarding the skating rink, which the Administrative Officer, Michael Canales answered for them. He noted the rink should be able to sustain itself in the next few years, recently they had to do a lot of work at the rink, but now that it is done he does not foresee any major repairs at the rink.

The President noted all Councilors had a copy of a recent correspondence.

The President presented an application submitted by Todd Hebert, 86 Cady Street for a secondhand license in the business name of "Another Man's Treasure", located at 55-59 Union Street.

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

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, hearing none a motion to adjourn was in order.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:36pm.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Homiau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
June 14, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

A moment of silence was observed remembering the victims of the Orlando tragedy.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street noted people in our community are struggling. At one point during his 2 minutes Mr. Cardimino was considered out of order.

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

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

11,388-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the Employee Handbook, which was postponed at the meeting of June 14th.

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

Councilor Buddington noted he would be bringing an Ordinance in to reflect the changes at the meeting of July 12th.

11,524 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Moulton regarding signage on the lower half of Route 2, which was postponed at the meeting of April 26th.

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

The Mayor noted that DOT was making the signs and would put them up on the State's part of the road and the remaining signs would have to be installed by the City.

Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said the City should be looking at the caution light at the Beaver Street intersection.

11,528 The President presented Mayor's communication #31 presenting the "Draft Budget" for FY'17.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

Without objection the President moved Council paper 11,532 forward.

11,532 The President presented Mayor's communication #34 recommending a TIF agreement with The Beyond Place, LLC.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted the TIF was in compliance with all State regulations and provides for tax benefit to The Beyond Place, LLC for the significant investment and eventual job creation while fully protecting the City should certain milestones within the agreement not be met.

Eric Kerns and Ben Svenson were in attendance to answer any questions.
Councilor's had many questions for them, even though they all were in support of the TIF and thought it was good for the City. Councilor Merrigan was wondering about how many jobs would be seen from this project. Mr. Kerns said 10 new jobs, adding one new job every year. Councilor Boucher said this was like a partnership with the City and our job is to move this forward. Councilor Moulton asked the Mayor if he would see that the semiannual reports that are required in this agreement would be given to the Councilors. The Mayor acknowledged that he would see that they received the report. Eric Kerns said it was important to realize that unlike other commercial operations, we will be generating 2% room tax every single year. Based on our projections it should be approximately $25,000 to $30,000.

11,532 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into a TIF agreement with The Beyond Place, LLC.

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

Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street was gaveled out of Order with his comments to Mr. Kerns and Mr. Svenson.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

10,693-4 The President presented Mayor's communication #33 regarding Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Program.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted this was a grant for the skate park at Noel Field.

Michael Nuvaille presented the Council will the plans for the Complex, noting there would also be a splash park. They will be adding a new pickelball court, bocce courts and a new parking area. The tennis court will be converted to 2 basketball courts with bleachers.

10,693-4 The President presented a Resolution for Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Program for the Noel Field Complex.

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

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,533 The President presented Mayor's communication #35 recommending an appropriation from Certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Account.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said by moving our Certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Account it assures us that these funds will be available in the future and is another step in rebuilding the reserves of the City.

11,533 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $787,752 from Certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Account.

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

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

9,513-23 The President presented Mayor's communication #36 recommending an increase to the rates at the Transfer Station.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said he is asking for an increase in the scale rate from $.0506 per pound ($101.23 per ton). Current operations at the transfer station will remain the same with the exception of no longer being open on Mondays. All other fees will remain the same, except for the large bags which will cost $2.25.

9,513-23 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 7 entitled Public Services, Section 7-11 entitled Disposal of Waste at the Transfer Station: Charges.

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

4,840-22 The President presented Mayor's communication #37 regarding an increase to the water rates.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said he needed to **"SUBSTITUTE"** the paper for the water rates. He explained there was an error in the calculation.

Without objection the President substituted the paper.

The Mayor said the water rates will increase from $3.85 to $4.04 per 100 cubic feet. The sewer rate is 50% of the water bill. He noted that water rate increases are very normal, this is what sustains the revenue for the City.

Councilors agreed that the increase went along with dealing with the failing infrastructure in the City. Councilor Boucher and Moulton however did not agree with the increase, although they understood the City's side. Both Councilors were contacted by residents with concerns about the increase. It may not seem a lot to us, since we have the ability to cover the cost, but some residents just do not.

4,840-22 **"SUBSTITUTE PAPER"** The President presented an Order amending Section 22 of the Water Rates, Rules and Regulations as most recently amended on June 10, 2014.

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

The Order, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Nay Councilor Boucher and Moulton.

11,528-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #31A presenting the FY'17 Budget, Classification and Compensation Plan.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said he was very pleased to say the budget is fully balanced anticipating the use of Free Cash of $205,000 to offset health insurance expenses. The budget shows an increase of 2.29%.

Councilor Blackmer noted the finance committee had several meetings on the budget and the committee fully recommends to the Council adoption of the budget.

11,528-1 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $39,454,683.00 to be raised by taxation for FY'17.

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

The committee, Councilor Blackmer, Bona and Boucher presented the budget by department for approval.

GRAND TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT: $1,239,936.00

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

GRAND TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY: $4,982,881.00

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

GRAND TOTAL PUBLIC SERVICES: $3,143,087.00

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

GRAND TOTAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT: $16,744,198.00

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

GRAND TOTAL PENSIONS: $2,572,081.00

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

GRAND TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED: $7,851,610.00

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

GRAND TOTAL FOR CAPITAL: $760,000.00

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

GRAND TOTAL FOR INTEREST: $480,597.00

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

GRAND TOTAL FOR DEBT: $1,680,293.00

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

GRAND TOTAL FOR THE FY' 17 BUDGET $39,454,683.00

On motion of Councilor Boucher, 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, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

11,531 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'17.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Marcus Whittman, 312 Walnut Street to drive taxi for Tunnel City.

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

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Moulton suggested the City look at charging parking fees when events come into the City. Council President asked everyone to remember the victims and their families in the Orlando tragedy.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adjourn at 10:04pm.

A True Record
Attest,

City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
June 28, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Moulton. Absent Councilor Merrigan.

A moment of silence was observed remembering Rudolph "Rudy" Coach Benedetti who while coaching track at Drury High School from 1952-1957, he won three consecutive Western Massachusetts championships.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street noted he has on several occasion complained about pot holes in the City. At one point during his 2 minutes Mr. Cardimino attacked three Councilor's regarding health insurance. The President asked Mr. Cardimino to please sit down and he refused, so President Lamb called a recess at 7:35pm, and called for police assistance. The meeting was called back to order at 7:40pm. Several members of the North County Cares Coalition spoke in favor of the Resolution for the opioid addition needs.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of June 14th.

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

11,529-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President regarding a Resolution for providing opioid beds in North County, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,529-1a The President presented the report of the Public Safety Committee providing opioid beds in North County.

Councilor Moulton said the committee had a very long meeting with the North County Coalition and the committee was in favor of supporting the Resolution.

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

11,529-1 The President presented a Resolution supporting the urgent health care needs in North Adams and North County for opioid addiction, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee.

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

Several Councilors had concerns about the language included in the Resolution, referring to it being harsh and felt it should be softened. Councilor Blackmer suggested that the Resolution should be amended, the word assert is not exactly what the Stroudwater Report said. She suggested that asserted be deleted and insert "showed an existing need" page 50 of the report. Councilor Bullett did not support the Resolution because it was focused on short term goals and it did not fully address the needs for recovery.

Again many representatives from the North County Coalition spoke of the need for the services of opioid additions.

Council President read a letter for the record from the Mayor regarding his thoughts on the Resolution.

Councilor Blackmer, made a motion to amend the language, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton, and also include The Governor and Congressman Neal.

The Resolution, as amended, was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Lamb, Moran, Moulton. Nay Councilor Bullett.

11,531 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'17, which was passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin at the meeting of June 14th.

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

Councilor Blackmer noted there was an error in the Classification Plan, Community Development Office; Administrative Assistant should be S-11 and the Bookkeeper should be S-12.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: amend.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

9513-23 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 7 entitled Public Services, Section 7-11 entitled Disposal of Waste at the Transfer Station; Charges, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law.

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

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

11,534 The President presented Mayor's communication #38 recommending the reappointment of Klye Hanlon to the Redevelopment Authority for a term to expire June 1, 2019.

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

The President presented an application submitted by Samuel Day, 160 State Street to drive taxi for R.J. Taxi.

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

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Moulton noted that the signage was done on Route 2.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adjourn at 9:05pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
July 12, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Absent Councilor Bullett.

A moment of silence was observed.

The President read a ruling from the Open Meeting Law to the public in attendance that "no person shall address a meeting of the public body without permission of the chair and all persons shall, at the request of the chair, be silent." G.L. c. 30A Section 20(g). The Open Meeting Law permits the chair of the board to decide who can speak at a meeting and for how long. OML 2013-2; OML 2012-23.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street noted the City was in violation of the Ordinance regarding beer at Joe Wolfe Field. At one point during his 2 minutes Mr. Cardimino again attacked three Councilor's regarding health insurance. The President three times asked Mr. Cardimino to please sit down and he refused, he continued to interrupt the meeting until the 2 minutes were up.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of June 28th.

On motion of Councilor Moulton, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Merrigan abstained due to the fact she was not present at the last meeting.

11,535 The President presented Mayor's communication #39 regarding the promotion of Michael P. Sherman to the rank of Lieutenant.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted that Lieutenant Sherman began his service with the North Adams Fire Department in 2007 as a reserve and in 2009 he became a permanent firefighter. In addition he is a certified paramedic.

Marilyn Gomeau, City Clerk and Clerk of the Council administered the oath to Lieutenant Sherman.

11,536 The President presented Mayor's communication #40 recommending year end transfers.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor explained that the budget was being closed only with internal account to account transfers without the use of reserves.

11,536 The President presented an Order transferring the sum of $615,815.51from Public Services, School Department and Unclassified to Several Accounts.

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

David Fierro, City Auditor was in attendance to answer any question the Councilors had. Mr. Fierro noted that some of the overages were from the 1 and 1raise and then the extra week in the year, which happens every 5 years.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

11,388-2 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II of the Revised Ordinances.

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

Councilor Buddington would like to see this referred to the City Solicitor.

Councilor Blackmer rescinded her original motion.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the Solicitor.

The Mayor said he would like to see it referred to Fred Dupere, Labor Attorney for the City.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to amend the motion and refer to both the City Solicitor and Fred Dupere.

10,731-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Council President on behalf of Mary Ann King requesting an Ordinance change for parking in the Center Street Parking Lot.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

10,731-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-61, subsection (d), relative to parking for Center Street Parking Lot; Fees.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to refer to the Public Safety committee.

The Mayor noted the Police Director had approached the Traffic Commission about restoring the meters, saying it was impossible to enforce parking limits in both short and long term parking areas.

Councilors talked about many ideas for the parking lot, from eliminating the meters and using apps or cameras. Councilors asked for more information on parking and the lot, including the study that was done by Williams College Students. Councilor Bona noted these were all very good questions and felt these questions could be answered in committee.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Bona noted the rabies clinic was being held on July 14-16 in the Chase Ave area.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:28pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
July 26, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.
A moment of silence was observed.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street expressed his concern about the mess at St Francis Church. He noted what a beautiful City we have and when you drive into the City, that is the first thing you see. Mr. Chalifoux said the City should be in contact with the diocese to move the process along; the number to call and express how you feel about the mess is 732-3175. Mr. Cardimino wanted to speak, but Council President would not allow him to do so. The President said he had temporarily lost his right to speak because of his failure to comply with the rules at the last meeting. Mr. Cardimino continued to attack Council President for violating his rights.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of July 12th.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Bullett abstained due to the fact she was not present at the last meeting.

11,388-2 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II of the Revised Ordinances, which was referred to the City Solicitor and Attorney Fred Dupere at the meeting of July 12th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of August 9th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to amend Section 2-12 vacation period.

10,731-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-61, subsection (d), relative to parking for Center Street Parking Lot; Fees, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee at the meeting of July 12th.

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

Councilor Moulton gave the committee report. He looks at the meters as a quick fix for a wider problem.

Councilors felt there were other avenues that could be explored for parking, but they are willing to vote the Ordinance change now and look at long term parking at a later date. Councilor Moulton said the administration should come up with plans for parking, maybe through the City Planner.

They were discussing the possibility of rewriting the language for the Ordinance. Councilor Blackmer said it has been three years and now everyone wants to move forward immediately.

Councilor Blackmer rescinded her original motion.

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

Mr. Jeffrey Thomas owner of Levre and Cloud at 85 Main Street was not in favor of the parking meters. He feels the parking lot serves the community well.

Mr. Cardimino again spoke out of order and the President 3 times asked him to please sit down and he continued to tell the President he was in violation of his rights.

11,537 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Lamb regarding a Resolution supporting a Cultural District.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,537 The President presented a Resolution supporting a State-authorized Cultural District.

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

Suzy Helme and Jennifer Crowell said that this resolution would help promote the City.

The Resolution was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows: yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Moran said Saturday the City is going to be designated as an Appalachian Trail Community from 9:00 to 3:00 at Greylock School. Councilor Blackmer said August 10th is the downtown celebration. Councilor Bullett said Sunday the Hoosic River Revival is holding a walk and run at 3:30, Noel Field.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:30pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
August 9, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.
A moment of silence was observed.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street thanked Council President for granting his ability to speak.

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

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

11,388-2 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II of the Revised Ordinances, which was postponed at the meeting of July 26th.

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

Councilor Buddington noted there were a few changes recommended by Fred Dupere. Councilor Buddington made a motion to amend the paper as recommended.

Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street would like to see the name of Director changed to Chief, the Mayor did agree with that and would like to see the City work on that.

10,731-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-61, subsection (d), relative to parking for Center Street Parking Lot; Fees, which was postponed at the meeting of July 26th.

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

Councilors were in agreement to move forward with the Ordinance. Councilor Bona said at the last meeting there was a feeling there would be another committee meeting, which would allow more input from the business community. Councilor Bona said he had a conversation with the Director about using a digital camera to mark the location and times of parked cars. This could be done once and not require installing the meters. Councilor Bona said that this was not about meters, but trying to keep permit holders happy. Permit holders are paying for a monthly space and others are using the lot for free. Councilor Blackmer noted the City cannot fine anyone for overstaying two hours because there is no way to comply since the kiosks are broken. I would recommend to anyone ticketed to fight it. Councilor Blackmer did not like that the City was aware of the problem for several years and now Council is being pushed to make a decision.

The Mayor said construction in the lot was not contingent on installing the meters, but an opportunity to do both at the same time.

Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said he was under the impression at the last Council meeting there would be another committee meeting.

11,538 The President presented an Order calling the State Primary for September 8, 2016 from 7:00am to 8:00 pm.

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

Councilor Bullet noted the election will be held on a Thursday.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

The President presented a request from National Grid to hold a Public Hearing for a pole install on Old West Shaft Road.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for August 23rd at 7:30pm.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Boucher was concerned about the Jersey barriers that were still in the road by the mill where the mushroom factory was. He was wondering about a side walk. The Mayor said the City is working on that.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was 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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
August 26, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Councilor Bona and Boucher absent.

A moment of silence was observed.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said there were parking meters missing up by the church at the end of Main Street.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of August 9th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Council President noted a typo under Councilor's concerns.

Council President declared the Public Hearing opened regarding the installation of one pole on Old West Shaft Road.

Carly Soucie, 775 West Shaft Road had a few concerns regarding the property value, the environmental impact and the clean up after the installation. Ms. Soucie thought it was going to be installed close to her letch field. A representative from National Grid was not on hand due to a scheduling problem. Tim Lescarbeau had given the necessary approval for the pole installation and he feels this will have minimal impact on the homeowner.
The Mayor said he would get the answers for her from National Grid.

The President declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:40pm.

> The President presented an Order granting permission to National Grid to install one pole on Old West Shaft Road.

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

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote, yea Councilor Blackmer, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

11,388-2 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II of the Revised Ordinances, which was passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin at the meeting of August 9th.

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

Councilor Buddington noted that the 2nd paragraph in Section 2-12 be deleted because some of the references are covered under collective bargaining.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to amend by deleting that paragraph.

Councilor Bona entered the meeting at 7:45pm.

The Ordinance, as amended, was ordained by yea and nay vote, yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb. Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

10,731-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances entitled Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 13-61, subsection (d), relative to parking for Center Street Parking Lot; Fees, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of August 9th.

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

Councilor Moulton gave the report of the committee noting it was a very good meeting, hearing from the business community. Councilor Moulton said that after hearing some of the stakeholders he had changed his mind on the whole idea.

Councilors were all in agreement it was a great meeting and the message they got from the many businesses and residents is that the meters would discourage customers and visitors and they noted they would like to see more permitted parking. Councilors agreed they need to come up with a more comprehensive plan for parking. Councilor Blackmer asked the Council to think twice before passing to a second reading and publish, since it is costly to publish these things.

Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said he had a solution that would solve the parking meters and sell the lot for $1.00 and this would put it back on the tax roll.

The Ordinance **failed** by yea and nay vote as follows; yea none, nay Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

11,539 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into a purchase and sales agreement with 59 Hodges Cross Road, LLC.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to postpone to the Special Meeting of August 29th called by the Mayor.

The Mayor said he would like Council to tour the buildings and see the safety issues and disrepair of the DPW buildings.

Councilor Buddington would like to see this go to committee, and was also concerned about the environmental issues. Councilor Blackmer was concerned about the finances of this project.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, The Mayor noted the concerts at Cole Grove Park started, and it is a very enjoyable afternoon.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:47pm.

A True Record
Attest,

City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

61

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
August 29, 2016

Vice President Bullett in the Chair

On Roll Call the following responded: Councilors Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Bullett, Moran, Moulton. Councilor Buddington, Lamb, Merrigan absent.

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

The President said that we would begin our tour of the DPW buildings and return back to Council Chambers for discussion.

Councilor Merrigan entered the meeting at 5:33pm.

Councilors were given a tour of the Park & Recreation building, the land adjacent to the skating rink which would give the City more cemetery lots, the cemetery building, the salt shed on Ashland Street and finally the City Yard.

Tim Lescarbeau, Michael Canales and Ross Vivori were all in attendance.
Mr. Lescarbeau noted the Park & Recreation shed was not too bad, but there was water damage to the building because of leaks in the roof. The Mayor said they would need to remove part of the building for the new water park. Next Mr. Lescarbeau showed them the piece of land the runs along the back of the Hodges Cross Road building and is adjacent to the cemetery, which can be used for more lots. The next stop was the cemetery building and they saw the rotting taking place in that building. Mr. Lescarbeau noted it cost more to heat this building than City Hall. The second smaller building will stay to store some of the equipment used at the cemetery. The salt shed on Ashland Street is also unsafe and there is a lot of water damage to the building. The large dump truck that delivers the salt and sand cannot back into the building because the opening is too small and the sand has to be pushed from the outside in. Mr. Lescarbeau pointed out the expensive machinery that has to be left outside and causes it too rust. Last stop was the City Yard which showed extensive water damage, no ventilation and very unsafe conditions for the workers. Mr. Lescarbeau said that where the offices are, was the old pump house built in 1874.

When the tour ended the Council went back to Council Chambers to continue the meeting.

11,539 The President presented an order authorizing the Mayor to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with 59 Hodges Cross Road, LLC., which was postponed at the meeting of August 23rd.

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

The Mayor thanked Councilors and the public who attended the tour of the buildings.

Councilor Bona said he had a list of questions he had put together based on his questions and those he had seen on social media. Councilor Bona asked the President if they could just have the Mayor address the questions he had listed. Council President said that would be appropriate.

What would happen to the current DPW buildings?

Is current DPW property contaminated and would city be required to clean?

Could MCLA buy DPW property? Pros and cons

Is it in a flood zone? If so, how does that effect insurance, and does additional protection need to be built?

Does the state have grants to refurbish present buildings?

Wouldn't it create a lot more industrial traffic next to school?

What is the estimated income from 2400 new cemetery plots?

What is the estimated income from solar facility to be installed?

Is property contaminates and if so cost to clean up?

Would this income go toward reducing the debt of the property purchase?

Can the city afford it at this time?

What are the city's alternatives?

Has the city tried to market the proposed property to business that could bring much needed jobs to the city?

How would the DPW deal with the distance from the west end? Mowing and other equipment often times have been driving across town to fill up, wasting time and money. This could be worsened due to the farther location. Can a refueling vehicle or substation be part of the solution?

Is the DPW truly the highest priority? Police and fire buildings need to be updated as well

Can sales of the 2400 projected lots be used to directly pay off debt on DPW building instead of going in general fund? Maybe an enterprise fund?

What would cost of new building same size be?

Could public safety building be built on current DPW lot?

Will DPW staff occur overtime during moving, and/or will this affect scheduled projects from being completed until future date.

Worst case scenario, how much would this effect annual average tax bill?

The proposed property abutting Southview Cemetery was part of Southview Cemetery till the mid-sixties.

Why are we "purchasing property" when we have the right as a city to return the land back to the Southview Cemetery usable acreage at "0" cost regardless of purchasing the building?

Why are we offering asking price? Didn't they buy it at around $600K? Where are the $400k of improvements?

Are there any back taxes owed on the building? If so how is that being handled with the proposed purchase?

The Mayor addressed all the questions outlined for him. A large concern was about contamination which the Mayor said a recent environmental study was done and they did not find any contamination but it is being reviewed by Tighe & Bond, the purchase is contingent on the outcome. The Mayor estimated it would have an $80,000 a year impact on the budget, that is from the $55,000 in payments, the loss of $58,000 in property taxes and a gain of $32,000 from the planned solar array site. The average tax bill could be increased by $10.00. The solar company already has an agreement with Berkshire Anodizing and that agreement would slide over to the City. Michael Canales said it would pay $23,000 a year in lieu of taxes and an additional $9,000 in the leasing of the land, over the next 20 years.

The Mayor said the additional land for Southview Cemetery could mean possibly 3,000 more grave sites, at a cost of $500.00.

Councilors are all in agreement that something has to be done about the dilapidated structures, but the concern is the amount of money that would have to be borrowed; $995,000 for the 85,000 square foot building and the 30 acres, $107,000 for the immediate needs of the DPW, which they can do and about $350,000 for interior work to transform the building into the needs of the DPW.

The Mayor said it was a good deal because it would have cost about $2.7 million three years ago to build a new building. Mr. Lescarbeau said the anodizing plant is in good condition and would serve the City well, the bones of the building are good, as in any building you're going to have to do something with them. Mr. Lescarbeau noted that 3 years ago the cost to rebuild a new building was $2.7 million.

Councilor Moulton felt it would be better to have a private operation in there bringing jobs. Councilor Blackmer said she was not ready to approve such a large purchase unless negotiations are attempted.

Mark Trottier, Woodlawn Avenue and Alice Candi of Corinth Street objected to the purchase of the building noting the cost was too high. Peter Breen of Charlene Street made a point that the City already has rights to the piece of property by the cemetery.

The City Solicitor is going to check back on the deed that Mr. Breen is referring to.

Councilor Bona rescinded his original motion, seconded by Councilor Boucher.

On motion of Councilor Moulton, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to refer to the Finance Committee and postpone to the meeting of September 13th. Councilor Bullett opposed.

A special meeting of the Council is scheduled for September 1st for a tour of the Berkshire Anodizing Building at 6:00pm.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order. On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VO ted: to adjourn.

VOTED: to adjourn at 8:37pm
A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gonneau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
September 1, 2016

Vice President Bullett in the Chair

On Roll Call the following responded: Councilors Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Bullett, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Councilor Buddington, Lamb.

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

Councilors toured 59 Hodges Cross Road; Tim Lescarbeau guided Councilors through the building and explained where all the departments would be located. He noted that they would have to install overhead doors for the trucks and a large overhead door in the back of the building where the salt and sand would be stored. Mr. Lescarbeau also noted they would be putting in a road around the building.

Nate Girard from Greylock Realty and John Bordeau were also in attendance to answer questions. They noted the building was built in 1969 and a new roof was done in 2012.

The Mayor said if Councilors had any questions, they can e-mail him or Tim Lescarbeau.

When the tour was finished, Councilor President called for a motion to adjourn.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Merrigan it was VOTED: to adjourn.

Adjourned at 7:00pm

A True Copy
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
September 13, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Moulton. Councilor Merrigan absent.

A moment of silence was observed, remembering Gale Grande, paraprofessional for the North Adams School System for 15 years and Arline Ballou, longtime census worker for the City.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street was concerned about the break-ins around the City. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street noted the progress at Hillside Cemetery, about 600 stones have been repaired. Richard Dissatti, 472 Walnut Street was concerned about the purchase price of 59 Hodges Cross Road for the use of DPW. He feels the purchase price could have been negotiated better. Mr. Dassatti was also concerned about "Wage Theft".

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

On motion of Councilor Moulton, duly seconded by Councilor Bullett it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Council Boucher abstained.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting of August 29th.

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

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting of September 1st.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to accept as presented. Councilor Buddington and Lamb abstained.

11,540 The President presented Mayor's communication #42 presenting a Proclamation for Childhood Cancer.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted that Kathy and Joe Arabia have lived the tragedy of losing a child to cancer.

Attached is the Proclamation for Childhood Cancer Awareness.

Without objection the President moved council paper #11,543.

11,543 The President presented Mayor's communication #45 regarding safe routes to School and Complete Street initiatives.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted that we were one of 12 cities in the Commonwealth who were recognized.

Amanda Chilson from the Northern Berkshire Coalition said this was about raising awareness on safe routes to school.

11,539 The President presented an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into a purchase and sales agreement with 59 Hodges Cross Road, LLC, which was referred to the Finance Committee and postpone at the meeting of August 29th.

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

Councilor Blackmer gave the report of the Finance Committee noting the committee felt the price was too high and more negotiations were needed. The committee was all in agreement that the City does need a new facility. The committee does recommend the adoption of this Order to the full Council.

Councilor Moulton said the real estate agent Nathan Girard said there was an interest in the building that could have produced about 100 jobs but they passed on the building because of water issues. Councilor Moulton was concerned about the possibility of 100 jobs being lost. He feels the price of the building is too high.

Councilor Bona said Councilor Bullett hit the nail on the head when she said it is really a safety issue, noting the City has many employees working in very unsafe conditions.

Councilor Moran read a letter from Jason Moran, member of the Conversation Commission, a former member of the Colegrove Building Committee and the Colegrove Finance Sub-Committee. He said as a person in the construction industry and someone currently responsible for construction of a cold storage building to be completed in the fall that has a 12,000 square foot footprint at a price of 1.5 million, the proposed total price of this project and the work required to outfit for a use of a DPW facility appears to be a great deal for the City of North Adams. I do support proceeding to the next level in purchasing this property for the DPW use.

Councilor Blackmer said she believed the City was still going to be paying too much for the

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Richard J. Alcombright

Childhood Cancer Awareness

Whereas, the City of North Adams and our Northern Berkshire community has been impacted with childhood cancer, as have been communities across the country.

Whereas, childhood cancer is the leading cause of disease related death in children.

Whereas, 43 children are diagnosed with cancer every day in this country.

Whereas, one in five of our nation's children lose his or her battle with cancer and 60% of infants, children and adolescents who do survive will suffer late effects like heart failure and other cancers.

Whereas, more than 40,000 children undergo treatment for cancer each year.

Whereas, although the overall five year survival rate for cancer is now over 80%, there are still some childhood brain cancers with a survival rate of less than 1%.

Whereas, only three drugs have been developed specifically for childhood cancer in 30 years, with an additional 4 drugs for use in both adults and children.

Whereas, childhood cancer receives only 4% of federal funding for cancer.

Whereas, worldwide a child is diagnosed with cancer every three minutes.

Now, therefore, I, Richard J. Alcombright, Mayor of the City of North Adams, do hereby proclaim September 2016 Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and call on residents to support efforts to increase awareness and support for childhood with cancer and research for better treatments and cures.

Mayor

10 Main Street • North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000

building, noting the building also has rot and other issues the will need to be addressed.

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

Mark Trottier, Woodlawn Avenue said he felt that it should be put on the November ballot for a vote.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran. Nay Councilor Moulton.

11,541 The President presented Mayors' communication #43 recommending the appointment of Allyson Holmes to the Planning Board to fill the unexpired term of JoAnn DeRose to expire February 1, 2017.

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

11,542 The President presented Mayor's communication #44 recommending the appointments of the Election Officers for a term to expire September 1, 2017.

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

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Moulton noted there was a large number of residents at the Finance Committee meetings and it was great to have such good public input. Councilor Buddington thanked Peter for the work he does for the City Council. Councilor Blackmer said this week-end is Fresh Grass at MoCA and to welcome the many visitors that will be in the City. The Mayor noted September 24th is the Recovery Walk for addiction from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at Noel Field.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:41pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
September 27, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Moran, Moulton. Councilor Merrigan absent.

A moment of silence was observed, remembering Allan Shapiro, member of the North Adams Historical Society and advisor for the automotive department at McCann Technical High School.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street wants to see a robo call go out informing residents of the break-ins, and drugs in the City. He said if the Mayor does not do that he will go around the City with a sign letting people know what is going on in the City. Carolyn Clark and Merle Knight of Temple Street spoke on the crimes that have been occurring at their home and the police have been of no help to them.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of September 13th.

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

11,544 The President presented Mayor's communication #45 requesting an appropriation from the Stabilization Account for Norte Dame Church.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor said this is for the purpose of emergency repairs. It is the intention to use the grant and the appropriation totaling $100,000 to remediate the water issues and stabilize the brick.

11,544 The President presented an Order appropriating the sum of $50,000 from the Stabilization Account to the Department of Public Safety.

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

Councilors were all in agreement the building does need to be repaired to stabilize the buttresses and the water issues that have occurred which are causing the deterioration.
Councilor Moulton asked if it would be better to offer to the building as is, even if it was a $1.00.

The Mayor said it could be considered if the proposal was good and the Council agreed. He feels that is very unlikely and there are serious concerns that the damage could become catastrophic.

William Meranti, the City Building Inspector said the church is not in danger of collapsing, but they are concerned that the weather will put more pressure on the weakened buttresses. The building is otherwise in good shape, no signs of water damage or cracks in the foundation. In 2008 the steeple had painting done and the roof was repaired. Mr. Mirante said the freeze-thaw cycle in an unheated building is taking a toll on the paint and plaster which is showing signs of decay. He said the damage was discovered in early spring, which was caused by the theft of the copper gutters and it is unknown when the theft had occurred.

Councilors were concerned that if the gutters were replaced it would only make it a target again to theft. They wonder how the City would ensure this did not happen again.

Mr. Meranti said the gutters would be galvanized or PVC and not worth much to someone who wants to steal them.

11,545 The President presented a communication submitted by the Planning Board requesting a Joint Public Hearing regarding a Zoning Ordinance for Solar Energy System.

Without objection the President set the Public Hearing for October 25th at 7:30pm.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Council President read a note from Councilor Merrigan for the record.
"I have not been as present at council meetings and community events lately as I would like to be. I have been dealing with family issues that have required considerable time and energy. I hope to be back involved more regularly soon. While I do not wish to go into further detail in this forum, I would be happy to talk more with anyone who wants to contact me directly. In the meantime, thank you for your understanding."
The Mayor read a Proclamation declaring September 18-24 as 55+ workers week.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:10pm.

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) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
October 11, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton.

A moment of silence was observed.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street noted it was the worst parade in 62 years. Roger Eurbin, 677 Ashland Street said October 22nd is work day at Hillside Cemetery.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of September 23rd.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Boucher it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Merrigan abstained.

11,546 The President presented Mayor's communication #46 regarding the swearing in of Stephanie Mirante and Preston Kelly to the Police Department.

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor noted Stephanie Mirante was the second woman officer on the force, she also was a dispatcher and special police officer. Preston Kelly has 14 years' experience, which will allow him to hit the ground running.

City Clerk, Marilyn Gomeau swore in both officers.

11,547 The President presented Mayor's communication #46 regarding a Proclamation for "Lights On Afterschool".

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

The Mayor read the proclamation for the record, noting this was in conjunction with the Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership which is being celebrated on October 20th.

The Mayor introduced the new Superintendent Barbara Malkas and she spoke to Council about the importance of the after-school activities that are provided for the students. Noella Carlow, site coordinator of the program explained the educational and development opportunities they provide for the children, families and community. Supper will be served to all students from the ages of 4 to 18 at Brayton School.

11,539-1 The President presented Mayor's communication #48 recommending a borrowing Order for the DPW project at 59 Hodges Cross Road

Without objection the President placed the communication on file.

11,539-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of $1,498,550 for property located at 59 Hodges Cross Road, DPW project, under Chapter 44, Section 7 & 8 of the Massahcusetts General Laws.

FIRST READING

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

Councilor Boucher questioned why there was a difference of $14,850 from the original borrowing estimate. The Mayor and Administrative Officer Michael Canales could not give Councilors an answer. The Mayor said there was no change in the $995,000 purchase and sales agreement that Council approved last month. Michael Canales said the amount was based on estimates for capital improvements and an $18,000 contingency. Mr. Canales noted the grand total was provided to the Council in their original packet. The Administrator Officer said the City was preapproved for a 40 year loan through the US Department of Agricultural, at 2.5 %, the annual debt would be $61,000.

Councilor Blackmer said the longer-term loan would cost an extra $200,000 on the borrowing. She wondered if the City had the option of changing to bonding or pay ahead.

The Mayor said if down the road the City wanted a 20 year amortization, there would be no penalty.

Councilor Blackmer rescinded her original motion, seconded by Councilor Buddington.

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

Roll call vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Nay Councilor Moulton.

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Richard J. Alcombright

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of North Adams stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide challenging and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills while supporting working families, ensuring their children are safe and productive after the traditional school day ends and

WHEREAS, the City of North Adams has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults and

WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 20, 2016 promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities and

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school and

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights and

WHEREAS, the City of North Adams is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing afterschool and out-of-school time programs that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy and

WHEREAS, it is important to engage families, schools and communities in advancing the welfare of our children and ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Richard J. Alcombright**, Mayor of the City of North Adams, do hereby proclaim **October 20**, 2016 to be.

***Lights On Afterschool* Day**

And urge all the citizens of North Adams to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor

10 Main Street • North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000

11,407-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the Public Arts Commission.

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

11,548 The President presented an Order calling the State Election for November 8, 2016 from 7:00am to 8:00pm.

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

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Nay none.

The President called for any Councilor or Mayor's Concerns, Councilor Blackmer noted the last day to register to vote and early voting is fast approaching. Councilor Bona applauded those who work hard on the parade. Councilor Moulton said residents were concerned about the solar that is going up on the side of the mountain; it is changing the entire look of the ledge.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 8:20pm.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Greene
City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
October 25, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Absent Councilor Boucher.

A moment of silence was observed remembering Theresa Bellini who taught business and was Chairwoman of the Business Department at McCann Technical School, and Administrative Assistant to the superintendent. Louis Zocchi, long time North Adams Police Officer. Raymond Burdick, first Chairman of the Northern Berkshire Department Corporation.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Jack Savage, 77 Yale Street was concerned about the solar site, the mountains are a vital resource to the City and we are destroying them by allowing solar. Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street urged the Council to vote no on the borrowing order for the DPW building, saying it is not worth a million dollars. Mr. Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street complained about the City Clerk after visiting her office during the day.

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

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented.

The President declared the Public Hearing Open regarding a new Zoning Ordinance for Solar Energy.

Chairman Leary called the roll for the Planning Board; members present Bond, Hanlon, Senecal, Leary, Holmes, Miksic, Hopkins.

Chairman Leary turned the hearing over to Michael Canales, Administrative Officer for the City. Mr. Canales said the ordinance had been review by legal counsel.

Councilor Moulton was concerned about the site view, noting the mountains are beautiful and we are destroying them with these solar projects.

Chairman Leary said the board was sensitive to this and the board has already requested the developer to appear before the board on November 14th to answer these complaints. The developer submitted graphics to the Planning Board showing how visible the arrays might be

from different locations. They submitted drawings to show us what they felt it would look like, and the board was happy with those drawings.

Planning Board member Bond left the Public Hearing at 8:15pm.

Councilor Moulton and Council President Lamb questioned if there was any recourse or enforcement.

Mr. Canales and Chairman Leary believed the Building Inspector could enforce the conditions of a special permit. Mr. Canales noted the importance of this Ordinance which would ensure that rights and obligations were spelled out. The Planning Board can only require site plan approval to be sure the project meets existing building codes and setbacks. This Ordinance would give the Planning Board the tools needed to deal with people coming forward with solar projects.

Jack Savage, 77 Yale Street said he does not know how this was allowed in the first place, saying he could see the clear-cut area while driving his car near the college. It is more visible since the leaves are gone from the trees.

Michael Chalifoux, 54 Monroe Street said solar was just a scam and the damage is already done. "Where did the government fail us" was his question.

Mr. Canales said that permission to clear cut on the mountain top did not fall under the Planning Board or the City.

Councilor Blackmer was concerned about the RU-1 zones because it involves the whole City.

Councilor Buddington wanted a better definition of farmland to ensure it was properly protected.

The President declared the Public Hearing Closed.

11,545-1 The President presented an Ordinance amending Chapter Z of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams entitled Zoning by adding a new section.

On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to refer back to the Planning Board and postpone to the meeting of November 22nd.

11,539-1 The President presented an Order authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor to borrow the sum of $1,498,550 for property located at 59 Hodges Cross Road, DPW Project, under Chapter 44, Section 7 & 8 of the Massachusetts General Laws, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of October 11th. **SECOND READING**

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

Councilor Moulton still argued the fact that the City is taking commercial real estate off the tax roles. He believes there are other options and he still does not like the price. Councilor Moulton pointed again at the $58,000 of loss taxes.

Councilor Blackmer would feel more comfortable if the City had an outside review of the building prior to sealing the deal. The Mayor said the City received an estimate from Tighe & Bond for $28,500 to do an architectural analysis. Tim Lescarbeau and the Building Inspector William Meranti are confident the structure is in good shape. The City already has preliminary approval from the US Department of Agricultural for a low cost loan. Councilor Blackmer still was not satisfied with that information. The Mayor agreed to go back to Tighe & Bond and the City could always find the funds.

Councilor Buddington said he was satisfied with the environmental report and believes the City has done their due diligence with this project.

The Order was adopted by yea and nay vote as follows; yea Councilor Blackmer, Bona, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran. Nay Councilor Moulton.

11,407-1 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the Public Arts Commission, which was referred to the General Government Committee and postponed at the meeting of October 11th.

Councilor Merrigan gave the report of the General Government Committee.

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

On motion of Councilor Merrigan, duly seconded by Councilor Buddington it was VOTED: to postpone to the meeting of November 22nd.

11,549 The President presented a communication submitted by Councilor Bona regarding parking on sidewalks.

On motion of Councilor Bona, duly seconded by Councilor Blackmer it was VOTED: to refer to the Traffic Committee and the Commission on Disabilities and postpone to the meeting of January 10th, 2017.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order. On motion of Councilor Blackmer, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to adjourn at 9:28pm.

A True Record
Attest,

City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk
City of North Adams

10 Main Street Room 109
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000 Ext. 1

City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
November 9, 2016

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

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Bona, Boucher, Buddington, Bullett, Lamb, Merrigan, Moran, Moulton. Absent Councilor Blackmer.

A moment of silence was observed remembering Lillian Glickman a volunteer for the North Adams Historical Society for 43 years and founding member of North Adams Hospice.

The President called for Hearing of Visitors, Jessica Sweeney, 23 Walnut Street acknowledged the hard work the City Council does to the City. Robert Cardimino, 173 East Quincy Street said Councilors should be walking the streets to listen to what the residents' concerns are. He also complained about the sportsmanship of the Drury football team.

The President called for the approval of the minutes from the meeting of October 25th.

On motion of Councilor Buddington, duly seconded by Councilor Moulton it was VOTED: to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Boucher abstained because he was absent for that meeting.

The President called for any Councilors concerns, Councilor Buddington noted Friday November 11th at Northern Berkshire Community Television Station there would be an informational meeting regarding services the public would like to see the government provide.

With no further business to come before the Council a motion to adjourn was in order.
On motion of Councilor Boucher, duly seconded by Councilor Bullettit was VOTED: to adjourn at 7:36pm.

A True Record
Attest,

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS
City Clerk's Office
December 7, 2016

I hereby notify that at twelve noon today the following items of business have been filed with this office and will be acted upon at the meeting in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, Tuesday evening December 13, 2016 at seven-thirty o'clock according to Section 8, Rules and Orders of the City Council.
Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
December 13, 2016

Roll Call
Moment of silent remembrance
The Pledge
Hearing of Visitors
Approval of the minutes of *November 22nd.*

8717-35a ***PUBLIC HEARING*** *setting the tax rate for FY'17.*

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

8717-35a *An Order establishing the percentages of tax levy for the various classes of property for FY'16.*

11,553 *Mayor's communication #51 regarding a program with our City youth called "Running with the Law".*

11,545-1 *An Ordinance amending Chapter Z of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams entitled Zoning by adding a new section, which was postponed at the meeting of November 22nd.*

11,407-1 *Communication submitted by Councilor Buddington regarding the Public Arts Commission, which was postponed at the meeting of November 22nd.*

11,528-1a *Mayor's communication #31-arecommending reductions to the FY'17 budget.*

11,528-1a *An Order reducing the FY'17 budget to $39,287,385.00.*

11,554 *Mayor's communication #52 recommending an appropriation from Free Cash to Unclassified.*

(over)

11,554 *An Order appropriating the sum of $205,000.00 from Free Cash to Unclassified; Medical Insurance.*

11,555 *Communication submitted by Council President regarding a Resolution declaring North Adams' a Safe and Inclusive Community.*

11,555 *A Resolution declaring North Adams' commitment to being a Safe and Inclusive Community.*

CORRESPONDENCE

COUNCILOR & MAYOR'S CONCERNS

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Richard J. Alcombright

December 13, 2016 #50-A

To: North Adams City Council
Re: Tax Classification – FY2017

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 FY2017 tax levy will be $16,139,266 an increase in levy of 2.58% over FY2016. I am recommending that we maintain the CIP shift at 1.71. The increase in rates (per $1000 valuation) is as follows:

- Residential – from $17.39 to $17.70 (approximately $83.00 annual increase on a single family home valued at $136,900)
- CIP – from $37.93 to $38.54

As we establish this CIP shift tonight, we are assuring our community that we will be able to provide services at acceptable levels.

I respectfully ask for your support of this tax package.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor

10 Main Street • North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000

SETTING THE TAX RATE

The process of setting the tax rate involves a number of steps. Assessors first determine the value of each parcel of property and classify all property into four classes of real and personal property. The classes of real property are residential, open space, commercial and industrial. Once Assessors have calculated the total assessed value of all real and personal property, they submit the Total Valuation of all property (FORM LA-4) to the Division of Local Services. The Division determines and computes the minimum residential factor for the community. This information is sent to the Board of Assessors on the Minimum Residential Factor Computation Form (FORM LA-7) with a blank copy of the Tax Allocation Form (FORM LA-5). There must then be a public hearing to decide whether or not all classes of property should be taxed at the same rate.

Chapter 40, Section 56 allows communities to tax commercial and industrial real property and personal property at a higher rate than residential and open space real property. At the public hearing, the Board of Assessors presents information on the fiscal effects of the various alternatives. After input from interested citizens, the Board of Selectmen, Town Council, or the City Council, with approval from the Mayor, makes the decision of whether to tax all classes of property at the same rate.

Chapter 3 of the Acts of 2004 provides relief for those communities in which the maximum shift results in a residential share which is larger than that of the prior year. For those communities, the limits have been raised. They may increase the C.I.P. share of the levy by 175.000% if the residential class is not reduced to less than 50% of its share. This new residential share cannot be less than the residential share in any year since the community's values were first certified at full and fair cash value.

10 Main Street
North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3012

VALUATION BASE SINCE 2013

CLASS:	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Class 1 Residential	$ 550,494,039	$ 550,177,979	$ 550,769,529	$ 543,776,097	$ 549,867,934
Class 2 Open Space *					
Class 3 Commercial	$ 103,891,550	$ 112,075,190	$ 110,853,671	$ 110,504,423	$ 112,505,659
Class 4 Industrial	$ 24,596,362	$ 24,565,662	$ 20,917,862	$ 21,608,722	$ 22,168,722
Class 5 Personal Property	$ 31,263,993	$ 27,521,697	$ 29,526,989	$ 33,344,021	$ 31,510,866
TOTAL	**$710,245,944**	**$ 714,340,528**	**$ 712,068,051**	**$ 709,233,263**	**$716,053,181**

** Because North Adams has not adopted formal guidelines for the designation of Open Space the DOR has requested the City consolidate the land into other land classification codes. For the purpose of this report, commencing with FY 2007, Open Space values have been consolidated to Class 1 Residential values.*

CLASS 1

- Based upon a residential factor of one, (meaning signal tax rate), the anticipated FY 2017 tax rate would be $22.54/1000 value. The average signal family tax bill would be $3,085.22 an increase of 32%.

TAX RATE RECAPITULATION INFORMATION

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS – Property Tax Levy

The property tax levy is the revenue a community can raise through **real & personal property taxes.**

YEAR OVER YEAR COMPARISON OF VALUATIONS & TAX LEVIES SINCE 2007

YEAR	*VALUATION*	*TAX LEVY*
2007	$ 659,151,904	$ 9,652,561
2008	$ 722,842,694	$ 10,552,561
2009	$ 731,941,734	$ 11,052,561
2010	$ 727,183,465	$ 11,601,589
2011	$ 714,355,943	$ 12,854,165
2012	$ 705,835,314	$ 13,241,152
2013	$ 710,245,944	$ 13,698,055
2014	$ 714,340,528	$ 14,434,111
2015	$ 712,068,051	$ 15,019,976
2016	$ 709,233,263	$ 15,732,057
2017	**$ 716,053,181**	**$ 16,139,266**

FY17 Average Residential Tax Bill Increase			
FY17			
$361,219,800.00	Residential Value		
2,639.00	Parcel count		
$136,877.53	Av Res value		
17.43/1000	FY17 Tax rate	(at 1.75 CIP Shift)	
$2,385.78	**Av Res Tax**		
17.70/1000			
$2,422.73	**Av Res Tax**	(at 1.71 CIP Shift)	
FY16			
$354,588,900.00	Residential Value		
2,636.00	Parcel count		
$134,517.79	Av Res value		
17.39/1000	FY16 Tax rate		
$2,339.26	**Av Res Tax**		
The increase in the average tax bill will be approx. $46.52 or 1.98%			***(1.75 CIP)***
The increase in the average tax bill will be approx. $83.47or 3.56%			***(1.71 CIP)***

City of North Adams
Relationship of Class Values

ASSESSED VALUATIONS - FY2016 VS. FY2017

	FY16	FY17	INCR/ DECR
Class 1 Residential	$ 543,776,097	$ 549,867,934	$ 6,091,837
Class 2 Open Space	$ -	$ -	$ -
Class 3 Commercial	$ 110,504,423	$ 112,505,659	$ 2,001,236
Class 4 Industrial	$ 21,608,722	$ 22,168,722	$ 560,000
Class 5 Personal Property	$ 33,344,021	$ 31,510,866	$ (1,833,155)
TOTAL	**$ 709,233,263**	**$ 716,053,181**	**$ 6,819,918**

This hearing requires a vote on the ADOPTION OD A RESIDENTIAL FACTOR pursuant to MGL Chapter 40 Sec. 56.

Below are factor & tax option to consider:
Tax burden CIP shift can be up to 175%.

RESIDENTIAL FACTOR

Fiscal Year 2017 tax Rate Options

		Share Percentages						Levy Amounts							Esimated Tax Rates			
CIP Shift	Res Factor	Res SP	OS SP	Comm SP	Ind SP	PP SP	Total SP	Res LA	OS LA	Comm LA	Ind LA	PP LA	Total LA	Res ET	OS ET	Comm ET	Ind ET	PP ET
1.7100	78.5418	60.3135	0.0000	26.8674	5.2941	7.5251	100.0000	9,734,149		4,336,197	854,428	1,214,493	16,139,266	17.70	0.00	38.54	38.54	38.54
1.7200	78.2396	60.0814	0.0000	27.0245	5.3251	7.5691	100.0000	9,696,692		4,361,555	859,424	1,221,595	16,139,266	17.63	0.00	38.77	38.77	38.77
1.7300	77.9374	59.8493	0.0000	27.1816	5.3560	7.6131	100.0000	9,659,235		4,386,912	864,421	1,228,697	16,139,266	17.57	0.00	38.99	38.99	38.99
1.7400	77.6352	59.6172	0.0000	27.3387	5.3870	7.6571	100.0000	9,621,778		4,412,270	869,418	1,235,800	16,139,266	17.50	0.00	39.22	39.22	39.22
1.7500	77.3329	59.3851	0.0000	27.4958	5.4179	7.7011	100.0000	9,584,322		4,437,628	874,414	1,242,902	16,139,266	17.43	0.00	39.44	39.44	39.44

TAX BASE GROWTH SUMMARY - FISCAL 2017

New construction, additions, alternations and business improvements.

		Allowable Adjustments		Value X Tax Rate
Residential	$	1,952,900	$	33,961
Open Space	$	-	$	-
Commercial	$	400,500	$	15,191
Industrial	$	1,469,300	$	55,731
Personal Property	$	1,930,470	$	73,223
TOTAL NEW GROWTH	**$**	**5,753,170**	**$**	**178,105**

New growth value based upon FY2016 tax rates of $17.39 for R & O and $37.93 C.I.P.

TAX RATES SINCE FISCAL 2007

FISCAL YEAR	R&O	C.I.P.
2007 (Reval Year)	11.13	26.62
2008	11.32	26.72
2009	11.71	27.03
2010 (Reval Year)	12.44	27.92
2011	14.00	31.49
2012	14.82	32.83
2013 (Reval Year)	**15.30**	**33.95**
2014	15.94	34.54
2015	16.69	36.03
2016 (Reval Year)	17.39	37.93
2017	**17.70**	**38.54**

R & O = RESIDENTIAL AND OPEN SPACE

C.I.P. = COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

IF A SINGLE TAX RATE WERE CHOSEN FOR FY 2017 IT WOULD BE $22.54

City of North Adams

In City Council

December 13, 2016

Ordered:

That the Board of Assessors be and is hereby authorized to establish the following percentage of tax levy for the following classes of property for Fiscal Year 2017:

Class 1 - Residential 60.3135%

Class 2 - Open Space 0.0%

Class 3 - Commercial 26.8674%

Class 4— Industrial 5.2941%

Class 5— Personal Property 7.5251%

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That a residential factor of .785418 be employed.

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Richard J. Alcombright

December 13, 2016 #51

To: North Adams City Council

Dear Honorable Members:

I was approached by Brayton Elementary Teacher, Jim Holmes, asking if he could have a few minutes at this Council meeting.

As you may know, Mr. Holmes in conjunction with some of our local police officers developed a program for city youth called "Running with the Law". Senator Downing has offered citations of appreciation for the officers involved and Mr. Holmes would like to present them at the meeting. As we know, positive interaction by the police as leaders and mentors with our youth, is critically important

I think you will find this presentation inspirational and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor

10 Main Street • North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Richard J. Alcombright

December 13, 2016 31-A

To: North Adams City Council
Re: FY2017 Budget reductions

Dear Honorable Members:

As you know, the City budget was passed last June with a deficit of some $205,000. As I explained at that time, the budget would be balanced through the use of free cash. As this fiscal year has progressed we became aware that the transfer station receipts have continued to shrink, therefor at this time I am also requesting that we reduce the expenses for the transfer station.

The paper before you is representative of a reduction of $167,298 in Transfer Station Expenses as well as $205,000 to be used from Free Cash in order to bring the budget into balance prior to setting our tax rate for FY2017.

I, along with Administrative Officer, will be at the meeting to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor

10 Main Street • North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000

City of North Adams

In City Council

December 13, 2016

Ordered:

That the following changes be and are hereby made in the FY2017 Municipal Budget as passed by the City Council on June 14, 2016, for the purpose of reducing the budget as follows:

2. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Health Inspection Services		
Transfer Station		
Trash Removal Services	reduced to	$430,992.00

Recapitulation Sheet

2 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	reduced to	$4,815,583.00

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the SUM OF THIRTY NINE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY THREE DOLLARS ($39,454,683.00) as it appears in Council Paper #11528-1 be amended to read as follows: THIRTY-NINE MILLION TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY FIVE DOLLARS ($39,287,385.00)

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Richard J. Alcombright

#52

December 13, 2016

To: North Adams City Council
Re: Transfer of Free Cash

Dear Honorable Members:

I am submitting this order of appropriation from Certified Free Cash to the Unclassified Medical Insurance Account in the amount of $205,000.

As you will recall during our June budget meetings, I indicated that I would need to bring in an amount from Free Cash to cover insurance premiums that came in much higher than expected. DOR certified our Free Cash at $489,580 and this will leave us with a balance of $284,580 in our Free Cash Account.

I would ask that the order be adopted as presented and I will be happy to answer any questions at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor

10 Main Street • North Adams, Massachusetts 01247
(413) 662-3000

City of North Adams

In City Council

December 13, 2016

Ordered:

That the sum of TWO HUNDRED AND FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($205,000.00) be and is hereby appropriated from FREE CASH to:

6. UNCLASSIFIED

MEDICAL INSURANCE	$205,000.00

City of North Adams
In City Council

December 13, 2016

DECLARING NORTH ADAMS' COMMITMENT TO BEING A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the North Adams City Council asserts that the City of North Adams does not and shall not tolerate hate crimes and expressions of hate such as malicious acts designed to promote fear, discourage civil discourse, marginalize a community of individuals, or unfairly and inequitably mistreat any member of our community; resident or visitor; and

WHEREAS, we have seen before us the potential for hatred and bigotry from even the highest levels of our Country's leadership; and
WHEREAS, reports of racist, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic, anti-LGBT, misogynistic and violent acts of hatred increased nationally by 6.8% from 2014-2015[1] with certain populations experiencing increases of over 67% in the number of hate crimes targeting them; and
WHEREAS, defacing of personal and public property with messages of racist and hate filled language and imagery have been reported nationwide since the 2016 presidential election; and

WHEREAS, the North Adams City Council believes in the rights of all people to lead lives of peace and dignity, free of fear, harassment, violence, and undo process; and

WHEREAS, the North Adams City Council is adamantly committed to protecting the residents of and visitors to the City of North Adams from racist, Islamaphobic, anti-Semitic, misogynistic, homophobic, transphobic, anti-immigrant, and anti-refugee sentiments and acts and all other targeting of residents and visitors based on their identities or perceived identities; and

WHEREAS, the North Adams City Council stands in strong opposition to white supremacist, white nationalist, and authoritarianism beliefs, policies, actions and rhetoric that engender hatred; and

WHEREAS, fellow leader in public service, and Mayor of the City of New York, Bill De Blasio, has himself promised to reject Federal policies of discrimination at the State and local levels; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Adams supports respect for civil and human rights and recognizes that pursuant to the First Amendment of the United States whereby congress shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of any religion; the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations in 1948, Article 3, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person" and Article 5, "No one shall be subjected to...degrading treatment;"

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of North Adams, Massachusetts emphasizes its commitment to the values of freedom, justice, and equality that bind us as a community, and to protect those whose security and wellbeing may be threatened in the current political and social climate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we stand in solidarity with, and advocate for the civil liberties and human rights of, every resident of, and visitor to North Adams regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual and gender identity, national origin, or citizenship and immigration status.

That we commit to working towards a community, country and world that are non-discriminatory, welcoming, just, inclusive, and pluralistic.

That we strongly condemn acts of vandalism, harassment, and violence that express hatred towards members of our community and beyond.

That the City of North Adams is a hate-free zone in which hate crimes and discriminatory actions will not be tolerated, regardless of policies and rulings by neighboring communities, the commonwealth of Massachusetts or the Federal Government of the United States of America.

That the City Council of the City of North Adams supports the immediate response to all claims of such hate crimes and discriminatory actions by the North Adams Police Department and urge our regional judicial system to hold those guilty of said hate crimes and discriminatory actions accountable to the fullest extent of the law.

That we call upon all members of our community to engage in positive community-building and take the necessary and courageous steps to prevent and respond to discrimination and hatred whenever and wherever they see it.

That we are committed to holding our local, state and federal leaders accountable to the values and commitments expressed in this Resolution.

That the City Council of North Adams stands in solidarity with those communities nationwide who support and are committed to the values and commitments expressed in this Resolution.

AND BE IT ORDERED: that the City Clerk of the City of North Adams shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to the President of the United States, Barack Obama; U.S. President-Elect Donald Trump; U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey; U.S. Representatives Richard Neal and Jim McGovern; Massachusetts Governor Charles Baker; Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey; Massachusetts Senate President Stanley Rosenberg; Massachusetts State Senator Benjamin Downing; Massachusetts State Representative Gailanne Cariddi; Massachusetts State Senator-Elect Adam Hinds; and the North Adams Police and Fire Departments.

1 2015 Hate Crime Statistics. https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2015

Office of the City Council
City of North Adams

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

December 13th, 2016

Dear Fellow Councilors,

As an elected Council, it is our duty and responsibility to represent and support the members of our community, regardless of an individual or group's actual or perceived identities. In that respect, Council Bullett and myself are bringing forth the included resolution to this Council.

With an increase in bias-incidents and hate crime activity both regionally and nationally, we also feel it important that the information provided by the Attorney General's Office recently be shared in this public forum to ensure that as many individuals as possible are aware of recently created resources. On November 14th 2016, the Massachusetts Attorney General announced the creation of a hotline to be monitored, tracked and utilized by the AG's Office, specifically for the reporting of any bias-incidents in the Commonwealth.

Any Massachusetts resident who has witnessed or experiences bias-motivated threats, harassment or violence may call this toll-free hotline at 1-800-994-3228 or fill out a civil rights complaint form at: https://www.eform.ago.state.ma.us/ago_eforms/forms/crd_ecomplaint.action. Residents may also contact the AG's Office through its social media platforms, including Facebook and Twitter.

Potential hate crimes – including bias-motivated assault, battery, and property damage – should also be reported to the local police in the first incidents. Residents who fear for their immediate safety should call 911.

For more information, please visit the Attorney General's Office website.

This information is important as a mechanism for our Commonwealth to confront the mistreatment of members of our various communities, both residents and visitors, and in an effort to provide support on this front in a local respect, myself and Councilor Bullett present you with this resolution.

Respectfully,

Benjamin J. Lamb
City Council President

General Gov't Comm Meeting Minutes 10/17/16

Agenda:
1) Proposed Revisions to Public Art Commission Ordinance

Present: Committee members: Kate Merrigan (Chair), Eric Buddington, Robert Moulton. Additional: Erica Manville (Chair), Bill Blackmer (member), and Julia Dixon (Vice Chair) from the Public Art Commission. Councilor Lisa Blackmer.

Agenda:
-PAC present and explain the work on the ordinance
-General questions
-Review proposed revisions section by section
-Make recommendation if possible (to full Council + Solicitor?)

Meeting called to order 5:50pm

Notes:

Purpose/Framing:
-Erica: brand new commission, including some members who helped to draft the original ordinance. As a body, they determined the ordinance wasn't active enough--created a passive body. The group on the commission are active and want to do proactive work, invite artists to the table.
    -Needed to change ordinance to support more active work
-Julia: 3 major changes
    -Adding removal of members language
    -Powers/duties: supports proactive seeking of art works/projects
    -Powers/duties: creates a mechanism for funding
-Creation of PAC: spirit was as a passive body to receive and decide on inquiries so that it's not solely up to the sitting Mayor. However, not a lot coming through pipeline right now.
-Lisa: originally planning group specifically decided *not* to create a more active PAC like Salem or Boston.
-Further discussion of original versus current intent.
-Impression Erica got from Dick that as long as this body existed, it could become what it wanted to.
-Buddington: you can't create volunteer roles that, if they stopped, the City wouldn't functio, but you can create opportunities to do more.
-Buddington: big questions around what's necessary in here in order to create authority for PAC. Do you need the language in here granting powers?
-Julia: language borrowed from other ordinances.
-Process of promoting includes jurying, dissemination, advocacy, maintenance--whole catalogue of activities.
-Lisa: took language from other commissions, but does not see language anywhere else about budgets.

Section-by-section review:
-Statue was stature. Typo corrected. No discussion.
-"Temporary" added. Quite a bit of discussion here about how we would define temporary versus permanent.

-Removal of members:

-All of our commissions have language for our commissions, but none of them have removal language. Mayor has, in the past, asked people to step down. Usually people are not renewed instead of being removed. 60 days can be difficult window for Housing Authority to replace people. Lisa would like to see public advertisement of any openings on commissions/committees.
-Erica: had a member not showing up who they could not reach/contact. Mayor's response was "I don't know--just try your best". Group was trying to protect themselves from being a group of 6 voting members that could end up with a tie. Did not feel like they had recourse to remove a member.
-Merrigan: should language be different for this body because seats are 5 years and waiting for term to run out is tough.
-Julia: wants a process to be able to point to for removal.
-Lisa: other boards have legal obligations to meet (Planning, BoH), meet monthly. Knows it's frustrating not to have members present, but is it causing real problems? Did not have a quorum once, but have you had a tied vote? No.
-Julia: have not had much authority to vote on anything yet, so that's a difficult question.
-Buddington: tried to keep power out of hands of Mayor's Office originally by giving Council appointing authority. Removal authority should be parallel: Mayor would remove with Council authorization. Protects someone in their seat as well as creates a mechanism to remove isf truly necessary.
-Julia: You can't argue with attendance issues. Can this be rewritten to make statements about attendance requirements?
-Lisa: Mayor shall appointment someone within 60 days...or what?
-Merrigan: Is there a systemic issue that needs to be solved or a one-off problem situation?
-Erica: there was specific logic to why we wanted 5-year terms for the PAC
-Bill: this is different from other commissions because specific stakeholders have been identified and need to be present in order to move things fwd--lack of attendance from one sector holds the group back.
-Moulton: shouldn't all of our commissions have the same rules/structures? Merrigan: there's a logic and elegance of design to that, but it's not strictly necessary.
-We landed on removing the 60-day requirement for Mayor to make a new appointment.
-So--parallel removal structure where Council is involved? Buddington okay with leaving it to Mayor as long as there are objective removal criteria.
-Attendance? A percentage of meetings in a 1-year period? 50%?
-Excused versus unexcused absences--how will this be defined?
-Can we create a precedent of expecting attendance in ordinance language?
-We determined that we need input on this section by the City Solicitor.

Sec. 2-177: remove all punctuation. No discussion.

Sec. 2-178:
-Merrigan: don't think you need this language in order to have these powers, but it is beneficial.
-Erica: there is a member on PAC who does not believe you can move forward without this language--group wants this resolved.
-Julia: this part is the most important to the PAC.
-This is another area where we determined we need input from City Solicitor.

We determined that we have enough questions that require input from Solicitor that we should schedule at follow-up meeting at which he can be present.

Questions to discuss with City Solicitor at a follow-up meeting:
-Temporary v semi-permanent. What are the legal definitions of these terms in this context?
-Can we have an attendance requirement? Buddington: should we have a citywide policy for commission attendance/participation in general? As well as replacement window of time?
-Do all of our commissions/committees need to have the same set of rules/expectations?
-How will the funding mechanism for this body work? Can the group collect, hold, and spend money without the ordiance changing, or does the ordinance need to change in order for the PAC to have that authority?

Meeting adjourned 7:08pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Councilor Kate Hanley Merrigan, Chairperson

Article XXXV. PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION.

Changes proposed by the General Government Committee as of Dec 6 2016.

2-173. Definitions

1. Public Art. Any work of art that is visually accessible to the public and located on land or structures owned or controlled by the City of North Adams, that are not otherwise leased or assigned.
2. Work of Art. Any painting, mural decoration, ~~stature~~statue, bas-relief, scupture, monument, fountain, arch, ornamental gateway, or other structure of a permanent character intended for ornament or commemoration.

2-174. Purpose; establishment

The City Council recognizes that the public display of the arts contributes to the enrichment and enhancement of the social and physical environment of the community and desires to foster an advancement of public art within the City of North Adams. Therefore there is hereby established a commission to be known as the Public Arts Commission.

2-175. Membership; qualifications; appointment; terms; compensation; removal

The Public Arts Commission shall consist of seven members, all of whom shall have a vote. Membership on the ~~Public Arts~~ Commission shall be comprised of people, all residents of the City of North Adams; five with qualified backgrounds in one or more of, but not limited to, the following areas: the arts, art education, art criticism, museum curation, real estate development, architecture, and two from the City at-large. At no time shall a majority of the Commisssion be comprised of members with qualified backgrounds in the same areas required for qualification hereunder.

All members of the Public Arts Commission shall be appointed by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the City Council, and shall serve without compensation for the terms as follows: two to serve until the first day of May succeeding the appointment; two to serve until one year from said first of May; one to serve until two years from said first of May; one to serve until three years from said first of May; ~~one to serve until four years from said first of May;~~ and one to serve until ~~five~~ four years from said first of May. Thereafter, the mayor, subject to confirmation by the city council, shall appoint to fill the expired term a member to serve for five years from the first day of May in that year or until a successor is qualified.

have been approved in writing by the ~~Public Arts~~ Commission, or unless said ~~commission~~ Commission shall have failed to disapprove the same in writing within sixty days after its submission.

The ~~art commission~~ Public Arts Commission shall, at the request of the mayor, study, consider and report upon the design of any municipal building, bridge, approach, fence or other structure erected or to be erected upon land belonging to the city, and upon the design of any arch, bridge, structure or approach which is the property of any person, firm or corporation, and extends in, over or upon any street, avenue, highway, park or public place.

All contracts or orders for the execution of any painting, monument statue, bust, bas-relief or other sculpture for said city shall be made by the Public Arts Commission, acting by a majority of its voting members.

2-179. Public hearings.

The Public Arts Commission may hold public hearings to publicly discuss potentially contentious issues in regards to public art installation and/or location.