

Waltham City Council  
Minutes of the Meeting of  
April 13, 2020

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President Brasco called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Call of the Roll**

Present: Councillors Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Brasco.

Absent: None.

The City Clerk recited the Council Prayer followed by President Brasco leading all present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councillor LeBlanc asked for a moment of silence for all our military that have served past and present and expressed thanks to the first responders, medical professionals and all others assisting those with COVID-19. President Brasco offered condolences on behalf of the City Council to former Councillor Diane LeBlanc on the passing of her mother, Eleanor LeBlanc.

President Brasco announced that the Council was meeting remotely and explained that residents could follow the meeting on the City's YouTube channel and on the WCAC MAC channels.

Councillor McMenimen moved to act collectively upon approval of the minutes of March 9, 2020 and March 23, 2020. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen moved approval of the minutes of March 9, 2020 and March 23, 2020. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were approved.

**Communications from the Mayor**

1. The Mayor respectfully requests approval of an appropriation of funds totaling \$169,921.50 to purchase 150 Dell Microsoft Windows 7 desktop units for City departments. Mr. Aucoin will be available to answer questions regarding this request. President Brasco referred the matter to the Finance Committee.
2. The Mayor respectfully requests approval of an appropriation totaling \$237,904 for the purchase of furniture, fixtures and equipment for the Moody Street Fire Station project. Chief MacInnis will be available to answer questions regarding this request. President Brasco referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole.
3. The Mayor respectfully requests approval of the appointment of Katherine D. Laughman, 5 High Rock Circle Waltham, MA as an Assistant City Solicitor to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Attorney Frank Craig. City Solicitor Cervone and Attorney Laughman will be available to answer questions regarding this request. President Brasco recited Council Rules 41 and 42 and referred the matter the Committee of the Whole.
4. The Mayor respectfully requests approval to go forward with a purchase and sales agreement regarding the property at 89-91 Maple Street in accordance with the terms set forth in her communication to the City Council dated April 9, 2020 (RE: 89-91 Maple Street), submitted herewith. President Brasco referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole.
5. The Mayor respectfully requests approval to go forward with an agreement to purchase the UMass land and buildings on Beaver Street in accordance with the terms set forth in her communication to the

City Council dated April 9, 2020 (RE: UMASS Farm), submitted herewith. Assistant City Solicitor Luke Stanton and the Mayor will be available to answer questions regarding this request. Councillor LeBlanc recused himself. President Brasco referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole.

6. The Mayor respectfully requests approval of a financing transaction totaling \$3,420,000 towards the \$17,420,000 acquisition cost of the UMass Field Station and Farm property. These funds will supplement the previous appropriation of CPA funds of \$13,750,000 (Council Order #34614 approved on 11/12/2019) and \$250,000 (Council Order #34656 approved on 12/10/2019). Assistant City Solicitor Luke Stanton and the Mayor will be available to answer questions regarding this request. Councillor LeBlanc recused himself. President Brasco referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole.
7. The Mayor respectfully requests acceptance of a gift of sanitizers distilled by Fabrizia Spirits, LLC, Salem, NH. The Mayor will be available to answer questions regarding this request. Councillor LaCava moved to suspend the rules to act on the matter without committee reference. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor LaCava moved to suspend the rules to hear from the Mayor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Mayor expressed thanks to the donor for the gift and thanks to the donors of the other gifts before the Council for acceptance. Councillor LaCava expressed thanks and moved approval of the request. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.  
In Favor: Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.  
Opposed: None.  
Presiding: Brasco.  
Matter approved: 14-0.
8. The Mayor respectfully requests acceptance of a gift of 10,000 surgical gloves from Ron Cincotta, Jr. and Anthony Cincotta, principals of Capitol Services, Lexington Street, Waltham, for first responders, public works health department and other city workers. The Mayor will be available to answer questions regarding this request. Councillor LaCava moved to suspend the rules to act on the matter without committee reference. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor LaCava asked that thank you letters be sent to all of the donors and moved approval of the request. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.  
In Favor: Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.  
Opposed: None.  
Presiding: Brasco.  
Matter approved: 14-0.
9. The Mayor respectfully requests acceptance of a gift of masks and gloves for our first responders from Home Depot. Councillor LaFauci can answer questions regarding this request. Councillor LaCava moved to suspend the rules to act on the matter without committee reference. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor LaFauci expressed thanks to Home Depot for the gift. Councillor LaCava moved approval of the request. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.  
In Favor: Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.  
Opposed: None.  
Presiding: Brasco.  
Matter approved: 14-0.

10. The Mayor respectfully requests acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$25,314.00 from Mass Health Officers Association to be used for the immediate hiring of nurses, data management staff and supplies related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mayor will be available to answer questions regarding this request. Councillor LaCava moved to suspend the rules to act on the matter without committee reference. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor LaCava moved to suspend the rules to hear from the Mayor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Mayor expressed thanks to the donor for the gift and indicated that there was a late filed communication requesting acceptance of an additional amount from the donor. Councillor LaCava moved approval of the request. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.

In Favor: Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.

Opposed: None.

Presiding: Brasco.

Matter approved: 14-0.

11. The Mayor respectfully requests approval of a funding allotment totaling \$103,477.00 for cable access funds (Verizon PEG Support) to be paid to the Waltham Community Access Corporation for studio equipment, field equipment and the last phase of the studio lighting equipment. A representative of WCAC will be available to answer questions regarding this request. President Brasco referred the matter to the Committee of the whole.

### **Late Filed Communications**

1. The Community Preservation Committee has requested that its approval of the Mayor's request for \$1,000,000 in CPA emergency housing assistance funds be added to the April 13, 2020 Docket. Councillor Darcy moved to accept the late filed communication. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President Brasco referred the matter to the Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee.

2. The Mayor respectfully requests acceptance of another grant from Mass Health Officers Association in the amount of \$24,757. The Mayor has requested that this communication be filed with communication #10, above on the docket. Councillor McMenimen moved to accept the late filed communication. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen moved to suspend the rules to act on the matter without committee reference. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen moved approval. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.

In Favor: Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.

Opposed: None.

Presiding: Brasco.

Matter approved: 14-0.

Councillor LeBlanc moved to take from Committee the matter of Traffic Mitigation. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor LeBlanc made a request that Eversource and National Grid attend the next meeting of the Public Works and Public Safety Committee to discuss ongoing upgrade work in the City. The Request was approved on a voice vote. Councillor LeBlanc moved to recommit the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

## **Committee Meetings**

President Brasco announced that committee meetings would be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 and asked whether Committee Chairpersons wanted to hold committee meetings presently.

Councillor McMenimen moved to recess the Council Meeting to convene the Committee of the Whole. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and President Brasco declared a recess.

Following the adjournment of the Committee of the Whole, the Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee met to address the late filed communication from the Community Preservation Committee. Following the adjournment of the Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee, President Brasco called the Council back to order.

President Brasco appointed the Kevin M. Ritcey Award Committee naming Councillors Harris, LaFauci and McLaughlin as members.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Committee of the Whole**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the Mayor's request for an appropriation totaling \$237,904 for the purchase of furniture, fixtures and equipment for the Moody Street Fire Station project. Councillor McMenimen moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.

In Favor: Darcy, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Dunn.

Presiding: Brasco.

Matter approved 13-0.

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the Mayor's request to go forward with a purchase and sales agreement regarding the property at 89-91 Maple Street in accordance with the terms set forth in her communication to the City Council dated April 9, 2020 (RE: 89-91 Maple Street). Councillor McMenimen moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. Roll call required.

In Favor: Darcy, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Dunn.

Presiding: Brasco.

Matter approved 13-0.

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the Mayor's request to go forward with an agreement to purchase the UMass land and buildings on Beaver Street in accordance with the terms set forth in her communication to the City Council dated April 9, 2020 (RE: UMASS Farm). Councillor LeBlanc recused himself on this matter. Councillor McMenimen moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. Roll call required.

In Favor: Darcy, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Brasco.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Dunn.  
Recused: LeBlanc.  
Matter approved 13-0.

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the Mayor's request for a financing transaction totaling \$3,420,000 towards the \$17,420,000 acquisition cost of the UMass Field Station and Farm property. These funds will supplement the previous appropriation of CPA funds of \$13,750,000 (Council Order #34614 approved on 11/12/2019) and \$250,000 (Council Order #34656 approved on 12/10/2019). Councillor LeBlanc recused himself on this matter.

Councillor McMenimen moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. Roll call required.

In Favor: Darcy, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Brasco.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Dunn.

Recused: LeBlanc.

Matter approved 13-0.

### **Long Term Debt and Capital Planning**

The Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee recommends approval of the request of the Community Preservation Committee to transfer \$251,109.45 from the Undesignated CPA Fund to the Housing CPA Fund. Councillor Darcy moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.

In Favor: Darcy, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Dunn.

Presiding: Brasco.

Matter approved 13-0.

The Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee recommends approval of the request of the Community Preservation Committee to fund the application of the Mayor for \$1,000,000 from the Housing CPA Fund to be used for emergency assistance, with the provision that a minimum of \$200,000 be reserved for applicants at the 50% Area Median Income (AMI). Councillor Darcy moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. A vote was taken by a call of the roll.

In Favor: Darcy, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley and Vidal.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Dunn.

Presiding: Brasco.

Matter approved 13-0.

President Brasco thanked everyone and encouraged all to adhere to Governor Baker's order to stay home.

Councillor McMenimen moved to adjourn. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Council President Brasco declared the meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Robert J. Waddick  
City Clerk  
April 15, 2020  
Approved by the City Council: April 27, 2020