

**Committee of the Whole**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**March 21, 2022**

1. Vice-President McLaughlin called the meeting to Order at 8:00pm in the City Council Chamber.
2. Vice-President McLaughlin requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The COW Clerk called the roll – Councillors Bradley-MacArthur, Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, Katz, LaCava, LaFauci, President McMenimen, O'Brien, Stanley, Vidal, and Vice-President McLaughlin were present. Councillors LeBlanc and Paz were absent.
3. President McMenimen moved to approve the minutes of the COW meeting held on March 7, 2022. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of the March 7, 2022 meeting were approved.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to confirm the re-appointment of Patricia Azadi, 643 Trapelo Road, Waltham as the First Assistant City Solicitor and Assistant City Solicitor for Real Estate and Zoning for a two-year term expiring January 31, 2024. Councillor Darcy spoke in favor of Attorney Azadi and moved to confirm the re-appointment. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to confirm the re-appointment of Michelle Learned, 125 Winter Street, Waltham as an Assistant City Solicitor for a two-year term expiring January 31, 2024. Councillor Dunn and Katz both spoke in favor of Attorney Learned. Councillor Dunn moved to confirm the re-appointment. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
6. A request was received from the Mayor to confirm the appointment of Alexander Sbordone, 30 Gilman Road, Waltham as a member of the Conservation Commission. Councillor Darcy spoke in favor of Mr. Sbordone and moved to confirm the appointment. On the motion, President McMenimen asked Mr. Sbordone about his background as an attorney and explained the role of the Conservation Commission. The motion of Councillor Darcy to confirm the appointment was adopted on a voice vote.
7. A request was received from the Mayor to confirm the appointment of Roberta Tierney, 39 Dix Street, Waltham as a member of the Council on Aging Board. Councillor LaCava spoke in favor of Ms. Tierney and moved to confirm the appointment. On the motion, Councillor O'Brien voiced his support for Ms. Tierney. The motion of Councillor LaCava to confirm the appointment was adopted on a voice vote.
8. Councillor Durkee moved to take the matter of the resolution concerning the preservation of residential zoned properties (2/28/2022) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Durkee moved to hear from Superintendent of Buildings William Forte, Community Policing Coordinator Don Russo, and several representatives from Bentley University and Brandeis University who were present on behalf of their educational institution.

The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Upon questions from Councillor Durkee, Mr. Forte explained the process of handling complaints, stressing his responses and actions needed to be in conformance with the statute. Mr. Forte stated the zoning ordinance could be strengthened. Upon questions from Councillor LaFauci, Mr. Forte stated it was not the City's policy to file criminal complaints. Mr. Forte stated enforcement needs to be a collective effort of other City Departments. Councillor Katz asked questions about fines, the ability to place a lien on the property and to distinguish the difference between a boarding house and rooming house. Councillor Harris asked questions about the current zoning ordinance and if it should be changed. Councillor Harris asked Mr. Forte to explain what the Code Enforcement Task Force and its role. Councillor Darcy asked questions of the Bentley and Brandeis representatives including on campus housing availability and costs, percentage of students who reside in on-campus housing, and if students are required to provide local and home addresses. Councillor Darcy asked follow up questions concerning each school's solutions for dealing with off-campus behavior. The Police Chief of each university spoke about their response protocol and coordination with Waltham Police. Councillor Paz expressed the need for collaboration between the University Police and Waltham Police to address enforcement. Councillor Durkee stated he was an advocate for the arrest of problem offenders. Councillor LaFauci asked questions about the process in place and if there would be an impact on an individual's permanent record. Councillor Durkee asked several questions of Community Policing Coordinator Don Russo to explain his role in these matters. Councillor Durkee moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

9. A request was received from the Mayor to conduct training sessions for the City Council with the Mayor and Law Department concerning open meeting law, conflict of interest and campaign finance. The Mayor explained appropriate individuals would conduct the training. The Mayor stated the training session would take about two hours. The Mayor stated she would coordinate the date/time with the Council President, Law Department and COW clerk. President McMenimen moved to place the matter on the table. The motion was adopted on voice vote.
10. The agenda item of the FY2023 City Council budget request was discussed. A motion to approve the budget request was adopted on a voice vote.
11. A motion to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 10:15pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Committee of the Whole