

Town of Amherst

UNOFFICIAL RECORD OF VOTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Monday, February 24, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Town Room, Town Hall

Members Present: Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, Swartz

Members Absent: None

Members Participating Remotely: None

Staff Present: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Assistant Town Manager David Ziomek, and Clerk of the Council Athena O’Keeffe

President Griesemer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session

MOVED: To enter into executive session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. The Council will reconvene in open session.

Motion by: Hanneke

Seconded by: Ryan

ROLL CALL VOTE: Unanimously

The Town Council entered into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m.

The Town Council reconvened in open session at 6:41 p.m.

5. Proclamations and Commemorations

a. Resolution in Support of Right to Counsel in Eviction Cases and Eviction Sealing to Promote Housing Opportunity and Mobility (Sponsors: Community Resources Committee)

MOVED: To adopt the Resolution in Support of Right to Counsel in Eviction Cases and Eviction Sealing to Promote Housing Opportunity and Mobility, as presented in the document titled “Amherst Eviction Counsel and HOMES Act resolution [- AMENDED DRAFT]”.

Motion by: Hanneke

Seconded by: De Angelis

VOTED: Unanimously

7. Action Items

a. Consent Agenda: The following items were selected because they were considered to be routine and it was reasonable to expect they would pass with no controversy.

To remove an item from the consent agenda for discussion later in the meeting, ask that it be removed when the President lists the consent agenda items. The request to remove an item from the consent agenda does not require a second.

MOVED: to move the following items, and the printed motions thereunder and approve those items as a single unit:

- 8.a.(1) Approval of the Town Manager Appointment to the Public Shade Tree Committee
- 8.a.(2) Approval of the Town Manager Appointment to the Energy and Climate Action Committee
- 10.a. Approval of February 10, 2020 Town Council Public Hearing Minutes

- 10.b. Approval of February 10, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes

Motion by: Hanneke

Seconded by: De Angelis

VOTED: Unanimously

d. Proposed Committees for Council Liaisons [Charter Sec. 2.9(d)]

MOVED: To designate the following Town committees for Town Council liaisons:

- Affordable Housing Trust
- Board of Health
- Board of License Commissioners
- Community Preservation Act Committee
- Council on Aging
- Disability Access Advisory Committee
- LSSE Commission
- Transportation Advisory Committee

Motion by: Ross

Seconded by: Ryan

VOTED: 10-1-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor Hanneke voted No; Councilor DuMont and Schoen Abstained)

e. Reorganization of Standing Committees

(1) Establishment of Town Services and Outreach Committee, changes to Community Resources Committee and Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, dissolution of Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee

MOTION: To remove from the Town Services and Outreach charge the second bullet “Advise the Town Council on matters related to the operation of Town government.”

Motion by: Brewer

Seconded by: Swartz

VOTED 7-6

MOTION: to add “and parking” to the Town Services and Outreach charge, to read, “Review and make recommendations to the Town Council on measures related to public ways (including transportation and parking), public lands, and Town facilities.

Motion by: Schoen

Seconded by: Brewer

VOTED 7-6

MOTION: to add “in consultation with the Council members of the Finance Committee” to the GOL charge.

Motion by: Steinberg

Seconded by: Pam

VOTED 6-7; the motion failed

MOVED: To rescind the current Community Resources Committee and Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee charges, effective immediately, adopt the proposed Town Services and Outreach committee charge, as amended at the 2-24-2020 Town Council meeting, and Community Resources Committee charge as amended at the 2-12-2020 Governance, Organization and Legislation Committee

meeting, effective immediately except for the appointment responsibility for Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals in the Community Resources Committee charge, adopt the Governance, Organization and Legislation Committee charge as amended at the 2-24-2020 Town Council meeting effective immediately, and rescind all duties in the Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee Charge except for making recommendations regarding appointments to Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. Appointment responsibility for Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals shall remain in Outreach, Communications and Appointments until July 1, 2020, at which time the appointments responsibility for those bodies shall shift to Community Resources Committee, as provided in the charge and Outreach, Communications and Appointments shall be dissolved.

Motion by: Hanneke

Seconded by: Ross

VOTED: 9-4-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, and Schreiber voted Yes; Councilors DuMont, Schoen, Steinberg, and Swartz voted No)

f. Council Statement on Project Eligibility - Proposed Studio Apartment Supportive Housing at 132 Northampton Road

MOVED: to suspend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for the current agenda item.

Motion by: Steinberg

Seconded by: Ryan

VOTED: Unanimously

MOVED: to approve the Letter re: 132 Northampton Road, as amended.

Motion by: De Angelis

Seconded by: Bahl-Milne

VOTED: 12-0-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor Hanneke Abstained)

g. Proposed Wage Theft Bylaw

MOVED: to refer the Wage Theft Bylaw to the Town Services and Outreach Committee, with a report back to the Town Council on April 30, 2020.

Motion by: Hanneke

Seconded by: De Angelis

VOTED: 12-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilor Swartz voted No)

15. Adjourn

MOVED: To adjourn the February 24, 2020 meeting of the Town Council.

Motion by: Schreiber

Seconded by: Hanneke

VOTED: Unanimously

The Council adjourned at 10:19 p.m.