

Town of Amherst
UNNOFICIAL RECORD OF VOTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Monday, September 27, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Councilors Participating Remotely: Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg

Councilors Absent: Swartz

Others Participating Remotely: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Clerk of the Council Athena O’Keeffe, Planning Director Christine Brestrup, Minute-Taker Emily Reardon

When remote participation is used, all votes will be taken by roll call.

Per MGL Chapter 30A Section 20(f), this meeting is being recorded and broadcast by Amherst Media.

President Griesemer called the Special Town Council meeting to order at 5:34 pm, adjourned at 6:11

President Griesemer called the Public Forum to order at 6:11 pm, adjourned at 6:29

President Griesemer called the regular Town Council meeting to order at 6:30 pm, adjourned at 12:00 midnight

5. Consent Agenda

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:

- Suspension of Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 8.4 for agenda item 8.f. Town Council and Council Committee Meeting Format – In Person/Hybrid or Fully Remote
- 11.a. Approval of September 13, 2021 Regular Town Council Meeting minutes

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Ross

ROLL CALL VOTE: 11-0, with 2 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Pam & Swartz were absent)

8. Action Items

a. Public Way Requests – Placement of Performance Shell on the Town Common

MOVED: To refer the Business Improvement District & Downtown Amherst Foundation request to place a band shell on the Town Common to the Town Services and

Outreach Committee, with a report and/or update to the Town Council by December 6, 2021.

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Hanneke

ROLL CALL VOTE: 12-0, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Swartz was absent)

b. Amherst College Request for Placement of Signage

MOTION: To approve the Amherst College public ways requests for the following wayfinding signs and associated modifications to the public way, as shown on page 7 of the motion sheet:

- A1.002 Primary Gateway
- A2.001 Secondary Gateway
- A2.002 Secondary Gateway
- B1.001 Large Vehicular Directional
- B1.004 Large Vehicular Directional
- B1.006 Large Vehicular Directional
- B1.007 Large Vehicular Directional
- B1.008 Large Vehicular Directional
- B2.002 Small Vehicular Directional
- B2.004 Small Vehicular Directional
- D1.002 Parking Lot ID
- D1.007 Parking Lot ID
- F1.003 Tri-Sided Kiosk
- F3.004 Tabletop Kiosk Map Display

With the following conditions:

- Amherst College agrees to erect, maintain, repair, and replace signs as needed
- Amherst College agrees to be responsible for all signs and to repair any damage due to vandalism, vehicle accident, etc. as soon as practicable;
- The Town Council is approving these signs in these approximate locations; final siting will be determined in the field;
- Final words on the signs or subsequent changes shall be approved by the Town Manager

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Ross

ROLL CALL VOTE: 12-0, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Swartz was absent)

c. Climate Action Adaptation and Resilience Plan, June, 2021 – Energy and Climate Action Committee Report

MOTION: To acknowledge receipt of Climate Action, Adaptation, and Resilience Plan, June 2021 from the Town Manager and Energy and Climate Action Committee and to thank the Committee, Town Staff and many others who have participated in this effort for their thoughtful and thorough work.

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Steinberg

ROLL CALL VOTE: 12-0, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Swartz was absent)

MOTION: To ask the Town Manager-to update the Town Council quarterly regarding achieving the Climate Action Goals adopted by the Town Council in 2019.”

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Steinberg

ROLL CALL VOTE: 10-2, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, DuMont, Griesemer, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; De Angelis & Hanneke voted No; Swartz was absent)

MOTION: To amend the motion by replacing the words after “To ask the Town Manger” with the following: “to update the Town Council quarterly regarding achieving the Climate Action Goals adopted by the Town Council in 2019.”

Motion by: DuMont

Seconded by: Schoen

ROLL CALL VOTE: 10-2, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, DuMont, Griesemer, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; De Angelis & Hanneke voted No; Swartz was absent)

MOTION: To ask the Town Manager to work with ECAC in the development of their annual report as described in their charge adopted by the Town Council on February 11, 2019 (revised August 2, 2021) including Progress towards climate action goals; Measures taken to reduce emissions and build resilience; Evaluation of the effectiveness and implementation of these measures; Funding needed to enable initiatives recommended by the ECAC; and Community engagement.

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: De Angelis

The motion was withdrawn.

d. Comprehensive Housing Policy

MOVED: To adopt the Comprehensive Housing Policy as revised and recommended by the Community Resources Committee on September 14, 2021 and as reported in the CRC Report of September 20, 2021 and to refer the Policy to the Town Manager and CRC for implementation; as amended by changing the first sentence of the third paragraph so that it reads, “Amherst is facing a housing affordability challenge;” and by adding the words, “, nor does it reflect endorsement of any specific strategy” after “This is not a comprehensive list, nor does it reflect any priority ranking on which strategies to

implement first” in the first paragraph of Appendix A.

Motion by: Hanneke

Seconded by: De Angelis

ROLL CALL VOTE: 11-1, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; DuMont voted No; Swartz was absent)

MOTION: To amend the policy by changing the first sentence of the third paragraph so that it reads, “Amherst is facing a housing affordability challenge.”

Motion by: Schoen

Seconded by: Bahl-Milne

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8-4, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, DuMont, Griesemer, Pam, Ross, Schoen, & Steinberg voted Yes; De Angelis, Hanneke, Ryan, & Schreiber voted No; Swartz was absent)

Hanneke called the previous question

ROLL CALL VOTE: 11-1, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; De Angelis voted No; Swartz was absent)

MOTION: To remove Appendix A from the policy.

Motion by: Schoen

Seconded by: DuMont

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-9, with 1 absent (DuMont, Pam, & Schoen voted Yes; Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted No; Swartz was absent)

Hanneke called the previous question

ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-3, with 1 absent (Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Bahl-Milne, DuMont, and Schoen voted No; Swartz was absent)

MOTION: To amend Appendix A by adding the words, “, nor does it reflect endorsement of any specific strategy” after “This is not a comprehensive list, nor does it reflect any priority ranking on which strategies to implement first” in the first paragraph.

Motion by: Ryan

Seconded by: Pam

ROLL CALL VOTE: 11-1, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, & Steinberg voted Yes; Schreiber voted No; Swartz was absent)

e. Town Manager Annual Performance Evaluation – Overview of Process

f. Town Council and Council Committee Meeting Format – In Person/Hybrid or Fully Remote

VOTED VIA CONSENT AGENDA

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

MOVED: Beginning October 1, 2021, to hold all Town Council meetings in the remote meeting format through January 2, 2022.

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Steinberg

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8-3-1 (Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Pam, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Bahl-Milne, Hanneke, & Ross voted No; Griesemer Abstained; Swartz was absent)

MOVED: To authorize each Council committee to decide how they will meet, either in person/hybrid or remote, until January 2, 2022.

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Ryan

ROLL CALL VOTE: 12-0, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Swartz was absent)

MOVED: To amend the motion to remove the words “in person.”

Motion by: Brewer

Seconded by: DuMont

ROLL CALL VOTE: 11-1, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Hanneke voted No; Swartz was absent)

g. Parking Criteria and Process

h. Amendment to Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 5.2 Public Hearings

MOVED: To amend Town Council Rules of Procedure rule 5.2 Public Hearings by adding the following words after the first sentence: **“While some public hearings may be required by MGL, the Town Charter, or by Council Rules of Procedure, the Council may choose to hold a public hearing on any topic it chooses. The Council may also designate a Council Committee to hold public hearings on its behalf.”**

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: De Angelis

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8-2-2, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Brewer & DuMont voted No; Pam & Schoen Abstained; Swartz was absent)

i. Town Council Policy on Making Recommendations for Town Council Appointments to Multiple-Member Bodies

MOVED: To adopt the Town Council Policy on Making Recommendations for Town Council Appointments to Multiple-Member Bodies, as presented.

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Ryan

ROLL CALL VOTE: 11-1, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; DuMont voted No; Swartz was absent)

9. Appointments

(1) Liaison to the African Heritage Reparations Assembly

MOTION: To appoint Councilors Alisa Brewer and Pat De Angelis as liaison to the African Heritage Reparations Assembly, under Rules of Procedure rule 10.8 Councilors as Non-voting Liaisons, effective immediately, for a term to expire on January 2, 2022.

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Steinberg

ROLL CALL VOTE: 12-0, with 1 absent (Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, & Steinberg voted Yes; Swartz was absent)

11.a. Approval of Minutes

VOTED VIA CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED: To adopt the September 13, 2021 Town Council Meeting minutes, as presented.