

**Town of Amherst**  
**UNOFFICIAL RECORD OF VOTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

Monday, February 6, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Councilors present: Bahl-Milne, Devlin Gauthier, Griesemer, Hanneke, Rooney, Schoen, Steinberg, Taub

Councilors participating remotely: De Angelis (left the meeting at 8:28 p.m.), Lopes, Miller, Pam, Walker (joined the meeting at 6:45 p.m.)

Councilors absent: None

Staff and others Participating Remotely: Town Manager Bockelman, Clerk of the Council O’Keeffe, Finance Director Mangano, DPW Superintendent Mooring, Assistant DPW Superintendent Rusiecki, Town Clerk Audetter

**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 regular Town Council meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.; adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

**5. 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.d.1) Referral of Elementary School Building Project Debt Authorization to Finance Committee
- 8.d.2) Referral of Debt Exclusion Ballot Language and Impact to Taxpayers to Finance Committee
- 8.e. Referral of Non-Citizen Voting Special Legislation to Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee
- 11.a-g. Approval of the following meeting minutes:
  - November 14, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes
  - November 21, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes - Public Forum on the Budget
  - November 21, 2022 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
  - January 4, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Joint Meeting with Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee
  - January 12, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Joint Meeting with Community Resources Committee and Finance Committee

- January 23, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Elementary School Building Project
- January 23, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by: Griesemer

Seconded by: Devlin Gauthier

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 12-0, with 1 absent (Walker)

**Yea:** Bahl-Milne, De Angelis, Devlin Gauthier, Griesemer, Hanneke, Lopes, Miller, Pam, Rooney, Schoen, Steinberg, Taub

**Nay:** None

**Present (abstain):** None

**Absent:** Walker

**8. Action Items**

**a. Eversource Petition for Pole Placement at 133 South East Street - Withdrawn**

**b. Centennial Funding Supplemental Budget Request**

No action required; automatic referral to Finance Committee

**c. Community Preservation Act Committee Recommendation**

No action required; automatic referral to Finance Committee

**d. Elementary School Building Project**

**1) Debt Authorization**

**VOTED VIA CONSENT AGENDA:** To refer the proposed Elementary School building borrowing authorization to the Finance Committee, with report and recommendation to the Town Council by February 27, 2023.

**2) Debt Exclusion: Ballot Language and Impact on Taxpayers**

**VOTED VIA CONSENT AGENDA:** To refer the proposed debt exclusion for the Elementary School building to the Finance Committee, with report and recommendation to the Town Council by February 27, 2023.

**3) Debt Exclusion: Special Election Date, Early Voting Dates and Locations, Mail-in Ballots**

Discussion – no action

**e. Non-Citizen Voting Special Legislation**

**VOTED VIA CONSENT AGENDA:** To refer the proposed Special Act: An Act authorizing extending local voting rights for lawful permanent residents residing in the City known as the Town of Amherst to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, with report and recommendation to the Town Council by March 6, 2023.

**f. Public Way Long-Term Reservation Request: Amherst Farmers Market**

**MOVED:** To approve the Amherst Farmer’s Market Long Term Event Use reservation of the South Common and associated parking spaces at no charge, under Town Council Policy Regarding the Control and Regulation of the Public Ways as follows, on Saturdays

from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. beginning on April 22, 2023 and ending on November 18, 2023:

- a. Exclusive use of the area on the South Common as shown on the plan entitled “Amherst Farmers Market; Proposed Layout 2022 Season; January 27, 2022”
- b. For Vendor Parking, allocation of 15 spaces in the Spring Street lot and 6 spaces on Boltwood Avenue, and for customer curbside pick-up only, to be clearly marked by the Amherst Farmer’s Market 5 spaces on South Pleasant Street.

And to further authorize the Town Manager the ability to modify the approval through November 19, 2023 in order to schedule concurrent use of the Town Common for short-term event use.

**Motion by:** Griesemer

**Seconded by:** Hanneke

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 12-0 with 1 absent

**Yea:** Bahl-Milne, Devlin Gauthier, Griesemer, Hanneke, Lopes, Miller, Pam, Rooney, Schoen, Steinberg, Taub, Walker

**Nay:** None

**Present (abstain):** None

**Absent:** De Angelis

**9. Appointments**

**a. Town Manager Appointments – None**

**b. Town Council Appointments**

**1) Joint Capital Planning Committee – Charter Sec. 5.7(b)**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 7-5, with 1 absent, to select Hanneke for an appointment to the Joint Capital Planning Committee.

**Hanneke:** Bahl-Milne, Devlin Gauthier, Griesemer, Hanneke, Lopes, Schoen, Steinberg

**Pam:** Miller, Pam, Rooney, Taub, Walker

**Present (abstain):** None

**Absent:** De Angelis

**MOVED:** To appoint Councilor Hanneke to the Joint Capital Planning Committee, effective immediately, for a term to expire January 2, 2024.

**Motion by:** Griesemer

**Seconded by:** Devlin Gauthier

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 11-0, with 1 present (abstain), and 1 absent

**Yea:** Bahl-Milne, Devlin Gauthier, Griesemer, Hanneke, Lopes, Miller, Pam, Rooney, Schoen, Steinberg, Taub

**Nay:** None

**Present (abstain):** Walker

**Absent:** De Angelis

**11. Approval of Minutes**

**VOTED VIA CONSENT AGENDA:** To adopt the following Town Council meeting minutes, as presented:

- November 14, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes
- November 21, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes - Public Forum on the Budget
- November 21, 2022 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
- January 4, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – Joint Meeting with Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee
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15. **Executive Session** – *None*

DRAFT