

Councilors' Proposed Motions and Amendments

MOTION ON THE FLOOR: That the Town Council requests that the Town Manager – working with the DEI Department and other staff and through discuss with and draw upon the ongoing 3 Town Council Unofficial Record of Votes 11-01-2022 work of the Community Safety and Social Justice Committee (CSSJC), the Human Rights Commission (HRC), and African Heritage Reparations Assembly (AHRA) – forthwith identify available resources both inside and outside of Town government to:

- 1) create and implement a reconciliation plan to include a proposal for community visioning;
- 2) create a proposal for a Resident Oversight Board;
- 3) undertake a review of public safety protocols for responding to and handling public safety calls involving minors, in order to recommend changes to those protocols, if appropriate;
- 4) conduct research into the feasibility of a justice compensation fund;
- 5) explore options for a Youth Empowerment Center as part of the Capital Improvement Plan;
- 6) develop protocols for active engagement by community responders (CRESS);
- 7) develop and offer racial equity training, know your rights training, and other options for additional training to support employees and members of the public; and
- 8) raise awareness in the community about these efforts; and for the Town Manager to report on the progress on this reconciliation plan to the Council no later than two months from the date of this vote.

Proposed amendment 1

Motion to amend the motion on the floor:

MOTION: To amend the motion on the floor by adding the red text and ~~deleting the red strikethrough~~ text:

That the Town Council requests that the Town Manager – working with the DEI Department and other staff ~~and through discuss with and draw upon the ongoing 3 Town Council Unofficial Record of Votes 11-01-2022 work of the Community Safety and Social Justice Committee (CSSJC), the Human Rights Commission (HRC), and African Heritage Reparations Assembly (AHRA) –~~ forthwith identify available resources both inside and outside of Town government to:

- 1) Propose to the Town Council ~~create and implement~~ a racial healing and reconciliation plan ~~to include a proposal~~ for community visioning with a focus on public safety and social justice;
- 2) ~~create a proposal for~~ Propose to the Town Council a plan for the creation of a Resident Oversight Board, with possible assistance from a consultant to help with the development of that plan;
- 3) ~~undertake~~ Organize a review of public safety protocols for responding to and handling public safety calls involving all residents, including minors, in order to recommend changes to those protocols, if appropriate;
- 4) ~~conduct research into the feasibility of a justice compensation fund;~~
- 5) ~~explore options for a Youth Empowerment Center as part of the Capital Improvement Plan;~~
- 6)4) Continue to develop protocols for CRESS regarding active engagement by community responders ~~(CRESS)~~;
- 7)5) ~~Develop~~ and offer racial equity training, know your rights training, and other options for additional training to ~~support~~ employees and members of the public; and
- 8)6) Develop a communications plan to raise awareness in the community about these efforts; and that ~~for~~ the Town Manager will ~~to~~ report on actions to be taken and/or ~~the~~ progress in addressing the above, no later than ~~on this reconciliation plan to the Council no later than~~ two months from the date of this vote. Draft reports to be available to the Council, the Community Safety and Social Justice Committee (CSSJC), and the Human Rights Commission (HRC), as well as the public, no less than two weeks prior to the Town Council meeting where the items will be discussed; that CSSJC and HRC provide written advice to the Town Council 5 days prior to the Town Council Meeting at which the items will be discussed; that the Town Council will discuss the Manager’s report and both committee reports, and will hold a discussion that includes public comment; and that the Town Council will determine its next steps by motion.

So that the amended motion would read: That the Town Council requests that the Town Manager – working with the DEI Department and other staff:

- 1) Propose to the Town Council a racial healing and reconciliation plan for community visioning with a focus on public safety and social justice;
- 2) Propose to the Town Council a plan for the creation of a Resident Oversight Board, with possible assistance from and hire, as appropriate, a consultant to help with the development of that plan;
- 3) Organize a review of public safety protocols for responding to and handling public safety calls involving all residents including minors, in order to recommend changes to those protocols, if appropriate;
- 4) Continue to develop protocols for CRESS regarding active engagement by community responders;
- 5) Develop and offer racial equity training, know your rights training, and other options for additional training to employees and members of the public; and
- 6) Develop a communications plan to raise awareness in the community about these efforts; and

that the Town Manager will report on actions to be taken and/or progress in addressing the above, no later than two months from the date of this vote. Draft reports to be available to the Council, the Community Safety and Social Justice Committee (CSSJC), and the Human Rights Commission (HRC), as well as the public, no less than two weeks prior to the Town Council meeting where the items will be discussed; that CSSJC and HRC provide written advice to the Town Council 5 days prior to the Town Council Meeting at which the items will be discussed; that the Town Council will discuss the Manager's report and both committee reports, and will hold a discussion that includes public comment; and that the Town Council will determine its next steps by motion.

Proposed amendment 2

Motion to amend the motion on the floor:

MOTION: To amend the motion by (1) amending the first paragraph to delete the phrase “and in discussion with and drawing upon the ongoing work of the Community Safety and Social Justice Committee (CSSJC), the Human Rights Commission (HRC), and African Heritage Reparations Assembly (AHRA) – forthwith identify available resources both inside and outside of Town government to”; (2) amending clause 1 to delete the phrase “create and implement a reconciliation plan to include a proposal for” and add the phrase “Propose to the Council” at the beginning of the clause and the phrase “plan with a focus on public safety and social justice” at the end of the clause; (3) amending clause 2 to delete the phrase “create a proposal for” and replace it with the phrase “Propose to the Council a plan for the creation of”; (4) amending clause 3 to delete the word “undertake” and replace it with the word “Organize” and to add the phrase “, particularly those” before the phrase “involving minors”; (5) deleting clauses 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8; (6) adding the phrase “Continue the work already begun on exploring options for a Youth Empowerment Center, implementing the CRESS department and Community Responder protocols, offering racial equity training to Town employees, and conducting Know Your Rights seminars to members of the public;” as a new clause 4; and (7) amending clause 9 to renumbering it as clause 5 and delete the phrase “this reconciliation plan” and replace it with the phrase “these requests”.

Motion with changes shown: The Town Council requests that the Town Manager – working with the DEI Department and other staff ~~and in discussion with and drawing upon the ongoing work of the Community Safety and Social Justice Committee (CSSJC), the Human Rights Commission (HRC), and African Heritage Reparations Assembly (AHRA) – forthwith identify available resources both inside and outside of Town government to:~~

- ~~1. Propose to the Council a create and implement a reconciliation plan to include a proposal for~~ community visioning plan with a focus on public safety and social justice;
- ~~2. Propose to the Council a plan for the creation of create a proposal for~~ a Resident Oversight Board;
- ~~3. undertake~~ Organize a review of public safety protocols for responding to and handling public safety calls, particularly those involving minors, in order to recommend changes to those protocols, if appropriate;
- ~~4. conduct research into the feasibility of a justice compensation fund;~~
- ~~5. explore options for a Youth Empowerment Center as part of the Capital Improvement Plan;~~
- ~~6. develop protocols for active engagement by community responders (CRESS);~~
- ~~7. develop and offer racial equity training, know your rights training, and other options for additional training to support to employees and members of the public; and~~
- ~~8. raise awareness in the community about these efforts;~~
4. Continue the work already begun on exploring options for a Youth Empowerment Center, implementing the CRESS department and Community Responder protocols, offering racial

equity training to Town employees, and conducting Know Your Rights seminars to members of the public;

~~5.-9.~~ and for the Town Manager to report on the progress on ~~this reconciliation plan~~ these requests to the Council no later than two months from the date of this vote.

Motion if amended: The Town Council requests that the Town Manager – working with the DEI Department and other staff:

1. Propose to the Council a community visioning plan with a focus on public safety and social justice;
2. Propose to the Council a plan for the creation of a Resident Oversight Board;
3. Organize a review of public safety protocols for responding to and handling public safety calls, particularly those involving minors, in order to recommend changes to those protocols, if appropriate;
4. Continue the work already begun on exploring options for a Youth Empowerment Center, implementing the CRESS department and Community Responder protocols, offering racial equity training to Town employees, and conducting Know Your Rights seminars to members of the public;
- 5.-and for the Town Manager to report on the progress on these requests to the Council no later than two months from the date of this vote.

Substitute motion

Motion: To substitute the motion on the floor with the following: The Town Council supports the Town Manager in hiring a consultant, if necessary, to collaborate with the DEI department:

1. To review information concerning the July 5th incident to recommend potential procedural changes in the operation of the police department, especially as it pertains to interactions with minors
2. To create the Resident Oversight Board informed by recent incidents
3. To give an interim report on each of these by date (to be suggested by Town Manager)

In addition, the Town Council requests the Town Manager to work with relevant staff to:

1. Continue to develop and share with the council and the public the protocols that CRESS will be employing to engage with the community, including schools.
2. Offer racial equity training and know your rights and responsibilities training to employees and the public.
3. Develop and share a communications plan to raise awareness of the initiatives in town as they pertain to CRESS, trainings, and other developments impacting the safety of our community.

Substitute or additional motion

MOTION: As the elected governing body of the Town, we affirm the constitutional and human rights of every resident, including youth, and agree the conduct of law enforcement on July 5th, 2022 does not reflect the commitment we have made in the Resolution affirming the Town of Amherst's Commitment to End Structural Racism.. to "condemn any effort to interfere with the unalienable rights of any human being" and, further, does not reflect the Town of Amherst's Human Rights Policy "to ensure that no person, public or private, shall be denied any rights guaranteed pursuant to local, state, and/or federal law on the basis of race or color, gender, physical or mental ability, religion, socio-economic status, ethnic or national origin, affectional or sexual preference, lifestyle, or age." Further, we remember and reaffirm the Resolution in the Aftermath of the Death of Mr. George Floyd jointly made by the Amherst Town Council, Amherst Town Manager, Police Chief, School Superintendent, the Chair of the Human Rights Commission, and with the full support of our police unions that states "Whereas, as public officials, it is our duty to use our legal and moral authority to protect all members of our community no matter their race or color or where they fall on the power spectrum. It is our duty to foster a community free of fear, intimidation and violence – a community in which people are not targeted or hurt unnecessarily by law enforcement – and provide equal protection under the law." As such, we call on the Town Manager, Amherst's appointed Chief Executive, to take steps legally and procedurally viable to the Town to ensure that such conduct never happens again, that recommendations made by committees charged with matters related to human rights, social justice, and community safety are heeded, and that our youth are always considered in decisions made by the Town.