

# **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**November 27, 2023 7:00 pm**  
**City Council Chambers, City Hall**  
**60 Pleasant Street, Newburyport**

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### **Tax Classification Hearing 6:45 pm**

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Zoom details for City Council Meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81299990548>

Or One tap mobile:

US: +19292056099,81299990548#

Or Telephone US: +1 929 205 6099

Webinar ID: 812 9999 0548

### **Tax Classification Hearing**

1. The City Council President Heather Shand opened the hearing at 6:45 pm and asked Clerk Jones to call the roll. The following City Councillors answered present: Wright, Zeid, Cameron, Donahue, Khan, Lane, McCauley, Preston, Vogel, Wallace, and Shand. 11 present (1 remote Vogel).
2. Clerk Jones read the notice into the record.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Motion to close the Public Hearing by Councillor McCauley, seconded by Councillor Zeid. Roll call vote. 11 yes.

1. **MOMENT OF SILENCE** Remembering Thomas Calderwood

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **CALL TO ORDER**

7:00 pm the City Clerk called the roll; the following City Councillors answered present: Wright, Zeid, Cameron, Donahue, Khan, Lane, McCauley, Preston, Vogel, Wallace, and Shand. 11 present (1 remote Vogel)

4. **LATE FILE** Updated Memo on Market Landing Project Motion to Accept the Late File by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Wright, Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jean Costello 522 Merrimac St.

6. **MAYOR'S COMMENT**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

NOTE: ALL ITEMS LISTED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS. IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- November 13, 2023

(Approve)

8. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- COMM00519\_11\_27\_2023 William Lloyd Garrison Proclamation

(GG)

9. **TRANSFERS**

10. **APPOINTMENTS**

- APPT00443\_11\_27\_2023 Jeanette Isabella 100 Water St. COA 01/01/2027
- APPT00444\_11\_27\_2023 Jennifer M. Bluestein 190A High St. CPC Rep from PB 12/10/2026

(CS)

(P&D)

ALL ITEMS NOTED BELOW ARE REMOVED FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMITTEES WITH THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA

#### **BUDGET & FINANCE**

- ORDR00506\_11\_13\_2023 FY2024 Tax Rate Order (COTW)
- ORDR00507\_11\_13\_2023 FY2024 Residential Factor Order (COTW)
- ORDR00508\_11\_13\_2023 Approval to Pay Prior Year Bills
- ORDR00509\_11\_13\_2023 Gift Acceptance Form Belleville Improvement Society \$895.00
- TRAN00175\_11\_13\_2023 Mayor: General Fund Free Cash \$550,527.37 to Fire Boat Purchase \$550,527.37
- TRAN00176\_11\_13\_2023 Mayor: General Fund Free Cash \$280,978 to  
General Fund Budget Reserve \$280,978 *Revised*

#### **PUBLIC WORKS & SERVICES**

- COMM00516\_11\_13\_2023 Snow and Ice Plan 2023-2024

#### **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Removal of COMM00519 at the request of Councillor Shand.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as Amended and to R&F the Mayor's Update by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

##### **9. MAYOR'S UPDATE**

##### **10. FIRST READING APPOINTMENTS**

##### **11. COMMUNICATIONS**

- COMM00519\_11\_27\_2023 William Lloyd Garrison Proclamation  
President Shand read the Proclamation  
Motion to approve by Councillor Donahue, seconded by Councillor Cameron. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

##### **12. TRANSFERS**

##### **13. SECOND READING APPOINTMENTS**

- APPT00442\_11\_13\_2023 Laura Thibault 8 Kent St. Cultural Council 12/15/2026  
Motion to approve on second reading by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Cameron. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

##### **14. ORDERS**

- ORDR00512\_11\_27\_2023 Gift Acceptance PAARI \$1,000  
Motion to collectively refer ORDR00512, ORDR00513, ORDR00516, ORDR00517, ORDR00518, and ORDR00519 to Budget & Finance by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.
- ORDR00513\_11\_27\_2023 Gift Acceptance FoNT \$15,000  
Motion to collectively refer ORDR00512, ORDR00513, ORDR00516, ORDR00517, ORDR00518, and ORDR00519 to Budget & Finance by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.
- ORDR00514\_11\_27\_2023 Gift Acceptance City Improvement Society \$25,250  
Motion to refer ORDR00514 to Community Services by Councillor Zeid , seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.
- ORDR00515\_11\_27\_2023 Gift Acceptance Morrill Foundation \$110,000  
Motion to refer ORDR00515 to Community Services by Councillor Zeid , seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 10 yes, 1 no (Lane). Motion passes.
- ORDR00516\_11\_27\_2023 Gift-Acceptance-Form-MLP-MAAF \$200,000

Motion to collectively refer ORDR00512, ORDR00513, ORDR00516, ORDR00517, ORDR00518, and ORDR00519 to Budget & Finance by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

- **ORDR00517\_11\_27\_2023**      **Gift-Acceptance-Form-MLP-IFS \$50,000**

Motion to collectively refer ORDR00512, ORDR00513, ORDR00516, ORDR00517, ORDR00518, and ORDR00519 to Budget & Finance by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

- **ORDR00518\_11\_27\_2023**      **Gift-Acceptance-Form-MLP-NBank \$40,000**

Motion to collectively refer ORDR00512, ORDR00513, ORDR00516, ORDR00517, ORDR00518, and ORDR00519 to Budget & Finance by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

- **ORDR00519\_11\_27\_2023**      **Holiday Parking 2023**

Motion to collectively refer ORDR00512, ORDR00513, ORDR00516, ORDR00517, ORDR00518, and ORDR00519 to Budget & Finance by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

## 15. ORDINANCES

- **ODNC00129\_11\_01\_2022**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**      **Defining Conflict Rule for Dept. Heads (COTW)**

Motion to approve on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley . Roll call vote. 7 yes, 4 no (Cameron, Donahue, Vogel, Shand). Motion passes.

- **ODNC00157\_06\_12\_2023**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**      **Public Art Policy (COTW)**

Motion to approve on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

- **ODNC00146\_03\_13\_2023**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**      **Amend Ch 2-34 Responsibilities of Cmte on Community Services**

Motion to approve on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Preston. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

## 16. COMMITTEE ITEMS

### Budget & Finance

#### *In Committee:*

- **ORDR00506\_11\_13\_2023**      **FY2024 Tax Rate Order (COTW)**

Motion to approve with rate 9.97/1000 FY24 by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Cameron. Roll call vote. 7 yes, 4 no (Wright, Zeid, Lane, and Vogel). Motion passes.

- **ORDR00507\_11\_13\_2023**      **FY2024 Residential Factor Order (COTW)**

Motion to approve with residential factor of [1] by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

- **ORDR00508\_11\_13\_2023**      **Approval to Pay Prior Year Bills**

Motion to approve by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Wright. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.

- **ORDR00509\_11\_13\_2023**      **Gift Acceptance Form Belleville Improvement Society \$895.00**

Motion to approve by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 10 yes, 1 recused (Wallace). Motion passes.

- **TRAN00175\_11\_13\_2023**      **Mayor: General Fund Free Cash \$550,527.37 to**

**Fire Boat Purchase \$550,527.37**

Motion to approve by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor McCauley. Roll call vote. 10 yes, 1 no (Zeid). Motion passes.

- **TRAN00176\_11\_13\_2023**      **Mayor: General Fund Free Cash \$402,989 to**

**General Fund Budget Reserve \$402,989 Revised**

Motion to approve by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Wright. Motion to amend to \$280,978 by Councillor Cameron, seconded by Councillor Khan. Roll call vote. 6 yes, 5 no (Wright, Zeid, Lane, McCauley, and Wallace). Motion passes. Motion to approve as amended by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Wright. Roll call vote. 7 yes, 4 no (Wright, Zeid, Lane, and McCauley). Motion passes.

- **ORDR00336\_03\_28\_2022**      **ARPA Amesbury 250K (COTW)**

- **ORDR00504\_10\_30\_2023**      **Local Acceptance of Community Impact Fee on Short Term Rentals**

- **ORDR00505\_11\_13\_2023**      **Gift Acceptance Nock Tennis Courts \$21,195.00**

- **TRAN00153\_05\_08\_2023**      **Mayor: Multiple \$3,483,773 to Multiple \$3,483,773 revised 6/15/2023**  
*(Atkinson Common Request only all other matters adjudicated)*

## Community Services

### *In Committee:*

- APPT00437\_10\_30\_2023 Mary Louise Gagnon 126 Merrimac St. COA 12/1/2026
- APPT00438\_11\_13\_2023 Susan Chase 44 Oak St. Emma Andrews Lib. Comm. 12/15/2025
- APPT00439\_11\_13\_2023 Aine Greaney Ellrott 43 Purchase St. Emma Andrews Lib. Comm. 12/15/2026
- APPT00440\_11\_13\_2023 Elizabeth Valeriani 29 Oak St. Emma Andrews Lib. Comm. 12/15/2026
- APPT00441\_11\_13\_2023 Virginia R. Champi 84 Purchase St. Emma Andrews Lib. Comm. 12/15/2025
- COMM00495\_08\_14\_2023 Ltr from Katherine Moore, Betty LaBaugh, and Brendan & Katy Banovic  
re: Landscaping noise and air pollution
- ORDR00474\_07\_10\_2023 Plan Approval Bartlett Mall Improvement Project (COTW)
- ORDR00510\_11\_13\_2023 Public Art Committee Rules and Regulations

## General Government

### *In Committee:*

- COMM00461\_02\_27\_2023 Brown School Gymnasium Considerations (COTW)
- COMM00468\_03\_13\_2023 Brown School Proposal (COTW)
- ORDR239\_02\_8\_2021 Council Rule 7 and 10B

## Licenses & Permits

### *In Committee:*

## Planning & Development

### *In Committee:*

- COMM00494\_07\_10\_2023 Planning Board Advisory Report STRU (COTW)
- COMM00500\_08\_28\_2023 STRU Planning Board Final Report (COTW)
- ODNC00164\_10\_30\_2023 Zoning-Amendment-Global-R3-Multi-Family(COTW)

## Public Works & Safety

### *In Committee:*

- **COMM00516 11 13 2023** **Snow and Ice Plan 2023-2024**  
Motion to receive and file with the instruction that the Clerk let DPS know that the Garage is a paid parking space during snow emergencies by Councillor McCauley, seconded by Councillor Wright. Roll call vote. 10 yes, 1 no (Lane). Motion passes.
- COMM00412\_05\_31\_2022 Ltr Ann Jaroney re: Traffic Safety
- COMM00459\_01\_30\_2023 Ltr. Residents concerned with speeding on Arlington St.
- COMM00462\_02\_27\_2023 Ltr. From Kathleen O'Connor Ives re: drinking water concerns
- COMM00479\_04\_24\_2023 Ward 4 Street Sidewalk Traffic Safety Priorities
- COMM00482\_04\_24\_2023 Constructions projects at the Central Waterfront
- COMM00505\_09\_11\_2023 Ltr from Kristen Hunter re Merrimac St. traffic safety progress
- COMM00511\_10\_30\_2023 Streets and Sidewalks Plan FY23-FY28 Update
- ODNC00103\_01\_10\_2022 Streets, Sidewalks, and Other Public Places Alterations & Maintenance
- ODNC00152\_05\_08\_2023 Amend Ch 13-181 Municipal Parking Facilities (COTW)
- ORDR00449\_04\_24\_2023 Approving Shared Streets Grant, High Street Traffic Calming

## 17. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councillor Wright thanked employees at DPS for their assistance with the recent election.

Councillor Wright asked residents with candy canes on the island to call DPS and report it if they are not working properly. The Clerk thanked all who assisted during the two recounts including the surrounding town clerks, the Board of Registrars, the Candidates and their Counsel, the Special Counsel for the City Lauren Goldberg and Devan Braun and especially the Clerk Office staff who managed the stress and every detail of the election.

## 18. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:25pm by Councilor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Wright. Roll call vote. 11 yes. Motion passes.