

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023 7:00 PM**

EVERETT CITY HALL, 484 BROADWAY, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 3RD FLOOR **EVERETT, MA 02149**

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Darren Costa, Richard Dell Isola, Jr., John Hanlon, Vivian Nguyen, Alfred Lattanzi, Stephanie Martins, Wayne Matewsky, Stephanie Smith, Michael Marchese

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Public Speakers were:

Lilian Gorham, John McDonald, John Popoulo, Steve lannaco, Paula Sterite, Tony Raymond, Kit Bridge, Juan Solei-Ramos, Janice Lark and Mary Fortin.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of February 13, 2023

The minutes were accepted as amended to reflect C0035-23 was posptponed to the February 27th meeting.

MOTION:

Accept Meeting Minutes

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER:

Stephanie Smith

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

1. C0068-23 Order/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese, as President

An order requesting the acceptance of and the approval to expend the FY2023 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services in the amount of \$17,608.50.

PETITIONS AND LICENSES

2. C0069-23 Petition/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese, as President

A petition requesting the renewal of an extended hours of operations license for Love Dog Hot Dog Buffet at 1865 Revere Beach Parkway

MOTION:

Favorable Action

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER:

Darren Costa

RESULT:

Passed [9 TO 0]

AYES:

Costa, Dell Isola, Jr., Hanlon, Nguyen, Lattanzi, Martins, Matewsky,

Smith. Marchese

NAYS:

AWAY:

3. C0070-23 Petition/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese, as President

A petition requesting a new combination motor vehicle repair mechanical/auto body license for Ocean Auto Body and Auto Repair at 11 Buell Street

Councilor Matewsky asked for this to be passed and the Council rules were suspended to allow for a favorable vote to be taken without sending the item to committee. The Clerk informed the Council that their approval of the license this evening would be contingent on all final approvals by the building department for the use of a body/mechanical repair shop. The Council approved the order unanimously, contingent on Building Commissioners Final approval.

MOTION:

Favorable Action

MOVER:

Stephanie Smith

SECONDER:

Stephanie Martins

RESULT:

Passed [9 TO 0]

AYES:

Costa, Dell Isola, Jr., Hanlon, Nguyen, Lattanzi, Martins, Matewsky,

Smith, Marchese

NAYS:

AWAY:

4. C0072-23 Petition/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese, as President

A petition requesting the renewal of a class two motor vehicle dealer license for Broadway Gas & Service Inc. at 356 Broadway

MOTION:

Favorable Action

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER: **RESULT:**

Darren Costa Passed [9 TO 0]

Costa, Dell Isola, Jr., Hanlon, Nguyen, Lattanzi, Martins, Matewsky,

AYES:

Smith, Marchese

NAYS:

AWAY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. C0533-22 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A resolution requesting that the Administration provide the City Council, the School Committee and the School Department with the Administration's comprehensive plan for implementing modular classrooms at the school's that require them, including a detailed cost analysis.

Erin Deveney appeared and informed the Council that the Administration has been working on the RFP and would have some final work done with stakeholders, like the Everett teachers Union and the School Administration and should have this completed in the coming weeks. The Council requested the item be postponed to the March 27th meeting in hopes that there would be more information in regards to the request for specific questions raised by councilors, such as cost, placement of modulars, size and scope of the projects at each school.

MOTION:

Postpone

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

Stephanie Smith

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

6. C0016-23 Order/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

An order directing the City Clerk to work with KP Law to develop a ballot question for this fall's local election which, if approved by the voters, will remove the Mayor as a voting member of the School Committee.

MOTION:

Refer Back to Sponsor(s)

MOVER:

Stephanie Smith

SECONDER:

John Hanlon

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

The Mayor appeared and asked why this was being presented when over 90% of the Mayors serve as voting members of their school committees. The Council asked the Clerk to find what was the process to remove the mayor without the Council being the final say and the Clerk informed them that voting on this to send the item to the legislature requesting a ballot question be placed on the November Municipal election ballot would be a way to do it so the voters had a voice in the process as the Council had wished to be done with Charter changes.

7. C0035-23 Order/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese, as President

An order requesting approval to accept a donation from the 600 Everett Holding LLC in the amount of \$43,103.44 to fund the purchase of a Blue Bike Share Station

MOTION:

Favorable Action

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER:

Stephanie Smith

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

8. C0046-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor John F. Hanlon

That the Mayor, Assessor, & C.F.O. appear at the next meeting to discuss why the real estate taxes have gone up so much in the past year, with no previous notification as usual.

The mayor, CFO and assessor appeared and Assessor Deveraux answered that the main reason for the increase was due to the power plants reduction in value because they are closing in less than 2 years and that dropped the value by hundreds of millions of dollars. Councilor Hanlon was displeased with the reason, he stated it shopuld have been more widely known to the public such an increase in taxes would happen even if the Council was aware, much of the public was not and it came out of nowhere to most taxpayers. The Mayor and assessor stated the continued new growth would help the burden but that the next few years were going to be difficult with the plant continuing to be de-valued.

MOTION:

Refer Back to Sponsor(s)

MOVER:

John Hanlon

SECONDER:

Alfred Lattanzi

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES: NAYS:

WATO.

AWAY:

9. C0048-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Stephanie V. Smith

That the Mayor's Administration provide the City Council with the steps and any studies that have been taken to explore the provision of a stop on the MBTA Commuter Rail System as per the Community Host Agreement between the City of Everett and Wynn LLC.

MOTION:

Refer Back to Sponsor(s)

MOVER:

SECONDER:

Stephanie Smith Wayne Matewsky

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

Erin Deveney stated that she would provide a copy of any studies that have been done.

10. C0049-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Stephanie V. Smith

That the administration provide an update on the acceptance of ARPA funds in the amount of \$300,000, through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services, that was approved back in April 2022.

Chief of Staff Deveney stated that this money is not part of the overall 47 million in ARPA funds the city received.

MOTION:

Refer Back to Sponsor(s)

MOVER:

Stephanie Smith

SECONDER:

Richard Dell Isola, Jr.

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES: NAYS:

AWAY:

11. C0056-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Stephanie Martins

That allegations of discrimination by former employees of the Joint Committee for Children's Health Care who all recently guit together be looked into by HR and DEI departments.

The Administration stated that this could not be discussed because it relates to personnel matters. The Council referred the item to the Diversity Director for action.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER: Alfred Lattanzi

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES: NAYS: AWAY:

NEW BUSINESS

12. C0071-23 Order/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A Home Rule petition requesting the Massachusetts Legislature to authorize the City of Everett to place a binding ballot question on the November 7th Municipal Election concerning a Charter amendment to remove the Mayor of the City of Everett as a voting member of the Everett School Committee.

MOTION:

Favorable Action

MOVER:

Stephanie Smith

SECONDER:

Darren Costa

RESULT:

Failed [3 TO 6]

AYES:

Costa, Smith, Marchese

NAYS:

Dell Isola, Jr., Hanlon, Nguyen, Lattanzi, Martins, Matewsky

AWAY:

13. C0073-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A resolution requesting that the City Solicitor provide the amount of any outstanding invoices associated with the on-going Title 7 investigation and the current balance of the account that will be used to pay them

Referred to the Solicitor for response back next meeting.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

John Hanlon

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

14. C0074-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A resolution requesting that the City Solicitor provide information about when/if unredacted invoices for the on-going Title 7 investigation will be available to the public

Referred to the Solicitor for response back next meeting.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

John Hanlon

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES: NAYS: AWAY:

15. C0075-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese, Councilor Darren M. Costa

A resolution requesting that the Mayor reconsider renovating Pope John to be a school and to name the school after Walter Carrington

Item was amended to add Councilor Costa as a co-sponsor and the item was postponed to the next meeting for a response from the Administration.

MOTION:

Postpone

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

Darren Costa

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES: NAYS:

AWAY:

16. C0076-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A resolution requesting information about who will represent the city in negotiating a new or revised Host Community Agreement with Wynn

Referred to the Solicitor and Mayor's office for response back next meeting.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

John Hanlon

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

17. C0077-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A resolution requesting information about if the new or revised Host Community Agreement with Wynn will need to be approved by the voters of the city

Referred to the Solicitor and Mayor's office for response back next meeting.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

John Hanlon

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

18. C0078-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A resolution requesting that the city's Chief Financial Officer provide an estimate of how much it will cost the city annually to run its ambulance service and to contact Cataldo Ambulance Services to see if they would be willing to provide a comparable cost estimate

Referred to the CFO for response back next meeting.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

John Hanlon

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

19. C0079-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Michael K. Marchese

A resolution requesting that the city's Chief Assessor provide information about whether or not people 65 and over can receive a larger Home Owner Exemption amount

Referred to the Assessor for response back next meeting.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Michael Marchese

SECONDER:

John Hanlon

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

20. C0080-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Stephanie Martins

That a public hearing be scheduled before the Budget Committee prior to the presentation of the budget to allow residents to provide feedback.

Referred to the CFO to see if this can be made possible.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins Stephanie Smith

RESULT:

SECONDER:

[0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS: AWAY:

21. C0081-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Stephanie Martins

That the CFO provide a final draft of the budget to the Council once it is available and appear before the Committee on the Budget for a discussion before the budget is finalized and submitted for consideration.

Referred to the CFO to see if this can be made possible.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER:

Darren Costa

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

22. C0082-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Stephanie Martins

That the administration consider adding staff or the tools necessary for the public to be able to sign up for programs provided by the Rec Center online or at city hall.

This item was referred to the Administration to take appropriate action and to request the Administration provide the Rec Center with a copy machine to print paperwork inhouse.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER: RESULT:

Stephanie Smith

AYES:

Passed [0 TO 0]

NAYS:

AWAY:

23. C0083-23 Resolution/s/ Councilor Stephanie Martins

That the administration provide an update on the installation of the non-verbal communication boards at the parks

This item was referred to the Administration to take appropriate action.

MOTION:

Refer

MOVER:

Stephanie Martins

SECONDER:

Stephanie Smith

RESULT:

Passed [0 TO 0]

AYES:

NAYS:

AWAY:

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted

Clerk of the City Council