

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to a request to commence a landmark study on the St. Francis Church property.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. That the matter of the election of the Mayor and Vice Mayor be referred to Unfinished Business.

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. A constable bond was received from Frederick W. McDonald for approval of the surety.
2. An application was received from John McQuillan, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 37 Lancaster Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission (Avon Hill NCDC approved ribbon driveway and handicap ramp) and Public Works. Three abutter approvals and three abutter disapprovals received. Neighborhood representative approved personally, not for the organization. Additional design documents on file with the petition.
3. An application was received from Trish Moriarty, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 23 Bellis Circle; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation (sign pole removed before cutting curb), Historical Commission and Public Works. Two abutters approved, one disapproved and one no opinion. Neighborhood Association neither approves or disapproves the petition.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Helen (Williams) Grimes. Councillor Maher
2. Resolution on the death of Pauline Terry (Britto) O'Donnell. Councillor Maher
3. Resolution on the death of Phyto Kyaw. Councillor Maher
4. Welcome Inspiration Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. to the City of Cambridge. Councillor Toomey, Councillor Cheung
5. Congratulations to the Gifts of Hope Campaign on their successful holiday fundraising effort. Councillor Cheung
6. Welcome uberVU on their relocation from London to Cambridge. Councillor Cheung
7. Happy 90th Birthday wishes to Cecilia Griffin. Councillor Simmons
8. Happy 90th Birthday wishes to Agnes Darlington. Councillor Simmons
9. Congratulations to Veronica vanBeuzekom and Adam Mohammed on their recent marriage. Councillor Davis
10. Thanks to the Cambridge Citywide Senior Center for hosting the Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration. Councillor Reeves
11. Thanks to the Area IV Youth Center for their Martin Luther King Jr. concert and program on Jan 15, 2012. Councillor Reeves
12. Thanks to the Cambridge Peace Commission on its Annual MLK Day Commemoration and Remembrance on Jan 18, 2012. Councillor Reeves
13. Thanks to the Cambridge Public Library Central Square Branch on their Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration

theatrical performance on Jan 17, 2012. Councillor Reeves

14. Best wishes to the Multicultural Arts Center for its Joyful Noise Gospel Concert honoring the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Jan 16, 2012 at the Sanders Theatre. Councillor Reeves
15. Resolution on the death of Antonio P. Soares. Councillor Toomey
16. Resolution on the death of Mariano de Medeiros Goncalves. Councillor Toomey
17. Resolution on the death of Marie V. (Westcott) Walsh. Councillor Toomey
18. Resolution on the death of Renee Theresa Murray. Councillor Toomey
19. Resolution on the death of James A. Lynch Jr. Councillor Toomey
20. Congratulations to Ramelfo "Fito" Frometa on his new position as an Area IV Coalition Street Worker. Councillor Simmons
21. Retirement of Robert M. Stevens as Director of Veterans Services for the City of Cambridge. Councillor Kelley

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to direct the Police Department to step up enforcement of the pedestrian regulations, particularly Cambridge Street near CRLS and the hospitals. Councillor Davis
2. That the City Manager is requested to present a plan to offer recycling receptacles in the public realm such as in parks and city squares. Councillor Davis and Councillor vanBeuzekom
3. That the City Manager is requested to confer with his staff to ensure the public can hear during deliberations and testimony during public meetings, with particular attention to the Lombardi building, Senior Center and City Hall Annex. Councillor vanBeuzekom and Councillor Cheung
4. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate departments on adopting the policy of posting notices along a route prior to road closure that would give Cambridge business owners ample time to prepare accordingly and ensure that business continues smoothly. Councillor Cheung
5. That the City Manager is requested to work with the appropriate departments and report back to the City Council with an opinion on whether the widespread use of rodent resistant trash bags would improve the City's pest management efforts. Councillor Cheung
6. That the City Clerk, who is the Parliamentarian of the City Council, is requested to organize a review of Robert Rules of Order beginning with the current Council and every new Council hereafter, with a view towards ensuring transparent, orderly and productive deliberations of the City Council. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Cheung and Councillor vanBeuzekom
7. That the City Manager is requested to prepare a home rule petition to delegate the approval of curb cuts and report back to the Council with the necessary legislative language. Councillor Cheung

8. That the City Manager is requested to direct the Department of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to identify a solution to this problem to ensure that motorists are not unfairly ticketed. Councillor Simmons

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, Deputy City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Chair of the Claims Committee, for a meeting held on Dec 20, 2011 to consider claims filed against the City.
2. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Seidel, Chair of the Ordinance Committee, for a hearing held on Dec 28, 2011 to consider an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance on the petition filed by Julia Bishop, et al. and re-filed by the City Council to amend Section 17.20 of the Zoning Ordinance - Regulations for Special District 2 located in North Cambridge along Linear Park.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a letter from former Mayor and City Councillor David P. Maher, regarding executive session minutes of City Council discussions of the Monteiro case.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Jan 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 30

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 6

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 13

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 27

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 5

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 12

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 19

5:30pm City Council Meeting. (Sullivan Chamber)

City Manager will submit recommendation for water/sewer rates. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 26

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 30

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Police Department to step up enforcement of the pedestrian regulations, particularly Cambridge Street near CRLS and the hospitals.

O-2 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

COUNCILLOR VANBEUZEKOM

WHEREAS: Many solar belly trash compactors and other public waste receptacles have a large quantity of recyclable materials such as bottles and cans deposited in them; and
WHEREAS: Other communities such as Somerville have dual containers handling recyclables and trash separately; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to present a plan to offer recycling receptacles in the public realm such as in parks and city squares.

O-3 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR VANBEUZEKOM

COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: City Council goals include promoting neighborhood vitality; and

WHEREAS: The character of neighborhoods can change with granting of variances and business, alcohol licenses and building permits; and

WHEREAS: The City Council desires to promote the clear exchange of information between the public and Cambridge Commissions and Boards granting licenses and permits; and

WHEREAS: Public meetings are held in various public locations within the city; and

WHEREAS: The basement room of the Lombardi building has poor acoustics; and

WHEREAS: Amplification equipment is available but not always used in the Senior Center or the City Hall Annex; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with his staff to ensure the public can hear during deliberations and testimony during public meetings, with particular attention to the Lombardi building, Senior Center and City Hall Annex.

O-4 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the Cambridge City Council that business owners would like to receive notice of road closures in order to mitigate and prepare for the impacts; and

WHEREAS: It has also come to the attention of the City Council that some cities have a policy of posting notices along a route a week prior to a road closure; and

WHEREAS: Adopting a similar practice in Cambridge will give business owners ample time to prepare accordingly for a road closure and ensure that business continues smoothly; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate departments on adopting a similar practice.

O-5 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: Rodents remain rampant in Cambridge and pose a serious health risk for residents; and

WHEREAS: It has been suggested that rodent-resistant trash bags might be an effective measure to deter rodents from garbage receptacles and thus improve sanitation; and

WHEREAS: Supposedly, trash bags infused with particular natural scents deter rodents from searching for food within them; and

WHEREAS: Revere has enacted an ordinance that mandates the use of rodent resistant trash bags as a cost-effective alternative to storing trash in containers and has reportedly found success in keeping rodents away from trash; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate departments and report back to the City Council with an opinion on whether the widespread use of these supposedly rodent resistant trash bags would improve the City's pest management efforts.

O-6 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

COUNCILLOR VANBEUZEKOM

WHEREAS: The City Council's deliberations are governed by parliamentary procedures embodied in Robert Rules of Order; and

WHEREAS: The purpose of Robert Rules of Order is to promote fair and effective discussion and action in a large deliberative body; and

WHEREAS: Robert's Rules of Order seek to advance rather than hinder the work of deliberative bodies such as the City Council; and

WHEREAS: Robert Rules are democratic in origin and intent. The rules aim to protect the rights of the minority to be heard, maintain the rights of the majority to decide, and provide a structure for fair and orderly consideration of contested issues; and

WHEREAS: Roberts Rules of Order was established to make meetings fair, equitable, and focused on the issues at hand so that the work of an organization could be accomplished in a timely manner with minimum discord and maximum productivity; and

WHEREAS: Knowledge of and adherence to Roberts Rules of Order allow for predictability and transparency in City Council meetings; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Clerk, who is the Parliamentarian of the City Council, be and hereby is requested to organize a review of Robert Rules of Order beginning with the current Council and every new Council hereafter, with a view towards ensuring transparent, orderly and productive deliberations of the City Council.

O-7 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: In 1996 and 2002 the City Solicitor and City Manager reported back to the City Council with the attached opinions on delegating the approval of "Altering the Layout of the Public Way" commonly referred to as curb cuts; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to prepare a home rule petition to delegate the approval of curb cuts and report back to the Council with the necessary legislative language.

O-8 Jan 9, 2012

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that some parking meters in Cambridge do not accept newer versions of the quarter dollar; and

WHEREAS: This makes parking, which is already quite limited in Cambridge, more difficult to secure and may result in motorists being unfairly issued parking tickets; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Department of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to identify a solution to this problem to ensure that motorists are not unfairly ticketed.