

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

1. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$4,150, to the Grant Fund Police Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account. The funds will support the Secret Santa for Seniors gift drive, which provided gift bags to approximately 700 seniors during the holidays. (CM24#8)
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to PO24#4, regarding the possibility of acquiring the property located at 727 Massachusetts Avenue. (CM24#9)
3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update on the Safety Net Family Shelter that the State opened in December and located at the Registry of Deeds. (CM24#10)

## **CHARTER RIGHT**

1. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant City departments to review the Across Sidewalk Electric Vehicle Charging (EV) Permit Pilot Program, eliminate the \$200 annual permit fee and determine if the process can be simplified. [Charter Right – Simmons, Jan 22, 2024] (PO24#7)

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

2. Ordinance 2023 #8B Amend Chapter 14.04 – Fair Housing [Passed to 2nd reading Oct 2, 2023; Amended Nov 6, 2023; to remain on Unfinished Business pending legislative approval of Special Act needed prior to ordination] (ORD23-8B)

## **APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

1. An application was received from Rickey Zeng representing Lanner Noodles & Bar, requesting permission for three (3) awnings at the premises numbered 24 Pearl Street. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department, abutter and proof of mailing has been provided. (AP24#3)
2. An application was received from Karoline Kuelzer representing the Sea Hag Restaurants and Bar, requesting permission for a projecting sign at the premises numbered 49 Mount Auburn Street approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutter proof of mailing has been provided. (AP24#4)

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. A communication was received from Carolyn Magid, regarding Council Agenda Item # 3 (PO24#5).
2. A communication was received from Carolyn Shipley, regarding POR 2024 #5.
3. A communication was received from Cynthia Hibbard, regarding Support for PO24#5 IRA Direct Pay Provision for Municipal Projects.
4. A communication was received from Dan Totten, regarding I support city purchase of 727 Mass Ave.
5. A communication was received from Elena Fagotto, regarding Support PO24#5 IRA Direct Pay Provision for municipal projects.
6. A communication was received from Ellen Mei, regarding Please pass PO24#5.

7. A communication was received from Ethan Frank, regarding Support for PO24#5 & PO24#6.
8. A communication was received from Gerald Bergman, regarding text of Somerville ceasefire resolution\_ call for a Cambridge ceasefire resolution.
9. A communication was received from Graham Turk, regarding Public comment for tonight's city council meeting.
10. A communication was received from Karen Y. Chen, regarding Support PO24#4.
11. A communication was received from Lee Farris, regarding Pass PO24#4 on buying 727 Mass\_ Ave\_ .
12. A communication was received from Lee Farris, regarding Residents Alliance Supports PO24#5 access federal funds for renewable energy projects.
13. A communication was received from Margery Davies, regarding PLEASE VOTE FOR PO24#5 -- Investigate the \_Direct Pay\_ Provision of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).
14. A communication was received from Sheli Wortis, regarding please support PO24#5.
15. A communication was received from Terence Cawley, regarding Kick Elbit out of Cambridge!.
16. A communication was received from Carolyn Magid, regarding Council Agenda Item # 3 (PO24#5).
17. A communication was received from Jacqueline King, regarding Cambridge Residents Alliance asks\_ Call for a Ceasefire in Gaza!.
18. A communication was received from Cori Baer-Francois, regarding Elbit Systems out of Cambridge now!.
19. A communication was received from Robert J. La Tremouille, regarding a communication to Governor Healy thanking her for her very meaningful assistance to the Charles River White Geese and to the Charles River.
20. A communication was received anonymously, regarding CEASEFIRE NOW.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution Congratulating Lisa Peterson. Mayor Simmons
2. Resolution Congratulating Sam Corda. Mayor Simmons
3. Condolences to the Family of Maureen C. Morris. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Toner, Councillor Pickett

## **ORDERS**

1. That the Community Development Department report back with any necessary edits to the attached zoning language that would allow unrelated people to live together in the City of Cambridge. Councillor Azeem, Vice Mayor McGovern, Mayor Simmons, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#9)
2. Calling for an Immediate Negotiated Ceasefire in Gaza. Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Wilson, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler (PO24#10)
3. Supporting An Act establishing the municipal reforestation program (S.452/H.869). Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Pickett (PO24#11)
4. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Traffic & Parking Department to take immediate action and make safety improvements to the intersection of Cardinal Medeiros Avenue, Binney Street, and Bristol Street as soon as possible. Councillor Azeem, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler (PO24#12)

## COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, transmitting an update regarding legislative activity. (COF24#7)

### HEARING SCHEDULE

#### Mon, Jan 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Zoom only)

#### Mon, Feb 5

3:00pm The City Council schedule a roundtable from 3:00pm-5:00pm to review the results of the 2023 Resident Survey.

6:00pm The City Council schedule a joint roundtable of the City Council and the School Committee from 6:00pm-8:00pm to discuss CPS FY25 budget priorities.

#### Tues, Feb 6

3:00pm The **Economic Development and University Relations Committee** will hold a public hearing from 3:00pm-5:00pm to discuss the potential for our business corridors and squares to promote urban scale, mixed use development in which the provision of Innovation Space subsidizes the delivery of housing and ground-floor retail.

#### Mon, Feb 12

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Feb 26

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Mar 4

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Mar 11

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Mar 18

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Mar 25

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Apr 1

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Apr 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Apr 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, Apr 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, May 6

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, May 13

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, May 20

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, June 3

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, June 10

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, June 17

5:30pm City Council Meeting

#### Mon, June 24

5:30pm City Council Meeting

## TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Jan 29, 2024

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Zoning Ordinance states that “four or more persons who are not within the second degree of kinship shall not be deemed to constitute a family”, making such groups of people ineligible for most Cambridge housing; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission has expressed concern with this policy’s impact on LGBTQ+ individuals’ and households’ ability to secure stable, safe housing in Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Given that Cambridge has not enforced this policy in recent memory and has no plans to enforce it going forward, this policy is due for review on its necessity; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the Community Development Department report back with any necessary edits to the attached zoning language that would allow unrelated people to live together in the City of Cambridge; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council refer the attached zoning petition to the Housing Committee.

***Strikeout the following text from Article 2.000 of the Zoning Code.***

***Family.*** One or more persons occupying a dwelling unit and living as a single nonprofit housekeeping unit; ~~provided that a group of four or more persons who are not within the second degree of kinship shall not be deemed to constitute a family.~~

~~Notwithstanding the definition in the preceding paragraph, a family shall be deemed to include four or more persons not within the second degree of kinship occupying a dwelling unit and living as a single, nonprofit housekeeping unit, if said occupants are handicapped persons as defined in Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the “Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988.” Such unrelated individuals shall have the right to occupy a dwelling unit in the same manner and to the same extent as any family in the first paragraph of this definition.~~

O-2 Jan 29, 2024

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR WILSON

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The Cambridge City Council recognizes that all human life is precious, regardless of race, religion, or nationality; and

WHEREAS: The horrific Hamas attacks of October 7, 2023, resulted in 1,200 Israelis killed and more than 240 taken hostage; and

WHEREAS: The Netanyahu Administration responded with military force, leading to the deaths of over 25,000 Palestinians, including 10,000 children, thousands who have been injured, and millions displaced; and

WHEREAS: This ongoing conflict has created a severe humanitarian crisis, leaving millions of people without basic necessities such as food, water, electricity, heat, shelter, and proper medical care; and

WHEREAS: This conflict is not only impacting the international community but is also causing significant trauma, fear, and grief amongst Cambridge community members, including both Palestinian and Jewish residents; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record expressing its support for an immediate, negotiated ceasefire by both Hamas and Netanyahu Administration, urging the release of all hostages, and calling for the urgent implementation of humanitarian aid; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the offices of The President of the United States, Joseph Biden, Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Ed Markey, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, and Congresswoman Katherine Clark; and be it further ORDERED: That the Cambridge City Council formally go on record standing against antisemitism and Islamophobia and calling upon all Cambridge residents to respect the rights of freedom of speech and peaceful protest, and to strive to treat one another with empathy, grace, and understanding.

O-3 Jan 29, 2024

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR PICKETT

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Legislature is considering legislation via [S.452](#) and [H.869](#) which would establish the municipal reforestation program, which would set up a structure to provide funding and technical assistance for municipalities to create a robust urban tree canopy cover, especially in treeless neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS: For many years, the City of Cambridge has been committed to confronting the problem of climate change and environmental justice by dedicating expertise and resources to supporting a dense urban forest and focusing on reducing heat island impacts throughout the city, but especially in environmental justice neighborhoods; and the Massachusetts bill would provide numerous benefits related to public health, climate change, environmental justice, and biodiversity; and would support the ongoing work of the Urban Forest Master Plan; and

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Pollinator Network has worked to support local and state efforts to improve biodiversity and native planting practices and develop programs and incentives to grow the urban forest; they have developed a [letter in support of S.452 and H.869](#) with additional recommendations which would support native plantings and local environmental jobs; and

WHEREAS: The bill provides support for the urgent socio-economic and environmental needs of municipalities throughout the Commonwealth by: including training youth and young adults in urban arboriculture, providing career paths for youth from underserved communities; prioritizing the use of native trees, which are an essential part of reversing the rapid decline in insect, bird and other species; and helping communities invest in the environment in a way that improves natural infrastructure and supports the health of essential ecosystems; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge [Urban Forest Master Plan](#) calls on the city to maintain and expand the urban forest canopy while being more resilient to climate change, reducing the urban heat island effect, mitigating stormwater runoff, reducing nutrient runoff, and contributing to community well-being; all goals which can be supported by the introduction of a state-led municipal reforestation program; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record supporting bill S.452 and H.869, which would establish the municipal reforestation program and further support our own goals of maintaining and expanding the urban forest canopy and support our goals of environmental justice; and sign on in support of the attached [letter by the MA Pollinators Network supporting the bill](#); and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to House and Senate leadership and the Cambridge delegation.

O-4 Jan 29, 2024

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that there has once again been a traumatic crash at the intersection of Cardinal Medeiros Avenue, Binney Street, and Bristol Street on January 12; and

WHEREAS: This intersection has long been dangerous, with near misses almost every day, particularly because Bristol Street is often used as a cut-through by drivers, visibility for drivers to anticipate cross traffic is extremely poor, and this section of Cardinal Medeiros is straight and induces speeding by drivers who are often lacking intimate knowledge of the particular hazards; and

WHEREAS: Most of the recent crashes at the intersection have involved cars turning from Bristol Street or Binney Street onto Cardinal Medeiros Avenue or attempting to cross Cardinal Medeiros Avenue to go straight on Binney Street; and

WHEREAS: Limiting cut-through traffic on Bristol Street would improve traffic safety at the intersection while creating additional opportunities for recreation, pedestrian and bicycle access, and safe outdoor dining at Vincent's; and

WHEREAS: The City Council already passed two policy orders about this intersection on [June 14, 2021](#) and [August 1, 2022](#); now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Traffic & Parking Department to take immediate action and make safety improvements to the intersection of Cardinal Medeiros Avenue, Binney Street, and Bristol Street as soon as possible.