

## CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$52,890.00 from Free Cash to the General Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account for the support of the continued operation of the Y2Y Youth Shelter for the next few weeks.
2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the recommended reappointment of Christopher Bator as a member of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority for a term of 5-years.
3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 20-3, regarding the feasibility of purchasing sensory bags for Police vehicles as a pilot program.
4. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the use of the War Memorial Recreation Center and Field House on Cambridge Street, which is adjacent to and part of the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School campus, for an emergency shelter for the homeless due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

## ON THE TABLE

1. That the City Manager is requested to direct the City Solicitor, Community Development, Public Works, Inspectional Services and any other related departments to review the proposed amendments regarding the prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in New Buildings. [TABLED ON JAN 27, 2020]
2. That the "2020 Cycling Safety Ordinance" be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee for discussion and recommendation. [TABLED ON MAR 23, 2020.]

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 18-108, regarding a report on offering early voting in City Council and School Committee Elections. [PENDING RESPONSE FROM LEGISLATURE]

## APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Sam Kachmar, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 207 Lakeview Avenue; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. No response has been received from the neighborhood association.

## COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Risa Mednick, 20 Maple Avenue, regarding a report that makes clear recommendations regarding shelters during the COVID crisis.
2. A communication was received from Heather Hoffman, 213 Hurley Street, regarding Remote Participation.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to the Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church on their 130th Anniversary. Councillor Simmons
2. Moratorium on rent payments, mortgage payments, evictions and foreclosures. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Carlone

R-2 Mar 30, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 pandemic and necessary containment protocols implemented to flatten the curve and keep people safe have resulted in a reduction or elimination of income for many Cambridge residents; and

WHEREAS: The necessary closure of businesses, institutions, construction sites, and more has created financial hardship for many individuals and families; and

WHEREAS: The necessary closure of schools has required parents to either stay home or spend money on childcare; and

WHEREAS: These containment protocols could continue well past the next few weeks and nobody truly knows when it will be safe to lift them; and

WHEREAS: Massachusetts housing courts have [suspended](#) most eviction proceedings until at least April 22; and

WHEREAS: On March 16 [alone](#), there were 19,884 new unemployment claims filed with the state; and

WHEREAS: [Italy](#) and [California](#) have suspended mortgage payments due to the crisis; and

WHEREAS: A suspension on rent payments, mortgage payments, evictions, and foreclosures would provide housing security and great relief for residents while allowing social distancing and other containment protocols to remain in place without such a harsh economic impact; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record calling for the Federal Government and/or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to issue an immediate moratorium on rent payments, mortgage payments, evictions, and foreclosures until the end of the COVID-19 pandemic; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this resolution to the entirety of Cambridge's legislative delegation.

3. Deepest Sympathy for the family of Pauline Paris. Councillor Toomey

4. Condolences on the death of Barbara Toomey. Councillor Toomey

## ORDERS

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to work with the Cambridge Housing Authority and other appropriate personnel to enforce compliance with this order in publicly owned housing, publicly subsidized housing, and federally assisted housing. Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
2. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation on streets in each neighborhood that could be closed to all non-essential traffic for the duration of the Health Emergency and report back to the council as soon as possible. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Carlone, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
3. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with DCR to explore closing Memorial Drive for the

duration of the Stay at Home order to give people in Cambridge a safe space to exercise and be outside without violating social distancing practices. Councillor Zondervan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler

4. That the City Manager explore short-term solutions to expand essential internet access to Cambridge residents who lack it during the pandemic until such time that a municipal broadband network can be implemented. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Nolan, Councillor McGovern

## **HEARING SCHEDULE**

### **Mon, Mar 30**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised virtual meeting)

### **Mon, Apr 6**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised virtual meeting)

### **Mon, Apr 13**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised virtual meeting)

### **Tues, Apr 14**

5:00pm The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing on the Affordable Housing Overlay Petition. (Sullivan Chamber - televised virtual meeting)

### **Wed, Apr 15**

3:00pm The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing on the Affordable Housing Overlay Petition. (Sullivan Chamber - televised virtual meeting)

### **Mon, Apr 27**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised virtual meeting)

### **Tues, Apr 28**

5:30pm The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing to discuss the Harvard Square Conservation District Study Committee report. (Sullivan Chamber - televised virtual meeting)

### **Mon, May 4**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

### **Mon, May 11**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

### **Tues, May 12**

9:00am The Finance Committee will meet for a public hearing on the FY21 budget. (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

### **Wed, May 13**

5:00pm The Finance Committee will meet for continued public hearings on the FY21 budget. (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

### **Mon, May 18**

4:00pm *Cambridge Scholarship Awards Ceremony* (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

### **Mon, June 1**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

## **TEXT OF ORDERS**

O-1 Mar 30, 2020

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 pandemic is a public health crisis with far-reaching effects on Cambridge residents. A State of Emergency has been declared at the city, state, and national level, and the City must take unprecedented action to address this crisis; and

WHEREAS: Local businesses and workers are facing immediate and serious economic hardship, with many workers laid off, and many more residents with reduced or eliminated income. The recent Massachusetts Stay-at-Home Advisory will only exacerbate these hardships, while expenses continue to pile up for members of our community; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge, residents, and homeowners have a vested interest in preventing an increase in homelessness and protecting our community during an emergency by providing temporary financial relief while protecting vulnerable homeowners; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City of Cambridge requests that all landlords and property managers forego rent increases for all properties for a period of sixty (60) days; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City of Cambridge requests that all landlords and property managers forego evictions of tenants with demonstrated, substantial loss of income due to the COVID-19 crisis for a period of sixty (60) days; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City of Cambridge requests that all landlords and property managers allow tenants with demonstrated, substantial loss of income due to the COVID-19 crisis a 120-day grace period from the enacting of this order to become current with rent; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to work with the Cambridge Housing Authority and other appropriate personnel to enforce compliance with this order in publicly owned housing, publicly subsidized housing, and federally assisted housing; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Cambridge Water Department, the Cambridge Housing Authority, and other appropriate personnel to provide relief to unpaid landlords in compliance with this order regarding property taxes, utility bills, mortgages, and foreclosures.

O-2 Mar 30, 2020

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has declared a Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS: On March 23, Governor Charlie Baker issued a “stay-at-home” advisory, in an effort to increase social distancing and reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: Playgrounds, basketball courts, ball fields, and fitness areas have been closed to ensure social distancing; and

WHEREAS: It is imperative that Cambridge residents are able to safely go outside while keeping a distance of 6+ feet from others; and

WHEREAS: The length of time that residents will be asked to distance themselves from others is unknown at this time; and

WHEREAS: New York City has already implemented street closures to decrease density and reduce crowding in the city’s parks; and

WHEREAS: The “stay-at-home” advisory has drastically reduced car traffic in Cambridge, now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation on streets in each neighborhood that could be closed to all non-essential traffic for the duration of the Health Emergency and report back to the council as soon as possible; and further be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager will ensure that all neighborhood groups are invited to give suggestions and input into any recommendations for how to best select streets for closure.

O-3 Mar 30, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The Governor has issued a Stay at Home order for the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS: The order urges residents not to leave the home except to do essential jobs, shop for groceries, buy medicine, or take a walk; and

WHEREAS: It is impossible to maintain proper distance from other individuals when talking a walk or going for a run on narrow Cambridge sidewalks, creating an unsafe situation for anyone who leaves the home; and

WHEREAS: Closing Memorial Drive to vehicular traffic would create a space for residents to go for a walk or get some exercise while maintaining recommended social distancing practices; and

WHEREAS: Traffic volumes are down significantly in the City of Cambridge during the Stay at Home order; and

WHEREAS: As the temperature gets warmer, the demand for safe outdoor space will only continue to increase; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with DCR to explore closing Memorial Drive for the duration of the Stay at Home order to give people in

Cambridge a safe space to exercise and be outside without violating social distancing practices; and be it further ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter as soon as possible.

O-4 Mar 30, 2020

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, residents have been encouraged to socially distance and many are working from their homes; and

WHEREAS: Approximately half of all low-income households in Cambridge do not have access to broadband, making working from home and staying connected to friends and loved ones more difficult; and

WHEREAS: [Students at Cambridge Public Schools](#) and university students whose campuses have closed are now required to conduct much of their education online; and

WHEREAS: The City has closed its public libraries and school buildings, two common internet access points for low-income residents; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Housing Authority has [closed off its common spaces](#), and with them, access to the internet-connected computers many low-income residents and high-risk elderly residents have; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager explore what short-term solutions may be taken to expand essential internet access to Cambridge residents who lack it during the pandemic until such time that a municipal broadband network can be implemented.