

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Children's Trust Fund grant for the Center for Families program in the amount of \$36,750 to the Department of Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$31,053.00) and to the Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$5,697.00) which will be used by the Center for Families to support family programs targeting parents of children up to eight years, which include a variety of family support and parent education programs and resources.
2. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the additional appropriation of the Low Income Heating Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$309,676, funded by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services and administered in Massachusetts by the Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development, to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$15,425), Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$293,551), and the Travel and Training account (\$700) to allow the operation of the Low Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP) serving Cambridge and Somerville.
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$114,359 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 from April 16 through May 31.
4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$500,000 from Free Cash to the General Fund Public Works Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used for snowstorm related expenses associated with snow plowing and snow removal contracts, salt, and other materials.
5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to a supplemental appropriation of \$230,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures account to fund the procurement of equipment for use in snow and ice operations.
6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to a supplemental appropriation of \$400,000 from Free Cash to the Public Works Public Investment Fund Extraordinary Expenditures account to fund snowstorm related street repairs.
7. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$500,000 donated to the City by Harvard University (\$250,000) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (\$250,000), to the Grant Fund Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures Account for the construction and operation of the War

Memorial Temporary Emergency Shelter at 1640 Cambridge Street.

8. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on COVID-19.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to repurpose the War Memorial facility into only a COVID-19 testing and temporary quarantine site for unhoused individuals awaiting their test results. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN IN COUNCIL APR 13, 2020.]

ON THE TABLE

2. 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]
3. That the "2020 Cycling Safety Ordinance" be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee for discussion and recommendation. [TABLED ON MAR 23, 2020.]
4. 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. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS IN COUNCIL MAR 30, 2020]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. 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]

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Catz LeBlanc, 14 Tufts Street, regarding capping delivery fees and greater transparency.
2. A communication was received from Christopher Mackin, 17 Story Street, regarding restaurant deliveries.
3. A communication was received from Fitz Donovan, 42 Irving Street, regarding temporary Emergency Center Plan.
4. A communication was received from C.A. Webb, regarding 585 Third Street.
5. A communication was received from Steven Nutter, regarding concern about the up-zoning petition to be pursued by Cabot.
6. A communication was received from James Cunningham, regarding the current strategy to use the War Memorial as a temporary shelter.

7. A communication was received from Shola Friedensohn, regarding keeping delivery fees down.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Jack Medzorian. Councillor Nolan
2. Congratulations to Rui Domingos on his new position as the CEO/President of the MIT Federal Credit Union. Councillor Toomey
3. Resolution on the death of Hajji Legman Abdul-Hagg Ahmad. Councillor Simmons
4. Resolution of the death of Harold “Buddy” F. Murphy Jr. Councillor Toomey
5. Resolution on the death of Lynette Ewing. Councillor Simmons
6. Resolution on the death of Marguerite Wiggins. Councillor Simmons
7. Resolution on the death of Rev. Grace E. Bowen. Councillor Simmons
8. Resolution on the death of Donald Reed Herring, Brother of Senator Elizabeth Warren. Councillor Simmons, Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon
9. Resolution on the death of Andrew “Harry” Johnston. Councillor Toomey
10. Resolution on the death of Georgette Lenkauskas. Councillor Toomey
11. Resolution on the death of Alec Rutkauskas. Councillor Toomey
12. Resolution on the death of Caroline Randall. Councillor Toomey
13. Resolution on the death of Thomas ‘Tom’ J. Simas. Councillor Toomey

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant departments to restrict third party delivery services fees to restaurants and disclose to customers of how delivery charges are allocated. Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui
2. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to issue an emergency order to make wearing a cloth face covering in public mandatory for all persons in the City of Cambridge, and that such a covering must be worn outdoors, inside essential businesses, and when entering and exiting residential buildings. Councillor McGovern, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Toomey
3. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to establish what specific steps will be made to ensure the safety of the workforce upon the re-opening of City offices, and what specific options will be made available to those City workers who are more susceptible to severe covid-19

infections and may require the ability to work remotely until such time as this crisis passes. Councillor Simmons

4. Mental Health Awareness Month - May 2020. Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Simmons
5. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Information Technology Department to utilize videoconferencing technology for City Council committee meetings. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting a communication regarding information from the School Committee’s Public Hearing on the FY21 Budget & Budget Workshop, Curriculum & Achievement Subcommittee Meeting, and Special Education & Student Supports Subcommittee Meeting.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Apr 27

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber – televised + Zoom)

Mon, May 4

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber – televised + Zoom)

Tues, May 5

9:00am The Finance Committee will meet to conduct public hearings on the FY21 budget (Sullivan Chamber – televised + Zoom)

Mon, May 11

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber – televised + Zoom)

Wed, May 13

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

Mon, May 18

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

5:30pm City Council Meeting - FY21 Budget Submission (Sullivan Chamber – televised + Zoom)

Tues, May 26

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (Sullivan Chamber – televised + Zoom)

Mon, June 1

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

Tues, June 2

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (Sullivan Chamber – televised)

Wed, June 3

6:00pm Finance Committee will meet for a public hearing on the FY21 School Department budget (Sullivan Chamber – televised)

Thurs, June 4

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (if necessary) (Sullivan Chamber – televised)

Mon, June 8

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

Mon, June 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting – Expected Budget Adoption
(Sullivan Chamber – televised)

Mon, June 22

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

Mon, June 29

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

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Apr 27, 2020

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has long been dedicated to supporting locally owned or operated businesses and the character and diversity they bring to our city; and

WHEREAS: The Governor’s “[Stay at Home Advisory](#)” on March 23rd declared that all restaurants may only be open for takeout and delivery in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: Restricting restaurants to takeout and delivery has placed a sudden and severe financial strain on small businesses that already operate on thin margins under normal circumstances; and

WHEREAS: Third party delivery services, with which local restaurants have very little bargaining power, charge restaurants commission fees of up to 30% of the revenue from any order placed on their application or website; and

WHEREAS: Restaurants already struggling have experienced an increase in orders through delivery apps from a low percent of total sales (5%-20%) to as much as 80% of total sales, which leads to an inability to cover costs and multi-billion companies getting excess fees from small local businesses; and

WHEREAS: Some recent promotions put on by third party delivery services lack transparency; including some advertised as supporting local business during the COVID-19 crisis, which are deceptive since the promotions [do not lower the fees](#) charged to the restaurant; and

WHEREAS: San Francisco’s supplemental COVID-19 [emergency declaration](#) capped fees for delivery apps to 15% and New York City lawmakers are proposing a cap of 10%; and

WHEREAS: If immediate action is not taken, the City of Cambridge is in danger of losing the diverse range of its local restaurants to the COVID-19 crisis; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant departments to determine the feasibility of restricting third party delivery services from charging restaurants a fee per online order for use of its services that totals more than 10% of the purchase price of such online order; and further be it

ORDERED: That all delivery services be required to disclose how the dollars for each purchase is allocated, to ensure that consumers know where their money is going; and further be it

ORDERED: That any restriction would last at least through the duration of the “Stay at Home Advisory,” until restaurants are allowed to serve customers dining in their establishment at full capacity, at which point the cap of 10% will be reassessed.

O-2 Apr 27, 2020

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The CDC recommends that all persons in public should wear face coverings to protect people around them from contracting COVID-19, which spreads through water droplets produced by talking, sneezing, coughing, and more. This disease is contagious even when an infected person does not experience symptoms, and wearing face coverings is an addition, not a replacement, for social distancing to protect other people when in public; and

WHEREAS: Other cities in Massachusetts, including Salem, Brookline and Everett have mandated masks and face coverings in public; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge residents continue to gather in public places and must be able to stay safe while buying groceries and other necessities. Resident and business efforts to maintain social distancing are greatly endangered by many refusing to wear face coverings and exposing passersby to the virus; therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to work with relevant departments to evaluate the feasibility of issuing an emergency order to make wearing a cloth face covering in public mandatory for all persons in the City of Cambridge, and that such a covering must be worn outdoors, inside essential businesses, and when entering and exiting residential buildings; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager address enforcement, mask inventory, and community education, such as, but not limited to posting large, clear signage around the city and how such a policy would be implemented. The City manager should specify in the emergency order that people may use cloth face coverings like fabric masks, scarves, or bandanas, and must wear them over one’s nose and mouth. People are discouraged from using surgical masks or N-95 respirators, which should be left for medical professionals and first responders; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager specify in the emergency order an exception for young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance, as recommended by the CDC; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

O-3 Apr 27, 2020

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has continued taking aggressive actions over the past several weeks to protect our community from the worst impacts of the covid-19 virus outbreak, including but not limited to closing all but our essential businesses, coordinating food deliveries to house-bound seniors, coordinating economic relief efforts, and closing all City offices and buildings to the public until further notice; and

WHEREAS: While the City has done an admirable job in formulating a citywide response to this public health crisis, and while there understandably remains many unknowns as to how and when the City will be able to begin re-opening City offices to resume some level of normal operations, the more than 3,000 individuals employed by the City have largely remained in the dark in terms of

when and how they might be able to resume their duties, or as to how they may otherwise participate in the City's covid-19 response; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate personnel to serve as the primary liaison to the City's workforce, to ensure that all members of the City's workforce are alerted to any opportunities to participate in the City's covid-19 response efforts and are appraised on a continual basis as to the latest news on when and how the City may be resuming its operations; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to establish what specific steps will be made to ensure the safety of the workforce upon the re-opening of City offices, and what specific options will be made available to those City workers who are more susceptible to severe covid-19 infections and may require the ability to work remotely until such time as this crisis passes; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-4 Apr 27, 2020

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: May is Mental Health Awareness Month and the City of Cambridge is focused on supporting and promoting mental wellness to all its residents; and

WHEREAS: Every May, mental health organizations encourage individuals, organizations, and cities to expand their efforts to provide resources and support aimed at helping break the stigma associated with mental health disorders; and

WHEREAS: During this particularly difficult time, the importance of mental health resources is of outstanding significance, as individuals and families deal with a variety of impacts related to the ongoing pandemic; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge, Cambridge Health Department, mental health service and advocacy organizations are dedicated to reach all residents and underscore the universal importance of mental health; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge continues to look for ways to raise awareness about mental health while promoting empathy and care to change the perception of mental illness, encouraging those who may struggle with mental health issues to seek help; and

WHEREAS: That the City Council go on record recognizing May 2020 as Mental Health Awareness Month in the City of Cambridge; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to light City Hall up green for no less than one week in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.

O-5 Apr 27, 2020

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: Cambridge City Council committees are significant avenues for conducting city government and will be important in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects; and

WHEREAS: Much of the City Council and City staff are working remotely as a result of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS: On March 12, the Governor issued an Executive Order relieving public bodies from the requirement that meetings be held in a public space that is physically accessible so long as meetings have public access through adequate, alternative means; and

WHEREAS: Municipalities including Somerville and Boston have been holding committee meetings using videoconferencing technology; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge City Councillors should be conscious of the emergency responsibilities of some staff members during the pandemic when requesting their virtual presence at committee meetings; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Information Technology Department and report back to the City Council on the status of Open Meeting Law compliant videoconferencing technology as it relates to City Council committee meetings.