

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$20,000 from Free Cash to the General Fund Executive Department/Domestic and Gender-Based Violence Prevention Initiative (DGBVPI) Other Ordinary Maintenance account to support additional emergency services related to the COVID-19 crisis in partnership with Transition House.
2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the reappointment of Larry Ward as an Election Commissioner for a term of 4 years, effective April 1, 2020.
3. 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 review the recommendations listed above with the appropriate City personnel with a view toward establishing clear guidelines that will allow for the re-opening of construction projects across the City, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner. [EXERCISED CHARTER RIGHT IN COUNCIL APR 27, 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.]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. 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 Michael J. Johnston, expressing support for resumption of construction in Cambridge.
2. A communication was received from Adrian Jewell, requesting an explanation of the City's recent COVID 19 response.
3. A communication was received from Sanjoy Mahajan, 950 Massachusetts Avenue, regarding Policy Order #89 on wearing masks in public.

4. A communication was received from Helen Abraham, 34 Winslow Street, regarding making masks a requirement for all persons outdoors and shopping.
5. A communication was received from Sheli Wortis, 106 Berkshire Street, regarding support for Policy Orders 1 and 2 and Calendar item 4 that will protect the health and welfare of the citizens if enacted.
6. A communication was received from Andrew Kurban, regarding letter of support for BioMed, 585 Third Street.
7. A communication was received from James Zall, 203 Pemberton Street, regarding POR 2020 #88.
8. A communication was received from Susan Johansen, 150 Cambridge Street, regarding mandatory face masks.
9. A communication was received from Kathy Roberts and John Roberts, 321 Huron Avenue, regarding mandatory masks.
10. A communication was received from Tom Shea, President and COO, Briar Group, regarding support for BioMed Realty and their proposal for 585 Third Street.
11. A communication was received from Mary Ann Donofrio, 120 Gore Street, regarding wearing mask in Cambridge.
12. A communication was received from Audrey Cunningham, 49 Gore Street, regarding mandatory face coverings.
13. A communication was received from Farshad Sayan, regarding support for BioMed Realty and their proposal for 585 Third Street.
14. A communication was received from James Huang, Vice President of Redevelopment, Aimco, regarding support for construction resumption order.
15. A communication was received from Liz Pawlak, Vice President, Design Museum Foundation, regarding BioMed Realty and their proposal for 585 Third Street.
16. A communication was received from Kale Rogers, Co-Founder and COO, Spyce, regarding construction resumption.
17. A communication was received from Xavier Dietrich, regarding restaurant workers affected by COVID lockdown.
18. A communication was received from Xavier Dietrich, requesting an amendment to policy order O-4 as it relates to the safety of restaurant workers as well as the general public.
19. A communication was received from Kim Courtney, Esq., regarding the late policy order submitted by Councillor Simmons in regard to liquor license establishments.
20. A communication was received from Xavier Dietrich, regarding data indicating that Cambridge is achieving extraordinarily positive results with regards to saving lives amid COVID-19.

21. A communication was received from Xavier Dietrich, regarding keeping restaurant workers safe.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of James Garballey. Councillor Toomey
3. Resolution on the death of Wayne Travers. Councillor Toomey, Councillor McGovern
4. Resolution on the death of Marie Antrionette DelVendo. Councillor Simmons

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to review the recommendations listed above with the appropriate City personnel with a view toward establishing clear guidelines that will allow for the reopening of construction projects across the City, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner. Councillor Simmons
2. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Cambridge Public Libraries to explore ways in which physical library materials can be made available to Cambridge Public Schools students and other Cambridge residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui
3. The City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Cambridge Arts Council and other relevant departments to determine an appropriate public memorial for members of the Cambridge community who have been lost as a result of this COVID-19 virus. Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Toomey, Councillor Carlone
4. That the City of Cambridge declares May 4, 2020, "Kent State Martyrs Remembrance Day," and declares May 15, 2020, "Jackson State Martyrs Remembrance Day," and invite all Cambridge residents to learn about and reflect on the tragic events that occurred on those days. Councillor Zondervan
5. That the City Manager enhance the data center to include information which the City Council deems essential to facilitating our collective response to the COVID-19 crisis. Councillor Zondervan
6. That the City Manager restart Planning Board meetings virtually and prioritize the completion of any special permits that are in process. Councillor Zondervan
7. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City personnel to devise a plan that will place Cambridge on a path to offer free covid-19 tests to all Cambridge residents, similar to that [recently enacted by the City of Somerville](#), and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner. Councillor Simmons
8. That the City Manager work with the IT Department to design a system for video conferencing and public comment during the City Council and other official meetings that allows the administrator of the meeting to prevent, eject, and

recover from any bad actors attempting to disrupt the meeting. Councillor Zondervan

9. That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to review the order and align it with guidelines promulgated by the CDC, WHO, Dr. Fauci, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to make clear face coverings are required in public settings only when physical distancing is not possible. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Zondervan

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, May 4

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, May 11

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, May 18

4:00pm Cambridge Scholarship Awards Ceremony (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

5:30pm City Council Meeting - FY21 Budget Submission (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Tues, May 26

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 1

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Tues, June 2

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Wed, June 3

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

Thurs, June 4

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (if necessary) (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting - Budget Adoption (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 May 4, 2020

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge took numerous aggressive measures at the outset of the covid19 outbreak that were designed to curb the spread of the virus, including but not limited to mandating the cessation of the hundreds of construction projects that had already been underway across the city; and

WHEREAS: As the City begins to look ahead to a time when the local economy can begin to reopen, it would be wise to establish guidelines that would allow for the safe resumption of construction activity, and these guidelines would need to balance incorporating the City's new safety

measures with a streamlining of the City’s inspection process to ensure that construction projects can find a viable path forward in a very changed environment; and

WHEREAS: Any guidelines established by the City must make the safety of the construction workers paramount, with the understanding that moving forward under the new safety guidelines will likely increase the length of any given project by as much as 30 percent – yet having a scaled-back, phased-in approach will allow for a continuation of both the work necessary to complete these construction projects and of the City’s current social-distancing measures; and

WHEREAS: Any steps taken to allow for the resumption of construction in Cambridge must require that all contractors strictly adhere to the rules outlined by the [City’s April 2, 2020 Construction Guidelines](#); and

WHEREAS: Among the further recommendations that the City should consider for allowing the resumption of construction are the following:

- Utilizing emails, video chats, and “as-builts” to enable swift responses from the Inspectional Services Department.
- Allowing inspections to be conducted via video conference calls and other electronic measures whenever possible.
- Allowing greater latitude for coordinating final inspections (and for determining what constitutes a “final inspection”) being jointly conducted by all relevant City Departments, to enable swift turnaround on construction projects.
- If the CDD has already submitted substantial conformance documents to the Inspectional Services Department, further re-inspection by the CDD should be waived in favor of allowing this department to grant final approval via email with photos, with turnaround time of no more than 5 business days.
- The City should allow all paused projects to submit their covid-19 safety plans to the City now for review, to decrease the anticipated backlog; a lack of formal response from the City within 3 days should be considered an approval from the City – with the City reserving the right to request further review of any safety plans and the ability to revoke a project’s approval if additional safety measures mandated by the City are not immediately enacted.
- The City, which has previously granted permission for construction of 1-3 Family Homes to continue during the covid-19 response, has not allowed construction of Town Homes to continue – this oversight should be amended and construction on Town Homes should be allowed at this time; and

WHEREAS: On a case-by-case basis, the City should allow projects past the “rough inspection” stage to resume construction immediately while following the guidelines outlined above, which would allow the kind of phased-in

resumption of construction activities that would still allow for the social distancing the City continues to require; and

WHEREAS: In those construction projections that are essentially a “fit-out” (such as smaller operations that are 3,000 square feet or less), the City should allow the resumption of activities as the work on these projects is typically light, crew sizes should be limited to no more than 10 workers, and operations that are less than 1,000 square feet should be required to limit the crew size to no more than 5 people; and

WHEREAS: In those larger construction projects (such as on the larger hotels in Harvard Square), construction operations should be allowed to continue in accordance with the guidelines established by the City on April 2, 2020 with the City providing some additional guidelines beyond those issued on April 2, 2020 for occupant safety when projects include construction in occupied residential or business spaces; and

WHEREAS: By taking the recommendations listed above under consideration, the City can begin to formulate an actionable plan that will allow construction projects to safely and responsibly resume operations, streamlining the City’s process of moving construction projects forward, and providing a critical portion of the local economy a roadmap of how to move forward as the City continues to respond to the challenges posed by covid-19; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to review the recommendations listed above with the appropriate City personnel with a view toward establishing clear guidelines that will allow for the re-opening of construction projects across the City, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-2 May 4, 2020

VICE MAYOR MALLON

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The [Stay at Home Advisory and continued closure of non-essential businesses](#) has had a devastating impact on our local business community; and

WHEREAS: In [a District Impact Study](#) conducted by the Central Square Business Improvement District, 96% of businesses surveyed reported being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and 78% reported a decrease in sales, demonstrating just how desperately small businesses need assistance during these difficult times; and

WHEREAS: While different programs to provide financial relief to small businesses have been created at each level of government, there is often confusion on how to apply for these funds, with [70% of small businesses](#) identifying “information on financial assistance over the next 90 days” as a critical need; and

WHEREAS: These financial aid programs do not necessarily address knowledge gaps in technical areas, which can be a

significant barrier [as more businesses move their services online](#); and

WHEREAS: In response to these issues, Cambridge has modified its Small Business Enhancement program to respond and has modified the Business Coaching program that provides individual assistance to businesses and pairs them with a coach who fits their specific needs to tele-coaching and has expanded it to include COVID-19 specific coaching; and

WHEREAS: As the closure of non-essential businesses winds down and the small business community prepares to return, this is the optimal time to assess the issues that small businesses will face in a post-pandemic environment and plan for how to reopen the small business economy and plan for recovery; and

WHEREAS: Having readily available access to business coaching, technical assistance, hands-on support, and related wrap around services would greatly benefit Cambridge's small business community, and would give them the tools they need as they adapt to the challenges and ever-changing circumstances that this public health crisis presents; and

WHEREAS: Supporting the recovery of Cambridge's small businesses would align with [the Envision Cambridge goal](#) of "[ensuring] local businesses of different types, sizes, and growth stages are able to start, grow, and remain in Cambridge"; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Economic Development Division of the Community Development Department to create a plan for how the City will support small, local businesses in recovering from the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including use of existing city resources and CARES Act funding to provide additional support, such as individual coaching to support businesses as they are allowed to return to work; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-3 May 4, 2020
 VICE MAYOR MALLON
 COUNCILLOR NOLAN
 MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: Cambridge Public Schools [have been closed](#) since March 13th, and Governor Charlie Baker recently announced that [schools will remain shut](#) for the rest of the academic school year; and

WHEREAS: Most Cambridge Public Schools students are continuing their education by participating in remote learning; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge Public Libraries, which [also closed on March 13th](#), typically serve as an invaluable resource to our students, offering picture books and early readers that spark an interest in reading in young children, providing chapter books for middle and high school-aged residents to

encourage their love of learning, supplying reference materials for students' use in school projects, and more; and

WHEREAS: While [e-books and other e-materials are available online](#), distance learning and an overall increase in time spent inside have resulted in students spending more and more time looking at screens, which [can cause eye strain and sleeping problems](#); and

WHEREAS: It is imperative that physical library materials be made available to students to ensure they have the educational resources they need to succeed in school while minimizing additional screen time; and

WHEREAS: Low-income students could especially benefit from having physical library materials, as they may have more limited access to computers or internet service, limiting their access to e-materials, and as stocking an at-home private library may be a financial burden; and

WHEREAS: Utilizing the online library reservation system with specified material pick-up windows would allow our students to access these crucial library resources while preventing any additional risk for COVID-19 transmission; and

WHEREAS: A gradual phase-in process could be utilized to ensure our students are prioritized in receiving library materials, as having expanded access to library materials would directly enhance their education, while adult Cambridge residents could be included during a later phase; and

WHEREAS: Expanding access to physical library materials would align with [the City Council goal](#) of "[ensuring] that Cambridge offers economic and educational opportunity to all"; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Cambridge Public Libraries to explore ways in which physical library materials can be made available to Cambridge Public Schools students and other Cambridge residents during the COVID-19 pandemic; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely fashion.

O-4 May 4, 2020
 MAYOR SIDDIQUI
 VICE MAYOR MALLON
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
 COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: As the global pandemic continues to challenge many aspects of our daily lives, its greatest toll are the tragic losses of members of our community; and

WHEREAS: In the absence of gathering, individuals mourning the lives of those lost are grieving without the customary services that allow families to honor and celebrate the lives of their loved ones, and to connect those who knew the deceased in memorial; and

WHEREAS: While respecting the continued need for social distancing, it is possible to memorialize those who have been lost, as seen in other [communities](#) and [online](#), by providing a means for families to share in the sorrow of loss, and the joy of having known those who have died from COVID19; now therefore be it

ORDERED: The City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Cambridge Arts Council and other relevant departments to determine an appropriate public memorial for members of the Cambridge community who have been lost as a result of this COVID-19 virus.

O-5 May 4, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that exactly [50 years ago today](#), on Monday, May 4, 1970, four unarmed students were killed and nine unarmed students were wounded at Kent State University in Ohio by members of the Ohio National Guard while engaged in a largely peaceful protest of the continuing War in Vietnam, the invasion of Cambodia, and the presence of the National Guard on their campus; and

WHEREAS: The protests were sparked at Kent State and nationwide when President Richard Nixon, who had been elected claiming he had “a secret plan to end the Vietnam war,” went on national television on the night of April 30, 1970, and announced the invasion of Cambodia, which was in reality an expansion of that war; and

WHEREAS: Ten days later, on May 15, 1970, two African American young men [were killed](#) and twelve people were wounded by Mississippi State Police in protests at Jackson State University in Mississippi, in a similarly inexcusable armed assault on unarmed students and bystanders; and

WHEREAS: On this day, May 4, 2020, we remember the two young men and two young women who were killed at Kent State, Jeffrey Miller, Allison Krause, Sandy Scheuer, and Bill Schroeder, as well as the two young men who were killed at Jackson State, Phillip Lafayette Gibbs and James Earl Green, and the 21 students who were wounded across both campuses; and

WHEREAS: It is important to remember these historic events and use them to teach the importance of civil rights, civil liberties, non-violent protest, and proportionate response in the hope that, as the guardsmen responsible for the deaths at Kent State themselves [wrote](#), “*Better ways must be found to deal with such a confrontation*”; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City of Cambridge declares May 4, 2020, “Kent State Martyrs Remembrance Day,” and declares May 15, 2020, “Jackson State Martyrs Remembrance Day,” and invite all Cambridge residents to learn about and reflect on the tragic events that occurred on those days.

O-6 May 4, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: Data shows disparate impacts of COVID-19 on black and Hispanic Americans [across the country](#) as well as [here](#) in Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Timely, accurate, and thorough data is needed to respond to these impacts and mitigate them; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge’s new COVID-19 [data center](#) is much improved and has begun to include racial and ethnic information, but demographic data is still very limited overall; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager enhance the data center to include information which the City Council deems essential to facilitating our collective response to the COVID-19 crisis, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Links to downloadable data in the open data [portal](#) for all data shown on the COVID-19 dashboard
2. Information on deaths by age and by race and ethnicity similar to the state’s data [reports](#)
3. Total number of tests performed in facilities and in the community
4. Any other data that is available that can be safely reported without violating privacy; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to release these enhancements and report back to the City Council as soon as possible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager direct additional resources to mitigate the racial disparities already apparent in the data, including, but not limited to, increased provision of testing to impacted communities, increased outreach to those communities, and any other efforts to maximally limit the spread and severity of Covid-19 in these communities.

O-7 May 4, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: The [exclusivity](#) period for Economic Empowerment applicants runs out in September 2021; and

WHEREAS: The Governor’s [modifications](#) to the Open Meeting Law explicitly permit public meetings to happen virtually; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager restart Planning Board meetings virtually and prioritize the completion of any special permits that are in process.

O-8 May 4, 2020

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City personnel to devise a plan that will place Cambridge on a path to offer free covid-19 tests to all Cambridge residents, similar to that [recently enacted by the City of Somerville](#), and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-9 May 4, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: The City Council has been using Zoom for public comment for weeks due to the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS: The FBI [first warned](#) about “Zoom bombing” more than a month ago; and

WHEREAS: Precautions to take to protect against this phenomenon are [widely established](#), but have not yet been implemented during the public comment portion of City Council meetings; and

WHEREAS: It’s not possible to completely prevent against bad actors joining a publicly accessible meeting and using the audio channel to cause mischief during the public comment period, the damage they cause can be limited by quickly muting the individual; and

WHEREAS: There is no need to allow the public to use video or screen-sharing during public comment; and

WHEREAS: Zoom or a different video conferencing application can be configured so that Council and Staff can conduct the non-public comment portion of the meeting with the public able to listen and view the proceedings via the video conferencing platform (in addition to the cable broadcast) without the public being able to interfere at all during that portion of the meeting; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager work with the IT Department to design a system for video conferencing and public comment during the City Council and other official meetings that allows the administrator of the meeting to prevent, eject, and recover from any bad actors attempting to disrupt the meeting. Potential preventive measures to consider include:

1. Everyone entering the meeting is muted and has video and screen sharing disabled upon entry.
2. The administrator individually unmutes the person who is next allowed to speak.
3. That person’s video is not enabled (we can have other criteria such as enabling video upon request for someone who is recognized by the admin).
4. Councillors/officials participating in the meeting are given separate privileges and are required to log in to the meeting so that they can mute/unmute themselves and turn on/off their own video.
5. The Zoom meeting is left on for the duration of the meeting so that people can listen to the audio and see the video via Zoom in addition to the cable broadcast which is less universally accessible.
6. If Zoom cannot be made to behave this way, a different platform should be used that meets these requirements.
7. The conference URL can be disguised via tinyurl or a similar mechanism to make it harder for hackers to identify.

8. Several test runs should be conducted with councillors, staff and members of the public to ensure seamless operation during actual meetings; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council on this matter as soon as possible.

O-10 May 4, 2020

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: Cambridge issued a face covering order that supports the health of Cambridge residents in public places who must be able to stay safe while buying groceries and other necessities or outside when in close proximity to people such as waiting in line, and ensures that fines will only be issued as a last resort, and makes it clear that people may use cloth face coverings like fabric masks, scarves, or bandanas, and must wear them over one’s nose and mouth; and

WHEREAS: Entities including the Center for Disease Control, World Health Organization, Mass. Department of Public Health, other states, and other cities in Massachusetts, including Salem, Brookline and Everett have mandated masks and face coverings in public settings where distancing is not possible and in public indoor settings especially commercial establishments and public transportation and without the imposition of fees, which differs from the Cambridge order thereby causing some confusion; and

WHEREAS: The city has received donations allowing for a commendable and welcome distribution of a suitable mask to residents who don’t have one and amended the order to clarify and improve it; and

WHEREAS: Though it is essential for public health at this time that everyone have a mask available, there is potential for bias in enforcement, and a fine of \$300 is excessive given the financial state of so many Cambridge residents; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to review the order and align it with guidelines promulgated by the CDC, WHO, Dr. Fauci, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to make clear face coverings are required in public settings only when physical distancing is not possible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager review and amend the order to reduce or eliminate the fines per incident; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager provide regular updates to the Council on any fines issued as a result of the Order, which should include demographic summaries by race, age, and gender for any fines issued; and be it further

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