CITY MANAGER’S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an order authorizing the City Manager for transfer appropriations of available balances prior to the close of the books for FY18-19.

2. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of $44,483, which was received in energy rebates, to the Public Investment Fund Public Works Department Extraordinary Expenditures account which will supplement the FY20 public investment appropriation to support energy efficiency projects at school and City buildings.

3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the transfer of $2,000 from the General Fund Reserves Other Ordinary Maintenance Account to the General Fund Women’s Commission Department Other Ordinary Maintenance which will be used to cover the cost of the first phase of the Mapping Feminist Cambridge Project which will focus on Inman Square.

4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a grant of $500.00 from Cambridge in Motion, through the Cambridge Public Health Department, to the grant fund Emergency Communication Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used to support a program to encourage all staff to take on a monthly challenge designed to improve physical activity during the shift such as standing for fifteen minutes each hour or walking the building during breaks.

5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the FFY19 Traffic Enforcement Grant in the amount of $11,830 received from the Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPSS) Traffic Enforcement Grant Program to the Grant Fund Police Department Salary and Wages account which will fund high-visibility traffic enforcement of motor vehicle laws, including but not limited to impaired driving and occupant protection. This additional appropriation will bring the total award to $18,300.

6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a grant from the Festivals Program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) to the Arts Council in the amount of $100.00 to the Public Celebrations (Arts Council) Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will support the Cambridge Arts River Festival.

7. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of $20,000 from Free Cash to the General Fund Public Celebrations Other Ordinary Maintenance account, to be used to help support the annual Cambridge Arts River Festival.

8. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 19-29, which requesting data on speed and vehicle counts on Garden Street between Concord Avenue and Linnaean Street and identify potential measures to improve its pedestrian and bicycle safety.

9. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 19-48, regarding alleviating the impacts from buses idling on Green Street.

10. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Numbers 19-33 and 19-34, regarding bicycle count data.

11. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 19-15, regarding the possibility of setting up an assistance fund/program to help low-income elderly/disabled residents manage bed bug infestations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to proposed amendments to the following ordinance: and proposed amendments to Chapter 14.04 of the Cambridge Municipal Code (the “Fair Housing Ordinance”). [Fair Housing (passed to a 2nd reading) AWAITING HOME RULE LEGISLATION-BEFORE PROPOSAL CAN BE ORDAINED]

2. 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]

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the proposed Cannabis Business Permitting Ordinance. [ON OR AFTER APR 22, 2019 THE QUESTION COMES ON PASSAGE TO BE ORDAINED]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from East Cambridge Savings Bank, requesting permission for one internal illuminating projecting sign and four awnings at the premises numbered 1739 Massachusetts Avenue approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutter.

2. An application was received from Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church requesting permission for a temporary banner across Massachusetts Avenue in front of City Hall announcing Grecian Festival from June 10, 2019 thru June 17, 2019.

3. An application was received from the Central Square Business Association requesting 31 temporary banners along Massachusetts Avenue between Hancock Street and Sidney Street announcing the Central Square Business Association from June 5, 2019 thru July 31, 2019.
4. An application was received from the City of Cambridge Budget Office requesting permission for a temporary banner across Massachusetts Avenue in front of City Hall and JFK at Mount Auburn Street announcing Participatory Budget, from June 10, 2019 thru July 1, 2019 and July 15, 2019 thru July 29, 2019.

5. An application was received from the City of Cambridge Community Development Department requesting permission for a temporary banner across Massachusetts Avenue in front of City Hall announcing Participatory Budget, from June 10, 2019 thru July 1, 2019.

6. An application was received from the City of Cambridge Community Development Department requesting permission for 25 twenty-five temporary banner along Hampshire Street and Cambridge Street announcing I Love Inman Square from Spring of 2019 thru Fall of 2023.

7. An application was received from Verizon, requesting permission for 2 two awnings at the premises numbered 95 Mount Auburn Street. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutters.

COMMUNICATIONS
1. A written protest was received from James Herold, regarding the PUD-8 Petition.

2. A communication was received from Peter Valentine, 37 Brookline Street, requesting that the City Council send a letter to President Donald Trump that at this delicate time of elections on serious matters that he not start a war with Iran.

3. A communication was received from Peter Valentine, 37 Brookline Street, regarding the birth of the immortality of the United States of America.

4. A communication was received from Alexander Frieden, regarding removing some of the parking to allow for two protected bike lanes on Hampshire Street.

5. A communication was received from Peter Valentine, 37 Brookline Street, regarding his support for the death penalty for killing a police officer.

6. A communication was received from Peter Valentine, 37 Brookline Street, regarding using the City Hall building for all of the people and not just for one groups’ concerns.

7. A communication was received from Nathalie Highland, President, Board of Directors, Multicultural Arts Center, regarding Multicultural Arts Center operations and funding.

8. A communication was received from Jana Pickard-Richardson, regarding support for protected bike lanes on Massachusetts Avenue and Mt. Auburn Street.

9. A communication was received from Charles Hinds, President, East Cambridge Planning Team, regarding the City Manager’s Agenda item #1 regarding the City budget. Specifically the issue regarding funding for the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center.

10. A communication was received from Jack Reynolds, 61 Otis Street, regarding the proposed First Street garage lease to Leggat McCall.

11. A communication was received from Eileen Sommer, 29 Otis Street, regarding voting in favor of the parking spaces for Leggat McCall at First Street Garage.

12. A communication was received from Peter Valentine, 37 Brookline Street, regarding immortality.

13. A communication was received from Michael Brazile, 33 Otis Street, regarding support for Leggat McCall Redevelopment of Sullivan Courthouse.

14. A communication was received from Aidan O’Donovan, 80 1/2 Kinnaird Street, regarding support for the 40 Thorndike Street project.

RESOLUTIONS
1. Retirement of Jane Beaton from the Cambridge Housing Authority. Mayor McGovern

2. Retirement of Mark McCabe from the Animal Commission. Councillor Toomey, Councillor Kelley

3. Congratulations to Val Frias for receiving the Individual Recognition Award from the LGBTQ+ Commission for outstanding commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. Mayor McGovern

4. Congratulations to Reverend Leslie K. Sterling on receiving the Individual Recognition Award from the LGBTQ+ Commission for outstanding commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. Mayor McGovern

5. Congratulations to Khari Charles on receiving the Bayard Rustin Award for outstanding commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. Mayor McGovern

6. Congratulations to Annalise Slate on receiving the 2019 Rose Lipkin Award for outstanding commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. Mayor McGovern

7. Congratulations to Bridge Repertory Theater on their Elliot Norton Awards. Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Mallon


9. Happy Birthday wishes to Jeff Walker. Councillor Simmons

10. Congratulations to Cambridge Innovation Center on the occasion of their 20th anniversary. Councillor Toomey

11. Resolution on the death of Patricia A. Connolly-Foster. Councillor Toomey

12. Resolution on the death of Margaret “Peggy” Coleman. Councillor Toomey

13. That the City Council encourages Cambridge to maintain a healthy lifestyle, exercise regularly, and participate in regular medical check-ups, and to take advantage of the programs offered throughout Men’s Health Month. Mayor McGovern
ORDERS
1. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Department of Public Works. Mayor McGovern

2. That the City Manager is requested to report back on this pilot program and whether it could be implemented as a permanent program, with menstrual products available in all restrooms, regardless of the gender identity assigned to that restroom. Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Simmons, Mayor McGovern

3. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the City Solicitor, Inspectional Services Department and the Community Development Department to determine whether it is possible to reduce or eliminate Building Permit Fees for 100% affordable housing development projects, through an exemption or other means and investigate what types of real estate tax abatements are possible for 100% affordable housing moving forward. Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Carlone, Mayor McGovern

4. That the City Council renews its observance of Loving Day on June 12, 2019. Mayor McGovern

5. That the City Manager is requested to instruct the City Solicitor to work with the local taxi industry and other interested parties to prepare a Home Rule Petition for the City Council to submit to the State Legislature that would address Cambridge-specific issues and give the City Council the ability to ensure TNCs operate in a safe and responsible manner. Councillor Kelley, Councillor Mallon, Councillor Simmons

6. That the City Manager work with the Community Development Department to set up a series of informational and interactive Affordable Housing Overlay workshops in a variety of neighborhoods to give residents the chance to foster a productive and informational dialogue with City staff. Councillor Mallon, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Simmons, Mayor McGovern

7. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate City staff on this issue and report back to the City Council on the status of any gas-related surveys and safety activities related to the Inman Square reconstruction project. Councillor Kelley, Councillor Toomey, Councillor Carlone

8. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council on the timeline and process for the creation of a stakeholder group to conduct the Cambridge Net Zero Action Plan review, as well as any other details on the process by which the quinquennial review will be conducted in 2020. Councillor Zondervan, Vice Mayor Devereux


10. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Department of Public Works, the Community Development Department, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation on the feasibility of implementing suggested restoration projects in the area surrounding Jerry’s Pond, in order to make the Pond more accessible and inviting to the community. Councillor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Devereux, Councillor Carlone

11. That the City Manager hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department to obtain data from Eversource on electrical demand projections by year until at least 2030, including a breakdown of commercial vs residential demand growth, as well as a ten year historical look back. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Carlone

12. City Council support of H.826/S.453 and H.761/S.464 supporting State Level Action on Environmental Justice. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Simmons, Councillor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Devereux

COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Jan Devereux and Councillor Quinton Zondervan, Co-Chairs of the Health and Environment Committee for a public hearing held on Apr 23, 2019 to discuss the Zero Waste Master Plan and ways to reduce single use plastics in Cambridge.

2. A communication was received from Paula Crane, Deputy City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Quinton Zondervan and Councillor Dennis J. Carlone, Co-Chairs of the Neighborhood and Long Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebration Committee, for a public hearing held on Mar 26, 2019 to discuss Cambridge’s Memorial Tree Program and ways to revitalize the program in order to increase participation citywide.

3. A communication was received from Paula M. Crane, Deputy City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor E. Denise Simmons, and Councillor Sumbul Siddiqui, Co-Chairs of the Housing Committee for a public hearing held...
on Apr 16, 2019 to continue discussion on the Affordable Housing Overlay District.

4. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Dennis J. Carlone and Councillor Craig A. Kelley, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a public hearing held on May 9, 2019 to continue discussion on a proposed amendment to the Municipal Code by adding a new Chapter 5.50 entitled “Cannabis Business Permitting” Ordinance.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, June 3
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, June 4
6:00pm  The Health and Environmental Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss the proposed 100% Affordable Housing Overlay as it relates to the tree canopy, open space, green space and stormwater management. (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, June 10
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber)
6:30pm  The City Council will conduct a public hearing to discuss a petition filed by Kenneth S. Barron, 614 Massachusetts Avenue, et al property owners, pursuant to MGL Chapter 40 section O petitioning that a Business Improvement District (BID) be established for the Central Square Business Improvement District. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 17
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, June 19
1:00pm  The Human Services and Veterans Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss the results of the City Manager’s Opioid Task Force Report and the recommendations that could be implemented to reduce the harmful effects of the opioid crisis in the City of Cambridge. (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, June 24
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, June 26
3:30pm  The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss a petition received from Self Storage Group, LLC to amend the Zoning Ordinance by creating a New Street Overlay District. (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, July 2
5:30pm  The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to create an Affordable Housing Overlay District. (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Thurs, July 11
5:30pm  The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss the refiled petition from Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc. to amend the Zoning Ordinance in Article 20 to add at the end thereof the creation of a Grand Junction Pathway Overlay District. (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, July 29
5:30pm  Special City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 June 3, 2019
MAYOR MCGOVERN
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the relevant City departments to ensure that all sunscreen dispensers in City parks are clean and operational for the summer season (with special attention to Franklin Street Park) and that sunscreen ingredients are prominently posted.

O-2 June 3, 2019
VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
MAYOR MCGOVERN
WHEREAS: At the Mar 14, 2016 meeting of the City Council, Policy Order #4 was unanimously adopted to ask the City Manager to identify ways to improve access to menstrual products in public restrooms; and
WHEREAS: A pilot program was initiated later that year to install dispensers supplying free menstrual products at bathrooms in each of the five youth centers, the Multi-Service Center and in the restrooms at City Hall, on a trial basis until June 30th, 2017; and
WHEREAS: Brookline recently approved offering free menstrual products in all public restrooms regardless of the gender identity assigned to that restroom; and
WHEREAS: The City Council has not received an update on the status of Cambridge’s pilot program, whether it has continued and become a permanent program, and what its successes and challenges were; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back on this pilot program and whether it could be implemented as a permanent program, with menstrual products available in all restrooms, regardless of the gender identity assigned to that restroom.

O-3 June 3, 2019
VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX
COUNCILLOR SIDDQUI
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
MAYOR MCGOVERN
WHEREAS: Increasing the availability of affordable housing units is a major community need and a primary goal of the City Council; and
WHEREAS: As part of this goal, the City wishes to promote the creation of new affordable housing, and to support the efforts of affordable housing developers; and
WHEREAS: In the financing of an affordable housing construction project, there is typically a significant gap between a project’s building and operating costs and its available capital, which results from a number of factors, including lower anticipated rents or mortgage payments, limited ability to support loan payments, and scarcity of subsidies; and
WHEREAS: In order to help narrow that gap, costs such as building permitting fees and real estate taxes must be reduced for these projects; and
WHEREAS: Cambridge’s primary Building Permit Fee is higher than corresponding fees in neighboring municipalities, including Boston, which charges roughly half what Cambridge does; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the City Solicitor, Inspectional Services Department
WHEREAS: The courage of the Lovings is an inspiration to us
WHEREAS: The couple returned to Washington D.C.,
WHEREAS: Mildred Loving issued a public statement in 2007 on the
WHEREAS: The Lovings returned to Virginia to be near their
WHEREAS: Mildred Jean (Jeter) Loving and Richard Perry Loving,
WHEREAS: The Lovings fought the law that prohibited them to live
WHEREAS: Last year, the Council unanimously passed a resolution
or old, gay or straight seek in life”; and
fairness, and the family that so many people, black or white, young
political person, but I am proud that Richard’s and my name is on a
way to the United States Supreme Court; and
problems, though they were saddened and frustrated by their
inability to travel together to visit their home and families in
Virginia; and
WHEREAS: The Lovings fought the law that prohibited them to live
as a legally married couple in their state by taking their case all the
way to the United States Supreme Court; and
WHEREAS: On June 12, 1967, in a landmark civil rights decision, the Supreme Court struck down the Virginia Interracial Marriage Ban Law and similar laws in 15 other states because it violated the 14th amendment and the Lovings could now return to their home without fear of persecution; and
WHEREAS: Mildred Loving issued a public statement in 2007 on the
40th anniversary of The Supreme Court decision: “I am still not a
political person, but I am proud that Richard’s and my name is on a
court case that can help reinforce the love, the commitment, the fairness, and the family that so many people, black or white, young or old, gay or straight seek in life”; and
WHEREAS: The courage of the Lovings is an inspiration to us all and a true example of perseverance and persistence in the face of great struggle; and
WHEREAS: Last year, the Council unanimously passed a resolution declaring “June 12 to be Loving Day in Cambridge in the years that follow with the goal of making this day an opportunity to recognize, accept, and applaud all kinds of families;” now therefore be it
RESOLVED: That the City Council renews its observance of Loving Day on June 12, 2019, and encourages all Cambridge residents to partake in a public celebration of the same on Saturday, June 8, 2019, with an interactive story time, sign-making activity and kids’ march to Cambridge City Hall beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Central Square Branch Library, and followed by a celebration at City Hall at 1:00pm.
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with City staff to determine what types of real estate tax abatements are possible for 100% affordable projects moving forward; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter.
O-4 June 3, 2019
MAYOR MCGOVERN
WHEREAS: Mildred Jean (Jeter) Loving and Richard Perry Loving, from the state of Virginia, married for love in 1958, but traveled to Washington D.C. to get married because it was illegal for an interracial couple to marry in Virginia; and
WHEREAS: The Lovings returned to Virginia to be near their families, but soon after their return, the police raided their home in the middle of the night and arrested the couple; they avoided going to jail by agreeing to a suspended sentence on the condition that they permanently move out of the state; and
WHEREAS: The couple returned to Washington D.C., where life was difficult for them because of social isolation and financial problems, though they were saddened and frustrated by their inability to travel together to visit their home and families in Virginia; and
WHEREAS: The Lovings fought the law that prohibited them to live as a legally married couple in their state by taking their case all the way to the United States Supreme Court; and
WHEREAS: Although two of the Housing Committee hearings were
hearing held in conjunction with the Ordinance Committee hearings, which spanned until mid-April of 2019; and
WHEREAS: The Overlay was the topic of 5 Housing Committee
WHEREAS: The meetings would be scheduled to happen in tandem
WHEREAS: The City Council has received emails from hundreds of residents who have questions about the Overlay, and many are looking for a reliable source for additional information about the proposal; and
WHEREAS: The City should be providing a venue outside of committee hearings and Council meetings for residents to directly interact with Community Development Department staff, and content area experts who should be available to hear residents’ concerns and answer their questions directly; and
WHEREAS: Receiving well-informed citizen feedback on the Overlay proposal is critical for the Ordinance Committee in its work to potentially implement a proposal that is the best fit for Cambridge; and
WHEREAS: The meetings would be scheduled to happen in tandem with the Ordinance Committee hearings to get immediate feedback; now therefore be it
WHEREAS: Massachusetts General Law Chapter 164, Section 144(c) requires the City to notify the gas utility company of any significant street project and requires the utility to conduct a survey of the entire project area for gas leaks and to inspect all gate boxes, shut-off valves and critical valves: Section 144(c) says:
M.G.L. c. 164, Section 144 (c). Upon the undertaking of a significant project on a public way exposing confirmed natural gas infrastructure, and with sufficient notice, a municipality or the commonwealth shall submit written notification of the project to a gas company. The gas company shall survey the project area for the presence of Grade 1 or Grade 2 leaks and grade 3 leaks identified as having a significant environmental impact and set repair and replacement schedules for all known or newly detected Grade 1 or Grade 2 leaks and grade 3 leaks identified as having a significant environmental impact. The gas company shall ensure that any shut off valve in the significant project area has a gate box installed upon it or a reasonable alternative that would otherwise ensure continued public safety and that any critical valve that has not been inspected and tested within the past 12 months is verified to be operational and accessible. The gas company shall provide the repair and replacement schedule of gas leaks to the municipality or the commonwealth.; and
WHEREAS: The City’s Inman Square reconstruction project seems to be such a project; and
WHEREAS: This is a safety provision to ensure that in advance of work there are no leaks and that there are no deficiencies in, nor a non-functioning status of, gate boxes, shut-off valves and critical valves in the event of a construction incident that could cause a gas incident and require gas to be cut off; and
WHEREAS: The Merrimack Valley disaster underscores the need for special attention, oversight and follow-up to make sure the survey gets done, especially given that the project will take multiple years; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate City staff on this issue and report back to the City Council on the status of any gas-related surveys and safety activities related to the Inman Square reconstruction project as quickly as possible.
O-8 June 3, 2019
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX
WHEREAS: Cambridge’s Net Zero Action Plan calls for a stakeholder review every five years; and
WHEREAS: The plan was adopted in 2015, and hence the first review process should take place in 2020; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the timeline and process for the creation of a stakeholder group to conduct the review, as well as any other details on the process by which the quinquennial review will be conducted in 2020; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter by Sept 16, 2019.
O-9 June 3, 2019
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI
COUNCILLOR MALLON
VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX
WHEREAS: At the May 21, 2019 City Council Health and Environment committee hearing on the FY18 Net Zero Action Plan progress report, several long-anticipated policy proposals were discussed; and
WHEREAS: These proposals include amendments to Article 22 of the zoning code to raise the highest required design standard to LEED Gold (plus energy points) and to create more generous exemptions when retrofitting existing buildings with additional exterior insulation; and
WHEREAS: Also discussed was a framework proposal for amendments to the Building Energy Use Disclosure Ordinance (BEUDO) and a rooftop solar requirement; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to present available draft amendments to Article 22 to the City Council for discussion in committee immediately, in anticipation of an ordinance process this summer; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide the draft framework proposal and timeline for amendments to BEUDO, as well as the draft language for rooftop solar by Sept 2, 2019 for discussion in committee, in anticipation of an ordinance process next year.
O-10 June 3, 2019
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI
VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
WHEREAS: Jerry’s Pond is a historically and culturally significant body of water to North Cambridge residents and the wider Cambridge community; and
WHEREAS: Jerry’s Pond’s restoration continues to be an issue of health equity, social equity and environmental justice in Cambridge, as it is the closest green space to approximately 3,500 - 4,000 Cambridge residents living in affordable housing along Rindge Avenue, including at the three Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park, and is perceived to be an environmentally unsafe and contaminated area; and
WHEREAS: Although the topic of restoring the site itself continues to be highly-scrutinized, and residents and community
order be and hereby is requested to install such fixtures as a sign identifying “Jerry’s Pond”, to be located at the parking lot near the Rindge Avenue Bus Stop, a kiosk describing the history and key aspects of Jerry’s Pond, to be either co-located or perhaps combined with the sign noted above [see attached Photo A], as well as two or three benches overlooking the pond, also located by the Rindge Avenue Bus Stop and parking lot;

• Repairing the detention pond, located near the parking lot and native planting bed;

• Tree planting along the paths surrounding Jerry’s Pond [see attached Photos CI, identifying spaces for ~15-20 additional trees in the Jerry’s Pond perimeter area], on the islands located in the parking lot and next to the Field House, as well as along the path to the Russell T. Field;

• Assisting in urging the MBTA to replace the three dead sycamore trees located in the Russell T. Plaza [see attached Photo B];

now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Department of Public Works, the Community Development Department, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation on the feasibility of implementing the above suggested restoration projects in the area surrounding Jerry’s Pond, in order to make the Pond more accessible and inviting to the community, in line with requests noted in Policy Order #5, Nov 5, 2018; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the MBTA and investigate the removal of three dead sycamore trees located in the Russell T. Plaza; and be it further

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

O-11 June 3, 2019
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: Eversource has proposed expansions at 2 power transfer stations, Putnam Avenue and Alewife Substation, as well as a new transfer station on Fulkerson Street in East Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: These expansions will have significant impacts on residents including noise, roadwork disruption, and potential health and quality of life impacts; and

WHEREAS: The proposed expansions are necessary largely due to commercial development growth within the city; and

WHEREAS: The recently released IPCC report says we must reduce emissions by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 in order to avoid potentially civilization-ending climate impacts; and

WHEREAS: In 2017, the Cambridge City Council adopted a goal of achieving 100% renewable energy consumption by 2035; and

WHEREAS: The renewable portfolio standard (RPS) in Massachusetts ensures that currently only 14% of grid-supplied electricity is derived from renewable sources (primarily wind, solar and hydro), and is mandated to reach only about 35% by 2030, which means that continuing to increase our grid electricity consumption in Cambridge will continue to increase our greenhouse gas emissions rather than reducing them; and

WHEREAS: The city’s Net Zero Action Plan includes a variety of methods to reduce grid electricity consumption, including proposed updates to the Building Energy Use Disclosure Ordinance (BEUDO) to mandate energy use reductions, strengthening green building requirements for large new construction, requiring rooftop solar PV for large new construction where applicable, and proposed new accommodations for retrofitting existing buildings with additional external insulation, among other things; and

WHEREAS: The King Open/Cambridge Street Upper School complex being constructed by the City will have no on-site fossil fuel combustion, achieving significant energy consumption reductions primarily through the use of geothermal heat pumps and solar PV; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge has achieved only 2% of our estimated solar PV potential thus far; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department to obtain data from Eversource on electrical demand projections by year until at least 2030, including a breakdown of commercial vs residential demand growth, as well as a ten-year historical look back; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department to work with Eversource to develop alternative strategies for accommodating growth that do not involve adding to our grid electricity consumption, and to evaluate additional ways to reduce electric demand, including quantifying the demand reduction potential of a rapid, full-scale deployment of local solar (PV/thermal) and geothermal potential, aggressive electricity demand management, rapid energy use reductions, widespread deep energy retrofits, and anticipated net zero building construction under the city’s Net Zero Action Plan; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter by September 2019.

O-12 June 3, 2019
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI
VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX

WHEREAS: Low income communities across the Commonwealth are disproportionately likely to be impacted by environmental pollution from landfills, power plants, airports, busy highways, and more; and

WHEREAS: Everyone has the right to live in a clean and healthful environment, and environmental policy and laws must be developed, implemented, and enforced with this integral priority; and

WHEREAS: A pair of bills, “An Act Relative to Environmental Justice in the Commonwealth” (H.826/S.453) and “An Act

Cambridge Civic Journal www.rwinters.com
Relative to Environmental Justice and Toxics Reduction in the Commonwealth" (H.761/S.464), would codify environmental justice into state law for the first time; and
WHEREAS: These bills would protect vulnerable communities from pollution by requiring that environmental impact reports include a consideration of public health impacts and account for vulnerable communities when siting dangerous fossil fuel infrastructure and other polluting infrastructure; and
WHEREAS: These bills would improve stakeholder outreach and processes by requiring multilingual outreach and consultation when projects undergoing environmental review are proposed in vulnerable communities; and
WHEREAS: These bills would create a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) bank, which would maintain an inventory of environmentally beneficial projects in vulnerable communities that may be funded by violators in lieu of paying penalties associated with the settlement of enforcement actions; and
WHEREAS: These bills are scheduled to be considered during a hearing of the House Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture on June 4, 2019 at 1:00pm; now therefore be it
RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in strong support of H.826/S.453 and H.761/S.464, and in urging the House Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture to advance the bills as soon as possible; and be it further
RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this resolution to members of Cambridge's Legislative Delegation as well as Representative Smitty Pignatelli, Chair of the House Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, as well as House Speaker Robert DeLeo, on behalf of the entire City Council.