

## CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on COVID-19.
2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to a Surveillance Technology Impact Report for A to Z Databases requested by the Library.
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appointment of Kaija Langley as a new member of the Library Board of Trustees effective June 15, 2020 for a term of three year.
4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$60,000 received from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program income to the Public Investment Fund Community Development Extraordinary Expenditures Account which will increase funds available to continue the development of affordable housing for residents.
5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Partnership Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in the amount of \$15,000 to the Grant Fund Human Rights Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used for Fair Housing outreach efforts.
6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Cambridge Food Pantry grant received from the Cambridge Health Alliance for \$15,000 to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used to support the Cambridge Food Pantry Network.
7. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the amount of \$228,505 to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$17,137) and to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$211,368) which will be used for shelter operating costs, providing essential services to homeless persons outside of the shelter setting; rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention case management; short and medium-term rental assistance; and financial assistance needed to gain or retain permanent housing.
8. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$4,994,743 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$339,527), and to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$4,655,216) and will be used to contract with homeless services providers and cover the costs related to serving homeless persons in Cambridge.

9. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to a response to the City Council forwarding the ITD budget with an unfavorable recommendation.

June 15, 2020

To the Honorable, the City Council:

During the May 26, 2020, hearing on the submitted FY21 Budget, the City Council's Finance Committee voted to move the Information Technology Department (ITD) budget forward with an unfavorable recommendation. The proposed \$10,087,610 ITD budget maintains and secures critical IT infrastructure and systems and supports IT systems that staff and the public use daily to conduct their city business, as has been particularly evident during the COVID-19 crisis. The Finance Committee's vote was obviously not about the ITD budget, but rather the Committee's desire for a municipal broadband feasibility study.

Since and prior to becoming City Manager, I have clearly stated my serious financial concerns with a City-owned and taxpayer-funded municipal broadband system, and the potential financial risk of such an endeavor. It is my understanding that most communities with successful municipal broadband systems have some combination of a municipal electrical plant and/or a substantial broadband market failure.

In 2016, when the Broadband Task Force concluded its work, the body advocated for an in-depth examination of digital equity issues. To that end, we procured the services of CTC Technology and Energy (CTC) to carry out a research project to further inform our understanding of the inequities and challenges with broadband in Cambridge. As you know, this year-long study began in July 2019, and we expect the final report by October, but potentially by the end of summer. While this date is a delay from the original timeline due to the shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we anticipate some improved findings since the pandemic has heightened the City's understanding and the public's awareness of gaps in broadband connectivity, access to devices, and IT education and training.

I am committed to addressing the digital divide in Cambridge and ensuring there is digital equity in our City, and I know that this is a shared goal with the City Council. I also believe that targeted interventions can help address specific issues that exist in Cambridge. In fact, tonight, you will see a Free Cash Appropriation request for a new initiative to help qualified residents, particularly our school families, to receive broadband access at home.

Access to quality and affordable broadband is an important issue to the City Council, our residents, and me. Over the summer, staff will draft a scope of work, and in the fall, I am prepared to recommend a Free Cash appropriation

for a feasibility study on municipal broadband. It is my hope that the data from a feasibility study will allow us to find common ground on the best approach to addressing broadband access and affordability for our residents. I look forward to further discussion with the City Council regarding steps we can take to address the outstanding questions from the 2016 Broadband Task Force Report.

Very truly yours, Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager

10. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$50,000 from Free Cash to the Grant Fund Executive Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used to support the City's digital equity efforts to support qualifying families during the COVID19 pandemic who do not have internet access at home.

June 15, 2020

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I am hereby requesting the appropriation of \$50,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Executive Extraordinary Expenditures account.

Funds will be used to support the City's digital equity efforts to support qualifying families during the COVID-19 pandemic who do not have internet access at home. The initial priority focus will be on supporting households of Cambridge Public School students and Department of Human Service Programs participants. The City is entering into a sponsored service agreement with the Comcast to provide 12 months of broadband internet service to eligible households through the Internet Essentials program. Individuals may qualify for this pilot program if they are eligible for public assistance programs such as Housing Assistance, National School Lunch Program, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, and others; live in the City of Cambridge; do not have any outstanding Comcast debt under 1 year old; and, are not an existing Comcast internet customer or a subscriber to Comcast internet within the last 90 days. The City is working with the Cambridge Public Schools and the Department of Human Service Programs to identify priority eligible households. Through this pilot program, the City expects to provide over up to 400 households with broadband access for 12 months.

Very truly yours, Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager

#### **CHARTER RIGHT**

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to report back to the Council on how some, or all, of the \$4.1 million dollar increase in the Police Department budget between FY20 and FY21 may be redirected towards measures that promote public health and safety in other departments. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER IN COUNCIL JUNE 10, 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. An application was received from Duncan MacArthur, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 56 Creighton Street; 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. [TABLED IN COUNCIL JUNE 1, 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]
5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$6,500,000 to provide funds for the design and construction of various water pollution abatement projects, including but not limited to Sewer Capital Repairs Program and climate change preparedness efforts. [ON OR AFTER JUNE 15, 2020 THE QUESTION COMES ON ADOPTION]
6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,800,000 to provide funds for various Schools for repairs to electrical service, roof replacement, chiller replacement, floor replacement and replacement of bi-directional amplifier and antenna in various school buildings. [ON OR AFTER JUNE 15, 2020 THE QUESTION COMES ON ADOPTION]
7. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$5,000,000 to provide funds for the reconstruction of various City streets and sidewalks. [ON OR AFTER JUNE 15, 2020 THE QUESTION COMES ON ADOPTION]
8. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$16,000,000 to provide funds for the Municipal Facilities Improvement Plan which will support improvements at the Department of Public works Complex including the Ryan Garage, Lafayette Square Firehouse structural repair, and other municipal buildings. [ON OR AFTER JUNE 15, 2020 THE QUESTION COMES ON ADOPTION]

9. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$9,000,000 to provide funds for the construction of improvements of the Lexington Avenue and River Street Firehouses. [ON OR AFTER JUNE 15, 2020 THE QUESTION COMES ON ADOPTION]

10. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$237,000,000 to provide funds for the design and construction of the Tobin Montessori and Vassal Lane Upper School. [ON OR AFTER JUNE 15, 2020 THE QUESTION COMES ON ADOPTION]

#### **APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

1. An application was received from Central Square Business Improvement District requesting permission for 45 temporary banners along Inman Square, Central Square, Kendall Square and Cambridge Rindge and Latin School along Broadway. Celebrating the graduating class of 2020 from June 16, 2020 through Aug 16, 2020.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. A communication was received from Cameron Russell, regarding support Moses family statement on Police.
2. A communication was received from Jae Storozum, 16 Whittier Street, regarding a response to Police Commissioner Bard's statement.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

1. Thanking School Meal Sites Captains. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Toomey
2. Thanking Y2Y Volunteers Resolution. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern
3. Congratulations to Colonel Judy Rattan for her promotion in the 97th Air Mobility Wing. Councillor Toomey
4. Ding Ho Comedy Club 40th Reunion. Councillor Toomey
5. Resolution on the death of Maria Fatima da Silva. Councillor Toomey
6. Resolution on the death of Dorothy Zinberg. Councillor Nolan

#### **ORDERS**

None.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. A communication was received from Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor E. Denise Simmons and Councillor Dennis J. Carlone, Co-Chairs of the Finance Committee, for a public hearing held on May 26, 2020, June 2, 2020 and on June 3, 2020 to discuss the General Fund Budget.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, comprised of the entire membership of the City Council, to which was referred the GENERAL FUND BUDGET for the City of Cambridge for Fiscal Year 2021 in the amount of \$674,574,330 held public hearings on this matter on May 26, 2020 and June 2, 2020

commencing at 9:00am and on June 3, 2020 commencing at 6:00pm in the Sullivan Chamber.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE has referred the GENERAL FUND BUDGET for the City of Cambridge for Fiscal Year 2021 in the sum \$674,574,330, except for the budget for the Information Technology Department, to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE has referred the BUDGET for the INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT for Fiscal Year 2021 in the sum \$10,087,610 to the full City Council with an unfavorable recommendation.

2. A communication was received from Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor E. Denise Simmons and Dennis Carlone, Co-Chairs of the Finance Committee, for a public hearing held on June 2, 2020 to discuss the Water Fund.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, comprised of the entire membership of the City Council, to which was referred the WATER FUND for the City of Cambridge for Fiscal Year 2021 in the amount of \$12,831,240 held a public hearing on this matter on June 2, 2020 commencing at 9:00am in the Sullivan Chamber.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE has referred the WATER FUND for the City of Cambridge for Fiscal Year 2021 to the full City Council for the adoption of the enclosed order in the total amount of \$12,831,240.

3. A communication was received from Anthony I. Wilson, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor E. Denise Simmons and Councillor Dennis Carlone, Co-Chairs of the Finance Committee, for a public hearing held on June 2, 2020 to discuss the Public Investment Fund.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, comprised of the entire membership of the City Council, to which was referred the PUBLIC INVESTMENT FUND for the City of Cambridge for Fiscal Year 2021 in the amount of \$36,985,940 held a public hearing on this matter on June 2, 2020 commencing at 9:00am in the Sullivan Chamber.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE has referred the PUBLIC INVESTMENT FUND for the City of Cambridge for Fiscal Year 2021 to the full City Council for the adoption of the enclosed order in the total amount of \$36,985,940.

4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the FY2021 submitted budget appropriation orders.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS**

1. A communication was received from Councillor Zondervan, transmitting Amendments to Policy Order 2020 #133.

## **HEARING SCHEDULE**

### **Mon, June 15**

5:30pm City Council Meeting - Budget Adoption (Sullivan Chamber –TV, web, Zoom)

### **Mon, June 22**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber –TV, web, Zoom)

### **Mon, June 29**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber –TV, web, Zoom)

### **Mon, July 27**

5:30pm Special City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber –TV, web, Zoom)