

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the transfer of \$75,000 from General Fund Cable Television Salary and Wages account to the General Fund School Salary and Wages account to cover the costs of an Educational Access Program Manager position.
2. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the supplemental appropriation of a Library Services & Technology Act Grant received from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care in the amount of \$4,200 to the Grant Fund Library Salary and Wages account (\$680) and to Grant Fund Library Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$3,520) and will support workshops and library materials and staff time to provide on-site services.
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a Public Safety Answering Position (PSAP) Grant funded from the Statewide Emergency Telecommunications Board (SEBT) for \$55,037 to the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Department Salary and Wages account (\$34,554), Emergency Communications Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$6,907) and to the Emergency Communications Department Travel and Training account (\$13,576) which will support training to dispatch personnel in the Emergency Communications Department as well as software maintenance costs.
4. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a Public Safety Answering Position Support (PSAP Support) Grant funded from the State 911 Department for \$301,274 to the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Salaries and Wages account (\$139,941) and to the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Extraordinary Expenditures account (\$161,333) and will support three dispatch positions and the purchase of dispatch equipment.
5. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-67, regarding the potential use by City departments and staff of social networking programs such as Twitter and Facebook.
6. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the recommendation that the City Council vote to accept G.L. c. 64L, Section 2(a), in order to impose a local meals excise and I further recommend the City Council vote to amend the local room occupancy excise, under G.L. c. 64G, section 3A, to the new rate of 6% from the current rate of 4%.

July 27, 2009

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I am hereby recommending that the City Council vote to accept G.L. c. 64L, Section 2(a), in order to impose a local meals excise and I further recommend the City Council vote to amend the local room occupancy excise, under G.L. c. 64G, section 3A, to the new rate of 6% from the current rate of 4%.

The Adopted State Budget provided cities and towns in the Commonwealth the opportunity to replace some or all of their loss in local aid by allowing, for the first time, an allocation of .75% of the Meals Excise upon local

acceptance for local use, and has allowed a local option of increasing the room occupancy excise by 2%.

In Cambridge's case, adopting these options will replace the lost revenue (\$2 million) from the reduction in State Aid contained in the FY10 Adopted State Budget. The Adopted FY10 City Budget used the Governor's recommended State Aid amounts which were reduced by \$2 million during the State budget process. I am recommending that the City Council adopt both these options in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Attachment issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR).

This action needs to be taken at the July 27th City Council meeting in order for these changes to go into effect for Oct 1, 2009 as well as to allow these revenues to be recognized as part of FY10 tax rate setting process. With this acceptance, the City will realize 8 months of revenue or two-thirds of annualized revenues.

Absent this adoption, the FY10 budget could only be balanced by increasing the Property Tax Levy for FY10 or by reducing the adopted FY10 Budget by over \$2 million.

The DOR expects to release estimates of the amounts each city or town could collect from these local option excises in the next few weeks.

Local Meals Excise

Based on our preliminary analysis on the impact of accepting the .75% local option meals excise, we estimate that annualized revenues will be approximately \$2.3 million. For FY10, which will reflect only 8 months or two-thirds of annual collections, this would yield approximately \$1.5 million in revenues. These initial estimates are based on a report issued by DOR in January 2009.

Local Rooms Occupancy Excise (Hotel/Motel)

Based on our preliminary analysis on the impact of accepting the 2% increase in the local rooms occupancy excise, we estimate that the City will be able to use an additional \$1.2 million in FY10 based on the following assumptions listed below.

As part of our analysis, we first reduced our total revenue estimate of \$6.8 million (FY09 actual collections) by 15% to \$5.8 million to reflect a decline in revenues for the last two quarters in FY09. We then calculated the impact of the 2% increase in the local portion of the rooms occupancy excise (from 4% to 6%) using the lower base. It is expected that by increasing the room occupancy excise to 6%, the City will realize \$2.9 million on an annualized basis and \$1.9 million in FY10 based on receiving only 8 months of additional revenue.

Total FY10 revenues from the local rooms occupancy excise is estimated at \$7.7 million using these assumptions. The FY10 Budget used a revenue estimate of \$6.5 million, which would mean that total revenues would be approximately \$1.2 million higher than budgeted and reflects the impact of making a 15% adjustment to anticipated revenues as described above.

Overall, the City is estimating it will realize approximately \$2.7 million in FY10 from these two local option excises.

Our current projections indicate that total revenues received from accepting these two local option excises will allow the \$2 million in reduced State Aid to be recovered from these revenue sources and provide \$700,000 towards reducing the property tax levy. This should reduce the estimated property tax levy increase from 5.98 to 5.71%.

Once we receive the DOR estimates related to these local option excises, we may be able to factor in additional revenues from these two sources to further reduce the property tax levy by more than the \$700,000 currently estimated. Also, as we discussed during the FY10 budget process, we will continue to review additional non-property tax revenues that may be able to be used to lower the property tax levy. The use of these additional non-property tax revenues will be included in the City Manager's property tax classification recommendations in September 2009, if applicable.

In addition, we will continue to monitor expenditures carefully to help generate budget savings during the current fiscal year in case there is a mid-year state aid reduction as a result of continued declining state revenues.

I respectfully request that the City Council accept these local option excises since they will not only provide us additional sources of revenue in FY10 to deal with the final state aid reductions, but they will also allow us to offset increases to the property tax levy, especially in FY11, as we realize a full year of collections.

Very truly yours, Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Agenda Item No. 6A July 27, 2009

ORDERED: That the City of Cambridge accept G.L. Chapter 64L, Section 2(a) to impose a local meals excise.

Agenda Item No. 6B July 27, 2009

ORDERED: That the City of Cambridge amend its local room occupancy excise under G.L. Chapter 64G, Section 3A to the rate of 6%.

7. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the supplemental appropriation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds of \$48,505 to the Public Investment Fund Community Development Extraordinary Expenditures account (\$41,258) and to the CDBG Fund Department of Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$7,247) and will be used to continue the development and rehabilitation of affordable housing and to provide programmatic support for Human Service initiatives funded with existing CDBG funds.
8. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-75, regarding a report on whether Cambridge has any investments in Evergreen Investment Management Company.
9. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following

person as a Constable without power, for a term of three years, effective the first day of January 2009: Darrel Todman

10. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-61, regarding a report on ways to reduce speeds on Magazine Street.
11. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-70, regarding a report on the effectiveness of the traffic-calming program, including any potential problems.
12. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Cambridge Housing Authority/Bridge to College Program grant in the amount of \$6,720.00 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Department Salary and Wages account to provide educational resources to Cambridge Housing Authority residents.
13. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$62,000.00 for the Center for Families program funded by the Department of Education to the Department of Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$51,800.00) and to the Department of Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$10,200.00) and will be used by the Center for Families to support family programs targeting parents of children up to six years, which include a variety of family support and parent education programs and resources.
14. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a grant from First Literacy in the amount of \$14,000.00 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$11,407) and to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$2,593) and will provide a student leadership class on presentation skills and pronunciation for Community Learning Center students.
15. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Housing Assistance Program Grant (HAP) received from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) in the amount of \$245,580.00 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$62,500.00) and to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$183,080.00) and will be used for a partnership between the City's Multi-Service Center and the Cambridge YWCA.
16. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a grant from the MetroNorth Regional Employment Board for \$15,169.00 to the Grant Fund Department of Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$13,344.00) and to the Grant Fund Department of Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$1,825.00) and will be used to support a six hour per week morning GED preparation class at the Community Learning Center.
17. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Massachusetts Family Network (MFN) grant received from the Department of Education in the amount of \$38,281.00 to

the grant fund Human Service Programs Department Salary and Wages account which will fund a portion of the salary and benefit costs of three staff members of the Center for Families who provide a variety of family support and parent education resources to families in the Cambridge community.

18. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-69, regarding a report on the current status of the City's 5-year plan for road and sidewalk work.
19. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-36, regarding a report on the progress of the Healthy Parks and Playgrounds Initiative Task Force.
20. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an appropriation of the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program (HPRP) grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$1,302,128.00 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$232,198.00) and to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$1,069,930.00).
21. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Community Development Block Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$851,070 to the Public Investment Fund Community Development Department Extraordinary Expenditures account.
22. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-55, regarding a report on the problem of lice and on preventative measures to prevent infestation from occurring.
23. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-79, regarding a report on bedbug infestation in a building on Lee Street.

ON THE TABLE

1. Opposition to the closing of the Oliver Farnum Senior Health Center. [Placed on Table on motion of Councillor Maher on Order Number Fourteen of Nov 3, 2008.]
2. That the City Manager is requested to make available adequate funds to the City Council so that the City Council can hire its own legal expert to review relevant issues in pending litigation. [Tabled on motion of Councillor Davis Order Number Two of May 18, 2009 together with motion to amend by substitution submitted by Councillor Toomey. On June 15, 2009 motion of Councillor Kelley to take from the table failed on a roll call vote of 4-4-1. Councillor Decker made a motion to suspension of the rules to reconsider the vote that failed to take from the table. Suspension of the rules failed on a roll call vote of 3-4-1-1.]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Co-Chair of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on Nov 18, 2004 for the purpose of considering proposed amendments to Chapter 2.74 of the

Cambridge Municipal Code, the Police Review and Advisory Board Ordinance. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after Feb 14, 2005. [Four sections of the proposed amendment were passed to be ordained as amended. Ordinance #1284. The remaining proposed amendments to chapter 2.74 remain on unfinished business.]

4. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Numbers 06-87, 07-83 and 07-138, regarding the status of putting the City's self-evaluation on the website. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Kelley on City Manager Agenda Item Number Sixteen of Dec 10, 2007. Dec 17, 2007 - Referred to 2008-2009 City Council as Unfinished Business on motion of Councillor Kelley.]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. A letter of appeal was received from John Hopkins, 30 Winslow Street and Helen Abraham, 34 Winslow Street, regarding the denial of their curb cut on Winslow Street by the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department.
2. An application was received from Boston Life, requesting permission for a table and two chairs to display informational brochures and pamphlets in front of their business at 843 Massachusetts Avenue.
3. An application was received from The African Sustainability Project, 18 Converse Avenue, Malden, requesting permission for a table and a chair to hold an info session in front of 1 Porter Square on Aug 8, 2009.
4. An application was received from Lesley University, requesting permission for fifty-three temporary banners on electrical poles along Massachusetts Avenue between Wendell Street and the Porter MBTA Station to celebrate its Centennial - a 100-year tradition of excellence in Cambridge beginning in September. Approval has been received from the City Electrician.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Representative Barney Frank, transmitting deep appreciation of the resolution the Council adopted on the occasion of being given the History Maker Award.
2. A communication was received from State Representative William N. Brownsberger, transmitting thanks for the two City Council resolutions concerning the opening of Magazine Beach this summer.
3. A communication was received from State Representative William N. Brownsberger, transmitting thanks for the City Council resolution supporting the updated bottle bill.
4. A communication was received from State Representative William N. Brownsberger, transmitting thanks for the City Council resolution regarding the taxation of unemployment benefits.
5. A communication was received from Richard D. Clarey, regarding the mid-August closing of city swimming pools.
6. A communication was received from James Brooks, 130 Babson Street, Boston, transmitting a request to address the Council about safety for all city residents.
7. A communication was received from Kathryn Podgers, regarding police behavior.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Robert W. Murrell. Councillor Reeves
2. Resolution on the death of Kathleen M. "Kay" (Kelly) Watson. Councillor Toomey
3. Congratulations to Michael McKenzie on joining the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. Councillor Decker
4. Congratulations to Martha Minow on her appointment as Dean of Harvard Law School. Councillor Decker
5. Resolution on the death of Margaret (McQuilliam) Ciampa. Councillor Maher
6. Resolution on the death of Pasquale C. Vellucci. Councillor Decker, Councillor Toomey
7. Congratulations to all who participated in The Energy Smackdown which reduces energy use and the carbon footprint. Mayor Simmons
8. Resolution on the death of Janet A. (Gargano) Sawtell. Councillor Toomey
9. Resolution on the death of Marie E. (Shaughnessy) Facey. Councillor Maher
10. Congratulations to Anthony Stephen Brooks and Jazmin Alicea on their marriage. Mayor Simmons
11. Congratulations to Claudison Jean Francois and Tanya Bute on their marriage. Mayor Simmons
12. Congratulations to Cambridge Community Television on receiving the 2009 Overall Excellence in Public Access Programming Award at the Hometown Video Festival. Councillor Davis
13. Congratulations to Police Sergeant Edward Frammartino of the Cambridge Police Department on his recent promotion. Councillor Davis
14. Congratulations to Superintendent Christopher Burke of the Cambridge Police Department on his recent promotion. Councillor Davis
15. Congratulations to Police Lieutenant Chris Bertolino of the Cambridge Police Department on his recent promotion. Councillor Davis
16. Congratulations to Superintendent Steven Williams of the Cambridge Police Department on his recent promotion. Councillor Davis
17. Farewell to Kate's Mystery Books and wish Kate all the best in her future endeavors. Councillor Decker
18. Resolution on the death of Jose DeJesus. Councillor Reeves
19. Congratulations to Bobby Tynes and Tracy Rose on their engagement. Mayor Simmons
20. Resolution on the death of Leo B. Ciccolo. Councillor Maher
21. Thanks to Laura Vitaglia for her work and dedication at the Multi-Service Center. Councillor Decker
22. Resolution on the death of Lance Corporal Brandon T. Lara. Councillor Decker
23. Resolution on the death of Specialist Daniel P. Drevnick. Councillor Decker
24. Resolution on the death of Specialist Carlos E. Wilcox IV. Councillor Decker
25. Resolution on the death of Specialist James D. Wertish. Councillor Decker
26. Resolution on the death of Chief Warrant Officer Rodney A. Jarvis. Councillor Decker
27. Resolution on the death of Private Lucas M. Bregg. Councillor Decker
28. Resolution on the death of Sergeant Roger L. Adams Jr. Councillor Decker
29. Resolution on the death of Sergeant Juan C. Baldeosingh. Councillor Decker

30. Resolution on the death of Specialist Robert L. Bittiker. Councillor Decker
31. Resolution on the death of Sergeant First Class Edward C. Kramer. Councillor Decker
32. Resolution on the death of Sergeant Timothy A. David. Councillor Decker
33. Resolution on the death of Specialist Casey L. Hills. Councillor Decker
34. Congratulations to George Anderson on receiving the Rising Stars of Corporate Governance 2009 Award on June 10, 2009. Mayor Simmons
35. Congratulations to Robin Lapidus on her 10th anniversary with the Harvard Square Business Association. Councillor Davis
36. Resolution on the death of Ellen M. (Reynolds) Ruberto. Mayor Simmons
37. Resolution on the death of Judith A. Kelliher. Councillor Toomey
38. Congratulations to the nominees of awards given by The Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council. Mayor Simmons
39. Congratulations to Ethan Kiczek and Amanda Pearson on the birth of their son Ethan Luke Pearson. Vice Mayor Seidel
40. Congratulations to The Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center on receiving a \$400,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund. Councillor Davis

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation and report back to the City Council on the feasibility of changing after hours metered parking on streets adjacent and in the vicinity of the Court House (40 Thorndike Street) and Registry of Deeds (208 Cambridge Street) so that after 6:00pm and until 8:00am parking at such meters becomes by resident parking sticker only. Councillor Ward, Councillor Kelley and Councillor Toomey
2. That the City Manager is requested to instruct all relevant City departments to enforce all City ordinances related to the blighted condition of the vacant Marino's site. Councillor Maher
3. That the City Manager is requested to provide in writing an analysis of projected usage and cost to extend the opening of the two Cambridge DCR pools for the final two weeks of August. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Kelley and Councillor Ward
4. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to determine whether there are any steps that can be taken to help Il Panino stay open in Cambridge. Councillor Toomey
5. The City Council go on record asking Harvard University to be patient, to abstain from these radical employment cuts which will deeply injure the most susceptible members of our community, restore valuable workers, and proceed in alignment with its claim to be a world-wide leader in both the business and educational community. Councillor Ward and Councillor Decker
6. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council on a variety of ways the City can support and encourage residents to visit their local neighborhood restaurants, such as including lists of local restaurants in city-wide mailing. Councillor Decker

7. That the City Manager is requested to direct the Chairman of the License Commission present the City Council with a summary of how the Taxi Cab Subcommittee functions and operates and what steps have been taken to mediate concerns. Councillor Decker
8. That the City Manager is requested to ask Harvard University to respond to the status of the Consigli Construction company employees who are working on a project at 160 Concord Avenue as it relates to Cambridge's Responsible Employer Ordinance. Councillor Decker
9. That the City Council recommend that Universities increase their Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) payment by 2%. Councillor Decker
10. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council on the policy surrounding smoking in outdoor seating areas. Councillor Toomey
11. That the City Manager is requested to ensure the City's water play features are all operating in an efficient manner and whether or not the water features can be deactivated during the night so as not to waste water, and report back to the City Council. Councillor Toomey
12. That the City Manager is requested to confer with relevant City staff to attempt to devise and implement a notification system, such as attaching flags or stickers to items awaiting repair, where park users would be able to review maintenance issues at a park and understand the current status of any repairs. Councillor Kelley
13. That the City Manager is requested to confer with relevant City staff and report back to the City Council on the status of the the pedestrian "Super Crosswalk" at Harvard Square and the City's plans to make the relevant signals clearly visible to pedestrians at all points in or near the crosswalk. Councillor Kelley
14. That a special meeting of the City Council be scheduled on the topic of the climate emergency for Sept 30, 2009. Councillor Davis, Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor Seidel, Councillor Maher and Councillor Ward
15. The City Manager confer with the appropriate department heads to draft a set of clear and concise guidelines detailing whom to contact if homeless and/or intoxicated individuals come to City Hall at 5 pm or later in search of immediate short-term shelter Mayor Simmons and Vice Mayor Seidel
16. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council on any proposed plans for the vacated police headquarters on Western Avenue. Mayor Simmons and Vice Mayor Seidel
17. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the Police Commissioner on implementing one stationary police officer posted in a prominent location within Central Square, and that the City Manager report back to the City Council regarding this matter in a timely fashion. Mayor Simmons
18. That the City Manager is requested to report on the measures being taken to expedite a peaceful resolution to the matter involving the police and Professor Gates. Mayor Simmons
19. That the City Manager is requested to direct the Purchasing Agent and other appropriate departments to enforce that any contractor hired by the City through the "File Sub Bid" process must prove that their employees have health care, workman's compensation, a pension fund and meet the 10-hour OSHA safety certification. Councillor Decker, Councillor Ward and Councillor Toomey
20. That the City Manager is requested to confirm that all City buildings use the municipal supply for drinking water and that the City does not purchase bottled water for use in public buildings. Vice Mayor Seidel
21. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council with any new information regarding the North Point development project and the relocation and construction of the Lechmere Green Line Station since the Manager's letter of Mar 2, 2009. Vice Mayor Seidel
22. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council on whether the City regulates mobile billboard use in the City. Vice Mayor Seidel
23. That the City Council go on record asking Oaktree Development to honor the Responsible Employer Ordinance and commit to hiring contractors and subcontractors who pay prevailing wage, provide pension and health care benefits, have certified apprenticeship programs and are working with companies that can recruit certified Cambridge residents to do the work. Councillor Decker and Councillor Toomey
24. That the City of Cambridge go on record as observing National Stop on Red Week, Aug 2-8, 2009. Councillor Davis
25. That the Cambridge City Council hereby goes on record in support of the statement issued by the City of Cambridge, the Cambridge Police Department and representatives for Professor Gates. Councillor Ward
26. That the City Manager is requested to report on the plan and timetable for resurfacing the Kendall Square sidewalks area by the Marriot Hotel. Councillor Reeves
27. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report on whether wearing nameplates and badges is still required by Police Officers. Councillor Reeves

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor David P. Maher, Chair of the Finance Committee, for a meeting held on July 15, 2009 to receive updates on the status of the FY 10 budget particularly with regard to the effects of federal stimulus funding, the state budget and the hotel/motel and meals tax.
2. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Sam Seidel, Chair of the Housing Committee, for a meeting held on May 12, 2009 to discuss plans for a public forum to provide information and support for homeowners or tenants who may be facing displacement because of economic distress.
3. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Larry Ward, Chair of the University Relations Committee, for a meeting held on May 20, 2009 to to discuss the committee's agenda for the remainder of the term, Harvard's termination

of the leases with Three Aces Pizza on Massachusetts Avenue and the layoffs of low paid workers by Harvard and MIT.

4. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Sam Seidel and Councillor David Maher, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on June 30, 2009 for the purpose of considering a proposal to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow wind turbines to be placed in the City of Cambridge.
5. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Sam Seidel and Councillor David Maher, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on June 30, 2009 for the purpose of considering a proposal to amend chapter 8.24 of the Cambridge Municipal Code "Refuse and Litter" and to add a new proposed ordinance Chapter 8.25 "Dumpster Licenses."
6. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Sam Seidel and Councillor David Maher, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on July 2, 2009 for the purpose of considering a petition filed by Jean Connor et al. to amend the Zoning Map of Cambridge in an area described by a line, said line beginning at the intersection of the center-line of Garden Street and the Residence B zoning district line, a line parallel, to 100 feet distant from and northerly of the northerly sideline of Huron Avenue, by deleting the current Residence C-1 designation and substituting therefore the designation Residence B.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, July 27

5:30pm Special City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, July 28

5:00pm The Health and Environment Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss the State's Stretch Energy Code. (Ackermann Room)

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Thurs, Aug 13

3:00pm The Human Services will conduct a public meeting to continue discussion on whether a program similar to the Harlem Children's Zone Office of College Success could advance the goal of college graduation for all students in Cambridge. (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Sept 1

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Sept 14

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Sept 15

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Sept 21

5:00pm Special Presentation - U.S. Census 2010 Kick-off Event (Sullivan Chamber)

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Oct 5

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Oct 6

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Oct 19

5:15pm Special Presentation for the new program being launched by the Women's Commission "Cut it Out Cambridge," to train hair salon staff in recognizing domestic violence and acting as a resource for their patrons. (Sullivan Chamber)

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Oct 20

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Oct 26

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Nov 3

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 16

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Nov 17

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 30

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Dec 1

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 7

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 14

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Dec 15

6:00pm School Committee Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 21

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 28

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR WARD

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Parking pressure in all neighborhoods across the city is increasing; and

WHEREAS: Metered parking is often required to support day time business; and

WHEREAS: Overnight parking for residents is often at a premium; and

WHEREAS: Some metered parking is not required to support evening business due to a lack of evening business enterprises in certain neighborhoods; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation and report back to the City Council on the feasibility of changing after hours metered parking on streets adjacent and in the vicinity of the Court House (40 Thorndike Street) and Registry of Deeds (208 Cambridge Street) so that after 6:00pm and until 8:00am parking at

such meters becomes by resident parking sticker only; and be further

ORDERED: That if it is determined feasible, that the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to develop a detailed plan and timetable for implementing such a change.

O-2 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR MAHER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct all relevant City departments to enforce all City ordinances related to the blighted condition of the vacant Marino's site; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to arrange for the property owner to be instructed to clean up the site or face fines from the City.

O-3 July 27, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

COUNCILLOR WARD

WHEREAS: Two DCR pools located in Cambridge, Magazine Beach Pool and McCrehan Pool, are scheduled to close on Aug 16, 2009; and

WHEREAS: There has been discussion about potential cost to the City were we to keep the pools open the last two weeks of August; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide in writing an analysis of projected usage and cost to extend the opening of the two Cambridge DCR pools for the final two weeks of August.

O-4 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the Cambridge City Council that Il Panino, a Cambridge restaurant and Cambridge institution, celebrated for its Italian food, especially its signature "Il Panino" sandwich, its eggplant pizza and its moderately-priced Italian dinners, is being forced to leave its current location at 1001 Massachusetts Avenue; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to determine whether there are any steps that can be taken to help this popular local business stay open in Cambridge.

O-5 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR WARD

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: This City Council has learned that Harvard University (also known as Harvard Corporation) has recently made extensive layoffs (275 employees) and induced early retirements (500) of Harvard support staff, as well as actions that have resulted in the laying off of employees of direct service providers (40); and

WHEREAS: Harvard in its recently published "Investing in Innovation" (Jan 2009) claimed that Harvard and other institutions of higher learning "As they have been during the last several recessions, they can be a source of stability at a time when many of the region's other leading industries are shedding jobs" (page 3); and

WHEREAS: Harvard is a major private institution receiving significant public support and by virtue of its own claim its "mission is of education, research, business development and service to the community" (page 3 "Investing in Innovation" Jan 2009) and should therefore act as a role model for civic and community support; and

WHEREAS: Harvard claims that the "University offers resources that can be used to address community needs" (page 15 "Investing in Innovation" Jan 2009); and

WHEREAS: With revised estimates of Harvard's 2008 endowment losses being significantly improved (23-25%) from previous claims of 30% endowment losses (Vanity Fair, June 30, 2009) combined with initial recovery in the financial markets in 2009 (after the free-fall losses of the fall of 2008); now therefore be it

ORDERED: The City Council go on record asking one of its largest employers to be patient, to abstain from these radical employment cuts which will deeply injure the most susceptible members of our community, restore these valuable workers, and proceed in alignment with its claim to be a world-wide leader in both the business and educational community; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Harvard University on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-6 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: In light of the State's continued cuts to local aid, Cambridge along with many other cities and towns will be adopting an increase in the local meals tax; and

WHEREAS: The State has given cities little time to debate or research alternative methods of raising lost local aide nor will the state allow for an incremental increase in the local sales tax; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on a variety of ways the City can support and encourage residents to visit their local neighborhood restaurants, such as including lists of local restaurants in city-wide mailing.

O-7 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: This City Council has learned that members of the Cambridge Taxi Cab community are deeply concerned about various issues; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Chairman of the License Commission to present the City Council with a summary of how the Taxi Cab Subcommittee functions and operates and what steps have been taken to mediate the following concerns: there is poor communication and not enough notification regarding subcommittee meetings; there is no online presence for the subcommittee nor the Cambridge Taxi School; there is no democratic representation regarding the leadership of the Cambridge Taxi School Board; that the minutes from the Taxi Cab Subcommittee meetings often do not include all of the concerns presented at the subcommittee meetings which demonstrates a need for a stenographer; that the taxi cab driver community feels as though it is being muted; that the taxi cab rules and regulations are antiquated and need to be reviewed; and that drivers feel as though they

are being exploited/disrespected by the current tax regulation processes; 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-8 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that Harvard University has contracted with the Consigli Construction company for a project at 160 Concord Avenue; and

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the employees on this site do not have health care, workman's compensation, a pension fund, and do not meet the 10 hour OSHA safety certification; and

WHEREAS: The City's Responsible Employer Ordinance was enacted to ensure that these items would be assured for workers on Cambridge jobs; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ask Harvard University to respond on the status of these concerns; 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-9 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: The City Council has been left with little, almost no, alternative to make up for the loss of local aid; and

WHEREAS: That State has given municipalities a short window to adopt a local meals sales tax before the end of August; and

WHEREAS: That State is recommending a 2% sales tax, 1.25% going directly to the State, and 0.75% going to the city; and

WHEREAS: This tax will cause a hardship on some restaurants and consumers; and

WHEREAS: The University community benefits greatly from area restaurants; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council recommend that Universities increase their Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) payment by 2%; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to propose this 2% PILOT increase and report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely fashion.

O-10 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the policy surrounding smoking in outdoor seating areas.

O-11 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Water play features at local parks provide an excellent service to young children during summer months; and

WHEREAS: Most of these features appear to be on manually operated timers, while others have been observed to remain on throughout the day and even very early morning when children are not using them; and

WHEREAS: Water conservation is important; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ensure the City's water play features are all operating in

an efficient manner and whether or not the water features can be deactivated during the night so as not to waste water, and report back to the City Council.

O-12 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: Cambridge has an amazing variety of high quality and accessible playgrounds throughout the City; and

WHEREAS: Water facilities at the City's playgrounds play an important part in making the playgrounds safe and attractive to all, especially families with young children; and

WHEREAS: People have reported that playground water functions have not been working properly, if at all, at a number of Cambridge parks, to include Gold Star Mothers Park at Gore Street, Riverside Press Park at River Street, Corporal Burns Park at Flagg Street, Green Rose Heritage Park at Harvard Street, Sennott Park on Broadway and Danehy Park at Sherman Street; and

WHEREAS: Broken or vandalized water features are fairly common concern during summer months; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant City staff to ensure relevant repairs are made as quickly as possible and to report back to the water features and plans to maintain all of them in working order; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant City staff to attempt to devise and implement a notification system, such as attaching flags or stickers to items awaiting repair, where park users would be able to review maintenance issues at a park and understand the current status of any repairs; and be it further

ORDERED: That, given the challenging fiscal situation for the foreseeable future, the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant City staff about the construction of future parks to help ensure that the City does not construct features that it cannot afford to keep in regular working order.

O-13 July 27, 2009

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: The pedestrian "Super Crosswalk" at Harvard Square does not allow pedestrians at all crossing points to see who has the right of way in the crosswalk; and

WHEREAS: Pedestrians at the ends of the crosswalk may not be able to see the "Don't Walk" signal and also may not be able to see the light for automobile traffic; and

WHEREAS: This confusion about signals and right of way may lead to pedestrians entering the crosswalk without realizing that the oncoming vehicular traffic still has a right of way; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant City staff and report back to the City Council on the status of the pedestrian signals at this crosswalk and the City's plans to make the relevant signals clearly visible to pedestrians at all points in or near the crosswalk.

O-14 July 27, 2009
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR SIMMONS
VICE MAYOR SEIDEL
COUNCILLOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR WARD

WHEREAS: On May 24, 2009, the Cambridge City Council passed a council order recognizing that a climate emergency exists and requesting that the City Manager increase the city's responses to a scale proportionate to the emergency and consistent with the city's own Climate Protection goals for 2010 and beyond; now therefore be it ORDERED: That a special meeting of the City Council be scheduled on the topic of the climate emergency for Sept 30, 2009.

O-15 July 27, 2009
MAYOR SIMMONS
VICE MAYOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: The turbulent economy that has gripped the nation has hit municipalities hard, with increased numbers of people having lost their jobs, their housing, and the ability to obtain bare necessities such as food and shelter. Many of these individuals have been forced into temporary, untenable living conditions, or have been forced onto the streets; and

WHEREAS: Those that find themselves in these situations are in a crisis state, and the matter becomes even more urgent during the winter months, when shelters may become crowded to the point of turning people away, and sleeping on the streets can be deadly due to freezing temperatures and exposure to the elements; and

WHEREAS: Shelters, churches, and social service agencies have all reported a spike in the number of people seeking assistance, even as their resources to help these people have been severely reduced. The resulting strain on all social service providers and agencies has made locating temporary shelter for those in crisis particularly challenging; and

WHEREAS: Many individuals in the midst of a crisis - especially those who are unsure of where they will be able find shelter that evening - will often contact or visit City Hall with an urgent request that the Mayor, the City Councilors, or the City's support staff help them locate immediate shelter; and

WHEREAS: These individuals will often come to City Hall with a variety of issues that make determining where to send them more difficult. These can include physical and/or mental health issues, a lack of proper identification, communication difficulties, or other extenuating circumstances. This scenario can be particularly challenging when an individual arrives at City Hall at the end of the business day, when City departments are closing down for the evening, when there is not enough time for the individual to be directed to the Multi Service Center, and when the majority of local shelters are full for the evening; and

WHEREAS: This scenario is often stressful not only for the individual seeking assistance, but also for the City employee who must place all other tasks on hold as she seeks to direct the individual in crisis towards the appropriate office or agency; now therefore be it

ORDERED: The City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads to draft a set of clear and concise guidelines detailing whom to contact if homeless and/or intoxicated individuals come to City Hall at 5pm or later in search of immediate short-term shelter; and be it further

ORDERED: These guidelines should contain the names and contact numbers for the best individuals to contact in these urgent situations, and they should also contain any other information that may be of service to a City employee attempting to quickly direct an individual in crisis towards a trained service-provider; and be it further

ORDERED: That a link to these guidelines be posted on the City's intranet homepage in an easily spotted location.

O-16 July 27, 2009
MAYOR SIMMONS
VICE MAYOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Police Headquarters on Sixth Street officially opened for business on Dec 8, 2008; and WHEREAS: The former police headquarters on Western Avenue now sits vacant, and residents have been questioning what the City plans to do with this space; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on any proposed plans for the vacated police headquarters on Western Avenue.

O-17 July 27, 2009
MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Police Headquarters has recently moved from Western Avenue in Central Square to Sixth Street in East Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge residents have expressed anxiety about the relocation of the police headquarters, and many have cited their previous comfort in knowing that if they were out enjoying Central Square's bustling nightlife, they could walk to the police station within minutes if the need arose; and

WHEREAS: Many Cambridge residents have expressed a strong desire for some form of continued, stationary police presence within Central Square. Even though the police regularly patrol Central Square and are always reachable by phone, it has been suggested that having an officer situated in one prominent location would bring greater peace of mind and comfort to residents; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Police Commissioner on implementing one stationary police officer posted in a prominent location within Central Square, and that the City Manager report back to the City Council regarding this matter in a timely fashion.

O-18 July 27, 2009
MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The unfortunate incident on July 16, 2009 involving the police and Professor Gates has garnered international debate and attention; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report on the measures being taken to expedite a peaceful resolution to this matter.

O-19 July 27, 2009
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR WARD
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The City Council adopted the Responsible Employer Ordinance to ensure that developers doing business in Cambridge pay prevailing wage, health insurance and pension benefits; and

WHEREAS: It is critical that the City of Cambridge mirror its own policies when contracting outside companies to do work with the city; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Purchasing Agent and other appropriate departments to enforce that any contractor hired by the City through the "File Sub Bid" process must prove that their employees have health care, workman's compensation, a pension fund and meet the 10-hour OSHA safety certification.

O-20 July 27, 2009
VICE MAYOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is known for having very good drinking water, where the City's Water Department's standards exceed those set at the state and federal levels for tap water; and

WHEREAS: The cost of using tap water for drinking water is pennies per gallon versus bottled water, which is at least 50 cents per gallon; and

WHEREAS: In addition to the cost of bottled water, the environmental side effects of using bottled versus tap include disposal of plastic containers; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confirm that all City buildings use the municipal supply for drinking water and that the City does not purchase bottled water for use in public buildings.

O-21 July 27, 2009
VICE MAYOR SEIDEL

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council with any new information regarding the North Point development project and the relocation and construction of the Lechmere Green Line Station since the Manager's letter of Mar 2, 2009.

O-22 July 27, 2009
VICE MAYOR SEIDEL

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on whether the City regulates mobile billboard use in the City.

O-23 July 27, 2009
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Oaktree Development is about to embark on two projects in the Porter Square area and the Fresh Pond Mall area; and

WHEREAS: In these difficult times it is even more critical that Cambridge developers honor the Cambridge Responsible Employer Ordinance and ensure that all contractor and sub-contractors are hiring companies that pay prevailing wage, pension and health care care benefits and have certified apprenticeship programs and are working with companies that can recruit certified Cambridge residents to do the work; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record asking Oaktree Development to honor the Responsible Employer Ordinance and commit to hiring contractors and subcontractors who pay prevailing wage, provide pension and health care benefits, have certified apprenticeship programs and are working with companies that can recruit certified Cambridge residents to do the work.

O-24 July 27, 2009
COUNCILLOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City of Cambridge go on record as observing National Stop on Red Week, Aug 2-8, 2009.

O-25 July 27, 2009
COUNCILLOR WARD

WHEREAS: The City Council of Cambridge wishes to recognize the outstanding work of its Police Department; and

WHEREAS: While the City Council recognizes that the issue of racial profiling is a national issue, and one that must be addressed at all levels, it is not clear that the recent incident in Cambridge involving renowned Harvard Professor Gates and the well-respected officer Sergeant Crowley would support such an allegation; and

WHEREAS: A public statement authored by both the Cambridge Police Department and representatives for Professor Gates was released on July 21, 2009; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council hereby goes on record in support of the statement issued by the City of Cambridge, the Cambridge Police Department and representatives for Professor Gates, which reads as follows: "The City of Cambridge, the Cambridge Police Department, and Professor Gates acknowledge that the incident of July 16, 2009 was regrettable and unfortunate. This incident should not be viewed as one that demeans the character and reputation of Professor Gates or the character of the Cambridge Police Department. All parties agree that this [dropping of all charges] is a just resolution to an unfortunate set of circumstances."

O-26 July 27, 2009
COUNCILLOR REEVES

WHEREAS: The area on Main Street along the side of the Marriot Hotel in Kendall Square is riddled with sidewalk cracks and deformities; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report on the plan and timetable for resurfacing the Kendall Square sidewalks area by the Marriot Hotel.

O-27 July 27, 2009
COUNCILLOR REEVES

WHEREAS: There have been recent incidents in which citizens have requested the names and badge numbers of police officers; and

WHEREAS: In the past, police officers were required to wear badges and nameplates; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report on whether wearing nameplates and badges is still required.