

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting communication from Richard C. Rossi, City Manager, relative to a supplemental appropriation of the Adult Basic Education (ABE) grant received from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), Adult and Community Learning Services in the amount of \$15,965 to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$15,665), and to the Travel and Training account (\$300) and will be used by the Community Learning Center for core instructional services.
2. Transmitting communication from Richard C. Rossi, City Manager, relative to a transfer of the Adult Basic Education (ABE) grant received from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), Adult and Community Learning Services in the amount of \$286 from the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account which is a clerical correction that reflects actual spending and falls within grant guidelines.
3. Transmitting communication from Richard C. Rossi, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Civic Education Grant for \$115,753 funded by the Massachusetts Department of Education, Adult and Community Learning Services to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$110,370), to the Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$5,133), and to the Travel and Training account (\$250) and grant supports ESOL/Civic Education classes provided by the Community Learning Center.
4. Transmitting communication from Richard C. Rossi, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Agenda for Children's Talk and Read grant in the amount of \$3,631 received from the Cambridge Public Health Department to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$3,091) and to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$540) and will fund staff salary costs and workshop supplies for outreach worker parenting workshops.
5. Transmitting communication from Richard C. Rossi, City Manager, relative to a Planning Board recommendation on the Cambridge Highlands Overlay District Petition.

ON THE TABLE

1. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Cambridge Arts Council to determine the types of spaces that are most needed within the local arts community with the view of using the Foundry to fill those needs and to allocate appropriate funds to make appropriate upgrades for the purpose of creating a community arts center. (Order Amended by Substitution.) [Order Number Ten of Jan 27, 2014 Placed on Table on motion of Mayor Maher on Jan 27, 2014.]
2. An application was received from Ting-hsu Chen requesting permission to widen the existing curb cut at the premises numbered 14 Soden 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. [Applications and Petitions Number Six of Feb 24, 2014 Placed on Table on motion of Councillor Simmons on Feb 24, 2014.]

3. That the City Council go on the record in opposition to any type of casino project in the Greater Boston area whether constructed and managed by Mohegan Sun or Wynn Resorts. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Simmons on Order Number Five of June 16, 2014. Placed on the Table on the motion of Councillor Cheung on June 30, 2014.]
4. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Dennis A. Benzan and Councillor Dennis J. Carlone, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing held on June 18, 2014 to discuss revisions to the Cambridge Municipal Code Section 9.04.050 (A) Defacing public property of Chapter 9.04 entitled "Offenses Against Property". [Committee Report Number Five of June 30, 2014 Placed on Table on motion of Vice Mayor Benzan on June 30, 2014.]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor David P. Maher, Chair of the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing held on Nov 22, 2013 to conduct a public hearing on an amendment to the Municipal Code by adding a new Chapter 8.68 entitled "Concussion Prevention and Management in Youth Activities at City Facilities." The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after Dec 23, 2013.
6. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor David P. Maher, Chair of the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing held on Dec 19, 2013 to conduct a public hearing on an amendment to the Municipal Code in Chapter 8.67 entitled relating to Plastic Bag Reduction. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after Feb 24, 2014.
7. A communication was received from Paula M. Crane, Administrative Assistant, City Clerk's Office, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Dennis A. Benzan and Councillor Dennis J. Carlone, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing held on July 2, 2014 to discuss the Timothy R. Flaherty, et al. zoning petition requesting the City Council to amend the Zoning Map of the City of Cambridge to expand the Medical Marijuana Overlay District, MMD-1 to encompass 61 Mooney Street. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after Aug 11, 2014. Planning Board Hearing held June 17, 2014. Petition expires Sept 15, 2014.
8. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Chair of the Government Operations, Rules and Claims Committee for a public hearing held on Aug 14, 2014 to review expenditures/allotments in reference to the City Council Travel and City Council Resolutions with possible amendments, the position of Deputy City Clerk and any other items that may properly come before the Committee. Report Accepted and Placed on File two orders adopted 8-0-1 see order #13 and #14. Committee Report Number Two of Sept 8, 2014 Rule 38 - Travel Policy - Placed on Unfinished Business for one week.

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Starbucks Coffee requesting permission for three benches in front of the premises numbered 1662 Massachusetts Avenue.
2. An application was received from Viale requesting permission for a sign at the premises numbered 502 Massachusetts Avenue. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works and Community Development. Sign is pre-existing.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Elizabeth Stern, 20 Cambridge Terrace, regarding the Planning Board.
2. A communication was received from George Lloyd, 18 Royal Avenue, regarding no left turns on Royal Avenue.
3. A communication was received from Abraham Bonhomme, 7 Ashburton Place, regarding a Council Order on Apex Billing Solutions.
4. A communication was received from Quinton Y. Zondervan, 235 Cardinal Medeiros Avenue, transmitting support of Council Order #11 of Sept 15th regarding side rails on city trucks.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Speedy recovery wishes to Ashanti Sturgis. Councillor Simmons
2. Congratulations to the band Chucklehead on their long and distinguished career and their influence on Boston music. Councillor McGovern
3. Speedy recovery wishes to the father of School Committee Member Fran Cronin. Councillor Simmons
4. Honoring Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and those efforts made by the Longfellow Memorial Association, the Longfellow family and various artists who have contributed to the Longfellow Memorial in Longfellow Park. Mayor Maher
5. Congratulation to C.J. Dupont and family for advocating for The Little People of America, Inc. (LPA) and declare the month of October as Dwarfism Awareness Month in the City of Cambridge. Mayor Maher and Vice Mayor Benzan
6. Congratulations to Mary Bonauto on being named to the Class of 2014 MacArthur Fellows Program. Mayor Maher
7. Continued health and recovery wishes for Sandi Bagley. Councillor Simmons
8. Happy 101st Birthday wishes to Anna Isabell Del la Cruz. Councillor Simmons
9. Congratulations to Selvin Chambers on joining The Trustees of Reservations as Director for the organization's newly formed Boston Region. Vice Mayor Benzan

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the appropriate personnel in the Community Development Department, the Water Department, and the Consumers' Council, as well as with representatives of Just A Start, Inc., Butler Property Management, and Apex Billing Solutions, to determine why Just A Start has contracted with Apex Billing Solutions to serve as its water-billing vendor, to ensure that Cambridge customers of Apex Billing Solutions have a reasonable means of investigating, understanding, and resolving their disputed bills, and to determine whether residents who would prefer to be directly billed by the City

- of Cambridge for their water usage might have the opportunity to arrange for this Councillor Simmons
2. That the City Manager is requested to confer with relevant City officials to determine if there is a quicker and more dependable way of notifying bill payers of water leaks such as multiple emails or texts with a reply requested and determine if the City may legally reimburse bill payers for extras sewerage costs due to water leaks and, if possible, develop a plan to do so. Councillor Kelley
3. That the Government Operations, Rules & Claims committee is requested to hold a meeting to discuss changing the terms used in Council "Orders" to more accurately reflect their message. Councillor Kelley
4. That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to amend the previously adopted Policy Order #12 from Apr 28, 2014 to include the name of Jeff Murray. Vice Mayor Benzan and Councillor Simmons
5. That as we undertake the Cambridge Conversations and the Master Planning Process, the City Manager is requested to direct the Community Development Department to study emerging business types in Cambridge and how they are affected by the use regulations in the Zoning Ordinance, and to recommend changes to the Zoning Ordinance that will help classify such businesses in a clear, rational way that supports the long-term interests of the community and instruct the Community Development Department to evaluate appropriate ways to facilitate home-based businesses above and beyond what is currently allowed. Councillor McGovern, Mayor Maher and Vice Mayor Benzan
6. That the City Manager is requested to direct the Community Development Department and the Planning Board to begin testing strategies to enhance such engagement at the earliest opportunity by methods such as requiring developers to hold a public meeting in the neighborhood and provide a report along with the permit application describing public input and changes to the project as a result of such input and to suggest changes to the Planning Board rules, which could be adopted by the Planning Board and/or Zoning Ordinance, which could be enacted by the City Council to codify successful community engagement strategies. Councillor McGovern, Mayor Maher and Vice Mayor Benzan
7. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate departments to determine the feasibility of conducting a series of walks through Alewife for the purpose of better knowing the area in preparation for the Dec 1, 2014 roundtable discussion about city-wide planning Vice Mayor Benzan, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Mazen and Councillor Carlone
8. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the Finance Department to determine the possible structure, size, and plans for a discretionary budget. Councillor Mazen and Councillor Carlone
9. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council prior to the citywide Career Fair on Oct 8, 2014 about outreach efforts to Cambridge companies and residents, more specifically, the names of Cambridge companies that were asked to participate; those that declined participation; and the type of outreach that was employed to

help ensure awareness of the Career Fair by Cambridge residents. Vice Mayor Benzan

10. That the Executive Assistant to the City Council confer with the Dedication Committee to consider the request for Christian Nikkis for a Street dedication at the Corner of Magazine and Green, in honor of Chrest Nikkis.
Councillor Mazen
11. That the City Manager is requested to confer with relevant state-level authorities regarding the potential for enhanced pedestrian safety measures along Memorial Drive in the vicinity of the MIT Sailing Pavilion. Councillor Carlone
12. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council on the status and the progress of the organization of a cultural exhibit in City Hall that celebrates the life and accomplishments of the Hispanic community.
Vice Mayor Benzan
13. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the Community Development Department and the Fab 11 planning committee in order to make the Foundry available for a major installation of the 2015 Fab Lab Conference, by passing inspection prior to August 2015. Councillor Mazen, Vice Mayor Benzan and Councillor Toomey
14. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the appropriate City departments to determine the feasibility of installing "no smoking marijuana" signs in city playgrounds and that signs further provide that persons found to be doing so could be fined in accordance to Massachusetts General Laws: CHAPTER 94C, Section 32L.
Vice Mayor Benzan

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Dennis J. Carlone, Chair of the Transportation and Public Utilities Committee for a public hearing held on June 19, 2014 To address the traffic, transportation and access to transit issues in the Fresh Pond / Concord Avenue / Alewife area with a view toward understanding the impact of recent development trends in the area.
2. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Dennis A. Benzan and Councillor Dennis J. Carlone, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a public hearing held on Sept 3, 2014 to discuss a zoning petition filed by the Cambridge City Council to amend the Zoning Map of the City of Cambridge by creating the Cambridge Highlands Overlay District to be coterminous with the district currently zoned Residence B located in the Cambridge Highlands neighborhood, situated north of Concord Avenue, south of and adjacent to the Blair Pond Reservation, and east of and adjacent to the municipal boundary with the Town of Belmont; and to amend the text of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge by creating Section 20.800 - Cambridge Highlands Overlay District.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting information on the Timothy R. Flaherty, et al. zoning petition recommending referring to the Planning Board and Ordinance Committee for further hearings and reports.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Sept 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Mon, Sept 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

6:30pm The City Council will conduct a public hearing to discuss the property tax rate classification. (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Tues, Sept 30

3:00pm The Housing Committee will conduct a public hearing with the Community Development Department to provide updates on inclusionary zoning, linkage, the Nexus Study, the three expiring use buildings (Briston Arms, the Close Building and Fresh Pond Apartments) that the City is working to preserve and preferences for affordable housing waitlists. (831 Mass. Ave., Basement Conference Room)

Wed, Oct 1

4:00pm Human Services and Veterans Committee (831 Mass. Ave., Basement Conference Room)

Mon, Oct 6

5:30pm Roundtable/Working Meeting with the Affordable Housing Trust. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (344 Broadway, 2nd Fl Conference)

Thurs, Oct 9

4:30pm The Government Operations, Rules and Claims Committee will conduct a public hearing to review the City Council's most recent goals and to make recommendations for FY16 Goals; said Goals to include a goal relating to City-wide Planning. (831 Mass. Ave., Basement Conference Room)

Wed, Oct 15

5:30pm The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing on a zoning petition filed by CJUF III Northpoint LLC to amend certain provision of the City of Cambridge Zoning Ordinance that govern the Planned Unit Development in the North Point Residence District to allow limited amounts of off-street retail parking. This hearing to be televised. (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Mon, Oct 20

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Mon, Oct 27

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Thurs, Oct 30

5:00pm The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss a proposed amendment to the Municipal Code in Chapter 8.28 entitled Restrictions on Youth Access and Sale of Tobacco Products and Smoking in Workplaces and Public Places. (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Mon, Nov 3

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Mon, Nov 10

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Wed, Nov 12

3:00pm The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss proposed amendments to Chapter 6.04 of the Municipal Code entitled "Animal Control Regulations" to establish fines for failure to remove dog waste, failing to license a dog, violations to dogs off leash, changing the required time a dog can be kept in a kennel to be consistent with state law and park rangers be given authority to enforce animal regulations at Fresh Pond Reservoir. (831 Mass. Ave., Basement Conference Room)

Mon, Nov 24

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Mon, Dec 1

5:30pm Roundtable/Working Meeting to discuss city-wide planning, including discussions with the Planning Board. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, 459 Broadway)

Mon, Dec 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 5

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 12

5:30pm Roundtable/Working Meeting to discuss city-wide planning, including discussions with the Planning Board. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 26

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 16

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 30

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: When Just A Start, Inc. began accepting residents at its brand new mixed-income condominiums at 424 - 430 Windsor Street in the Fall of 2012, it issued a letter to all incoming homeowners notifying them that Apex Billing Solutions was being designated as the vendor in charge of monitoring and charging for water usage; and

WHEREAS: This letter stated that by contracting with Apex Billing Solutions, the building's occupants would pay only for their individual water usage, rather than being forced to divide and pay the one collective water bill that is issued to the entire building from the City every quarter; and

WHEREAS: Apex Billing Solutions has stated that they formulate their bills by incorporating the City's water usage rates, the Apex Billing water usage meter readings, the expanding of the four quarterly City water bills into twelve monthly bills, and the cost of providing their services; and

WHEREAS: Some residents at the Windsor Street condo have raised concerns that they have no say in whether or not they wish to participate in this billing method, as Just A Start mandates that they sign on to this service when they purchase their condos, and these residents have also raised concerns that they have little recourse in the event that their water bill comes into dispute; and

WHEREAS: The Windsor Street condos are designated as affordable housing, and the building's residents are therefore unlikely to have the means to hire outside plumbers, contractors, or attorneys to determine whether or not their bills accurately reflect their actual water consumption, and whether or not they are actually saving money by using this vendor rather than being billed directly by the City; and

WHEREAS: It has come to the City Council's attention that, when questions about the accuracy and proper function of their water meters are questioned, Apex Billing Solutions charges an arguably prohibitively high fee to investigate the matter, thus creating a situation where the building residents face a difficult choice of trying to raise the funds to investigate the matter, or of struggling to pay a bill they fear may be artificially inflated; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the appropriate personnel in the Community Development Department, the Water Department, and the Consumers' Council, as well as with representatives of Just A Start, Inc., Butler Property Management, and Apex Billing Solutions, to determine why Just A Start has contracted with Apex Billing Solutions to serve as its water-billing vendor, to ensure that Cambridge customers of Apex Billing Solutions have a reasonable means of investigating, understanding, and resolving their disputed bills, and to determine whether residents who would prefer to be directly billed by the City of Cambridge for their water usage might have the opportunity to arrange for this; and be it further ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this Council Order to Deborah Ruhe, Executive Director of Just A Start, Inc., James Butler at Butler Management Company, Karen Brabston, Vice President of Operations at Apex Billing Solutions, and to Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley, on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-2 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: Cambridge's automated water meter readings send water use messages to the Water Department multiple times a day; and

WHEREAS: These readings allow quick detection of unusually high water use that might indicated a leak; and

WHEREAS: Water and, by extension, sewer bills from housing that have leaks can run into the many hundreds of dollars if the leak is not quickly stopped; and

WHEREAS: The Water Department currently notifies the bill payer of a leak by mail and those letters may be easily overlooked and the leak not corrected; now be it therefore

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant City officials to determine if there is a quicker and more dependable way of notifying bill payers of water leaks such as multiple emails or texts with a reply requested; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant City officials to determine if the City may legally reimburse bill payers for extras sewerage costs due to water leaks and, if possible, develop a plan to do so; and be it further

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

O-3 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: The term "Ordered" in the City Council "Policy Orders and Resolutions" does not accurately define the nature of the communication because, by law, the City Council may not "order" the City Manager to do anything; and

WHEREAS: The term "Ordered" helps create unreasonable expectations of exactly what the City Manager is being asked to do; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the Government Operations, Rules & Claims committee be and hereby is requested to hold a meeting to discuss changing the terms used in Council "Orders" to more accurately reflect their message.

O-4 Sept 22, 2014

VICE MAYOR BENZAN
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: On Apr 28, 2014, the City Council voted in favor of Policy Order #23 requesting that the Executive Assistant to the City Council confer with the Dedication Committee to consider the request to dedicate a street corner in honor of Janet Murray; and

WHEREAS: Janet and her husband Jeff have both worked tremendously hard over many, many years to better their community, and it is only fitting that they share this honor so that their legacy will be appreciated for generations to come; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to amend the previously adopted Policy Order #12 from Apr 28, 2014 to include the name of Jeff Murray; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward this amended order to the Dedication Committee for their review and approval.

O-5 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
MAYOR MAHER
VICE MAYOR BENZAN

WHEREAS: The landscape of business is changing in Cambridge and around the world, with new technologies and market demands resulting in greater variety and innovation in business types, including small-scale production, internet-based operations and "sharing economy" businesses promoting creative economic concepts for sharing of space and resources; and

WHEREAS: Commercial space in Cambridge is at a premium, and more creative ways of thinking will be key to ensuring that new businesses can continue to operate, grow and thrive in a way that is flexible, adaptable and efficient while remaining consistent with the community's goals; and

WHEREAS: Technology has allowed for more types of home-based businesses, and the relationship between residential and commercial land use is evolving to be different, in some ways, than how it has been conventionally viewed in the past; and

WHEREAS: The Zoning Ordinance attempts to balance home-based businesses with impacts on residential neighbors; and

WHEREAS: The system of classifying and regulating commercial land use types in the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance has been substantially unchanged since 1961, and describes uses in a way that is outdated and does not adequately account for these new business types; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That as we undertake the Cambridge Conversations and the Master Planning Process, the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department to study emerging business types in Cambridge and how they are affected by the use regulations in the Zoning Ordinance, and to recommend changes to the Zoning Ordinance that will help classify such businesses in a clear, rational way that supports the long-term interests of the community; and

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Community Development Department to evaluate appropriate ways to facilitate home-based businesses above and beyond what is currently allowed.

O-6 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
MAYOR MAHER
VICE MAYOR BENZAN

WHEREAS: Members of the community have voiced numerous concerns about the adequacy and quality of neighborhood involvement in the City's review of development proposals,

particularly large projects requiring review and approval by the Planning Board; and

WHEREAS: Constructive community engagement in project review does occur in some instances, but the quality has varied depending on the neighborhood, the developer and the specifics of the project; and

WHEREAS: Decision-making bodies such as the Planning Board welcome such community involvement and feedback, but there is no prescribed process by which it should occur; and

WHEREAS: The state Zoning Act (M.G.L. Chapter 40A) establishes limitations on the special permit review process, particularly with regard to a property owner's right to a hearing and decision within a specified timeframe; and

WHEREAS: The City Manager is working with residents, business leaders and planning professionals to advise the City Manager and staff on ways to improve the Planning Board process; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Community Development Department, the Planning Board and City Solicitor on practices that will result in greater interaction between project applicants and community members prior to the Planning Board hearing on a project; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department and the Planning Board to begin testing strategies to enhance such engagement at the earliest opportunity by methods such as requiring developers to hold a public meeting in the neighborhood and provide a report along with the permit application describing public input and changes to the project as a result of such input; and be it further

ORDERED: That based on these efforts the City Manager, the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Community Development Department, Planning Board and City Solicitor to suggest changes to the Planning Board rules, which could be adopted by the Planning Board and/or Zoning Ordinance, which could be enacted by the City Council to codify successful community engagement strategies.

O-7 Sept 22, 2014

VICE MAYOR BENZAN
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR MAZEN
COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: The Carlone petition raised many important issues about the Alewife area, namely: traffic, flooding, safety, affordable housing, connections to transit, local retail, sense of place and building community; and

WHEREAS: On Dec 1, 2014, there will be a roundtable meeting between the City Council, City administrators and members of the Planning Board to discuss city-wide planning; and

WHEREAS: In order for members of the City Council, state delegation, city administration and Planning Board to be better informed and coherently understand how best to address these issues, it would be of great benefit to tour the Alewife area to see, firsthand, the problems that most afflict our City; and

ORDERED: For decision-makers to emerge with innovative, logical solutions, it is important that they work together and have an in-depth understanding of the City's challenging development issues in the Alewife area; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate departments to determine the feasibility of conducting a series of walks through Alewife for the purpose of better knowing the area in preparation for the Dec 1, 2014 roundtable discussion about city-wide planning and report back to the City Council in a timely manner.

O-8 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR MAZEN
COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: In order to serve residents in a more efficient, direct, and collaborative fashion, a discretionary budget would prove a worthwhile addition to the current budgeting process; and
WHEREAS: Implementing discretionary budgeting processes would create a streamlined process for allocating funds "in the moment" around one-time priorities that enjoy consensus from the council, yet were not known during the original budgeting process; and
WHEREAS: Cities such as New York, NY, Providence, Rhode Island, and Buffalo, NY, have successfully implemented Discretionary Budgeting processes to better serve their constituents, and catalyze a more diverse range of community initiatives and municipal projects; and
WHEREAS: A yearly recurring discretionary budgeting process separate from free cash would allow for the funding of research, one time implementation, urgent technology initiatives, emergency safety measures, more comprehensive community responses to tragedy, and infrastructure improvements; and
WHEREAS: "Free Cash" is misnomer and this body of cash ought to be maintained at an appropriate level since it helps support the City's credit rating and financial best practices; and
WHEREAS: With detailed criteria and procedures-and with an agreed upon culture that emphasizes city efficiency and emergent needs, and not personal projects-a Discretionary Budgeting process can make the city even more responsive and innovative; and
WHEREAS: Discretionary budgeting processes can provide funding for innovative and cutting edge projects that are normally outside the scope of a yearlong budgeting process but are nonetheless urgently needed; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Finance Department to determine the possible structure, size, and plans for a discretionary budget; 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 Sept 22, 2014

VICE MAYOR BENZAN

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council prior to the citywide Career Fair on Oct 8, 2014 about outreach efforts to Cambridge companies and residents, more specifically, the names of Cambridge companies that were asked to participate; those that declined participation; and the type of outreach that was employed to help ensure awareness of the Career Fair by Cambridge residents.

O-10 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR MAZEN

ORDERED: That the Executive Assistant to the City Council confer with the Dedication Committee to consider the request for Christian Nikkis for a Street dedication at the Corner of Magazine and Green, in honor of Chrest Nikkis; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward this order to the Dedication Committee for their review and approval.

O-11 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: In recent weeks, there have been at least two accidents involving pedestrians who were struck by automobiles traveling along Memorial Drive in the vicinity of the MIT Sailing Pavilion; tragically, one of these incidents resulted in a fatality, and the other incident resulted in very serious injuries; and
WHEREAS: Residents are now calling on officials to take action to mitigate the hazards to pedestrians along Memorial Drive in the vicinity of the MIT Sailing Pavilion; and
WHEREAS: Many potential solutions exist to enhance pedestrian safety in this area, including embedded flashers at ground level,

above-ground strobe flashers which are triggered by pedestrians, a traffic light triggered by pedestrians, and enclosure of parts of the grassy median to reduce pedestrian deviation from crosswalks; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant state-level authorities regarding the potential for enhanced pedestrian safety measures along Memorial Drive in the vicinity of the MIT Sailing Pavilion.

O-12 Sept 22, 2014

VICE MAYOR BENZAN

WHEREAS: Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept 15 to Oct 15 by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of Hispanic Americans whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America; and
WHEREAS: The richness of Hispanic culture is the product of many cultures, including: Indigenous, European, African, Chinese, Indian, Filipino and Japanese; and
WHEREAS: The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon B. Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on Sept 15 and ending on Oct 15. It was enacted into law on Aug 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402; and
WHEREAS: The day of Sept 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept 16 and Sept 18, respectively; and
WHEREAS: During National Hispanic Heritage Month, the nation recognizes the contributions made and the important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States; and
WHEREAS: Hispanics have had a profound and positive influence on our nation and our city through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service. They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their community; now therefore be it
RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record declaring Sept 15 to Oct 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the status and the progress of the organization of a cultural exhibit in City Hall that celebrates the life and accomplishments of the Hispanic community.

O-13 Sept 22, 2014

COUNCILLOR MAZEN

VICE MAYOR BENZAN

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The Fab 10 conference in Barcelona was a forum featuring 250 Fab Labs (Fabrication Labs)- small-scale educational spaces, combining design thinking, hands-on STEAM curricula, manufacturing skills, and innovative technologies-from 40 countries around the world; and
WHEREAS: One of the main attractions of the Fab 10 conference was the transformation of a space nearly 10,000 square feet in size into the world's largest Fab Lab within the span of two weeks; and
WHEREAS: The next Fab conference, Fab 11 will be hosted in The Boston Metropolitan Area in 2015, with the potential for Cambridge to be the lead host; and
WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is home to numerous maker spaces and Fab Labs and is a world-renowned center for innovation, technological development, and creative industry; and
WHEREAS: The Foundry Building at 101 Rogers Street with a total area of more than 53,000 square feet presently lies vacant awaiting capital improvements, which have not been initiated; and
WHEREAS: The Foundry Building would be an ideal space for a major installation of the Fab 11 conference in 2015; and

WHEREAS: Including the Foundry Building in the Fab 11 conference gives the city an aggressive, but reasonable goal for applying a portion of the capital improvement budget so as to pass code for occupancy in the most basic sense, excluding any kind of build out; and

WHEREAS: Corporate sponsors of Fab 11 are understood to be willing to donate expensive equipment used for Fab 10/11 to the City of Cambridge that could be used for future educational and community projects in the Foundry; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Community Development Department and the Fab 11 planning committee in order to make the Foundry available for a major installation of the 2015 Fab Lab Conference, by passing inspection prior to August 2015; 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-14 Sept 22, 2014

VICE MAYOR BENZAN

WHEREAS: According to a recent study published in the reputable British journal The Lancet Psychiatry, teenagers who smoke marijuana on a daily basis are 60 percent less likely than nonusers to finish high school. Furthermore, the studies of adolescent cannabis use also show that daily users under age 17 were 60 percent less likely to finish college than teens who did not smoke at all, seven times more likely to attempt suicide and eight times more likely to use illegal drugs at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS: Legislation like the Tobacco Ordinance is aimed at strategically reducing the rate of teenage tobacco and drug use in our City; and

WHEREAS: Installing "no smoking marijuana" signs in our parks to discourage young people from doing so and reminding them that Massachusetts General Laws: CHAPTER 94C, Section 32L provides for civil penalties could serve as an effective deterrent for persons that choose to smoke marijuana in our parks around children; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the appropriate City departments to determine the feasibility of installing "no smoking marijuana" signs in city playgrounds and that signs further provide that persons found to be doing so could be fined in accordance to Massachusetts General Laws: CHAPTER 94C, Section 32L, and report back to the City Council.