

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the votes necessary to seek the Massachusetts Department of Revenue approval for the tax rate for FY2012:
 - A. Authorize the use of Free Cash of \$11,300,000 to reduce the FY12 tax rate;
 - B. Authorize \$2,000,000 in overlay surplus/revenues to be used for reducing the FY12 tax levy;
 - C. Authorize \$5,150,000 from the Debt Stabilization Fund to be used as a revenue source to the General Fund Budget;
 - D. Authorize \$632,470 from the School Debt Stabilization Fund to be used as a revenue source to the General Fund Budget;
 - E. Classify property into five classes;
 - F. Adopt the minimum residential factor of 56.2602%;
 - G. Approve the maximum residential exemption factor of 30% for owner-occupied homes;
 - H. Vote to double the normal value of the statutory exemptions;
 - I. Vote the FY12 exemption of \$285.00 allowed under MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17D;
 - J. Vote the FY12 asset limits of \$56,695 allowed under MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17E;
 - K. Vote the FY12 income and asset limits allowed under MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41D as follows: Income limits of \$23,442 for single and \$35,163 for married; and asset limits of \$46,883 for single and \$64,464 for married;
 - L. Vote the income limit for deferral of real estate taxes by elderly persons as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue for the purposes of MGL Chapter 62, Section 6, subsection (k) for a single person (\$51,000) and for married (\$77,000);
 - M. Vote to accept Clause 56 of G.L. c. 59, Section 5, which allows members of the Massachusetts National Guard or military reservists who are on active duty to obtain a reduction of all or part of their real and personal property taxes for any fiscal year they are serving in a foreign country.
2. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of Joseph Wilfong as a member of the Cambridge Historical Commission for a term of three years.
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to a recommendation from the Planning Board not to adopt the Chestnut Hill Realty Zoning Petition.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to a recommendation for the City Council to move to Executive Session to discuss Awaiting Report Item Number 11-117. Charter Right exercised by Councillor Seidel on City Manager Agenda Item Number One of Sept 19, 2011.

ON THE TABLE

2. That the City Manager is requested to restore funding for School Department clerical positions until a proper and negotiated process can be achieved with the Cambridge

School Department and Unions representing the employees, and to report back to the City Council on the progress. [Order Number Fourteen of Apr 26, 2010 Placed on Table. Councillor Kelley made motions to take from table on May 10, 2010 failed 2-7-0, Sept 13, 2010 failed 4-4-1, Sept 27, 2010 failed 3-5-1, Dec 13, 2010 failed 3-6-0. Remains on Table.]

3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 10-32, regarding a report on issues with the development of the former St. John's property site. [Charter Right exercised on City Manager Agenda Item Number Eighteen of May 24, 2010. Placed on Table June 7, 2010.]
4. An application was received from Tony LaVita, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 68 Middlesex Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical and Public Works. No response has been received from the neighborhood association. [Applications and Petitions Number Ten of June 7, 2010 Placed on Table.]
5. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 10-189, regarding a report on the legitimacy of the tax exempt claim of Education First. [Charter Right exercised on City Manager Agenda Item Number Nineteen of Jan 24, 2011. Placed on Table Jan 31, 2011.]
6. That the City Manager is requested to have the Community Development Department convene a meeting with neighbors in the vicinity of Grove Street and Blanchard Road, the Fresh Pond Master Plan Committee and other relevant parties to review the zoning along the golf course and the Fresh Pond Reservation in that area. [Charter Right exercised on Order Number Five of Jan 24, 2011. Placed on Table Jan 31, 2011.]
7. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council with a complete and comprehensive list of all concessions made to the City and broader Cambridge community by developers and the universities in exchange for zoning relief, special permits, or Council approval. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Reeves on Order Number Eleven of Apr 25, 2011. Tabled on Motion of Councillor Cheung on May 2, 2011.]
8. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 11-94, regarding a report on fireworks at Corcoran Park on July 4th. [City Manager Agenda Item Number Nineteen of Sept 12, 2011 Placed on Table on motion of Councillor Kelley.]

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Joanne Killackey-Hogan, Manager Consumer Industry Contact, United States Postal Service, regarding the proposed post office closing.
2. A communication was received from William C. Campbell, Woburn City Clerk, transmitting a copy of a proposed Resolution in support of H1972 "An Act Regulating Election Primaries" now pending before the General Court at the State House.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Francis X. Tobin. Councillor Toomey, Mayor Maher
2. Resolution on the death of John Yailaian. Mayor Maher
3. Resolution on the death of Noel Johnson. Vice Mayor Davis, Councillor Simmons
4. Congratulations to Delio and Rebecca Susi on the occasion of the baptism of their son John Patrick Susi. Councillor Toomey
5. Encourage residents to attend Cambridgeport History Day on Oct 1, 2011. Vice Mayor Davis
6. Congratulations to Bob Salines on his semi-retirement from Pug's Bar and Grill and thanks for his contributions to the East Cambridge community. Councillor Toomey
7. Retirement of Natividad Diaz Morrissey from the Human Services Department. Mayor Maher
8. Resolution on the death of Margaret (Dillon) Prebensen. Mayor Maher
9. Best wishes to the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church as they rededicate a new rainbow flag to honor the equality and inclusion that it symbolizes in the face of the recent theft of their rainbow flag. Councillor Simmons
10. Congratulations to Carol Nickerson on receiving the Extreme Self Esteem Award during Esteem Boston's annual award ceremony on Oct 12, 2011. Councillor Simmons
11. Congratulations to Representative Gloria Fox on receiving the Extreme Self Esteem Award during Esteem Boston's annual award ceremony on Oct 12, 2011. Councillor Simmons
12. Congratulations to The Dance Complex on its 20th anniversary. Councillor Simmons
13. Best wishes to the African Cultural Society of St. Paul AME Church on their African fashion show on Oct 1, 2011. Councillor Simmons
14. Condolences to Christine Peters on the death of her mother. Councillor Simmons
15. Resolution on the death of Kara Kennedy. Councillor Simmons
16. Welcome the Firebrand Saints Bar and Grille to Kendall Square. Councillor Simmons
17. Urge residents to be cognizant of National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept 15-Oct 15, 2011. Councillor Simmons
18. Thanks to the teens from the Willis D. Moore Youth Center for volunteering their time to water the flower pots on Western Avenue throughout the summer. Vice Mayor Davis
19. Congratulations to Professor Roland Fryer on being awarded a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation grant. Mayor Maher
20. Congratulations to Professor Markus Greiner on being awarded a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation grant. Mayor Maher
21. Congratulations to Matthew K. Nock on being awarded a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation grant. Mayor Maher

22. Acknowledge the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Councillor Simmons
23. Congratulations to Abbie Celniker in her new position as CEO of Eleven Biotherapeutics. Councillor Cheung
24. Congratulations to Martini Severin on her successful work on Beyond Boston Chic. Councillor Cheung
25. Congratulations to Gail Roberts on being ranked among the top real estate professionals in the country based on sales volume. Councillor Cheung
26. Congratulations to Guido Baratta on being named Creative Director at Interaction of Cambridge BioMarketing. Councillor Cheung
27. Congratulations and best wishes to Hi-Rise Bread Company on the opening of its third location on Wendell Street. Councillor Cheung
28. Congratulations to Bradford P. Tenney on his election to the Cambridge Retirement Board. Councillor Decker
29. Happy 99th Birthday wishes to Suzanne Revallion Greene. Councillor Reeves

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report on the progress of the Food and Fitness Policy Council and process to add community members to the Council. Vice Mayor Davis
2. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the City of Somerville in an effort to bring truck traffic, idling and noise at the Millbrook Storage parking lot into compliance with city regulations and to ask for signs to be posted on the property asking drivers to be aware that they are near residences. Councillor Toomey
3. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to arrange a follow-up meeting with mid-Cambridge residents regarding the proposal for off-leash hours for dogs at Joan Lorenz Park. Councillor Seidel
4. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads about removing the North Cambridge Crime Taskforce trailer from its site and report back to the City Council. Mayor Maher
5. Seeking intervention from Federal officials in keeping the Inman Square and MIT Post Offices open. Mayor Maher
6. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads on the feasibility of making improvements at Alberico Park. Councillor Cheung
7. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads to ensure that playgrounds are clean by the start of the school year. Councillor Cheung
8. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads about areas to conserve electricity in the library in the daytime. Councillor Cheung
9. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads on the feasibility of installing a drinking fountain along the pedestrian pathway near Memorial Drive and JFK. Councillor Cheung
10. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to look into

the feasibility of installing a left turn arrow at Rindge and Massachusetts Avenue. Councillor Cheung

11. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Community Development Department on the feasibility of allowing off-leash dog hours between the hours of 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Sennott Park. Councillor Cheung
12. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads to look into the status of repaving Windsor Street. Councillor Cheung
13. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to provide a response regarding a bike locking mechanism in all of the City's commercial areas where the City is trying to encourage alternative transportation. Councillor Decker

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Sam Seidel and Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Co-Chairs of the Government Operations and Rules Committee for a public meeting held on Aug 29, 2011 to discuss policy development on community benefits as mitigation for zoning amendments and dedication of street corners.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Sept 26

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)
6:30pm The City Council will conduct a public hearing to discuss the property tax rate classification. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Oct 3

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Oct 4

3:00pm The University Relations Committee will conduct a public meeting to hear from MIT about its development plans as they affect students, staff and researchers, and how they are housed. (Sullivan Chamber)

Thurs, Oct 6

5:30pm The Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss the Austin, Texas "Parking Benefit District Pilot Program" and any other city parking issues. (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Oct 11

7:30am The Community Health Committee will conduct a public meeting: revisiting after ten years - where do you go when home is not safe. Malkin Penthouse (Kennedy School of Government)

Wed, Oct 12

5:30pm The Public Safety Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss the city's plan to deal with natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods. (Sullivan Chamber)

Thurs, Oct 13

5:00pm The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing to amend the Zoning Ordinance in Section 20.200 Central Square Overlay District by deleting Section 20.304.5.3 b., which currently requires all establishments where liquor is served to have their principal public entrance on Massachusetts Avenue. This hearing to be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Oct 17

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Oct 24

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Oct 31

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 7

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 14

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 21

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 28

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 5

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 12

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 19

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Sept 26, 2011

VICE MAYOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report on the progress of the Food and Fitness Policy Council; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to recommend a process to add community members to the Council; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide an opportunity for the Council to report back to the public on its findings; 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-2 Sept 26, 2011

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Cambridge residents along the Somerville line have been experiencing disturbances by trucks using the Millbrook Storage parking lot on Gore and Medford Streets during the early morning hours; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the City of Somerville in an effort to bring truck traffic, idling and noise into compliance with city regulations and to ask for signs to be posted on the property asking drivers to be aware that they are near residences and to report back to the City Council.

O-3 Sept 26, 2011

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to arrange a follow-up meeting with mid-Cambridge residents regarding the proposal for off-leash hours for dogs at Joan Lorenz Park.

O-4 Sept 26, 2011

MAYOR MAHER

WHEREAS: The North Cambridge Crime Taskforce trailer is covered in graffiti and has become an eyesore in the neighborhood; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads about removing this trailer from its site and report back to the City Council.

O-5 Sept 26, 2011
MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG
VICE MAYOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SEIDEL
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The plans to close the Inman Square and the MIT Post Offices appear to be moving forward; and
WHEREAS: The City Council passed an order on Aug 1, 2011 to go on record in opposition to the closing of these locations; and
WHEREAS: These neighborhood locations are important in giving residents access to mail services; and
WHEREAS: The City Council is seeking intervention from our Federal officials in keeping these locations from closing; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this order along with the order of Aug 1, 2011 to the Cambridge Postmaster, the Postmaster General, Congressman Capuano, Senator Brown and Senator Kerry on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-6 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that residents have raised concerns about the aesthetic disrepair of Alberico Park; and
WHEREAS: In addition to addressing the maintenance of the park, the list of improvements suggested by residents includes:
Implementing Wi-Fi and barbeques that have been installed in other parks; and
New backboards for the basketball hoops.
now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads on the feasibility of making the before-mentioned improvements at Alberico Park.

O-7 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that residents have expressed concern about the cleanliness of the Graham & Parks playground at the start of the school year; and
WHEREAS: Parents have echoed concerns about playgrounds containing litter, glass, cigarette butts, juice boxes and other trash that accumulated over the summer; and
WHEREAS: To promote a healthy environment and prevent children from harming themselves, residents have asked that the city plan ahead to ensure that all playgrounds are cleaned before the start of a new school year; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads to ensure that playgrounds are clean by the start of the school year.

O-8 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that patrons of the Cambridge Public Library concerned about the conservation of electricity have noted areas where overhead lighting is in use in the daytime despite the presence of windows that let in more than enough light; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads about areas to conserve electricity in the library in the daytime.

O-9 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that residents running along the Charles River would appreciate a drinking fountain by Memorial Drive near Harvard Square; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads on the feasibility of installing a drinking fountain along the pedestrian pathway near Memorial Drive and JFK.

O-10 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that residents have asked for the installation of a left turn arrow at Rindge and Massachusetts Avenue; and
WHEREAS: Residents have reported that the flow of traffic is negatively impacted as motorists block the left turn side as they are under the impression that it is a straight through; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to look into the feasibility of rectifying the before-mentioned issue.

O-11 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that residents are requesting off-leash dog hours at Sennott Park from 6:00pm-8:00pm; and
WHEREAS: Residents feel that off-leash dog hours at this time would further enhance the park's usability and entice more dog owners to take advantage of the park; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Community Development Department on the feasibility of allowing off-leash dog hours between the hours of 6:00pm-8:00pm at Sennott Park.

O-12 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that residents have inquired about the repaving of Windsor Street; and
WHEREAS: Residents have expressed concern that while Windsor Street was listed as part of the 5-Year Sidewalk and Street Reconstruction Plan, it has been six years since the project was first proposed; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate department heads to look into the status of repaving Windsor Street.

O-13 Sept 26, 2011
COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: This City Council has learned that the Board of Trustees at 1105 Massachusetts Avenue has requested bike locking mechanisms in the area of said building; and
WHEREAS: The building is a mixed-use complex with many residents and clients commuting by bike; and
WHEREAS: A bike locking mechanism would greatly improve foot traffic in the area and would cut down on possible liability issues related to bikes attached to the railing of the building at 1105 Massachusetts Avenue; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to provide a response regarding this kind of mechanism in all of our commercial areas where we are trying to encourage alternative transportation; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter.