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Minutes from the City Council Meeting on Tuesday May 2, 2023, at 7:15 pm in the Auditorium are as follows:

Laflamme, Frank N., President	At-Large Councilor	Present
Roy, Gerard (Jerry) A.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Tillotson, James K.	At-Large Councilor	Present via Zoom
Zygarowski, Robert J.	At-Large Councilor	Present
McAuliffe, Joel D.	Ward 1 Councilor	Present in person until joined Zoom @ 9:49
Brooks, Shane D.	Ward 2 Councilor	Present via Zoom
Lopez, Delmarina	Ward 3 Councilor	Present
Balakier, George A.	Ward 4 Councilor	Present
Krampits, Fred T.	Ward 5 Councilor	Present via Zoom
Dobosz, Derek Gregory	Ward 6 Councilor	Present/left @ 9:45
Courchesne, William C.	Ward 7 Councilor	Present
Labrie, Gary R.	Ward 8 Councilor	Present
Pniak-Costello, Mary Elizabeth	Ward 9 Councilor	Present

Public Input—Lisa Bienvenue, 34 Everett Street, thrilled to hear about the things happening in the city about public safety. Pledge not to litter. Would like to see the pledge to make Chicopee safer. Would like to see complete streets. We are a tier one, no policy no prioritization plan. Springfield, Holyoke, and West Springfield are all tier three. Could get a grant of up to \$500,000. SS4A is a federal grant program they have 5 billion in appropriated funds to prevent roadway deaths. We're saying it, not making the commitment. Two implementation grants given in Mass one given to the city of Springfield. Lorraine Baron-Cyman Drive, see city stop the use of pesticides on public property. Ordinance to restrict people to allow cats to roam. Like to see signs erected to state do not feed wildlife or geese. Public health hazard. Gina Mazza, Board of Directors of Harmony House, View Street, invite the councilors to events. Provides care services to people on hospice who can no longer stay at home. Beautiful place, celebration of life. They are a 501C3 and services are delivered by volunteers. Donations of time, talent and materials. Almost ready to open a home for five people. Their founder had a vision to take care of people who needed them. Benefited from block grants and covid grants. A gem for the City of Chicopee, closest one is on the cape, the need is there. City will be able to offer a home. Melissa Breor, Chamber of Commerce, 48 Center Street, renewal of Hawker & Peddler license. Center fresh, TDI District initiative. Brings an average of 150 visitors each week. Will start June 1<sup>st</sup>. Eugene Przybylowicz, 11 Caddyshack Drive, moratorium on building apartments in the City of Chicopee. No jobs that pay a living wage. If you go to college why would you stay in Chicopee? Only thing you bring to the city is a ghetto. No place for someone getting out of high school. Governor Healy after two months in office she sent 30 homeless to Springfield. Previously homed families at the Plantation Inn, Ramada Inn, need tax revenue not apartments. Paul Winspear, West Suffield, CT, want to say thank you. Leaving the city. Departing a sound group of individuals. Employed by the city since 2019, has filled every capacity in HR. During that time has accomplished a lot. Opportunity for growth. Insignia of diversity, created an effort to recruit talent, embarked on collaboration. HR policy development. Technology. Pleasure and honor of serving. Studies, compensation, able to make progress to modernize. Sue Laplante, 71 Angela Drive, two motions on the agenda, Tesla dealership. Not in favor unless the entrance and exit are moved. Not against growth of the city, there is a reason for the moratorium. Speaks for itself, speaking about the turnpike entrance, where and when is it the city's responsibility to fix Burnett Road? Why if Tesla was so interested are they leasing? Concern for state park, #31 should include to be paid by corporation.

Communications-none

working in finance and the HR sector. Public sector is not used to this. Compete for talent, is extremely enforceable. Would require small claims court. Productive trying to expand the compliment. Better ones in the region. Councilor Zygarowski stated spent 30 years on the PD. A lot of the officers that came from other departments never left. One of the best in the state to work for. Want to come to Chicopee. One transfer made it all the way to deputy chief. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

MO-4 Ordered that the City Council accept the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) Grant in the amount of Ninety thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$90,000.00) to provide additional funding and support to Phase 1 construction activities for the Abbey Brook Revitalization Project. Said grant is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Zygarowski to receive, pass and the grant accepted. Councilor Zygarowski stated lot more work to be done for the first phase. Councilor Courchesne stated shoutout to planning, came from DER they offered this grant. Motion passed through all stages by a roll call vote of 11 yes, 1 out of chair. Councilor Dobosz out of chair, Councilor Roy absent.

MO-5 Mayor's appropriation of Nine thousand three hundred seventy three and 80/100 dollars (\$9,373.80) to the following named account: Building Salary Account for Part Time Deputy Building Commissioner from available funds in the Building Salary Account for Assistant Building Commissioner.

--Motion made by Councilor Balakier to receive and pass. Councilor Balakier stated this is a request from building to modernize the department. Councilor Courchesne stated hope the Mayor will keep an open mind to make this a full time position. A full time job. Line item could be a full time position. Councilor Lopez stated think this should be a full time staffer. Part time staff can't necessarily take the load off. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

MO-6 Mayor's appropriation of Twenty five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$25,000.00) to the following named account: Fire Special Account for Ambulance Billing from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" account.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and pass. Councilor Tillotson stated use of ambulance service to pay extra workers need to increase their budget. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

MO-7 Ordered that the City Council accept the anonymous donation in the amount of Twenty five and 00/100 dollars (\$25.00) to the Chicopee Fire Department. Said donation is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive, pass and the donation accepted. Councilor Labrie stated self-explanatory. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

MO-8 Ordered that the City Council accept the attached list of donations in the amount of One hundred fifty and 00/100 dollars (\$150.00) to the Chicopee Parks Department. Said donations were in-kind snack and candy donations to be used for the Easter Scavenger Hunt held on April 1, 2023 at Dupont Middle School and they are accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A 1/2.

## New Appointment

--Motion made by Councilor Dobosz to receive, pass and the appointment confirmed. Councilor Dobosz stated this is the Mayors pick for this commission, served on another Building Commission. Councilor McAuliffe stated courtesy of him sending this to us? Not relevant, ceremonial vote. Deeply committed to the city. Finding time in retirement to serve. Councilor Lopez stated OK to approve or do separately. By statute must be approved. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated congratulate for taking interest in this position. Fortunate to have him. Councilor McAuliffe stated point of 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting is not necessary. Preference approve one less person at the meeting. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

MO-12 Ordered that the City Council accept the Community Development Block Grant Award in the amount of Seven thousand five hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$7,500.00) to the Chicopee Council on Aging. Said grant is to be used for the Technology Lending Program and it is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Brooks to receive and refer with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Zygarowski. Councilor Brooks stated grant opportunity, happy to accept it. Motion passed through all stages by a roll call vote of 11 yes 1 abstained. Councilor Laffamme abstained, Councilor Roy absent.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to take item #20 & #21 out of order. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

20 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Al Kendall as a member of the Board of Registrars to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2026.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and approved this evening. Councilor Tillotson stated deserve the re-appointment. Councilor Lopez stated thank Al Kendall, service to the community is selfless. Full commission. Everyone is very thankful. Councilor Courchesne stated active in ward 7, thank you for all you do. Councilor Balakier stated lot of experience, welcome aboard Al. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated here many nights, concerned about the city. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

21 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Al Kendall as a member of the Commission on Disability to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2026.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and the appointment approved this evening. Councilor Tillotson stated very active in the city. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

13 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Lester Gagne as a member of the Mobile Home Rent Control Board to serve until the first of April 2025.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and the appointment confirmed this evening. Motion passed by a roll call vote of 11 yes, 1 no. Councilor McAuliffe voting no. Councilor Roy absent.

confident till we get the department back in order again. Hope we work together. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

15 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Anthony Gallant as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2026.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to refer to the Human Resources Committee. Councilor Tillotson stated he didn't show. Motion to refer passed by a roll call vote of 11 yes, 1 out of chair. Councilor Labrie out of chair. Councilor Roy absent.

16 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Mary Kukla as a member of the Water and Sewer Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2026.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and approved this evening. Councilor Tillotson stated she's fine. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

17 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of William Zaskey as a member of the Water and Sewer Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2026.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive, approved this evening and the appointment confirmed. Councilor Tillotson stated easy one to approve. Councilor Balakier stated knowledgeable, experienced. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

18 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Francis LaBreck as a member of the Water and Sewer Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2026.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to postpone to the call of the chair. Councilor Tillotson stated postpone to the call of the chair. Motion to postpone passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

19 A Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of James Carabetta as a member of the Water and Sewer Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2026.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and approved this evening. Councilor Tillotson stated he'll be fine. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

22 A favorable Zoning Committee report: Special Permit application under Chapter 275-66 A for the purpose of allowance of a business, commercial, or industrial development on Burnett Road. Applicant: Scannell Properties #705, LLC, c/o Leo Leighton, 294 Grove Lane, Suite 140, Wayzata, MN 55391.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and the Special Permit granted with restrictions. Councilor Courchesne read the restrictions into the record. Councilor Dobosz stated thank the Zoning Committee Burnett Road residents don't want traffic problems. Came back with a proposal that was 40-50% smaller. Win, win at this location, reasonable development. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated discussed at length. Obvious Councilor Dobosz is in favor. Major change for the city, modern transportation technology. Brand new. Appreciate Councilor Courchesne's

sentiments, there is a housing desert. Project for someone to come in and raise a family. New development will be brand new; everyone needs a place to live. Part of the American dream. Councilor McAuliffe stated appreciate the sentiments. Very disappointed to hear this rhetoric, he is an employee of the city. Someone who speaks like this should not be on the payroll. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated didn't sense overt hatred, sensed just too many apartments in the area. Concerns about parking, size of the project was reduced. Working together to make it smaller. Councilor Zygarowski stated totally out of line, he indicated business want to come to Chicopee for that. Hard time getting out of streets. Hopefully something will happen at Silverbrick. Keep an open mind. Street is like a racetrack. Business brings in big tax dollars. Discrimination talk is disgusting. We need housing. With housing business comes. Councilor Labrie stated inappropriate comments. Want to work with the neighborhood. Fortunate want to work with the residents. Lot needs sprucing up. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

- 26 A favorable Zoning Committee report: Zone change application to apply the Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay District for 118,613 +/- SF of property located at 480 Burnett Road and 510 Burnett Road for the purpose of constructing a residential development with associated site improvements to be located at the above-referenced properties. Applicant: Salmar Realty, Inc. c/o Peter Martins, 350 Cottage Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and the Zone Change postponed to the 5/31/23 Zoning Meeting at 6:30 pm in Council Chambers. Councilor Courchesne stated need more time. Motion to postpone passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

- 27 Be it Ordered that the following nominations for the Anna E. Barry School Building Commission be submitted:

Joshua Clark / Carissa Lisee / Michael Sarnelli / Stephen Morneau / Normand Girouard

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive and refer to the Human Resources Committee.  
--Motion made by Councilor Lopez to add Katie Collins-Kalbaugh to the applicants being referred to the Human Resources Committee. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

- 28 Ordered that the Ordinance Committee meet to review and approve the Front Street/City Hall parking lot plan.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive and refer to the Ordinance Committee, Planning and Engineering. Councilor Labrie stated will take up in committee. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

- 29 Be it Ordained by the City Council that the Code of the City of Chicopee for the year 1991, as amended, be and is hereby further amended as follows:

Chapter 275-50 Signs

Delete 275-50 B (F)

F. Duration of placement. Temporary signs may be placed 60 days prior to an event or promotion and must be removed within seven days following an event or promotion.

Anyone found in violation of MGL Chapter 90 Section 17C while traveling on Chicopee Street from Pendexter Street north to the Chicopee/Holyoke line and from the Holyoke/Chicopee line south to Pendexter Street will be fined an additional \$200 for said violation.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive, 1<sup>st</sup> reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee and Police Department. Councilor Courchesne stated speeding, months of research. There are additional fines. MGL's hurdle, electronic, can be programmed. Need people to slow down. Hopefully will make it work. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

33 Be it Ordered that the City Council meet to discuss the Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Patrick Higgins received April 9, 2023.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive and refer to the Human Resources Committee. Councilor Labrie stated take up in committee. Motion to refer passed by a roll call vote of 10 yes, 1 out of chair. Councilor Tillotson out of chair, Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

34 Be it Ordered that No Through Trucks be sent to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing. The No Through Trucks will start at the intersection of Britton Street and Memorial Drive for the entire length on Britton Street the east side of Memorial Drive to be reviewed by DPW.

--Motion made by Councilor Pniak-Costello to receive and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated take up in committee. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

35 Be it Ordered that No Through Trucks be sent to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing. The No Through Trucks will start at the intersection of Old Lyman Road and Britton Street north for the entire length of Old Lyman Road to be reviewed by DPW.

--Motion made by Councilor Pniak-Costello to receive and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated take up in committee. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

37 Be it Ordered that DPW install crosswalk signs at the crosswalk located at Irene Street and Cyran Street.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and sent to DPW for implementation. Councilor Courchesne stated from see click fix. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

38 Be it Ordered that the DPW paint crosswalk safety zones at all crosswalks on Chicopee Street in Ward 7.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and sent to DPW for implementation. Councilor Courchesne stated brought up years ago, met with resistance, people parking in crosswalks. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

--Motion made by Councilor Brooks to receive and refer to the License Committee. Councilor Brooks stated take up in committee. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

46 2023 Hawker and Peddlers License Renewal to sell various items at downtown Chicopee: Market Square Plaza-Springfield Street From June 1, 2023 to October 26, 2023 1pm to 6pm. Applicant: Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, c/o Melissa Breor, 48 Center Street, Suite 201, Chicopee, MA 01013.

--Motion made by Councilor Brooks to receive and refer to the License Committee. Motion to refer passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to reconsider #46. Councilor Labrie stated renewal. Motion to reconsider passed by a roll call vote of 10 yes, 1 out of chair, Councilor McAuliffe out of chair. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive and approved this evening. Councilor Labrie stated renewal. Councilor Priak-Costello stated director was here. Councilor Lopez stated support this and what they do. Clearly left a stamp on the city. Clean sweep was not new, not an extension of the mayors new plan. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

47 2023 Bowling Alley Renewal

AMF Lanes	Megan Haas	291 Burnett Road
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--Motion made by Councilor Brooks to receive and granted with restrictions. Councilor Brooks stated renewal. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

48-49 2023 Home Occupation Renewals

Debbie's Do's	Debra Pelletier	12 Kane Drive
	Renee Simone	71 Mary Street

--Motion made by Councilor Balakier to receive and granted with current restrictions. Councilor Balakier stated renewals. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

50 2023 Junk Collector's License Renewals

Kanes Scrap Metal & Iron	Patrick Kane	184 E. Meadow Street
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--Motion made by Councilor Brooks to receive and granted with current restrictions. Councilor Brooks stated renewals. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilors Roy and Dobosz absent.

51-56 2023 Junk Dealer's License Renewals

AJ's Gaming	Anthony J. Montefusco	196 East Street
Dan's Appliances	Daniel J. Cloutier	207/209 Meadow Street
Game Stop	DL Peterkin	649 Memorial Drive
Rubidia's Sew & Consignment	Rubidia Lopez	131 Church Street