

**ATTLEBORO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
DOCKET  
JULY 20, 2021**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Peter Blais, Chairperson**

The Mayor respectfully submits a communication from Fire Chief Scott T. Lachance regarding the need for additional funds for the kitchen renovations at Headquarters. On January 5, 2021, Your Honorable Body voted to approve an appropriation of \$25,000 for these renovations. Due to the 60% increase in lumber costs since the initial funding request, the bids for the project are significantly higher than the original estimates. A 10% contingency is included in this request. Therefore, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body transfer \$10,090.00 from Account 12201000-524011 (Fire – Maintenance of Buildings) to Account 12201000-582510 (Fire – Renovations). (Voted June 22, 2021)

**TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

**Cathleen DeSimone, Chairperson**

Referred to the Traffic and Transportation Committee and the Traffic Study Commission

To amend Chapter 10-4.11 of the Revised Ordinances to add an official “STOP” sign to face northbound drivers on Extension Street at Frank Mossberg Drive. (DeSimone)

Referred to the Traffic and Transportation Committee and the Traffic Study Commission:

To extend the “no parking to corner” area from 25 to 50 feet on southbound side of Frank Mossberg Drive at Extension Street. (DeSimone)

As you know, the city installed solar powered Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacons (aka, lighted crosswalks) in several locations over the last 12 months. In doing so, each location where lighted crosswalks are installed, residents have a better sense of safety as they have an added layer of notice to motorists that a pedestrian is using the crosswalk. The success of these has led to more requests to deploy more of the lighted crosswalks in highly traveled locations. Therefore, the Mayor is seeking \$41,295.96 to purchase seven (9) solar powered Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacons for several critical crosswalks. The requested amount includes a 10% contingency. The locations are as follows: 2 at

Council on Aging, 2 on North Main at Mechanic Street, 2 at Briggs Corner at the painted crosswalk (NOTE: more improvements are being reviewed for the Briggs Corner intersection that would complement these lights), 1 on South Main Street at Wall Street (there are currently two units and this additional one would make a total of three at this intersection, which is the goal after the sidewalk reopens) and 2 on Park Street at Sturdy Street. Therefore, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body appropriate \$41,295.96 from Account 1000-359000 (Undesignated Fund Balance/Free Cash-General Government) to Account 14201000-585082 (Public Works – Crosswalk System). (Voted June 22, 2021)

Traffic and speeding related issues remain one of the biggest complaints the Mayor gets from city residents. There are a number of interventions that we can take to educate, engineer, and enforce better traffic conditions. Solar powered speed radars are one way to better educate the public of speed limits in critical locations and/or locations that are frequently reported by residents to the city that speeding is a problem. Solar powered speed radars have already been deployed in the city in 16 locations. The police chief has reported to me that he has personally witnessed cars slowing down as they approach the speed radar. The Mayor have also been witness to this effect on Newport Avenue. There were a number of streets that we deployed only one speed radar. It stands to reason that putting two in each direction slows traffic down in both directions in critical locations. Therefore, the Mayor is seeking \$16,963.21 to purchase four (4) solar powered speed radars on streets that already have one in one direction. The requested amount includes a 10% contingency. The locations are as follows: 1 on Oakhill Ave (near Poncin-Hewett), 1 on Robinson Ave, 1 on Lindsey St, 1 on Locust St (near the elementary school opposite side of the school approaching the school). Therefore, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body appropriate \$16.963.21 from Account 1000-359000 (Undesignated Fund Balance/Free Cash-General Government) to Account 14201000-585083 (Public Works – Radar Sign System). (Voted June 22, 2021)

### **PERSONNEL, VETERANS AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Ty Waterman, Chairperson**

The Mayor respectfully submits a communication from Director of Council on Aging Melissa Tucker regarding the award of the FY2022 SHINE Grant of approximately \$94,107. In accordance with Chapter 1, Section 12 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body to approve the expenditure of such funds by the Council on Aging for expenditure during FY2022 and approve any further grant amendments. (Voted on June 22, 2021)

The Mayor respectfully submits for confirmation by Your Honorable Body the appointment of Sandi Carter Brown, 21 Revere Terrace, to fill an unexpired term on the Disability Commission. Term to expire February 2023.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

**Kate Jackson, Chairperson**

The Mayor respectfully submits a communication from Director of Recreation Dennis Walsh regarding the need for additional funds to convert Ousley Field from an adult softball facility to a natural grass field for youth leagues. As you recall, Your Honorable Body voted on May 18, 2021 to fund part of this project. After a review of all accounts to ensure there will be sufficient funds for the remainder of FY21, this request is to transfer a total of \$12,695.98 into the Ousley Renovation Account. These funds, coupled with previous transfers will put us in a very good position to move forward on this important project. Therefore, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body transfer \$12,695.98 into Account 16301000-589046 (Recreation - Ousley Field Renovation) as follows:

- \$928.00 from Account 16301000-512020 (Recreation – Seasonal)
- \$2,610.00 from Account 16301000-521010 (Recreation – Heating)
- \$2,300.00 from Account 16301000-521020 (Recreation - Lights & Power)
- \$ 2,520.00 from Account 16301000-524002 (Recreation - Maintenance of Rec Areas)
- \$714.50 from Account 16301000-524011 (Recreation - Maintenance of Buildings)
- \$824.85 from Account 16301000-524230 (Recreation - Maintenance of Vehicles)
- \$1,697.90 from Account 16301000-524240 (Recreation - Maintenance of Equipment)
- \$505.73 from Account 16301000-530101 (Recreation - Professional Services)
- \$595.00 from Account 16301000-532015 (Recreation - Staff Development)

The Mayor respectfully submits a communication from Director of Park & Forestry Derek Corsi regarding the receipt the Massachusetts Office of Business Development Grant for Capron Park Zoo. The City of Attleboro’s “Capron Park Zoo’ has been awarded \$166,666.00 in state funds to help support the Capron Park Zoo in the areas of visitor experience, new equipment, exhibit refurbishment and repair, and to support the overall animal welfare and zoo operations. Although this grant does not require any matching funds, the contract states that all funding should be spent or committed by June 30, 2021. In accordance with Chapter 1, Section 12 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body approve expending of such funds and any future grant amendments. (Voted June 22, 2021)

## **BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS**

**Jay DiLisio, Chairperson**

The Mayor respectfully submits a communication from Attleboro Public Schools Director of Finance Marc Furtado regarding an FY20 invoice from UMASS Medical School for \$1,248.75 that was not received in time to be processed in the normal FY20 business cycle. Therefore, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body to authorize the School Department to pay this previous year school bill. (Voted June 22, 2021)

The Mayor requests that the Attleboro Municipal Council vote to take action as provided in City Charter, Section 2-9(b) regarding the deadline emergency, which presently exists, and approve the funding needed for the Laborers and DPW Unions MOAs regarding the addition of the Juneteenth Holiday to their respective collective bargaining agreements. **(Voted as an emergency measure June 25, 2021).**

The Mayor respectfully submits a communication from City Auditor Deborah Gould regarding authorized unissued debt. The City issued debt on May 13, 2021, after which a review of the general ledger and the Statement of Indebtedness took place. At the conclusion of the review and in consultation with the City Treasurer it has been determined that the following debt authorized and unissued should be rescinded. Therefore, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body approve to rescind the following: (Voted on June 22, 2021)

\$59,920 of the debt authorized for the water projects on July 23, 2015 be rescinded.

\$350,675 of the debt authorized for the Dodgeville Pond Dam project on June 19, 2018 be rescinded.

\$2,000 of the debt authorized for police vehicles and equipment on July 23, 2020 be rescinded.

\$247,601 of the debt authorized for fire vehicles and equipment on December 17, 2019 be rescinded.

\$700,000 of the debt authorized for wastewater treatment plant facility upgrades on June 4, 2019 be rescinded.

## **ZONING AND LAND USE COMMITTEE**

### **Todd Kobus, Chairperson**

A rezoning petition from Vela, Inc. for 829 Newport Avenue assessor's plat 19 lots 246 to 252 and lots 254 - 255. Public Hearing required (August 17, 2021 public hearing).

The Mayor is seeking the Council's support on waiving the building permit fee associated with the development of 37 Union Street. The pandemic and subsequent economic conditions that have followed the pandemic have resulted in an increased cost in building materials throughout the country. The Mayor supports the waiving of fees associated with this project on Union Street. The city and the developer have come too far and have too much promise for the redevelopment of the Union Street district and the city center to stop the momentum. Additionally, because this would be a fee that is waived that is associated with the pandemic, my administration is going to seek to replenish the waived fees with ARPA funds; lost revenues due to the pandemic are a potential use of ARPA funds. However, even if ARPA funds are ineligible for use to replenish the lost revenues from waiving these fees, the Mayor still thinks that it is a worthwhile investment in 37 Union Street. The city is not financially worse off not collecting these fees and we are not actually losing an existing source of revenue; we would be just foregoing revenues that would have still not come to us even without this project. Additionally, the city center and the Union Street district will be in a better physical and financial condition after the completion of this project, and therefore the city will also be financially better off as well. Lastly, the Mayor wants to underscore that a

company that is seeking to develop in Attleboro is a company that could seek to develop in another community. The Mayor is proud to have been working with Gam Reality, Affirmative Investments, and E3 since early 2018. They are investing in Attleboro. I hope that we can continue to invest in their project as well. Therefore, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body

### **LICENSES COMMITTEE**

**Laura Dolan, Chairperson**

The Mayor respectfully requests Your Honorable Body approve the Keeping A Stand In A Public Place License to Monique Jacobs at 5 Park Street, to hold a community event on Park Street on Sunday, June 27, 2021 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. Although this request was received by the City Clerk's Office today, the Mayor respectfully requests Your Honorable Body grant this permit as an emergency measure, in order for the community to participate in this wonderful event. **Voted as an emergency measure on June 22, 2021**

### **CITY PROPERTY AND CLAIMS**

**Sara-Lynn Reynolds, Chairperson**

The Mayor respectfully submits a communication from Director of Veterans' Services Ben Quelle regarding the donation of \$500.00 in Stop & Shop gift cards from Greater Boston Veterans Collaborative. In accordance with Section 1-12 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, the Mayor hereby requests Your Honorable Body to accept this generous donation to the City of Attleboro. (Voted June 22, 2021)

To review the city's annual legal expenses, including those provided by the city solicitor and all other legal services rendered to the city and its departments by other attorneys and/or law firms, to determine if it is fiscally prudent to revise currently used methods or adopt a new method for securing said services. (DeSimone)

### **ORDINANCES, ELECTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE**

**Diana Holmes, Chairperson**

To amend City of Attleboro Ordinances, Chapter 7 to change the effective date of paper straws and plastic container bans from 1/1/2022 to 1/1/2023 to give businesses enough time to recover from Covid-19 and to plan for these bans to take place. (DiLisio)