

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

March 11, 2003

7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Open microphone

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

2. This item reserved for the Mayor to address the City Council, with an opportunity for questions from the Council

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

3. Communication submitting an Order authorizing the amount of \$185,000 from the GE Economic Development fund to the Wyandotte Mill Bridge Replacement
4. Communication submitting an Order transferring the sum of \$167,000 from the Unclassified Contingency Account to various salary accounts for employees of the Pittsfield Supervisory and Professional Employees' Association
5. Communication submitting an Order authorizing the City of Pittsfield to accept a grant of funds in the amount of \$11,000 from the Executive Office of Public Safety

PUBLIC HEARING

6. Public hearing on the petition of Western Mass. Electric Company and Verizon New England Inc. to locate a line of poles on West Street

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND BOARDS

7. Petition from Council President Scapin designating Councilors to serve on an ad hoc committee for the purpose of making FY 04 budget recommendations
8. Petition from Councilor Scapin for an investigation of chip-sealing work done in the Velma/Gamwell/Cole Avenue area
9. Petition from Councilor Kerwood requesting the Mayor establish a Public Safety Commission before making any organizational structure changes to the City's public safety departments
10. Petition from Councilor Tuttle that the City Solicitor provide documentation from the City Code that supports hiring of acting department heads
11. Petition from Councilor Tuttle requesting the Conservation Commission reconsider its increase in fees for the Controy Pavilion

12. Petition from Councilor Tuttle requesting a feasibility study of the Dan Fox Drive water/sewer project
13. Petition from Councilor Arlos to ask the BCC Board of Trustees to hold in abeyance its search for a new college president
14. Petition from Councilor Arlos asking Warner Cable to rescind its recently implemented rate increase
15. Petition from Councilor Arlos requesting the State Department of Telecommunications and Energy hold a hearing on the request of Berkshire Gas for a 15% rate increase
16. Petition from Councilor Arlos asking the Treasurer for information regarding compensation for the Police Chief, as acting Fire Chief
17. Petition from Councilor Arpante requesting an investigation and report of the condition, safety and structural fitness of the City's parking structures and other parking structures open to the public
18. Report of the Traffic Commission to whom was referred a petition from Councilor Arlos for an explanation of the rationale for the new traffic light at the intersection of Charles and North Streets, recommending it be filed
19. Report of the Traffic Commission to whom was referred a petition from Councilor Tuttle for installation of a traffic signal in the vicinity of 245 Cheshire Road, recommending it be filed

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Reports of the Committee on Ordinances and Rules

20. A report of the Committee on Ordinances and Rules to whom was referred a petition from Councilors Guzzo and Lee to amend Council Rule 26 to include the Committee of the Whole as a standing committee, recommending it be approved

Reports of the Committee on Community and Economic Development

21. A report of the Committee on Community and Economic Development to whom was referred a petition from Councilors Scapin, Guzzo and Bianchi requesting a list of projects that are currently receiving tax incentives and/or development money, recommending it be filed

22. A report of the Committee on Community and Economic Development to whom was referred a communication from Mayor Hathaway submitting an Order authorizing the sum of \$1,460,000 from the GE Economic Development fund to a capital project account in the Department of Public Works and Utilities recommending it be approved with stipulations

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

23. A report of the Committee on Ordinances and Rules on a petition from Councillors Scapin & Barry requesting the Council look at eliminating the Ordinance for all-night parking (tabled 2-22-00)
24. A petition from Councilor Vincelette that the Assessors office hold a public meeting to acquaint elderly citizens with tax exemptions or deferrals (tabled 9-10-02)
25. A response from the City Solicitor to a petition from Councilor Arlos regarding the chairman of the Board of Assessors (tabled 11-12-02)
26. A report of the Committee on Finance to whom was referred a communication from Mayor Hathaway submitting an Order appropriating the sum of \$94,805 from certified free cash to accounts of the Police Department, recommending it be approved with a recommendation that the Mayor do an interdepartmental transfer from salary accounts (tabled 1-28-03)

NEW BUSINESS

27. A petition from Peter T. White requesting the Council go on record in opposition of Governor Romney's proposal to consolidate BCC and MCLA

MATTERS TENTATIVELY REFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER RULE 27

Referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Rules

28. Petition from Kenneth Ramsdell for creation of a program that allows property tax credits for senior citizens and other residents who perform municipal work

Referred to the Committee on Public Works and Utilities

29. Petition from Councilor Guzzo requesting Thomas Island Road, Thomas Road, Shore Drive and Green Hill Road be considered for chip-sealing

30. Petition from Councilor Tuttle requesting chip-sealing of Bryan Street

31. Petition from Councilor Bianchi to loop the water system on Catherine St., Cecelia Terrace and the street west of Cecelia Terrace

Referred to the Traffic Commission

32. Petition from Councilor Bianchi for installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Garden Street and Lakeway Drive

33. Petition from Councilor Bianchi for installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Acorn Street and Lakeway Drive

PLACED ON FILE

34. Response from the Dept. of Telecommunications and Energy to a petition from Councilor Arlos regarding a hearing on rates of Time Warner Cable
35. Response from Congressman Olver to a petition from Councilor Arlos regarding programs for construction of water/sewer lines
36. Response from Representative Pignatelli to a petition from Councilor Arlos regarding programs for construction of water/sewer lines
37. Response from Caleb Mitchell to a request for information regarding the caretaker house at the Controy Pavilion