

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 25, 2005 – 7:30 P.M.**

AGENDA

1. Open microphone

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR

2. A communication submitting an Order requesting the City vote to formally support the Wild Acres property plan as adopted by the Conservation Commission
3. A communication submitting an Order accepting a donation of \$250 from Wal-Mart
4. A communication submitting an Order approving a certified project application of North Street Market Place, LLC and Two Seven Three North, LLC
5. A communication submitting an Order authorizing the Mayor to submit a grant application for Community Development Action Grant funding for the downtown cinema center project
6. A communication submitting an Order authorizing the Mayor to execute options to secure façade and roof easements on the Kinnell and Kresge Buildings
7. A communication submitting an Order authorizing the City to accept a grant of funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
8. A communication submitting an Order authorizing an allocation of GE Economic Development Funds for the purpose of making a loan for development of a downtown cinema center
9. A communication submitting a Traffic Order implementing parking changes on Lakeway Drive and Draper Ave.
10. A communication submitting a Traffic Order implementing parking changes on Worthington Street
11. A communication submitting a Traffic Order establishing a stop sign on Cliff Avenue

APPOINTMENTS

12. Appointment of Stewart Pease to the position of Lieutenant in the Pittsfield Fire Department
13. Appointment of Kipp Steinmann, John Mazzeo, Aaron Garner, John Bassi and Michael Megaro as Police Officers in the Pittsfield Police Department
14. Appointment of Megan Whilden as Cultural Director

PUBLIC HEARINGS

15. Public hearing on a petition from Verizon New England Inc. to place an underground cable and one subscriber access cabinet on a concrete pad on Williams Street
16. Public hearing on a petition from Western Mass. Electric Company and Verizon New England Inc. to install two jointly owned poles on West Street

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND BOARDS

17. A petition from Councilor Kerwood requesting approval of a Resolution regarding local aid

18. A petition from Councilors Bianchi and Markham requesting the position of Artistic Director of the Berkshire Artisans be reestablished and that Daniel O'Connell be retained in said position
19. A petition from Councilor Tyer to urge the Berkshire delegation and Mass. Municipal Association to develop legislation that will grant greater flexibility in the laws governing how municipalities provide health insurance to employees
20. A petition from Councilor Maffuccio requesting the Mayor seek reimbursement from the state for the upcoming special election
21. A petition from Councilor Maffuccio that the City Council oppose any fee for curbside trash removal
22. A communication from the City Clerk submitting Orders directing the issuance of warrants and designating polling places and times for the March 15, 2005 special state primary election
23. A communication from the City Clerk submitting Orders directing the issuance of warrants and designating polling places and times for the April 12, 2005 special state election
24. A report of the Traffic Commission on a communication from Mayor Ruberto submitting an Ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 12, Article I, regarding parking fines, recommending it be amended and approved
25. A report of the Traffic Commission on a communication from Mayor Ruberto submitting an Ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 13, Article VII, Municipal Parking Areas, recommending it be approved
26. A report of the Traffic Commission on a petition from Councilor Lothrop requesting a 3 or 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Elizabeth Street and Henry Ave., recommending a 3-way stop sign be installed
27. A report of the Traffic Commission on a petition from former Councilor Tuttle for a traffic signal at the intersection of North St. and the west end of Wahconah St., recommending it be approved based on the Traffic Signal study

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Reports of the Committee on Community and Economic Development

28. A report of the Committee on Community and Economic Development on a communication from Mayor Ruberto authorizing submission of a Special Act and an Ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 11, Licenses, Registrations, Etc. with regard to Special Liquor Licenses in the Downtown Development Zone
29. A report of the Committee on Community and Economic Development on a communication from Mayor Ruberto submitting an Order rescinding Order No. 64 of the Series of 2003, which authorized \$1,460,000 for water and sewer services on Dan Fox Drive

Reports of the Committee on Public Works and Utilities

30. A report of the Committee on Public Works and Utilities on a petition from Councilor Maffuccio requesting a presentation from the Commissioner of Public Works and the owner of the Keller St. bridge regarding plans for completion of the bridge, recommending it be filed
31. A report of the Committee on Public Works and Utilities on a communication from citizens requesting installation of a street light in front of Riverview Homes, recommending it be approved

32. A report of the Committee on Public Works and Utilities on a communication from Mayor Ruberto submitting an Ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 19, Article IV, Use of Public Sewers, recommending it be approved

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

33. An ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 19, Article IV, Use of Public Sewers (tabled 12-14-04)

NEW BUSINESS

34. A petition from Terry Kinnas that the City use the \$450,000 sewer connection fee from the Town of Richmond to reduce the sewer user fee rates in the year the connection fee is received
35. A petition from Peter Arlos that the Council vote to ask State Rep. Larkin to make a donation from his campaign funds toward the cost of the special elections
36. A petition from Peter Arlos that the Council ask the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to determine the regional impact of transferring Dan Fox Drive to the City and the cost of maintaining the road
37. A petition from Donna Walto that the Council support a no-hire, no-fire policy in an effort to control health insurance costs
38. A petition from Rinaldo DelGallo III that the Council adopt a rule that all petitions be read in full before motions are entertained
39. A petition from Peter Arlos that the Council ask the Attorney General's office, the Mass. Commission of Insurance or the State Inspector General to revisit the City's health insurance situation during the time it was administered by David Leja

ORDINANCES (final readings)

40. An Ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 13, Article V, Section 13-54.1, 90 minute parking
41. An Ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 13, Article V, Section 13-55.1, 3-hour parking
42. An Ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 13, Article V, Section 13-55, 2-hour parking

MATTERS TENTATIVELY REFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER RULE 27

Referred to the Traffic Commission

43. A petition from Councilor Costi for a speed study of the downtown business district on North Street, from Park Square to Berkshire Medical Center

Referred to the Commissioner of Public Works and Utilities

44. A petition from Councilor Tyer for resurfacing of Newell Street
45. A petition from Councilor Maffuccio for repair of a drainage problem on Sheffield Street

Referred to Mass. Highway

46. A petition from Councilor Costi that Mass. Highway outline steps that should be taken to lower the speed limit on North Street

PLACED ON FILE

47. A communication from the Pittsfield Retirement Board notifying the Council of a meeting addressing cost-of-living increases for retirees
48. A response from the City Clerk to a petition from Terry Kinnas suggesting a requirement that all voters show photo identification when voting