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CITY OF MARLBOROUGH

City Council Agenda

Monday, March 25, 2024

8:00 PM

This meeting of the City Council will be held in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 140 Main Street. **PUBLIC ATTENDANCE IS PERMITTED.** This meeting will be televised on WMCT-TV (Comcast Channel 8 or Verizon/Fios Channel 34), or you can view the meeting using the link under the Meeting Videos tab on the city website (www.marlborough-ma.gov).

1. Minutes, City Council Meeting, March 11, 2024.
2. PUBLIC HEARING on the Petition of MA Electric and Verizon New England, to install one Joint Owned Pole on Simarano Drive, beginning at a point approximately 20' East of the centerline of the intersection of Value Way. Install 50'C1.2 midspan #13 approximately 90' from Pole 12 towards Pole 1 to allow installation of a 600 KVAR cap bank, Order No. 24-1009109.
3. PUBLIC HEARING on the Application for Special Permit from Alta Behavioral Health, LLC, to operate a nonresidential/outpatient facility licensed under 105 CMR 164 as a substance abuse treatment program in an existing building at 400 Donald J. Lynch Boulevard, Order No. 24-1009099.
4. Communication from the Mayor, re: Grant Acceptance in the amount of \$50,000.00 as part of the Fiscal Year 2024 state budget earmark funding, awarded to the Marlborough Public Library to be used for the library renovation project.
5. Communication from the Mayor, re: Grant Acceptance in the amount of \$15,000.00 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council awarded to the Marlborough Downtown Village Cultural District to support the annual food truck & Artisan Festival.
6. Communication from the Mayor, re: Transfer Request in the amount of \$477,122.41 from PEG Funds to Marlborough Cable Trust to fund the operation of WMCT-TV for FY2025 and Capital Items.
7. Communication from the Mayor, re: Transfer Request in the amount of \$34,020.00 from Reserve for Salaries to HR Director, to cover the accruals incurred and to replenish the account.
8. Communication from the Mayor, re: Appointment of Carl Blatchley to the Fort Meadow Commission for a 3-year term, to replace Lee Thomson who has served on the Commission since 1980.
9. Communication from Attorney George Bahnan on behalf of FD 130 Lizotte, LLC, re: Proposed Zoning Amendment to Code, Chapter 650 "Zoning" to create the Lizotte Drive Overlay District (LDOD).
10. Communication from Department of Public Utilities, re: Petition of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of a Mid-Term Modification to its 2022-2024 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan.

Electronic devices, including laptops, cell phones, pagers, and PDAs must be turned off or put in silent mode upon entering the City Council Chamber, and any person violating this rule shall be asked to leave the chamber. Express authorization to utilize such devices may be granted by the President for recordkeeping purposes.

11. Communication from Department of Public Utilities, re: Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval of a Mid-Term Modification to its 2022-2024 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan.
12. Communication from Department of Public Utilities, re: Petition of MA Electric and Nantucket Electric d/b/a National Grid for Approval of a Mid-Term Modification to its 2022-2024 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan.
13. Minutes of Boards, Commissions and Committees:
 - a) School Committee, January 23, 2024, February 13, 2024 & February 27, 2024.
 - b) Board of Assessors, November 30, 2022.
 - c) Conservation Commission, February 1, 2024 & February 15, 2024.
 - d) Historical Commission, January 25, 2024.
 - e) Library Trustees, January 2, 2024.
 - f) Planning Board, February 12, 2024.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

From Finance Committee

14. **Order No. 24-1009097 – Communication from the Mayor re: Proposed increase to the hours of the Senior Assessor from 35 hours to 40 hours per week and a Transfer Request in the amount of \$3,653.00 from Reserve for Salaries to Senior Assessor to cover the salary increase for the remainder of FY24.**

Recommendation of the Finance Committee is to APPROVE.

Chair Irish read the communication from the Mayor. Principal Assessor Valade submitted that the increase in hours will better align the senior assessor position with similar positions in other communities that work a 40-hour work week. Chair Irish stated his concern that other employees will want to extend their hours to 40 hours from the standard 35-hour work week to increase their salaries. Councilor Vital expressed a similar concern. Replying to Councilor Ossing's question regarding \$200,000.00 funded in the Assessors Office and the reliance on outside vendors, Mayor Dumais stated that the accounts for outside vendors will be decreased in next year's budget. Responding to Councilor Landers, Mr. Valade stated the Assessors Office is open from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM and the new hours under this ordinance would be 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Mr. Valade stated his greatest concern is that the Senior Assessor will be able to join him during the day on field inspections as a result of the extra hours.

On a motion by Councilor Brown, seconded by Councilor Oram, the Finance Committee recommends approval of the Mayor's request as submitted. Vote: 4 in favor; 1 (Irish) opposed.