

VOTES TAKEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

2024 Methuen City Council Meeting Schedule **Approved as amended**

Consideration of Appointments:

Patrick Bower, P.E. - Director of the Department of Public Works **Approved Vote: 8 yes, 1 absent**

Jennifer Finnigan - Director of the Department of the Treasury **Approved Vote: 8 yes, 1 absent**

Grants: P.S. Grant 30812114 – Burnham Road – National Grid and Verizon to install (1) JO Pole **Approved Vote: Unanimous yes**

Licenses: None

Contract(s):

C-24-33 Tighe & Bond Inc, 53 Southamptton Road, Westfield, MA 01085 for Updating Methuen's Subdivision Rules & Regulations (EEA FY24 Planning Assistance) \$39,500.00
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

C-24-34 Ricoh-USA, P.O. Box 827577, Philadelphia, PA 19182-7577 for 3 Year Copier Lease State Contract ITC80 (Imaging Devices, Supplies and Services) Amount: Total Payment: \$589,301.64, Annual Payment: \$196,433.88 Payment Frequency: 36 Months
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

C-24-35 MHQ Inc. 401 Elm Street, Marlborough, MA 01752 for (2) 2023 Ford F350 Pick Up Trucks W/Plow (1) 2023 F250 Pick Up Truck with plow Amount: \$192,009.71
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

C-24-36 MHQ, Inc. 401 Elm Street, Marlborough, MA 01752 for (1) 2024 Ford F350 Service Body with Plow (1) 2024 Ford F350 Pick Up Truck with Plow in the Amount of \$175,903.60
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

C-24-37 Energy Source, LLC, 37 Thurber Blvd, Smithfield, RI 02917 for Air Source Heat Pumps – Senior Center in the Amount of \$79,450.00
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

C-24-38 Axon Enterprise, Inc., 17800 N 85th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85255 for Police Dept. Body Cameras in the Amount of \$142,766.14
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

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Unfinished Business

[TR-23-67](#) Resolution for the Methuen City Council to Amend “Rule XI: Public Participation” of the “Methuen City Council Rules and Procedures” to Ensure That All Methuen Residents Voices are Heard at the Beginning of Meetings Prior to Council Votes (Request of Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors: Councilors Nicholas DiZoglio, DJ Beauregard, and Eunice Zeigler) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

[TR-23-68](#) Resolution to Support Transparent Documentation for All Boards and Commissions in the City of Methuen: All Available Packet Documentation is Recommended to be Provided on the City Website When the Meeting is Posted (Request of Councilor Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors Councilors Allison Saffie, Michael Simard and Eunice Zeigler) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

[TR-23-69](#) Resolution Prohibiting any Methuen City Council Votes to Transfer Funds to Pay for Expenditures That Have Not Yet Been Voted on or Approved to Occur First (Request of Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors Councilors Steven Saba, Nicholas DiZoglio, and DJ Beauregard) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

[TR-23-70](#) Resolution to Protect Methuen’s Trees for Future Generations: For Every Tree on City Owned Property that is Removed the Methuen City Council Supports That two Trees be Planted by the City, and All Tree Stumps on City Owned Property Shall be Removed, Both Within One Calendar Year (Request of Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors Councilors Steven Saba, DJ Beauregard, and Joel Faretra) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

[TR-23-71](#) Resolution Supporting Providing Voter District Maps, Financial Campaign Reports, and Other Relevant Data on City Clerk’s Webpage to Promote Accessibility for First Time Candidates Considering Running for Office (Request of Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors: Councilors Allison Saffie, Michael Simard, and Joel Faretra) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

[TR-23-72](#) Resolution to Require Financial Information Regarding City Employee Full-Time-Equivalents, Funding Sources, and Anticipated Funding Completion Provided by the Chief Administrative Financial Officer (CAFO) as Part of the Annual Budget Process for the City of Methuen (Request of Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors: Councilors Steven Saba, Nicholas DiZoglio, and Joel Faretra) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

[TR-23-73](#) Resolution for the Methuen City Council to Accept M.G.L. Ch. 59, Section 5C1/2: “Additional Exemption...” That Certain Residents Qualified for Certain Exemptions for Veterans and Survivors, Older Residents, and Blind Persons, Shall Increase to an Additional 100% Exemption (Request of Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors: Councilor Allison Saffie and Councilor Michael Simard) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

[TR-23-74](#) Resolution to Increase, From 4% to 6%, the Current Local Excise Tax Rate for Lodging Rooms in Methuen Under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 64G, Section 3A, and to Support Using Resulting Revenue to Assist Homeless Methuen Residents and to Defray Public Safety and Public Health Costs Associated with Transient Room Occupancy in Methuen

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(Request of Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Co-Sponsors: Councilors Allison Saffie, Steven Saba, and Michael Simard) **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

TR 23- 76 A Resolution To Encourage Increased Civic Participation In Elections Sponsored By Chair Zeigler, Councilors Saffie, and Beauregard **Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS**

TR 23- 77 Resolution To Adopt A Job Description For A City Councilor Sponsored By Chair Eunice Zeigler and Councilor DiZoglio Charter Objected on December 4th
Tabled 6 yes, 3 no (Clr. Saffie, Clr. Beauregard, and Clr. Faretra)

TR 23- 79 Resolution To Establish A City Councilor Orientation Program Sponsored By Chair Zeigler, Vice-Chair Faretra, Councilors Saffie, and Beauregard
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

TR 23- 80 Resolution To Establish a Protocol For the Creation And Review Of Financial Policies To Maintain The Fiscal Stability Of City Of Methuen Sponsored By Chair Eunice Zeigler, CAFO, Mayor Perry (remove from the table) Unanimous
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

Ordinances:

[TO-23-18](#) An Ordinance to Establish Special Permit Review Criteria Related to Storage Facilities and Automobile Wash Businesses (Requested by Councilors Beauregard, Saffie, Chair Zeigler, Vice-Chair Faretra, and Mayor Perry) (as amended following first read)
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

New Business

Resolutions:

TR-23-81 Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of a \$49,550.24 Fiscal Year 2024 Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Request of Mayor and Police Chief)
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

TR-23-82 Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of \$584,847.07 in Shared Public Health Services Grant from DPH (Request of Mayor and Community Development Director)
Approved Vote: UNANIMOUS

Ordinances: None