

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**2/11/2025**

For full text of bills and supporting information, visit:

2024 Bills- <https://www.amesburyma.gov/665/2024-Council-Bills>

2025 Bills - <https://www.amesburyma.gov/691/2025-Council-Bills>

**2025-009** Appointment of Christopher Lane to the position of member of the Historic Commission for a term to expire February 28, 2027 **Approved**

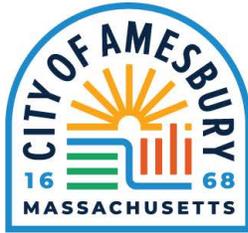
**2025-010** Appointment of Christine Caminero to the position of Human Resources Director **Approved**

**2025-011** An Order to request the City Council to vote to declare as surplus various municipal vehicles and equipment – Mayor Sponsor Summary: This order will authorize the surplus of the following vehicles belonging to the Fire Department and the Department of Public Works: **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**2025-012** An Order to request the City Council vote to authorize the Mayor to enter into five-year or less lease purchase Agreements for a new copier.- Mayor Sponsor Summary: The City seeks to enter into a five-year or less lease purchase agreement replacing an old 5year copier with next generation new equipment at State Bid List pricing. This replacement copier contract will be for 48 months at \$207.20/month, and it is for the copier located at 68 Elm St. for the use of all city departments at that location. **Referred to Budget & Finance(B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**2025-013** An Order to transfer \$4,550.00 from Conservation Commission Personal Services to Conservation Commission Other Expenses.- Mayor Sponsor Summary: This order requests a budget transfer in the amount of \$4,550.00 from Conservation Commission Salaries & Wages to Conservation Commission Consulting to cover the cost of a consultant to provide professional services while the City onboards and trains a new Sustainability & Conservation Planner. **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25th**

**2025-014** An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$18,989.00 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the Department of Fire Services (DFS) FY 2025 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program.- Mayor Sponsor Summary: These grant funds will be used to purchase the following approved firefighter safety



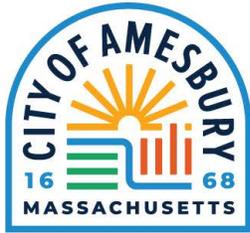
# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

equipment: Boots, Leather (Structural), Coat (Structural), Pants & Suspenders (Structural)  
**Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**2025-015** An Order to authorize the Mayor to accept and expend a FY25 Legislative Earmark Grant Award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$50,000.00 for lighting improvements in the downtown region of the city. – Mayor Sponsor Summary: This funding was requested and earmarked by Amesbury’s state legislative delegation in the FY25 Budget for “lighting improvements in the downtown region of the city.” We will utilize this earmark to hire Amesbury-based business Beautification Through Illumination to complete the Upper Millyard Falls Lighting Project. The project includes removal of original lighting fixtures and disposal, equipment rental and police detail, installation, programming, materials and permitting.  
**Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**2025-016** An Order to authorize the Mayor to enter into an intermunicipal agreement pursuant to the provisions of MGL CH.40 § 4A for the provisions of participation in the Public Health Excellence (PHE) for Shared Services Grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health. – Mayor Sponsor Summary: This order will authorize the Mayor to enter into an intermunicipal agreement pursuant to the provisions of MGL CH.40 § 4A for the provisions of participation in the Public Health Excellence (PHE) for Shared Services Grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health. Participation in this program was approved by the City Council on June 27, 2023 with Bill No. 2023-061, and the FY25-FY27 grant allocation was accepted by City Council on May 28, 2024 with Bill No. 2024-062. Amesbury serves as the lead municipality with the group consisting of Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, and Rowley. **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL, Referred to Ordinance & Administration (O&A), Feb. 20th at 7pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**2025-017** An Ordinance to amend the Amesbury Code of Ordinances by inserting therein Chapter 397, entitled “Outdoor Dining Ordinance”, to regulate the temporary private use of City-owned property and establish a usage fee schedule therefor. – Mayor Sponsor Summary: The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the Amesbury Code of Ordinances to establish a comprehensive process for permitting outdoor dining establishments conducted by the private sector using City streets, sidewalks, or park facilities. The City of Amesbury has administered an Outdoor Dining program since 2019 and the City has provided, without an application or usage fee, for the purchase, installation, and removal of concrete Jersey Barriers. Usage fees collected under this ordinance are to be deposited into the general fund to be used for the



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

maintenance, repair, and operational expenses of administering the outdoor dining program and making physical improvements toward a more uniform, fully accessible, corral and seating area design. It is expected that these fees will be periodically reviewed and updated. **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL, Referred to Ordinance & Administration (O&A), Feb. 20th at 7pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on March 11th**

**2025-018** An Ordinance to amend Amesbury Code of Ordinances Chapter 20, Budget and Finance, Article V, Revolving Funds, § 20-24 Establishment of Revolving Funds to amend departmental revolving funds pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E1/2. – Mayor Sponsor Summary: This bill proposes to amend the Program/Purpose and Departmental Receipts for the Youth activities and programs revolving fund to include usage fees for community use of City-owned facilities (Bill No. 2024-163) pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, §53E1/2, as most recently amended. Additionally, this ordinance clarifies the departmental purposes or programs for all existing revolving funds including the departmental purposes or programs for which said funds may be expended, the entity authorized to expend from said funds, and the departmental receipts to be credited to said funds. Such departmental revolving funds will be subject to limitations established annually by the City Council or any increase therein as may be authorized in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E1/2. **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL, Referred to Ordinance & Administration (O&A), Feb. 20th at 7pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25th**

**2025-019** An Order to appropriate \$332,200.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses. – Mayor Sponsor Summary: This order requests an appropriation from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses to cover the cost of purchasing four (4) new vehicles for the Sewer Department. This purchase will also include the vehicles' branding design. The current Sewer Retained Earnings balance is \$1,576,981.00. **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**2025-020** An Order to appropriate \$120,000.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses. – Mayor Sponsor Summary: This order requests an appropriation from the Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Enterprise Fund Other Expenses (account number 620 0440 5258 00- Lift Station-Operation & Maint) to cover the cost of expensive un-budgeted, grinder pump repairs relative to the existing Lake Attitash sewer project (circa 1985). Repairs are averaging between \$20,000-\$30,000 each, and the City has had to repair four this fiscal year so far. The loss of service and environmental concern is substantial. Maintaining sanitary conditions in effected residents' homes and protection of our drinking water



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

is paramount. The current Sewer Retained Earnings balance is \$1,576,981.00. **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL and Second Reading on Feb. 25th**

**2025-021** An Order to appropriate \$500,000.00 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding site construction services for Amesbury High School 90' Diamond Ball Field Improvements.- Mayor Sponsor Summary: This order proposes to appropriate \$500,000.00 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding site construction services for Amesbury High School 90' Diamond Ball Field Improvements. In general, the work of this project at Amesbury High School includes but is not limited to the removal and disposal of existing 90' diamond ball field amenities such as chain link backstop, chain link fencing, furnishing and installation of a ball field backstop, fencing, reconstruction of the ball field infield area, new irrigation system, scoreboard relocation and sand slit drainage improvements. Construction for this project shall begin June 2025 and be completed by September 2025. **Referred to Budget & Finance (B&F), Feb 18th at 6:30pm- VIRTUAL, Planning & Development (P&D), Feb. 19th at 7pm- VIRTUAL, School Committee and Second Reading on March 11th**

*Measures still on the docket*

**2024-096** An Ordinance to amend the Amesbury Zoning Ordinance expanding the Renewable Energy Development Overlay District (REDD) – Mayor Sponsor Summary: The development of large-scale solar energy projects has been recognized as being crucial to achieving the Commonwealth's goal of reaching net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Massachusetts law, including M.G.L. c. 40A, § 3, aims to promote the development of solar energy facilities. Amesbury has permitted large-scale solar energy projects in the city, that produce more than 10 MW of clean energy, but the areas zoned for solar energy projects have been confined primarily to the Industrial District. **Referred to Planning Board- continued to Feb 10th, P&D, O&A- continued pending PB recommendation, and Referred to OSNRT. City Council continued to March 25th**