



CITY OF AMESBURY
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY ONE

SPONSORED BY: Councilor Stanganelli, At Large **BILL No.** 2021-135
Councilor Rinaldi, District 2
Councilor Hogg, District 6

At the meeting of the Amesbury City Council held on November 9, 2021 the following action was taken:

A Resolution to Request Release of State-Appropriation for Construction of Soccer Fields at Woodsom Farm

Summary: To support the construction of soccer fields at Woodsom Farm by requesting before expiration that state-appropriated funds allocated for this purpose be released to the City.

Whereas, the Woodsom Farm Committee Recommendations of June 1999 (referenced in the Master Plan at NR-8) concluded that recreational playfields should be an allowed use and constructed in the areas proximate to the Cashman Elementary School, and

Whereas, as approved in 2013-122, the City of Amesbury agreed to terms for a lease of approximately ten (10) acres of Woodsom Farm (as part of the lot specified in Assessor's Map 37, Parcel 4) to the Amesbury Soccer Association (ASA) under the terms of a 20-year lease for the purpose of developing and maintaining graded soccer fields, and

Whereas, as noted in 2016-086, a Resolution relative to the Use of Proceeds Generated from the Potential Disposition of Margaret Rice Park, the City and Amesbury Soccer Association (ASA) have entered into a lease agreement for the development of soccer fields by the ASA at Woodsom Farm, and the ASA has demonstrated extraordinary, concrete commitment to the development and management of this project in the best interest of the Amesbury, and

Whereas, the *Sports Fields Master Plan: Sports Fields Assessment, Capital Improvement Budgeting & Master Planning* prepared for the City of Amesbury by Milone & Macbroom Engineering and presented to the City Council in a preliminary draft in October 2018 noted that Amesbury appears deficient in the number of full-size soccer fields, and

Whereas, 2019-016 an order to appropriate \$1.5M to pay for costs for designing and constructing athletic fields at, but not limited to, Woodsom Farm included a \$1.5M appropriation which was not sufficient to cover the entire cost of design and construction of all rectangular and diamond fields,

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the FY2014 Environmental Bond Bill provided in line item 2000-7054 that \$600,000 shall be expended for the planning, engineering and construction of the soccer fields at Woodsom Farm in the city of Amesbury, and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts appropriated for the construction of soccer fields at Woodsom Farms (Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 286 of the Acts of 2014, An Act providing for the Preservation of ...), and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts reauthorized line item 2000-7054 in the 2018 Environmental Bond Bill until June 30, 2023, and

Whereas, the assistance of the area's delegation to the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is needed in securing release of these funds, and

Whereas, the office of State Senator DiZoglio has advised that the City of Amesbury should formally advocate for these funds to be released by soliciting the Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and the Office of the Governor, so

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the City Council does hereby support actions by the Office of the Mayor, the City Council, and the state delegation to the General Court to formally request, petition, and otherwise advocate for the release of \$600,000 to the City of Amesbury as appropriated in the FY2014 Environmental Bond Bill provided in line item 2000-7054.

Reference:

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2014/Chapter286><https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2014/Chapter286>

Councilor Stanganelli moved to approve the resolution 2021-135 as presented, and he was seconded by Councilor Gilday. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed (8 in favor, Wheeler abstained).

Witness my hand and seal for the City of Amesbury this 11th day of January, 2022



City Clerk

1/11/2022

Date