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CITY OF AMESBURY, MA

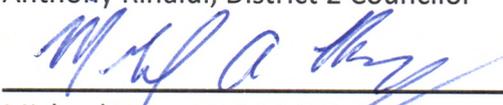
CITY OF AMESBURY
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

SPONSORED BY:


Steven Stanganelli, Councilor-at-Large

BILL No. 2021-135


Anthony Rinaldi, District 2 Councilor


Michael Hogg, District 6 Councilor

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>

Draft of Letter to His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth

The Honorable Charles Baker
Governor,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Room 280
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

RE: City of Amesbury – Release of Appropriation from 2014 Environmental Bond Bill for the Construction of Soccer Fields at Woodsom Farm

Your Excellency,

The City of Amesbury respectfully requests that you authorize the release of funds appropriated for the construction of much-needed soccer and athletic fields at Woodsom Farm in Amesbury.

These funds were appropriated in the FY2014 Environmental Bond Bill provided in line item 2000-7054 and further reauthorized in the 2018 Environmental Bond Bill until June 30, 2023.

The need for athletic fields and specifically youth soccer fields has been well documented beginning in the Woodsom Farm Committee recommendations of 1999 and the more recent Sports Fields Master Plan of 2018.

We again request that these funds be released so that this project can move forward and help us realize the vision to help our City's youth now and create a legacy for future generations.

Sincerely,

Matthew Einson,
President,
Amesbury City Council &
District 3 Councilor

Nicholas Wheeler
Vice President,
Amesbury City Council &
District 4 Councilor

Adrienne Lennon,
Councilor-at-Large

Scott Mandeville,
Councilor-at-Large

Steven Stanganelli
Councilor-at-Large

Pamela Gilday,
District 1 Councilor

Anthony Rinaldi,
District 2 Councilor

Timothy Kisielski,
District 5 Councilor

Michael Hogg,
District 6 Councilor