



AMESBURY

CITY HALL
62 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA 01913

City Council Special Meeting
Monday June 29, 2015
City Hall Auditorium
6:00 p.m.

Council President McMilleon called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilor Ferguson.

Roll call was taken.

The following were present: Councilor Ferguson, Councilor Lavoie, Councilor McClure, Councilor Sherwood, Councilor Sickorez, Councilor Bartley, Councilor Bezanson, Councilor McMilleon; and Councilor Moavenzadeh arrived at 6:20 p.m.

There were no President/Vice President communications; communication from elected officials, boards and commissions; or Council communications, announcements and committee reports at this time.

Mayor's Veto of **2015-024** Establish increase for Mayor's Salary

Councilor Lavoie spoke briefly about the history of this ordinance. He said he feels strongly about increasing the Mayor's salary.

Councilor Bartley thinks that the position deserves a raise, but she is very unhappy about the \$1,000 increase per year without a cap.

Councilor Bezanson agrees it is low compared to Newburyport, but not Merrimac or Salisbury. He believes that the increase should be written into the Charter review.

Councilor Ferguson will vote to override the veto.

Councilor Moavenzadeh said he will vote to override the veto.

Councilor McClure supports the Mayor's decision.

Councilor McMilleon said he will support the override of the veto.

Mayor Gray said he doesn't think we can afford it. He asked for cutbacks from his staff and wants to live by his own words. He said he appreciated the spirit in which this was done but he asked that the veto is sustained.

Councilor McMilleon said he supports the increase because of the scope of responsibility of the position. It merits a minimum of \$90,000 a year.

Councilor McClure moved to support the Mayor's Veto of **2015-024**, Councilor Sickorez seconded.

Councilor Lavoie called for a point of order. He said that the motion should be phrased differently.

Councilor Sherwood suggested an amendment be made to the motion.
Councilor McMilleon said there should be a motion to override the veto.
Councilor McMilleon rejected the motion and accepted a motion to override the veto.

Councilor Sherwood moved to override the Mayor's Veto of **2015-024**. Councilor Ferguson seconded.

Councilor Bartley said she agreed the Mayoral position deserved more money. She has a real problem with the \$1,000 increase per year.
Councilor Ferguson said that the Council did approve the annual 1% but that they can go back to the charter and make a more permanent change to that or it can be withdrawn. The Council has control to make that change. She also said they can also make a change to the Charter.

A roll call vote was taken: Ferguson – Yes, Lavoie – Yes, McClure – No, Moavenzadeh –Yes, Sherwood – Yes, Sickorez – No, Bartley – No, Bezanson – No, McMilleon – Yes.
The motion failed.

Councilor McMilleon said there will be a joint meeting with the School Committee on Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

First Reading:

2015-049 An Order to authorize a transfer of the care, custody, and control of certain property, known as the Titcomb Pit Landfill, as currently held by the Mayor, to the Mayor for the purpose for which it is currently held and for the additional purpose of leasing for renewable energy installation.

Councilor Ferguson made a motion to send 2015-049 to the Finance Committee for a recommendation and to the July 14, 2015, City Council Meeting for a public hearing. Councilor Lavoie seconded. It was voted unanimous.

Councilor McMilleon asked the members of the Council if Tom Barrasso could present before the Finance Committee Meeting at 7 p.m. to expedite the next meeting.

Tom Barrasso presented a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation is on file at the City Clerk's Office.

Councilor Sherwood moved to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Councilor Sickorez seconded. It was voted unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawne Warren
Office of the City Clerk
Administrative Assistant