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Minutes from the City Council Meeting on Tuesday June 21, 2022 at 6:54 pm in the Auditorium are as follows:

Lafamme, Frank N., President	At-Large Councilor	Present
Roy, Gerard (Jerry) A.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Tillotson, James K.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Zygarowski, Robert J.	At-Large Councilor	Present
McAuliffe, Joel D.	Ward 1 Councilor	Present
Brooks, Shane D.	Ward 2 Councilor	On Zoom, muted till 7:20
Lopez, Delmarina	Ward 3 Councilor	Present
Balakier, George A.	Ward 4 Councilor	Present
Krampits, Fred T.	Ward 5 Councilor	Present
Dobosz, Derek Gregory	Ward 6 Councilor	Present
Courchesne, William C.	Ward 7 Councilor	Absent
Labrie, Gary R.	Ward 8 Councilor	Present
Pniak-Costello, Mary Elizabeth	Ward 9 Councilor	Present

CITY COUNCIL
CHICOPEE MA

Public Input—Laura Damakis, 51 Westbrook Road, South Hadley, voice for educators and children. CEA was very active in pursuing a bill, the state had underfunded Chicopee schools for years. Only in year one, the history for 1.25 million in 2017-2018 there was little to no raises, insurance costs were skyrocketing. Cost of living has risen, students and education. More ELL students, more poverty, more SPED needs. Adding 21 teachers, 42 support staff. Services that students need. Do right by constituents and students. Claudia Palframan, 1 Springfield Street, concerned about services that will be lost. As a school librarian deals with all students. Need supports. Kids will grow up to be adults, if you take away the money it will come back on the staff to purchase the needed items. Lose teachers every year to other cities, can make more in another city. Teachers in Chicopee make less. The air quality in the buildings could be improved. Need to be proactive. Gina Potorski-Dahl, 68 Woodbridge Road, been teaching for 25 years, see the ok, here we go face. Chicopee homeowners have seen a raise in taxes. Raises to elected officials. Hampden Charter East and Hampden Charter West are the only two school districts that spend less than Chicopee. Need SRO's, need air quality, need teachers to stay in our system. Reallocating money to special funds. Wondering 132 million, revenue of 130 million why wouldn't we put the money back into the schools? Herve Gousy, Hillman Street, Chapter 3 of Code Enforcement. There is a need for the code enforcement officer. 242-244 East Main Street, four seasons, during the winter not shoveled or sanded. Nothing happens. City official owns this. Overgrowth year round. Very unsafe part of East Main Street, never been sited. 105 East Street, where the Masonic Temple used to be. Board of Health, have people in housing court. Never shoveled in the 2021 season. If the person had been sited \$300 per storm vs having hired a professional at \$1200. Need code enforcement. Jane Alexander, 25 Thomas Street, left with a lot of faith after the last meeting that things would be done. Did the leg work, wanted help from the Council. Emailed Councilor Courchesne from June 9th, if things happen nothing is done. Al is not an Engineer. They put someone on to get rid of her. We can not just make people move, call the police department is what she received in an email from Councilor Courchesne. No one works as a team, not asking for much, just get the scum off the street. Is it necessary to make her go through all this for a handicap sign.

--Motion made by Councilor McAuliffe to accept, receive and place on file the minutes of June 7, 2022. Motion passed. Councilor Courchesne absent.

--Motion made by Councilor McAuliffe to take item #14 out of order. Motion passed. Councilor Courchesne absent.

Ordered that the finance subcommittee meet to discuss the school department budget.

Motion made by Councilor Dobosz to receive and refer to the Finance Committee. Councilor Dobosz stated he has heard from teachers. The Finance Committee should meet to hear both sides. Personally believe the 1.25 million should be spent on the schools. Mr. Francis told them he planned to do a universal pre-school. Wont' be able to without the 1.25 million. Well worth it to study in committee. Councilor McAuliffe stated support this going to committee. Commend the Mayor. What is a good budget. Fundamental disagreement about the net school spending. Landmark-the state pays attention. Is there a mechanism that would allow this to happen? Mayor stated commitment should there be a need he will come to the council immediately. Don't pay for year end expenses with one time funds. Made to address the inequities in our schools. Should get ready for. All from different prospective to provide the best city services. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated filed the order, should have a special meeting prior to the budget. Major factor is the School Committee, they voted in favor of their budget with the 1.25 million in the budget. Meeting would allow all to discuss in the meeting. Councilor Lopez stated heard from the Mayor it is fiscally responsible for the 1.25 million to not be added to the taxes. Concrete numbers needed. Don't think people would disagree to the \$20 for better education. If the amount is not substantial most homeowners would agree to it. Councilor Tillotson stated have \$23 million they already have and they haven't told us how it will be spent. They didn't use the money from last year, now talking about buying a new building. Councilor Brooks stated know that the ESSERF funds will be available for 7 years. Can make avenues to spending. Never had a carryover in the school department budget like this. Remember years they had a deficit of 4-5 million dollars. Each person who balances a budget may not be able to absorb the additional cost. No problem with this going to Finance. Need to clarify and get everyone on the same page. Want what's best for the kids. They are our future. Need to clear up misconceptions. Keep the best interest of the taxpayers in mind. Councilor Lopez stated here the concern we don't know where the \$23 million will be spent. Fair to let them come and explain how this will be spent. Some people with a fixed income \$20 in this day and age is nothing, reality is this is a small price for a good education. Need to look at all the facts. Councilor Dobosz stated agree, want to know what the money will be spent on, want to hear the other side, \$23 million in ESSERF funds have to be spent on one time purchases. Worth looking into. Councilor Tillotson stated Finance Meeting before the budget, why can't we do it then? Not a lot of time left, nothing this week or next week but Fridays. Can we do both things together? ARPA is limited to their funds not much more freedom. Plenty of money now. We can adjust for next year if they need it. Don't want to see something made up in 5 minutes. No magic wand, getting an education is a process don't see us coming up with some project. Year to give the taxpayers back the 1.25 million. Need some accountability, more time on afterschool and tutoring. Should have been thought about 3-6 months ago. Councilor McAuliffe stated do think it's important to hold both meetings. Provides an opportunity for school, parents. Legit reasons on both sides. Difficulty for all of us, time constraints. Can we add to the budget? Traditionally the answer is no. Glad to see raises. Pre-school is a top priority. Commitment for both the Mayor and the Council President if the School Committee comes to the council, they said they would approve. Councilor Brooks stated with any budget he's dealt with for over 25 years there are one-time costs in every budget. Inaccurate to say there are no one time funds. Over seven years there is a hole in this. Not adding the 1.25 million to the tax levy. Fixed costs in every budget. Let's make sure our kids get everything they need. Councilor Laflamme stated there are budget hearings Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, the only day available would be Friday. Meeting of Finance before the budget hearing, set Finance for 5:30 on June 30th. The budget hearings start at 6:15. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

MO-1 Mayors appropriation of One hundred two thousand five hundred seventy-eight and 74/100 dollars (\$102,578.74) to the following named account: Planning Special Account for the Former Uniroyal Site Project from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Dobosz to receive and pass. Councilor Dobosz stated funds for design and engineering, will vote against. Taxpayers have spent more than 50 million, shouldn't be sold for a low amount. Agree with cleaning up the property, should have a meeting, let everyone know the options. Most profitable thing can be to lease the property. Councilor McAuliffe stated respectfully disagree with Councilor Dobosz, there is a lot of information out there about the property and the property clean up. Didn't know the area was all contaminated when the city took the property. Work that has been done is taking another step forward. All that comes back to the Council. Watched building after building come down. Close to getting the property back on the tax rolls. Major economic development plan. Once a significant eyesore will become the envy of the area. Councilor Tillotson stated last step. Been waiting for years to get this up and running. How do we attract business? More business = more revenue. Critical and vital to vote for this tonight. Celebrate coming to the finish line. Don't put a monkey wrench in it now. Councilor Labrie stated after all the money we have put in; don't even believe we are debating this. Pass it tonight. Councilor Balakier stated project going on for a long time. City inherited a mess, working to turn this area around. Baskin trucking project, another project on the corner of Oak Street. Developers are interested in this property. Vote in favor. Councilor Zygarowski stated will vote in favor. The potential of that property is humungous, need to finish this clean up. In the 60's was destroyed. The area will be beautiful, hopefully the Mayor and his staff will get someone in there to develop something beautiful. Councilor Dobosz stated would like to clarify, Slate Road was proposed for decades with no public input. Agree the Uniroyal area should be celebrated. Voting no is the best way to bring attention to the Slate Road area. Have to be absolutely sure what is being done there. Could do a lot of things there. Once in a lifetime chance. City did an excellent job cleaning this up. There should be a series of public hearings. Major taxpayer asset. Councilor Priak-Costello stated admire the vision of Councilor Dobosz, wants to make sure it is developed appropriately. Voting for. Also compliment Councilor with a vision, how land should be developed. Councilor McAuliffe stated echo voices, assuring the public is aware of these projects. Copious input from constituents about what they want. Encourage to engage with the 2040 group. Read the RFP, city and council will see and have an input on. In line with the mass procurement law. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Courchesne absent.

MO-2 Mayors appropriation of One hundred thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$100,000.00) to the following named account: D.P.W. Administration Special Account for Gas & Oil from the following named D.P.W. Highway Salary Accounts:

Maintenance Man	\$80,000.00
Traffic Foreman	<u>20,000.00</u>
Total	\$100,000.00

--Motion made by Councilor McAuliffe to receive and pass. Councilor McAuliffe stated increase in fuel cost also felt at the city level, taken from another account. Councilor Balakier stated the conflict continues will probably see requests from other departments. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Courchesne absent.

MO-3 Ordered that the City Council accept the donations in the amount of Three thousand five hundred twenty-seven and 45/100 dollars (\$3,527.45) to the Chicopee Senior Center. Said donations are for senior

meals for the month of May, 2022 and they are accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Pniak-Costello to receive and pass. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated from donations for daily senior meals for seniors. Motion passed through all stages by a roll call vote of 11 yes, 1 abstained. Councilor Laflamme abstained, Councilor Courchesne absent.

- 4 A favorable Ordinance Committee report: A proposed ordinance adding to Chapter 260, Isolated Stop Signs and Signal Lights, Windsor Street, Going south at the intersection of Bay State Road, Isolated Stop Sign.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive, 2nd and final reading, enrolled and ordained. Councilor Labrie stated stop sign asked for by constituent. Fence is blocking the view. Working to retain sight, stop gap measure to avoid accidents. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Courchesne absent.

- 5 A favorable Utilities Committee report: Petition from Eversource that it be granted a location and permission to install and maintain 360' of 2" IP plastic gas main on Cabot Street from Front Street to Exchange Street, 250' of 6" IP plastic gas main on Exchange Street from Cabot Street to Miller Street, and 320' of 2" IP plastic on Miller Street from Exchange Street to School Street with such laterals and service connections as it may now or subsequently find necessary. Said installation will be installed in accordance with the plans enclosed.

--Motion made by Councilor Dobosz to receive and the petition approved. Councilor Dobosz stated routine gas main repair. Only issue, Councilor Laflamme asked about blocking off streets, work with police and fire, make sure access is available for homes. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated Councilor Laflamme stayed on top of Eversource, wanted to make sure what happened on Jacob Street doesn't happen again. Motion passed. Councilor Courchesne absent.

- 6 A Favorable Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Jan F. Wegrzynek as a member of the Ambulance Commission to serve until the first of January 2025.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and postponed to the call of the chair. Councilor Tillotson stated he couldn't make the meeting. Will contact tomorrow to make sure he still wants it. Motion passed, postponed. Councilor Courchesne absent.

- 7 A favorable Human Resources Committee report: Mayoral appointment of Amy L. Partelow as a member of the Commission on Disability to serve as a member for the term of 3 years expiring on the first of June 2025.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and approved this evening. Councilor Tillotson stated very qualified, enthusiastic. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated does have extensive background in rehab. Motion passed. Councilor Courchesne absent.

- 8 A proposed ordinance adding to Parking Regulations: Broadway, East side -- In front of 283 Broadway for a distance of 25 feet, Parking Prohibited.

Motion made by Councilor Zygarowski to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Zygarowski stated will take up in committee. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

9 A proposed ordinance adding to Chapter 260, Chapter 260-31 Penalties.

Unless otherwise stated in this Chapter violations of this section shall be as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| 1) First Offense | \$ 50.00 |
| 2) Second Offense | \$100.00 |
| 3) Third Offense | \$200.00 |

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Tillotson stated felt no specific fines in the code. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

10 Be it Ordered that the Friends of Chicopee Senior Citizens, Inc. is hereby authorized to hold a one day BINGO event at the Chicopee Senior Center on August 4, 2022.

--Motion made by Councilor McAuliffe to approve. Councilor Laflamme stated need approval of the city to send a petition to the state. Councilor Zygarowski stated are these open to the public? Councilor Lopez stated the proceeds are to benefit the senior center. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Courchesne absent.

11 A proposed ordinance adding to Chapter 260-37 Engine brakes prohibited.

Add Carew Street

--Motion made by Councilor Krampits to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Krampits stated constituent request. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

12 Be it Ordered that the Utilities Committee meet with Eversource and City Officials to discuss issues on Jacob Street.

--Motion made by Councilor Pniak-Costello to receive and refer to the Utilities Committee. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated follow up with Eversource. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

13 Be it Ordered that the DPW install a "No Trucks" sign on 83 Hampshire Street.

--Motion made by Councilor Pniak-Costello to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated narrow residential street. Councilor Tillotson stated will take a long time. Up to six months, have to do a study. Very complicated thing. How many truck to meet the criteria. Not something that just gets put up, begin to work on it. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

15 An application for a NEW Special Permit under Section 275-9 of the Municipal Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of per chapter 277 installing small wireless facilities on nine (9) existing utility poles. Location of

property: See narrative. Name of applicant: Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless / Cellco Representative: Elizabeth Glidden, 1441 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

--Motion made by Councilor Balakier to receive and refer to the Zoning, Planning, Engineer, and Building Departments. Councilor Balakier stated will take up in committee. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

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An application for a NEW Class 2 license by Fairview Auto Salvage, 781 Ludlow Road. Applicant: Ronald J. King, 15 Glenn Drive, Wilbraham, MA 01095.

--Motion made by Councilor Brooks to receive and refer to the License Committee. Councilor Brooks stated will take up in committee. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Courchesne absent.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith W. Rattell', written in a cursive style.

Keith W. Rattell
City Clerk