

Chelsea Massachusetts April 10th, 2023

A regular meeting of the Chelsea City Council was held on April 10th, 2023. The meeting was held at Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150. The following members of the Council were present: Councilors Brown, Lopez, Robinson, Recupero, Vidot, De Jesus, Hatleberg, Vega, and Taylor. Councilor T. Garcia arrived at 7:10 PM. Councilor J. Garcia was absent. Council President Robinson presided over the meeting. The meeting opened at 7:05 PM.

Memoriums and Celebratory Resolutions:

C/D
ACCEPTED AND FILED

ID#: 23R14 - The following Resolution was introduced by Council President Robinson and all members of the City Council. A motion to adopt unanimously under suspension was made by Councilor Vega and was adopted.

RESOLUTION

Autism Awareness

2023 APR 26 P 12:12
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA

WHEREAS, Recognizing April as National Autism Awareness Month began in the United States in the 1970s to draw attention to the challenges faced by the community of individuals with autism whereas April 2nd is observed internationally as World Autism Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, Autism is a developmental disorder typically diagnosed during the first three years of life greatly impacting individuals of their ability to communicate and interact with others; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Health Statistics Report conclude the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders has risen to one in every 54 children in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Autism is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups, but is four times more common among boys than girls; and

WHEREAS, There is no cure for autism and participation in observance of National Autism Awareness Month helps to promote awareness through education on the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, Autistic individuals face difficulties in their workplace due to lack of accessibility resources for their needs; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the City of Chelsea hereby:

1. Celebrates National Autism Awareness Month from April 1-30, 2023 and April 2nd is Autism Awareness Day;
2. Recognizes and commends the family members of children with autism for their sacrifices and dedication in providing the support for the special needs of children with autism;
3. Emphasizes and raises awareness for the early intervention services to begin soon after a child is diagnosed with autism in an effort to improve potential outcomes;
4. Acknowledges, empowers and supports autistic city employees through resources and necessary accommodations;
5. Acknowledges, empowers and supports the teachers, paraprofessionals and other educators who possess the desire, caring and skills necessary to teach, assist, and respond to students with special needs, including those with autism, and who work tirelessly to educate and provide high quality programming for students with special needs enrolled in the Chelsea Public School District.

ID#: 23R15 - The following resolution was introduced by Council President Robinson and all members of the City Council. A motion to adopt unanimously under suspension was made by Councilor Taylor and was adopted.

RECORDED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA
2023 APR 26 P 12:02

RESOLUTION

Holocaust Remembrance Day

WHEREAS, The observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in the United States of America and around the world on April 17-18, 2023: and

WHEREAS, From 1933 to 1945, almost 6 million Jews were murdered in the Nazi Holocaust as a systematic program of genocide; and

WHEREAS, Millions of others considered "damaged," gay people, people with disabilities, from so-called ethnic minorities, political and religious adversaries and prisoners of war also perished as victims of the Nazi Regime; and

WHEREAS, 1.5 million children, from newborn infants to 17 year olds, were murdered by Nazi Germany and its collaborators; and

WHEREAS, Kinder transport (Children's Transport) was a rescue effort which brought thousands of refugee Jewish children without their parents to safety in Great Britain; and

WHEREAS, The residents of the City of Chelsea and everyone around the world should always remember the atrocities committed by the Nazis so that such horrors are never repeated; and

WHEREAS, The year 2023 marks the 90th anniversary of the beginning of the genocide of European Jews and one of the darkest, most murderous moments in history; and

WHEREAS, Indifference to genocide cannot be tolerated; Holocaust remembrance imposes a moral obligation to speak out; and

WHEREAS, The People of the City of Chelsea should continually rededicate themselves to the principle of equal justice for all people; and

WHEREAS, We remember and give thanks for those who saved lives, often at risk of their own, teaching us how in the darkest night we can light a candle of hope; and

WHEREAS, Jewish resistance against anti-Semitism and Nazi oppression occurred in every way imaginable, ranging from bold acts of defiance and altruism to armed resistance; and

WHEREAS, Jewish women played a crucial role in various resistance activities as leaders of resistance groups, as well as aid and rescue operations, as couriers and fighters; and

WHEREAS, Holocaust Remembrance day, known in Hebrew as Yom HaShoah, is a day set aside for remembering the victims of the Holocaust and for reminding all Americans, and people all around the world of what can happen when bigotry, hatred and indifference reign; and

WHEREAS, on this Yom HaShoah, we commit ourselves to one simple act: Yizkor, Remember. May the souls of the victims be bound in the bond of everlasting life; and

WHEREAS, Internationally, Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed this year on the 27th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan, from sundown on April 17 to sundown on April 18, 2023;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chelsea City Council commemorates the observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day in the City of Chelsea, April 17-18, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of Chelsea acknowledges the theme guiding Holocaust remembrance and education in 2023 is "Home and Belonging." The theme highlights the humanity of the victims and survivors, who had their home and sense of belonging ripped from them by the perpetrators of the Holocaust. The violence of exclusion began with disinformation and hate speech that lent support to systemic injustice, discrimination and marginalization and ended with genocidal killing. The theme reminds us of our responsibility to respond with humanity to the victims of atrocity crimes, to counter hate speech, antisemitism, Holocaust distortion and denial, and prejudice – to do all we can to prevent genocide.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
CITY OF CHELSEA
2023 APR 26 PM 12:02

ID#: 23R16 - The following resolution was introduced by Council President Robinson and all members of the City Council. A motion to adopt unanimously under suspension was made by Councilor Brown and was adopted.

RESOLUTION

National Arab-American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, The Chelsea City Council recognizes April as National Arab-American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, For over a century Arab-Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society: in medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, military service, culture; and

WHEREAS, Since migrating to America, men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also setting fine examples of model citizens and public servants; and

WHEREAS, They brought with them to America, their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education and diversity in faith and Creed that have added strength to our great democracy; and

WHEREAS, The history of Arab-Americans in the United States remains neglected or defaced by misconceptions, bigotry, and anti-Arab hate in the forms of crime and speech; and

WHEREAS, Arab-American issues, such as civil rights abuses, harmful stereotyping, bullying must be combated in the forms of education and awareness; and

WHEREAS, They join all Americans in the desire to see a peaceful and diverse society, where every individual is treated equally and feels safe; and

WHEREAS, The incredible contributions and heritage of Arab-Americans have helped us build a better nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chelsea City Council acknowledges April as Arab-American Heritage Month in the City of Chelsea and recognizes the contributions, cultures and traditions made by the Arab community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chelsea City Council acknowledges, empowers and supports all city employees of the Arab community and will to continue to educate and raise awareness to create a diverse and peaceful Chelsea.

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CITY CLERK
OFFICE
2023 APR 26 P 12:02

Public Speaking:

The public speaking portion opened at 7:16 PM.

No members of the public spoke.

The public speaking portion closed at 7:16 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

ID#: 23M17 - The minutes of the City Council meeting dated March 27th, 2023 were approved at the request of Councilor Recupero under suspension.

Communications from the City Manager:

ID#: 23CM51 - The following communication was read from Acting City Manager Ned Keefe. A motion to accept and file the communication was made by Councilor Brown and was approved. Councilor De Jesus requested a Sub-Committee on Conference be scheduled to discuss the use of residency waivers and was also approved.

The Honorable Chelsea City Council
Chelsea City Hall
500 Broadway
Chelsea, MA 02150

APR 26 P 12:03
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA

Re: Notice of Waiver Intent

Dear Councilors:

Pursuant to Administrative Code Section 1.12.02, I am writing to notify you that it is my intention to appoint Ms. Cassidy Collignon, 19 Mermaid Ave, Winthrop MA, to the full-time Probationary E-911 Telecommunications Dispatcher position for the City of Chelsea and to grant her a waiver from the residency requirement set forth in the Administrative Code, Part IV, Section 1.12.01.

There was one Chelsea candidate but the hiring committee was unanimous in its selection of Ms. Collignon as holding the motivation, interest and background for the position. A copy of her resume is attached.

In accordance with Section 1.12.02, I request that you provide me with any comments on the proposed waiver within seven days.

Sincerely,
Ned Keefe
Acting City Manager

ID#: 23CM52 - The following communication was read from Acting City Manager Ned Keefe. A motion to accept and file the communication was made by Councilor Vidot and was approved.

The Honorable Chelsea City Council
Chelsea City Hall
500 Broadway
Chelsea, MA 02150

Re: Notice of Waiver Intent

Dear Councilors:

Pursuant to Administrative Code Section 1.12.02, I am writing to notify you that it is my intention to appoint Mr. Sean Colby, 17 State Road, Plymouth MA, to the part-time Probationary E-911 Telecommunications Dispatcher position for the City of Chelsea and to grant him a waiver from the residency requirement set forth in the Administrative Code, Part IV, Section 1.12.01.

Mr. Colby has several years' experience as a part-time public safety dispatcher and was the most qualified candidate. A copy of his resume is attached. There were no Chelsea applicants for this opening.

In accordance with Section 1.12.02, I request that you provide me with any comments on the proposed waiver within seven days.

Sincerely,
Ned Keefe, Acting City Manager

Communications and Petitions to the Council:

ID#: 23C20 - A copy of a communication was received from the Harvard Mock Grant on Island End River Flood Resilience Project. A motion to accept and file the communication unanimously under suspension was made by Councilor Brown and was approved.

2023 APR 26 P 12:03
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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA

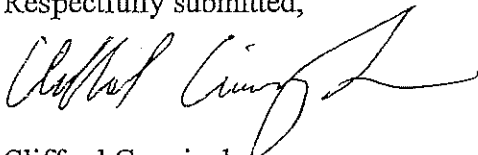
ID#: 23C21 - A copy of a communication was received from Christine Thomas of Lawrenceville LLC concerning the Homewood Suites by Hilton Temporary Closure. A motion to accept and file the communication unanimously under suspension was made by Councilor Taylor and was approved.

ID#: 23C22 - A copy of a communication was received from Joseph Siewko of the Chelsea Retirement System regarding the Retirement System's Cost of Living Adjustment A motion to accept and file the communication unanimously under suspension was made by Councilor Vidot and was approved. An amendment to refer to Sub-Committee on Conference was adopted under suspension.

ID#: 23C23 - A copy of a communication was received from the Collins Center providing the City Council a job profile for the vacant City Manager position. Councilor Vidot made a motion to move the communication to a Sub-Committee on Conference by roll call vote. The motion passed 7-3-1-0. Voting "Yes" were Councilors T. Garcia, Lopez, Recupero, Vidot, De Jesus, Vega and Taylor. Voting "No" were Councilors Brown, Robinson and Hatleberg. Absent was Councilor J. Garcia.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Clifford Cunningham
Clerk of the Chelsea City Council

2023 APR 26 P 12:03

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA