

**City of Beverly
Regular City Council Meeting
Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 5, 2026, 12:00 PM
Beverly High School Auditorium, 100 Sohier Road.**

CITY OF BEVERLY
RECEIVED AND RECORDED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2026 JAN -7 A 10:12

Steven Crowley, City Council Vice President, called the meeting to order at 12:31PM. City Clerk, Lisa Kent, took attendance by roll call.

Members Present: Keith Sonia, Todd Rotondo, Danielle Spang, Steven Crowley, Scott Houseman, Kathleen Feldman, and Matthew St. Hilaire.

Members Absent: Julie Flowers, John Mullady

Recorded by: Kathleen Dupont, Assistant City Clerk.

Councilor Crowley led the pledge of allegiance.

Presentations, Awards, and Memorials:

City Council President Flowers

Vice President Crowley noted President Flowers had come down with the Flu and was not able to attend however sends her best wishes. Additionally, President Flowers will be giving her inaugural remarks at the next regular meeting on January 20th.

Election of Vice President of the City Council

A motion to elect Matthew J. St. Hilaire, Ward 6 Councilor, as Vice President of the Council was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

At 12:34 PM Vice President Elect St. Hilaire took over presiding the meeting.

Communications from His Honor the Mayor:

Order #010 - A Loan Authorization in the amount of \$25,895,000 for the renovation and rehabilitation of City Hall and the adjacent former Police Station annex.

A motion to set a public hearing for January 20, 2026, at 7:50 PM was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #010A - A Debt stabilization transfer request of \$2,000,000 for the renovation and rehabilitation of City Hall and the adjacent former Police Station annex.

A motion to set a public hearing for January 20, 2026, at 8:10 PM was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #011 - An Appointment for Donna Matarazzo, 47 Elmcrest Rd, North Andover to serve as City Accountant.

Referred to the Committee on Finance and Property.

Order #012 - An Appointment for John Reynolds, 162 Common Lane to serve on the Veterans' Advisory Committee.

Referred to the Committee on Public Services.

Order #013 - A Reappointment for Joanne Panunzio, 31 Old Planters Road to serve on the Trustees of Public Library.

Referred to the Committee on Public Services.

Order #014 - A Reappointment for Colleen Michaels, 18 Madison Avenue to serve on the Trustees of Public Library.

Referred to the Committee on Public Services.

Order #015 - A Reappointment for Mary Behrle, 21 Cobblers Lane to serve on the Trustees of Public Library.

Referred to the Committee on Public Services.

Order #016 - A Reappointment for Bryant Ayles to serve as Director of Municipal Finance.

Referred to the Committee on Finance and Property.

Order #017 - An \$850,000 grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities to be used to support housing rehabilitations projects in the City of Beverly for low to moderate income residents that qualify.

Referred to the Committee on Finance and Property.

Communications, from other City Officers and Boards:

Order #001 - President Flowers - An appointment for Ward Four Councilor Scott D. Houseman and Ward Five Councilor Kathleen M. Feldman to serve as the City Council liaisons to the Clean Energy Advisory Committee.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #002 - President Flowers - An appointment for Ward Four Councilor Scott D. Houseman and Ward Six Councilor Matthew J. St. Hilaire to serve on the Financial Forecast Committee.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #003 - President Flowers - An appointment for herself Councilor at Large Julie R. Flowers to the Beverly Human Rights Committee.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #004 - President Flowers - An appointment for Ward Six Councilor Matthew J. St. Hilaire and Councilor at Large Keith A. Sonia to serve as the City Council Liaisons to the Beverly Police Department Community Advisory Council.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #005 - President Flowers - An appointment for Ward Three Councilor Steven M. Crowley to serve as the City Council Representative to the Economic Community and Development Council.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #006 - President Flowers - An appointment for Ward Three Councilor Steven M. Crowley and Councilor at Large John J. Mullady to serve as the City Council liaisons to the Beverly School Committee.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #007 - President Flowers - An appointment for Ward One Councilor Todd C. Rotondo and Ward Two Councilor Danielle M. Spang to serve on the Harbor Management Authority.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #008 - President Flowers - Appointments to the City Council Subcommittees and Designation of a Standing Chair.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

Order #009 - CPC - Community Preservation Committee Out of Cycle CPA Funding Recommendation- Request for CPA funding for: Independence Park Renovations.

A motion to set a public hearing for January 20, 2025, at 7:30 PM was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0).

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and motion carried (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 12:39 PM.