# CITY OF CONCORD

*New Hampshire's Main Street™*

**DRAFT**

Thursday March 19, 2026 (3:00 PM) – Council Chambers
Meeting Minutes

**Present**: Councilor & Chair Amanda Grady Sexton, Kate Lipman, Councilor Jennifer Kretovic, Natch Greyes, Councilor Jeff Foote, Kate Lipman, Andrew Biemer, Lisa Brown, Ana McKenna, Steve Edwards

**Staff Members Present**: Fire Chief Chisholm, Deputy Fire Chief Costello, Deputy Fire Chief Hebert, Deputy Police Chief Casey, Police Chief Moulton

**Guests:** Code Administrator David Hall, Health Inspector Zachary Lee, Concord Fire Department Union President Justin Kantar, Liquor Commission Chief Mark Armaganian

**Minute Taker:** Rachel Robinson

Councilor & Chair Amanda Grady Sexton called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes.

**Action:** Councilor Kretovic moved approval of the January 15th 2026, Meeting Minutes. The motion was duly seconded by Andrew Biemer. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

## Mutual Aid and State Funding for City Fire/Police Response

Fire Chief Chisholm presented a detailed analysis of the fire department responses to state-owned properties within the city. Currently, the department receives $25,000 annually from the State of New Hampshire.

A comprehensive effort to quantify the cost of state-owned properties and an analysis of the responses was provided by Fire Chief Chisholm. The responses included apparatus deployment, personnel assigned, time spent on scene, payroll data (overtime vs regular time), and benefits-adjusted wage calculations.

The overall findings estimated a $90,000 in direct quantifiable costs associated with responses. Fire Chief Chisholm emphasized that this figure is conservative as it excludes fuel mileage, maintenance and repair costs, and facility overhead (housing and utilities). With those factors

included, the total cost was believed to be estimated $125,00 annually, although, Fire Chief Chisholm advised that this number is non-quantifiable at this time.

The committee members acknowledged the difficultly of capturing full costs due to limitations in available data. Natch Greyes advised he would assist Fire Chief Chisholm to refine the analysis in order to create a revised report, and with a more comprehensive recommendation in order to be developed for the meeting in May.

**Social District Discussion**

Code Administrator David Hall, Health Inspector Zachary Lee, and Liquor Commission Chief Mark Armaganian spoke about the implementation of social districts. The proposed application of the first event would be Market Days, that included a geographic area that included a possible 20 plus business establishments.

Chief Armaganian emphasized that participation is entirely optional or (opt- in) for the city and its individual businesses. Chief Armaganian outlined its requirements for geographic boundaries, signage, enforcement mechanisms, and business participation.

Some operational requirement examples were provided, such as alcohol must be served in clearly labeled containers identifying establishment and event, containers cannot be reused across events, alcohol purchased in one establishment cannot be brought into another, consumption is limited strictly to the designated district, and all liability rests with participating establishments.

A proposed subcommittee was asked to become established in order to develop baseline guidelines for the social district proposal. The subcommittee would refine the proposed guidelines and present to the committee before bringing to the City Council. The Committee emphasized that Market Days would serve as a pilot program and future approvals would depend on its outcomes.

If it were to go forward, it was proposed that the committee would conduct a formal after-action report following the first implementation of Market Days.

**Action:** Councilor Foote moved approval of the after-action report. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kretovic. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

**PCR and CIP Highlights**

Fire Chief Chisholm outlined critical infrastructure and operational needs such as apparatus concerns. Several engines and ambulances are operating beyond their intended service life. Recent incidents had demonstrated reliability issues, including equipment malfunction during active responses, and ambulance usage levels are equivalent to an extremely high mileage.

Some of the fire departments priority requests were the replacement of two fire engines to maintain operational readiness and adequate back up capacity. Another request was the investment in a modern secure key access system as existing systems are failing and cannot be replaced with current parts.

The operational needs Fire Chief Chisholm advised upon was the restructure of training and personnel development in order to increase retention and training as well as to support long term service expansion goals. Lastly, the request for funding of an additional dispatcher to address peak call volume periods.

Police Deputy Chief Casey addressed key priorities of replacement of the current records management and dispatch system which is no longer fully supported and is critical to daily operations. Further operational challenges mentioned were managing extended incident scenes (major crime scenes) that require multi-day staffing in difficult weather/terrain conditions. Some examples of the request were the need for proper equipment for police staff such as portable shelters, power sources, and environmental protection. Lastly, Deputy Chief Casey requested funding on continued access to digital forensic tools for computer crimes investigations.

Police Chief Moulton mentioned funding for continued training regarding Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) in order to support staff wellness.

**Community Policing Efforts**

Police Chief Moulton highlighted ongoing outreach efforts within the city including,Ski with a Cop, school partnerships and neighborhood engagement initiatives. Committee Members noted strong positive feedback from community regarding the efforts.

Ana McKenna mentioned the Military Veterans Campus is welcoming first responders for behavioral health and various activities that are geared specifically toward first responders.

Clarification regarding a concern about the police ride along program insuring minors were not participating in overnight shifts. Chief Moulton and Deputy Chief Casey assured that participants must meet an age requirement, and minors must provide parental consent. The ride along program is generally limited in duration and timing as well as overnight ride alongs are not typical and would require special circumstances.

Committee formally recognized a departing member, Deputy Fire Chief Hebert for years of service and contributions to public safety, the Public Safety Advisory Board, and the community.

**Adjournment**

**Action:** Councilor & Chair Grady Sexton moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:35 p.m. The motion was duly seconded by Andrew Biemer and passed with no dissenting votes.