City of Concord

City Council

Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, May 11, 2026 | **7:00 PM** | **City Council Chambers, 37 Green Street, Concord, NH 03301**

A non-meeting consultation with legal counsel in accordance with RSA 91-A:2, I (b) followed by non-public sessions in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3, II (d) to discuss contract negotiations and property acquisition to begin at 5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order.
2. Invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Roll Call.

   Present: 14 - Councilor Stacey Brown, Mayor Byron Champlin, Councilor Mark Davie, Councilor Jeff Foote, Councilor Amanda Grady Sexton, Councilor Michele Horne, Councilor Aislinn Kalob, Councilor Fred Keach, Councilor Jennifer Kretovic, Councilor Judith Kurtz, Councilor Jim Schlosser, Councilor Kris Schultz, Councilor Ali Sekou, and Councilor Brent Todd

   Late: 1 - Councilor Nathan Fennessy

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes.

   April 13, 2026 City Council Draft Meeting Minutes.

   Action: Councilor Grady Sexton moved approval of the April 13, 2026 City Council meeting minutes. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kretovic and passed with no dissenting votes.

   Councilor Fennessy was not present for the vote.

6. Agenda overview by the Mayor.

   Consent Agenda Items

   Action: Councilor Kretovic moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Grady Sexton. Mayor Champlin noted that Items

7, 20, 21, 22, 24, and 27 were pulled from the Consent Agenda. Councilor Brown recused herself from Items 22 and 23 as her husband is a police officer.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Councilor Fennessy was not present for the vote.

Referral to the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee

7. Communication from Julia Freeman-Woolpert requesting review of current park permit fees for small community events and discussion of ways to improve access to public parks for local use. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Kalob.)

Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

Referral to the Traffic Operations Committee

8. Communication from Teresa Vincent, together with a petition from South Broadway Street constituents, requesting traffic safety improvements at the intersections of Broadway and Wiggin, and Broadway and Rockingham Streets.

Action: The communication was referred to the Traffic Operations Committee.

9. Communication from Peter Osiecki, Gilmore Street resident, requesting enhanced traffic enforcement and noise mitigation, South Street and Pillsbury Street.

Action: The communication was referred to the Traffic Operations Committee.

Referral to the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee

10. Communication from Gerard Bedard suggesting the removal of Exit 14 on I-93 as well as improvements to Loudon Road for safer, more connected community.

Action: The communication was referred to the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee.

Items Tabled for June 4, 2026 Public Hearings

11. Resolution fixing and determining the amount of money to be appropriated by the City of Concord for the Fiscal Year 2027 ending June 30, 2027 for the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, Debt Service Funds and De Minimis Accounts.

Action: This resolution was moved to set for a public hearing.

12. Resolution repurposing Capital Project Funds for use in the Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Improvement Program and Annual Closeout of Capital Projects; together with a report from the Director Office of Management & Budget.

Action: This resolution was moved to set for a public hearing.

13. Resolution appropriating for Fiscal Year 2027 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027) the sum of $22,026,600 for Capital Projects, authorizing the issuance of Bonds and Notes in the sum of $18,018,600, accepting the sum of $950,000 in Capital Transfers, and authorizing the use of $3,058,000 in Reserve Funds for various Capital Projects more specifically identified in the budget document.

Action: This resolution was moved to set for a public hearing.

14. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1, Government Organization; Article 1-5, Fees, Fines, and Penalties, Schedule I, by amending Chapter 9, Water, Section 9-1-6 Water Use Rates, Section 9-1-8 Water Fixed Charges, Section 9-3-8 Sewer Use Rates, and Section 9-3-8(a) Sewer Fixed Charges.

Action: This ordinance was moved to set for a public hearing.

Items Tabled for June 8, 2026 Public Hearings

15. Resolution appropriating the sum $36,502 for the Beaver Meadow Golf Course Club House & Buildings project (CIP #107), accepting the sum of $14,472 in donations from SkiTheBeav, and authorizing the use of $22,030 from the Recreation Reserve for this purpose; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Finance. (Public testimony received.)

Action: This resolution was moved to set for a public hearing.

16. Resolution appropriating the sum of $10,000 in the Parks & Recreation Grants and Donations Skate Park subproject for the construction of the Skate Park at Kiwanis Park and accepting the sum of $10,000 as a donation from the Concord Skate Park Association for this purpose; together with a report from the Parks and Recreation Director.

Action: This resolution was moved to set for a public hearing.

From the City Manager

17. Positive Citizen Comments.

Action: Positive comments received and filed.

Consent Reports

18. Diminimus gifts and donations report from the Library Director requesting authorization to accept gifts and donations totaling $6,355.37, as provided under the pre-authorization granted by City Council.

    Action: Consent report approved.

19. Diminimus gifts and donations report from the Parks and Recreation Director requesting authorization to accept monetary gifts totaling $7,487.91, as provided for under the pre-authorization granted by City Council.

    Action: Consent report approved.

20. Quarterly Status Report on City Council's 2026-2027 Priorities. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

    Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

21. March 31, 2026 Fiscal Year to Date Financial Statements and Report from Deputy City Manager - Finance. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

    Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

Consent Resolutions

22. Resolution authorizing the City Manger to submit an application to the United States Department of Justice - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for funds designated for law enforcement related programs; together with a report from the Deputy Chief of Police. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Kalob.)

    Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

23. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for Federal Community Project Funding designated for law enforcement related programs; together with a report from the Deputy Chief of Police.

    Action: Consent resolution approved.

    Councilor Brown recused herself as her husband is a Concord Police Officer.

24. Resolution authorizing the transfer of $20,000 from the Event Arts Grant Program to the Grants and Donations Fund to support the efforts of the City Council Ad-hoc Semiquincentennial and Tri-Centennial Committee for the July 4th Concord 250/300 Celebration; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Finance. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown and Councilor Kalob.)

Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

25. Resolution repurposing the sum of $25,457.44, from various subprojects within the Library Buildings Capital Maintenance project (CIP #551) to include $6,266.44, from the Fiscal Year 2024 Interior Upgrades subproject and $19,191, from the Fiscal Year 2025 Chair Lift subproject to fund the assessment and design of an HVAC upgrade at the Concord Public Library; together with report from the General Services Director.

Action: Consent resolution approved.

Appointments

26. City Manager's proposed appointment to the Board of Trustees of Trust Funds: Travis Craig.

Action: Appointment approved.

27. Mayor Champlin's proposed appointments to the Board of Ethics: Marcia H. Moran, James D. Rosenberg, Stephen J. Shurtleff and Adam Pignatelli. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

End of Consent Agenda

Public Hearings

28A. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, Article 18-1, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 18-1-6, Schedule I, to modify no parking restrictions on Church Street between Bradley and Rumford Streets; together with a report from the Assistant Director of Community Development. (Referred back to the Parking Committee at the May 11, 2026 City Council meeting.)

Action: City Manager Aspell noted that this item was discussed by the parking committee at the request of Ms. Hannah Whitmer, on February 23rd. Ms. Witmer requested that the City add “No Parking This Side Signs” on the portion of Church

Street from at least Jackson Street to Lyndon Street, like has been done on the lower part of Church Street.

He noted that staff reviewed the request with the Parking Committee on February 23, 2026, and the committee voted to direct staff to complete the attached ordinance which would amend the current restriction of no parking on the north side of the road from Bradley Street to Jackson Street; extending the no parking zone on the north side of the road to extend past Jackson Street all the way to Rumford Street. Additionally, he noted the Parking Committee opted not to include a seasonal parking restriction as this section of Church Street is one of the only areas in the vicinity that allows off-street parking during winter months.

Mayor Champlin opened the public hearing.

Crissie Ferrara, resident of Church Street, testified that she was against the amendment because she owns and resides in a four-family residence, and the parking restriction would create very limited parking for her and her residents. She suggested the City consider converting the street a one-way street, especially given its a narrow street with a rather steep grade.

Councilor Davie read a statement from resident Alex Doyle. "My biggest issue with eliminating parking on the north side of Church Street, is taking parking away from tenants in several multifamily homes who rely on street parking."

There being no further testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

28B. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1, Government Organization, Article 1-5, Fees, Fines, and Penalties, Schedule 1; together with non-ordinance fees and a report from the Deputy City Manager-Finance.

Action: City Manager Aspell explained annually each City department revises and recommends fee increases or decreases based on inflation, market conditions, or budget changes. While non-ordinance fees do not require a public hearing, the City includes them within this process so people can get all the information. Both ordinance and non-ordinance fee based increase recommendations are for items that propose increases due to market conditions or other factors. All other items that are at market rate or not in need of an increase will remain at current levels or be decreased. The critical aspect of the process is to maintain reasonable fees and

charges that are adequate to support delivery of City services.

Councilor Brown asked questions around the columbarium niche fee and why the resident fees were increased and the non-residence fees were not increased.

Parks & Recreation Director David Gill, noted that the non-resident fee is a flat rate of $20 more per hour than the resident rate.

Mayor Champlin opened the public hearing.

Mr. Schweiker, resident, testified shared concerns that the document was hard to read and carelessly put together, while also containing discrepancies. Additionally, he was unable to print the document.

There being no further testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

28C. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance by amending certain definitions included within the Glossary and Article 28-5, Supplemental Standards, by amending Section 28-5-2 Duplex or Two-Family Dwellings; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: City Manager Aspell explained eliminating the existing supplemental lot area and frontage requirements for duplexes is appropriate given the recently adopted changes to the accessory dwelling unit standards. These proposed amendments will eliminate confusion and improve ease of interpretation of the zoning ordinance, as well as facilitate development of duplexes in the 8 zoning districts where they are already permitted, thus expanding “missing middle” housing opportunities in the City.

Mayor Champlin opened the public hearing.

Chris Carley, resident and member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, testified that he was before the Council speaking for himself as a resident and not a member of the ZBA. He recommended adopting all of the changes staff proposed to the zoning ordinances outlined in the agenda, emphasizing that any revisions that simplify the zoning ordinance, would help to improve clarity while reducing the number of "nuisance requirements." He also noted that some items that typically require ZBA approval could be better served elsewhere, such as the Planning

Board as they have greater flexibility since they are not a quasi-judicial board.

Craig Tufts, resident, shared his concerns that for new construction there needs to be some sort of design standards to match existing neighborhoods. He noted the current structure would be a 60' wide side-by-side duplex with two double-wide garages, which does not fit the neighborhood.

Roy Schweiker, resident testified that he believes the definition of an accessory dwelling unit needs to be refined to include the original language that required one unit to be owner occupied in order to prevent builders from buying properties and building offensive ADU's that do not align with the neighborhood in the name of profits.

Christopher Carr, resident, testified sharing his concerns that the current builder wants to construct a duplex on a property that is not large enough. He is concerned that developers will begin to buy properties in order to tear them down and build duplexes that barely fit, but meet the minimum requirements, ultimately changing these older neighborhoods just to make money. He feels that eliminating the need for variances for a duplex is a terrible idea.

Valerie Murphy, resident, testified at length to the vernacular character of the locally rooted design of Concord. She shared her concerns that removing zoning limits for duplexes would disrupt the pattern and character of Concord's traditional neighborhoods and weaken the sense of community they currently share. She emphasized there should be zoning standards for neighborhoods so the design does not harm existing neighborhoods.

Mayor Champlin noted that he shares in the vernacular of a neighborhood, however, Concord is in need of development. Zoning changes such as this will allow more development which in turn will help to reduce rents because there are more options, also reducing the cost of buying a home.

A lengthy conversation ensued between Council and Ms. Murphy, discussing which parts of the ordinance raise the most concerns for her, and the difference between flexible supplemental standards compared to design standards.

Heather Shank, resident and current Director of Planning and Community Development for the State of NH, testified expressing her appreciation that the City Council has demonstrated attention and sensitivity to residents regarding this issue.

She shared a graphic of the proposed duplex and explained the comparison to the makeup of the existing neighborhood homes. She shared her perspective that this amendment would negatively affect mostly the RN (Residential Neighborhood) and RD (Downtown Residential) districts. She suggested leaving the following language in the ordinance: "The one and a half times lot frontage and one and a half times parking," for new development in the RN and RD districts. This still allows more intense duplexes everywhere else in the City. She noted that Concord is 90% single family residential. Secondly, she suggested amending the table of dimensional standards, deleting the front yard setbacks, and under supplement standards that says for RN and RD districts you must comply with the build two line with the conditional use permit to allow flexibility. Lastly, she indicated that she is not in favor of design standards.

There being no further testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

28D. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance, Section 28-5-3 Conversion of a Residential Building; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: City Manager Aspell explained these amendments will serve to clarify the existing ordinance, thus improve ease of interpretation and administration, as well as help facilitate development of small-scale housing projects (1-5 units) via conversion of existing buildings in zoning districts where such conversions are currently permitted, thus expanding “missing middle” housing opportunities in the City.

Mayor Champlin opened the combined public hearing. There being no testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

28E. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance, Article 28-9, Administration and Enforcement, Section 28-9-3 Decisions by the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA), and Subsection 28-9-3(f)(3) Application Procedure for the ZBA; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: City Manager Aspell explained if adopted, the attached amendment will modify 28-9-3(f)(3) of the Zoning Ordinance to be consistent with NH RSA 676:7. Specifically, this amendment will allow for the City to issue notice to abutters 5 days prior to hearing (rather than 10 days currently), as well as send notice only to those parties that are defined as an “abutter” by NH RSA 672:3 (thus

eliminating the requirement to notify all property owners within 300' of the subject parcel unless they meet the definition of "abutter" as defined by the aforementioned statute). Both changes help to make the notification process more efficient. The amendment also codifies use of "verified mail" as defined by RSA 21:53. He further stated these are housekeeping amendments which will align the City's ordinance and processes with
State Law.

Mayor Champlin opened the public hearing.

Roy Schweiker, resident, testified he would prefer the City keep the standards currently written for the definitions of abutters as well as keeping the ten day timeline due to mail delivery delays if the City is allowed to.

Nicholas Holmes, resident, testified that he too would prefer the City keep the 10 day notice period because these are important matters that affects people's homes and property values.

Ruth Nadeau, resident, testified sharing her personal experience in receiving a certified abutter notice eight days after the scheduled meeting.

There being no further testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

28F. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance, Section 28-4-5 Development of Attached and Multifamily Buildings; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: City Manager Aspell shared these amendments will amend and clarify standards for attached and multifamily development, remove conflicts with other municipal regulations, and provide increased flexibility for development of such projects in zoning districts where they are already permitted. He noted that these amendments are recommended by the Planning Board and the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Mayor Champlin opened the combined public hearing. There being no testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

28G. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a project agreement with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for the design, permitting, right-of-way, and construction of the multi-use path on the city-owned

rail corridor from Sewalls Falls Road north to the Boscawen town line (CIP #543, State project no. 43732), appropriating the sum of $1,553,928.00, in the Merrimack River Greenway Trail project (CIP #543), accepting the sum of $1,243,142.40 in NHDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding, authorizing the transfer and use of Impact Fee Funds in the sum of $225,000, and authorizing the transfer and use of Recreation Reserve Funds in the sum of $85,785.60 for this purpose; together with a report from the Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives. (Revised resolution, supplemental report and communication from the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail submitted.) (Public testimony received.)

Action: City Manager Aspell noted that the Council has a revised resolution and supplemental report in front of them. He invited Beth Fenstermacher to present.

Beth Fenstermacher, Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives, indicated the first two phases of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail have been completed. She explained the City had applied for a Transportation Alternative Program grant in 2021 to design and construct the section of trail described as north of Second Street up to the Contoocook River, which had been approved, but then delayed for various reasons. The City purchased the CSX property in February, which prompted the City to go back to the NHDOT to secure the TAP funding to proceed.

She further explained the State of NH recently adjusted the dollar amount of the grant based on inflation, which differed from the published notice, and is represented in the revised resolution presented. She noted that the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail sent a letter of commitment to donate $105,000 for the project.

Council discussion focused on deadlines for accessing State grant funds, the rationale for selecting the Recreation Reserve Fund, the amount allocated to Penacook projects, and the annual funding the City diverts to supplement the Merrimack Valley School District.

Mayor Champlin opened the public hearing.

Dick Lemieux, resident, president, and founding member of the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail, testified before the Council. He shared the organization’s history, noting it has secured more than $5.8 million in grants and raised an additional $788,000 from more than 525 individuals, businesses, and

foundations. He stated that the organization has directly contributed more than $443,000 toward MRGT-related projects, including Terrill Park and the Sunflower section, while also funding land appraisals and surveys, bridge inspections, invasive plant removal, and public information kiosks. Mr. Lemieux also announced his commitment to raise at least $105,000 for the project. He commended City Manager Aspell for his foresight in securing grant funding in 2021.

Roy Schweiker, resident, testified sharing his concerns, suggesting the project to improve a longer section of packed dirt surface, similar to the northern section of the trail, instead of paving a shorter section which would cost more.

Nicole Fox, resident, testified showing her appreciation for the Council's support for the MRGT. She noted it is a rare opportunity to create an alternative transportation route for non-motorized traffic.

There being no further testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

Public Hearing Action

29. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, Article 18-1, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 18-1-6, Schedule I, to modify no parking restrictions on Church Street between Bradley and Rumford Streets; together with a report from the Assistant Director of Community Development. (Referred back to the Parking Committee at the May 11, 2026 City Council meeting.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz.

Councilor Todd, Chairman of the Parking Committee, indicated that the Committee typically prefers to hear from residents on issues prior to Council review. Councilor Kretovic duly noted his concerns.

After brief discussion, Councilor Kretovic moved to amend the motion to send the item back to the Parking Committee. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Foote. Councilor Todd withdrew his original motion.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

30. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1, Government Organization, Article 1-5, Fees, Fines, and Penalties, Schedule 1; together with non-ordinance fees and a report from the Deputy City Manager-Finance.

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz.

Council discussed concerns around the ADA accessibility of the document, noting it was difficult to read and navigate.

Councilor Brown moved to amend the motion and to increase/modify the non-resident citywide community center fees from $20 to $30. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Davie.

Council discussion ensued around best solutions to ensure residents and non-residents alike are paying appropriately for the services they use. Parks & Recreation Director David Gill explained that vast majority of people renting community centers or parks are Concord residents and non-profit based organizations.

The motion to amend failed.

The original motion to approve the ordinance passed with no dissenting votes.

31. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance by amending certain definitions included within the Glossary and Article 28-5, Supplemental Standards, by amending Section 28-5-2 Duplex or Two-Family Dwellings; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: Councilor Davie moved approval. He indicated he would like to amend the proposed ordinance, in section two, to reinstate the text to proposed to be stricken, and instead add "for any new construction occurring in the RD and RN districts" at the beginning of section 28-5-2. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Todd.

Councilor Sekou asked if Councilor Davie was open to table the item, which Councilor Davie agreed.

Council invited Deputy City Manager Community Development Matt Walsh and

Assistant Director of Community Development Tim Thompson for discussion.

Deputy City Manager Community Development Walsh indicated staff feels very strongly about section one of the ordinance, which is the definitions, as they have been problematic for years. He emphasized that if Council has concerns about section two, which addresses lot area and frontage requirements, Council could make a motion to leave the original language, remove the amended language, and direct staff and the Planning Board to take a look at alternative ideas. He reminded Council that the Planning Board and the Economic Development Advisory Committee recommended the changes. Assistant Director of Community Development Thompson noted that the application for a variance in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) does not currently meet the existing minimum frontage and area requirements, and had this ordinance amendment been made, they would not have needed a variance. He also pointed out that this particular application will remain on the ZBA agenda, with a date certain of June 1st, whereby the application could still be approved.

Discussion ensued around the language within the ordinance that needs clarification and amendment, such as the definition of the two-family duplex needs revision that a duplex is not an accessory dwelling unit. Council also discussed whether staff needs to consider that section two would apply to all districts, and not just the RD and RN districts.

Councilor Davie amended his motion, striking section two of the proposed ordinance, leaving the original language, and sending it back to staff and the Planning Board for further discussion. The motion to amend passed.

32. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance, Section 28-5-3 Conversion of a Residential Building; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: Councilor Schultz moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Sekou and passed with no dissenting votes.

33. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance, Article 28-9, Administration and Enforcement, Section 28-9-3 Decisions by the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA), and Subsection 28-9-3(f)(3) Application Procedure for the ZBA; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: Councilor Schultz moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Todd.

Council invited Deputy City Manager Community Develop Matt Walsh and Assistant Director of Community Development Tim Thompson for discussion.

Deputy City Manager Community Develop Walsh explained the State of NH has two different notification requirements for the Planning Board, which is ten days, versus the Zoning Board, which is five days. He also noted the supplemental standard of notification to abutters within 300 feet applies to the ZBA, however the Planning Board just notifies direct abutters. Staff recommended aligning the requirements mimicking the State statute.

Council discussion ensued around the notification timelines, and the supplemental standards of notification to abutters.

Councilor Fennessy moved to amend the ordinance as proposed to strike the portion that had the 10 days, return to where the 10 days was prior, and to keep the 300 feet from being struck. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Todd. The amended motion passed with no dissenting votes.

34. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title IV, Zoning Code; Chapter 28, Zoning Ordinance, Section 28-4-5 Development of Attached and Multifamily Buildings; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Development.

Action: Councilor Schultz moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kurtz and passed with no dissenting votes.

35. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a project agreement with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for the design, permitting, right-of-way, and construction of the multi-use path on the city-owned rail corridor from Sewalls Falls Road north to the Boscawen town line (CIP #543, State project no. 43732), appropriating the sum of $1,553,928.00, in the Merrimack River Greenway Trail project (CIP #543), accepting the sum of $1,243,142.40 in NHDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding, authorizing the transfer and use of Impact Fee Funds in the sum of $225,000, and authorizing the transfer and use of Recreation Reserve Funds in the sum of $85,785.60 for this purpose; together with a report from the Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives. (Revised resolution, supplemental report and communication from the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail submitted.) (Public testimony received.)

Action: Councilor Kretovic moved approval of the amended resolution. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz.

Councilor Kretovic emphasized her excitement for the project, noting the economic growth the project will have for the greater Concord area. She noted that hard packed surfaces can be difficult for different modes of use and would be voting in favor of the resolution.

Councilor Todd and Mayor Champlin expressed their appreciation towards the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and their years of dedication to this project, noting they have been great partners with the City throughout the process.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Reports

New Business

Unfinished Business

36. Presentation on the Memorial Field Master Plan from the Parks and Recreation Director. (Presentation given at the November 10, 2025 City Council Meeting.) (Action on this item tabled at the November 24, 2025 City Council Meeting.) (Communication from Concord School District received.) (Petition and public testimony received.)

    Action: Item remains tabled.

37. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, Article 18-1, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 18-1-7.1, Parking Prohibited During Certain Hours and Months in Designated Places, Schedule IX; to modify parking requirements on School Street between Pine and Liberty Streets; together with a report from the Assistant Director of Community Development. (Action on this item tabled at the August 11, 2025 City Council meeting.) (Public comments received.)

    Action: Item remains tabled.

38. Resolution appropriating the sum of $84,000 to support efforts by Concord's Plan to End Homelessness and authorizing a transfer in from the Community Improvement Reserve in the sum of $84,000 for this purpose; together with report from Councilor Jim Schlosser. (Action on this item tabled at the April 14, 2025

City Council meeting.)

Action: Item remains tabled.

Consideration of Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda

7. Communication from Julia Freeman-Woolpert requesting review of current park permit fees for small community events and discussion of ways to improve access to public parks for local use. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Kalob.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz.

Councilor Kalob discussion her concern that the cost of the permit could be a deterrent and that people need to be able to access City spaces for gatherings, citing that it was a matter of equity, access and belonging, suggesting that the matter go to both the RPAC Committee and the DEIJB Committee.

Councilor Kalob moved to amend the motion to refer the communication to the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee and the DEIJB Committee. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schlosser and passed with no dissenting votes.

20. Quarterly Status Report on City Council's 2026-2027 Priorities. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz.

Councilor Schultz moved the question. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Todd. The motion passed with two dissenting votes.

Councilor Kalob asked for a point of order, as there was confusion.

Mayor Champlin explained that discussion was suspended and the matter goes to a vote. Roll call was requested by Mayor Champlin:

8 - Yes: Mayor Champlin, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Foote, Councilor Grady-Sexton, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Schultz, Councilor Todd

7 - No: Councilor Davie, Councilor Horne, Councilor Kalob, Councilor Kurtz, Councilor Schlosser, Councilor Sekou, Councilor Brown

The motion to approve the report passed with no dissenting votes.

Around 10:14 pm, later in the meeting, City Solicitor John Conforti indicated that the motion needed a 2/3rds majority vote.

The Mayor reopened discussion.

Councilor Brown brought attention to goal number three, infrastructure investment and asset management, emphasizing the importance of the parks, trails, recreational facilities, and the trees within those parks. She also stressed the need for environmental responsibility and communication, noting that Woodside School had not been notified that tree cutting would begin and that preschoolers were on the playground when the work began, which was a hazard.

Councilor Grady Sexton noted for full transparency that the report stated that the trees were dead. She also noted that a tree fell on a student in Massachusetts last week which resulted in the child's death. Councilor Fennessy noted that the future plans for Memorial Field include the planting of trees.

The Mayor closed discussion, as the resolution was passed.

21. March 31, 2026 Fiscal Year to Date Financial Statements and Report from Deputy City Manager - Finance. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kretovic.

Councilor Brown shared her concerns that the revenue line on page 38, shows the league and tournament line at a negative $10K. Councilor Fennessy noted that the course opened in April and that the line reflected the year-to-date fiscal statements as of March 31, 2026.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

22. Resolution authorizing the City Manger to submit an application to the United States Department of Justice - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for funds designated for law enforcement related programs; together with a report from the Deputy Chief of Police. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Kalob.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz.

Councilor Brown recused herself as her husband is a Concord Police Officer.

Councilor Kalob inquired into the timing of the grant, the dollar amount of the grant, and what it will be used for.

Interim Concord Police Chief Barrett Moulton explained that this grant will be used for investigative tools to extract data from electronic devices and for security devices.

Councilor Kalob asked follow up questions with regards to the amount of grant funds the police department has received in the last year, and whether it is typical to use grant funds for personnel.

City Manager Aspell responded that each grant is listed in the quarterly report. He also noted that there are grants that can be used to hire staff, both police and fire alike, but generally the grant would pay for the first year. In the past it paid up to three years. At this time, Concord applies for grants for training programs, which reduces the cost to the taxpayer.

Councilor Kalob inquired whether there is a hiring freeze for the Social Worker position, noting the value that the position brings to the Concord Police Department.

City Manager Aspell stated explicitly that there is no hiring freeze. Councilor Grady Sexton pointed out that the City of Concord was one of the first municipalities not to fund this position through grant funding because it was important to be able to sustain the position. City Manager Aspell also noted that the Police Department requested funding for three positions and that those positions are in the budget.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

24. Resolution authorizing the transfer of $20,000 from the Event Arts Grant Program to the Grants and Donations Fund to support the efforts of the City Council Ad-hoc Semiquincentennial and Tri-Centennial Committee for the July 4th Concord 250/300 Celebration; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Finance. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown and Councilor Kalob.)

Action: Councilor Kretovic moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kurtz.

A discussion was held around the funding source for the semi-quincentennial and tri-centennial celebration.

Councilor Grady Sexton moved the question. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz. Councilor Foote recused himself as his wife sits on the committee.

Roll call was requested by Mayor Champlin:

14 - Yes: Mayor Champlin, Councilor Davie, Councilor Fennessy, Councilor Grady-Sexton, Councilor Horne, Councilor Kalob, Councilor Keach, Councilor Kretovic, Councilor Kurtz, Councilor Schlosser, Councilor Schultz, Councilor Sekou, Councilor Todd, Councilor Brown

No: None

1 - Recused: Councilor Foote

The motion to move the question passed.

The motion to approve the resolution passed by the required 2/3rds majority vote.

27. Mayor Champlin's proposed appointments to the Board of Ethics: Marcia H. Moran, James D. Rosenberg, Stephen J. Shurtleff and Adam Pignatelli. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

Action: Councilor Brown made a motion to table to go into non-public at the June 8, 2026 City Council meeting.

Councilor Grady Sexton recused herself from Attorney Rosenberg's nomination

because she had consulted with him on a matter related to City Council. After further discussion, Councilor Grady Sexton removed her recusal.

The motion to table failed.

Councilor Schultz moved approval. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kretovic and passed with one dissenting vote.

Comments, Requests by Mayor, City Councilors

Action: Councilor Todd noted the 5th Annual Memorial Day Parade will be held on Sunday, May 24th, at 9:00 A.M. The parade route begins at Merrimack Valley High School and ends at the former Washington Street school. Along the route, there will be a remembrance stop at the Woodlawn Cemetery, where taps will be played, as well as a stop at Boudreau Square. After the parade, there will be an open house at Fox Hardware and Sweet Dreams Ice Cream at 325 Village Street. He also noted that Sweet Dreams is collaborating with Concord Public Library where participants can earn a free small ice cream after reading five books, which runs monthly.

Councilor Horne gave a per-congratulations to the graduates of Concord High School and Merrimack Valley High School, noting that this event is bittersweet for her as her child will also be graduating.

Councilor Kretovic requested residents to donate golf clubs which can be cut down for junior golf clinics. She brought in a Power of Attorney agreement from February 23, 1776, from the grandson of Ebenezer Easton, John Eastman, noting that John Eastman handed over Power of Attorney to Richard Eastman. This is the person that was designated as the Provincial Captain from 1776, by King George, to settle New Hampshire and started Pennycook.

Councilor Davie noted that the Concord Area Transportation is hosting a ride-a-long for the public to discuss routes, operations and current challenges, to be held on Sunday at 2:00 p.m., meeting at the Statehouse.

Councilor Schultz noted that the filing period for candidates seeking federal or state office in this year's election begins June 2nd.

Councilor Kurtz indicated that Concord Area Transportation is seeking RSVP's so they can determine how many busses for Sunday's event. This weekend is S&W Sport's 17th annual bike swap.

Councilor Fennessy wished a happy belated Mother's Day to everyone around the table. Concord Little League held their opening day ceremony this past Saturday, noting 393 children are participating. He recognized Derek Mercier, who was recently named volunteer of the year. He is a math teacher at the high school and President of the Concord Little League for the past seven years.

Councilor Sekou seconded Councilor Fennessy's Mother's Day wishes. He reminded all City residents that budget season is upon us and urged residents to come testify, starting May 14th. He also shared that the Muslim community will celebrate Eid al-Adha which will be on May 27th at Keach Park.

Councilor Brown also discussed the Library, highlighting the many programs, offerings, and resources. She also gave a shout out to long-time volunteer Ruth Perencevich. She noted that the City Charter was accepted in 1853 and the Public Library was approved in 1855.

Mayor Champlin noted that Concord's Memorial Day Parade will be held on Memorial Day, May 25th, at 9:00 a.m. He shared that he attended the Concord Fire Department Award Ceremony at the Audi. He acknowledged Firefighter, EMT, Alexander Matson, who was named Firefighter of the Year. He also mentioned that the City Manager and a number of Councilors attended the State of the City Breakfast hosted by the Concord Chamber of Commerce, where Detective Stephen Carter was recognized as Police Officer of the Year. Lastly, he highlighted Arbor Earth Day tree planting at Rollins Park in partnership with Jim Milligan of Modern Woodmen. There were two third-grade classes, teachers, the Principal from Abbott Downing, as well as many City departments and committee members.

Comments, Requests by the City Manager

Adjournment

Action: Councilor Todd moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 p.m. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kurtz passing unanimously.

Information

Inf1 August 13, 2025 Joint City/School Memorial Field Planning Committee approved Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf2 January 15, 2026 Trustees of Trust Fund Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf3 March 2, 2026 Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf4 March 3, 2026 Architectural Design Review Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf5 March 11, 2026 Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf6 March 11, 2026 Conservation Commission Trails Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf7 March 18, 2026 Planning Board Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf8 March 19, 2026 Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf9 March 23, 2026 Parking Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf10 April 2, 2026 Manager's Review Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf11 April 6, 2026 Concord Public Library Board of Trustees Draft Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf12 April 7, 2026 Everett Arena Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf13 April 9, 2026 Golf Course Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

IInf14 April 16, 2026 Trustees of Trust Fund Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf15 April 20, 2026 Fiscal Policy Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf16 April 27, 2026 Parking Committee Draft Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

A true copy, I attest:

Deborah Tuite
Deputy City Clerk