

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

February 2, 2026 at 5:00 PM

Chairman Burkush called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Burkush, Vincent, Barry, Goonan

Absent: Alderman Terrio

Messrs.: Alderman O'Neil, M. Gomez, J. Belanger

1. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$125,000 for CIP 711725 Traffic Signal - Cilley/Jewett.

Chairman Burkush: I have an email from Alderman Terrio, who sits on this committee. He is in support of this item.

*On motion of **Alderman Vincent**, duly seconded by **Alderman Barry**, it was voted to approve.*

2. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$50,000 for CIP 711825 Amoskeag WB Design & Construction.

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Vincent**, it was voted to approve.*

3. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$116,753 for CIP C160060926 200 Elm, Fire Suppression/ADA Improvements.

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Vincent**, it was voted to approve.*

4. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$600,000 for CIP C500071226 Multimodal Transportation Plan (MTP).

*On motion of **Alderman Vincent**, duly seconded by **Alderman Goonan**, it was voted to approve.*

5. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$150,000 for CIP C500071226 Multimodal Transportation Plan (MTP).

*On motion of **Alderman Goonan**, duly seconded by **Alderman Vincent**, it was voted to approve.*

6. Communication from Jeff Belanger, Planning and Community Development Director, requesting that the Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Division become the administering department of CIP 713006 Crystal Lake Conservation Fund.

Alderman Barry: I have received communication from the people that run that camp out at Crystal Lake. They are concerned about the water and safety. Every year we get word that it is closing and reopening. Is there something that we can do? They still have the clubhouse there. They are concerned about the bathroom facilities. The bathrooms there aren't being utilized properly.

Mark Gomez, Chief of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery: With respect to the bathrooms, they are old. They could use some care. The way we intend to spend the funds is to implement some stormwater runoff mitigation measures. We think that will reduce runoff and bacteria into the lake. We are hopeful that we see a reduction in closures related to cyanobacteria and E. coli. It remains to be seen how effective the measures will be in terms of quality of the lake water and in terms of reducing erosion around the lake and park.

Alderman Barry: Is there any way you can coordinate what we can do in order to clean it up and so that we don't keep running into the same problems?

M. Gomez: We don't know entirely what the causes of the bacteria have been. We are in regular communication with the Health Department. If we can identify measures that will reduce closures and improve the quality of the lake water, we will try to implement those. This \$40,000 will assist us in taking some measures that are likely to reduce those closures.

Alderman Goonan: Regarding the bathrooms, could that be an issue? Do we have any improvement plans?

M. Gomez: I think the bathrooms are unlikely to be the source of the E. coli. There could be runoff of pet waste, or other animal feces that are contributing to E. coli levels. Additionally, there could be human sources. It is a matter of debate what the source is. I have not seen evidence that it is the bathrooms.

Alderman O'Neil: Could the funds be used for something else at Crystal Lake?

Jeff Belanger, Director of Planning & Community Development: You can see on the budget authorization the restrictions on the funds. They are supposed to be used for clean up of the lake. They were brought in by DOT in 2006. We thought we found a good match with what Mr. Gomez is trying to do with the pollution and stormwater cleanup. There are other options. Private bathrooms, I don't think so. If they are public bathrooms, then potentially. The language is conservation/preservation of land adjacent or approximate to Crystal Lake for the purpose of water quality preservation, and long-term conservation programs to achieve these benefits. If they are directly adjacent, then maybe.

Alderman O'Neil: We all had received communication on this in the last day or so. That is the question, would the bathrooms benefit and help improve the water quality. The

email we received was critical that the port-a-potties are not good enough. If it was for public bathrooms, funds could be used?

J. Belanger: I think that is true.

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Goonan**, it was voted to approve.*

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Vincent**, duly seconded by **Alderman Barry**, it was voted to adjourn.*

A True Record. Attest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Normand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Clerk of Committee

*Meeting Start Time: 5:00PM
Meeting End Time: 5:08PM
Minutes Prepared By: Michael Intranuovo*