

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 12, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

-MINUTES-

Present: Chair, Councilor Paul Lundberg; Vice Chair, Councilor Steven LeBlanc, Jr.; Councilor Melissa Cox; Councilor Valerie Gilman; Councilor Kenneth Hecht; Councilor Jennifer Holmgren; Councilor Scott Memhard; Councilor Sean Nolan; Councilor James O’Hara

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joanne Senos; Jim Destino; Melissa Teixeira-Prince; Jill Cahill; Vanessa Krawczyk

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. The Council President announced that this meeting is recorded by video and audio in accordance with state Open Meeting Law.

Flag Salute & Moment of Silence. Councilor LeBlanc dedicated the Moment of Silence in remembrance of his brother, Paul, who passed away in 2004; today would have been his 46th birthday.

Oral Communications:

Name: Karen Spencer
Address: 67 Langsford Street
Subject: Voiced further information regarding her continuing campaign to eliminate fluoride from the city’s water supply and asking for the Council’s support (email statement on file in advance of meeting).

Presentations/Commendations:

1 of 2: Heidi Riccio, Superintendent-Director, and Marie Znamierowski, School Business Manager re: Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School

Councilor Gilman, the city’s appointed member to the North Shore Agricultural & Technical School (NSA&TS) Board, introduced Ms. Riccio, Superintendent -Director of the school; Ms. Znamierowski, the school’s Business Manager, and Mark Strout, NSA&TS School Committee Chair.

Ms. Riccio made a presentation (documentation filed in advance of meeting) for the Council, reviewing the following topics:

Overview of Gloucester’s Student Population at NSA&TS:

- Gloucester is one of 17 “sending” communities of the NSA&TS with 95 students currently in attendance;
- 230 students have applied for acceptance in various grade levels, 95 of whom are incoming freshmen, and the rest are in other grade levels at the school;
- Applications are based on open enrollment in the programs where space is available;
- NSA&TS is committed to technical, career and academic excellence; not only are the NSA&TS student’s college ready, but career ready it was pointed out.

Overview of Programming:

- Eighteen career and technical programs and eight agricultural programs are offered at NSA&TS. Gloucester students are able to “explore 26 program offerings...”
- As some of the offerings are construction related, agricultural related, department meetings are set up in Gloucester to ensure NSA&TS is meeting student needs. Students are able to gain real-world experience through fieldwork;
- Thanks were offered to Sen. Tarr, Rep. Ferrante, Dr. Richard Safier (Gloucester Superintendent of Schools) and the Burns family for allowing NSA&TS to partner with the construction and craft labors program, through Local 22 in Malden. There is a pilot program now underway with a small group of upperclassmen training in the labors program. Many Gloucester fishermen are laborers during off-peak seasons and work for Local 22, it was noted.
- “Hawk Happenings,” a handout (previously placed on file) was briefly described, a compendium of school programs of note.

Budgetary Matters:

- Assessments to the city - In order to reduce the assessment to sending communities NSA&TS pursues revenues or competitive grant funding to help offset fiscal needs of the school. The competitive grant funding was noted as “extremely important” to the school particularly in career and technical education, being mindful to the higher costs versus traditional education;
- Mass. Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education 2017 per pupil expenditure -- it cost \$248 more to send a student to NSA&TS than educating them in the Gloucester School system which was noted as “considerably lower” than traditional vocational education -- typically it is \$5,000 to \$7,000 more than what the traditional rate is;

Other NSA&TS Programs:

- The Cooperative Education Program was touched on with approximately 121 students in their junior or senior year working for \$12 up to \$22.25/hr. in various disciplines. It was noted that typically machine technology positions garner a higher pay rate;
- Adult Education Programs and Workforce Training were touched on. NSA&TS works closely with MassHire, and funding was received through the “CAP” program (Workforce Capital Grant Program) which is educating 20 future machinists at no cost to the participating individuals. Highlighted was the average cost of the CAP program -- \$4,500 per student for a 300 hour course. This was proffered as another way to partner with Gloucester residents. An upcoming program starts in early summer, and Gloucester residents are encouraged to attend if under-employed or unemployed at no cost to them;
- NSA&TS partners were highlighted that are willing to take on these “program completers” upon the completion of the certificate program. Individuals who complete the CAP program obtain a national certification through NIMS (National Institute for Metalworking Skills);

Grant Funding Received by NSA&TS:

- Nearly \$1 million in grant funding has been received in this current fiscal year in competitive grant funding, not including federal and/or state entitlement grants. These grants help to reduce sending members’ student assessments and more grant funding is pending currently;

Other Matters related to NSA&TS:

- Members of the Gloucester community who are industry leaders are part of the Program Advisory Committees for the school -- all career and technical programs have program advisory committees to stay current with today’s standards;
- NSA&TS hosts various events of interest to the community some of which were touched on. Of note is an upcoming program to enhance teacher professional development with some seats held for Gloucester teachers, a course that will start in July;

COUNCILOR QUESTIONS:

Councilor O’Hara asked about the school’s student attrition rate. **Ms. Riccio** noted to quantify student attrition rate is “difficult” as students move in and out of the district because this is a regional school district. She advised the school is able to keep those students in the district provided they’re not out-of-district students that are only eligible for the agricultural programs. She noted this year the school accepted 380 grade 9 students. There are now at 376 -- only about four students fell off the roster which is considered a low attrition rate. She touched on briefly typical transitional reasons why students fall off of the school’s roster. Any available seats that open up, the expectation is that the school is filling them, she added. Advising that Governor Baker has committed to increasing access to career and technical education she pointed out that NSA&TS is one of the largest technical schools that have a wait list.

Councilor Cox asked what the overall school budget increase is from last year. **Ms. Riccio** conveyed NSA&TS is showing a 4.64% increase for FY20, and last year it was a 4.23% increase, saying that it wasn’t a significant amount. **Councilor Cox** pointing out the 4.64% increase, she communicated that when the local school district comes to the City Council and asks for 4%, the city just can’t do that; it will be something much less. She asked how they can justify the substantive NSA&TS increase. **Ms. Riccio** noted that an increased enrollment increases costs, highlighting that in FY15 there were 1,130 students, and in FY19 there are 1,412 -- next year it is anticipated there will be 40 more students. The average class size is 25 -- more than 1.5 students per core subject matter. She assured that any program that is under-enrolled there is staff attrition. **Councilor Cox** asked for a copy of the NSA&TS FY20 budget book. **Ms. Riccio** noted it is available on the school’s website and will provide the Councilor with a hard copy.

Councilor Nolan expressed his support for vocational schools, noting he is a former vocational student. He pointed out that Gloucester High School has a good shop set-up although some of it is under-utilized by students. He asked if the NSA&TS could partner with the Gloucester school district to encourage students to come to

Gloucester to utilize the GHS programs while they wait to get into the NSA&TS shop programs. **Ms. Riccio** advised there is legislation in the works; they have met extensively with the School District as to how they can partner. She conveyed she understood resources are particularly tight in a K-12 district. They have offered their services to update some of the program areas at GHS and assured NSA&TS is “more than willing” to have their students work alongside the GHS students no matter the type of shop program. She explained that the construction and craft labors program students go to NSA&TS Monday through Thursday from noon to 4:00 p.m. but on Fridays they stay in Gloucester and this could be the first step.

Councilor Hecht asked what percent of student applicants are turned away each year. **Ms. Riccio** advised there are over 1,400 applications for 400 spots for the incoming class in 2019. Over time applications have increased. She pointed out that as college becomes more expensive and out of reach for many families it was important to note that the living wage of an electrician is comparable to a Master’s degree holder’s income.

Ms. Riccio reminded the Council that if there are projects that the school can do for the city to let them know.

Mr. Strout expressed his thanks to Melissa Teixeira-Prince for her work as the city’s representative to the NSA&TS Board noting her many accomplishments during her tenure as a member of the school’s board.

Council President Lundberg also offered the Council’s thanks to Ms. Teixeira-Prince on behalf of the Council. **Ms. Teixeira Prince**, noting her resignation from the NSA&TS in late 2018, lauded the work of Ms. Riccio.

2 of 2: Ken Whittaker, former Conservation Agent re: Plover Protection Plan

Jim Destino, CAO, introduced the city’s new Conservation Agent, Adrienne Lennon, and expressed his confidence Ms. Lennon would do a good job, mentioning her “great” credentials. He offered his thanks to former Conservation Agent, Ken Whittaker, lauding his work during his tenure with the city. He expressed he would personally miss Mr. Whittaker.

Mr. Whittaker reviewed the Plover Protection Plan (“Plan”) drafted in December 2018 noted as having been reviewed by federal, state and local wildlife officials, and further refined, highlighting points as follows:

- The city through its efforts was able to save one plover chick through last year’s nesting season but were unable to determine the demise of the other hatchlings;
- The Plan is in essence the same although refined and expanded with volunteers being key to the success of the plan;
- They are in the process of identifying a volunteer to be the plover scheduling coordinator to schedule volunteer shifts which needs to be maintained and updated. Previously that schedule was 6:00 a.m. to about 7:00 p.m., but this year it’s hoped to extend the hours further into the evening;
- Volunteer training will be upgraded; there will be some kind of branding/t-shirts for volunteers, and hats -- a type of uniform to clearly identify the plover volunteers;
- Additional signage will be posted through the auspices of Mike Hale, Public Works Director and his staff; and nesting area fencing will be provided by the Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA);
- There will be a public website for volunteers to sign up; outreach to high school students will be done.

Mr. Whittaker conveyed the city has a good plan, although it will take a lot of volunteer effort with 1.5 hour shifts; and organization for training. Plover awareness will be conveyed to GHS students at the Vulnerability and Sea Rise Program taking place Friday of the plovers and their nesting sites.

COUNCILOR QUESTIONS:

Councilor O’Hara asked how volunteers can sign up. **Mr. Whittaker** asked that prospective plover volunteers email their interest to Ms. Lennon (alennon@gloucester-ma.gov) at this time.

Councilor Memhard noted a concern expressed at the last Council meeting was that the protections would be extended to start on April 1 on Good Harbor Beach, and highlighted the concern about Wingersheek, Coffin and Crane Beaches. At this point there’s not been success with nesting plovers at Wingersheek beach, he pointed out. He conveyed he wanted to ensure that the Conservation Agent and the volunteers were “on top of that” so that they create a hospitable environment even though there is no formal plan for Wingersheek Beach at this time. **Mr. Whittaker** advised he knows of no appearance of nesting plovers on Wingersheek Beach, although there has been talk of isolated nests in recent years on the private side, Coffin Beach. He highlighted that ECGA has been instrumental in helping the city with inspections. The steps taken for Good Harbor Beach are welcome, he added.

Councilor Cox noted that at the last meeting the concern about enforcement arose where it was highlighted that signage was part of that issue. If the tickets are tossed out because of signage, she conveyed that she’d appreciate the Conservation Agent working with the DPW to get better signage erected. She asked for cooperation so that these tickets will stick. **Mr. Whittaker** advised they’re working hard with their volunteers to make them

comfortable to approach people but also how to step back in conflictual situations and call for assistance. Additional signage will be posted, he assured. It is hoped with giving volunteers a little more confidence and recognized as authority it should help the situation. **Councilor Cox** asked that the signage be posted year round. **Mr. Whittaker** added that the Conservation Agent can write tickets but not for these kinds of matters.

Councilor Gilman noted as a former 20 year Brier Neck resident that she knew the beach well, pointing out she put forward a Request to the Mayor for having sawhorses right at the entrance of the pedestrian bridge, for example so that in order to gain the beach, people must go around the signage making it hard to miss. She suggested it could be replicated at the Good Harbor Beach parking lot; at the end of Witham Street where it meets the beach, and at the high tide mark between the public and private section of the beach. **Mr. Whittaker** expressed he believed that by trying to expand the awareness zone not just within the symbolic fencing to protect the nesting areas, but located on paths leading down to the beach it would help. He assured that once they see the way the birds are moving they can better post signage and utilize other methods to protect the plovers.

Councilor LeBlanc expressed his concern that when signage is too complex people don't read it all the way through. He suggested a partial sign method to post information in a graduated way on the beach, so that not all the information is contained in one large sign. **Mr. Whittaker** conveyed the point was well taken, saying that there are several ideas they may test out. He noted they will explore many methods to convey information to the beach-going public.

Councilor Gilman noted certain High School groups must do community service and suggested that might be an avenue for the Conservation Agent to seek volunteers. The Mass. Audubon Society will hold a training program on plovers on March 30 at the Sawyer Free Library, he noted, which will help with public outreach, as well as a program at the end of the week at GHS on Coastal Resiliency where they can bring up this subject.

Confirmation of New Appointments: None.

Consent Agenda:

• **MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Management Appointment:

Police Chief	Edward G. Conley, III	TTE 04/01/2024	(Refer City Council)
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2. New Appointments:

Archives Committee	Susan Roberts-Wright, Lois A. Hamilton, Sandy Williams	TTE 02/14/22	(Refer O&A)
Shellfish Advisory Commission	Francena Monell-Simard	TTE 02/14/22	(Refer O&A)
3. Memorandum from City Clerk re: acceptance of donations to the Archives Committee in the amount of \$175 (Refer B&F)
4. Memorandum from CFO re: requesting approval to credit the General Fund via Home Rule Petition with the Fuller School sale proceeds (Refer B&F)
5. Memorandum from CFO re: loan authorization request in the amount of \$900,000 for the demolition & reconstruction of the Magnolia Pier (Refer B&F)
6. Supplemental Appropriation-Budgetary Request (2019-SA-31) from the CFO (Refer B&F)
7. Invitation from the North Shore Association of REALTORS re: the North Shore Mayor's Housing Panel I on March 14, 2019 (Info Only)
 - **COMMUNICATIONS/INVITATIONS**
 - **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**
1. Special Events Application: request to hold the 2019 Gloucester Block Parties on July 13, August 10 and August 30, 2019 (Refer P&D)
2. PP2019-002: Petition by National Grid to relocate 1 JO Pole on School House Rd. (P5) w/anchor; anchor on P4, all near 4 School House Road with P5 to be relocated 25' east off existing location with sustaining and protecting fixtures (Refer P&D)
 - **COUNCILORS ORDERS**
1. CC2019-009 (Hecht): amend GCO by prohibiting the use and distribution of single use plastic straws, stir sticks & hotstoppers in food service establishments (Refer O&A & Bd. of Health, Clean City Commission)
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
1. City Council Meeting: 02/26/2019 (Approve/File)
2. Standing Committee Meetings: B&F 03/07/19 (no meeting), O&A 03/04/19 (cancelled), P&D 03/06/19 (under separate cover) (Approve/File)

Unanimous Consent Calendar:

1. CC2019-010 (O'Hara): Amend GCO Ch. 21 "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places" by DELETING Sec. 21-19 "Removal of snow from sidewalks" and Sec. 21-20 "Removal or covering of ice on sidewalks" (Refer O&A)

Items to be added/deleted from the Consent Agenda & Unanimous Consent Calendar:

Council President Lundberg asked to remove Item #1 under the Mayor's Report, "Management Appointment, Police Chief, Edward G. Conley, III, TTE 02/14/2024" and advised that the Administration has made an offer that has been accepted by Chief Conley from Manchester-by-the-Sea, and it is now the matter of confirmation and ratification of the new Chief's contract to come before the Council. He announced that the Council will meet as a Committee of the Whole to ask questions to the prospective Police Chief, adjourn, and then convene a Special

Meeting of the City Council to vote on the confirmation of a Police Chief and the ratification of the Police Chief's contract. The meeting take place on Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m in Kyrouz Auditorium.

By unanimous consent of the Council the matter of the Management Appointment, Police Chief, Edward G. Conley, III, TTE 02/14/2024 was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

By unanimous assent of the City Council the Consent Agenda was accepted as amended; and by unanimous assent of the City Council the Unanimous Consent Calendar was accepted as presented.

Committee Reports:

Budget & Finance: March 7 - No meeting

Ordinances & Administration: March 4 - Cancelled

Planning & Development: March 6

There were no matters for Council action under this heading.

Scheduled Public Hearings: None.

For Council Vote:

- 1. Decision to Adopt: SCP2019-002: School House Road #2, #3 & #4, Map 262, Lots 14 & 37; and Gloucester Crossing Road #7, Map 43, Lots 4 & 5, for the modification of Condition #18 of SCP2017-012, pursuant to GZO Sec. 1.5.13 "Compliance with Approved Plans; Modification of Plans"**

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilman, seconded by Councilor Holmgren, the City Council voted by ROLL CALL 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to adopt the Special Council Permit decision (SCP2019-002) for School House Road #2, #3 & #4, Map 262, Lots 14 & 37; and Gloucester Crossing Road #7, Map 43, Lots 4 & 5 for the modification of Condition 18 of SCP2017-012 pursuant to GZO Sec. 1.5.13 of the Gloucester Zoning Ordinance.

Other Business:

- 1. Discussion regarding 2019 permitting of the Gran Prix Gloucester Cyclo Cross Event**

Council President Lundberg noted this was for a Council discussion noting last December the P&D Committee took under consideration a letter from the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee highlighting that Committee's concern about the Gran Prix Gloucester Cyclo Cross Event. They promised they would have a public discussion about that situation, he advised, which hadn't taken place yet. He suggested that the Cyclo Cross usually applies in June or July, but that already on their website they are advertising this event for October 2019. He suggested that the City Clerk forward a letter to the event organizers to remove that from their website.

Councilors Cox and LeBlanc conveyed they had no problem with future dates of events by organizations being advertised, citing that the other local area organizations put up save the date notices on their websites and that the Cyclo-Cross organization was no different. It was noted by **Councilor LeBlanc** that other large events which take place annually in the summer at the park do damage to it, none of whom provides the city with monetary or physical reparations to the park, although the Cyclo-Cross event organizers do that. It was pointed out that this event takes place in the fall, considered a shoulder season, and is typically one of the last, or the last event held at the park the year. They both pointed out this was singling out just one event that takes place annually at Stage Fort Park.

Council President Lundberg prompted a discussion about how this matter might come to the Council for a public discussion, as right now the only event they have complaints about is the Cyclo-Cross. **Councilor Cox** pointed out the city has received many complaints about other events held at Stage Fort Park, that the Cyclo-Cross event isn't the only one damaging the park and disturbing the neighborhood surrounding it. She asked they wait until the Cyclo-Cross pulls their Special Event application and have it come to the Council.

Councilor Hecht expressed concern for timing of applications if they have to reject an event saying events should apply sooner. **Councilor Cox** noted that the Special Events Advisory Committee (SEAC) has set up timing for events to come in advance. **Councilor Holmgren**, offering that if they are writing to one organization they have to write them all, inquired as to what the special events application schedule is. **Joanne M. Senos**, City Clerk, a

member of SEAC, recounted that for recurring events their application must be filed in to her office at least 45 days in advance of the event, and if a new event to the city the application must be filed at least 60 days in advance of the event.

Councilor Gilman suggested that in light of the 400th city's anniversary it would be appropriate to let groups using Stage Fort Park for these events that it will restrict use of the park closer in to that year, that the city may want to accelerate event permitting so that they are fair to their "partners" in order to have a professional, proactive conversation. If part of the decision is to bring it back for public discussion, at Council from P&D, they can then do so, she added.

Councilor Memhard noted Stage Fort Park as a unique city asset, and summarized the concern of whether the Cyclo-Cross event is too intensive a use of the park, also noting that the event is subject to the wear and tear of the weather. **Councilor O'Hara** agreed saying that they are fortunate to have a beautiful park, noting other communities' parks don't compare. He urged long-term planning for use of the park in order to preserve this asset.

Councilor Cox expressed agreement that there needs to be some oversight for city property so it is equitable for all. She pointed out that the 400th Committee and the Administration should make recommendations to the Council as to what their plans are with their events for the years preceding for a balanced use of the park. She added it is appropriate to have the discussion, she offered, but it is not appropriate to pinpoint one group by bringing them forward in advance. **Councilor LeBlanc** pointed out the city's 400th is five years away saying they do need to have this conversation in the future, but expressed his concern it was premature.

Councilor Nolan, the Council's liaison to the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee (SFPAC), advised the Council needs to have this discussion, as the SFPAC seeks ways to improve the park and preserve it especially in light up the upcoming city's 400th celebration. He expressed on behalf of the SFPAC their continuing concern about this particular event, recounting that this matter comes up each year and doesn't get resolved, asking that they talk to the organizers of the Cyclo-Cross event.

Council President Lundberg suggested a public hearing on the matter to hear from the constituents, the SFPAC, the groups who use the park to get their opinions and not leave it up to P&D this year in July to okay the Cyclo-Cross event, saying they all should be involved. **Councilor Hecht** asked about the Council's options to bring the matter forward. **Ms. Senos** suggested that once the SEAC receives the application, they not take it up and just refer it to Council and all the advisory committees before SEAC votes on it. **Councilor Cox** suggested if they do that for one event to take place at Stage Fort Park they have to do it for all groups that use the park, again pointing out it wasn't fair to single out one event as they have already permitted events for this summer season at the park.

Mr. Destino advised that the Cyclo-Cross organization is fully aware of the concerns that were raised by the SFPAC and of the city's upcoming 400th. He reported he had attended a meeting of SEAC and asked them to reset the number of events to protect the quality of life for residents, which he advised they are doing. He advised that the Cyclo Cross event organizer was at that particular meeting for their 2018 permit and was put on notice that the 400th anniversary celebration is forthcoming. He reviewed the process of calling a public hearing: Three Councilors can get together to call a public hearing as can the Council President or the Mayor. If and when the Council calls the public hearing, they tell the organization to appear, and they will come in front of the Council. He pointed out that the Cyclo-Cross event is a shoulder event that's come to the city for 20 years. He acknowledged that there are complaints, but pointed out that Stage Fort Park is "beat up" by other events as well. If they want this one event in front of them they can do that, he added.

Council President Lundberg advised he didn't want to single out the Cyclo-Cross event, but this is applicable to anyone using the park, recollecting the conversation had with the Farmer's Market and the issues of parking vehicles on the grass that causes damage. He asked the Council to consider a fair way to approach this issue and advised he'll do some consulting to find common ground.

2. Discussion regarding Boards, Committees and Commissions

Council President Lundberg announced that this matter for a meeting with the Boards, Committees and Commissions is to thank all those special volunteers who serve the city. He reported he and Ms. Cahill have discussed the matter, noting that not all boards, committees and commissions are all in the same shape in terms of their mission, organization and membership. He added that the Administration needs to spend some time with those groups, and work in something about the city's 400th. It is now proposed that this meeting take place in the fall to give Ms. Cahill time to work with those groups that need focus and get them all up and running so they all can attend and benefit from such a meeting.

Councilor Gilman expressed appreciation for the idea saying that the Councilors should make suggestions for agenda items for the meeting to make for a more meaningful review. She asked they reach out to the boards,

committees and commission to hear what the members see as the kind of information they'd like conveyed and what their perceived needs are. **Council President Lundberg** asked that Councilors give this matter some thought and provide him with their input.

Unfinished Business: None.

Individual Councilor's Discussion including Reports by Appointed Councilors to Committees:

Update on the Fisheries Commission by City Council Representative, Councilor Scott Memhard, highlighted the following matters:

- March 17, 18 & 19 is the Boston International Seafood Expo; Fisheries Commission, Mark Ring will speak to Mass Lobsters; Angela Sanfilippo of the Fishermen's Wives Association and Sal DiStefano, Director of Economic Development along with the city's partner, SnapChef, will be there;
- There is a Monday, March 19 morning VIP program which **Ms. Cahill** addressed: For the first time there is a program called, MassAve. The Mass. Dept. of Agriculture is encouraging small businesses to have booths at the Expo; the expense was beyond most small businesses previously, but this year small businesses can obtain a 50% rebate for their costs--five Gloucester businesses have taken advantage of this program for the 2019 Expo. There is a MassAve ribbon cutting at 12:00 p.m. The VIP reception starts at 1:00 p.m. which is done by the city's partner, SnapChef which will feature dabs and Massachusetts lobster, and the Cape Ann Brewery. Expected to attend is Governor Baker, Lt. Governor Polito, Congressman Moulton and Consuls from three countries.

Councilors' Requests to the Mayor:

Councilor Hecht announced he will be the celebrity bartender at the Cape Ann Brewery Thursday night which benefits the Lobster Trap Christmas Tree Fund.

Councilor Gilman mentioned the Vulnerability and Sea Level Rise Program at the GHS Auditorium taking place on Friday, March 22. She recognized the Moose Lodge Youth Awareness Team: Jessie Alexander; Delany Benchoff, Rachel Belanger; Jack Bergan and Brandon Smith. She announced that a public hearing will take place on Thursday, March 14th for the proposed budget at the school in front of the School Committee -- the agenda is posted on the city's website.

Councilor O'Hara thanked the DPW employees for doing a great job for most recent storm event with 14 inches of snow accumulated.

Councilor Holmgren looked forward Keep Massachusetts Beautiful Saturday, March 16th at Endicott College, "an afternoon of talking trash."

Councilor Memhard advised that on Wednesday, March 13th Dr. Safier and the School Committee at 7:00 p.m. will have a presentation by city consultants, Dore & Whittier on the East Gloucester School Building Program.

Councilor Cox congratulated one of the students she was paired up with for the Moose Lodge Youth Awareness Team previously, Delaney Benchoff. She also mentioned the Keep Massachusetts Beautiful event highlighting that she was invited to speak on the city's plastic bottle and nip bottle initiative, noting that 10 communities have reached out for the city's language.

Council President Lundberg reminded the Council they have an invitation to the National Honor Society NHS induction which takes place on Thursday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m. He mentioned a letter received by the Council that the Visiting Nurses offices on Angle Street is now closed relaying that their need for physical office space is diminished, but that their services will be in Gloucester will remain in full force. He noted a special joint meeting of the P&D Committee and Gloucester Historical Commission will take place tomorrow to set priorities and to learn what is in their pipeline for National Registry designation, and general procedures. When they do consider the proposal for making Dogtown part of the National Register of Historic Places, it will be at the P&D Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 20th that Councilor Holmgren will act as Chair as Councilor Gilman has recused herself from that matter.

Councilor Nolan noted that folks in the audience who were waiting to express their support for the Magnolia Pier to Councilors after the meeting. **Councilor Cox** noted that a Loan Authorization to rebuild the Magnolia Pier would be taken up at a public meeting of the Budget & Finance Committee on Thursday, March 21 at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgensson

Clerk of Committees

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.