

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS
City Clerk's Office
June 22, 2016

I hereby notify that at twelve noon today the following items of business have been filed with this office and will be acted upon at the meeting in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, Tuesday evening June 14, 2016 at seven-thirty o'clock according to Section 8, Rules and Orders of the City Council.

Marilyn Gomeau
City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
June 28, 2016

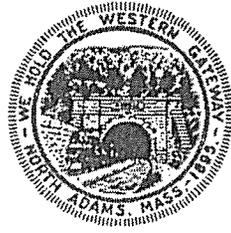
Roll Call
Moment of silent remembrance
The Pledge
Hearing of Visitors
Approval of the minutes of *June 14, 2016*

- 11,529-1** *Communication submitted by Council President regarding a Resolution for providing opioid beds in North County, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee at the meeting of May 10th.*
- 11,529-1a** *Report of the Public Safety Committee regarding opioid beds in North County.*
- 11,529-1** *A Resolution supporting the urgent health care needs in North Adams and North County for opioid addiction, which was referred to the Public Safety Committee at the meeting of May 10th.*
- 11,531** *An Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-27 of the Revised Ordinances, Schedule A, the Classification Plan and Compensation Plan for FY'17, which was passed to a second reading and publish as a municipal bulletin at the meeting of June 14th.*
- 9513-23** *An Ordinance amending Chapter 7 entitled Public Services, Section 7-11 entitled Disposal of Waste at the Transfer Station; Charges, which was passed to a second reading and publish as required by law at the meeting of June 14th.*
- 11,534** *Mayor's communication #38 recommending the re-appointment of Klye Hanlon to the Redevelopment Authority for a term to expire June 1, 2019.*

**CORRESPONDENCE
LICENSES**

An application submitted by Samuel Day, 160 State Street to drive Taxi for RJ Taxi.

COUNCILOR & MAYOR'S CONCERNS



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Richard J. Alcombright

June 28, 2016

#38

To: North Adams City Council
Re: Appointment to the Redevelopment Authority

Dear Honorable Members:

I am pleased to recommend Kyle Hanlon for re-appointment to the Redevelopment Authority to a term to expire June 1, 2019.

Kyle has been a great member of the Redevelopment Authority and he continues to provide significant commitment to this board and this City.

I respectfully request confirmation of this appointment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Alcombright
Mayor

Public Safety Committee Meeting 6/6/16

Present : Committee Members Councilors Moulton, Merrigan

Other : Councilor Buddington, Lamb, about 50 members of the public, Adam Shanks from Berkshire Eagle, Tammy Daniels from I Berkshire.

Meeting Called to order 5:45pm

Agenda: Discuss need for opioid treatment beds in northern Berkshire County

Councilor Moulton indicated that the meeting will be taped

Councilor Moulton read a letter from Rep. Cariddi into the record

Comments from members of the public:

. Dick Dassatti: what the NCC is seeking is a healing. Has witnessed a successful recovery himself, wants everyone in the area who makes the decision to pursue recovery to have a clear and level pathway toward healing.

. Timothy Morey: Clerk Magistrate of Northern Berkshire District Court. Speaking in favor of the resolution. Has been Clerk Magistrate for 14 years. No question that northern Berkshire community is suffering opioid crisis. When he started, 90% of Sec 35s were alcohol-related (10 Sec 35s per year). Now 50-75 civil commitment actions a year, 90% of those are opioid-related. We send the majority of our Sec.35 to New Bedford and Brockton. Average stay on civil commitment in MA is 14 days. Thinks 10-11bed estimate is low. Thinks we need 50-100 beds (applause) -Court transports people who are Sec.35'ed. The individual must arrange their own transportation home.

. Michael Phillippe: lost his mother- she had chronic illness. Was overprescribed opioids in response to her illness, ended up overdosing.

. Woman wearing orange-something Rose? 30 Lenox Street. Also spoke at recent City Council meeting. I had 3 children with dual diagnoses--mental illness and addiction. Had a son who was able to talk a therapist out of sectioning him. He got addicted to heroin, was addicted 15 years. Is in recovery now. Had another son addicted to mathadone. Has graduated from MCLA and is pursuing masters degree. Tjird son took 20 years to get clean. Was herself given 150 percocets for back injury.

. Rachel Branch: has lost family members to alcoholism--there were beds for them. Speaking in support of resolution.

. Wendy Penner: representing NBCC. Encourages us to think about needs regarding opioid addiction in a holistic way. There are many gaps in current services.--Prevention: most people facing addiction starting using while adolescent brains were still developing. Would argue that alcohol is even more devastating: it's just not as visible because death isn't as shocking/sudden.

-No question that we are underserved.

-Going through strategic planning process regarding addressing youth substance use/abuse.

-Intervention: detox/crisis stabilization beds. Are people able to get beds when they need them in Pittsfield? Has talked with Shannon McCarthy, Program Director at McGee. Typically, 19/21 beds are full. You can check bed availability online. New CSS beds are coming online at Berkshire Health System. Greenfield has beds coming online soon. Wendy says it's important to consider what services are coming online when we are looking at what we need and want to advocate for.

Harm reduction...

-People receiving first responder treatment are refusing to be transported.

-What is our plan, as a community, for post-overdose treatment? What kind of follow-up are we giving to people when they might have some readiness for receiving services?

-Recommending needle exchange.

-What happens after someone comes out of crisis stabilization?

-We have no sober housing

-We don't have daily recovery meetings in Berkshire County. How can we build a culture and supportive environment?

-Medication-assisted tx from Spectrum and Brien--how can we support it?

-We need a comprehensive plan--beds on North County BHS Campus won't solve our problem

-We need a recovery center

-Wendy was told that beginning June 1st, BHS was going to begin providing naloxone to post-overdose patients. BHS has been working hard. A little uncomfortable with us telling BHS what they should be doing. Would like BHS to appoint someone whose job it is to liaise with the community. We should have BHS at the table.

- Sheila Dassatti: if you want treatment, it's almost impossible to get help. Easier to get help if you commit a crime. BHS has been asked for over 2 years to be part of this conversation--they don't want to be in the same room as people in this community. We need not just beds, but a whole detox center.

- Moulton asks Cozzaglio what the legal situation is regarding administering naloxone:

-There is currently legislation under review for protective custody. Current law only allows police to take someone into protective custody if they are under influence of alcohol--not drugs.

-Since April 1st, NAPS has been able to carry Narcan kits. Since April 7th, they have had 11 saves. That's just NAPD and NAFD--does not include ambulance service.

-They take people into custody who are begging for help. Once they begin to sober up, they don't want to stay.

-We need to do prevention as early as elementary schools. It might take a generation to break cycle.

-Cozzaglio would like to see a drug court in Berkshire County.

-Cozzaglio: "I support this group"

- John Meaney, NA Ambulance Service: by the time we're giving the Narcan, we're late in the process. Would like to see more money invested in prevention. "I really do feel that BHS is on board with this. They are doing the best they can at this point. It really comes down to the almighty dollar."
- AJ/Ambulance Service: what happens if someone refuses transport/treatment? There are people who don't want help. We need prevention to stop the flow of opioids. Stigma against addicted people is powerful--hears people say "let 'em die". Important to push legislation regarding protective custody.
- Wendy: a lot of people in the recovery community are uncomfortable with the idea of protective custody law, because they might decide not to call for help out of fear of being taken into custody.
- Jim Lipa: episode of 60 minutes last night covered this topic. Interview U.S. federal drug czar. There aren't enough resources to support people after they leave incarceration.
 - Jim: would like to be more involved with nbCC, but their 10am meetings make it hard for people to be involved.
 - Pointed our attention to data he handed out.
- Diane Parsons: spoke about loss of her 27 year-old daughter to addiction in 2001. Was addicted to crack-cocaine, but actually died from misuse of Tylenol. Recommends we add Congressman Richard Neal to those copied in resolution.
- Sean Connor--came from Pittsfield. Went to McGee 24 years ago. When he got out of McGee, he had robust aftercare. He has daughters who are alcoholics, each spent 3 days only in McGee, did not get adequate treatment. He is part of Learn to Cope--group for parents of addicted people, meets at Hillcrest on Tuesday evenings. Is also an ER nurse at BMC. Pain became the 5th vital sign about 5-6 years ago; now parents fight for their children to get opioid painkillers at ER and in other treatment. Would like to NARH campus used for long-term addiction treatment/rehab. The beds coming online in Pittsfield and Greenfield are "extended-care beds". Had the opportunity to talk to some high-level people at BHS. Said "what the hell". BHS folks to him it came down to funding from the State.
- Mike Wilbur: member of NCCC. We need the beds now. Preventive care is fine, but we need beds now. "If Pittsfield can get the beds, why the hell can't we?"
- Deb Parkinton, EFC. Every day, they are seeing huge increases in correlation between poverty, addiction, and violence. Transportation also a concern.
- Peggy Morse, Berkshire Coalition to Prevent Suicide. The woman who is friends with Dave Librizzi, I think? Prevention and intervention are important. Also aftercare (post-vention). Address mental health along with addiction.
- Elizabeth (missed last name), Clarksburg: her family has been touched by addiction. The resolution is only a first step.
- Wendy: in her capacity, she has seen these needs and tried to understand the right way to advocate. Important to consider that the legislative budgeting process--which plays a big role in this.

Discussion:

- Bob suggests adding language acknowledging what BHS has already done
- Rachel Branch says that would dilute the resolution
- Mike Wilbur doesn't want us to acknowledge BHS either
- Merrigan: suggests that approach to this as an individual (looking for the most nuanced, diplomatic solution) is not the same as responsibility as a city councilor (elevating the voices of the people we represent). Will recommend this resolution to full Council, with Diane's suggestion of adding Congressman Neal.
- AJ: we need to try to unite all of the voices on this issue--be the strongest voice to Boston

Amendments to resolution:

- Add Congressman Neal to list of recipients
- Add ask for long-term treatment facility

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm

Respectfully submitted

Bob



Background info on the 376% increase in opioid addiction treatment seekers.

North Adams

Drug Use Characteristics

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients identify a "primary drug" of use which is the substance for which they seek treatment. Table 1 shows the percent distribution by primary drug.

Table 1
Primary Drug Trend: FY 2005 - FY 2014

	Total Admissions *	Alcohol	All Other Opioids	Crack/Cocaine	Heroin	Marijuana	None	Other
2005	244	58.6%	7.8%	7.4%	9.4%	13.5%	'	2.5%
2006	278	56.1%	6.5%	7.9%	12.6%	12.9%	2.2%	'
2007	283	48.8%	11.0%	5.7%	12.4%	17.3%	2.8%	2.1%
2008	325	48.6%	12.3%	6.2%	13.5%	12.9%	4.6%	1.8%
2009	343	49.9%	16.6%	3.2%	16.3%	11.1%	'	2.9%
2010	325	48.3%	18.8%	2.8%	15.1%	12.9%	'	2.2%
2011	292	50.7%	22.6%	'	13.7%	8.2%	'	3.1%
2012	320	38.4%	24.4%	2.5%	26.2%	7.2%	'	'
2013	462	46.8%	13.0%	1.9%	34.0%	3.2%	'	'
2014	359	38.4%	14.2%	'	40.9%	4.2%	'	'

Other includes PCP, Other Hallucinogens, Methamphetamine, Other Amphetamines, Other Stimulants, Benzodiazepines, Other Tranquillizers, Barbiturates, Other Sedatives, Inhalants, OTC, Club Drugs, Other

All Other Opioids include Non - Rx Methadone, Other Opiates, Oxycodone, Non-Rx Suboxone, Rx Opiates, Non-Rx Opiates

** Number of total admissions may be different than the reported number on the first page due to missing/unknown values for primary drug*

The link to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services piece is below.

North Adams

In 2005, 244 people sought treatment for all types of addiction (mostly alcohol, but also cocaine and heroin)

In 2014, 359 of people sought treatment for all types of addiction.

That's a 47% increase.

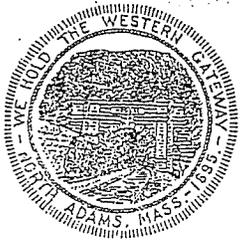
Compare with individuals seeking treatment for opioid addiction:

In 2005, 41.48 people sought treatment for opioid addiction.

In 2014, 197.45 people sought treatment for opioid addiction.

That is a 376% increase.

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/substance-abuse/care-principles/state-and-city-town-admissions-fy14.pdf>



City of North Adams
In City Council

May 9, 2016

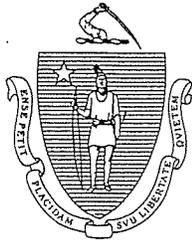
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URGENT HEALTHCARE NEEDS OF NORTH ADAMS AND NORTH COUNTY

- WHEREAS: addiction to opioids is a critical state and national issue that has disproportionately impacted the communities of Northern Berkshire County;
- WHEREAS: the impacts of opioid addiction in North Adams are exacerbated by poverty, the lack of transportation, and high incidences of other health problems;
- WHEREAS: the number of North Adams residents seeking treatment for opioid abuse has increased by 376% over a ten-year period;
- WHEREAS: the Massachusetts Department of Public Health-commissioned Stroudwater Report asserted the need for 10-11 inpatient behavioral health and substance abuse beds to meet the needs of Northern Berkshire County residents;
- WHEREAS: healthcare professionals, addiction treatment specialists, and the families of people with addiction have identified the urgent need for inpatient opioid detox and crisis stabilization beds in Northern Berkshire County;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that we call upon Berkshire Health Systems and state officials to respond to the urgent healthcare needs of North Adams and North County residents and open inpatient detox treatment and inpatient crisis stabilization at the North Adams campus, in conjunction with outpatient services, to meet the needs of people with opioid addiction and provide them with the best chance for a full recovery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the City Clerk be directed to send copies of this resolution to David Phelps, President and Chief Executive Officer of Berkshire Health System and Berkshire Health Care Systems, the Berkshire Health Systems Board of Trustees, Senator Ben Downing, Representative Gailanne Cariddi, Mary Lou Sudders, Secretary of Health and Human Services, Monica Bharel, MD, MPH, DPH Commissioner, and Maura Healey, Attorney General.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

GAILANNE M. CARIDDI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
FIRST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT

Room 36, State House
617.722.2370

May 26, 2016

City Councillor Robert R. Moulton, Jr.
Chairman Public Safety Committee
North Adams City Council
North Adams, MA 01247

Dear Chairman Moutlon,

Recently Mr. Michael Wilbur stopped by my office. He indicated that the Public Safety Committee of the City Council will soon be discussing the issue of opioid addiction in North Adams.

As you are aware, opiate related overdose deaths in north Berkshire County have dramatically increased since 2010. My colleagues and I in the Massachusetts Legislature continue to be very concerned about this epidemic of drug abuse. A comprehensive bill aimed at addressing opioid addiction was passed by the Legislature this year and we continue to increase funding for prevention and treatment through many programs at the Department of Public Health and the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services. I am aware of the efforts of Attorney General Healey to address over prescribing, Sheriff Bowler's efforts to move addicted inmates to treatment upon release, and the work at The Brien Center and Berkshire Medical Center North with those effected by this disease.

I have begun making inquiries in regards to placing a 'safe house or peer support house' in North Adams. A place where those recovering from detox can live to get themselves back together and to be productive in the community.

One of the most important tools we can use in the fight against this opioid epidemic is educating the public and I am encouraged that you will be discussing this issue in your committee, if I can be of assistance in your work please contact me.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "GAILANNE".

State Representative First Berkshire District

Vice Chair
Joint Committee on Economic Development
and Emerging Technologies

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