City Council
AGENDA

Monday, June 2, 2025 - 7:00 PM

Regular Meeting
Agawam Senior Center
954 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001

A. ROLL CALL

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. CITIZEN'S SPEAK TIME

D. MINUTES

1) Regular Council Meeting – **May 19, 2025**

E. DECLARATION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

F. PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

1) **TR-2025-41 -** A Resolution appropriating Wastewater Fund Certified Retained Earnings to the Wastewater Stabilization Fund (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson) **(Referred to Finance Committee)**

2) **TR-2025-42 -** A Resolution appropriating Water Fund Certified Retained Earnings to the Water Stabilization Fund (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson) **(Referred to Finance Committee)**

3) **TR-2025-43 -** A Resolution appropriating Municipal Golf Fund Certified Retained Earnings to the Municipal Golf Stabilization Fund (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson) **(Referred to Finance Committee)**

4) **TR-2025-44** - A Resolution appropriating overlay surplus funds to the Capital Stabilization Fund (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson) **(Referred to Finance Committee)**

5) **TR-2025-45** - A Resolution appropriating Certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson) **(Referred to Finance Committee)**

6) TR-2025-46 - A Resolution appropriating Certified Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson) (Referred to Finance Committee)

7) **TR-2025-47 -** A Resolution confirming the appointment of **Robin Pleshaw, MSN, RN, AMB-BC,** 40 Hunt Street, Agawam to the Agawam Board of Health for a term expiring the first Monday in February, 2028 (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson)

G. ELECTIONS

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1) **TR-2025-38 (PH-2025-7) -** A Resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson)

I. OLD BUSINESS

1) **TO-2025-5 -** Budgetary Transfer **($48,147.39)** from Line Items – Reserve Fund (#16605-57300) to Highway & Grounds Snow & Ice Overtime (#14201-51031) **(Referred to Finance Committee)**

2) **TO-2025-6 -** Budgetary Transfer **($666,000.00)** from various Water Dept Line Items to Water Stabilization Fund (#74310-49700) **(Referred to Finance Committee)**

J. NEW BUSINESS

1) **TR-2025-48** - A Resolution to establish in-person early voting for the 2025 Municipal Preliminary and General Elections (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson)

2) **TR-2025-49** - A Resolution to authorize the posting of the Warrant for the Preliminary and General Elections of the City of Agawam (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson)

3) **TR-2025-50 -** A Resolution accepting a donation totaling Two Thousand Seven Hundred (**$2,700.00**) Dollars to the Agawam Veterans' Council pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson)

4) **TR-2025-51 -** A Resolution urging Congress to take the necessary steps to prevent the depletion of the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund that pays Social Security Retiree Benefits (Sponsored by Councilor Bitzas and Mayor Johnson)

5) **TOR-2025-5 -** An Ordinance to amend Chapter 49-7 of the Code of the City of Agawam regarding Meals on Wheels Drivers (Sponsored by Mayor Johnson) (Two Readings Required)

6) **TOR-2025-6 -** An Ordinance to add Article V to Chapter 169 of the Code of the City of Agawam to provide for the safe operation of electric bicycles(Sponsored by Councilor Mercadante) (Two Readings Required)

7) **TO-2025-7 -** Budgetary Transfer of **$10,433.00** from Police Motor Vehicle (#12104-58500) to Police Protective & Safety Gear (#12103-52410)

8) **TO-2025-8 -** Budgetary Transfer of **$3,000.00** from Police Equipment Replacement (#12102-52030) to Police Protective &Safety Gear (#12103-52410)

K. ANY OTHER MATTER THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

L. ADJOURNMENT

Please note that this meeting can be viewed live on Channel 15 (standard definition) or Channel 1074 (high definition) and will also be live-streamed on the town's website (www.agawam.ma.us)

TR-2025-41

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING WASTEWATER FUND CERTIFIED RETAINED EARNINGS TO THE WASTEWATER STABILIZATION FUND

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the Council established the Wastewater Stabilization Fund to fund operations and capital projects for the Wastewater Department; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has certified retained earnings in the amount of Three Million Two Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Nineteen ($3,259,019) Dollars for the Wastewater Fund; and

WHEREAS, certified retained earnings are only available for appropriation by the city from the time of certification until the end of the fiscal year in which they are certified; and

WHEREAS, appropriating the retained earnings into the stabilization fund would allow the city to have access to those funds at any time to support the operation and capital needs of the Wastewater Department; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to appropriate the certified retained earnings for the Wastewater Fund into the Wastewater Stabilization Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B to appropriate the Wastewater Fund certified retained earnings in the amount of Three Million Two Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Nineteen ($3,259,019) Dollars into the Wastewater Stabilization Fund.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TR-2025-42

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING WATER FUND CERTIFIED RETAINED EARNINGS TO THE WATER STABILIZATION FUND

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the Council established the Water Stabilization Fund to fund operations and capital projects for the Water Department; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has certified retained earnings in the amount of One Million Six Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand One Hundred Twenty-Five ($1,678,125) Dollars for the Water Fund; and

WHEREAS, certified retained earnings are only available for appropriation by the city from the time of certification until the end of the fiscal year in which they are certified; and

WHEREAS, appropriating the retained earnings into the stabilization fund would allow the city to have access to those funds at any time to support the operation and capital needs of the Water Department; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to appropriate the certified retained earnings for the Water Fund into the Water Stabilization Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B to appropriate the Water Fund certified retained earnings in the amount of One Million Six Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand One Hundred Twenty-Five ($1,678,125) Dollars into the Water Stabilization Fund.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TR-2025-43

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MUNICIPAL GOLF FUND CERTIFIED RETAINED EARNINGS TO THE MUNICIPAL GOLF STABILIZATION FUND

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the Council established the Municipal Golf Stabilization Fund to fund operations and capital projects for the Municipal Golf course; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has certified retained earnings in the amount of Four Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Two ($456,472) Dollars for the Municipal Golf Fund; and

WHEREAS, certified retained earnings are only available for appropriation by the city from the time of certification until the end of the fiscal year in which they are certified; and

WHEREAS, appropriating the retained earnings into the stabilization fund would allow the city to have access to those funds at any time to support the operation and capital needs of the Municipal Golf course; and

WHEREAS, the Council has already appropriated Ninety-Eight Thousand ($98,000) Dollars (see TR-2025-29) from the certified retained earnings for the Municipal Golf Fund; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to appropriate the balance of certified retained earnings for the Municipal Golf Fund into the Municipal Golf Stabilization Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B to appropriate the Municipal Golf Fund certified retained earnings in the amount of Three Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Two ($358,472) Dollars into the Municipal Golf Stabilization Fund.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TR-2025-44

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING OVERLAY SURPLUS FUNDS TO THE CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the Council established the Capital Stabilization Fund in 2023 to fund capital projects for the City of Agawam; and

WHEREAS, there is currently Three Million Two Hundred Forty-One Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Five ($3,241,375) Dollars in the Capital Stabilization Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Assessor has certified that One Million Eighty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Four ($1,089,974) Dollars is now available Overlay Surplus; and

WHEREAS, appropriating the available Overlay Surplus funds into the Capital Stabilization Fund would allow the city to have access to those funds at the time when the permanent bonding payments are required for the Agawam High School Project; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to appropriate the available Overlay Surplus funds into the Capital Stabilization Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B to appropriate the available Overlay Surplus funds in the amount of One Million Eighty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Four ($1,089,974) Dollars into the Capital Stabilization Fund.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

Town of Agawam

Assessor's Office

36 Main St, Agawam, Massachusetts 01001-1837
Tel. 413-786-0400 ext. 8700 and 8704 Fax 413-726-2828
Email: assessor@agawam.ma.us

TO: Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor
Mackenzie Gamache, Treasurer/Collector

FROM: Carolyn Reed, MAA/Board of Assessors CR

DATE: May 12, 2025

RE: Overlay Surplus

I have certified the following amount to overlay surplus.

Fiscal Year 2016 $552,024
Fiscal Year 2017 $407,705
Fiscal Year 2018 $130,245

The total surplus available is $1,089,974.

Thank you.

C: Cheryl St. John, Auditor

TR-2025-45

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING CERTIFIED FREE CASH TO THE STABILIZATION FUND

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the City of Agawam has a Stabilization Fund which currently has a balance of Eight Million Nine Hundred Thousand and Twenty-Two ($8,900,022) Dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has certified Free Cash in the amount of Fourteen Million Three Hundred Nine Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Nine ($14,309,339) Dollars for Fiscal Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, certified Free Cash is only available for appropriation by the city from the time of certification until the end of the fiscal year in which it is certified; and

WHEREAS, appropriating a portion of the Free Cash into the Stabilization Fund would allow the city to have access to those funds at any time to support the operation and capital needs of the city; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to appropriate a portion of the certified Free Cash into the Stabilization Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B to appropriate the amount of One Million One Hundred Thousand ($1,100,000) Dollars from Free Cash into the Stabilization Fund.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TR-2025-46

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING CERTIFIED FREE CASH TO THE CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the Council established the Capital Stabilization Fund in 2023 to fund capital projects for the City of Agawam; and

WHEREAS, there is currently Three Million Two Hundred Forty-One Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Five ($3,241,375) Dollars in the Capital Stabilization Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has certified Free Cash in the amount of Fourteen Million Three Hundred Nine Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Nine ($14,309,339) Dollars for Fiscal Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, certified Free Cash is only available for appropriation by the city from the time of certification until the end of the fiscal year in which it is certified; and

WHEREAS, appropriating a portion of the Free Cash into the Capital Stabilization Fund would allow the city to have access to those funds at the time when the permanent bonding payments are required for the Agawam High School Project; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to appropriate a portion of the certified Free Cash into the Capital Stabilization Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B to appropriate the amount of One Million Eight Hundred Thousand ($1,800,000) Dollars from Free Cash into the Capital Stabilization Fund.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TR-2025-47

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBIN PLESHAW, MSN, RN, AMB-BC OF 40 HUNT STREET, AGAWAM, MA TO THE AGAWAM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR A TERM EXPIRING THE FIRST MONDAY IN FEBRUARY, 2028

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Board of Heath; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has appointed Robin Pleshaw, MSN, RN, AMB-BC of 40 Hunt Street, Agawam, Massachusetts to the Agawam Board of Health to a term expiring the first Monday in February, 2028; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves to confirm the appointment Robin Pleshaw, MSN, RN, AMB-BC of 40 Hunt Street, Agawam, Massachusetts to the Agawam Board of Health to a term expiring the first Monday in February, 2028.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

Robin Pleshaw
40 Hunt St.
Agawam, MA 01001

May 6, 2025

Mayor Christopher Johnson
Agawam City Hall
36 Main St.
Agawam, MA 01001

Dear Mayor Johnson,

I am reaching out to express my interest in becoming a member of the Agawam Board of Health. I feel I would be able to actively contribute to the board with my experience and skills. I have been a registered nurse for almost forty years and have a varied background including in-patient and out-patient care settings as well as being actively involved in a leadership position at Baystate Health with the Covid testing sites and Covid vaccine clinic.

I have been board certified in Ambulatory Care Nursing since 2015.

I attended the Board of Health meeting on April 10, 2025, and had an opportunity to meet the other board members. I have known Mary Jo Safford for many years and worked with her at the Covid vaccine clinic. While I do not have any previous experience with the other board members, I found them to be welcoming and believe I would work well with them.

I am also currently pursuing training to volunteer with the American Red Cross and have been a member of the Medical Reserve Corp (initially beginning in Agawam approximately 2009 and currently Central Hampden County) for many years.

I would appreciate an opportunity to discuss my interest and experience and learn more about how I can contribute to the health and well-being of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robin Pleshaw RN

Robin Pleshaw, MSN, RN, AMB-BC

TR-2025-38

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF AGAWAM

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 44, §32 of Massachusetts General Laws and Section 5-1 of Article 5 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, the proposed FY2026 Annual Operating Budget was submitted on May 9, 2025; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 5-2(a) of Article 5 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, a public hearing on the proposed annual operating budget was held on June 2, 2025, notice thereof having been published in one issue of a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Agawam more than fourteen (14) days before such hearing; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Agawam to adopt the attached Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Operating Budget; and

NOW THEREFORE, THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. That pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 44 of Massachusetts General Laws and Article 5 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, the Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 which begins on July 1, 2025 (a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference) is hereby adopted, and the several sums therein set forth to be raised by the levy of a tax upon all taxable property within the corporate limits of the City of Agawam, Massachusetts, all other funds and receipts are hereby appropriated for the several purposes therein stated.

2. The Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Operating Budget is adopted according to the departmental and line item categories contained therein. Said adoption allowing for the administrative transfer of funds from any line item within any category of any departmental or the line item budget to any other line item within the same category of the same departmental or line item budget.

3. There is hereby appropriated in the Line Item - Contributory Retirement an appropriation to the credit of the Hampden County Board of Retirement to satisfy the City of Agawam's certified Total Appropriation Amount for Fiscal Year 2026.

4. Consideration has been given for anticipated receipt of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for street reconstruction purposes as set forth in the Highway & Grounds and Capital Improvement portions of the budget, which are attached hereto.

5. In addition to the specified appropriations contained in said budget, revolving, gift and grant funds are hereby established under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, §3 and Chapter 44, §53A, §53D and §53E½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, with the specific receipts credited to each fund, the purposes for which each fund may be spent and the maximum amount that may be spent from each fund for the fiscal year are described in Exhibit A.

6. There is hereby appropriated all money from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the United States of America.

7. There is hereby appropriated all money received from interest income on short term investments including the interest earned on funds in interest bearing bank accounts.

8. That the Assessor shall use not more than Three Million Five Hundred Thousand ($3,500,000.00) Dollars of "Certified Free Cash" to reduce the Fiscal 2026 Tax Rate.

9. The Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Operating Budget for the Town of Agawam is hereby adopted as follows:

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Council	$138,700
Mayor	$250,701
Procurement	$105,527
Human Resources	$186,534
Law Department	$220,878
Auditor	$182,337
Clerk/Elections	$286,717
Assessor	$287,370
IT Department	$564,459
Treasurer-Collector	$336,897
Police Department	$7,330,994
Fire Department	$4,923,114
Building & Planning	$518,070
Health Department	$974,539
Agawam Public Library	$1,280,958
Parks & Recreation	$287,804
Council on Aging	$418,307
Public Works Administration	$155,700
Highway & Grounds	$2,796,918
Motor Vehicle Maintenance	$704,937
Engineering	$196,559
Stormwater Department	$986,800
Building Maintenance	$6,300,347
Agawam Public Schools	$53,562,979
Emergency Management	$44,880
Line Items	$33,586,086
TOTAL - GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET	**$116,629,112**
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET	**$2,647,000**
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	**$119,276,112**

SELF SUSTAINING DEPARTMENTS

Wastewater Department	$ 5,320,432
Water Department	$ 7,998,704
Municipal Golf Course	$ 1,174,262
TOTAL - SELF-SUSTAINING DEPTS	**$ 14,493,398**
TOTAL - ALL DEPARTMENTS	**$ 133,769,510**

10. There is hereby levied upon all taxable property within the corporate limits of the City of Agawam, Massachusetts upon each dollar of assessed value thereof, taxes in an amount to be determined.

11. The following available funds are appropriated for use in the Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Operating Budget to help reduce the tax burden:

Ambulance Fees	$ 200,000

12. The Agawam City Council hereby resolves, authorizes and appropriates the sum of One Million Six Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Four ($1,683,704) Dollars from the Water Department Stabilization Fund to fund the Fiscal Year 2026 Water Department budget, and the sum of One Million Ninety Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Two ($1,090,432) Dollars from the Wastewater Stabilization Fund to fund the Fiscal Year 2026 Wastewater Department budget.

Dated this _____ day of June, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____

Rosemary Sandlin, President, Agawam City Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____

Christopher S. Cappucci, City Solicitor

TO-2025-5

BUDGETARY TRANSFER FORM

Department: Highway and Grounds

Amount: $ 48,147.39 Date: May 15, 2025

From	Line Items – Reserve Fund	16605 57300
	Title of Account	Account Number
To	Highway & Grounds Snow & Ice Overtime	14201 51031
	Title of Account	Account Number

Reason for Transfer: Exceeded annual appropriation for snow and ice overtime due to shortage of hired plows coupled with a high volume of sanding operations after the ice storm.

Mario Mazza, Supt of Public Works

I hereby certify that funds are available to make the above-stated transfer.

Date: 5/12/25

Cheryl St. John, Auditor

I hereby approve placement of the above-stated transfer on the Council agenda.

Date: May 15, 2025

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality.

Date: May 15, 2025

Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL – APPROVED ON _____, 20__

Date: _____

Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVAL OF LEGISLATION: Pursuant to Section 3-6 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, I hereby approve the Council passage of the above-stated transfer.

Date: _____

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

DISAPPROVAL OF LEGISLATION: Pursuant to Section 3-6 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, I hereby disapprove the Council passage of the above-stated transfer.

Date: _____

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

TO-2025-6

BUDGETARY TRANSFER FORM

Department: Water Department

Amount: $ 666,000.00 Date: May 15, 2025

From	Water Dept Line Items – see attached list	see attached list
	Titles of Account	Account Numbers
To	Water Stabilization Fund	74310-49700
	Title of Account	Account Number

Reason for Transfer: This transfer is an effort to build the balance of the Water Stabilization Fund. The Water Stabilization Fund is available year round to support the operating and capital needs of the Water Department.

Mario Mazza, Supt of Public Works

I hereby certify that funds are available to make the above-stated transfer.

Date: 5/15/25

Cheryl St. John, Auditor

I hereby approve placement of the above-stated transfer on the Council agenda.

Date: May 15, 2025

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality.

Date: May 15, 2025

Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL – APPROVED ON _____, 20__

Date: _____

Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVAL OF LEGISLATION: Pursuant to Section 3-6 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, I hereby approve the Council passage of the above-stated transfer.

Date: _____

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

DISAPPROVAL OF LEGISLATION: Pursuant to Section 3-6 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, I hereby disapprove the Council passage of the above-stated transfer.

Date: _____

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Water Department Transfer to
Water Stabilization Fund

Line Item Description	Org Code	Object Code	Amount
Regular Permanent	60141	51010	$80,000
Overtime	60141	51030	$10,000
Motor Vehicle Maintenance & Repair	60142	52060	$5,000
Equipment Rentals	60142	52070	$2,000
Professional Services	60142	52190	$10,000
Postage & Courier	60142	52250	$2,000
Printing & Copying	60142	52280	$10,000
Water Purchase	60142	56670	$500,000
Fuel & Oil	60143	52130	$5,000
Motor Vehicle Parts & Accessories	60143	52430	$7,000
Road Materials	60143	52460	$30,000
Water Dept Vehicles & Equipment	60144	58500	$5,000
TOTAL			**$666,000**

TR-2025-48

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING FOR THE 2025 MUNICIPAL PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the preliminary municipal election will be held October 7, 2025 and the general municipal election will be held November 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 54, §25B, in-person early voting requires a recommendation of not less than fifty percent of the Agawam Board of Registrars; and

WHEREAS, the Agawam Board of Registrars voted unanimously on April 16, 2025 to recommend that the Agawam City Clerk be authorized to set early voting hours as needed in his discretion to efficiently conduct the October 7, 2025 preliminary municipal election and November 4, 2025 general municipal election; and

WHEREAS, the Agawam City Council may vote to authorize early in-person voting upon said recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Registrars recommends the Senior Center as the primary location for early voting in the 2025 municipal preliminary and general elections; and

WHEREAS, early in-person voting shall be conducted during the regular business hours of the City Clerk's Office and other times for the convenience of the residents; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves to adopt the recommendation of the Agawam Board of Registrars and establish early voting in compliance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 54, §25B for the 2025 preliminary municipal and general municipal elections.

DATED THIS _____ OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____

Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____

Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY CLERK TO CONDUCT IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING FOR THE 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Whereas, Municipal Elections are scheduled for October 7, 2025 and November 4, 2025

Whereas, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 54, Section 25B, in-person early voting requires a recommendation of not less than fifty percent of the Board of Registrars;

Whereas, the Agawam City Council may vote to authorize early in-person voting upon said recommendation;

Whereas, early in-person voting shall be conducted during the usual business hours of the City Clerk unless different hours are set as part of the City Council vote;

THEREFORE, the Agawam Board of Registrars hereby authorizes the Agawam City Clerk to set early voting hours as needed in his discretion to efficiently conduct the October 7 and November 5, 2025 Elections and make such recommendation to the Agawam City Council.

Dated this 16th day of April, 2025.

THE AGAWAM BOARD OF REGISTARS

Christopher Catjakis

Michele Calvanese

Timothy McGrew

Vincent F. Gioscia, Clerk

RECEIVED
2025 APR 17 A 8:58
CLERK'S OFFICE
TOWN OF AGAWAM

TR-2025-49

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE POSTING OF THE WARRANT FOR THE PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS OF THE CITY OF AGAWAM

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, approval has been requested by the City Clerk for posting of the warrant for the preliminary municipal election on October 7, 2025 and general municipal election on November 4, 2025 by the Board of Registrars; and

WHEREAS, if required, the preliminary municipal election will be held on October 7, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the general municipal election will be held on November 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Agawam to post the warrant(s) for said election(s) as required by Massachusetts General Law; and

NOW THEREFORE, THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL hereby resolves and authorizes the posting of the Warrant for the Preliminary Municipal Election on October 7, 2025 and General Municipal Election on November 4, 2025.

DATED THIS _____ OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TR-2025-50

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TWO DONATIONS TOTALING TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED ($2,700.00) DOLLARS TO THE AGAWAM VETERANS' COUNCIL PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS CHAPTER 44, SECTION 53A

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the Agawam Veterans' Council received a donation of One Thousand Two Hundred ($1,200.00) Dollars from the Westfield River Valley Detachment Marine Corps League and a donation of One Thousand Five Hundred ($1,500.00) Dollars from the West Springfield Fish & Game Club, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Agawam Veterans' Council wishes to accept these donations which are earmarked to assist in the purchase of the "War on Terror" Monument for the Veterans Green; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to accept said donations; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby resolves pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53(A) to accept a donation of One Thousand Two Hundred ($1,200.00) Dollars from the Westfield River Valley Detachment Marine Corps League and a donation of One Thousand Five Hundred ($1,500.00) Dollars from the West Springfield Fish & Game Club, Inc. to the Agawam Veterans' Council to be utilized to assist in the purchase of the "War on Terror" Monument for the Veterans Green.

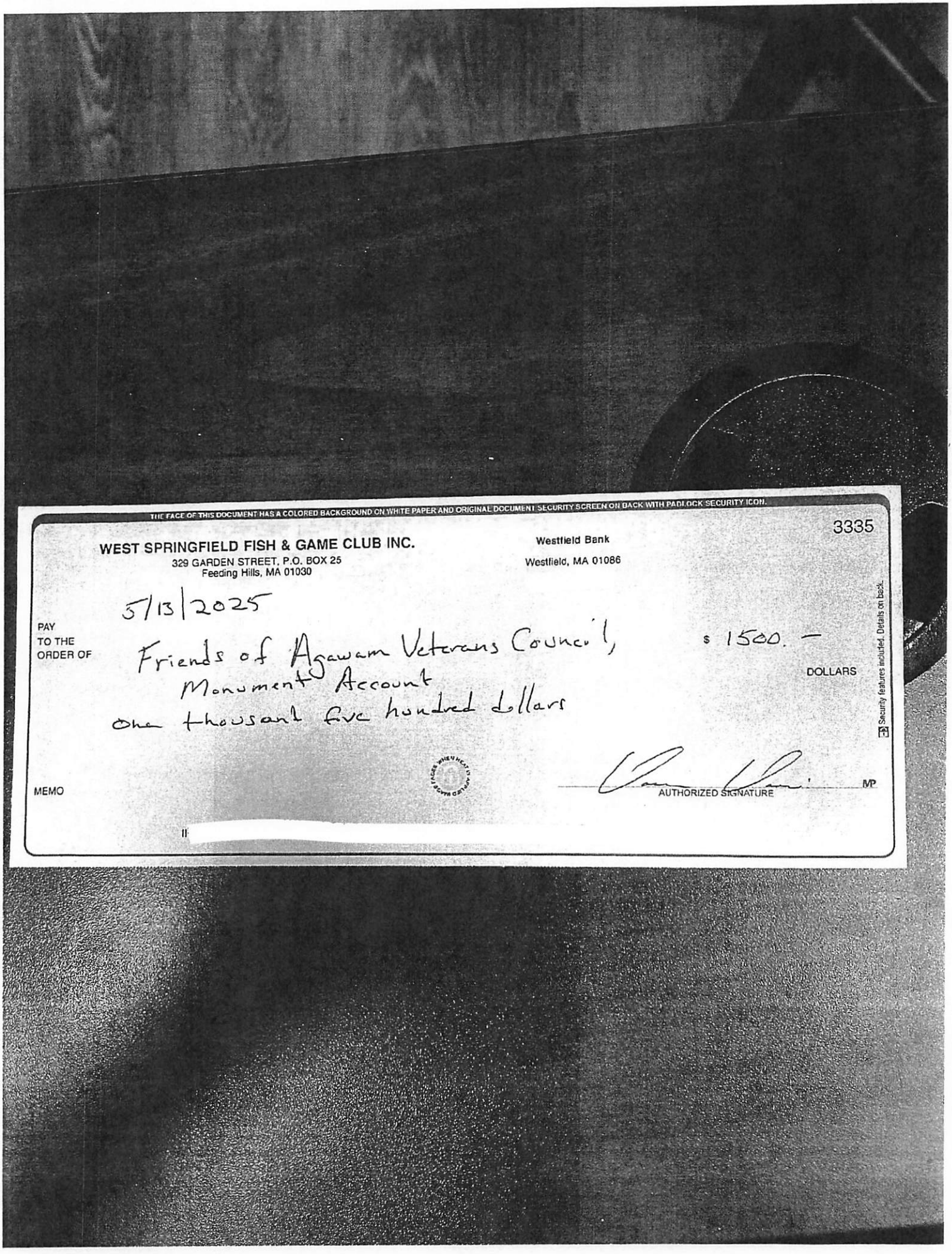
Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor



THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND ON WHITE PAPER AND ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SECURITY SCREEN ON BACK WITH PADLOCK SECURITY ICON.

3335

WEST SPRINGFIELD FISH & GAME CLUB INC.
329 GARDEN STREET, P.O. BOX 25
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Westfield Bank
Westfield, MA 01086

5/13/2025

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Friends of Agawam Veterans Council, Monument Account

$ 1500. —

one thousand five hundred dollars

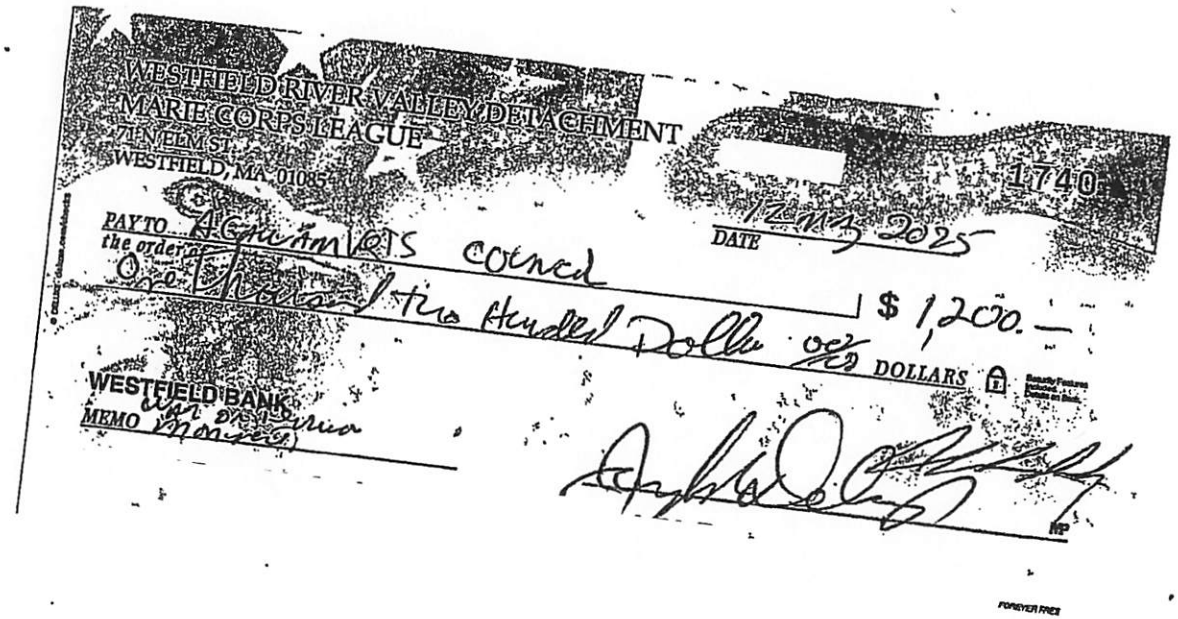
DOLLARS

Security features included. Details on back.

MEMO

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

MP


WESTFIELD RIVER VALLEY DETACHMENT
MARIE CORPS LEAGUE
71 N ELM ST
WESTFIELD, MA 01085

1740

DATE 12 MAY 2025

PAY TO the order of AGAWAM VETS COUNCIL

One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars 00/100 $ 1,200.00

DOLLARS

WESTFIELD BANK

MEMO Memorial

FOREVER FREE

TR-2025-51

A RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO PREVENT THE DEPLETION OF THE OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSURANCE TRUST FUND THAT PAYS SOCIAL SECURITY RETIREE BENEFITS

(Sponsored by George Bitzas, Councilor and Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund that pays Social Security retiree benefits is projected to be depleted in 2033, according to the latest estimates by the non-partisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget (CRFB); and

WHEREAS, if Congress takes no action and the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund that pays Social Security retiree benefits is depleted, it is expected that Social Security recipients would receive just 79% of their scheduled benefits: and

WHEREAS, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a bipartisan Social Security financing deal in 1983 enabled Social Security to run a surplus each year until 2021, and then, in 2021, Social Security's total annual costs exceeded its income and Social Security began to pull funds from its Trust Fund reserves; and

WHEREAS, the Trust Fund reserves supplement the program's income which is derived from payroll taxes, income taxes on benefits paid to higher-income beneficiaries, and interest earned on the trust fund bonds which allows Social Security to keep paying full benefits until the Trust Fund reserves are depleted; and

WHEREAS, contrary to the fears of some retirees, benefits will not cease if Social Security's trust funds are depleted, Social Security benefits will simply be reduced; and

WHEREAS, according to a Bipartisan Policy Center 2023 trustee report, demographics are a big reason for the coming Social Security shortfall as there are fewer younger people paying taxes to support retirees; and

WHEREAS, the ratio of workers paying Social Security payroll taxes to people drawing benefits has dropped from four-to-one in 1965 to just under three-to-one in 2022; and

WHEREAS, about one out of every five U.S. residents, or 67 million people, collected Social Security benefits in February 2023, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and that number jumped to over 72 million people in November of 2024; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Agawam to insure that Social Security recipients continue to receive their full benefits now and in the future; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Agawam hereby urges Congress to take necessary steps now to ensure that the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund that pays Social Security retiree benefits is not depleted and that Social Security recipients now and in the future receive their full benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council shall send a copy of this Resolution to our United State Senators and our United States Representative.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____
Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____
Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TOR-2025-5

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 49-7 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF AGAWAM REGARDING MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS

(Sponsored by Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor)

WHEREAS, the position of Meals on Wheels Driver provides valuable assistance to Senior Citizens in the City of Agawam;

WHEREAS, the position of Meals on Wheels Driver is part time non-bargaining unit position with a current salary range of $11.00 to $15.00 per hour;

WHEREAS, the hourly salary range for the position of Meals on Wheels Driver needs to be raised in order to continue to attract quality persons to that position and to afford the current occupants of those positions some opportunity for wage growth;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Agawam to increase the hourly salary range for the position of Meals on Wheels Driver; and

NOW THEREFORE, THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL hereby makes the following amendment to §49-7 of the Code of the City of Agawam entitled "Human Resources":

Amend §49-7 D (3) to read as follows: Meals on Wheels Driver $15.00 to $20.00

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____

Rosemary Sandlin, President, Agawam City Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TOR-2025-6

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD ARTICLE V TO CHAPTER 169 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF AGAWAM TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAFE OPERATION OF ELECTRIC BICYCLES

(Sponsored by Councilor Dino Mercadante)

WHEREAS, electric bicycles, more commonly known as E-Bikes, are growing in popularity in Agawam and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, E-Bikes allow for faster operation than traditional pedal bicycles and present new challenges for public safety; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 85, §11B¾ provides that operators of E-Bikes shall be subject to all of the duties of operators of bicycles or duties set forth by local ordinance, provided however that electric bicycles shall not be ridden or operated on sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Agawam to regulate electric bicycles by ordinance to ensure E-Bike operators along with other bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists are safe on the public ways in the City of Agawam; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam City Council hereby amends Chapter 169 of the Code of the City of Agawam entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" by adding Article V entitled "Electric Bicycles" which shall read as follows:

§169-29 Definitions

"Electric bicycle" shall be inclusive of the definition of Class 1 and Class 2 electric bicycles as defined in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90, §1, as amended from time to time. For the purposes of this Article, the term shall also include a two or three-wheeled vehicle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts (1 horsepower), whose maximum speed is less than 20 miles per hour.

"Operator" shall, for the purposes of this Article, refer to a person who intentionally manipulates some mechanical or electrical part of the electric bicycle which, alone or in sequence, will set the electric bicycle in motion.

§169-30 Application of this Article

This Article shall apply whenever an electric bicycle is operated upon any city owned property, public way or upon any public path that is set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

§169-31 Safety of Electric Bicycles

Electric bicycles shall comply with the equipment and manufacturing requirements for bicycles adopted by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission and shall further comply with all Commonwealth of Massachusetts laws and regulations relative to speed and motors. No person shall operate an electric bicycle that has been tampered with or modified to affect the motor-powered speed capability or engagement of the electric bicycle.

§169-32 Safe Operation of Electric Bicycles in Agawam

Operators of electric bicycles shall be subject to the following:

A. Electric bicycles shall not be operated in a reckless manner that unreasonably endangers the safety of the operators or their passengers, pedestrians or motorists.

B. Electric bicycles shall not be operated or ridden on sidewalks.

C. The operator of an electric bicycle shall not carry passengers on their bicycle unless a seat that is designed for that purpose is used, but trailers and seats that are designed for transporting children are permitted.

D. Operators of electric bicycles riding together shall not ride more than two abreast but, on a roadway with more than one lane in the direction of travel, operators shall ride within a single lane. Nothing in this clause shall relieve an operator of the duty to facilitate overtaking as required by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 89, §2, as amended from time to time.

E. Any person operating an electric bicycle or being carried as a passenger on an electric bicycle on a public way, bicycle path or on any other public right-of-way shall wear a helmet. Said helmet shall fit the person's head, shall be secured to the person's head by straps while the electric bicycle is being operated, and shall meet the standards for helmets established by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission.

§169-33 Penalties

Violations of this Article shall be punishable by a fine of fifty ($50.00) dollars.

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

_____

Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

_____

Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

TO-2025- 7

BUDGETARY TRANSFER FORM

Department: Police

Amount: $ $10,433.00 Date: May 23rd, 2025

From	Motor Vehicle	12104-58500
	Title of Account	Account Number
To	Protective & Safety Gear	12103-52410
	Title of Account	Account Number

Reason for Transfer: Please see attached statement of need in support of request.

Department Head

I hereby certify that funds are available to make the above-stated transfer.

Date: 5/23/25

Cheryl St. John, Auditor

I hereby approve placement of the above-stated transfer on the Council agenda.

Date: 5-23-25

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality.

Date: 5.23.25

Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL – APPROVED ON _____, 20__

Date: _____

Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVAL OF LEGISLATION: Pursuant to Section 3-6 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, I hereby approve the Council passage of the above-stated transfer.

Date: _____

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

DISAPPROVAL OF LEGISLATION: Pursuant to Section 3-6 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, I hereby disapprove the Council passage of the above-stated transfer.

Date: _____

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

AGAWAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

ERIC P. GILLIS
Chief of Police

May 23rd, 2025

Mayor Christopher Johnson
Town of Agawam
36 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001

Dear Mayor Johnson,

I have submitted for your consideration, a transfer request of **$10,433.00** from the Police Department **Motor Vehicle** account (**ORG: 12104 OBJ: 58500**) to the Police Department **Protective & Safety Gear** account (**ORG: 12103 OBJ: 52410**), and a transfer of **$3,000.00** from the Police Department **Equipment Replacement** account (**ORG: 12102 OBJ: 52030**) to the Police Department **Protective & Safety Gear** Account (**ORG: 12103 OBJ: 52410**).

EXPLANATION OF NEED FOR TRANSFER:

I am informed by Sgt. Christopher Soto, our Firearms Training Coordinator, and Departmental Armorer that a number of our current **Mossberg 930 SPX Tactical Shotguns** are failing and in need of replacement. **Mossberg Firearms**, the manufacturer of these firearms, no longer manufactures this particular model/variant, and does not produce a suitable replacement of this platform. A quote for **Benelli M-4** Tactical Shotguns is attached hereto, and they will replace the failing **Mossberg** platforms that we currently own. Given the reputation of **Benelli Firearms**' products, we expect this platform to have a much longer service life than the **Mossberg** Shotguns that will be replaced.

AVAILABLE FUNDS:

The funds available within the accounts of **Motor Vehicle (ORG: 12104 OBJ: 58500)** and **Equipment Replacement (ORG: 12102 OBJ: 52030)** have not been expended within this fiscal year.

CONCLUSION:

The funds sought pursuant to this transfer request will enable the Police Department to replace the failing **Mossberg** platforms. Moreover, this replacement **will not** require additional training time for officers to transition to the new **Benelli** shotguns.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric P. Gillis

681 Springfield St. • Feeding Hills, MA 01030 • Tel:(413) 786.4767 • Fax:(413) 786.4821 • egillis@agawam.ma.us

TO-2025- 8

BUDGETARY TRANSFER FORM

Department: **Police**

Amount: $ **3,000.00** Date: May 23rd, 2025

From **Equipment Replacement** **12102-52030**
Title of Account Account Number

To **Protective & Safety Gear** **12103-52410**
Title of Account Account Number

Reason for Transfer: Please see attached statement of need in support of request.

Department Head

I hereby certify that funds are available to make the above-stated transfer.

Date: 5/23/25

Cheryl St. John, Auditor

I hereby approve placement of the above-stated transfer on the Council agenda.

Date: 5-23-25

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality.

Date: 5.23.25

Christopher S. Cappucci, Solicitor

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL – APPROVED ON _____, 20__

Date: _____

Rosemary Sandlin, President

APPROVAL OF LEGISLATION: Pursuant to Section 3-6 of the Agawam Home Rule Charter, I hereby approve the Council passage of the above-stated transfer.

Date: _____

Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

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Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

AGAWAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

ERIC P. GILLIS
Chief of Police

May 23rd, 2025

Mayor Christopher Johnson
Town of Agawam
36 Main Street
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