

**Cambridge Association of Neighborhoods (CAN)  
Notes on Cambridge City Council Meeting  
Monday, January 25, 2021, Virtual Meeting 6:00 pm**

**Submitted by Alison Kennedy**

**Public Comment**

Several citizens phoned in about concerns over the use of grant money. Citizens were questioning why grant money was being used to upgrade City Hall with an elevator and being taken away from the Pine Street Project.

It was explained that there were 2 separate grants applied for; one for Pine Street Project and one for City Hall improvements.

To date there has been 1.2 MM committed to the Pine Street Project in Phase 1 (This includes grant money, supplements from the city and Habitat for Humanity). Phase 2 expenditures are anticipated to be \$540,000 from the grant above.

There was a comment from City Council members that the previous Council took money from the Community Legacy Grant for the demolition on Race Street. That is permissible and legal for them to do.

City Council questioned why there were no comments at the public hearing on the grant money. It was said that the hearings are published in the Star Democrat and on social media. City Council questioned why hearings were not advertised in the Dorchester Star. It was explained that the Star Democrat has a reliable and regular printing schedule and the Dorchester Star does not. In addition, the Dorchester Star is not sufficient to be used for public hearing advertisements by the state.

**Old Business**

No old business

**New Business**

1) Want to buy new street sweeper. Last one purchased 10-12 years ago. Personnel is available to run both old and new sweepers. No need to hire anyone else for it. Motion approved for purchase.

2) Historic marker placed at 207 Race Street. Approved.

3) Maces Lane and Washington Streets – problem with safety crossing at this intersection. Issues – blocked views, parking problems; pedestrians crossing street, kids going to school, car travel. Citizen called in that a crossing guard is needed for the children traveling to and from school.

**Public Comments**

The 1C Phase of the COVID-19 vaccinations begins today, 1/25/21.