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AMESBURY CITY CLERK

# Amesbury

Mayor C. Kenneth Gray

Office of the Mayor  
City Hall, 62 Friend Street  
Amesbury, MA 01913-2884

(978) 388-8121  
Fax: (978) 388-6727  
mayorgray@amesburyma.gov

## **\*Administrative Order\*** **2017-04**

February 9, 2017

Pursuant to Section 6-1(a)(2) of the Amesbury Home Rule Charter, city government is hereby reorganized, upon effect of this order, as follows:

### **The Office of Community and Economic Development**

1. The positions of Conservation Agent and Energy Manager are hereby eliminated from OCED. The OCED Director is hereby no longer charged with managing or overseeing the day-to-day operations relative to the fulfillment of any and all duties and responsibilities associated with either of the eliminated positions.

### **The Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs**

1. The Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs (the "Department") is hereby created and established upon effect of this order.
2. The Department shall consist of two staff positions: Director and Conservation Agent. The Conservation Agent shall report to the Director. The Director shall report to the Mayor.
3. The Director shall:
  - Act as head of the Department;
  - Be charged with overseeing and managing the day-to-day operations associated with all matters relating to energy or the environment, insofar as such matters involve the interests of the City;
  - Be responsible for ensuring that all administrative duties and responsibilities pertaining to energy or the environment, including those of the Conservation Agent, are fulfilled insofar as may be required of the City by statute, regulation, ordinance, or any other applicable authority with appropriate jurisdiction;
  - Lead efforts to obtain grant funding for energy or environmental initiatives that would, in the Director's opinion, be beneficial to the City.

C. Kenneth Gray, Mayor



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February 9, 2017

The Honorable Christian Scorzoni  
City Council President  
City of Amesbury  
62 Friend Street  
Amesbury, MA 01913

Dear Council President Scorzoni,

Administrative Order 2017-04 has been filed with the City Council in accordance with Section 6-1(a)(2) of the Amesbury Home Rule Charter. As you know, it is the President's right to decide whether or not the Order will be placed on an upcoming meeting agenda for consideration by the Council. My office will happily accommodate whichever route you choose to pursue in that regard. Notwithstanding that variable, I am writing to provide some pertinent context for you and your colleagues.

In short, Administrative Order 2017-04 proposes a reorganization of city government that involves two primary actions: (i) the creation of a new city department, the Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and; (ii) the transference – from the Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) to the Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs (DEEA) -- of all duties and responsibilities associated with administrative business relative to energy and the environment.

The reorganization would eliminate the position of Energy Manager and replace it with a Director of Energy and Environmental Affairs, who shall be the head of the Department. It would also transfer the position of Conservation Agent from OCED to DEEA, where he would report to the DEEA Director instead of to the OCED Director. I propose to appoint Tom Barrasso, current Energy Manager, to serve as Director of DEEA, and I plan for John Lopez to continue to serve as Conservation Agent.

I propose this reorganization for two primary reasons. First, it allows the city to align itself in a manner more consistent with the administrative structure of the Commonwealth, where the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs is separate from the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. Secondly, and more importantly, it allows the city to put two employees -- Tom Barrasso and OCED Director Bill Scott -- in positions to better utilize their exceptional talents on behalf of Amesbury.

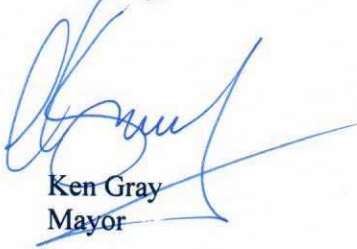
Through his performance as Energy Manager, Mr. Barrasso has proven himself worthy of leading and managing a city department. As Director of DEEA, he will be able to narrow his focus on grant applications, energy efficiency, and other relevant projects that benefit Amesbury taxpayers. His knowledge and experience in this particular profession is extensive, and he is uniquely qualified to take on this new role.

Similarly, Mr. Scott's talents, experience, and dedication are surely evident to the City Council by now. His creativity and work ethic have been driving forces behind the success Amesbury has enjoyed in the area of

economic development during my administration thus far. Mr. Scott has accomplished a lot, and he has done so despite a rather daunting list of day-to-day responsibilities in several disciplines. With over \$100 million of new development currently under construction, and many other such opportunities for growth on Amesbury's horizon, this reorganization would allow Mr. Scott to focus even more of his time on facilitating community and economic development in the city.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Ken Gray  
Mayor