

**CITY OF WOBURN
CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL
WOBURN CITY HALL
COMMITTEE ROOM
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.**

Voting members present: Chair Joanne Campbell, Councilor Joseph Demers, and Councilor Robert Toro

Non-Voting members present: President Jeffrey Dillon, Councilor Lou DiMambro, Councilor Robert Ferullo, Councilor William Pappalardo, and Councilor Charles Viola. Absent: Councilor Darlene Mercer-Bruen

Also present: Mayor Michael Concannon

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Reading and approval of meeting minutes of April 9, 2024: Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Toro to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the meeting of April 9, 2024, all in favor, 3-0.

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Appointment of Kathleen A. Lucero to the Board of Trustees for the Woburn Public

Library: Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Toro to suspend the City Council's rules to allow Mayor Concannon to address the committee. Mayor Concannon said everyone in the room is familiar with Ms. Lucero and what she has done for the community. He said he cannot think of a better candidate for the Woburn Public Library's Board of Trustees. He said Ms. Lucero's work with the Woburn Historical Society should improve collaboration between the two bodies and help expand programming. He said he is very proud to present Ms. Lucero as a nominee for the Woburn Public Library's Board of Trustees. Chair Campbell asked Ms. Lucero to tell the committee about herself and her relevant experience. Ms. Lucero said she has been a business owner for 29 years. She said she founded the Woburn Historical Society in 2006 and over the last five years there has been a focus on veterans issues. She said she has made approximately 25 films about the city of Woburn. She said approximately 10-15 of them focus on veterans. She said she started conducting trolley tours of historical sites in Woburn with the Shamrock School about 10 years ago. She said she has given tours to approximately 4,000 third graders. She said the cost of the tours is approximately \$20,000, \$5,000 of which comes from the School Committee. She said she has done extensive historical research at the Woburn Public Library. She said she is currently working on collecting historical information in advance of the 250th anniversary of the start date of the Revolutionary War. She said there were more than 200 men from Woburn who served on April 19. She said the city played a major role. She said history is her thing. She said she only has one speed. She said she works fast. Councilor Demers everyone knows Ms. Lucero. He said Ms. Lucero's reputation precedes her, especially in the

realm of Woburn history. He said Ms. Lucero is one of those getting-it-done folks. Councilor Demers said Ms. Lucero's commitment to the community and her background in Woburn history make her a terrific candidate. Ms. Lucero said there are nine locations in Woburn that are in the National Register of Historic Places. She said that does not include the Second Burial Ground and Battle Road, which she is working on adding to the National Register of Historic Places in 2025. She said she has not been involved in the operational procedures at the library but she is looking forward to seeing if she can bring students in. She said she is looking to get more 8th graders involved. She said she has collaborated on a program with a teacher at the Joyce Middle School. She said the students are assigned to do profiles on Revolutionary era soldiers. She said the students can write a poem or do a drawing. She said that's where the future is; getting kids involved. Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Toro to suspend the City Council's rules to allow any member of the City Council not on the committee to address Ms. Lucero's nomination; approved, 3-0. President Dillon thanked Ms. Lucero for showing interest in the library. He said his two favorite things in the city are the library and Horn Pond. He said the library has so many uses and purposes. He said it is not just a building with bricks. He said Ms. Lucero is going to be a great addition to the Woburn Public Library's Board of Trustees. Ms. Lucero thanked President Dillon and thanked Mayor Concannon for nominating her. She said she initially hesitated because of her schedule. President Dillon said the First Burial Ground is amazing and encouraged his colleagues to take a tour. Ms. Lucero said the First Burial Ground is part of American history. Councilor Viola thanked Ms. Lucero for her work on the Woburn Historical Society. He said he thinks she will be an excellent addition to the Woburn Public Library's Board of Trustees. Councilor DiMambro said Ms. Lucero gave the best interview ever. Ms. Lucero said if you like what you're doing, it's easy. She said when you get involved you see what a previous generation has accomplished and sacrificed. Councilor Ferullo thanked Ms. Lucero for all she does, especially the trolley tours. Ms. Lucero said a grant from the Cummings Foundation has helped in that regard. Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Toro to return to the regular order of business; approved, 3-0. Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Toro that the appointment of Kathleen A. Lucero to the Woburn Public Library's Board of Trustees "ought to pass;" approved, 3-0.

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Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Toro to adjourn, all in favor, 3-0. Chair Campbell adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST

Lindsay E. Higgins
City Clerk