



City of Framingham

Proclamation

November 7, 2024

80th Anniversary of Cushing Memorial Chapel

WHEREAS, in April of 1943, Ashland Sand & Gravel Company began the construction of the former Cushing Hospital campus in Framingham, which included the historic chapel.

WHEREAS, on January 24, 1944, a dedication ceremony was held and attended by Massachusetts Governor Leverett Saltonstall and neurosurgeon Dr. Harvey Cushing's widow and his two daughters.

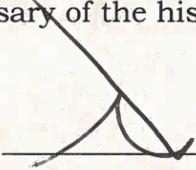
WHEREAS, when completed, the Cushing Hospital campus included 95 buildings, including medical facilities, a post office, a gas station, an ice cream parlor, Red Cross offices, a library, a fire station, and the historic chapel that still stands today. More than 1,000 military and hundreds of civilian staff were employed at the former military hospital site in the 1940s.

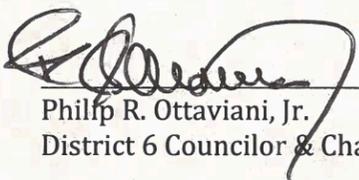
WHEREAS, for most of World War II Captain John Clancy was the chaplain for the chapel. Father Clancy advised many a soldier at the Chapel.

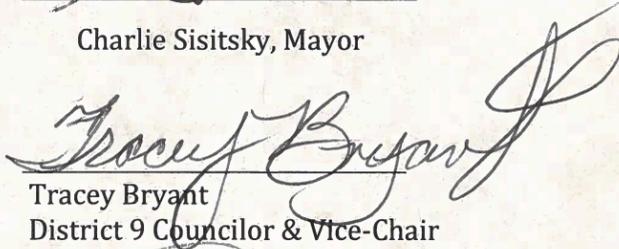
WHEREAS, Cushing Hospital was overseen by the Veterans Administration after the war and was visited by General Douglas MacArthur in the 1950s. The VA closed the hospital on October 15, 1953. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts took over the property for an elderly hospital in the mid-1950s. Eventually, the Town of Framingham became the owners of the property, including one of the few remaining structures – the chapel.

WHEREAS, the historic chapel was repaired and renovated in the 1990s, and now is used for military funerals, weddings, and other services. The Chapel has an altar, seating for more than 150 people, and a choir loft with a Hammond organ, that was installed in 1943 before the chapel opened.

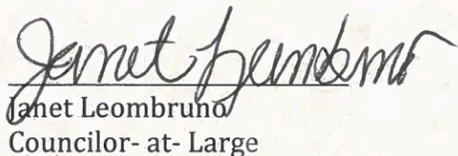
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, We, City of Framingham Mayor Charlie Sisitsky and the City Council, hereby celebrate the 80th anniversary of the historic Cushing Memorial Chapel.

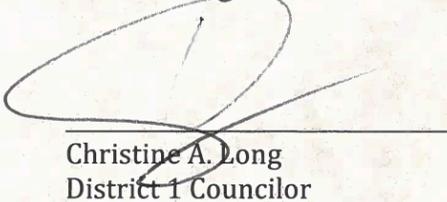

Charlie Sisitsky, Mayor

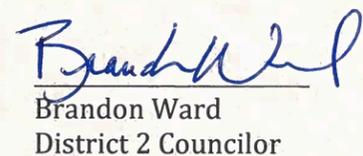

Philip R. Ottaviani, Jr.
District 6 Councilor & Chair

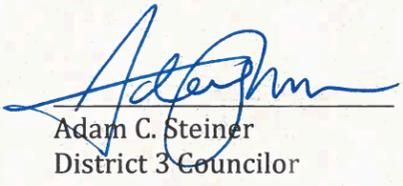

Tracey Bryant
District 9 Councilor & Vice-Chair

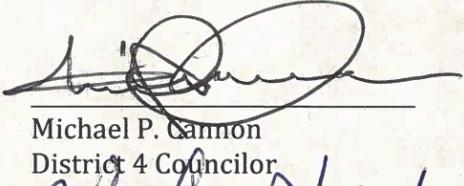

George P. King, Jr.
Councilor-at-Large


Janet Leombruno
Councilor-at-Large

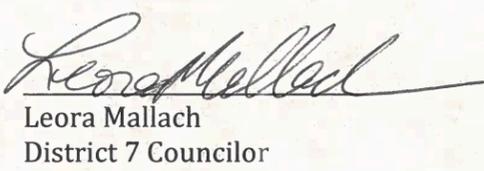

Christine A. Long
District 1 Councilor

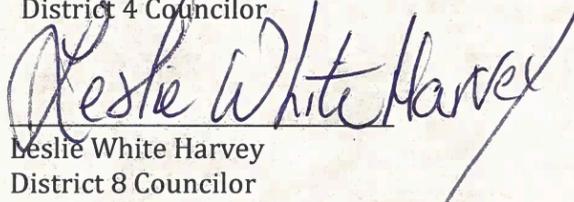

Brandon Ward
District 2 Councilor


Adam C. Steiner
District 3 Councilor

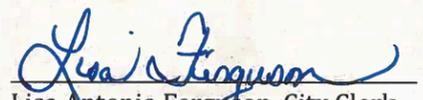

Michael P. Cannon
District 4 Councilor


Noval Alexander
District 5 Councilor


Leora Mallach
District 7 Councilor


Leslie White Harvey
District 8 Councilor

Attested to by:


Lisa Antonio Ferguson, City Clerk
Emily L. Butler, Assistant City Clerk

