



RECEIVED

By City Clerk at 9:13 am, Apr 02, 2024

City of Amesbury
Office of the City Clerk
62 Friend St.
Amesbury, MA 01913

City Council Ordinance & Administration Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2024, at 7:00 PM
City Hall Auditorium- 62 Friend St.

Councilor Gilday called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Roll was called and present were: Councilor Gilday, Councilor Rinaldi, and Councilor Wheeler

Also Present: Councilor Steve Stanganelli, School Committee members Maryann Welch and Brock Omohundro, and Administrative Assistant Jess Manning

Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to nominate Councilor Gilday to be the Chair of the Ordinance and Administration Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed unanimously (3-0).

Councilor Gilday made a motion to nominate Councilor Rinaldi to be Vice Chair of the Ordinance and Administration Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and passed unanimously (3-0).

Approval of 2024 Schedule

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to accept the proposed calendar for the Ordinance and Administration Subcommittee (meetings on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM). The motion was seconded by Councilor Gilday and passed unanimously (3-0).

Organization- non voting members

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to appoint Attorney Leonard Johnson as a non-voting member of the Ordinance and Administration Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rinaldi and passed unanimously (3-0).

Councilor Rinaldi made a motion to appoint Attorney Bethany Raffa as a non-voting member of the Ordinance and Administration Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and passed unanimously (3-0).

Minutes for Approval: December 18, 2023

Councilor Rinaldi made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gilday and passed 2-0-1 with Councilor Wheeler abstaining.

Communications & Updates

- Councilor Wheeler shared that he is working with the Community Preservation Coalition staff to get the updated ordinance drafted for the Community Preservation Act Agreement. Councilor Wheeler received a draft on Friday (2/16) and is in the process of submitting a bill to the administration for cosponsorship by the mayor and presentation as a first reading at a City Council meeting soon.

- Councilor Rinaldi asked when people's bills will start seeing changes as a result of the passage of the CPA. Councilor Wheeler replied that charges start going out on July 1, 2024 for fiscal year 2025.
- Councilor Gilday asked for clarification on the creation of a CPA Committee and a related fund. Councilor Wheeler replied that, after discussions with the Community Preservation Coalition, the City does not need to enact an ordinance to create a fund. A fund can be created by the Administration & Finance office.

Public Comment

Maryann Welch (21 Woodwell Circle) VP of the School Committee – Voiced her concerns on the proposed school budget, noting that the approved budget would mean two dozen staff cuts.

Brock Omohundro (198 Market Street) - Agreed with Maryann Welch and emphasized his concerns over the proposed school budget.

Steve Stanganelli (12 Amidon Avenue) – Spoke to the proposed City Council Rules changes, stressing that the changes were proposed after speaking to both the current and former City Clerks.

Topics for Discussion:

2024-002 Session 14 City Council Rules & Procedures

- Councilor Gilday stated that the City Council recently created an Ad-Hoc Rules Committee for the purpose of discussing and passing the new set of rules. With that knowledge, she is in favor of continuing any discussion of rules changes until the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Whole City Council has a chance to meet.
- Councilor Wheeler agreed with Councilor Gilday, adding that he is in favor of some discussion during this meeting but he generally believes any changes should be discussed by the full City Council first.
- Councilor Gilday invited Councilor Stanganelli to speak on proposed rules changes. Councilor Stanganelli stressed that he communicated extensively with the City Clerk's office, as well as the Mayor's Chief of Staff and the former City Clerk on ways to improve the current rules.

2024-016 An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14th Session Rules by revising Rule 6G: Appeal - **Councilors Stanganelli, Hogg and Rinaldi Sponsors**

2024-017 An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14th Session Rules by revising Rule 11-A Standing Committees. - **Councilors Stanganelli, Hogg and Rinaldi Sponsors**

2024-018 An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14th Session Rules – Rule 5E: Order of Business - **Councilors Stanganelli, Hogg and Rinaldi Sponsors**

2024-019 An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14th Session Rules – Rule 5B: Meeting Schedule - **Councilors Stanganelli, Hogg and Rinaldi Sponsors**

2024-020 An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14th Session Rules by adding Rule 5J: Attendance Relating to Public and Adjudicatory Hearings or Meetings - **Councilors Stanganelli, Hogg and Rinaldi Sponsors**

2024-021 An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14th Session Rules by adding Rule 5I: Remote Participation - **Councilors Stanganelli, Hogg and Rinaldi Sponsor**

2024-022 An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14th Session Rules by revising Rule 6O: Objections and Postponement of Votes. - **Councilors Stanganelli, Hogg and Rinaldi Sponsors**

Councilor Rinaldi made a motion to continue 2024-002, 2024-016, 2024-017, 2024-018, 2024-019, 2024-020, 2024-021, and 2024-022 until the next scheduled Ordinance and Administration

Subcommittee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and passed unanimously (3-0).

Adjourn

Councilor Gilday made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Councilor Wheeler seconded, and the motion passed unanimously (3-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Jess Manning

March 27, 2024