



Committee on Legislative Matters and the Northampton City Council

Members:

*Councilor Maureen Carney
At-Large Councilor Bill Dwight
Councilor Alisa F. Klein
Councilor David A. Murphy*

MEETING AGENDA

Date: February 1, 2018

Time: 5 p.m.

**Location: City Council Chambers
212 Main St., Northampton, Massachusetts**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Election of Chair/Vice Chair**
- 3. Public Comment**
- 4. Approve Minutes of December 11, 2017**

Documents:

[12-11-17_Committee_on_Legislative_Matters.pdf](#)

- 5. Set Meeting Schedule for 2018 - 2019**
- 6. Items Referred to Committee**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Adjourn**

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Committee on Legislative Matters and the Northampton City Council

Members:

Councilor David A. Murphy, Chair

Councilor Ryan R. O'Donnell

Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra

Councilor James Nash

MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 11, 2017, Time: 5:00 pm

Location: City Council Chambers, 212 Main St., Northampton, Massachusetts

1. **Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call:** At 5 p, m. Councilor Murphy called the meeting to order. Present were: Councilor Murphy, Councilor Nash, Councilor O'Donnell and Councilor Sciarra.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Approve Minutes of October 16, 2017 and November 13, 2017**
Councilor O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes of October 16, 2017 and November 13, 2017. Councilor Nash seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.
4. **Items Referred to Committee**
 - A. **17.265 An Ordinance Relative to Taxis and Vehicles for hire - returned to committee by City Council on 9/21/2017**

The sponsors of the ordinance were the Mayor and Chief Kasper, Councilor Murphy reminded. He spoke to Chief Kasper a couple of weeks ago and she said she was going to meet with the Sealer of Weights and Measures, John Frey. They did meet and discuss changes and she obtained a copy of the latest version of the ordinance this morning. An amended draft will likely not be ready until January, according to the chief.

Councilor Sciarra moved to continue the item. Councilor Nash seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

- B. **17.379 An Ordinance Relative to Parking on Prospect Street - Referred to Committee on August 17, 2017, Positive Recommendation from Transportation and Parking Commission**

Sponsors are waiting for measurements from the DPW for the three parking spaces that will replace the single space originally proposed, Councilor O'Donnell explained. The measurements have not yet

been received. Councilor O'Donnell moved to continue discussion to the next meeting. Councilor Sciarra seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

C. 17.417 An Ordinance regarding departmental revolving funds - referred to Finance and Legislative Matters 11/2/2017; positive recommendation from Finance 11/16/2017

Councilor O'Donnell moved to forward the ordinance to the City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Sciarra seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

D. 17.420 Order to Lower Default Speed Limit to 25 mph - referred to Transportation and Parking Commission and Legislative Matters 11/16/2017

The Transportation and Parking Commission looked at it once but is going to look at it again, Councilor O'Donnell reported. The default speed limit is currently 30 mph in residential districts, he explained, with "residential" being defined as areas where houses are less than 200 feet apart. The proposed lower limit is for areas where speed limits are otherwise not posted. The whole city of Boston lowered the default speed to 25 mph, he advised. If adopted, Northampton would be the first community in the region to do so.

Councilor O'Donnell moved to continue. The big question is what signage would be required, he elaborated. The question is whether officials want to have jurisdictional boundary signs. It might make sense to have signs in select places. Chief Kasper and DPW Director LaScalia are discussing. Councilor Sciarra seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

Councilor O'Donnell thanked the chair for an excellent two years.

Councilor Sciarra moved to adjourn. Councilor Nash seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

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