

Committee on Rules, Orders, Appointments, & Ordinances

Councilor David A. Murphy
Councilor Maureen T. Carney
Councilor Ryan R. O'Donnell

Minutes of Meeting Date:

Meeting Time:

City Council Chambers, 212 Main Street
Northampton, Massachusetts

****Activate NCTV Camera to Record Minutes***

9/14/2015 - Minutes

1. Meeting Called To Order

At 5:00 p.m. Councilor Murphy called the meeting to order.

A. Announcement Of Audio/Video Recording Of Meeting

Councilor Murphy announced that the meeting would be taped.

B. Members Present/Absent

Present were: Councilors Murphy, Carney and O'Donnell.

2. 15.489 Appointment Of Kristine Bissell As Treasurer/Collector

Mayor Narkewicz reminded the committee that in June he had submitted an administrative order to the City Council to consolidate the Office of the Treasurer and Office of the Collector. Step two of this consolidation is to appoint a department head. Kris Bissell is his nominee. Kris is currently the acting Collector/Treasurer. He has confidence that she is able to do the job. She is working to learn the requirements of the job. She held the position of Collector/Treasurer for the town of Palmer. Kris is born and raised in the community.

Kris Bissell expressed her appreciation that the Mayor had confidence in her to move her forward as the newly formed department head. She noted that she has been working to learn the job; cross-training in the department is on-going. There is currently construction going on in Collector's Office space to make room for the Treasurer staff. This should be done in the next 3-4 weeks.

Councilor O'Donnell expressed his confidence in Ms. Bissell; Councilor Carney thanked Ms. Bissell for the work that she is doing.

Councilor O'Donnell moved to return the appointment back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

3. 5:05 P.M. Public Hearing Regarding Zoning Standards For Significant Trees

Due to Rosh Hashanah, the public hearing scheduled for this meeting has been postponed. Councilor Murphy will contact the Senior Land Planner Carolyn Misch to reschedule.

4. 5:15 P.M. **Public Hearing Regarding Zoning Standards For Rural Residential And Suburban Residential Areas**

Due to Rosh Hashanah, the public hearing scheduled for this meeting has been postponed. Councilor Murphy will contact the Senior Land Planner Carolyn Misch to reschedule.

5. **Public Comment**

None

6. **Approve Minutes Of The Previous Meeting**

Councilor O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes listed below as a group; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

A. Reconsideration Of Minutes Of June 15, 2015

These minutes were corrected to reflect the motion made for appointment of Carla Valez to the Human Rights Commission. The previous version stated that Councilor Carney made the motion and seconded the motion.

B. Minutes Of August 10, 2015

7. **Orders And Ordinances For Review**

A. 15.479 Ordinance Pertaining To 24-Hour Parking

The change to this ordinance was introduced by the Parking Enforcement Supervisor, Nanci Forrestall. Currently there is an ordinance on the books that states that you cannot park in a municipal parking lot for more than 24-hours. This is not how long term parking is administered, so this change will reflect what is currently allowed under long term parking provisions. Councilor O'Donnell noted that passenger rail has returned to the city which may make longer than 24 hour parking necessary for someone; it is also the general direction of the parking study which recommends getting long-term parking off the streets and into lots. Councilor O'Donnell moved to return the Ordinance back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

B. 15.480 Ordinance Pertaining To Parking On Prospect St.

This ordinance comes from the Director of Central Services; this parking spot is in front of the Survival Center. Removal of the spot will allow for greater visibility and maneuverability directly in front of the Survival Center driveway. The director of the Survival Center has no issues with the change.

Councilor O'Donnell moved to return the Ordinance back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

C. 15.481 Ordinance Pertaining To Parking @ Northampton Senior Center

The need for more handicapped parking spaces was made known by Senior Services Director Patte Shaughnessy. Currently there are four HC spaces at the Senior Center; Director Shaughnessy requested 6 or 8 more; the TPC determined that 3 would be a reasonable number to add. HC spaces are larger than standard spaces; four standard spaces will be converted to 3 HC spaces. The ordinance also codifies four spaces on the northwesterly corner of the lot which are not currently codified.

Councilor O'Donnell proposed changing the "northwestern side" to the "northwesterly side";

Councilor O'Donnell moved to return the Ordinance back to the full City Council with a positive recommendation as amended; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

D. 15.492 Ordinance Pertaining To Rural Residential Zoning

Discussion regarding this Ordinance was postponed until after the Public Hearing.

E. 15.493 Ordinance Pertaining To Suburban Residential Zoning

Discussion regarding this Ordinance was postponed until after the Public Hearing.

8. Appointments For Committee Approval

A. 15.491 Appointments To Committees

Councilor Carney moved to send the following reappointments back to City Council with a positive recommendation:

- Agricultural Commission-John Omasta
- Central Business Architecture Committee-Joseph Blumenthal
- Human Rights Commission-Jordana Amato

Councilor O'Donnell seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

Councilor O'Donnell moved to send the following new appointments back to the City Council with a positive recommendation:

- Laurie Loisel-Human Rights Commission
- Ann Brooks-Transportation & Parking Commission

Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

B. 15.496 Appointments To Committees

Councilor Carney moved to send the appointments of Jack Finn & David Drake to the Community Preservation Committee back to the City full City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor O'Donnell seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

Councilor Carney moved to send the referred appointments to the Parks & Recreation Commission of Carol Bertrand, David Cronin, Kristin Dardano, Thomas Dunphy, Michael Laga and Dan Smith back to the City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor O'Donnell seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

9. New Business

None.

10. Adjourn

At 5:20 pm Councilor O'Donnell moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No.

Respectfully submitted by
Pamela L. Powers
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