

Warrant for the Organizational Meeting

WARRANT FOR THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor:

The Organizational Meeting of the 2018 City Council will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 10:00 AM in the Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building at Fitchburg State University, 367 North Street, Fitchburg MA.

The Meeting has been called for the following purposes:

Administration of Oaths of Office to newly elected officials:

Mayor, City Council, School Committee;

Election of the Council President for the year 2018;

Election of the Council Vice President for the year 2018;

1 - 18 **ORDER:** Adopting Rules of the City Council for the year 2018;

2 - 18 **ORDER:** Setting dates of Regular Meetings of the City Council for the year 2018;

Drawing of names for seat assignment in the Council meeting area for the year 2018.

Per Order:

Anna M. Farrell

City Clerk

Clerk, City Council

Roll Call

The Organizational Meeting of the City Council was held in the Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building at Fitchburg State University and called to order by City Clerk Anna M. Farrell at 10:02 a.m. The Salute to the Flag was led by Councillor Kushmerek. The Clerk called the roll and ten (10) members were present. Board consists of ten members (with one vacancy). The Clerk read the Warrant for the Organizational Meeting.

Oaths of Office

Oaths of Office were administered by the City Clerk to Mayor Stephen DiNatale; City Councillors Paul Beauchemin, David Clark, Marcus DiNatale, Marisa Fleming, Amy Green, Joel Kaddy, Michael Kushmerek, Samantha Squailia, Elizabeth Walsh and Anthony Zarrella; School Committee members Peter Stephens, Jean LaBelle-Pierce and Rosemary Reynolds.

Nominations for Council President

Nominations for Council President were declared open by the Clerk. The name of Councillor Michael Kushmerek was placed in nomination and seconded. There were no further nominations. Nominations were declared closed following unanimous roll call vote. A roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed resulted in the election of Councillor Michael Kushmerek as President of the City Council for the year 2018. President Kushmerek assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Nominations for Council Vice President

Nominations for Council Vice President were declared open by President Kushmerek. The name of Councillor Amy Green was placed in nomination and seconded. There were no further nominations. Nominations were declared closed following unanimous roll call vote. A roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed resulted in the election of Councillor Amy Green as Vice President of the City Council for the year 2018.

Orders

The following Orders were received:

1 - 2018 **ORDER:** That the Rules of the City Council for 2017 are hereby adopted for 2018.

Proposed amendments to the Rules

The following proposals for amendments to the 2017 rules for the year 2018 were read and voted as indicated:

Amendments proposed by Councillor Michael Kushmerek:

1. Amend Rule 29 to read "Seats in the Council chamber for the members thereof shall be determined by the President, and all yea and nay votes shall be called in alphabetical order beginning with the Councillor who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VOTE: By roll call vote of 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Squailia) the amendment was approved.

2. Add to the Rules: The use of mobile devices during Council meetings shall be prohibited unless allowed at the discretion of the President.

VOTE: By roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed the proposed amendment was further amended to read as follows: The use of mobile devices during Council meetings is permitted only for City Council business such as accessing the electronic meeting informational packet and otherwise at the discretion of the President.
By roll call vote of 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Squailia) the further amended version was approved.

3. Add to the Rules: All members of the City Council and City employees, serving in official capacity, shall dress in business attire during Council meetings, except in such instances where City employees are required to dress in uniform.

VOTE: By roll call vote of 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Clark, Squailia) the amendment was approved.

Amendments proposed by Councillor Samantha Squailia

Proposed changes are shown in **Bold** and Underlined. Proposed strikeouts are shown with a ~~strike-out~~ and underlined

4. Rule 4. The President shall declare all votes. If any member doubts the vote, the Chair, without further debate upon the question, shall require members voting in the affirmative and negative respectfully, **to raise their hand** ~~or~~ rise and stand until counted, and shall declare the result, but no such declaration shall be made unless a quorum of the Council has voted.

VOTE: By roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed the amendment was approved.

5. Rule 18. At every regular meeting of the Council, the order of business shall be as follows:

- a. 1. Public Forum. (Explanation follows Rule 31.)
- b. 2. A report of the committee on records.
- c. 3. Communications from the Mayor.
- d. 4. Communications and reports from the heads of departments.
- e. 5. Reports of committees.
- f. 6. Public hearings.
- g. 7. Motions, Orders, Resolutions.

Proposed amendments
to the Rules

h. 8. Ordinances.

i. 9. Presentation of petitions.

j. 10. Unfinished business and matters on the table.

k. 11. Announcements and Recognitions

VOTE: By roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed the amendment was approved.

6. Rule 20. (placed at end) **Every Council member must be appointed to a committee, unless a request is made in writing to the President that he/she not be appointed to any committee.**

VOTE: By roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed the amendment was approved.

7. Rule 24. Every order, ordinance, resolution and vote relative to the affairs of the city adopted or passed by the City Council shall be presented to the Mayor for his/her approval by the clerk, who shall enter upon the records of the City Council the date and time upon which it was presented. If he/she approves it, he/she shall sign it; if he/she disapproves it, he/she shall return it with his/her written objections, to the City Council, which shall enter the objections at large on its records and again consider it. If the City Council notwithstanding such disapproval of The Mayor, shall again pass such order, ordinance, Resolution or vote by a two thirds of all its members, It shall then be in force, but such vote shall not be taken For seven days after its return to the City Council. Every such order, ordinance, resolution and vote shall be in force if not returned by the Mayor within ten days after it has been presented to him/her. This section shall not apply to budgets submitted under section thirty two of Chapter 44, or to appropriations by a city council under section thirty three of said chapter.

VOTE: By roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed the amendment was approved.

8. Rule 29. Seats in the Council Chamber for the members thereof, shall be determined by lot, and all yea or nay votes shall be called in alphabetical order beginning with the councillor who led the pledge of allegiance. **Seat adjustments may be made per discretion of the Council President.**

VOTE: By roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed the amendment was given leave to withdraw.

9. Rule 31. PUBLIC FORUM: The purpose of the Public Forum is to include public participation in city government. The forum will begin at 7:00 p.m., **or immediately after the meeting is called to order and shall last no longer than fifteen minutes.** In order for a person to speak, he or she must first be recognized by the President **Chair**, state his or her name and speak only on matters appearing on the Council calendar or agenda at that meeting. He or she will be given two minutes to speak.

There shall be a Public Forum before all gatherings of the City Council and committees of the City Council. These

gatherings shall include all regular meetings, special meetings, hearings, informational sessions, or any other instance where a meeting is posted pursuant to the meeting law.

VOTE: By roll call vote of 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Squailia) the amendment was further amended to STRIKE the following proposed language: ~~There shall be a Public Forum before all gatherings of the City Council and committees of the City Council. These gatherings shall include all regular meetings, special meetings, hearings, informational sessions, or any other instance where a meeting is posted pursuant to the meeting law~~

and ADD the following language: At the discretion of the Chair the public may be provided with the opportunity to speak at all gatherings of the City Council and committees of the City Council.

By roll call vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed the further amended version was approved.

2 - 2018

ORDER: Setting dates of Regular Meetings of the City Council for the year 2018. Until further notice, the following dates be fixed for the regular meetings of the City Council for the year 2018:

Order
Setting the dates of Regular Meetings of the City Council

JANUARY	Thursday 4 th	and	Tuesday 16 th
FEBRUARY	Tuesday 6 th	and	Tuesday 20 th
MARCH	Tuesday 6 th	and	Tuesday 20 th
APRIL	Tuesday 3 rd	and	Tuesday 17 th
MAY	Tuesday 1 st	and	Tuesday 15 th
JUNE	Tuesday 5 th	and	Tuesday 19 th
JULY	Thursday 5 th	and	Tuesday 17 th
AUGUST	NO MEETINGS		
SEPTEMBER	Tuesday 4 th	and	Tuesday 18 th
OCTOBER	Tuesday 2 nd	and	Tuesday 16 th
NOVEMBER	Thursday 8 th	and	Tuesday 20 th
DECEMBER	Tuesday 4 th	and	Tuesday 18 th

Meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:00PM
Memorial Middle School Library
615 Rollstone Street, Fitchburg MA 01420

Motion to adopt the 2018 Schedule of City Council meeting dates passed by unanimous vote. 10 members present. Board consists of 10 members.

In accordance with the voted amendment to Rule #29, a drawing for seat assignment was not conducted.

Seat Assignments

The Council President made the following seat assignments and presented them to the City Clerk for distribution on January 3, 2018:

Seat #1 Councillor Beauchemin
Seat #2 Councillor Zarrella
Seat #3 Councillor Kaddy
Seat #4 Councillor Clark
Seat #5 Councillor Walsh
Seat #6 Councillor Squailia
Seat #7 Councillor Green
Seat #8 Councillor DiNatale
Seat #9 Councillor Fleming
Seat #10 Vacant

The Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.


Anna M. Farrell, Clerk

City of Fitchburg.....

