

Warrant for the Organizational Meeting of the City Council

WARRANT FOR THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor:

The Organizational Meeting of the 2019 City Council will be held on **Monday, January 7, 2019 at 10:00 AM** in the Fitchburg Police Department Community Room (basement level) 20 Elm Street, Fitchburg MA 01420.

The Meeting is called for the following purposes:

Election of the Council President for the year 2019;

Election of the Council Vice President for the year 2019;

1 - 2019 **ORDER:** Adopting Rules of the City Council for the year 2019;

2 - 2019 **ORDER:** Setting dates of Regular Meetings of the City Council for the year 2019;

Drawing of names for seat assignment in the Council meeting space for the year 2019.

Per Order:
Anna M. Farrell
City Clerk

Roll Call

The Organizational Meeting of the City Council was held in the Fitchburg Police Department Community Room (basement level) 20 Elm Street, Fitchburg MA and called to order by City Clerk Anna M. Farrell at 10:05 a.m. The Salute to the Flag was led by Councillor Kushmerek. The City Clerk called the roll and eleven (11) members were present. Board consists of eleven (11) members. The City Clerk read the warrant for the Organizational Meeting and noted that the last item on the agenda, "Drawing of names for seat assignment" was placed in error and should not be acted upon because the City Council voted in 2018 that the Council President designates seat assignments.

Nomination 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 by a roll call vote of 10 members in favor and 1 opposed (Squailia). A roll call of vote of 11 in favor and 0 opposed resulted in the election of Councillor Michael Kushmerek as President of the City Council for the year 2019. President Kushmerek assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Nomination 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 a unanimous roll call vote. A roll call of vote of 11 in favor and 0 opposed resulted in the election of Councillor Amy Green as Vice President of the City Council for the year 2019.

Order #1-2019

The following Orders were received:

1 - 2019 **ORDER:** Adopting Rules of the City Council for the year 2019.

Proposed Amendments to the Rules:

The following proposals for amendments to the 2018 rules for the year 2019 were read and voted as indicated:

Amendments proposed by Councillor Squailia:

1. Amend Rule 1A to read "The President shall be elected annually, not to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.
VOTE: Motion did not receive a second therefore no vote was taken.
2. Amend Rule 29 to read "Seats in the City Council Chamber for the members thereof, shall be determined by random lot.
VOTE: Motion to adopt amendment failed by a vote of 3 in favor and 8 opposed (Kushmerek, Green, Clark, DiNatale, Fleming, Kaddy, Walsh, Zarrella).
3. Strike Rule 33
VOTE: Motion to adopt amendment failed by a vote of 1 in favor and 10 opposed (Kushmerek, Green, Beauchemin, Clark, DiNatale, Donnelly, Fleming, Kaddy, Walsh, Zarrella).

Amendments proposed by Councillor Zarrella:

1. Amend Rule 11 to read "The previous question shall be put in the following manner: "Shall the main question be now put?" **or any other phrasing which makes the intent clear** and all further amendments or debate shall be suspended until the **motion for the** previous question is decided.
(amendments shown in bold and underline)
VOTE: Amendment approved by a vote of 9 in favor and 2 opposed (Beauchemin, Clark)
2. Amend Rules to include language as follows: Contrary to Section 3, p. 30 of Robert's Rules of Order, a member may preemptively claim the floor when next open, by silent gesture to the Chair while another member is speaking, and the Chair shall note that member's desire to speak in the order in which the request is received. Provided, however, that this shall not entitle a member who has already spoken to claim precedence over a member who has not yet spoken, and provided further that the Chair may grant precedence to a different member first if that different member desires to address a question or clarification to the member who is speaking.
A member who reserves precedence in this manner may, when recognized, yield the floor to another member before beginning to speak without sacrificing his or her right to be granted the floor immediately after that member.
VOTE: Amendment approved by a unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.
3. Amend Rules to include language as follows: Members who do not sit on a given Committee may attend meetings of such Committee in their usual place as Councilors, but may pose questions only to the Chair and may only be recognized once on a given matter for not more than five minutes.
Provided, however, that at the sole discretion of the Chair, the member may retake the floor to answer whether his or her questions have been satisfactorily addressed, and to clarify them if they have not been.
VOTE: A motion by Councillor Zarrella to withdraw the proposed amendment was granted by a unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members. Councillor Zarrella indicated that he would file a petition regarding this matter to be referred to Legislative Affairs committee for discussion and review.

Proposed Amendments to the Rules (cont.)

4. Amend Rules to include language as follows: When a Committee of the Council as a Whole is called, it shall, though bearing the name of a "Committee of the Whole", be conducted per the rules governing what Section 52 of Robert's Rules of Order refers to as "Informal Consideration" and not per the rules governing a "Committee as a Whole".

VOTE: A motion by Councillor Zarrella to withdraw the proposed amendment was granted by a unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

A motion to accept the 2018 rules as amended for 2019 passed by a unanimous vote 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

A motion by Councillor Zarrella to create a 3 person ad-hoc Rules Review Subcommittee was passed by a vote of 10 in favor and 1 opposed (Squailia). 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

Order #2-2019

2 - 2019 ORDER: Setting dates of Regular Meetings of the City Council for the year 2019.

The dates of the regular meetings of the City Council for the year 2019 are as follows:

JANUARY	Tuesday 15 th	and	Tuesday 29 th
FEBRUARY	Tuesday 5 th	and	Tuesday 19 th
MARCH	Tuesday 5 th	and	Tuesday 19 th
APRIL	Tuesday 2 nd	and	Tuesday 16 th
MAY	Tuesday 7 th	and	Tuesday 21 st
JUNE	Tuesday 4 th	and	Tuesday 18 th
JULY	Tuesday 2 nd	and	Tuesday 16 th
AUGUST	NO MEETINGS		
SEPTEMBER	Tuesday 3 rd	and	Tuesday 17 th
OCTOBER	Tuesday 1 st	and	Tuesday 15 th
NOVEMBER	Thursday 7 th	and	Tuesday 19 th
DECEMBER	Tuesday 3 rd	and	Tuesday 17 th

Order was adopted by unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

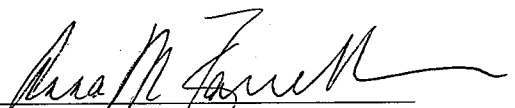
Seat Assignment

Drawing of names for seat assignment in the Council meeting space for the year 2019.

In accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of the City Council, no action was taken and the President will designate seating.

Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.


Anna M. Farrell, Clerk

