

Minutes
City Council Legislative Subcommittee and Portsmouth Legislative Delegation Meeting
School Department Conference Room
8:30 a.m.
Wednesday, June 27, 2018

I. Greeting: Mayor Blalock

Mayor Blalock called the meeting to order at 8:35 p.m.

Present: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Lazenby, Councilor Dwyer, Councilor Denton (via conference call), City Manager Bohenko, Assistant City Attorney Ferrini

II. Review of Minutes of March 19, 2018 and March 26, 2018.

Councilor Dwyer moved to accept and approve the March 19, 2018 minutes. Seconded by Assistant Mayor Lazenby and Committee voted unanimously to approve.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby moved to accept and approve the March 26, 2018 minutes. Seconded by Councilor Denton and Committee voted unanimously to approve.

III. Discussion of August 10, 2018 deadlines for Submission of Floor Policies to NHMA:

The Committee discussed a process for City Councilors to submit ideas for new Floor Policies to be considered by NHMA Membership for inclusion as Legislative Policy Recommendations at the July 9, 2018 City Council meeting. The Committee requested that the City Manager forward to the Council the Final Policy Recommendations for the NHMA Legislative Policy Conference in advance of the next City Council meeting in order for the Council to be aware of the Policy Recommendations that have already been submitted by NHMA's membership for vote at its upcoming Policy Conference on September 14, 2018. The City Manager will work with Assistant City Attorney Ferrini to reach out to the Council to include their list of ideas for new Floor Policies on the July 9, 2018 Agenda. The Legislative Subcommittee will meet on July 30, 2018 to review the ideas for new Floor Policies submitted by Council member and convert these ideas into proper form as Legislative Policies for submission to NHMA membership for consideration. These new Floor Policies will then be presented to the City Council for vote at the August 6, 2018 City Council Meeting.

IV. Discussion of approval of NHMA policies prior to September 14, 2018 Policy Conference.

The Committee will meet on July 30, 2018 to review, discuss and make recommendations for the City Council's consideration regarding the approval and disapproval of the NHMA Final Policy Recommendations. The Committee's recommendations on the NHMA Policy Recommendations will be presented to the Council for their consideration and vote at the August 20, 2018 City Council meeting.

V. Discussion of EDC Revenue Advocacy Committee.

The Committee discussed forwarded the NHMA Final Policy Recommendation on "Expansion of Local Authority to Institute Fees" to the EDC Revenue Advocacy Committee for their review and consideration at its next meeting with the goal of broadening support.

VI. Housing Policy

The Committee requested that the City Manager reach out to Councilor Perkins to clarify specific issues to address in any proposed legislation on a Housing Policy. The Committee discussed reaching out to Ben Frost and the Governor's Millennial Council to discuss the Housing Policy issue generally. Councilor Denton raised the issue of the City of Boston eliminating investor units and the issue of short term rentals and the distinction between owner occupied and investor owned. The Committee discussed the national trend of short term rentals reducing the availability of affordable rents. Councilor Dwyer pointed out that NHMA Policy Recommendation includes a policy on short term rentals and the City Manager raised the issue of life safety concerns for short term rentals and suggested Chief Achilles to reach out to the Fire Chief to support the NHMA policy which supports the regulation of short term rentals for health and safety protections. Attorney Ferrini mentioned the recent decision on short term rentals by the Rockingham County Superior Court, noting that the deadline for filing a Motion for Reconsideration had not yet expired.

VII. Right to Know

Councilor Dwyer discussed her work on the Committee that drafted a bill last session to establish an Ombudsman to review Right to Know disputes that failed and the history to date of the failure in the legislature of all bills that recommended a fees other than copying costs for Right to Know requests. The City Manager is compiling data on the City's Right to Know requests and will report back to the City Council for further discussion on Right to Know issues.

VIII. Local Control of speed limit.

Councilor Roberts is interested in bringing forward a bill similar to SB 522, a bill sponsored by Senator Clark last session which failed and would have permitted local authorities to reduce

For further information on the content or status of bills and the Senate and House Calendars, see <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us>. For information regarding the New Hampshire Municipal Association's Bulletin, see <http://www.nhmunicipal.org/LegislativeBulletins>.

speed limits to less than 30 mph with an engineering or traffic investigation. The Committee instructed Assistant Attorney Ferrini to reach out to Senator Clark's aide for information about the bill and to reach out to our Parking and Transportation Engineer, Eric Eby, to forward all information on the issue.

IX. Further Meetings.

The Committee discussed including as a recurring item on the City Council Agenda "Legislative Issues" to advise the public to reach out to delegates on pending legislation on of interest to the City.

X. Date of next meeting.

The Committee scheduled the next Legislative Subcommittee Meeting for Monday, July 30, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

XI. Adjournment

At 9:33 p.m., Mayor Blalock adjourned the meeting.