**Ordinance** **Committee**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Video of meeting can be found at <https://youtu.be/dd60zrhPbe0?feature=shared>

Members present: Chair Israel Rivera, Vice Chair Linda Vacon, David Bartley, Jenny Rivera, Meg Magrath-Smith

Other councilors present: Patti Devine, Tessa Murphy-Romboletti

Chair I. Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 1 from the table. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 1: Minutes of January 23, 2024 meeting.

---> Received

Councilor Vacon made a motion to receive item 1. Councilor Bartley seconded the motion. Motion passed.

(0:55)

Councilor Vacon made a motion to remove item 2 from the table. Councilor Bartley seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 2: 3-21-23 MCGEE -- Ordered, that an ordinance be established to address the 2/3 majority vote of the body for votes. Legal please provide the language necessary for review.

--->Refer to the Law Department to provide legal form, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Chair I. Rivera stated that an opinion from KP Law was provided with this item, adding that he believed it was straightforward. He then explained that he was taking up some orders to clear out the jacket and get things done.

Councilor Vacon expressed her understanding that the intent of the order was to put the rule into ordinance form, noting that the opinion suggested this in order for it to have more weight. She suggested it be put into ordinance form for the Council to approve.

Chair I. Rivera stated that he was just looking for a review and to have it be complied with, but would be open to entertaining that idea.

Councilor Bartley expressed support for the order, adding that he believed it made a lot of sense. He then stated that former Councilor McGee had a lot of foresight and was an accomplished attorney.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to recommend this and ask the Law Department to put this into legal form to bring back to the committee. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion.

Atty Mantolesky asked to confirm that the motion was to put the rule into legal form. She noted that the current rule required two-thirds to be based on the full membership of the body. She then emphasized that the opinion from KP Law suggested that two-thirds should be based on those present and voting to be in compliance with the statutes.

Councilor Bartley emphasized the importance of a definition section that laid things out clearly. He noted that the term supermajority means three-fourths but was being incorrectly used for two-thirds. He then suggested that the distinction between what was two-thirds and what was a supermajority needed to be clear, and then follow the guidelines from KP.

Councilor Vacon stated that the opinion from KP Law was put forward in the context of the rules and the Charter, adding that the opinion explained there weren't any local laws or statutes that would inform the opinion but if there were, those would stand while he saw the rules as more of an internal matter. She expressed her understanding that it would be okay if an ordinance reflected the rule.

Atty Mantolesky noted that on page 2 of the opinion, available [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10_so80KwbrRMiXZSaGZf3qtqq7b63hkI/view?usp=drive_link), a statute made clear that "whenever action by more than a majority of city council is required,…action by the designated proportion of the members thereof, present and voting thereon, in a city with a single legislative board, shall be a compliance with such requirement." She then recommended that the ordinance form state that any votes requiring more than a majority be based on those present and voting. She noted that certain statutes did require two-thirds votes be based on full membership and the ordinance should be crafted in a way that was specific to what was intended. She suggested that the form include language that says, "except where statutorily required to be the full body."

Councilor Magrath-Smith noted that in the opinion, the question was characterized by saying, "You have indicated that the City Council, through its Rules, has determined that votes are to be counted based upon the full complement of the Council membership." She then asked why it should be based on the full complement versus based on those present and voting.

Councilor Vacon suggested that if the whole body was not counted, councilors could choose not to show up for a close or controversial vote in order to reduce the number of votes required. She noted that the rule requiring counting against the full membership had been the practice for years. She reiterated that the opinion was provided in a different context than the current discussion, which had been a disagreement relative to the application of the rules. She then explained that the ordinance proposal's intent was to codify the rule. She also emphasized that the Law Department had provided opinions in the past stating that the local ordinances could not be looser than state law but could be more strict.

Chair I. Rivera suggested that mechanisms such as simple majorities had been put in place intentionally in a democracy to make sure the process can still move forward. He also suggested that someone not in attendance should not be counted as a no vote. He then stated that this should about what makes more sense democratically.

Councilor Bartley suggested that this be drafted into legal form for the committee to look at the verbiage. He further suggested that councilors could game the system by not showing up. He noted that these impact important votes such as transferring funds out of stabilization or elected a City Council President. He reiterated that these things needed to be defined so that there was consistency.

Councilor Magrath-Smith noted that there were other places in the rules where a two-thirds supermajority was referred to, leading to these terms being interpreted in different ways.

Councilor Vacon suggested that if the vote is counted against only those present, someone who is absent is essentially a yes vote because they would be lowering the threshold. She added that democracy requires participation. She also noted that a councilor can only abstain when they have a legitimate conflict.

Chair I. Rivera suggested that it should be assumed that someone would only not be present because something came up that was important.

Councilor Vacon stated that it was understood that passing laws requires 9 people. She also noted that the rules did not say that two-thirds was a supermajority. She then explained that the rule said "All votes of a Council Committee requiring a majority shall require a majority of those members present. All votes of the Council or any of its committees requiring a 2/3 or more supermajority shall require that same supermajority of the entire membership." She then stated that she preferred that a legal form be provided to mirror the rules.

Motion passed.

Councilor Vacon expressed her understanding that the motion was to have legal form come back to mirror the rules.

Chair I. Rivera expressed his understanding that the motion was to have legal form come back that following the advice of KP Law.

Councilor Bartley clarified that his motion was to look at a legal form based on what KP Law said, adding that he would hope they would mirror the rules, but there would be an opportunity for the committee to vote on it.

(20:05)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 3 from the table. Chair I. Rivera seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 3: 9-5-23 MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI, TALLMAN -- Ordered, With support from the city's Veterans Benefit Department, that the City Council update its ordinances to provide free municipal parking for veterans that have an official Veteran License Plate.

---> Refer to the Law Department to provide legal form, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Bartley made a motion to refer to the Law Department to provide legal form, adding that he fully supported this. Councilor Magrath-Smith seconded the motion.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that this was a straightforward order. She then explained that this would apply to those with a Veterans license plate in order to make it as easy as possible for those from the DPW who enforce parking. She added that this was meant to be a signal of appreciation for those who serve.

Councilor Bartley suggested specifically including the caveat in the ordinance that this would exclude parking in handicap spots.

Chair I. Rivera suggested getting a communication from DPW explaining that they understand what this means. He then asked how this would be handled in the garages that require people to pay as they leave.

Councilor Vacon stated that it would have to be worked out.

Motion passed.

(24:00)

Councilor Bartley noted that item 4 was a copy.

Councilor Vacon emphasized that this meant the committee couldn't adopt it.

Councilor Bartley asked if it should still be discussed.

Councilor Vacon noted that the original order was in Charter and Rules.

Chair I. Rivera noted that they had just spoken on it.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 4 from the table. Councilor Magrath-Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 4: 10-3-23 (copy) GIVNER, TALLMAN -- Ordered, With community support, order that all ordinances and charter rules reflecting city council and city council subcommittee meeting notices be updated to reflect acceptance of email as sufficient method of notice, and city website posting as sufficient method of public notice.

---> Complied with, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Magrath-Smith stated that the goal was to have the City Solicitor come into the next Charter and Rules meeting to go through the process on moving a home rule petition forward and other small issues such as what was described in this order. She added that it would be impacted by state statutes.

Councilor Bartley noted that 940 CMR 29 allowed for municipalities to adopt a different kind of meeting notice as long as notice was given to the Attorney General's office, adding that notices can be on the web or through the mail. He then asked that Atty Mantolesky review the CMR. He then explained that the CMR helped to bolster the open meeting law.

Atty Bissonnette explained that Holyoke had already designated through the City Clerk to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General that the website would be the official public notice spot. He then noted that while public notice was covered, the question was about personal notice to members of the Council and if email was satisfactory to achieve when some may not wish to have email or preferred delivery of the actual documents.

Councilor Bartley made a motion that item 4 had been complied with. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

(29:20)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 5 from the table. Councilor J. Rivera seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 5: 10-17-23 MCGEE -- Ordered, That the DPW Commission return to reviewing and setting the Sewer Rate.

--->Laid on the table, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Chair I. Rivera noted that this proposal had been filed a few times and tabled.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to allow Board of Public Works chair, Mary Monahan, to address the committee.

M. Monahan stated that she saw this agenda item as a good opportunity to update the committee on the FY24 progress toward recommending an FY25 rate. She then explained that they were looking at detailed expenses with the enterprise fund, which included breaking out the sewer fee from Veolia associated with MS4 support, which included street sweeping, culvert cleaning and replacement, as well as other maintenance and operation issues. She further explained that they were conducting a study to identify those costs and operations associated with those costs. She added that it would also include the cost of the flood control systems near the river. She noted that the ratepayers had been paying for that cost. She added that several of those would have upcoming significant potential costs due to improvements proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers. She noted that the study would look at the annual costs, the cost of required improvements, and if flood control systems were needed, noting that they were protecting facilities and infrastructure were no longer there. She added that it would also identify other costs associated with the enterprise fund. She also stated that they would be a public presentation, allowing them to see what they were paying for and give insight to councilors determining how to allocate costs. She then shifted to the status of the sewer repair. She explained that $100,000 was put into the enterprise to pay for breaks and were now going into deficit spending to respond to work that had been done. She also emphasized that three downtown sections were identified that would probably collapse without repairs within the next 6 months.

Councilor Vacon asked when it was anticipated that the initial findings would come back.

M. Monahan stated that the end of study date was May 2024.

Councilor Vacon made a motion to lay item 5 on the table. Councilor Bartley seconded the motion. Motion passed.

(37:45)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 6 from the table. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 6: 12-19-23 MALDONADO VELEZ -- Ordered, Order that the city creates a Housing Committee tasked with creating policy suggestions and implementation of office of tenant protections, office of returning citizens and homelessness liaison. Roles and committee to be created by Ordinance while bylaws to be created by the committee.
The committee should included at least one of the following - 1 tenant in market rate housing, 1 tenant with section 8 voucher holder, 1 tenant with MRVP or continuum of care, 1 tenant of HHA, 1 tenant representative of local organization working on housing issues, 1 home owner, 1 landlord.

---> Refer to Law Dept for draft legal form for review, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Chair I. Rivera stated that some of the suggestions in the order were already happening, noting that there was work being done to create an Office of Tenant Protection, possibly an Office of Returning Citizens, and a Homeless Liaison. He then stated that there was not yet work to create a committee to advice this.

Councilor Bartley stated that he supported this but would prefer to see it in writing by having legal form come back from the Law Department. He noted that the committee was starting to pile onto the Law Department and suggested giving them a specific amount of time such as 45 days or some other timeline. He then suggested that while he supported the way it was laid out, they should consider the committee having a budget, enforcement power, and determining appointing authority such as City Council and/or the mayor, as well as other appointing authorities among other organizations in the community.

Chair I. Rivera suggested similar language as the member of the Holyoke Housing Authority.

Councilor Bartley expressed an assumption that the mayor would be appointing members such as a homeowner and a landlord, subject to City Council approval.

Councilor Vacon stated that she was fine with the concept but had concerns with the language putting them in charge of the implementation of protections as that would be under the authority of the mayor.

Chair I. Rivera suggested that they would be an advisory committee but had no teeth. He then suggested that if it were a commission, they would have a certain extra level of power. He suggested that any conflicts with the power of the mayor could be addressed through the language.

Councilor Bartley suggested that this should be more than advisory. He then emphasized that the way to get volunteers to participate was to either give them a budget or give them some power.

Chair I. Rivera expressed agreement with that perspective.

Councilor Bartley reiterated that he would first like to see some language in writing.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that while she appreciated a lot of the discussion on this order, she suggested giving the Law Department more direction on what the committee was asking for in asking for legal language.

Atty Mantolesky noted that a lot of other communities have Fair Housing commissions and tenant commissions. She then suggested that the Law Department could compile them and present them to the committee to review them and consider different provisions for Holyoke.

Councilor Bartley emphasized that that the job of a city councilor was policy-setting. He added that it wasn’t the job of the committee to sift through language from various other communities - noting that could be done offline - but that the Law Department should take from the discussion and then provide a form for the committee to review. He then expressed concern that going over language from 15 different towns would bog the committee down on one topic for an hour and a half.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to refer this to the Law Department to provide legal form. Councilor J. Rivera seconded the motion. Motion passed.

(50:00)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 7 from the table. Motion passed.

Item 7: 2-7-23 MCGIVERIN, JOURDAIN -- Order that the Director of the Office of Planning&. Economic Development be authorized to provide a flexible work schedule for PSA members. Flexible work schedule will allow for evening meetings to be incorporated into the formal work day. A flexible schedule will still be required to fulfill the 35 hours a week requirement. All additional contractual and ordinances related to these positions will be adhered to.

---> Complied with, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Bartley stated that he had no issue with this. He then stated that he did not believe the Council needed to micromanage the department on this. He then suggested that OPED Director, Aaron Vega, could work with Personnel to develop some policy and they could bring it to the Council if something needed to be voted on.

Kelly Curran, Personnel Director, stated that it would have to be negotiated in the PSA contract, adding that they were currently in negotiations with them. She agreed that it likely did not need to be at the Council level.

Councilor Vacon expressed an interest in at least seeing what it would look like.

Councilor Bartley asked Ms. Curran if this order should be held onto or if it could just be complied with.

K. Curran suggested that it was something to discuss at PSA negotiations and could be complied with. She added that she understood the need for flexibility, noting that many of their employees attended evening meetings.

Councilor Bartley made a motion that item 7 had been complied with. Motion passed.

(53:15)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 8 from the table. Councilor J. Rivera seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 8: 10-4-22 MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI -- Ordered that the City examine and study the Schedule A increases that were recommended by the salary study completed in 2014, so that we can implement salary adjustments that are competitive and more aligned with neighboring municipalities in order to retract and retain City employees.
\*Tabled 4-25-23

---> Laid on the table, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that this schedule was updated in 2021. She noted that the mayor at the time was working on different budget issues and different issues related to the positions, many of which were addressed.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that this was filed in 2022, partly motivated by her time previously working at City Hall in 2013 when they were told that the city needed to do a compensation study for any employees to receive raises, leading to that study being completed in 2014. She then suggested that the study was no longer relevant because it had been a decade since. She then explained that she filed the order, still believing the city was not paying employees competitively in a way that aligned with other municipalities. She then stated that while great changes had been made to make positions more competitive, she believed the city was still missing the mark. She then emphasized that the services provided by the city were directly impacted by the way the city hires and retains people. She added that turnover led to wasted money and lost time on projects. She recognized that while many had received salary adjustments, many others had not received cost of living adjustments, including many department heads.

K. Curran stated that they were not looking to increase everyone's salaries but make the ranges more competitive with surrounding areas so that there are better chances to fill vacancies. She noted that they were having difficulty filling the roles of City Engineer and Civil Engineer because they were not in Schedule A and were low paying positions. She added that they were also looking to discuss Schedules A and B as well to give the Council options.

Chair I. Rivera suggested a separate order be filed since that was not on the agenda. He then asked for clarification, noting that Councilor Vacon stated that a study was updated in 2021.

K. Curran stated that the study was done in 2014 but changes were made.

Councilor Vacon clarified that a new study wasn't done but the schedule was updated through an outside attorney.

Councilor Magrath-Smith asked if the updated schedule from 2021 was based on 2014 numbers.

Councilor Vacon stated that the base numbers were from 2014 but the outside attorney's update of the schedule was based on additional data. She then suggested that it was likely now outdated in 2024.

K. Curran stated that the data from 2014 was used to adjust Schedule A in 2021, suggesting that it was outdated then and even more outdated now. She then stated that she collected data in 2022 from nearby towns and cities. She then stated that she could work to collect more recent data.

Chair I. Rivera asked if they used new data for the update.

K. Curran stated that they used the 2014 data for the 2021 update.

Chair I. Rivera asked if that salary scale was based off of 2014 salaries.

K. Curran stated that was correct.

Councilor Vacon stated that 2014 was the baseline study but it was updated by the law firm.

Chair I. Rivera suggested that it be tabled for more information.

Councilor Bartley expressed his understanding that Ms. Curran was looking to have a discussion about Schedules A, B, and C. He suggested that an order be filed to get that broader discussion before the committee. He also expressed his understanding that there would be updated comparisons coming from Ms. Curran. He then emphasized that he had been hearing the same argument about employees being underpaid and being trained to leave for the past 12 years. He added that things had changed and people were leaving jobs more often across the board. He then suggested that work be done to not keep hearing that argument while recognizing that Holyoke did not have the same money as many other towns.

Chair I. Rivera agreed that turnover was an issue everywhere in the current day. He then emphasized that Holyoke had been used as a stepping stone for a lot of people, where people were getting a few years of experience on their resume and then moving on to where they could make more. He then suggested tat adjusting the salary scale could be a step in the right direction in fostering talent.

Councilor Vacon emphasized the importance of keeping in mind the size of the government, how much it had been growing, and how much the tax burden was on the citizens supporting the government. She suggested also looking for efficiencies and consolidations if people were going to be paid more.

Councilor Devine asked if the positions from the 2014 study and those updated could be provided. She also agreed that the other schedules needed to be discussed. She also emphasized that people doing the same jobs in other communities were being paid more.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that she did recognize the implications on the taxpayers to pay people more, but believed there were greater implications of losing city employees as often as often as had been happening. She noted that losing department heads such as the Board of Health Director had an impact on the orders filed requiring their input. She then suggested that not paying people enough was like saving a penny to spend a dollar. She then stated that she did not see a need for another study.

K. Curran stated that in seeking to change Schedule A, the intent wasn't to give an increase to every department head but just to have the ranges up to date. She added that department heads were feeling more appreciated, and nobody was looking to get rich working for the city. She then suggested that bringing this up to date would help avoid one off changes for individual positions that risked the loss of good candidates if positions needed to be filled.

Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos stated that when this was last taken up, the request had been to provide the study for the next discussion. He noted that he had also provided the legal form from when it was adopted. He then explained that his records also had extensive spreadsheets that showed all of the positions, the people in them, and a series of calculations that showed COLA increases for the years between 2014 and when it was adopted.

Councilor Vacon noted that Ms. Curran was looking to provide newer information.

Chair I. Rivera asked that it be emailed.

Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos stated that it would help provide some of the historical record.

Councilor Bartley emphasized that one open question in hiring people was asking where they could come from. He then suggested that area schools and colleges provided a pretty big pool to recruit from. He then expressed a hope that salary was laid out to people when they were going through the hiring process. He then suggested that if some department heads had not received any raises in 10 years, they needed to go to the mayor, and then the mayor needed to come to the Council if those ranges needed to be expanded because someone is hitting their cap.

Chair I. Rivera reiterated that the main frustration was that the salary study was done in 2014 but nothing was implemented until recently.

Councilor Vacon stated that many salaries were adjusted in 2021. She added that one of the main benefits of the changes was that grades were created based on definable levels of responsibility. She added that grading had sometimes changed when responsibilities changed.

Chair I. Rivera noted that some people were retiring after 30 years and still making $45,000-$50,000.

Councilor Vacon stated that it depended on the job.

Councilor J. Rivera stated that she knew of someone working in an important position for 30 years and someone else in the department without the same responsibilities was making more money. She then stated that she was hearing about many people in various positions within HPS were leaving, including teachers, paraeducators, coaches, adding that many of them were saying they were offered more somewhere else. She then emphasized the importance of finding ways to keep people so that the education of kids wasn't affected.

Councilor Bartley agreed that this was right in point. He then noted that the top 100 salary reported would be coming in soon. He noted that the reports tended to be pretty top heavy when it comes to salaries.

Chair I. Rivera noted that it was the same in the Police Department. He also emphasized that a lot of the employees making the most did not necessarily live in the city.

Councilor Vacon agreed that most of them did not.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to lay item 8 on the table. Councilor J. Rivera seconded the motion. Motion passed.

(1:26:15)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to remove item 9 from the table. Chair I. Rivera seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 9: 4-18-23 MCGEE -- Ordered, that the position of Chief Administrative and Financial Officer be created and added to Schedule A

---> Laid on the table, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Chair I. Rivera stated that there had been ongoing discussion of this position, noting that they would need the mayor for a more in-depth discussion.

Councilor Vacon expressed hope that the mayor would come in for the next discussion. She then expressed her understanding that this was to be implemented when there was consolidation relative to the Treasurer and Tax Collector's office. She also noted that it was supposed to move forward during the election year along with the Treasurer matter to change it from elected to appointed. She then stated that it was now the next window to try to move forward with that. She then expressed support of consolidating the positions to make the departments more effective but did not see adding another layer to the administration of a small city.

Chair I. Rivera suggested that two things could happen. He noted that as the Treasurer position was elected, anyone could win that position. He suggested that there needed to be a constant in the role. He noted that it was the same with the City Clerk. He then stated that if the person in the role loses or decides not to run again, someone new has to relearn everything. He then emphasized the importance of having someone such as a CAFO that was a constant managing everything else.

Councilor Vacon stated that was as much as any other department head.

Chair I. Rivera clarified that his point was that they could not be elected out every two years. He then stated that it was imperative to start moving on this.

Councilor Magrath-Smith noted that this process had a lot of moving pieces. She then recalled that with a failed charter process several years back, there were several changes packaged together with some being more popular than others. She suggested that the weight of so many changes led it to fail. She added that a lot of those changes had slowed been implemented since then. She then agreed that there needed to be changes to the financial department, emphasizing that Holyoke was a small city with big problems. She added that she believed the city did need a chief financial officer with the positions underneath it restructured. She then stated that with so many pieces, including ordinance changes, charter changes, home rule petitions, etc., it had to start somewhere.

Chair I. Rivera stated that the process of government was incremental.

Councilor Bartley stated that the mayor needed to provide a game plan for the process. He then noted that open questions included if there would be a home rule petition for the Treasurer or if the Tax Collector would be combined with the Treasurer. He then suggested that Chair I. Rivera communicate with the mayor on providing a plan.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to lay item 9 on the table. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

(1:34:05)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to remove items 10 and 11 from the table as a package. Motion passed.

Item 10: 12-5-23 MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI, JOURDAIN, I. RIVERA -- Ordered, that the position of Crime Analyst be created and added to Ordinance Schedule A.

---> Laid on the table, refer to legal 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Chair I. Rivera stated that he believed the position was needed in the department, adding that other councilors and the Chief had been asking for it. He then explained that this would help police officers get the data they needed to be better at their jobs. He added that the data was also important to help councilors make decisions around their fiduciary responsibilities in handling tax dollars.

Councilor Vacon asked if there was a job description.

K. Curran stated that there was one available that she could share with the Council.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that it had been shared in the past.

Councilor Magrath-Smith asked if it was provided in the previous term.

Chair I. Rivera asked the administrative assistant if it was sent with the packet for this meeting.

Councilor Vacon stated that he usually provided what was in the jacket.

Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos stated that because he was only given the agenda at the end of the day the previous Friday, he didn't have enough time to put together all of the documents that may have been needed for the meeting.

K. Curran stated that she would email it out.

Councilor Bartley stated that one issue that had come up in the past was that mayors had been funding positions that did not yet exist. He then suggested that the Law Department work to put the position into legal form so it could be read, and have the job description attached.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to refer item 10 to the Law Department and lay it on the table. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

(1:39:25)

Councilor Bartley made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to remove items 11 and 12 from the table as a package. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Item 11: 2-6-24 GIVNER -- Per constituent request, order that the handicap placard be removed from 277 Walnut St as resident Jane Pafford has moved.

---> Approved, 5-0.

Item 12: 2-6-24 ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered that the handicap sign located in front of 184 Sargeant St be removed.

---> Approved, 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Bartley made a motion to approve the removal of the signs, subject to Disabilities Commission approval. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion, clarifying that the Commission doesn't review removals. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM