

Charter and Rules Committee

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Abbreviated minutes: votes and video timestamps

Video of meeting can be found at: <https://youtu.be/xiLFn2TGrbM>

Members present: Chairman Jose Maldonado Velez, Vice Chairwoman Tessa Murphy-Romboletti

Other councilors present: Joseph McGiverin, Will Puello, Jenny Rivera

Chairman Maldonado Velez called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to remove item 1 from the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 1: 11-16-21 BARTLEY -- The City Council review and vote on whether the City Clerk should be appointed as opposed to elected. Refer to Charter and Rules
*Tabled 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion that item 1 has been complied with. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Complied with 2-0.

(33:20)

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to remove item 1 from the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 2: 6-15-21 LISI -- that the City Council vote to place the following question on the ballot as a binding referendum: "Should the City Treasurer be changed from an elected position to an appointed position that combines the duties of Treasurer and Tax Collector?" REFILE from 3/2
*Tabled 9-30-21, 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion that item 2 has been complied with. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Complied with 2-0.

(41:55)

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to remove item 3 from the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 3: 6-15-21 LISI -- that the City Council, in accordance with MGL Chapter 43, Section 43, submit the following question to the voters as a binding referendum: "shall this City allow the sale of marijuana products, as those terms are defined in G.L. c.94G, 1, for consumption on the premises where sold, a summary of which appears below?
*Tabled 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion that item 3 has been complied with. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Complied with 2-0.

(45:35)

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to remove item 4 from the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 4: 4-6-21 MURPHY -- Ordered that the city charter be amended so that if there is a vacancy in the mayor's office and the president of the city council cannot assume the duties full time, the full council would then select another councilor to assume the role of acting mayor by majority vote of the council. The acting mayor would still continue to represent their constituents as a councilor.
*Tabled 4-12-21, 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to refer item 4 to the Law Department to draft legal form. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Referred to the Law Department for drafting legal form, laid on the table 2-0.

(1:02:30)

Chairman Maldonado Velez made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 5 and 6 as a package. Councilor Murphy-Romboletti seconded the motion.

Item 5: 1-18-22 MALDONADO-VELEZ -- Order that the City Council Rules are reviewed, reorganized, and that titles are added for accessibility.
*Tabled 1-26-22, 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to lay item 5 on the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

---> Laid on the table, 2-0

Item 6: 2-1-22 From Councilor Maldonado-Velez, City Council Rules examples with titles and sections. Send to Charter & Rules
Amherst (<https://www.amherstma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/46001/Amherst-Town-Council-Rules-and-Procedures?bidId=>)
Boston (<https://www.boston.gov/departments/city-council/city-council-rules>)
*Tabled 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to lay item 6 on the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table, 2-0.

(1:11:15)

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 7, 8, and 9 as a package. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 7: 12-21-21 ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered, that Rule 38 be amended by striking out “a 2/3 super majority” and replacing it with “a majority of all eligible members”
*Tabled 1-26-22, 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to lay item 7 on the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table 2-0.

Item 8: 12-21-21 ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered, that a new rule be created stating that “For the purposes of determining voting majorities and super majorities at full City Council meetings, eligible voting members shall mean the full body of the City Council except

any members that may have properly abstained from participating in debate for a vote.” In addition, in any rules referring to the full membership of the City Council for determining a voting majority or super majority, amend them to state “eligible members of the City Council.” These locations are in Rule 35 and Rule 66.

*Tabled 1-26-22, 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to lay item 8 on the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table 2-0.

Item 9: 9-7-21 LISI -- Ordered, that That we change our rules to pass ordinances other than zone changes by a simple majority.

*Tabled 2-23-22

Chairman Maldonado Velez made a motion to lay item 9 on the table. Councilor Murphy-Romboletti seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table 2-0

(1:23:45)

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 10, 11 and 12 as a package. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 10: 1-18-22 MALDONADO-VELEZ -- Order that we create a Technology Advisory Board to advise the council on the impact and implications of technological innovations on financial services, human services, infrastructure, politics, taxing of tech companies. The board will give recommendations on policy change in order to bring our systems up to date.

*Tabled 1-26-22, 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion that item 10 has been complied with. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Complied with, 2-0.

Item 11: 2-1-22 MALDONADO-VELEZ -- relook at committee responsibilities and restructure. Refer to Charter & Rules

*Tabled 2-23-22

Chairman Maldonado Velez made a motion to lay item 11 on the table. Councilor Murphy-Romboletti seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table, 2-0.

Item 12: 4-5-22 MALDONADO-VELEZ -- Ordered, Order that we create a Cannabis Committee to strictly deal with Marijuana special permits and ordinance changes related to cannabis.

Chairman Maldonado Velez made a motion to lay item 12 on the table. Councilor Murphy-Romboletti seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table, 2-0

(1:26:00)

Chairman Maldonado Velez made a motion to remove item 13 from the table. Councilor Murphy-Romboletti seconded the motion.

Item 13: 11-16-21 VACON -- That City Councilors will attend City Council and City Council Committee meetings in person. Exceptions can be made for remote attendance by the City Council President and/or Committee Chair as long as the Chair and a quorum is present in person
*Tabled 2-23-22

Chairman Maldonado Velez made a motion that item 13 has been complied with. Councilor Murphy-Romboletti seconded the motion.

--->Complied with, 2-0.

(1:27:10)

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to remove item 14 from the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 14: 1-18-22 MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI, JOURDAIN -- Ordered that the City Council adopt a rule to establish a two-year legislative term. Any orders pending in committee or not acted on by the end of the legislative term must be re-filed at the start of the subsequent legislative term.
*Tabled 2-23-22

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to lay item 14 on the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table, 2-0.

(1:32:35)

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to remove item 15 from the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

Item 15: 4-5-22 MALDONADO-VELEZ -- Ordered, That we add a city council rule which requires a unanimous vote to continue meetings past 10pm.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to lay item 15 on the table. Chairman Maldonado Velez seconded the motion.

--->Laid on the table, 2-0.

Adjourned at 8:18 PM