

Ordinance & Administration Standing Committee
Monday, October 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
-Minutes-
Remote Meeting

Present: Chair, Councilor Sean Nolan; Councilor Jamie O’Hara; Councilor John McCarthy

Absent: Councilor Steve LeBlanc

Also Present: Councilor Jen Holmgren; Joanne M. Senos; Vanessa Krawczyk; Eric Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilor Nolan announced, This meeting is recorded by video and audio in accordance with state open meeting law. Consistent with the Governor's orders, suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law and banning gatherings of more than 25 people, this meeting will be conducted by remote participation. The public may not physically attend this meeting but every effort will be made to allow the public to view and listen to the meeting in real time. Persons who wish to do so are invited to view the meeting and you have the information that was on the posting. If you are calling in on a phone, you can press *9 to request to speak. If you're watching on a computer a device, there is a raised hand button that you can tap or press to request to speak. Please use either these options to be recognized to speak.

Councilor Nolan announced that Vice Chair, Councilor LeBlanc, was unable to attend the meeting and Councilor John McCarthy was filling in as an alternate.

1. Appointments

Human Rights Commission (TTE 2/14/23) Hannah Kimberley

Ms. Kimberley informed the Committee that she is an educator and currently teaches at an all-girls academy in Wenham. She is the president of the League of Women Voters, and founded Women’s Equality Cape Ann. She told the Committee that she is dedicated to students – as well as members of the community – who are socially, academically and economically disadvantaged.

Councilor Questions: None.

Councilors Nolan, O’Hara, McCarthy and Holmgren thanked Ms. Kimberley for volunteering to serve on the Commission.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: on a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O’Hara, the Ordinances & Administration Standing Committee voted by ROLL CALL 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend that the City Council appoint Hannah Kimberley to the Human Rights Commission, TTE 2/14/23.

2. Memorandum from Fire Chief re: request amendment to GCO Sec. 8-21(d) “Qualifications and appointments of firefighters”

Chief Smith informed the Committee that the amendment is being proposed because it takes into account current training and valid certificates that a prospective firefighter might have, and removes

the requirement that they get trained again. This allows money that would have been spent on repeat training to be spent on advanced training.

Councilor Questions: None.

Councilors Nolan, O'Hara, McCarthy and Holmgren thanked **Chief Smith** for bring the amendment forward.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O'Hara, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted by ROLL CALL 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend to the City Council that the GCO Chapter 8, Article II, Sec. 21 "Qualifications and appointment of firefighters" subsection (d) be amended as follows:

(d) All newly hired city firefighters shall **either attend and successfully complete** the recruit training program at the state firefighting academy **with satisfactory completion of the recruit training program or submit satisfactory documentation that the newly hired firefighter has completed an equivalent training program with the same certifications as the state firefighting academy as---be** a condition of employment. Completion of the program shall be, whenever possible, with the employees' probationary period prescribed by M.G.L. c. 31, § 61. If a firefighter begins the recruit training program during the probationary period, the probationary period shall be suspended until the firefighter completes the program. If the probationary period would expire prior to the firefighter entering the academy, the mayor will make a written request to the personnel administrator to extend the probationary period until the program is completed.

This matter will be advertised for public hearing on October 27, 2020.

MOTION: on a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O'Hara, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted by ROLL CALL 3 in favor, 0 opposed to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Submitted by Grace E. Poirier, Assistant City Clerk