

Ordinances & Administration Committee

Remote Meeting

Monday, June 6, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

-Minutes-

Present: Chair, Councilor Sean Nolan; Vice Chair, Councilor Jamie O’Hara; Councilor Frank Margiotta

Also Present: CAO, Jill Cahill; Clerk of Committees, Sherry Karvelas

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

This meeting was conducted remotely through ZOOM. All votes conducted by ROLL CALL

Chairman, Councilor Nolan announced: Consistent with Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, 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 and participate when necessary. If you are calling in on a phone, you can press Star 9 (*9) to request to speak. If you are watching on a computer or device there is a “raise hand” button that you can tap or press to request to speak. Please use either of these options to be recognized to speak.

Councilor Nolan announced the names of City councilors and City staff in attendance.

1. Management Reappointment

Reappointments

General Counsel

Suzanne P. Egan (fulfilling unexpired term)

TTE 2/14/23

Summary of Discussion: **Ms. Egan** stated that she has been a City attorney throughout her entire career and stated that she is committed to municipal law. She explained that she was formerly employed with the City as General Counsel under the Kirk Administration, as well as represented the City of Newton and most recently for the past six years, has been Town Counsel for North Andover working closely with the boards and commissions, as well as the Town Manager. **Ms. Egan** stated that she is honored to be considered to be General Counsel for the City again under the Verga Administration.

The **CAO, Jill Cahill**, conveyed that the Administration is thrilled to have **Ms. Egan** onboard. She stated that **Ms. Egan** has extensive municipal experience, as well as familiarity with the City. She explained **Ms. Egan** had made it clear when discussing her role with the Administration and City Council that she represents the City as a whole.

Councilor O’Hara thanked **Ms. Egan** and stated that he believed that the City overall has changed since she was last here. He asked **Ms. Egan** to provide a brief overview of why she believed she was a fit for the City. **Ms. Egan** stated that due to her experience practicing as a municipal attorney throughout her career she is very familiar with the tension that there can be between the administrative process and the legislative process and stated that it is her understanding that her role is to provide advice, information and education for what is in the best interest of the City based on the laws, regulations and parameters of each entity’s authority to assist the Administration and the City Council in accomplishing their goals. **Councilor Margiotta** also thanked **Ms. Egan** for her service and stated that he had the same thoughts as **Councilor O’Hara** and stated that he appreciated her answers of seeing the City as a whole. **Ms. Egan** explained that if she has to answer “no” to any issue she would also attempt to provide an alternate path to the best of her ability under the law.

Councilor Nolan stated that **Ms. Egan's** thoughts are objective and concise and stated that he thought **Ms. Egan** is a perfect fit for this Administration and the City as a whole. He stated that he is very happy with his working relationship thus far with **Ms. Egan** and stated that he is supporting her appointment.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Margiotta, seconded by Councilor O'Hara, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted by ROLL CALL 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend to the City Council to appoint Suzanne P. Egan (*fulfilling unexpired term*) as General Counsel, TTE 02/14/23.

2. *City Council Civility Resolution (Referred back to O&A and Human Rights Commission)(Cont. from 5/2/22)*

Summary of Discussion: This matter was continued until the July 18, 2022, meeting.

3. *CC#2022-004 (Gilman/Nolan/Memhard): Ordered that the City Council audit and amend the GCO to be consistent with new resident parking regulations adopted by the City Council on May 25, 2021 (Cont. from 5/2/22)*

Summary of Discussion: The CAO stated that the work on this matter should come before Council sometime within the next month.

This matter was continued until the July 18, 2022, meeting.

4. *CC#2022-014 (Gilman): Amend City Council Rules of Procedure by ADDING "Rule 19: Requests to seek information from City Staff" (Cont. from 5/2/22)*

Summary of Discussion: Councilor Nolan stated that he would like to remove the Council President from section #1 which states: *All requests must copy the Mayor, CAO, City Clerk and Council President.* He stated that he did not think all requests needed to be sent to the Council President unless a councilor needs help with a particular matter. Councilors O'Hara and Margiotta agreed with the sentiments of Councilor Nolan. Councilor Nolan stated that under section #2 he is in favor of deleting the one minute rule for requests: *Any inquiry that can be answered in a minute or less...*. He explained that he believed that it should read "timely manner." He stated that councilors should realize the value of City staff time but that it should not be restricted to one minute.

Councilor O'Hara requested that this matter be continued to allow Council President Gilman to weigh in on the discussion. Councilors Nolan and Margiotta agreed.

This matter was continued until the July 18, 2022, meeting.

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 6:24 p.m.

Submitted by Sherry Karvelas, Clerk of Committees

Documents submitted at the meeting: None.

Meeting Recording: <http://gloucester-ma.gov/1097/Past-Remote-Public-Meetings>