

CITY COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE

Ordinances & Administration

Monday, February 22, 2010 – 6:00 p.m.

Council Committee Room – 1st Floor

City Hall, 9 Dale Avenue

Present: Chair, Sefatia Theken; Vice Chair, Ann Mulcahey, Councilor Bruce Tobey

Absent: None.

Also Present: Councilor Ciolino; Jim Duggan, Linda T. Lowe, Suzanne Egan, Donna Compton, Bob Ryan; Dean Murray

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Items were taken out of order.

1. *Unfinished Business*

A) Appointment: Dean Murray, Open Space Committee, TTE 02/14/2013

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Theken, the Ordinances and Administration Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council to appoint Dean Murray to the Open Space Committee, TTE 02/14/2013.

B) Order: CC2009-046 (Grow) Amend Sec. 17 of GCO re: Civil Service Ballot Measure &

Procedure for Selection of Chief of Police (Cont'd from 02/08/2010)

By unanimous consent, the matter was continued to March 8, 2010.

C) Memo from Operations Manager-Public Properties re: Proposed changes to Beach and Stage Fort Park Regulations (Cont'd from 02/08/2010)

By unanimous consent, the matter was continued to March 8, 2010.

D) Memo from General Counsel: Amendment to GCO Sec. 2-577 (Cont'd from 02/08/2010)

Councilor Tobey thanked General Counsel for the memo (on file), saying it answered the outstanding questions and would like to see matter move forward.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Tobey, seconded by Councilor Mulcahey, the Ordinances and Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council Article VI Finance, Division 2, Section 2-577 be amended by deleting the bidding requirements for designer services and adding Article VI Finance, Division 2, Section 2-577: The purchasing agent shall keep a record of all contracts entered into by any department of the City for designer services. The purchasing agent shall provide the record to the City Council on a semi-annual basis AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

E) CC2010-003 (Mulcahey) Amend GCO Sec. 22-269 "Stop Intersections re: Flanagan Square

Councilor Theken noted a memo from the Director of the DPW, Mike Hale (on file).

Bob Ryan, Co-Chair of the Traffic Commission said at their February 18th meeting the Commission unanimously supported the stop sign there. People are coming down Rogers Street in an easterly direction. The cars coming off the Rogers Street turn have many near misses with people at the stop signs who believe they have a clear path after stopping. Mr. Hale felt putting stop sign there it would back traffic up onto Rogers Street. The Commission felt a stop sign wouldn't inhibit or back traffic up; and they will revisit it in six months.

[**Councilor Tobey** arrived at 6:13 p.m.]

The Committee discussed the traffic issues of this intersection with Mr. Ryan.

Councilor Theken said she'd like Mike Hale, DPW Director, to come before the City Council for his input on a six-month trial period (or to email the Committee with his opinion) and to obtain statistics of accidents from Lt. Joseph Aiello of the Police Department for this major intersection.

Mr. Ryan said it is unsafe and something does need to be done about it.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Tobey, the Ordinances and Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to approve the order to amend Sec. 22-269 (Stop Intersections) of the GCO to place a stop sign on the existing one way sign for traffic turning from Rogers Street where it meets Main and Prospect Streets AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

F) CC2010-003 (Mulcahey) Amend GCO Sec. 22-270 "Parking Prohibited at all times" and
Sec. 22-292 "Fire Lanes" re: Commercial Street

Mr. Ryan said at the February 18th meeting of the Traffic Commission what the order is proposing to do is to remove the no parking for 100 ft. distance and make it a fire lane. The "no parking" signage hasn't been effective and making it a fire lane could be more effective.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Tobey, the Ordinances and Administration Committee 3 voted 0 in favor, opposed to recommend to the City Council to amend GCO Sec. 22-270 (Parking Prohibited at All Times) by deleting "Commercial Street, northeasterly side, from a point at the southeasterly corner of the entrance to Progressive Oil to a point 100 feet in a southerly direction.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Tobey, the Ordinances and Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council to amend GCO Sec. 22-292 "Fire Lanes" by adding "Commercial Street, northeasterly side from a point at the southeasterly corner of the intersection with Fort Square (pole #3707) at the entrance to Ocean Crest Fisheries to a point 100 feet southeasterly there from the length of the concrete wall with the sign to be facing south towards the ice company AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

G) CC2010-005 (McGeary) Amend GCO Sec. 22-287 re: one handicapped parking space in front of 12 Webster Street

Mr. Ryan stated that since the requestor at 12 Webster Street had been notified and did not attend the Traffic Commission meeting, the matter was tabled until the requestor can be heard. he noted anybody, a guardian or designated person can come for the requestor. The other concern was the school there, and the resulting traffic congestion.

By unanimous consent the matter was continued to March 22, 2010.

H) CC2010-008 (Mulcahey) Amend GCO Sec. 22-287 re: one handicapped space across from 11 School Street

Mr. Ryan stated the Traffic Commission recommends the creation of a handicapped parking space across the street from 11 School Street and that the requestor was in attendance tonight.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Tobey , the Ordinances and Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council amend Sec. 22-287 (Handicapped Parking) to include a handicapped space across from 11 School Street with a sign on pole #4721 with an arrow point up School Street (north) and an additional sign placed on the same pole with an arrow pointing toward the fire station (south) that reads, “No Parking Here to Corner” AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

I) CC2010-007 (Tobey) Review of City Charter concerning proposed amendments or revisions.

Councilor Theken said this is going to take a long time. It should have its own group to look at it, and then the Councilors can give their input.

Ms. Lowe said Councilor Hardy did some research the process carried out in 2000-2001; and she had her own recollections. Throughout the whole course of 2000 and into 2001, the group met and went line by line, section by section through the Charter. She doesn't know any way other than that. She suggested perhaps setting goals up front of what the Committee wants to emphasize for review. Councilor Theken said that for efficiency sake, it would help to speak to former City Councilors such as Ab Khambaty and others who would be motivated to produce a good product to create an ad hoc committee.

Councilor Tobey said he is concerned that the scope of the review is limited by State law. If the Committee does it themselves or appoint a committee to do it, they will see a process that will bog down.

There was a discussion regarding the merits of an ad hoc committee and of holding a public meeting or forum before the O&A to allow for input on what people think is important in the charter review.

By unanimous consent, the Ordinances and Administration Committee to ADVERTISE AND HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING on the City Charter in the Kyrouz Auditorium on April 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

2. Memo from Mayor: Chief Financial Officer, Pay Grade

Mr. Duggan said there is a very valuable person in Mr. Towne. The position is under funded which is why the Mayor is requesting this move from M9 to M12 pay grade. He would negotiate with the CFO regarding the starting rate and would look to start at somewhere in the middle of the new grade. He noted the submitted comparables of surrounding communities (on file), most making much more than the City's CFO. The CFO oversees the consultants that come in. He does a lot of reporting to the Council, working well with them; and has done an outstanding job. They will cover a small portion of the pay within the existing budget, and moving forward it will be part of the budget process. They are making an investment in the City's administration where they can; and the financial sector of the City is where the investment needs to be made, to support them.

Councilor Tobey said this is laughable compensation now. This is a good place to start; and the same goes for the City Auditor.

The Councilors discussed the merits of reclassifying the pay grade of the CFO, given the improved bond rating, the challenges being faced and met by him in his role as CFO, Treasurer and Collector, the

increase in revenues he has already caused to come into the City of over \$1 million, along with the comparables of the surrounding communities, they felt the increase in pay grade was warranted

Ms. Lowe said in addition to the information received on comparables as requested by the Committee, she also spoke to Rockport and said their situation is not really comparable to Gloucester's. Their Town Accountant is paid \$ \$70,156.00 and their Town Accountant is paid \$67,560.00.

Councilor Theken thanked both Mr. Duggan and Ms. Lowe for their information.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Tobey, seconded by Councilor Mulcahey, the Ordinances and Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council to upgrade the position of the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Gloucester from Grade M9 to Grade M12 with a salary range of \$98,239.14 to \$116,252.01 AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

3. Memo from Mayor: City Auditor

Mr. Duggan said in keeping with a strong financial base for the City of Gloucester Administration wants to make a change in grade from M8 to M10. The previous City Auditor was paid \$75,473.00.

Councilor Tobey said it is a very difficult to attract the kind of candidates who would meet the demands of the office and the job.

Councilor Theken said there will be a great deal of candidates for the open position for the City Auditor and wants to see the pay grade raised to get the best quality people possible.

Councilor Ciolino noted that the previous candidates for City Auditor came from banking and finance. The one person who had municipal experience was the most recent past auditor.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Tobey, seconded by Councilor Mulcahey, the Ordinances and Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council to

upgrade the position of City Auditor from Grade M8 to Grade M10 with a salary range of \$81,465.93 to \$96,374.25 AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

4. *Other Business*

Mr. Duggan made the Committee aware of the gift of a \$20,000.00 donation for the Tourism Commission by a private individual has been withdrawn, and the proposers for the RFP have been notified by the Purchasing Agent. The Purchasing Agent spoke with the Inspector General's office to be sure of the proper methods and is to notify the proposers. The Tourism Commission is meeting this Thursday to decide how the \$10,000.00 from their budget should be spent.

Councilor Tobey asked about the meeting between Ms. Lowe and the CPPI Committee.

Ms. Lowe said as requested, she met with Roz Frontiero, Erica Hansen and Betsy Works. They're trying not just to attract people to serve on the boards and commissions, but to keep that information tracked and to make sure that there is training for these people on the commissions, useful productive things. They have done a study on the commissions and are willing to share it. It is probably way past due to have them come before City Council. They need to be a regular appointed committee. What they are doing is valuable. It ought to be recognized by the Council as a regular committee. They understood that becoming a regular appointed committee would be beneficial. They had an hour-long meeting, and it went extremely well.

Councilor Tobey suggested Ms. Lowe advised the CPPI to present a draft ordinance on CPPI.

It was moved, seconded, and voted UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgenson

Clerk of the Committees