



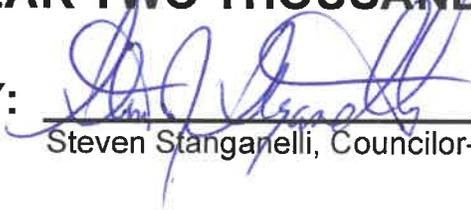
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2023 NOV 20 P 3: 25

CITY OF AMESBURY, MA

**CITY OF AMESBURY
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE**

SPONSORED BY:


Steven Stangarelli, Councilor-at-Large

BILL No. 2023-131

An Ordinance to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 13th Session Rules by revising Section 60: Objections and Postponement of Votes.

Summary:

This ordinance will adopt changes to the Amesbury City Council – 13th Session Rules by revising Rule 11-A: Standing Committees

Be it Ordered by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled and by the authority of the same, as follows:

That the City of Amesbury shall adopt changes to Rule 11 of the Order of Business of the Rules of Procedure for the Amesbury City Council – 13th Session as previously adopted in 2022-036 by revising Rule 11-A – Standing Committees and Rule 11-B Ad-Hoc Committees.

Rule 11-A – Standing Committees shall be amended as follows:

1.) At the end of the second paragraph of this Rule under General Powers, the end of the second sentence shall be changed to add:

“ therefore in a majority and optional minority reports. Committees shall have the power to invite or compel testimony from any source(s) deemed necessary including from City Department staff. Committees may choose to make a positive recommendation, a negative recommendation, a recommendation with changes, or no recommendation at all.”

2.) Membership shall be changed as follows:

“Each committee of the City Council shall consist of five (5) members of the City Council appointed to serve for the term for which the City Council is elected unless otherwise specified.”

3. The Standing Committees of the City Council under Rule 11-A Standing Committees shall be changed to:

“There shall be four Standing Committees of the City Council:

Rule 11A-1: Budget, Finance and Audit (BFA)

A committee on budget, finance and audit to which may be referred by a simple majority vote of the full City Council every matter which would involve expenditures by the city, audit or review of past appropriations, selection of the external audit team tasked with the annual audit, and financial planning related to proposed policies.

Rule 11A-2: Planning, Ordinances and Administration (POA)

A committee on planning, ordinances and administration to which may be referred by a simple majority vote of the full City Council every matter which in the form of adoption is categorized an "ordinance" or the effect of which is of more than temporary significance, petitions for acts of special Legislation or Charter revisions, Zoning Ordinances, all matters which affect land use, planning, zoning and other development of the city, and review of changes to the municipal code. The committee shall have the authority to periodically review and recommend to Council changes to the municipal code at its discretion. It shall also be tasked with review of all matters the effect of which would be to alter the administrative structure of the city government and which shall have general oversight of the department of the city clerk.

Rule 11A-3: Joint Education Committee

A committee comprised of members of the School Committee to facilitate communication between and provide a venue for dialogue between the Amesbury City Council and the Amesbury School Committee.

Representatives from each of these bodies as well as the Superintendent of Schools and other noted staff shall meet at least quarterly to become better informed about topics such as:

- Challenges the district may be facing
- Current and future educational programming
- Budget and financial updates
- Strategic planning process and progress
- Major leadership changes
- Capital/facilities needs of the schools

Membership: The subcommittee should be comprised of three members of the Amesbury School Committee and three members of the Amesbury City Council. There shall be a lead School Committee member and a lead City Council member who will work with the Superintendent of Schools to determine agendas and meeting times. Ex officio members of this committee shall include the Superintendent of Schools, the Business Manager of the School Department, the Facilities Director of the School Department, and the Chief Financial Officer of the City or their designees. The Committee shall choose a chair and vice chair from among its voting membership. The lead School Committee member and the lead Council member shall report to the full respective committees.

Rule 11A-4: Committee on Council Rules & Procedures

This committee shall be comprised of five (5) Councilthree Councilors. The committee will also follow the Parameters and Guidelines stated in Rule 11D.

The committee shall make recommendations on any proposed changes to the City Council Rules and Procedures. “

4. Rule 11B-1

References to “Traffic and Transportation” shall be deleted.