



Rec'd  
1/22/24

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

**SPONSORED BY:**

*[Handwritten signature]*

Steven Stanganelli, Councilor-at-Large

**BILL No.** 2024.022

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_

**An Ordinance** to adopt changes to Amesbury City Council – 14<sup>th</sup> Session Rules by revising Rule 6O: Objections and Postponement of Votes.

**Summary:**

This ordinance will adopt changes to the Amesbury City Council – 14<sup>th</sup> Session Rules by revising Rule 6O: Objections and Postponement of Votes.

**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 6 of the Order of Business of the Rules of Procedure for the Amesbury City Council – 14<sup>th</sup> Session as previously adopted in 2022-036 by revising Rule 6O – Objections and Postponement of Votes.

**Rule 6O – Objections and Postponement of Votes** shall be amended as follows:

The first sentence of the Rule shall be changed to read:

“Per Charter Section 3-7(c), on the first occasion that the question on adoption of a measure is put to the City Council (i.e. Second Reading), if a single member objects to the taking of the vote before the vote is called by the President, the vote shall be postponed until the next meeting of the City Council whether regular or special. Objections must be noted prior to the vote or otherwise shall be deemed out of order once the vote is called.”

NOTE for Reference:

- This change provides clarity to avoid confusion and issues related to when an Objection may be made as occurred during the 13<sup>th</sup> Session.
- Email from Mark Reich, KP Law (05/24/2023) – extract:
  - “Objection to the taking of the vote may be made in accordance with Section 3-7(c) of the City Charter and City Council Rule 6(o).”
  - “Based upon this language, which is mirrored in the Council Rules, the expectation is that the objection will be made before when the measure is put to a vote, and not during the vote itself. In general, once a vote is being taken, any other action is out of order as the vote cannot be interrupted.”