

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2019

Greenfield High School Cafeteria, 21 Barr Avenue

6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Vice President Ricketts.

Vice President Ricketts stated this meeting is being recorded and videotaped. If any other person present was doing the same, they must notify the chairperson at this time. It was noted the City Council was audio recording and GCTV-15 was video recording the meeting for future broadcast.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll Call was taken. President Renaud and Councilors Berson and Dolan were absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William Martin; City Clerk Kathryn J. Scott; Director of Administration Mark Smith; City Attorney Gordon Quinn; GCTV-15 staff; Joshua Solomon, *the Recorder*; and members of the public.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Gilmour, second by Councilor Wheeler, it was unanimously, **VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL WAIVE THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, 8 ORDER AND DISPOSITION OF BUSINESS.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order no. FY 19-101

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL RATIFY AND CONFIRM ALL OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GREENFIELD OF JANUARY 11, 2017 AND JANUARY 11, 2019 AS PASSED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT AND SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Mass explained the rationale in regards to the City of Greenfield Charter Chapters 7-7 & 7-8 ratification.

Other discussion included:

- If at State level the threshold was 12% and allowed for 20 days, Municipalities were allowed to tailor rules so that they were more strict and not to be more lax, why was that the case in this situation.
- Why was the Council being asked to consider this motion when the Councilors have followed what was in the Charter.
- What was the rationale for the State to amend the Councilor's vote on Chapter 7-7 & 7-8 of the Charter.
- Can the Councilors vote to ratify and confirm the amendments made by the State.
- If these amendments were signed into law by the Governor, why would the Councilors need to ratify and confirm.
- Requested the City Clerk contact State Representative to formally inquire why the Committee removed the original language.

City Attorney Gordon Quinn spoke to the following:

- In his opinion, the motion presented to the Councilors for a vote was not illegal.
- The final version of the Councilor's vote from 2016 was the outcome of a State Legislation process.
- In his opinion, the amendment was Special Legislation that was still in effect.
- Could the amendments made by the State Legislation be legally challenged.

Councilor Mass and Councilor Pyfrom withdraw their motion respectively.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Gilmour, it was unanimously **VOTED:** TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:34 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Kathryn J. Scott, City Clerk

GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Attendance

1. Sund, Verne	Y					
2. Berson, Mark	N					
3. Allis, Brickett	Y					
4. Muzyka-Pyfrom, Wanda	Y					
5. Dolan, Timothy	N					
6. Gilmour, Sheila	Y					
7. Wheeler, Otis	Y					
8. Mayo, Douglas	Y					
9. Leonovich, Daniel	Y					
10. Mass, Isaac	Y					
11. Renaud, Karen	N					
12. Ricketts, Penny	Y					
13. Stempel, Ashley	Y					