



City of Malden

Malden City Hall
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Meeting Minutes - Final Rules & Ordinance Committee

Chairperson Craig Spadafora
Vice Chair Peg Crowe
Ryan O'Malley
David Camell
Stephen Winslow

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

5:30 PM

REMOTE VIRTUAL MEETING

179-21

In accordance with Governor Baker's 3/12/20 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A,ss18, and the Governor's 3/23/20 Revised Guidance on Order by the Governor Prohibiting Assemblage of More than Ten People, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation.

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<https://www.cityofmalden.org/DocumentCenter/View/2487/Public-information-on-Public-Meetings-and-Hearings-during-the-Declared-State-of-Emergency-related-to-COVID19PDF>

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Roll Call

Councillors Winslow and O'Malley joined the meeting at 5:33 after roll call and paper 180-21 was approved.

Also in attendance was Asst. City Solicitor John McNaught, Ron Hogan and MRA Executive Director Deb Burke.

Present: 5 - Craig Spadafora, Peg Crowe, Ryan O'Malley, David Camell and Stephen Winslow

Minutes to be Approved

[180-21](#)

Minutes of the Meeting of March 30, 2021.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Crowe, seconded by Councillor Camell, that the Committee Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 3 - Chairperson Spadafora, Vice Chair Crowe and Camell

Business

[121-21](#)

Order: Be it hereby ordained that the Revised Ordinances of 2020 be amended to create a Department of Planning and Economic Development.

Sponsors: Ryan O'Malley, Amanda Linehan, Jadeane Sica and Craig Spadafora

Chair Spadafora stated there is no plan B for The MRA in the budget, if paper 121-21 was not going to go forward the administration needs to know. Chair Spadafora turned it over to Ron Hogan who had an updated draft of the proposal. From the last meeting the take away was that there needed to be a name change and the mission of the new department needed to include environmental planning. The name would be Strategic Planning and Community Development. Councillor Winslow stated this would be in line with the discussion from the last meeting and the name sounds familiar with what other communities use and more reflective of what the council would like to see the mission of the department.

Councillor DeMaria wanted a deeper discussion into the financials. Mr. Hogan was looking to tell the story how the merge will affect the budget and salary details in the budget. Mr. Hogan stated the cost to the city budget is \$700,000 but that number is escalated because of the loss of revenue with parking due to Covid. Mr. Hogan suggested federal money be used to offset the lost parking revenues. Revenues will rebound.

Councillor Linehan agreed with Mr. Hogan on the use of federal monies. Councillor Linehan asked who would be ticketing in the garages, Mr. Hogan said we would adopt regulations for anything we were looking to enforce. Councillor Linehan mentioned positions that were not consistent (Home Director and Community Development Director).

Mr. Hogan answered the MRA had more flexibility with positions, the mappings are more consistent with the city's chart and salaries. Ms. Burke said the Home Director has shared responsibilities with other communities. They were slotting positions and salaries with city ordinances.

Councillor Winslow stated that the MRA mappings had a transportation position but the City had budgeted for one last year and didn't fill because of Covid.

Councillor Camell stated he had the same concerns as Councillor Linehan.

Councillor Condon asked what would be the job description of the transportation position. Mr. Hogan answered that there is an abundance of grants available and the position would be very measurable at the end of the year with how many grants the person brought in.

Councillor Crowe agreed with Mr. Hogan's assessment with the availability of grants.

Councillor O'Malley asked what the land transfer would look like, Mr. Hogan answered that a land agreement would need to be executed by the council as quickly as possible once the ordinance is changed. Councillor O'Malley said he was willing to go forward with the proposal and that it was in the best interests for all of those involved.

Councillor Winslow mentioned his experience with grant writing for the MRA, Somerville and Gloucester and there is opportunity out there.

Mr. Hogan stated there are several steps involved with this process and this is the first step, step 2 would to review and the mayor execute an agreement with the MRA, step 3-adopt a budget that reflects the merge, step 4-additional ordinance changes.

Mr. Hogan stated that this has been talked about for 20 years, by approving this merge they will be making history.

The first vote was to amend accepting the changes presented for sections 2.12.010, 2.08.040 and 2.12.085.

A motion was made by Councillor Winslow, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Order be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 5 - Chairperson Spadafora, Vice Chair Crowe, O'Malley, Camell and Winslow

A motion was made by Councillor Winslow, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Order be recommended favorably as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 5 - Chairperson Spadafora, Vice Chair Crowe, O'Malley, Camell and Winslow

Other Business

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councillor Camell, seconded by Vice Chair Crowe, that the be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 P.M.

Yea: 5 - Chairperson Spadafora, Vice Chair Crowe, O'Malley, Camell and Winslow