

GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, December 26, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.
Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall
-MINUTES-

Present: President, Councillor Jacqueline Hardy (Chair); Vice Chair, Councillor Sefatia Theken; Councillor Joseph Ciolino; Councillor Melissa Cox; Councillor Steve LeBlanc, Jr.; Councillor Paul McGeary; Councillor Bruce Tobey; Councillor Greg Verga

Absent: None

Also Present: Linda T. Lowe; Jim Duggan

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The City Council dedicated the evenings moment of silence to the memory of the 26 children and teachers that were slain in Newtown, Connecticut.

Agenda:

1. Council's Motion to Override Mayor's Veto of City Council's Non-Binding Question

President Hardy stated that the Special City Council Agenda was a one item agenda to discuss and vote to override Mayor Kirk's veto of the Council's December 11th vote on the future of the Fuller School and the Mayor's December 19th veto of that vote. President Hardy reminded councillors that the focus of discussion should be focused on the override, not go back into the merits of the original vote that was taken. Hardy also reminded all in attendance that this is a public meeting and not a public hearing. Hardy then recognized Councillor Verga.

Councillor Verga presented the motion to override and Councillor Whynott seconded the motion:
MOTION to override the Mayor's veto dated December 19, 2012 related to the City Council's December 11, 2012 vote of 8 (in favor) 1 (opposed) that a non-binding ballot question be placed on the 2013 municipal election ballot regarding the future of the Fuller School.

Councillors **speaking in favor** of the motion to override the Mayor's veto: Cox, Hardy, LeBlanc, McGeary, Romeo-Theken, Tobey, Verga and Whynott all expressed support of the motion. General discussion in favor focused on the need to hear from the public on the issue; reinforcement to the public that this is a non-binding, advisory question; much of the discussion stressed that the current language in the "proposed" non-binding question is draft language and needs to be amended as a working document would; it was generally agreed that the time to begin the amending would be after the school committee votes on whether or not to surplus the Fuller School. The Council asked City Clerk Linda Lowe to look into whether or not a local advisory question could be placed on the upcoming Special State Election (to elect a replacement for Senator John Kerry). Linda Lowe indicated she would respond by the next regularly scheduled meeting (Jan 8, 2013) Councillor **speaking in opposition** to the motion to override the Mayor's veto was Councillor Ciolino whose discussion focused on his desire to see the costs associated with each option be printed on the ballot of the non-binding advisory referendum question. Councillor Ciolino also commented that he believed the Council was rushing the process.

President Hardy stated for the record that the Mayor's objections (veto) of the Council's December 11th vote, made in the Mayor's December 19th override memorandum to the Council, were made as in accordance with the City Charter, Section 3-9. Councilor Ciolino requested that the Mayor's memorandum (on file) be read into the record. City Clerk Linda Lowe read the memorandum into the record.

President Hardy then began to call for the vote on the motion at which time Councillor Ciolino called a *point of order* which President Hardy (Chair) ruled out of order as the point of order did not pertain to the current motion before the council, rather the main motion from the previous meeting.

President Hardy then called for the roll call vote on the motion before the Council.

The **MOTION PASSES** on a *roll call* vote of **eight (8) in favor** (Cox, Hardy, LeBlanc, McGeary, Romeo-Theken, Tobey, Verga and Whynott) **one (1) opposed** (Ciolino).

2. Unanimous Consent Agenda

Unanimous Consent Agenda to amend the Council's Order # 2012-72 which would amend the GZO as it relates to Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, etc. was taken up next.

Councillor Hardy moved and Councillor Whynott seconded:

MOTION to refer to Planning and Development and the Gloucester Planning Board Council's Order # 2012-72, amending the Gloucester Zoning Ordinance pertaining to Medical Marijuana Dispensaries and their placement within existing zoning districts and or the creation of new zoning district(s).

A roll call vote was called for (Tobey) and the Motion to refer the amended Order # 2012-72 (to PB and P&D) passed on a (unanimous) roll call vote of 9-0. **MOTION PASSES.**

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Council President Jacqueline Hardy
Substitute Recorder**

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: Zoning Use Tables 2.3.3, 2.3.6 and Zoning definitions Section VI