



## City of Westfield, Massachusetts

### Minutes for Charter and Rules Committee (Ad Hoc) of February 19, 2019 Room 315A City Hall

Attending: Chair Matt Emmershay, Member Councilor William Onyski, Member Councilor Les Lefebvre

Also: Mayor Sullivan, Councilor Andrew Surprise, Councilor Mike Burns, Councilor Dan Allie, City Solicitor Sue Phillips

#### AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER--called to order at 6:01 PM

RECORDING --none

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION --Rich Roy, Westfield sent in an email that was not read but forwarded to the City Clerk

--Bill Chiba, Westfield, thought agenda was a good roadmap. He stated that auditor is supposed to provide written monthly expenses according to a 1982 ordinance, suggest changing to electronic. He would like zero based budgeting to Mayor, suggests that ordinances, rather than charter changes are the best way to get changes accepted. Councilor Surprise likes charter changes but would accept some being ordinances.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 12/19/18 and 1/14/19

-- 12/19/18 minutes approved, 1-0 Emmershay was only member on Committee at the time, Onyski and Lefebvre abstained

--1/14/19 minutes approved 3-0

#### General discussion about all topics:

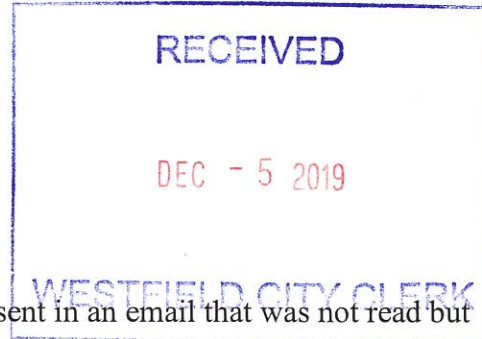
--Atty Phillips asked what the final result of the agenda items, as the agenda items were a little bit wordy. Also suggested that we utilize the existing Munis reports that already exist. Also discussed history of the Charter.

--Mayor Sullivan suggested that CC can't do much with the reports other than view because CC can only approve or cut budgets and finance issues start with Mayor.

--Andrew Surprise indicated that much of the wording in motions were from the City of Amesbury

- 1) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding the Submission of the Annual Municipal Budget to the Westfield Home Rule Charter.

Explanation: Submission of the Budget. The Mayor shall submit the annual City budget, recommending appropriations for the next fiscal year by organization/object code or order number, to the City Council no later than May 15. The City Auditor or appropriate authority, shall provide a copy of the Mayor's proposed budget to each member of the City Council and to each member of the Finance Committee or successor entity and shall also post copies of the Mayor's proposed budget in the City Clerk's office and in the public library for inspection by the public, and a digital copy shall be posted on the city website, and a link to the digital copy shall be posted



on the Official Facebook page of the City of Westfield. The Mayor's budget recommendations shall include, for each appropriation, by organization/object code or order number, the specific source of funding for that appropriation and, if any single appropriation is to be funded by multiple sources, the proportion of the amount which is to be funded by each source. Sources of funding may include, but are not limited to, property tax revenues; fee revenues, specifying the type of fee collected; state aid, specifying the "cherry sheet" account; state grant revenues, specifying the particular grant program; state reimbursements, specifying the state program; federal grant revenues, specifying the federal program; and private gifts. The Finance Committee or successor entity shall consider the adequacy of the funding sources and shall recommend decreases in any appropriation if it finds that the listed funding source cannot adequately fund the appropriation. Commencing in fiscal year 2020, the proposed operating budget submitted by the Mayor shall be a zero-based budget for 1/3 of all the departments of the City. One-third of all departments shall be staggered every fiscal year thereafter. Said budget shall be subject to all of the requirements of the Westfield Home Rule Charter. For the purposes of definition, a zero-based budget shall start with no authorized funds and shall not be based on the previous year's appropriations. It shall not be an incremental budget. The goals and objectives for each department shall be clearly stated within the operating budget of each department. Each line item in each department's budget shall exist solely to accomplish the stated goals and objectives of the department, and the amounts provided for each department's budget must not exceed a reasonable amount necessary to accomplish such stated goals and objectives. (11/1/18, 12/19/18, 1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 2) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding Annual Expense and Appropriation Estimates for all Municipal Departments, Boards, Officers, and Committees to the Westfield Home Rule Charter.

Explanation: Expenses and Appropriations of Departments, Boards, Officers, and Committees. The various City boards, officers, and committees charged with the expenditure of City money shall, not later than February 28 of each calendar year, prepare detailed estimates of the amounts deemed by them necessary for the administration of their respective offices or departments for the ensuing fiscal year, with explanatory statements of the reasons for any changes from the amounts appropriated for the same purpose in the preceding year. They shall also prepare estimates of all probable items of income which may be received by them during the ensuing year in connection with the administration of their departments or offices and a statement of the amount of the appropriation requested by them for the ensuing fiscal year. Such estimates and statements shall be filed with the office of the Mayor who shall at once transmit the same to the President of the City Council and to the Finance Committee or successor entity. (11/1/18, 12/19/18, 1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 3) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding the Monthly Statements of Appropriations and Expenses to the Westfield Home Rule Charter. Explanation: Monthly Statements. The Auditor or appropriate authority shall monthly print and distribute to the City Council and members of the Finance Committee or successor entity statements in tabulated form showing the amounts appropriated and the amounts expended from each organization/object code or order number during the preceding year and the estimates for the current year. Copies of said monthly statements shall be posted in the City Clerk's office and in the public library for inspection by the public, and a digital copy shall be posted on the city website, and a link to the digital copy shall be posted on the Official Facebook page of the City of Westfield. (11/1/18, 12/19/18,

1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 4) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding Applications for Federal or State Grants to the Westfield Home Rule Charter.

Explanation: Applications for Federal or State Grants. Any application for federal or state funds which is submitted to the City Council shall be accompanied by a document fully describing the project for which the funding is being sought. The document shall be prepared by the department, board or commission which intends to submit said application for federal or state funding. The document shall contain a projection of any operating, staffing, or maintenance costs of the project or any facility or service provided for in said application; said projection shall be for a maximum of 60 months or for the life of the project, whichever is less. For any project exceeding 60 months, a new projection shall be prepared after each sixty-month segment of the project. The document shall also include a summary of any conditions under which the City may have to return or reimburse the funds. The document shall also include a statement describing the funding process, and if any funds are to be expended by the City in anticipation of later reimbursement, the document shall also specify the account into which such reimbursed funds will be deposited. (11/1/18, 12/19/18, 1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 5) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding the Filing of Grant Applications to the Westfield Home Rule Charter.

Explanation: Filing of Grant Applications. Any application for a grant in excess of \$5,000 filed with any other government agency or its subdivisions, private entity, not-for-profit entity, trust or individual submitted by or on behalf of the City, by any and all appointed and elected officials and employees of the City and all boards, commissions and authorities operating within and on behalf of the City and which requires a match by the City, shall simultaneously with said application also be filed by the person or body submitting said application with the City Clerk as a public record. For the purpose of this section, a grant shall be any request for funds, goods, services, information services or analysis and/or anything of value. Within three business days of receiving such an application, the City Clerk shall inform each City Councilor of the existence of the filing. This communication shall include, but not be limited to, the entity with which the application is filed, the person or body making the application on behalf of the City and a brief description of the nature of the application and any requirements of a match. (11/1/18, 12/19/18, 1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 6) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding Order for Appropriation to the Westfield Home Rule Charter.

Explanation: Appropriation Orders. All measures appropriating moneys shall be filed as an order and appropriately titled, e.g., "An Appropriation Order." Except as otherwise permitted by law, all amounts appropriated by the City Council shall be expended only for the purposes specified. All measures appropriating moneys shall include the following provision or equivalent language: "Any moneys remaining in this appropriation which are not expended for the purposes specified shall be returned to the general fund, enterprise fund or otherwise originating fund and shall not be expended without further appropriation." (11/1/18, 12/19/18, 1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 7) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding the

Transfer of Funds to the Westfield Home Rule Charter.

Explanation: Transfer of Funds. All measures transferring funds shall include for each transfer the specific source of funding for that transfer, organization/object code or order number, and the specific organization/object code or order number where the funds are to be transferred to. Transfer requests shall include the specific purpose of the transfer. Transfer requests shall include all the necessary statutory authorizations when submitted to the City Council. (11/1/18, 12/19/18, 1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 8) Motion of Councilor Surprise to add the following municipal budget process regarding the Creation and Submission of an Annual Capital Improvement Projects Report to the Westfield Home Rule Charter.

Explanation: Capital Improvement Projects Report. Annual Capital Improvement Project Plans shall be submitted to the City Auditor no later than May 8 of each calendar year. The City Auditor shall incorporate all proposed Capital Improvement Projects into a Report for submission to the City Council no later than May 20 of each calendar year. The project plans shall be prepared by the department, board or commission which shall oversee the Capital Improvement project. The document shall contain projections of any operating, staffing, or maintenance costs of the project or any facility or service required for the project; said projection shall be for a maximum of 60 months or for the life of the project, whichever is less. The Capital Improvement Project Report shall include detailed information about all capital projects which the Mayor proposes to initiate during the upcoming fiscal year. The City Auditor shall provide a copy of the Capital Improvement Project Report to each member of the City Council or successor entity no later than May 15 of each calendar year and also shall post copies of the capital improvement projects report in the City Clerk's office and in the public library for inspection by the public, and a digital copy shall be posted on the city website, and a link to the digital copy shall be posted on the Official Facebook page of the City of Westfield. (11/1/18, 12/19/18, 1/14/19)

--Voted 3-0 to leave in committee

- 9) Adjourn --adjourned at 7:00 PM