

COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES, CHARTER & RULES
MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023, AT 6:12 p.m.
WOBURN CITY HALL
COMMITTEE ROOM

Voting members present: Chairman Joseph Demers, Councilor Lou DiMambro, and Councilor Richard Gately. Absent: Councilor Robert Ferullo and Councilor Darlene Mercer-Bruen

Non-voting members present: President Michael Concannon, Councilor Joanne Campbell, Councilor Charles Viola, and Councilor Jeffrey Dillon

Also present: Mayor Scott Galvin and Director of Human Resources Shawna Healey

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Reading and approval of previous meeting minutes: Motion made by Councilor Gately and seconded by Councilor DiMambro to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 26, 2023; approved, 3-0.

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Order amending WMC Section 2-59 and Section 2-68 regarding new position of Deputy Chief of Police: Mayor Galvin said the notion of a Deputy Police Chief has been kicked around for a while. He said Police Chief Robert Rufo approached him recently and said he thought this might be a good time to add the position. He said the city has hired a consultant. He said the addition of this position was recommended during an audit of public safety services that was conducted several years ago. He said the Deputy Chief will oversee safety at the schools and will also have oversight of the department. Councilor Gately asked if the position will be hired from within the police department's ranks. Mayor Galvin said the hire will be from within. He said the position will not be in the union. He said there will be an assessment center involved in the hiring process. Director Healey said the city hopes to hire a Deputy Chief in late September or early October. Councilor Gately said it is important for the city to hire someone from within the ranks. Motion made by Councilor Gately and seconded by Councilor DiMambro to suspend the rules to allow any member of the council not on the committee to address the order; approved, 3-0. Councilor Viola said he thinks the addition of a Deputy Chief is a good thing for the city. He said he is in favor of adding this position. Councilor Dillon said he agrees with Councilor Viola. He said the city should do whatever it can to support public safety. Councilor DiMambro asked if the Deputy Chief will have an office at the police station or at the high school. Mayor Galvin said the Deputy Chief will have an office at the police station. He said the Deputy Chief will meet with school personnel. He said the Deputy Chief will be involved with the schools at all grade levels. President Concannon asked if there will be a resultant reduction in a captain or lieutenant position as a result of the addition of the Deputy Chief. Mayor Galvin said there will be no reduction of force in any other rank. He said the money for the Deputy Chief's position was approved as part of the FY '24 municipal budget. Councilor Viola asked if the Deputy Chief from the ranks of either captain or lieutenant. Director Healey said captains and lieutenants will be eligible to apply for the Deputy Chief's position. Mayor Galvin said it will depend upon who

applies. Director Healey said if all three captains apply, then no lieutenants will be able to apply. She said if two captains apply, then lieutenants would be able to apply. Motion made by Councilor DiMambro and seconded by Councilor Gately that the order “ought to pass;” approved, 3-0.

Order amending WMC Section 2-180 Base Salaries and Section 2-190 Sick Leave, Attendance Records, Vacation and Other Incentives, regarding new position of Deputy Chief of Police: Chairman Demers said this order is a companion to the previous order regarding the Deputy Police Chief’s position. He asked if any member of the committee or the council not on the committee has any questions for Mayor Galvin or Director Healey. Motion made by Councilor DiMambro and seconded by Councilor Gately that the order “ought to pass;” approved, 3-0.

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MOTION made by Councilor Gately and seconded by Councilor DiMambro to adjourn; in favor, 3-0. Chairman Demers adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST

Gordon Vincent
Clerk of Committees