

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Minutes**
March 24, 2023



MEMBERS
Mayor Kate Snyder, Chair
Councilor April Fournier
Councilor Pious Ali
Councilor Regina Phillips

I. Call to Order

Chair Snyder called the meeting to order at 8:03am. In attendance were Danielle West (Interim City Manager), Brendan O'Connell (Finance Director), Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), Rep. Ed Crockett, Rep. Michael Brennan, Sen. Jill Dusenbury, Rep. Benjamin Collings, Councilor Pious Ali, Aaron Townsend (Co-Interim School Superintendent), Melea Nalli (Co-Interim School Superintendent), Rep. Grayson Lookner, Rep. Rachel Talbot Ross, Sarah Lentz (School Board Chair), and Councilor Regina Phillips.

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Minutes from the meeting of March 21, 2023

Councilor Regina Phillips made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 21, 2023, seconded by Councilor Ali, vote (0-3).

III. Legislative Update

- a. Presentation: City of Portland FY24 Budget (Danielle West, Interim City Manager)

Interim City Manager West and Brendan O'Connell shared information related to matters that were expected to significantly impact the FY24 City budget, specifically General Assistance, a decrease in revenue sharing, and ELL funding.

IV. Other Business

- a. Discussion: SNAP Benefits

Speaker Talbot Ross discussed the impact of a recent reduction in SNAP benefits on residents, and a bill to fund a "sunset" reduction to accomplish a less abrupt loss of revenue to recipients.

- b. Continue Review of LDs from March 21, 2023 Meeting

- i. LD 1153 (An Act to Allow Municipalities to Tax Personal Solar Energy Equipment Under 5 Megawatts)

Staff feedback regarding concern that this would deter residents from installing infrastructure important to sustainability goals. Kate Knox agreed to review MMA feedback on this matter.

- ii. LD 1170 (Resolve, to Promote Passenger Rail for Commuters)

Chair Snyder recommended postponing discussion of this bill to Tuesday, March 28.

iii. LD 1176 (An Act to Create Municipal Cannabis Revenue Sharing)

Staff expressed support for this bill. Chair Snyder recommended that this bill be discussed on March 28, as well. Alysia Melnick indicated she would get information re: amendments to LD 88 and this bill.

V. Adjournment

Councilor Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chair Snyder, vote (0-3). The meeting adjourned at 9:02am.