



Legislative Committee February 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The February 10, 2020 meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 8:08 a.m. in Room 209, Portland City Hall, Portland, Maine.

I. Attendance/Introductions

Councilor Pious Ali (Chair), Councilor Jill Duson, Mayor Kate Snyder, Dena Libner (staff), Danielle West-Chuhta (Counsel), Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur)

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the January 21, 2020 meeting minutes made by Councilor Duson, seconded by Mayor Snyder; minutes approved 3-0.

III. Legislative Update

Kate Knox presented a broad legislative update for Committee discussion and review. Topics included the State's release of the supplemental budget the prior week; the possibility of bonding for State transportation projects; the possibility of a hotel bed tax.

Kate Knox mentioned a report issued by a statewide stakeholder group tasked with evaluating the distribution of and processes related to general assistance. The Committee requested that City staff provide a comparative analysis of the proposal included in the report and LD 1403. The Committee also flagged the issue as a priority to track.

The Committee discussed various pieces of legislation related to labor management. Councilor Duson noted that Portland has a good relationship with unions, and questioned whether it's necessary to legislate bargaining issues. The Committee asked Kate Knox to provide staff with the legislation for review.

The Committee confirmed that its next meeting would occur on February 24 at 8:00am.

IV. Other Business

The Committee asked Kate Knox to gather information from the Augusta delegation about the level of engagement they would find most useful, after which a lunch in Augusta would be scheduled for March 2020.

The Committee postponed discussion of its workflow process until its next meeting.

V. Adjournment

Councilor Ali made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Duson; vote 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.