



Legislative Committee September 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The September 14, 2020 remote Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 9:45 AM on Zoom.

Councilor Pious Ali (Chair), Councilor Jill Duson, Mayor Kate Snyder, Dena Libner (Assistant to the City Manager), Kate Knox (Bernstein Schur), Chris Coffey (Bernstein Schur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Schur).

Mayor Snyder provided the Committee with an update related to the Mayors Coalition and pending leadership changes related to the Coalition. Committee members discussed identifying one councilor who could be relied on to directly engage the legislature in partnership with the Mayor.

Councilor Duson raised the issue of the Maine Municipal Association's current effort to develop legislative priorities for the 2021-2022 legislative session. The Committee recommended that staff share the relevant survey with individual councilors and collect responses to share with Councilor Duson before Friday, September 18, 2020.

The Committee discussed the need to develop the City's own legislative priorities. Alysia Melnick recommended that priorities be very targeted, and that legislators have requested a very tight agenda from the City.

Mayor Snyder asked for updated related to funding for election operations in preparation of an Elections Workshop. Kate Knox described a recent Executive Order from the Governor making some electoral changes, and said a comprehensive guidance document is expected from the Secretary of State's Office which will elaborate on flexibility granted to city clerks and municipalities.

The Committee discussed meeting September 21, 2020 with Portland delegates to discuss legislative priorities. Councilor Ali confirmed he would coordinate with Rep. Ross.

Mayor Snyder made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Duson, vote 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 AM.