

Legislative and Nominating Committee Minutes
October 26, 2021

The October 26, 2021 Legislative Committee meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Kate Snyder at 8:00 AM on Zoom.

Councilor Pious Ali (Chair), Mayor Kate Snyder (Acting Chair), Councilor April Fournier, Anne McGuire (Assistant City Manager), Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Danielle West (Corporate Counsel), Chris Huff (Assessor), Senator Heather Sanborn, Representative Barb Wood, Representative Sam Zager, Representative Michael Brennan, Representative Ed Crockett, Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur) were present. Councilor Nick Mavodones was not present.

Mayor Snyder opened the meeting, noting that she would be acting on behalf of Chair Ali.

Alysia Melnick asked Chris Feeney to overview bills carried over from the previous session.

Representative Brennan discussed the status of [LD 910 An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Reimbursement](#) and [LD 328 An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing \(Emergency\)](#).

Chris Huff discussed [LD 1448 An Act To Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption \(Title change\)](#), [LD 1482 An Act To Improve Access to Property Tax Exemptions for New Homeowners](#), [LD 1337 An Act To Increase Affordable Housing and Reduce Property Taxes through an Impact Fee on Vacant Residences](#), and [LD 647 An Act To Expand Eligibility for the Veterans' Property Tax Exemption](#).

Chris Feeney then went over [LD 1195 An Act To Increase Funding to Qualifying Municipalities by Sharing Adult Use Marijuana Sales and Excise Tax Revenue](#), [LD 1246 Resolve To Study Best Practices and Different Area Needs for Development of Affordable Homes and Expanding Home Ownership in Maine Communities](#), [LD 1440 An Act To Provide Safe Gear for Female Firefighter](#), [LD 1447 An Act To Require Training in Racial Issues, Racial Justice and Social Issues at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and To Establish Additional Requirements for Law Enforcement Officers and Candidates](#).

Rep. Zager discussed his bioethics bill.

Fournier expressed concerns about LD 1246, and expressed interest in providing written support for LD 1447 from the Council.

Representative Brennan discussed his Medicaid Reimbursement bill for schools.

Mayor discussed issues of homelessness and efforts to engage the State and legislators in seeking solutions.

Alysia Melnick highlighted that [LD 910 An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Reimbursement](#) was carried over and may be of interest to the City.

Dena Libner discussed the schedule for upcoming meetings. It was decided that future joint meetings would occur on the last Tuesday of each month rather than the fourth Tuesday, and that future Legislative Committee meetings would be held biweekly until January, at which point they will be held weekly.

Councilor Fournier made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 19, 2021 meeting, seconded by Councilor Ali, vote (3-0).

Meeting was adjourned by Acting Chair Snyder at 9:00 AM.