



City Council Rules Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2015
City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
12:00 p.m.

1. Councilor St. Hilaire called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Councilors St. Hilaire, Bouchard and Grady Sexton. Councilors Bennett and Matson were absent.

Staff members present: City Clerk Janice Bonenfant and City Solicitor Jim Kennedy.

Councilor Allan Herschlag and resident Craig Greenman, who is also a member of the Board of Ethics, were also present.

2. Councilor Grady Sexton moved approval of the May 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes. The motion was duly seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.
3. Councilor St. Hilaire, Committee Chair, indicated the meeting would be focused on reviewing proposed amendments to the Ethics Ordinance and the Rules of the City Council. He further stated that the two items to be discussed were submitted to City Council as part of the June 8, 2015 Council agenda and back before the committee for additional review based on comments received at that Council meeting.
4. Councilor St. Hilaire turned the meeting over to Solicitor Kennedy who indicated he was before the Rules Committee with suggested changes to the Ethics Ordinance and Rules of the City Council in follow-up to comments received at the June City Council meeting as well as based on suggestions he has received since then from former Mayor Marty Gross.

Solicitor Kennedy distributed copies (*copy on file in committee folder*) of the suggested changes to the Ethics Ordinance to committee members; discussion about the suggestions took place. After the discussion ended, Committee Chair

St. Hilaire asked members of the committee if anyone objected to allowing public comment from those in attendance at the meeting. No objections were made.

Councilor Herschlag who was in attendance read his comments to committee members, submitting a copy for the record. (*Copy placed on file in the Rules Committee folder*)

Craig Greenman referenced page two of the proposed amendments suggesting that the definition of stepping away be more defined; on page one, he also suggested that it might be appropriate for the Board of Ethics to be asked whether or not they agreed with the suggested striking of the section regarding a process by which one may obtain guidance regarding potential ethical issues prior to final potential adoption of the changes.

At 1:00 p.m. Solicitor Kennedy distributed suggested changes to the Rules of the City Council providing a brief overview of the suggestions to committee members.

Committee Chair St. Hilaire thanked Solicitor Kennedy for his work indicating that he wanted to reconvene at a later date to further discuss proposed changes to the Rules of the City Council. He further indicated he would take a motion on the proposed amendments to the Ethics Ordinance.

Councilor Bouchard moved approval of the revised Ethics Ordinance with the changes discussed. The motion was duly seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.

Councilor Bouchard moved to have the City Solicitor submit a report from the Rules Committee for inclusion in a revised posting of the August 10th City Council agenda specific to the proposed changes to the Ethics Ordinance discussed and voted on at this meeting. The motion was duly seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.

Councilor St. Hilaire indicated he would be in touch with committee members to set up the next meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

A true copy; I attest:

Janice Bonenfant
City Clerk