



City Council Meeting
Draft Minutes
July 25, 2011
City Council Chambers
7:00 p.m.

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call. Councilors Bennett, Bouchard, Mayor Bouley, Councilors Coen, DelloIacono, Keach, Patten, St. Hilaire, Shurtleff and Stetson were present. Councilors Blanchard, Grady, McClure, Nyhan and Werner were excused.
3. Agenda overview by the Mayor.

Items Tabled for an August 8, 2011 Public Hearing

4. Charter Amendment redistricting ward lines.
(To be distributed at meeting)

Action: Mayor Bouley provided an overview explaining that the Redistricting Committee had to act quickly to meet deadlines put upon them by the state and to have Council meet this evening to set this for a public hearing for August 8, 2011 to meet the days necessary to for review by the Attorney General's Office, the Department of Revenue Administration and the Secretary of State's Office as well as to be able to get the question to the printer in time for the November election. He noted that the committee met on three different occasions going through four different options that were all considered. He indicated that before Council this evening is a recommendation from the committee that brings forth alternative four, without a formal recommendation from the committee. Explaining this he noted that the committee came to a consensus on the whole eastside but it became a little more difficult on the other side of the river. He indicated that there are some questions that were considered: a) they wanted to make sure there were polling locations within each ward; b) make sure that the boundaries of each ward makes sense. The Mayor stated that the committee would like more time to tweak the borders, particularly in the downtown wards of 4, 5 and 6. He indicated that he is asking the Council to set alternative four for an August 8th public hearing but is also asking their permission that the committee would continue to work to see if they can tweak the lines to come up with an even better proposal. He added that the proposal would be distributed and presented on August 8th. His concern is that if an alternative is presented on August 8th, that doesn't give the public enough time to review and give their necessary

thoughts. He pointed out that Council is also meeting on August 10th and it is his hope that Council could recess the meeting on the 8th and continue it on the 10th. He pointed out that this would meet the timeframe that would allow the City Clerk to send it off to the state for their review. He added that the committee had lengthy discussions on other issues that included: 1) should the ward lines remain in the City Charter where they currently are or should they be included within the ordinances; 2) is ten wards really the right number; 3) questions pertaining to the map.

Councilor Patten questioned whether Ward Eight would lose the Technical Institute with this alternative. Mayor Bouley responded that this is probably the most significant change to that ward explaining that Ward Eight does need to lose population because there was a gain particularly around the Cherry Street developments that boosted the population. He stated that there are three potential ways for a boundary: a street; a natural body of water; power lines.

Councilor St. Hilaire moved to accept the recommendations of the committee and to set alternative four for a public hearing for August 8, 2011. The motion was duly seconded.

Councilor Shurtleff questioned whether the motion should be made for August 10th also.

Councilor St. Hilaire amended his motion to set alternative four for a public hearing on August 8th and recess until August 10th. The motion was duly seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.

Councilor Shurtleff pointed out that Council will be taking up the items related to Concord Steam on August 10th which could be lengthy and asked whether this could be the first order of business on that night. The Mayor indicated yes.

Adjournment

The time being 7:15 p.m, Councilor Stetson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.

A true copy; I attest:

*Michelle Mulholland
Deputy City Clerk*