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Legislative Affairs & Election Committee
February 14, 2022

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The Committee on Legislative Affairs & Elections met on Monday, February 14, 2022 at 6pm in the City Council Chambers.

The meeting was recorded by ECTV and can be viewed on the City of Everett website.

Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Alfred Lattanzi, Stephanie Smith and Anthony DiPierro.

The Committee considered an Ordinance offered by Councilor Stephanie Martins: An Ordinance establishing paid family medical leave for municipal employees in the City of Everett.

Mayor's Chief of Staff Erin Deveney, Human Resource Director Justin Shrader, Chief Financial Officer Eric Demas and Councilor Stephanie Martins, the Sponsor were also present.

Councilor Martins provided the Committee with a packet of information relative to the acceptance of MGL 157M Section 10, worker eligibility, contributions as well as copy of the City of Boston Family Medical Leave program. She stated that she had spoken to Mr. Shrader and found that the initial cost for the program would be approximately \$800,000. Councilor DiPierro invited Mr. Shrader to discuss the information he had compiled on the program. Mr. Shrader stated that this was an all-in program in which the Cities 1500 employees would have to make weekly contributions of approximately \$3.30. He provided the Committee with a cost breakdown on what employees could eventually receive through the program. Councilor Smith inquired to what happens to any unspent money in the fund and Mr. Shrader explained that it would remain in the fund. Councilor DiPierro asked Mr. Demas what the impact of the initial \$800,000 would be to the tax rate and Mr. Demas indicated it could be .05%. Councilor Martins suggested that the City invest in its employees as it does with streets, sidewalks, etc.. Councilor Martins requested that the Committee amend to replace her agenda item with an Order: That the City Council of the City of Everett adopt MGL 157M Section 10 to opt-in to provide Paid Family Medical Leave for its municipal employees. Councilor Smith announced that she fully supports as a Mother.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a favorable recommendation to amend by deleting Councilor Martins proposed Ordinance and replacing it with the attached Order: That the City Council of the City of Everett adopt MGL 157M Section 10 to opt-in to provide Paid Family Medical Leave for its municipal employees.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees