

#1-C0032-24

Legislative Affairs & Election Committee  
May 6, 2024

The Committee on Legislative Affairs & Elections met on Monday, May 6, 2024 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 Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered an Ordinance offered by Robert Van Campen, as President: An Ordinance amending the parking requirements, use regulations and dimensional standards of Section 30 "Lower Broadway Economic Development District (LBEDD)" of the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance.

Attorney Jonathan Silverstein the City's legal Counsel was also present.

Attorney Silverstein explained that the proposed amendment was to address a typographical error as well as to provide a stop gap measure in the industrial zoning area which was previously occupied by the Exxon site. The proposal addresses parking as it requires non-residential use on the first level of any development project until the new rezoning proposal is submitted for approval this Fall. He noted that this will help protect the city until the Exxon industrial site can be rezoned.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilors Guerline Alcy Jabouin and Peter Pietrantonio: That the City consider place a moratorium on the construction of any new residential developments consisting of four units or more.

Attorney Jonathan Silverstein the City's legal Counsel and Councilor Guerline Alcy Jabouin were also present.

Attorney Silverstein provided a brief overview of a correspondence that he provided to the City Council related to the subject matter as well as the laws related to the zoning moratoriums. He mentioned that the first thing the City would need to do was to demonstrate a municipal problem, next the moratorium must be limited to a specific and reasonable duration and finally the moratorium must be intended to afford a municipality the opportunity to consider and develop longer-term resolutions of the problems it is intended to address. He noted the difficulty in getting moratoriums approved and cited the legal and financial crisis the State is imposing on those communities who refuse to comply with the MBTA Zoning initiative. Councilor Jabouin expressed concerns about the overcrowding of the schools and parking issues and remarked that the people in Everett can't afford the rent in these new residential units being built and expects that children will also be living in them which would impact school population. Attorney Silverstein responded that he wasn't sure how the courts would react to these documented concerns. Councilor Van Campen thanked him for the information he provided and reviewed the three main criteria for a moratorium and noted that for the City of Everett the demonstrating need would show that the development in this City has surpassed every other community in the Commonwealth and asked what else would we need to demonstrate. Attorney Silverstein mentioned that School enrollment and overcrowding could be used but didn't believe traffic could be used since Everett was a pass through to Boston. Attorney Silverstein informed the Committee that Planning Consultants are working with the City on the rezoning initiative that will be presented to the City Council this Fall. Chairman Marchese remarked that this would be a perfect time to establish a moratorium until the rezoning initiative is completed and Attorney Silverstein responded that he was not saying no but that it was missing the connecting pieces and noted that the new zoning would be looking to create specific zoning districts. Councilor Rogers inquired about capping rent and Attorney Silverstein acknowledged that Rent Control is a whole different issue but would be looking at making affordable units truly affordable. Councilor Jabouin stated that the consultants don't know our struggles and that people have to leave the City because they can't afford the rents. Attorney Silverstein assured the Committee that the Consultants were from very creditable firms that know the City but he realizes that they don't live in Everett. He explained that limiting housing is not going to impact affordability but indicated the more housing there is then rents will begin to stabilize. Councilor Martins mentioned the zoning moratorium in Cambridge and Attorney Silverstein indicated that he could do research to see if there were more recent moratoriums that occurred. Councilor Rogers asked

what would be the ramifications if the City did adopt a zoning moratorium and Attorney Silverstein referenced the recent MBTA Zoning challenges and anticipated that some of risks of challenges would come from property owners and developers. Councilor Van Campen noted that the number one issue with residents in the City is the over development and suggested that the matter be referred to the Administration to work with the Sponsors on developing criteria for a moratorium and report back to the City Council by mid-June.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation to refer to the Administration to work with the Sponsors on developing criteria for a moratorium and report back to the City Council by mid-June

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

#3-C0163-24

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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered an Appointment offered by Councilor Robert Van Campen, as President: an Order requesting the confirmation of the re-appointment of Jerry Navarra to the position of Executive Director of Public Works to a term ending January 5, 2026

Executive Director of Public Works Jerry Navarra was invited but was unable to attend.

Councilor Van Campen explained that what he was hoping to accomplish by referring all the appointments into Committee was to comply with the requirements of the City Charter and asked each appointee to provide a brief presentation of what they do. Councilor Van Campen requested that the appointment of Jerry Navarra be granted further time so he could be present at a future meeting.

The Committee voted: to grant further time.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

#4-C0164-24

Legislative Affairs & Election Committee  
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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered an Appointment offered by Councilor Robert Van Campen, as President: an Order requesting the confirmation of the re-appointment of Kevin Dorgan to the position of Director of Information Technology to a term ending January 5, 2026

Director of Information Technology Kevin Dorgan was also present.

Mr. Dorgan explained that he has worked for the City since 2012 and was promoted to Director in 2015. He stated that the position was very challenging and rewarding as he provided an overview of his office and noted that he serves all technology users in the City.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

#5-C0165-24

Legislative Affairs & Election Committee  
May 6, 2024

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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered an Appointment offered by Councilor Robert Van Campen, as President: an Order requesting the confirmation of the appointment of Jay Monty to the position of Director of Transportation and Mobility to a term ending January 5, 2026

Director of Transportation and Mobility Jay Monty was also present.

Mr. Monty explained that he has been working in the field of Planning for about 20 years and has previously worked at MassPort, Mass DOT and the City Cambridge and has also attend Grad School. He noted that he was appointed Director 3 years ago and wears many hats and follows projects from inception to completion. He also mentioned the many grants his office has obtained on behalf of the City.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

#6-C0166-24

Legislative Affairs & Election Committee  
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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered an Appointment offered by Councilor Robert Van Campen, as President: an Order requesting the confirmation of the appointment of Matt Lattanzi to the position of Executive Director of Planning and Development to a term ending January 5, 2026

Executive Director of Planning and Development Matt Lattanzi was invited but was unable to attend due to being away on vacation.

Councilor Van Campen requested that the appointment of Matt Lattanzi be granted further time so he could be present at a future meeting.

The Committee voted: to grant further time.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

#7-C0167-24

Legislative Affairs & Election Committee  
May 6, 2024

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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered an Appointment offered by Councilor Robert Van Campen, as President: an Order requesting the confirmation of the appointment of Sabrina Firicano to the position of Director of Public Health to a term ending January 5, 2026

Director of Public Health Sabrina Firicano was also present.

Ms. Firicano informed the Committee that she has been working for the City since 2011 starting out as a Public Health Nurse and was promoted to her current position during the Covid pandemic. She noted that she has 6 employees and manages all the school nurses as well. She stated that her office investigates all infectious diseases and provides Flu and Covid vaccines.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees



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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered an Appointment offered by Councilor Robert Van Campen, as President: an Order requesting the confirmation of the re-appointment of Colleen Mejia to the position of City Solicitor to a term ending January 5, 2026

City Solicitor Colleen Mejia was also present.

Solicitor Mejia explained that she has been working for the City for 22 years and was promoted to City Solicitor in 2008. She informed the Committee that she provides legal advice to the Mayor – City Council – and every City Department Head. She stated that her job is to defend the City and that she works with the City's Insurance Consultants and is the Public Record Officer for the City. She noted that her office is short staffed and that the office is very busy. She added that she received her law degree in 1997 and started out as a Public Defender.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

#9-C0148-24

Legislative Affairs & Election Committee  
May 6, 2024

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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilors Katy Rogers, Stephanie Martins and Anthony DiPierro: requesting the status on planting trees along Elm Street and in neighborhoods throughout the community

Tree Ward Jay St. Louis and Conservation member Tom Philbin were also present.

Councilor Rogers stated that she was looking for an update on the City's tree plan. Mr. St. Louis referenced a communication from the Mayor on the subject matter. Councilor Rogers noted that she had received emails that explained that the City can't plant trees everywhere we like due to underground conditions. Mr. Philbin mentioned that the City has planted 80 trees on private property and a dozen on school property and had received grants to plant more trees throughout the City. Mr. Philbin read City Engineer Eric Swanson's email pertaining to the underground conditions on Elm Street but acknowledged that a dozen trees are still expected to be planted on Elm Street. Mr. Philbin suggested that City try to target residents along Elm Street for tree plantings on their property and suggested further that residents can utilize the City or Statewide website to obtain a tree planting on their property.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation to refer back to Sponsor.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees

#10-C0126-24

Legislative Affairs & Election Committee  
May 6, 2024

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Members present were Councilor Michael Marchese, presiding, Councilors Stephanie Smith, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers and Robert Van Campen, as ex-officio.

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilor Robert Van Campen: That the DeMaria Administration provide an update of those department head positions which are currently filled and have not been submitted to the City Council for appointment in accordance with Section 2-10 of the Everett City Charter

Mayor's Chief of Staff Erin Deveney was also present.

Councilor Van Campen remarked that he thought it was good to hear the appointees tonight and asked that resume's be provided in the future. He mentioned that he would work with the Chief of Staff to insure compliance with regards to the Administrative Code. Councilor Smith asked if the plan was to update the Administrative Code and Ms. Deveney responded that they would work with the City Council for transparency on the issue.

The Committee voted: to grant further time.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley  
Clerk of Committees