

LEGISLATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 7, 2022

Present: Anthony Suffriti - Chair
Rosemary Sandlin – Vice Chair
George Bitzas
Anthony Russo
Thomas Hendrickson

Also Present: Councilors Calabrese, Cavallo, Mercadante, and Smith, Mayor Sapelli, Solicitor Buoniconti and Auditor Cheryl St. John

Called to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Suffriti at 6:20pm in the Agawam Senior Center

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes dated August 1, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes was moved by Councilor Sandlin and seconded by Councilor Russo.

The vote was 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Councilor Bitzas) approving the minutes.

2. **TR-2022-53 - A Resolution to redraft a petition to the General Court to amend Chapter 80 of the Acts of 2002 relative to Special Police Officers in the Town of Agawam (Sponsored by Mayor Sapelli, Council President Johnson, and Councilor Mercadante)**

Solicitor explained the reason this item is back on our Agenda. Language was amended as required by PERAC. There was discussion about the House not getting it through in time and the concern about this going forward. The Solicitor stated that the Chairwoman of the third reading reviewed the current language and did not see anything that would cause a delay by returning it back for an amendment. The Mayor's Office is hopeful that the House will review and act on this item in an informal session as this has been worked on through all stages over the last three years. Councilor Bitzas had no issues with the revised language and Councilor Mercadante reiterating his involvement. The Solicitor explained the back and forth negotiation with the Special Police group to find a neutral ground between the town, the special officers, the state level legislation and PERAC.

Motion to send a positive recommendation to the Full Council made by Councilor Bitzas and seconded by Councilor Russo. The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No

3. Any other business that may legally come before the Committee.

None.

4. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn was moved by Councilor Sandlin and seconded by Councilor Russo. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Councilor Anthony Suffriti, Chair
Legislative Committee