

MANUAL 2014-2015

FOR THE

WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL



OF THE

CITY OF WORCESTER

CITY COUNCIL 2014-2015

MAYOR

- Joseph M. Petty.....2 Grove Heights Drive

MAYOR'S OFFICE STAFF

- Chief Secretary to the Mayor.....Michael S. Lanava
- Assistant Secretary to the Mayor.....Mary Oroszko

COUNCILORS - AT – LARGE

- Morris A. Bergman.....11 Kensington Heights
- Michael T. Gaffney.....1 Bancroft Tower Road
- Konstantina B. Lukes..... 24 Hadwen Road
- Joseph M. Petty.....2 Grove Heights Drive
- Frederick C. Rushton.....24 Stonehouse Lane
- Kathleen M. Toomey.....50 Ideal Road

DISTRICT COUNCILORS

- District #1 - *Wards 1 and 2*
 - Tony Economou..... 9 Carriage House Lane
- District #2 - *Wards 3 and 4*
 - Philip P. Palmieri..... 247 Shrewsbury Street
- District #3 - *Wards 5 and 6*
 - George J. Russell.....30 Dolly Drive
- District #4 - *Wards 8 and 10*
 - Sarai Rivera.....7 Lucian Street
- District #5 - *Wards 7 and 9*
 - Gary Rosen..... 11 Herbert Road

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- Chairperson.....Mayor Joseph M. Petty
- Vice Chairpersons..... John F. Monfredo (2014)
Dianna L. Biancheria (2015)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Dianna L. Biancheria.....8 Ventura Road, Apartment #2
- John L. Foley.....6 Winter Hill Drive
- John F. Monfredo..... 8 Cherokee Road
- Brian A. O'Connell.....54 Providence Street
- Tracy O'Connell Novick..... 135 Olean Street
- Hilda Ramirez.....10 South Ward Street

STANDING COMMITTEES – 2014-2015

Economic Development

Frederick C. Rushton, Chairperson
Sarai Rivera
George J. Russell

Education

Tony Economou, Chairperson
Gary Rosen
Kathleen M. Toomey

Finance

Mayor and Entire Council

Municipal Operations

Philip P. Palmieri, Chairperson
Tony Economou
George J. Russell

Ordinances

Mayor and Entire Council

Public Health & Human Services

Sarai Rivera, Chairperson
Philip P. Palmieri
Michael T. Gaffney

Public Safety

Morris A Bergman, Chairperson
Philip P. Palmieri
Sarai Rivera

Public Service & Transportation

Konstantina B. Lukes, Chairperson
Morris A. Bergman
Gary Rosen

Public Works

Kathleen M. Toomey, Chairperson
George J. Russell
Tony Economou

Rules & Legislative Affairs

George J. Russell, Chairperson
Konstantina B. Lukes
Frederick C. Rushton

Traffic & Parking

Michael T. Gaffney, Chairperson
Konstantina B. Lukes
Morris A. Bergman

Veterans' & Military Affairs

Michael T. Gaffney, Chairperson
Konstantina B. Lukes
Gary Rosen

Youth, Parks & Recreation

Gary Rosen, Chairperson
Kathleen M. Toomey
Frederick C. Rushton

CITY MANAGER’S CABINET

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

- CITY MANAGER.....Edward M. Augustus, Jr.
 - Term expires October 3, 2014
- Acting Assistant City Manager for Operations... Kathleen G. Johnson
- Commissioner of Public Health..... Michael P. Hirsh, M.D
- Director of Public Health..... Derek S. Brindisi
- Director of Elder Affairs.....Amy Vogel Waters
- Director of Human Rights.....Jayna L. Turchek
- Director of Office of Disabilities.....Jayna L. Turchek
- Head Librarian.....Vacant
- Veterans Agent/Director.....Karen R. Greenwood

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

- Director of Human Resources..... Kathleen G. Johnson
- City Physician.....John E. Kelly, M.D.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Chief Development Officer.....Timothy J. McGourthy
- Chief of Staff for Economic Development... ..Heather Gould
- Director of Business Assistance.....Paul D. Morano, Jr.
- Director of Cultural Development.....Erin L. Williams

- Director of Neighborhood Development..... Gregory J. Baker
- Director of Housing Development.....Miguel A. Rivera
- Director of Planning
& Regulatory Services..... Stephen S. Rolle
- Director of Workforce Central
One-Stop Career Center..... Donald H. Anderson
- Director Central Mass Workforce
Investment Board..... Jeffrey Turgeon
- Youth Office Director..... Vacant
- Director of Cable Services..... Judith A. Warren

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

- Chief Financial Officer..... Thomas F. Zidelis
- City Assessor.....William J. Ford
- Director of Budget.....Jarrett B. Conner
- Purchasing Director.....John C. Orrell
- Chief Information Officer..... Paul R. Covello
- Deputy Chief Information Officer..... Eileen Cazaropoul
- City Treasurer & Collector of Taxes.....Maryann Castelli-Hier
- Assistant Treasurer & Collector of Taxes..... Jarrett B. Conner and
Deanna Foster
- Parking Administrator.....Elvira Guardiola

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS

- Commissioner of Public Works & Parks..... Paul J. Moosey
- Assistant Commissioner of Engineering & Architectural Services.....K. Russell Adams
- Assistant Commissioner of Administration & Finance.....Daniel Curtis
- Assistant Commissioner of Operations.....Matthew J. Labovites
- Director of Engineering.....Joseph F. Borbone
- Director of Water & Sewer Operations.....Konstantin Eliadi
- Director of Street & Sanitation Operations.....Peter A. Paldino
- Director of Central Garage..... John A. Rugg
- Assistant Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery.....Robert C. Antonelli, Jr.
- Tree Warden..... Robert C. Antonelli, Jr.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

- Director of Communications & Director of Emergency Management..... David W. Clemons

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Chief of Police.....Gary J. Gemme
- Deputy Chiefs of Police....
Sean J. Fleming - *Administrative Division*
Edward J. McGinn – *Uniform/Services Division*
Mark S. Roche – *Investigative Division*
Steven M. Sargent – *Patrol Division*

OFFICERS ELECTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

- City Auditor.....Robert V. Stearns
- Deputy City Auditor.....Vacant
- City Clerk.....David J. Rushford
 - Term expires September 4, 2014
- Assistant City Clerk..... Susan M. Ledoux
- Assistant Director of Elections Joshua D. Meduna

PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

- Superintendent..... Melinda J. Boone, Ed. D.
- Chief Academic Officer.....Marco C. Rodrigues, Ed. D.
- Assistant to the Superintendent/
Clerk of the School Committee.....Helen A. Friel, Ed. D.
- Chief Financial & Operations Officer.....Brian Allen
- Human Resources Manager..... Stacey DeBoise Luster

- *QUADRANT MANAGERS*
 - Burncoat Quadrant..... Mary Meade-Montaque, Ed. D.
 - Doherty Quadrant..... Dolores M. Gribouski, Ed. D.
 - North Quadrant.....Dolores M. Gribouski, Ed. D.
 - South Quadrant.....Mary Meade-Montaque, Ed. D.

AUTHORITIES

- WHA Executive Director & Secretary.....Raymond V. Mariano
- WRTA Administrator.....Stephen F. O’Neil

MEMBERSHIP OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Members and Date Term Expires

Affirmative Action Advisory Committee

- James BerryDecember 31, 2016
- Daniel Bondzie.....December 31, 2013
- Susan Chapman.....December 31, 2015
- Morris Crump.....December 31, 2016
- Calvin Hill.....December 31, 2015
- Arthur Jarrett.....December 31, 2014
- Dimitry Jean-NoelDecember 31, 2014
- Ravi Perry.....December 31, 2014
- Kathleen Rentsch.....December 31, 2014

Cable Television Advisory Committee

- Thomas A. Colletta.....December 31, 2011
- Lisa MortonDecember 31, 2014
- William Nay.....December 31, 2015
- William Spellane.....December 31, 2015

Citizens Advisory Council

- Tina Baxter.....March 31, 2016
- Katherine Evans.....March 31, 2016
- Coreen Gaffney.....March 31, 2014
- Steven M. Genduso.....March 31, 2015
- Jesse Gibson.....March 31, 2016
- Douglas J. Hannam.....March 31, 2015
- Theodore A. Kostas.....March 31, 2014
- Craig T. Olson.....March 31, 2014
- Linda Parham.....March 31, 2015
- Chris Robarge.....March 31, 2014
- Richard Trifone.....March 31, 2015

Civic Center Commission

- Lowell Alexander.....October 4, 2018
- John H. Budd.....October 4, 2017
- John Harrity.....October 4, 2016
- Jim Knowlton.....October 4, 2017

- Scott Najarian.....October 4, 2014

Commission on Disabilities

- Herbert Cremer.....May 31, 2014
- Charles Hiamah.....May 31, 2014
- Elizabeth Myska.....May 31, 2015
- John Nah.....May 31, 2016
- Rachel Shannon-Brown, Chairperson..... May 31, 2015
- Stephen Stolberg.....May 31, 2016
- Lynne Towler.....May 31, 2014
- Nancy Garr-Colzie (Associate Member)..... May 31, 2016
- Paul Keister (Associate Member).....May 31, 2015
- Susan Swanson (Associate Member)..... May 31, 2015

Community Development Advisory Committee

- Mark Borenstein.....June 30, 2016
- Carol Claros..... June 30, 2016
- Edward Hardy.....June 30, 2014
- Cherylann Strom..... June 30, 2016
- Michael Larkin.....June 30, 2015
- Edward MoynihanJune 30, 2016
- Tracey Pakstis-Claiborne..... June 30, 2016
- James Spillane.....June 30, 2015
- Dana Strong.....June 30, 2014
- Matthew Yalouris.....June 30, 2016

Conservation Commission

- Jordan Berg Powers.....September 30, 2016
- Joseph Charpentier.....September 30, 2014
- John Donahue.....September 30, 2015
- Paul Franco.....September 30, 2014
- Mia McDonald.....September 30, 2013
- Jeremy Theerman.....September 30, 2015
- Stefanie Wood, Chairperson.....September 30, 2015

**Mayor Thomas J. Early Scholarship Committee/Bancroft, Aaron &
Lucretia Scholarship Fund Trustees**

- Joan Kariko.....July 31, 2016
- Tara C. Leahy.....July 31, 2016
- Nievel Williams.....July 31, 2014
- Dr. Melinda Boone..... Superintendent of Schools, Ex Officio

Elder Affairs Commission

- Robin Bahr Casey, Chairperson..... October 31, 2015
Member of Senior Center Committee
- Margaret Coffin..... October 31, 2016
- Thomas Cullinane October 31, 2015
Member of Senior Center Committee
- Theresa Eckstrom October 31, 2015
- Christopher Evans..... October 31, 2015
- Stephen Greenberg..... October 31, 2014
Member of Senior Center Committee
- Carolyn Grenier..... October 31, 2014
- Ursula Hanus..... October 31, 2015
- Paul Johnson..... October 31, 2016
- Nicholas Kaltsas..... October 31, 2014
Member of Senior Center Committee
- Victor Ortiz October 31, 2016
- Gail Schuyler..... October 31, 2016
- Steven Smajkiewicz..... October 31, 2015
- Gail Smith..... October 31, 2015

Board of Election Commissioners

- Mary Anne Dube..... March 31, 2014
- John M. Goggins, Chairperson..... March 31, 2014
- David P. LaPierre..... March 31, 2015
- Diane Mohieldin..... March 31, 2015
- Robert Winant..... March 31, 2014

G.A.R. Memorial Hall Board of Trustees

- Robert Grogan..... November 30, 2013
- Daniel McAuliffe, Chairperson November 30, 2013
- James Mirick..... November 30, 2014
- Aaron Richman..... November 30, 2016

- Reynaldo Rodriguez.....November 30, 2013

Historical Commission

- Randolph Bloom December 31, 2015
Crown Hill District
- James T. Constantine..... December 31, 2012
- James C. Crowley, Jr.....December 31, 2012
Montvale Avenue Historic District
- Timothy McCann.....December 31, 2016
- Meagen Mulherin.....December 31, 2014
- Kevin Provencher.....December 31, 2016
- Andrew Shveda.....December 31, 2015
- Karl Bjork (Alternative Member).....December 31, 2015
- Erika Dunn (Alternative Member).....December 31, 2014

**Appointment pending for representative of the
Massachusetts Ave. Historical District**

Hope Cemetery Commission

- Nicole Apostola.....December 31, 2016
- Matthew P. Curewitz.....December 31, 2010
- Richard F. Perry.....December 31, 2016
- William D. Wallace, Chairperson.....December 31, 2017

Human Rights Commission

- Cara Berg Powers, Vice Chair.....April 30, 2016
- Harry Danso.....April 30, 2014
- Julie Feeney.....April 30, 2014
- Jeremy Fontain.....April 30, 2014
- Kathleen Gervais.....April 30, 2016
- Edward Kwiyp.....April 30, 2015
- Eduardo Rivera, Chairperson.....April 30, 2015
- Edward G. Robinson.....April 30, 2015
- Barbara R. Zerillo.....April 30, 2016

Lake Quinsigamond Commission

- Stefanie Wood, Chair
- Kenneth Polito
- Worcester Police Captain Roger Steele, Ex Officio
- Shrewsbury Police Officer Rich Fiske, Ex Officio
- Peter Collins
- Michael Paika
- Arthur LeDoux
- Russ Messier
- John Wilson

Worcester Free Public Library Board of Directors

- Susan Gately.....2009-2014
- James Kersten, Vice-President..... 2012-2017
- William Belcher..... 2014-2019
- Deborah Packard, President..... 2011-2016
- Collins Nuamah.....2014-2019
- William S. Coleman III..... 2009-2014
- Tracey Leger-Hornby.....2014-2015
- Dante Comparetto, Secretary..... 2010-2015
- Phyllis Harrington..... 2011-2016
- Judy Finkel..... 2012-2017
- Joshua J. Perro, Treasurer..... 2013-2018
- Dianne E. Bruce.....2013-2018

License Commission

- Paul E. Mullan.....December 31, 2014
- Karon Shea, Chairperson..... December 31, 2016
- Anthony Salvidio..... December 31, 2015

Memorial Auditorium Board of Trustees

- Lee Bartlett, Army Veteran.....November 11, 2014
- Ken Capurso.....November 11, 2015
- Joseph Genduso.....November 11, 2017
- Christopher Rodwill.....November 11, 2015
- Todd Salmonsén.....November 11, 2017

Off - Street Parking Board

- Nicholas Cuba..... June 30, 2015
- Kevin Durkan..... June 30, 2017
- Isidore Nosike..... June 30, 2014
- Ronald P. Richard..... June 30, 2015
- Paul Zendzian..... June 30, 2013

Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Commission

- William T. Daring..... April 30, 2014
- Eric Goldstein..... April 30, 2016
- Lisa Markarian Labossiere..... April 30, 2015
- Meg Mulhern..... April 30, 2016
- George Sedares..... April 30, 2016
- Steve Sabacinski..... April 30, 2016
- Jared Swerzenski..... April 30, 2015

Planning Board

- Satya Mitra..... May 31, 2018
- Robert Ochoa-Schutz..... May 31, 2017
- Stephen Rolle..... May 31, 2016
- Andrew Truman..... May 31, 2015
- John Vigliotti..... May 31, 2014

Retirement Board

- Robert V. Stearns..... Ex Officio
- Elizabeth A. Early..... October 31, 2016
- John F. Mahan..... December 31, 2015
- Thomas Wade..... January 8, 2015
- Stephen F. Wentzell
(Board Appointed Member)..... City Manager Appointee

Advisory Committee on the Status of Women

- Sonya Atherley..... August 31, 2017
- Chantel Bethea..... August 31, 2014
- Robin Currie..... August 31, 2016
- Jessica Donovan..... August 31, 2015
- Sarah Gruhin..... August 31, 2015

- Heidi Sue LeBoeuf..... August 31, 2017
- Kathleen Linton.....August 31, 2016
- Karen L. Pelletier.....August 31, 2015
- Elizabeth Tomaszewski.....August 31, 2016

Trust Funds Commission

- Jake Messier..... January 31, 2015
- Gerald Dufault.....January 31, 2014
- Seth A. Pitts.....January 31, 2014
- Maryann Castelli-Hier, City Treasurer.....Ex Officio

Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement District - PW

- Mark Elbag, P.E..... November 1, 2014
- Philip Guerin.....March 31, 2015
- Gary Kelleher.....November 12, 2016
- Michael J. Labovites, Secretary..... March 31, 2015
- Donald Manseau.....April 22, 2016
- Jeffrey C. Mitchell, Vice Chairman..... March 7, 2016
- Robert D. McNeil, III, P.E..... March 25, 2015
- Robert L. Moylan, Jr., P.E., Chairman.....November 1, 2014
- Stephen F. O’Neil.....March 31, 2015
- Anthony Sylvia.....February 11, 2016
- Michael E. Traynor, Esq..... November 15, 2016

Worcester Arts Council

- Cedric Arno December 31, 2015
- Jill Burns..... December 31, 2014
- Paul DiDomenico.....December 31, 2016
- Matthew Foster.....December 31, 2015
- Kelly Momberger.....December 31, 2014
- Terra Oliveira.....December 31, 2013
- Hilda Ramirez..... December 31, 2016
- Chad Sirois.....December 31, 2014
- Christina Zlody.....December 31, 2015

Worcester Housing Authority

- Dr. Ann L. Flynn (State Appointee)..... November 21, 2016
- Carl F. Gentile.....November 30, 2015
- Cecilio Gonzalez.....November 30, 2015
- Dennis Irish.....November 30, 2013
- Arthur Sisko.....November 30, 2015

Worcester Redevelopment Authority

- John Donahue, Jr., Vice Chair..... April 15, 2014
- Robert L. Thomas.....April 15, 2012
- Steven RothschildApril 15, 2016
- Vincent Pedone, Chair..... April 15, 2017
- Robert Diaz (State Appointee).....April 15, 2015

Worcester Regional Airport Advisory Board

Worcester Appointments:

- Michael Amir..... July 1, 2015
- John Finlay.....June 30, 2016
- Bernard Iandoli.....July 1, 2014
- Elizabeth Proko..... June 30, 2016

Leicester Appointments:

- Doug Belanger..... June 30, 2013
- Dianna Provencher.....June 30, 2014

Massport Appointments:

- George AllenJune 30, 2015
- George Clark June 30, 2013
- Raul PorrasJune 30, 2014

Zoning Board of Appeals

- Lawrence Abramoff, Vice Chair.....December 31, 2017
- William Bilotta, Jr.....December 31, 2014
- Andrew Freilich..... December 31, 2011
- David George, Chairperson..... December 31, 2010
- Vadim Michajlow.....December 31, 2018
- Joseph Wanat..... December 31, 2016
- Robert Haddon (Associate Member)..... December 31, 2016
- Timothy Loew (Associate Member)..... December 31, 2014

MAYORS OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER

Levi Lincoln.....	1848
<i>Born October 25, 1782</i>	<i>Died May 29, 1868</i>
*Henri Chapin.....	1849-1850,1870
<i>Born May 13, 1811</i>	<i>Died October 13, 1878</i>
Peter C. Bacon.....	1851,1852
<i>Born November 11, 1804</i>	<i>Died February 7, 1886</i>
John S. D. Knowlton.....	1853,1854
<i>Born December, 1798</i>	<i>Died June 11, 1871</i>
George W. Richardson.....	1855,1857
<i>Born 1808</i>	<i>Died June 15, 1886</i>
Isaac Davis.....	1856, 1858, 1861
<i>Born June 2, 1799</i>	<i>Died April 1, 1883</i>
Alexander H. Bullock.....	1859
<i>Born March 2, 1816</i>	<i>Died January 17, 1882</i>
William M. Rice.....	1860
<i>Born March 7, 1826</i>	<i>Died March 1, 1896</i>
P. Emory Aldrich.....	1862
<i>Born 1813</i>	<i>Died March 4, 1895</i>
D. Waldo Lincoln.....	1863-1864
<i>Born January 16, 1813</i>	<i>Died July 1, 1880</i>
Phineas Ball.....	1865
<i>Born January 18, 1824</i>	<i>Died December 19, 1894</i>
*Elected Mayor, ad interim, by the City Council, in joint convention, December 19, 1870 to fill the vacancy by the decease of James B. Blake.	

Augustus B. R. Sprague	1896-1897
<i>Born March 7, 1827</i>	<i>Died May 17, 1910</i>
***Rufus B. Dodge, Jr.	1898-1900
<i>Born November 24, 1861</i>	<i>Died December 13, 1935</i>
Philip J. O'Connell.....	1901
<i>Born December 18, 1870</i>	<i>Died March 2, 1931</i>
Edward F. Fletcher.....	1902-1903
<i>Born June 17, 1854</i>	<i>Died December 18, 1943</i>
Walter H. Blodget	1904-1905
<i>Born 1850</i>	<i>Died January 6, 1923</i>
John T. Duggan.....	1906-1907
<i>Born October 27, 1855</i>	<i>Died September 5, 1927</i>
James Logan.....	1908-1911
<i>Born May 6, 1852</i>	<i>Died November 30, 1929</i>
David F. O'Connell.....	1912
<i>Born February 8, 1859</i>	<i>Died August 12, 1923</i>
George M. Wright.....	1913-1916
<i>Born April 12, 1865</i>	<i>Died January 7, 1926</i>
Pehr G. Holmes	1917-1919
<i>Born 1881</i>	<i>Died December 19, 1952</i>
Peter F. Sullivan.....	1920-1923
<i>Born June 29, 1871</i>	<i>Died May 21, 1931</i>
Michael J. O'Hara	1924-1931
<i>Born 1878</i>	<i>Died February 3, 1946</i>

***By reason of a tie vote for Mayor at the election of December 1900, whereby there was no choice, Rufus B. Dodge, Jr. held the office until February 25, 1901.

John C. Mahoney1932-1935
Born 1878 *Died July 12, 1946*

Walter J. Cookson1936
Born April 17, 1876 *Died June 11, 1936*

****John S. Sullivan.....1936-1937
Born December 18, 1875 *Died April 12, 1949*

William A. Bennett1938-1945
Born March 7, 1887 *Died September 15, 1970*

Charles F. Jeff Sullivan.....1946-1949
Born October 10, 1904 *Died August 24, 1962*

Andrew B. Holmstrom.....1950-1953
Born April 10, 1895 *Died January 13, 1970*

James D. O'Brien.....1954-1958
Born June 12, 1908 (resigned Jan 2, 1959); 1960-1961
Died June 9, 1965

Joseph C. Casdin1959
Born March 10, 1914 Sept 1, 1962-Apr 30, 1963; 1967-1968
Died March 17, 2007

John M. Shea.....Jan-Aug. 1962,
(resigned Aug 31, 1962);1969, (resigned Jan 5, 1970)
Born December 8, 1902 *Died Nov 3, 1988*

Paul V. Mullaney1963-1965
Born November 22, 1919

George A. Wells.....1966,
(resigned Jan. 3, 1967); 1970, (resigned Jan 4, 1971)
Born October 7, 1910 *Died Oct 19, 1978*

****Elected October 6, 1936 to fill vacancy caused by the decease of Walter J. Cookson

Joseph M. Tinsley1971,
 (resigned Jan. 3, 1972); 1973, 1984-1985
Born June 23, 1915 *Died April 7, 2003*

Thomas J. Early.....1972, 1976-1979
 (resigned Jan. 2, 1973)
Born July 18, 1917 *Died Jan 23, 1992*

Israel Katz1974-1975
Born May 20, 1907 *Died August 13, 1979*

Jordan Levy 1980-1981, 1988-1993
Born November 4, 1943

Sara Robertson1982-1983
Born July 22, 1934

John B. Anderson.....1986
Born January 1, 1935

Timothy J. Cooney, Jr.1987
Born November 22, 1940

Raymond V. Mariano.....1994-2001
Born September 23, 1950

Timothy P. Murray.....2002- 2007
 (resigned January 9, 2007)
Born June 7, 1968

Konstantina B. LukesJanuary 10, 2007
 - 2009

Joseph C. O'Brien.....2010-2011
Born November 25, 1965

Joseph M. Petty2012
Born July 8, 1960

WORCESTER “Heart of the Commonwealth”

First settled in 1674, named and resettled 1684. Permanently settled, 1713. Incorporated as a town 1722, as a city 1848. Area 38.441 sq. miles, or about 24,634 acres. Average length 6.4 miles, width 6 miles.

REAL ESTATE STATISTICS

Dwellings Apr.	1951, 27,409	1952, 27,426
	1953, 28,482	1954, 28,640
	1955, 28,719	1956, 29,280
	1957, 29,775	1958, 29,618
	1959, 29,537	1960, 29,755
	1961, 29,890	1962, 30,324
	1963, 30,324	1964, 30,596
	1965, 30,606	1966, 30,843
	1967, 31,143	1968, 31,103
	1969, 31,104	1970, 30,783
	1971, 30,569	1972, 30,320
	1973, 30,000	1974, 30,275
	1975, 30,304	1976, 30,578
	1977, 30,524	1978, 30,482
	1979, 30,514	1980, 30,067
	1981, 29,951	1982, 30,078
	1983, 30,115	1984, 31,210
	1985, 31,409	1986, 31,618
	1987, 31,977	1988, 32,086
	1989, 33,600	1990, 35,100
	1991, 38,573	1992, 38,773
	1993, 34,951	1994, 35,071
	1995, 35,249	1996, 35,918
	1997, 36,032	1998, 36,397
	1999, 35,531	2000, 35,726
	2001, 36,018	2002, 36,265
	2003, 36,669	2004, 37,047
	2005, 38,311	2006, 38,893
	2007, 39,605	2008, 40,252
	2009, 50,618	2010, 51,129
	2011, 51,645	2012, 52,167
	2013, Not given	2014, 62, 586

Valuations

1953	\$331,225,700
1954	334,434,550
1955	340,437,150
1956	343,673,400
1957	347,774,950
1958	357,172,050
1959	358,800,550
1960	360,761,150
1961	362,780,200
1962	365,933,750
1963	370,282,500
1964	374,832,600
1965	377,710,600
1966	388,837,850
1967	388,530,600
1968	390,403,500
1969	395,552,650
1970	405,641,900
1971	413,013,900
1972	423,218,050
1973	434,485,500
1974	442,161,850
1975	462,762,900
1976	457,363,150
1977	452,204,275
1978	453,604,125
1979	458,415,525
1980	463,168,275
1981	466,022,570
1982	413,520,020
1983	420,351,630

	Total Taxable Assessed Value	Total Exempt Assessed Value
1984	2,453,164,909	1,032,961,000
1985	2,688,296,587	1,047,940,860
1986	2,726,493,611	1,046,815,860
1987	4,515,360,100	1,547,436,100
1988	4,637,906,943	1,473,568,700
1989	5,863,251,926	1,622,025,570
1990	7,117,818,452	1,779,572,600
1991	7,008,169,362	1,879,388,200
1992	6,542,179,437	1,877,848,300
1993	5,666,783,091	1,311,333,700
1994	5,226,088,956	1,663,841,700
1995	5,213,678,881	1,676,060,600
1996	5,020,492,696	1,703,253,300
1997	5,074,535,475	1,699,564,700
1998	5,258,936,965	1,653,645,700
1999	5,389,546,300	1,661,179,000
2000	5,604,100,100	1,694,930,600
2001	5,946,964,300	1,689,278,504
2002	6,654,213,200	1,830,383,604
2003	7,621,077,900	2,110,469,000
2004	8,818,751,900	2,449,698,200
2005	10,360,089,100	2,445,616,000
2006	11,595,527,700	2,494,021,200
2007	12,563,051,200	2,768,325,600
2008	12,726,994,400	2,890,917,000
2009	12,137,258,500	1,833,389.45
2010	10,911,942,365	1,793,051.38
2011	\$10,856,862,089	2,996,064,835
2012	\$11,277,616,303	2,842,882,238
2013	\$10,878,856,279	2,842,882,238
2014	11,030,005,783	4,961,753,272

Tax, exclusive of polls;

1953	\$16,562,785.00	1954	17,390,596.60
1955	19,064,480.40	1956	21,307,750.80
1957	22,535,816.76	1958	25,609,243.57
1959	25,403,078.94	1960	26,479,868.41
1961	26,628,066.68	1962	28,103,732.00
1963	29,844,688.27	1964	33,135,201.84
1965	33,389,617.04	1966	33,931,265.94
1967	38,775,353.88	1968	38,962,269.30
1969	47,308,096.94	1970	50,461,852.36
1971	58,069,754.34	1972	61,281,973.64
1973	65,433,516.30	1974	68,892,390.03
1975	68,581,461.78	1976	72,263,377.70
1977	75,337,232.22	1978	75,570,447.23
1979	75,363,512.31	1980	84,481,893.36
1981	71,767,475.78	1982	71,934,764.00
1983	61,001,500.00	1984	61,324,109.00
1985	63,958,547.00	1986	66,366,292.00
1987	70,686,133.00	1988	74,785,432.00
1989	79,586,310.00	1990	85,402,463.00
1991	89,186,131.00	1992	97,682,607.00
1993	101,926,622.00	1994	107,046,948.00
1995	111,969,010.89	1996	114,479,284.00
1997	119,935,361.00	1998	124,739,199.29
1999	129,605,481.82	2000	131,780,392.00
2001	135,264,748.00	2002	141,496,017.00
2003	149,270,086.92	2004	156,546,396.25
2005	163,384,129.00	2006	172,536,326.00
2007	181,765,987.69	2008	190,524,786.48
2009	199,198,926.00	2010	207,489,007.00
2011	218, 261,640.00	2012	229,216,024.00
2013	239,690,684.00	2014	250,808,527.00

Assessed Polls: Male

1949, 65,174;	1950, 64,299;	1951, 63,581;	1964, None; (Abolished
1952, 63,610;	1953, 62,037;	1954, 62,294;	by Law)
1955, 61,549;	1956, 61,181;	1957, 57,720;	
1958, 57,288;	1959, 55,932;	1960, 56,332;	
1961, 55,387;	1962, 53,332;	1963, 52,832;	

Rate of taxation per \$1,000

1951, \$ 48.40;	1952, \$ 50.80;	1953, \$ 50.00;	1954, \$ 52.00;
1955, \$ 56.00;	1956, \$ 52.00;	1957, \$ 64.80;	1958, \$ 71.70;
1959, \$ 70.80;	1960, \$ 73.40;	1961, \$ 73.40;	1962, \$ 76.80;
1963, \$ 80.60;	1964, \$ 88.40;	1965, \$ 88.40;	1966, \$ 88.40;
1967, \$ 99.80;	1968, \$ 99.80;	1969, \$119.60;	1970, \$124.40;
1971, \$140.60;	1972, \$144.80;	1973, \$150.60;	1974, \$144.50;
1975, \$148.10;	1976, \$158.00;	1977, \$166.60;	1978, \$166.60;
1979, \$164.40;	1980, \$182.40;	1981, \$154.00;	1982, \$154.00;
1983, \$129.80;			
1984, \$20.00 Residential	1984, \$31.16 Commercial & Industrial		
1985, \$20.30 Residential	1985, \$32.17 Commercial & Industrial		
1986, \$20.30 Residential	1986, \$32.17 Commercial & Industrial		
1987, \$13.00 Residential	1987, \$21.71 Commercial & Industrial		
1988, \$13.39 Residential	1988, \$22.37 Commercial & Industrial		
1989, \$9.75 Residential	1989, \$21.00 Commercial & Industrial		
1990, \$9.50 Residential	1990, \$21.00 Commercial & Industrial		
1991, \$9.68 Residential	1991, \$21.64 Commercial & Industrial		
1992, \$11.23 Residential	1992, \$25.08 Commercial & Industrial		
1993, \$13.72 Residential	1993, \$30.13 Commercial & Industrial		
1994, \$15.57 Residential	1994, \$33.36 Commercial & Industrial		
1995, \$16.32 Residential	1995, \$34.50 Commercial & Industrial		
1996, \$17.41 Residential	1996, \$35.93 Commercial & Industrial		
1997, \$18.67 Residential	1997, \$35.69 Commercial & Industrial		
1998, \$18.06 Residential	1998, \$37.63 Commercial & Industrial		
1999, \$18.48 Residential	1999, \$37.63 Commercial & Industrial		
2000, \$18.47 Residential	2000, \$36.34 Commercial & Industrial		
2001, \$18.47 Residential	2001, \$34.24 Commercial & Industrial		
2002, \$17.85 Residential	2002, \$31.46 Commercial & Industrial		
2003, \$16.16 Residential	2003, \$31.44 Commercial & Industrial		
2004, \$14.75 Residential	2004, \$29.60 Commercial & Industrial		
2005, \$13.18 Residential	2005, \$27.60 Commercial & Industrial		
2006, \$12.53 Residential	2006, \$25.20 Commercial & Industrial		
2007, \$12.10 Residential	2007, \$25.32 Commercial & Industrial		
2008, \$12.54 Residential	2008, \$26.20 Commercial & Industrial		
2009, \$15.15 Residential	2009, \$28.72 Commercial & Industrial		
2010, \$15.15 Residential	2010, \$33.28 Commercial & Industrial		
2011, \$16.06 Residential	2011, \$34.65 Commercial & Industrial		
2012, \$16.98 Residential	2012, \$29.08 Commercial & Industrial		
2013, \$18.58 Residential	2013, \$30.85 Commercial & Industrial		
2014, \$19.54 Residential	2014, \$30.83 Commercial & Industrial		

ELECTION STATISTICS

Registered Voters (Male & Female)

1952, 108,465;	1953, 103,313;	1954, 101,481;
1955, 97,459;	1956, 101,977;	1957, 97,150;
1958, 96,259;	1959, 93,400;	1960, 98,744;
1961, 95,062;	1962, 94,424;	1963, 91,752;
1964, 94,982;	1965, 91,254;	1966, 86,779;
1967, 87,450;	1968, 90,350;	1969, 85,708;
1970, 84,904;	1971, 86,195;	1972, 91,450;
1973, 87,889;	1974, 85,957;	1975, 83,757;
1976, 87,657;	1977, 85,529;	1978, 82,196;
1979, 79,961;	1980, 83,756;	1981, 80,308;
1982, 79,879;	1983, 78,123;	1984, 82,872;
1985, 74,463;	1986, 75,671;	1987, 67,982;
1988, 79,111;	1989, 69,596;	1990, 73,003;
1991, 74,429;	1992, 74,831;	1993, 62,005;
1994, 64,358;	1995, 67,729;	1996, 76,918;
1997, 79,315;	1998, 83,160;	1999, 86,424;
2000, 92,269;	2001, 91,226;	2002, 95,423;
2003, 94,237;	2004, 100,048;	2005, 100,602;
2006, 93,853;	2007, 96,458;	2008, 103,111;
2009, 91,571	2010, 94,073	2011, 96,642
2012, 103,788	2013, 105,792	

Vote for President:

1940, 90,044;		
1944, 83,931	and 152 Federal War Ballots;	
1948, 94,461;	1952, 97,421;	1956, 50,853;
1960, 91,362;	1964, 82,629;	1968, 76,650;
1970, 71,121;	1976, 69,742;	1980, 64,263;
1984, 62,261;	1988, 59,143;	1992, 60,196;
1996, 54,012;	2000, 54,267;	2004, 56,951;
2008, 61,808	2012, 61,708	

Vote for Governor:

1946, 72,891;	1948, 94,461;	
1950, 82,666;	1952, 96,341;	1954, 41,208;
1956, 49,890;	1958, 75,708;	1960, 91,362;
1962, 78,975;	1964, 82,366;	1966, 71,497;
1970, 31,365;	1974, 57,404;	1978, 53,833;
1982, 52,356;	1986, 41,479;	1990, 51,650;
1994, 46,465;	1998, 41,145;	2002, 44,627
2006, 42,268	2010, 43,324	

Vote for Mayor: 1943, 53,492; 1945, 58,874;
 1947, 69,653; 1987, 23,163; 1989, 27,199;
 1991,33,031; 1993, 32,101; 1995, 23,128;
 1997, 22,860; 1999, 23,594; 2001, 25,144;
 2003, 15,704; 2005, 20,172 2007, 21,628;
 2009, 20,912 2011, 19,244 2013, 15,272

Vote for Councilors (Plan E): 1949, 74,708;
 1951, 58,573; 1953, 56,766; 1955, 63,804;
 1957, 61,460; 1959, 67,102; 1961, 64,981;
 1963, 65,632; 1965, 56,774; 1967, 48,562;
 1969, 43,876; 1971, 48,455; 1973, 46,137;
 1975, 45,418; 1977, 37,396; 1979, 39,487;
 1981, 31,842; 1983, 36,479; 1985, 30,609

Vote for Councilors-at-Large: 1987, 38,688;
 1989, 29,614; 1991, 35,418; 1993, 33,128;
 1995, 24,385; 1997, 25,293; 1999, 24,897;
 2001, 25,144; 2003, 15,704 2005, 20,172
 2007, 21,516; 2009, 20,912 2011, 19,244
 2013, 15, 272

Vote for District Councilor District #1:
 1987, 9,389; 1989, 7,855; 1991, 8,768; 1993, 8,365;
 1995, 6,055; 1997, 4,002; 1999, 6,913; 2001, 7,298;
 2003, 4,242; 2005, 5,889; 2007, 6373; 2009, 6,319
 2011, 5,554 2013, 4,724

Vote for District Councilor District #2:
 1987, 7,008; 1989, 4,979; 1991, 5,285; 1993, 5,672;
 1995, 3,029; 1997, 2,900; 1999, 3,903; 2001, 4,298;
 2003, 2,784; 2005, 3,547; 2007, 3,232; 2009, 2,921
 2011, 2,489 2013, 2,203

Vote for District Councilor District #3:
 1987, 7,293; 1989, 5,166; 1991, 6,069; 1993, 4,234;
 1995, 3,090; 1997, 3,030; 1999, 4,274; 2001, 4,165;
 2003, 2,365 2005, 3,149; 2007, 3,436; 2009, 3,723
 2011 3,565 2013, 2,307

Vote for District Councilor District #4:

1987, 4,926;	1989, 3,507;	1991, 3,802;	1993, 3,046;
1995, 2,421;	1997, 4,026;	1999, 2,662;	2001, 2,735;
2003, 1,820;	2005, 2,196;	2007, 2,266;	2009, 2,278
2011 2,514	2013, 1,521		

Vote for District Councilor District #5:

1987, 10,052;	1989, 8,107;	1991, 8,183;	1993, 7,802;
1995, 5,925;	1997, 6,799;	1999, 7,145;	2001, 6,648;
2003, 4,493;	2005, 5,391;	2007, 6,213	2009, 5,671
2011 5,121	2013, 4,517		

CITY HALL

Cornerstone laid September 12, 1896

Dedication exercises, April 28, 1898

Occupied May 1, 1898

Length, 219 feet; width, 85 feet

Height from grade line to top of cornice, 65 feet:
to top of tower, 205

Cost of building, \$590,000. Furnishings, \$38,000.

Grading, etc. \$22,000. Total \$650,000.

Architects, Peabody & Stearns, Boston

Builders, Norcross Brothers, Worcester



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Officers, exclusive of Chief and Deputy Chiefs of Police	
Captains	7
Lieutenants	23
Sergeants	53
Police Officers	334
Police Recruits	24
Total	441

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Firefighters, exclusive of Chief and Deputy Fire Chiefs	
District Chiefs	12
Captains	23
Lieutenants	71
Firefighters	275
Total	381

RESERVOIRS

Area in acres, elevation above City Hall and Storage Capacity

High Service Reservoirs

Lynde Brook--132 acres; 342.75 feet; 717,422,000 gallons
Kettle Brook, No. 1--11.50 acres; 364.35 feet; 19,307,000 gallons
Kettle Brook, No. 2--30.76 acres; 507.5 feet; 127,310,000 gallons
Kettle Brook, No. 3--37.41 acres; 559 feet; 152,306,000 gallons
Kettle Brook, No. 4--118.61 acres; 604.73 feet; 513,746,000 gallons

Low Service Reservoirs

Holden, No. 1--130 acres; 269.85 feet; 729,319,000 gallons
Holden, No. 2--52.63 acres; 237.80 feet; 257,398,000 gallons
Kendall--175 acres; 333 feet; 792,163,000 gallons
Pine Hill--345 acres; 429 feet; 2,970,967,000 gallons
Quinapoxet--280 acres; 250 feet; 1,116,000,000 gallons
Elevation of Main Street at City Hall, above tide water 481 feet
Water pressure at City Hall:
 High Service--145 pounds per sq. in.
 Low Service--101 pounds per sq. in.

WATER STATISTICS

Miles of Water Main Pipe.....	592
Fire Hydrants (Public)5,283 (Private).....	417
Metered Accounts.....	42,521 (42, 101 active)

Total Valuation of Water Works System including Distribution Grid, Treatment Plant, Pumping Stations and Storage Tanks:
(Note: cost to replace at current value)\$546,830,000.00

SEWER STATISTICS

Miles of Main Sanitary Sewers.....	398
Miles of Combined Sewers.....	61
Miles of Surface Sewers.....	371
Total Miles of Sewers.....	830
Number of Manholes.....	28,293
Number of Catch Basins.....	15,184
Number of House Connections.....	36,794
C.C.F. of Recorded Sewer Usage for 2011.....	5,932,979

Total Net Valuation of Sewerage System
June 30, 2011.....\$129,715,038

STREET STATISTICS

Miles of Public Streets.....	431
Miles of Private Streets.....	83
Miles of Asphalt Sidewalks.....	307
Miles of Concrete Sidewalks.....	180
Sodium vapor, 4000.....	6,337
Sodium vapor, 5800.....	6,148
Sodium vapor, 9600.....	2,720
Sodium vapor, 16000.....	274
Sodium vapor, 27500.....	3,151
Sodium vapor, 50000.....	390
Holphane (Teardrop, 250 watt HPS).....	369

Visco/King Luminaire (Post Top, 175 watt, MH).....	334
Kim (Shoebox, 250 watt, HPS)	93
MDOT Style Lights (150 watt, HPS)	32
Bridges/Tunnels Lights.....	54
Total Street Lights	13,763

POPULATION OF WORCESTER

1722 -- 200	1935 -- 190,471
1765 -- 1,475	1940 -- 193,402
1775 -- 1,925	1945 -- 198,741
1790 -- 2,095	1950 -- 203,486
1800 -- 2,411	1955 -- 202,612
1810 -- 2,577	1960 -- 186,587
1820 -- 2,962	1965 -- 180,341
1830 -- 4,172	1970 -- 176,572
1840 -- 7,497	1975 -- 172,342
1850 -- 17,049	1980 -- 161,799
1860 -- 24,960	1985 -- 164,655
1865 -- 30,058	1990 -- 158,833
1870 -- 41,105	1993 -- 153,892
1875 -- 49,317	1994 -- 153,107
1880 -- 58,291	1995 -- 154,222
1885 -- 68,389	1996 -- 159,635
1890 -- 84,655	1997 -- 160,222
1895 -- 98,767	1999 -- 163,121
1900 -- 118,421	2000 -- 172,648
1905 -- 128,135	2002 -- 174,962
1910 -- 145,986	2005 -- 175,898
1915 -- 162,697	2008 -- 182,596
1920 -- 179,754	2010 -- 181,045
1925 -- 190,757	2012 -- 182,669
1930 -- 196,837	

VITAL STATISTICS

YEAR	BIRTHS	MARRIAGES	DEATHS
1849	553	138	761
1850	554	242	381
1851	611	270	375
1852	644	242	408
1853	668	281	409
1854	770	323	430
1855	805	395	414
1856	910	416	546
1857	846	367	561
1858	838	256	552
1859	909	322	567
1860	943	363	609
1861	896	355	628
1862	872	349	599
1863	887	336	773
1864	929	368	945
1865	979	402	800
1866	987	492	717
1867	1152	481	705
1868	1192	516	789
1869	1307	541	836
1870	1301	556	964
1871	1572	574	1193
1872	1614	606	1437
1873	1706	592	1105
1874	1675	528	1030
1875	1526	473	1097
1876	1606	434	1125

YEAR	BIRTHS	MARRIAGES	DEATHS
1877	1453	434	1131
1878	1501	489	1000
1879	1601	471	981
1880	1779	606	1288
1881	1841	641	1211
1882	1934	693	1300
1883	1967	732	1380
1884	2062	641	1389
1885	1994	618	1396
1886	2090	715	1271
1887	2279	820	1464
1888	2331	825	1580
1889	2509	851	1620
1890	2558	902	1570
1891	2819	946	1700
1892	2903	986	1871
1893	3158	1012	2051
1894	3034	804	1861
1895	2907	972	1945
1896	3253	1095	1945
1897	3202	1092	1946
1898	3295	1092	1978
1899	3217	1146	1944
1900	3253	1236	2372
1901	3426	1298	2174
1902	3475	1311	2056

YEAR	BIRTHS	MARRIAGES	DEATHS
1903	3656	1429	2249
1904	3634	1332	2171
1905	3624	1403	2406
1906	3861	1584	2419
1907	4132	1608	2815
1908	4119	1290	2545
1909	3823	1485	2448
1910	4101	1662	2737
1911	4310	1708	2619
1912	4365	1760	2723
1913	4670	1864	2818
1914	4899	1704	2748
1915	4744	1720	2728
1916	5182	2997	3188
1917	5528	2302	3093
1918	5563	1629	4116
1919	4884	1934	2909
1920	5078	2201	2926
1921	5094	1784	2654
1922	4587	1725	2676
1923	4774	1858	2788
1924	4812	1712	2750
1925	4612	1776	2843
1926	4555	1625	2956
1927	4571	1555	2788
1928	4251	1504	2955
1929	3990	1710	2751

YEAR	BIRTHS	MARRIAGES	DEATHS
1930	3867	1437	2757
1931	3810	1272	2600
1932	3601	1093	2613
1933	3259	1280	2699
1934	3369	1677	2731
1935	3508	1656	2732
1936	3426	1787	2877
1937	3662	1929	2933
1938	3665	1758	2741
1939	3615	2156	2737
1940	3889	2538	2927
1941	4244	3059	2901
1942	5236	2753	3046
1943	5126	1947	3085
1944	4608	1753	2945
1945	4574	2087	3006
1946	6053	3173	3007
1947	6598	2602	2952
1948	5912	2662	3023
1949	5895	2267	2841
1950	5771	2255	2841
1951	6205	2289	3002
1952	6307	2122	3031
1953	6352	2105	3052
1954	6452	1946	2944
1955	6522	1951	3066
1956	6522	1984	3008

YEAR	BIRTHS	MARRIAGES	DEATHS
1957	6864	1848	3077
1958	6606	1699	3078
1959	6498	1571	3119
1960	6451	1657	3213
1961	6412	1543	3125
1962	6222	1549	3091
1963	6176	1549	3144
1964	5738	1571	3167
1965	5586	1729	3251
1966	5505	1714	3141
1967	5374	1837	3252
1968	5244	1877	3284
1969	5282	2018	3218
1970	5408	1894	3240
1971	5137	1968	3132
1972	4746	1953	3192
1973	4736	1898	3308
1974	4155	1933	3209
1975	4203	1815	3166
1976	4538	1722	3195
1977	4617	1815	2935
1978	4788	1860	3091
1979	4937	1933	3050
1980	5240	1614	3342
1981	5224	1629	3202
1982	5308	1613	3227
1983	5502	1634	3393
1984	5768	1604	3401

YEAR	BIRTHS	MARRIAGES	DEATHS
1985	6031	1619	3423
1986	6014	1666	3474
1987	6346	1598	3317
1988	6753	1627	3431
1989	7186	1606	3490
1990	7183	1521	3382
1991	6825	1382	3463
1992	6782	1228	3333
1993	6694	1244	3497
1994	6380	1206	3445
1995	6149	1302	3305
1996	5981	1194	3349
1997	6019	1319	3230
1998	6188	1232	3405
1999	6031	1374	3316
2000	6304	1358	3279
2001	6363	1600	3377
2002	6263	1355	3160
2003	6326	1254	3067
2004	6214	1465	3045
2005	6210	1555	3280
2006	6306	1530	3083
2007	6336	1562	3186
2008	6334	1377	3106
2009	6290	1320	3044
2010	5889	1363	2943
2011	6013	1188	3086
2012	7703	1248	3212
2013	5172	1185	3153

RULES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER, MA

Rule 1. – Quorum for conducting business

At all meetings of the City Council six (6) Councilors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No business of the City Council may be considered or debated and the Council shall be in recess at any meeting where a quorum of the City Council is not present within the Council Chamber or meeting hall. The City Council by a two-thirds vote may allow any member who is not able to be present in the meeting location due to a temporary physical disability to participate electronically from a remote location; provided:

- a) that such participation has been authorized by the attorney general either by regulation or letter ruling,
- b) such participation is conducted in accordance with the terms of the attorney general's authorization or any regulations adopted by the attorney general;
- c) that the absent members and all persons present at the meeting location are clearly audible to each other;
- d) that a quorum of the City Council, including the chair, are present at the meeting location; and
- e) that the meeting is chaired by a member of the council who is present at the meeting location.

Members participating under this rule shall be recorded as present by the city clerk, may vote and shall not be deemed absent for the purposes of section 23D of chapter 39.

Duties and Powers of the Chair

Rule 2. – Call to order by the Chair

The Mayor shall take the chair at the hour to which the City Council has adjourned and call the members to order. In the absence of the Mayor the Vice-Chair of the City Council shall preside and in the absence of both, the most senior member with continuous service of the City Council shall serve during the absence of both the Mayor and Vice Chair.

Rule 3. – Rights and duties of members

The chair shall preserve decorum and order, may speak to points of order, in preference to other members; shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the City Council; and no other business shall be in order until the question on the appeal shall have been decided. The question shall be put as follows: "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the City Council?" The vote shall be by roll call and it shall be decided in the affirmative

unless a majority of the votes are to the contrary.

Rule 4. – Mayor declares vote

All votes taken at an open session shall be by voice vote or roll call vote. All votes requiring a two-thirds or greater majority shall be taken by a call of the roll. No votes shall be taken by secret ballot. All votes taken at an executive session shall be recorded by roll call and entered into the minutes of the executive session. The chair shall declare all votes. If any member doubts the vote, the chair, without further debate upon the question, shall require the Clerk to call the roll of affirmative and negative votes and the chair shall declare the results; but no such declaration shall be made unless a quorum of the City Council has voted.

Rule 5. – Order of questions

The chair shall put all questions in the order in which they are moved unless the subsequent motion be previous in its nature, except that in naming sums and fixing times, the largest sum and the longest time shall be put first.

Rule 6. – Order of taking the floor

The chair shall determine who is entitled to take the floor and in what order as guided by the rules of the City Council.

In determining the order in which Councilors are allowed to speak the chair shall give preference to that member who has not yet spoken on the subject under discussion.

Rule 7. – Order of relinquishing the floor

When the Mayor wishes to relinquish the chair, he or she shall do so consistent with the process outlined in Rule 2. Such substitution shall not continue beyond the will of the presiding officer so relinquishing the chair or beyond an adjournment.

Rule 8. – Relinquishing the chair for purpose of expression

If the presiding officer wishes to express an opinion on any subject under debate he or she shall relinquish the chair as provided in the rules established in this section. He or she shall not resume the chair until he or she is through speaking and all points of order arising as a part of that debate have been decided.

Rights and Duties of Members

Rule 9. – Intention to speak

Every member who wishes to speak shall indicate his or her intention to the chair

who shall determine the order of speaking.

Rule 10. – Rising & confining speaking

When speaking a member shall stand if they are able to do so and respectfully address their comments, at all times, through the chair. At all times, the member shall confine himself or herself to the question or issue being discussed and avoid personalities.

Rule 11. – No speaking for more than 5 minutes

After being recognized by the chair no Councilor shall speak for more than five (5) minutes at a time. Additional time may be granted to a speaker, as determined by the chair, if comments made by the City Manager or other individuals in response to questions, have taken an unusual amount of time.

Rule 12. – No speaking more than twice

On a particular issue being discussed, at a specific meeting of the City Council, no Councilor will be recognized by the chair to speak more than twice.

Rule 13. – Using a microphone

When speaking, voting, calling the roll and announcing votes, all members of the City Council, the City Manager, the City Clerk, department heads or members of the public shall use a microphone.

Rule 14. – Interruptions to speaking

No member speaking shall be interrupted by another but by rising to raise a question of order; to a point of personal privilege, to a question of parliamentary procedure or to doubt the presence of a quorum.

Rule 15. – Personal privilege

A member may rise to a point of personal privilege with the permission of the chair but shall not discuss pending questions and shall confine his or her remarks to statements which have been made regarding his rights, reputation or conduct in his capacity as a City Councilor.

Rule 16. – Parliamentary inquiry

A member may rise to ask questions of parliamentary inquiry with the permission of the chair but shall not discuss pending questions.

Rule 17. – Private interests

No member shall vote on any question or serve on any committee where his or her private interest is immediately concerned distinct from that of the public.

Rule 17A. – Confidentiality of Executive Session

Each member shall respect the confidentiality of every Executive Session and shall keep in confidence the discussion, votes and any documents, records or exhibits received or reviewed during any Executive Session until such time as the same are allowed by law to become public. Every person other than a member of the Council who attends any Executive Session shall by their presence at the session be deemed to have agreed to be bound by this Rule. Any violation of this Rule shall be communicated to the State Ethics Commission.

Rule 18. – First consideration of items

When considering a council order properly before the City Council, if the filer states his or her intention to have that item referred to a standing committee of the City Council, the City Manager or other appropriate individual or body, the first time he or she rises to speak to that item, he or she will be allowed to speak to that item as permitted by the Rules of the City Council. No other debate will be allowed except to oppose or amend the motion of referral or to request clarification of the item.

Rule 19. – Excusing member from voting

Every member present when a question is put shall vote unless the City Council for special reasons excuses him or her. Application to be so excused on any question must be made before the City Council has decided or before the calling of the yeas and nays; and such application shall be accompanied by a brief statement of the reasons and shall be decided without debate.

Rule 20. – Seating of members

The seats of the members of the City Council shall be numbered and determined by lot at the first meeting of each Council term; and no member shall change his or her seat but by permission of the chair.

Committees of the City Council

Rule 21. – Appointment to committees

All committees of the City Council shall be appointed by the Mayor under the guidelines established in this section.

Rule 22. – Consideration of committees

There shall be appointed Standing Committees of the City Council as follows:

- A. Committee on Economic Development:** to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters pertaining to economic development, neighborhood

development, housing development, marketing, workforce development, zoning, planning and regulatory services functions of the City and energy.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Economic Development Division
- Neighborhoods & Housing Division
- Planning and Regulatory Services Division
- Workforce Development Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Cultural Commission
- Historical Commission
- Planning Board
- Worcester Housing Authority
- Worcester Redevelopment Authority
- Workforce Investment Board
- Zoning Board of Appeals

B. Committee on Education: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters pertaining to public education, the public libraries, arts, culture and higher education.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Public Library Division
- Worcester Public Schools

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Public Library Directors
- Early Scholarship Committee

C. Committee on Municipal Operations: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters involving municipal operations and procedures including: human resources; employee health care; workers compensation and injured on duty; unemployment compensation; the retirement system; taxation, fees, charges and other revenues; and, the City Clerk, City Auditor and other municipal support

operations.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Assessing Division
- Auditing Department
- Budget Office Division
- City Clerks & Elections
- Human Resources Department
- Law Department
- Purchasing Division
- Retirement System
- Technical Services Division
- Treasury and Collections Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Retirement Board
- Trust Funds Commission

D. Committee on Public Health & Human Services: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters relating to public health, the elderly, veterans, human rights, the equality of women, the disabled and community development block grant funding.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Disability Division
- Elder Affairs Division
- Human Rights Division
- Public Health Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Affirmative Action Advisory Committee
- Board of Health
- Commission on Disability

- Commission on Elder Affairs
- Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee
- Human Rights Commission
- Status of Women Committee

E. Committee on Public Safety: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters pertaining to criminal and civil law enforcement, public safety communications services and ambulance and first responder services in the City.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Communications Division
- Code Enforcement Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- License Commission

F. Committee on Public Service and Transportation: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters concerning cable television and telecommunications, public transportation, street lighting, taxis and liveries.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Cable Services Division
- D.P.W. Streetlights Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Cable Television Advisory Committee
- Worcester Regional Airport Commission
- Worcester Regional Transit Authority

G. Committee on Public Works: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters pertaining to streets, water, sewers, sanitation, recycling, snow removal and the construction of public buildings.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Engineering & Architectural Services Division

- Central Garage Division
- Sanitation Division
- Sewer Division
- Snow Removal Division
- Streets Division
- Water Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Civic Center Commission
- Conservation Commission
- Designer Selection Board

H. Committee on Traffic and Parking: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters pertaining to traffic and parking ordinances and off street parking facilities.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- D.P.W. Traffic Engineering Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Off-Street Parking Board

I. Committee on Youth, Parks and Recreation: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider matters, involving youth, parks, playgrounds, recreation activities and Hope Cemetery.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Parks & Recreation Division
- Hope Cemetery Division

Related Boards and Commissions:

- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Hope Cemetery Board

J. Committee on Rules and Legislative Affairs: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to initiate and review proposals for amendments to the rules of the City Council and any other matter affecting or determining the conduct of City Council

meetings or meetings of any Standing or Ad Hoc committees of the City Council and to consider matters pertaining to state and federal legislation affecting Worcester and regional affairs.

K. Committee on Finance: to consist of the mayor and all members of the City Council to review and report on the appropriations recommended by the city manager in the annual budget or in any supplemental budget and to consider loan orders and official bonds and in general matters affecting the financial condition of the City.

L. Committee on Ordinances: to consist of the mayor and all members of the City Council to conduct public hearings on proposed ordinances and orders unless any such item has been referred to another standing committee.

M. Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs: to consist of three (3) Councilors, to consider all matters pertaining to veterans, veterans organizations, military affairs and veterans and military monuments and memorials.

Related City Departments and Divisions:

- Veterans' Services Division
- Related Boards and Commissions:
- Lincoln Square Memorial Board
- Memorial Auditorium Board of Trustees

Rule 23. - Regarding Ad Hoc Committees

The City Council shall refrain from authorizing the establishment of Ad Hoc committees except in those instances when an item:

- a. cannot be considered by an existing Standing Committee of the City Council,
- b. is limited in the scope of responsibilities to a narrow/single area of responsibility,
- c. is limited in time and is established to exist for a specific period of time.

If such an Ad Hoc committee is established, it shall have a clearly defined purpose and have a date established at which time it will automatically be dissolved unless reestablished by a vote of the City Council.

If no such date has been established, the Ad Hoc Committee will be automatically dissolved at the end of the current term of Office of the City Council, which established the Ad Hoc committee.

Rule 24. – Mayor as ex-officio member of committees

The Mayor shall be ex-officio chair of any committee of which he or she is a member and on all other committees the Councilor first named by the Mayor upon initial appointment to a committee shall be chair, and in case of his or her

resignation, or inability to serve, the member of the committee next in order as named by the Mayor shall be chair.

Regular Meetings

Rule 25. – Schedule of regular meetings

Regular meetings of the City Council shall be had weekly on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Council Chamber located inside City Hall, unless at a previous meeting, by a majority vote, the City Council determines another day, time and/or place. City Council meetings may, by a majority vote, be held at any other suitable public building within the City of Worcester.

Rule 26. – Annual Calendar

At the first meeting of each January the mayor shall introduce, and the City Council shall by majority vote adopt, an Annual Calendar of City Council Meetings. The Annual Calendar of City Council Meetings shall:

- A. Maintain as much as practical the alternating schedule of City Manager agendas and City Council agendas whereby a “City Manager Agenda” shall mean the agenda of items prepared by the City Manager for transmittal to the City Council and the “City Council Agenda” shall be a City Council agenda that includes Motions, Orders or Resolutions filed by individual Councilors in writing with the City Clerk in accordance with Rule 35.

- B. Include the City Manager’s monthly Economic Development Report as the First Item of Business on the first City Council Agenda meeting of each month (except July and August).

- C. Include as the First Item of Business on the second City Council Agenda meeting agenda of each month (except July and August) a Finance Committee Item to consider a monthly report from the City Auditor on the status of the City Budget, which report shall contain a narrative on departmental expenditures and budget balances; the budgetary impact of vacancies in funded positions due to retirements, resignations, workers compensation or injured-on-duty status; and any other information indicating any significant variances in the financial performance of the City as anticipated in the annual City Budget. Such First Item of Business shall include any communication of the City Manager indicating that it is being transmitted to the City Council for consideration in conjunction with the monthly financial report of the City Auditor.

- D. Identify the Tuesdays when no meetings of the City Council shall occur due to general and primary election days, holiday weeks, the Summer Schedule or any other appropriate reason.

- E. Identify the dates for Summer Schedule for the City Council meeting in July and August, which schedule shall include no fewer than three meetings spaced as evenly as possible between the last meeting in June and Labor Day. The agenda for each Summer Schedule meeting shall be a Joint Calendar which shall include both a City Manager agenda and a City Council agenda. The Summer Schedule shall identify which meetings will include the City Manager's monthly Economic Development Report and which meetings shall include the monthly report from the City Auditor (and related City Manager items) on the status of the City Budget.

- F. Specify whether any meeting held either before or after any break in the regular weekly meeting shall be a joint agenda which shall include both a City Manager agenda and a City Council agenda.

- G. Identify the dates for the Annual Evaluation of the City Manager and the Annual Tax Classification Hearing.

Rule 27. – Midnight curfew

No council meeting shall be allowed to proceed after midnight. Items still pending action at that time shall be carried forward as the "First Item of Business" at the

next regular or special Council meeting.

Special Meetings

Rule 28. – Call for special meeting

The Mayor, or if the Mayor is unable to serve, the Vice Chair of the City Council, or any five (5) members thereof, may call a special meeting by causing written notices stating the time and purpose of holding such meetings and signed by the person or persons calling the same, to be delivered in hand to each member of the City Council, or left at his or her usual dwelling place, within twenty-four (24) hours of the posting of such meeting. All special meetings of the city council, except emergency meetings, shall be posted in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A §§ 17-25 (see Rule 32)..

Rule 29. – Call for emergency meeting

An emergency meeting of the City Council may be called as permitted by state law (G.L. c. 30A § 20(b)). In such instances and only when absolutely necessary, the Mayor may waive the twenty-four (24) hour notice period outlined in Rule 28.

Rule 30. – Other meetings -Repealed – August 10, 2010

Filing Procedures and Notifications

Rule 31. – Notice to petitioners

A reasonable good faith effort should be made to notify the principal petitioner of any item to be heard before a Standing or Ad Hoc Committee of the City Council of the date, time and place at which his or her petition will be heard by the Committee.

No final action shall be taken on a citizen's petition unless the City Clerk's office can attest to said good faith effort.

Rule 32. – 48 hour notice

All meetings of the city council and every committee thereof, except emergency meetings, shall be posted publicly by the city clerk not less than 48 hours before the start of the meeting excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A §§ 18-25. The city clerk shall comply with all requirements of the attorney general, whether issued by regulation, advisory or otherwise, including the filing with the attorney general of written notice of the city's Open Meeting Law notice posting method. The city clerk shall provide written notification of any changes in the city's Open Meeting Law notice posting method, together with any

filings made with the attorney general, to the city council, city manager, school committee and Library Board of Trustees.

Rule 33. – Regarding propriety of items

No petition, remonstrance, resolution or other communication which deals with personalities or with matters not within the general supervision and/or relating to city government shall be considered by the City Council. The City Clerk, with the assistance of the City Solicitor, shall determine when an item is not appropriate for placement on the City Council agenda.

Rule 34. – Structure of petition

A petition or any other item which would appear on the City Council or City Manager agendas must specifically state the business to be discussed. Items which do not state the business to be discussed shall not be placed on the agenda.

Rule 35. – Timeframe for filing papers

All papers of whatever description which may require action by the City Council, shall be presented to the City Clerk not later than 4:15 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the day of each regular meeting. Papers presented after that hour on such day will not be considered until the next meeting.

Rule 36. – Timeframe for filing City Manager papers

The City Manager's recommendation and reports including pertinent data, relating to the same, shall be presented to the City Clerk not later than 4:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the day of each regular meeting. Papers, excluding emergency items, presented after that hour on such day will not be considered until the next meeting.

Rule 37. – Timeframe for delivering calendar/Marked calendar

The City Clerk shall prepare a calendar of all matters to come before the City Council and the Committee on Finance and Ordinances at each meeting in accordance with the established order of business and shall cause to be delivered to the City Council office in City Hall a copy of the same no later than 5:00 p.m. the Friday preceding a Tuesday meeting. Copies of this calendar shall be available to the public at each meeting.

For all citizen petitions, committee reports, and chairman's orders, the City Clerk shall indicate the appropriate action recommended for the Council's consideration.

Rule 37A. – Maintain accurate minutes

The city clerk shall create and maintain accurate minutes of all meetings of the

City Council and all of its committees, including executive sessions, setting forth the date, time and place, the members present or absent and a summary of the discussions on each subject. The minutes shall include all documents and other exhibits, such as photographs, recordings or maps, used by the City Council or any committee thereof at any open session or executive session.

Rule 38. – Regarding public inspection of papers

The minutes of any open session, whether approved or in draft form, shall be made available upon request by any person within ten (10) days of the meeting to the extent required by subsection 22(e) of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A §§ 18-25.

The minutes of any executive session, the notes, recordings or other materials used in the preparation of such minutes and all documents and exhibits used at the session, shall be withheld from public disclosure to the extent provided by subsection 22(f) of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A §§ 18-25.

The Mayor shall, at reasonable intervals or as otherwise required by subsection 22(g)(2) of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A §§ 18-25, review any previously unreleased minutes of all executive sessions and determine whether continued non-disclosure under the Open Meeting Law is warranted. In

conducting this review the Mayor may seek the advice and assistance of the city clerk, city manager or city solicitor. The Mayor shall file a report containing such determinations at the next regular meeting of the City Council.

Order of Business

Rule 39. – Order of business

At regular meetings of this City Council the order of business shall be as follows:

- a. Invocation
- b. Pledge of Allegiance/Star Spangled Banner
- c. Roll Call
- d. Approval of the Minutes
- e. Proclamations, Resolutions, Acknowledgments, Acknowledgements of Volunteerism and Community Service
- f. Public Hearing
- g. Motions of Reconsiderations

- h. First Items of Business
- i. Items of Public Interest

- j. That "Items of Public Interest" be only those items on Council's or Manager's calendars. The Mayor shall recognize any person seeking such recognition for the purpose of speaking for not more than two minutes total on any and all items on the agenda for that meeting.
- k. Items of Departmental or Employee Interest
- l. That "Items of Departmental or Employee Interest" be only those items on the Council's or Manager's calendars. Any suspension, if entertained by the Council, unless of an emergency nature, shall only be considered after all regularly scheduled business has been completed. That Reports of the Planning Board are exempted from the Council's alternating weekly schedule and appear on the Council's agenda as soon as they are received.
- m. Petitions
- n. Communications of the City Manager on those weeks designated to be a City Manager agenda or a Joint Calendar and for those weeks designated to be a City Council agenda the order of business shall be Communications of the City Auditor followed by Communications of the City Clerk.
- o. Motions, Orders or Resolutions.
- p. Recess to Finance Committee, if necessary. No final action is to be taken on any item pending in Finance and Ordinance. Final action can only be taken in the regular proceedings of a City Council meeting.
- q. Recess to Ordinance Committee, if necessary
- r. Communications and Reports from City Officers
- s. Reports of the Committees (Alternating weeks - beginning on week two)
- t. Tabled Items
- u. New Business Under Suspension

Council Meeting Process and Procedures

Rule 40. – Single subject time limit

That discussion at a particular Council meeting on a single subject be limited to no more than one (1) hour or until each Councilor who wishes to speak is given an opportunity to do so.

Rule 41. – Filing of reconsideration

A motion to reconsider an item may be made at any time within forty-eight (48) hours after an item has been decided provided that the motion to reconsider has

been accepted by two thirds (2/3) of the members of the City Council. However, no more than one (1) motion for reconsideration of any vote shall be entertained. In the computation of the forty-eight (48) hours, Saturday and Sunday shall be excluded.

Rule 42. – Replacing considered items

An item once duly considered and voted, if found in the negative, or if reconsidered, shall not be placed before the City Council within ninety (90) days of the last action taken by the City Council.

Rule 43. – Expenditure roll call requirements

All final votes of the City Council on questions involving the expenditure of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or more, or upon the request of any member, shall be by roll call and the yeas and nays shall be entered on the records.

Rule 43A. – Communication involving electronic devices

No member of the City Council shall communicate using any electronic device with any five or more members of the Council where such communication involves the discussion of any item which is pending before the City Council or which is reasonably likely to be brought before the Council. No member of any committee of the City Council shall communicate using any electronic device with any one or more members of any three-member committee in which he or she is a member where such communication involves the discussion of any item which is pending before the City Council or which is reasonably likely to be referred to the Committee.

Rule 44. – Solicitor reports within 60 days

That all matters referred to the City Solicitor and the Law Department be reported back to the City Council within sixty (60) days.

Rule 45. – Items not on calendar require 2/3 vote

The city council may, by a two-thirds vote, go into the “New Business Under Suspension” portion of its agenda to consider items not on the posted calendar and the City Council may, with a two-thirds vote, at any time during any meeting accept supplemental communications of the city manager; provided, however, that the intention of taking up such items is to enable the introduction of routine communications and petitions for referral to council committees, the city manager, the planning board, or other public agencies and for immediate

and final action only on those items for which time is of the essence.

Rule 46. – Suspension of rules require 2/3 vote

None of the foregoing rules and orders shall be suspended at any meeting unless two thirds (2/3) of all the members of the Council consent thereto.

Rule 47. – No smoking

Smoking shall not be allowed at meetings of the City Council or at Committee Meetings of the City Council. The City Manager shall designate areas appropriate for smoking in all City of Worcester public buildings.

Rule 48. – Appearance of nominees

That prior to confirmation of appointments by the City Manager that those individuals nominated must first appear prior to or at the time of confirmation.

Rule 49. – Regarding debate

When a question is under debate the chair shall receive no motion, but

To adjourn

To recess

To leave to withdraw a motion

To lay on the table

For the previous question

To postpone to a certain day

To refer

To place on file

To amend

To postpone indefinitely

which several motions shall have precedence in the above order. A motion to adjourn shall be in order at any time, except upon immediate repetition, and that motion, the motion to lay on the table, the motion to take from the table, and the motion for a previous question shall be decided without debate.

Citizen Participation

Rule 50. – Hearing citizens and employees

Consistent with the City's Charter, at any meeting of the City Council, the citizens and employees of the City shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard

regarding any matter presently under consideration by the City Council. At all times members of the public shall be accorded the same respect when making their comments as is required of members when addressing the chair.

Individuals or groups in attendance at City Council meetings may display signs or other advocacy materials or displays in areas designated for public seating or areas of public congregation in the vicinity of the Council Chambers for the duration of any meeting. No sign or advocacy display shall be located on or within the rail in the City Council Chamber or be permanently affixed to any portion of the building or be affixed in any manner which might harm or destroy any portion of the building, or shall otherwise disrupt the orderly conduct of the Council meeting.

It will be the responsibility of the chair, as guided by the rules established by the City Council, to determine citizen participation.

Rule 51. – Referral of petitions (60 day effort to hear requests)

All petitions filed with the City Council, shall automatically be referred without debate to the proper committee, board, commission, department of the City Manager for investigation, recommendation or disposition except for questions of clarification, amendment or opposition by members of the City Council; provided, however, on the first occasion any petition appears on a City Council agenda, the primary petitioner may address the City Council for no more than three minutes on the subject of their petition. The City Clerk, in the preparation of the City Council agenda, shall note the recommended action on the agenda.

Whenever possible, the body or individual to whom the petition was referred will make every reasonable effort to complete its work on the petition within sixty (60) days.

Rule 52. – To avoid moot referrals

In those instances where the referral of a petition shall, by its referral, cause to render the petition moot or cause a negative response to the petition or for any petition which cannot be referred as outlined in Rule 50, the City Council shall allow only the primary petitioner the opportunity to address the City Council. It shall be the duty of the chair to determine such instances subject to the challenge of the City Council. Consistent with other Council rules the time for that presentation shall not exceed five (5) minutes. Once a citizen has been given the opportunity to address the City Council, members of the Council will be allowed to speak guided by the rules of the Council governing Council participation.

Rule 53. – Hearing citizens at final disposition

On any matter being considered for final disposition by the City Council, any

citizen shall have the opportunity to address the City Council consistent with other Council rules. The time for that presentation shall not exceed five (5) minutes.

When speaking, a citizen shall address all his or her remarks to the chair. He or she shall be requested to state his or her full name and the municipality in which he or she resides prior to addressing the issue under consideration.

Rule 54. – Limiting debate

On all matters appearing on either the City Council or City Manager’s calendar that will be referred to a committee, board, commission, department or the City Manager for investigation, recommendations or dispositions and which will, at some other time, appear on the City Council or City Manager’s calendar for final disposition, debate will be limited to members of the City Council, the City Manager or department heads.

Rule 55. – Hearing citizens in finance committee

On any matter being considered by the Finance Committee any citizen shall have an opportunity to address the City Council. Consistent with other Council rules that time shall not exceed five (5) minutes.

Rule 56. – Representing another as an agent

Any individual, except attorneys at law, appearing before the City Council at a public hearing and claiming to represent another as agent or otherwise in the matter being heard shall file with the City Council a written authorization signed by the individual, organization or corporation whose interests such individual represents. Said individual will be given the opportunity to address the City Council consistent with the rules established in this section.

Rule 57. – Admittance within rail

No person will be admitted within the rail in the City Council Chamber at any meeting of the City Council, except upon permission of the Mayor.

Additional Rules of the City Council

Rule 58. – Amendment to rules

No action is to be taken on any proposed amendment to the rules until the next regular meeting after the amendment has been proposed.

None of the foregoing rules or orders shall be amended or repealed unless two-thirds (2/3) of all the members of the Council consent thereto.

Rule 59. – Referral to “Robert’s Rules of Order”

For all questions of parliamentary practices or order not specifically provided for in Rules of the City Council, the Council shall be governed by “Robert’s Rules of Order”.

Votes Required

Rule 60. – Votes required for passage

The following votes shall be required for passage:

- a. **Approval of budget** - For approval of budget-majority vote - 6 votes. G.L.c 44, section 32, WHR Charter Art. 5, section 5-2 (b).
- b. **Intra-departmental** - For intra-departmental (within the same department) transfer of funds - upon recommendation of City Manager and majority vote – 6 votes. G.L.c.44, section 33B, WHR Charter Art. 5, section 5-4.
- c. **Inter-department** - For inter-departmental (from one department to another) transfer of funds - upon recommendation of City Manager and 2/3 vote (8) votes plus assent of departmental head from whose department funds are being transferred. G.L.c.44, section 33B, WHR Charter Art. 5, section 5-4.
- d. **For straight appropriation** - For transfer of one appropriation to another but not between departments is a straight appropriation of money and requires a recommendation of City Manager and a majority vote - 6 votes. G.L.c.44, section 33B, WHR Charter Art.5, section 5-4.
- e. **Approval of loan orders** - For approval of Loan Orders whether within or outside of the Debt Limit - 2/3 vote 8 votes. G.L.c.44, sections 7 and 8. Except debts for temporary loans outside the debt limit - majority vote - 6 votes. G.L.c.44, section 8.
- f. **Approval of appropriations** - For approval of appropriations for purchase or taking of land or any other interest therein, 2/3 vote - 8 votes. G.L.c.40, section 14, WHR Charter Art. 5, section 5-6.
- g. **Acceptance of statute** - For acceptance of statute, a majority vote - 6 votes, G.L.c.4, section 4, WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b). Unless otherwise provided in the statute G.L.c.4, section 4.

h. **Adoption of an ordinance** - For adoption of an ordinance - majority vote - 6 votes. WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b). Emergency preamble requires 2/3 votes. WHR Art. 2, section 2-9 (a).

i. **Decreeing of a public street** - for decreeing of a public street - majority vote - 6 votes. WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b). But such orders usually carry an appropriation for such taking under G.L. c.40, section 14 and therefore paragraph f, above applies.

j. **Construction order** - for construction order, streets, sewer etc. - majority vote – 6 votes. WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b).

k. **Original zoning ordinance** - For passage of original zoning ordinance or change of zoning ordinance - 2/3 vote - 8 votes. G.L.c. 40A, section 5. WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b).

If written protest, stating the reasons, is filed with the City Clerk prior to final action by the Council and is duly signed by owners of at least 20% of the area of the land proposed to be included in the change or of the area of land immediately adjacent extending 300 feet therefrom, then 3/4 of the entire Council - 9 votes are required. G.L.c. 40A, section 5.WHR Charter Art.2, section 2-6 (b).

l. **Increase of pension** - For increase of pension under G.L.c.32, section 90A - 2/3 vote – 8 votes. G.L.c.32, section 90A. WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b).

m. **Increase of salary and wage** - For increase in salary or wage - 2/3 vote - 8 votes. G.L.c.44, section 33A. WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b).

n. **To add a street to the official map** - To add a street to the Official Map, 2/3 vote - 8 votes, unless Planning Board after hearing, has approved, then majority vote - 6 votes. G.L.c.41, section 81F. WHR Charter Art. 2, section 2-6 (b).

o. **Personal privilege** - Worcester Home Rule Charter, Section 2-9 Ordinances and Other Measures, (b) Measures. On the first occasion that the question of adopting any measure is put to the City Council, except an emergency measure as defined in section 2-9(a), if a single member objects to the taking of a vote, the vote shall be postponed until the next regular or special meeting of the City Council. If when the matter is taken up for a vote, four (4) or more members object to the taking of the vote, the matter shall be further postponed for not less

than an additional five (5) days. This procedure shall not be used more than once for any measure notwithstanding any amendment made to the original measure.

p. **Required vote to advertise** - Any motion to advertise shall not be deemed to have been approved unless such motion shall have received the same number of votes as is required to ordain the proposed Ordinance or Order.

q. **Considering monetary amounts** - On all matters before the City Council in which numbers or monetary amounts are to be considered, if more than one (1) number is to be considered, that the highest number be put first. All other motions concerning numbers shall be considered in descending order.

Public Library Board of Directors

Process for Election as Public Library Director

Rule 61.

The City Clerk shall cause to be notified the appropriate media and community outreach groups regarding the timing and availability of openings on the Library Board of Directors. As part of this notification the Clerk shall use the same mailing list as utilized by the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Rule 62.

All applications and resumes shall be filed with the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall forward all applications and resumes to the City Council no later than two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled vote of the City Council. No applications or resumes shall be accepted after that date. The clerk shall present to the City Council a list of all applicants for a position as Director of the Public Library prior to the Council meeting in accordance with other rules established herein. At the City Council meeting one week prior to the vote, the City Council shall provide each applicant with the opportunity to address the City Council for not more than three (3) minutes to state the reasons they wish to be appointed to the Board

Rule 63.

Unless otherwise voted by the City Council, a vote to elect trustees to the Public Library, shall be taken on the first regular Council meeting in December. In the case of a vacancy, the Council shall establish a date for such a vote no later than sixty (60) days after the Clerk has been notified of the vacancy

Rule 64.

At the time of the voting, the City Clerk shall call the roll of the City Council with each member indicating his or her preference for each available position. The person receiving the most votes elected, also receiving more than a majority of the full City Council, shall be elected to the position. If sufficient votes are not received to fill a position, subsequent ballots will be taken. For all subsequent ballots, the list of eligible candidates will be reduced to twice the number of positions available to be filled for all subsequent balloting. Those placed on said list shall have received the most votes on the previous ballot.

WORCESTER HOME RULE CHARTER

ARTICLE ONE

INCORPORATION: SHORT TITLE POWERS: DEFINITIONS

Section 1-1 Incorporation.

The inhabitants of the city of Worcester within the territorial limits established by law, shall continue to be a municipal corporation, a body corporate and politic, under the name "city of Worcester".

Section 1-2 Short Title.

This instrument shall be known and may be cited as the Worcester home rule charter.

Section 1-3 Distribution of Powers.

The administration of the fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs of the city of Worcester, with the government thereof, shall be vested in an executive branch headed by a city manager, and a legislative branch to consist of a city council.

Section 1-4 Powers of the City.

Subject only to express limitations on the exercise of any power or function by a municipal government in the constitution or general laws of the commonwealth, it is the intention and the purpose of the voters of Worcester through the adoption of this charter to secure for themselves and their government all of the powers it is possible to secure as fully and as completely as though each such power was specifically and individually enumerated herein.

Section 1-5 Construction.

The powers of the city of Worcester under this charter are to be construed liberally to its benefit and the reference to any particular power herein shall not be construed to limit the general

powers of the city as stated in section 1-4.

Section 1-6 Intergovernmental Relations.

Subject only to the express limitations in the constitution or general laws of the commonwealth, the city of Worcester may exercise any of its powers or perform any of its functions, and may participate in the financing thereof, jointly or in cooperation, by contract or otherwise, with the commonwealth or any agency or political subdivision thereof, or with the United States government or any agency thereof.

Section 1-7 Definitions.

The following words and phrases as used in this charter shall, unless the context requires otherwise, have the following meanings.

(a) Charter - The word "charter" shall mean this charter and any amendment to it hereafter adopted.

(b) City - The word "city" shall mean the city of Worcester.

(c) City Agency - The words "city agency" shall mean any multiple member body, department, division or office of the city.

(d) City Bulletin Board - The words "city bulletin board" shall mean the bulletin board in city hall on which the city clerk posts official notices of meetings and upon which other official city notices are posted. It shall also mean any other bulletin boards as may be designated "city bulletin boards" by the city council.

(e) City Officer - The words "city officer" when used without further qualification shall mean a public officer as defined by law, and shall also mean a person having charge of an office or department of the city who in the exercise of his/her powers or duties exercises some portion of the sovereign power of the city.

(f) Emergency - The word "emergency" shall mean a sudden, unexpected, unforeseen happening, occurrence or condition necessitating immediate action or response.

(g) Full Council, Full Multiple Member Body - The words "full council" or "full multiple member body" shall mean the entire authorized complement of the city council, school committee or other multiple member body notwithstanding any vacancy which might exist.

(h) general laws - The words "general laws" (all lower case letters) shall mean laws enacted by the general court which apply alike to all cities and towns, to all cities, to all towns, or to a class of two or more cities and towns of which Worcester is a member.

(i) General Laws - The words "General Laws" (initial letter of each word in upper case letters) shall mean the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a codification and revision of statutes enacted on December 22, 1920, and including all amendments thereto subsequently adopted.

(j) Initiative Measure - The words "initiative measure" shall mean a measure proposed by the voters through the initiative process provided under article seven of this charter.

(k) Local Newspaper - The words "local newspaper" shall mean a newspaper of general circulation within the City, with either a weekly or daily circulation.

(l) Majority Vote - Unless otherwise specifically provided within this charter or by law, ordinance or the rules adopted by a multiple member body, the words "majority vote" shall mean a majority of those members present and voting of a multiple member body, provided a quorum is present.

(m) Measure - The word "measure" shall mean any ordinance, order, resolution, or other vote or proceeding adopted, or which might be adopted by the city council or the school committee.

(o) Multiple Member Body - The words "multiple member body" shall mean any board, commission, committee, sub-committee or other body consisting of two or more members whether elected, appointed, or otherwise constituted but not including the city council or the school committee.

(p) Referendum measure - The words "referendum measure" shall mean a measure adopted by the city council or by the school committee which is protested in accordance with the referendum procedures provided under article seven of this charter.

(q) Voters - The word "voters" shall mean registered voters of the city of Worcester.

ARTICLE TWO

CITY COUNCIL

Section 2-1 Composition, Term of Office, Legislative Powers

(a) Composition - There shall be a city council of eleven members which shall exercise the legislative powers of the city. Six of these members, to be known as councilors at-large, shall be nominated and elected by and from the voters at large. Five of these members, to be known as district councilors, shall be nominated and elected by and from the voters of each district; one such district councilor to be elected from each of the five council districts into which the city is divided in accordance with section 7-6 of this charter.

(b) Term of Office - City councilors shall be elected for terms of two years each, beginning on the first secular day of January in the year following their election and shall serve until their successors are qualified.

(c) Eligibility - Any voter shall be eligible to hold the office of councilor at-large; provided, however, that he/she shall have resided in the city for a period of at least one year. A district councilor shall at the time of his/her election be a voter of the district from which he/she is elected

and shall have resided therein for a period of at least one year. If any such district councilor shall, during the term for which he/she was elected, remove to another district in the city, or be so removed by a revision of district lines, such councilor may continue to serve for the balance of the term for which he/she was elected.

(d) Legislative Powers - The city council shall have and shall exercise all the legislative powers of the city, except as such powers are reserved by this charter to the school committee or to the qualified voters of the city.

Section 2-2 Organization, Mayor

(a) Organization - The city council, elected as aforesaid, shall meet on the first secular day of January, following the regular municipal election, and the members of the city council shall severally make oath, before the city clerk or a justice of the peace, to perform faithfully the duties of their respective offices, except that any member-elect not present shall so make oath at the first regular meeting of the city council thereafter which he/she attends. The organization of the city council shall take place as aforesaid, notwithstanding the absence, death, refusal to serve or non-election of one or more of the members; provided, that a majority of all the members elected to the city council are present and have qualified. For the purposes of organization, the city clerk shall be temporary chair until the mayor or vice-chair has qualified.

(b) Selection of the Mayor and Vice-chair - All candidates nominated in the preliminary election for the office of councilor at large in accordance with section 7-4, shall appear on the ballot as candidates for councilor at large in the regular municipal election and shall also be listed on a separate portion of the ballot as candidates for the office of mayor. The candidate elected to the office of councilor at large and receiving the highest number of votes for the office of mayor shall be mayor. The candidate elected to the office of councilor at large and receiving the next

highest number of votes for the office of mayor shall be vice-chair of the city council.

A candidate duly nominated and seeking election solely for the office of councilor at large may withdraw his/her name from nomination to the office of mayor in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 7-4 (e) but shall not be replaced by the candidate with the next highest number of votes in the preliminary election.

(c) Powers and Duties of the Mayor - The mayor shall be recognized as the official head of the city for all ceremonial purposes and shall be recognized by the courts for the purpose of serving civil process and by the governor for military purposes. He/she shall be chair of the city council.

The mayor shall have no power of veto but shall have the same powers as any other member of the city council to vote upon all measures coming before it. He/she shall perform such duties consistent with his/her office as may be provided by this charter, by ordinance, or by majority vote of the city council.

The mayor shall serve as chair of the school committee. He/she shall have no power of veto but shall have the same powers as any other member of the school committee to vote upon all measures coming before it.

The mayor shall have no power of appointment except those powers specifically granted to the mayor in this charter and except as to the appointment of the secretaries, stenographers, clerks, telephone operators, and messengers connected with his/her office whose appointment shall not be subject to the civil service laws. The mayor may remove said appointees without a hearing and without making a statement as to the cause of their removal.

(d) Council Vice-Chair - During the absence or disability of the mayor, or during the time such office is vacant, the vice-chair shall perform the duties of the mayor.

(e) Vacancies in the Office of Mayor or Vice-Chair - If the office of mayor or vice-chair become vacant, the vacancy shall be filled by the councilor-at-large receiving the next highest

number of votes for mayor at the preceding regular municipal election, provided such person remains eligible and willing to serve. The board of election commissioners shall certify such candidate to the office of mayor or vice-chair to serve for the balance of the then unexpired term. If there be no candidate eligible and willing to serve to fill a vacancy in the office of mayor or vice-chair, the city council shall, by majority vote, elect one of its members to fill such office for the unexpired term. No vacancy in the office of mayor or vice-chair shall be filled so long as there is any vacancy in the council.

Section 2-3 Prohibitions.

Neither the city council nor any of its committees or members shall direct or request the appointment of any person to, or his/her removal from, office by the city manager or any of his/her subordinates, or in any manner take part in the appointment or removal of officers and employees in that portion of the service of the city for whose administration the city manager is responsible. Except for the purpose of inquiry and as otherwise provided in section 2-8 of this charter, the city council and its members shall deal with that portion of the service of the city as aforesaid solely through the city manager and neither the city council nor any member thereof shall give orders to any subordinate of the city manager either publicly or privately.

Any member of the city council who violates, or participates in the violation of, any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, and upon final conviction thereof his/her office in the city council shall thereby be vacated.

Section 2-4 Salaries.

The mayor and the members of the city council shall receive for their services such salary as the city council shall by ordinance determine, and they shall receive no other compensation from the city. No increase or reduction in the salaries of mayor or city councillor shall take effect during the year in which such increase or reduction is voted, and no change in such salaries shall be made

between the election of a new council and the qualification of the new council.

Section 2-5 General Powers.

Except as otherwise provided by general law or by this charter, all powers of the city shall be vested in the city council which shall provide for their exercise and for the performance of all duties and obligations imposed upon the city by law.

Section 2-6 Exercise of Powers; Quorum; Rules.

(a) Exercise of Powers - Except as otherwise provided by general law or by this charter, the legislative powers of the city council may be exercised as provided by ordinance or rule adopted by it.

(b) Quorum - The presence of six members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may meet and adjourn from time to time. Except as otherwise provided by general law or by this charter, the affirmative vote of six members shall be required to adopt any measure. A majority vote of those members present, however, shall be sufficient to adjourn any meeting of the city council.

(c) Rules of Procedure - The city council shall from time to time establish rules for its proceedings which shall be made available to the public and the press. Such rules shall include and be subject to the following.

(i) Regular and special meetings shall be held at a time and place fixed by ordinance.

(ii) The mayor or the vice-chair of the city council, or any five members thereof, may at any time call a special meeting by causing written notice, stating the time and place of such meeting and signed by the councilor(s) calling the same, to be delivered in hand to each member of the city council, or left at his/her usual dwelling place, at least twelve hours before the time of such meeting.

Except in the case of an emergency, notice of such special meeting, in accordance with

chapter thirty-nine, section twenty-three B of the General Laws, shall be posted on the city bulletin board at least forty-eight hours in advance of the time set for such special meeting.

(iii) Subject to the requirements of section twenty-three B of chapter thirty-nine of the General Laws, meetings of the city council may also be held at any time when all the members of the city council are present and consent thereto.

(iv) Except when meeting in executive session as authorized by section twenty-three B of chapter thirty-nine of the General Laws, all meetings of the city council shall be open to the press and to the public.

(v) At any meeting of the city council, the citizens and employees of the city shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard regarding any matter presently under consideration by the council.

(vi) Every matter coming before the city council for action shall be put to a vote, the result of which shall be duly recorded. All final votes of the city council on questions involving the expenditure of five hundred dollars or more, or upon the request of any member, shall be by roll call and the yeas and nays shall be entered on the record. A full, accurate and up to date journal of the proceedings of the city council shall be kept by the city clerk and shall be open to the inspection of the public, with reasonable promptness following each meeting.

(d) The mayor, if present, shall preside at the city council meetings and may vote. In the absence of the mayor, the vice-chair of the city council shall preside and, in the absence of both, a temporary chair shall be chosen, who shall serve during the absence of both the mayor and vice-chair.

Section 2-7 Access to Information.

The city council may, at any time, request from the city manager, specific information on any municipal matter within its jurisdiction, and may request him/her to be present to answer

written questions relating thereto at a meeting to be held not earlier than one week from the date of receipt by the city manager of said questions. The city manager, shall personally, or through the head of a department or a member of a board, attend such meeting and publicly answer all such questions. The person so attending shall not be obliged to answer questions relating to any other matter. The city manager, may attend and address the city council in person or through the head of a department or a member of a board, upon any subject and at any time.

Section 2-8 Officers Elected by the Council.

(a) City Clerk - The city council shall, by majority vote, elect a city clerk to hold office for two years or for such other term as provided by general or special law, and until his/her successor is qualified. The city clerk shall have such powers and perform such duties as the city council may require, in addition to such duties as may be prescribed by law. He/she shall be, ex-officio, clerk of the city council, and shall keep records of its proceedings; but in case of his/her absence or disability or of a vacancy in the office, the city council shall elect a temporary city clerk, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his/her duties and shall act as clerk of the city council until the city clerk resumes his/her duties or a new city clerk is qualified.

(b) City Auditor - The city council shall, by majority vote, elect a city auditor to hold office for two years or for such other term as provided by general or special law, and until his/her successor is qualified. He/she shall keep and have charge of the accounts of the city and, from time to time, shall audit the books and accounts of all departments, commissions, boards and offices of the city, and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as the city council may prescribe, in addition to such duties as may be prescribed by law. In the event of the absence or disability of the city auditor or of a vacancy in the office, the city council shall elect a temporary city auditor, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his/her duties and shall act as city

auditor until the city auditor resumes his/her duties or a new city auditor is qualified.

* **(c) Citizen Complaints Officer** - The city council shall, by majority vote, elect a citizen complaints officer to hold office for two years and until his/her successor is qualified. The citizen complaints officer shall be responsible for processing citizen complaints and inquiries that are directed or referred to him/her. He/she shall investigate and analyze data on all citizen complaints received by him/her and shall regularly submit reports as directed by the city council. In the performance of his/her duties, he/she shall confer with and receive the cooperation of the city manager and the department heads and executive officers of the city agencies.

In the event of the absence or disability of the citizen complaints officer or of a vacancy in the office, the city council shall elect a temporary citizen complaints officer, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his/her duties and shall act as citizen complaints officer until the citizen complaints officer resumes his/her duties or a new citizen complaints officer is qualified. .

* **Section 2-8(c) repealed by the citizens of Worcester, see Addendum – See page 111**

Section 2-9 Ordinances and Other Measures.

(a) Emergency Ordinances - No ordinance shall be passed finally on the date it is introduced, except in cases of special emergency involving the health or safety of the people or their property.

No ordinance shall be regarded as an emergency ordinance unless the emergency is defined and declared in a preamble to such ordinance, separately voted upon, and receiving the affirmative vote of eight members of the city council.

No ordinance making a grant, renewal or extension, whatever its kind or nature, of any franchise or special privilege of any kind or nature, shall be passed as an emergency measure, and except as provided in sections seventy and seventy-one of chapter one hundred and sixty four and in chapter one hundred and sixty-six of the General Laws, no such grant, renewal or extension shall be

made otherwise than by ordinance.

(b) Measures, In General - Excepting only proposed ordinances, appropriation orders and loan authorizations, the city council may pass any other measure through all of its stages at any one meeting, provided that no member of the city council shall object; but, if any single member objects, a vote on the measure shall be postponed to the next meeting of the city council.

On the first occasion that the question of adopting any measure is put to the city council, except an emergency measure as defined in section 2-9(a), if a single member objects to the taking of a vote, the vote shall be postponed until the next regular or special meeting of the city council. If when the matter is next taken up for a vote, four or more members object to the taking of the vote, the matter shall be further postponed for not less than an additional five days. This procedure shall not be used more than once for any measure, notwithstanding any amendment made to the original measure.

(c) Publication - Every proposed ordinance, or loan order, except emergency ordinances as provided in section 2-9(a) and revenue loan orders, shall be published once in full in at least one local newspaper, and in any additional manner as may be provided by ordinance, at least ten days before its final passage. After final passage, the ordinance as amended and completed, shall again be published once in the aforesaid manner; provided that if any ordinance or proposed ordinance, or codification thereof, shall exceed in length eight octavo pages of ordinary book print, then there shall be no requirement to advertise as aforesaid if the same is published by the city council in a municipal bulletin or printed pamphlet, but otherwise in conformity with said provisions, except for zoning ordinances or amendments thereto, a summary of which shall be published at least two times in a local newspaper. The publication of such zoning summaries shall include a statement indicating where copies of the ordinance may be examined and obtained and a statement that claims of invalidity by reason of any defect in the procedure of adoption may only be made within ninety

days after the posting or the second publication. Emergency ordinances shall take effect on the date of their passage and shall be published at the earliest practicable moment.

Section 2-10 Filling of Vacancies

(a) Councillors-at-large - If a vacancy shall occur in the office of councillor-at-large, the vacancy shall be filled in descending order of votes received by the candidate for the office of councillor-at-large at the preceding regular municipal election who received the largest number of votes for the office of councillor-at-large without being elected, provided such person remains eligible and willing to serve. The board of election commissioners shall certify such candidate to the office of councillor-at-large to serve for the balance of the then unexpired term.

(b) District Councillor - If a vacancy shall occur in the office of district councillor it shall be filled in the same manner as provided in section 2-10(a) for the office of councillor-at-large, except that the list shall be of the candidates for the office of district councillor in the district in which the vacancy occurs, provided however, if there be no candidate on such list who remains eligible and willing to serve, the vacancy shall be filled at a special election called by the city council to be held within ninety days after the city council is notified by the board of election commissioners that the vacancy cannot be filled as aforesaid.

ARTICLE THREE

CITY MANAGER

Section 3-1 Appointment, Term of Office, Qualifications.

(a) Appointment - The city council shall appoint a city manager who shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his/her duties and who shall be the chief administrative and executive officer of the city responsible for the administration of all city agencies whether established before

the adoption of this charter or thereafter, except that of the city clerk, city auditor, * **citizen complaints officer (see Addendum page 109)**, or any official appointed by the governor or any body elected by the voters of the city.

(b) Term - The city council shall enter into an employment agreement with the city manager for a term not to exceed five years; the city manager may, however, serve consecutive successive terms. The terms of the employment agreement shall be consistent with the provisions of this charter.

(c) Qualifications - The city manager shall be appointed on the basis of his/her administrative and executive qualifications only and need not be a resident of the city or commonwealth when appointed; provided, however, that he/she shall become a resident of the city within six months after his/her appointment. No person, age seventy years or over, shall be eligible to serve as city manager.

No member of the city council shall during his/her term of office be chosen as city manager and no person who has within two years been elected to or served in any elective office in the city or in Worcester county shall be chosen as city manager.

Section 3-2 Power and Duties.

The city manager shall have and possess, and may exercise, all the power, rights and duties, other than legislative, commonly associated with municipal chief executive or administrative officers. The city manager shall be the chief administrative and executive officer of the city and shall be responsible to the city council for the proper administration of all city affairs properly entrusted to him/her by the city council or under this charter. The powers and duties of the city manager shall include, but shall not be limited to the following.

- (1) To act as chief conservator of the peace within the city. He/she shall have all the authority and power conferred upon a city manager under section forty-two of chapter

thirty-three of the General Laws.

(2) To supervise the administration of the affairs of the city.

(3) To ensure that, within the city, the general laws and the ordinances, resolutions, and regulations of the city council are faithfully executed.

(4) To make such recommendations to the city council concerning the affairs of the city as he/she may deem necessary and desirable.

(5) To make reports to the city council from time to time upon the affairs of the city.

(6) To keep the city council fully advised of the city's financial condition and its future needs.

(7) To prepare and submit to the city council budgets as required by general law and article five of this charter. He/she may require the submission by all city agencies under his/her jurisdiction of detailed estimates of the full amounts necessary to meet their expenses for the next fiscal year pursuant to section 31A of chapter 44 of the General Laws.

Section 3-3 Appointments and Removals.

(a) Department Heads, Officers, and Employees - Such officers and employees as the city council, with the advice of the city manager, shall determine are necessary for the proper administration of the city agencies for whose administration the city manager is responsible, shall be appointed and may be removed, by the city manager. The city manager shall report every appointment and removal made by him/her to the city council at the next meeting thereof following such appointment or removal. The city manager may authorize the head of a city agency, for whose administration he/she is responsible, to appoint and remove subordinates in such city agency. All appointments by or under the authority of the city manager, if subject to chapter thirty-one of the General Laws and the rules and regulations made under authority thereof, shall be made

in accordance therewith, and all other appointments as aforesaid shall be on the basis of executive and administrative ability and training and experience in the work to be performed.

(b) Boards and Commissions - Every board and commission of the city shall be classified as executive, regulatory, or advisory by the city manager subject to approval, by majority vote, of the city council. Classification of boards and commissions shall be made in accordance with these definitions: boards and commissions classified as executive shall be those which set policy for a city department and/or act in the nature of city departments such as the airport commission, the board of trustees of the city hospital and the board of health; boards and commissions classified as regulatory shall be those which are administrative and/or adjudicatory in nature establishing policy in specific areas and/or applying laws and ordinances such as the conservation commission, the licensing commission and the zoning board of appeals; boards and commissions classified as advisory shall be those which provide information and advice to the city agencies, the city manager, the city council, or the school committee, such as the advisory committee on the status of women and the city manager's youth council.

(i) Appointment - Members of all boards and commissions classified as executive and regulatory shall be appointed by the city manager. Confirmation by the city council shall not be required for said appointments. Appointments to all boards and commissions classified as advisory shall be subject to confirmation, by majority vote, of the city council. The city manager shall follow open, fair and equitable procedures in making appointments to all boards and commissions in the city. The city manager shall not make or seek confirmation from the city council on any such appointments until he/she has received the list of names from the citizen advisory council in accordance with section 3-4. The city manager shall not be limited to those names submitted by the citizens advisory council in making appointments to boards or commissions.

(ii) Term - Members of boards and commissions shall serve such terms of office as are

provided in this charter, or by general law or ordinance; provided, however, that no member shall serve more than two consecutive full terms or a maximum of ten consecutive years on the same board and commission.

(iii) Restrictions - Membership on boards and commissions classified as regulatory or advisory, consisting of five or fewer persons shall be restricted so that no more than one member shall reside in any one district; on boards and commissions consisting of six to ten persons, no more than two members shall reside in any one district; and on boards and commissions consisting of more than ten members, no more than three members shall reside in any one district. As used herein, a district shall be one of the five districts created for the election of city councillors, in accordance with section 7-6 of this charter.

(iv) Eligibility - To be eligible for membership on a board or commission classified as regulatory or advisory, an individual must reside within the district from which he/she is appointed for a period of at least one year immediately prior to appointment.

The residence of a member of a board or commission shall be determined at the time of his/her most recent such appointment. If a member of a board or commission classified as regulatory or removed by a revision of district lines, such member may continue to serve for the balance of the term for which he/she was appointed. Ex-officio members of any board or commission, for the purpose of appointment under this section, shall be deemed to be resident of no district.

Section 3-4 Citizen Advisory Council.

To assist the city manager in making appointments to boards and commissions in accordance with the preceding section, a citizen advisory council shall be established as follows.

(a) Composition, Appointment - The citizen advisory council shall consist of eleven members, appointed by the city manager, subject to confirmation, by majority vote of the city

council.

(b) Term - Each such member shall serve a term of three years and shall be restricted to serving two consecutive full terms.

(c) Restrictions - Membership on the citizen advisory council shall be restricted so as to ensure that a minimum of two members thereof reside in each district. As used herein, a district shall be one of the five districts created for the election of city councillors in accordance with section 7-6 of this charter.

(d) Duties and Responsibilities - The citizen advisory council shall be responsible for publicizing vacancies on boards and commissions, recruiting nominees for any such vacancy, and advising the city manager of candidates for appointment to boards and commissions.

The citizen advisory council shall submit two or more names to the city manager for every vacant position. Any such candidates submitted shall meet the requirements for appointment to boards and commissions contained in section 3-3. The citizen advisory council shall make every effort to seek applicants from underrepresented groups in the city and shall give equal consideration to applicants from all segments of the community in submitting names to the city manager for appointment.

Section 3-5 Regulations.

Officers and employees of the city appointed by, or under the authority of, the city manager shall perform the duties required of them by the city manager, under general regulations of the city council. Any violation of this section shall constitute sufficient grounds for removal of any such officer or employee.

Section 3-6 Compensation.

The city manager shall receive such compensation as the city council shall fix by ordinance.

Section 3-7 Evaluation.

The city council shall annually, in open session except as provided by section twenty-three B of chapter thirty-nine of the General Laws, conduct a general review and evaluation of the professional competence and job performance of the city manager.

Section 3-8 Removal.

Before the city manager may be removed prior to the end of the contract term, if he/she so demands, he/she shall be given a written statement of the reasons alleged for his/her removal and shall have the right to be heard publicly thereon at a meeting of the city council prior to the final vote on the question of his/her removal, but pending and during such hearing the city council may suspend him/her from office. The action of the city council in suspending or removing the city manager shall be final, it being the intention of this provision to vest all authority and fix all responsibility for such suspension or removal in the city council.

Section 3-9 Acting City Manager.

(a) Temporary absence - The city manager shall, by letter filed with the city clerk, designate a qualified city officer or administrative employee to exercise the power and perform the duties of his/her office during his/her temporary absence. During the first fifteen business days of a temporary absence of the city manager, the city council may revoke such designation by two-thirds vote of the full council and may designate another qualified city officer or administrative employee to serve as a temporary city manager. After the expiration of fifteen business days, the city council may, by majority vote, designate an acting city manager to serve until the city manager shall return and resume his/her duties.

(b) Acting city manager - In the event of the suspension of the city manager or a vacancy in said office, the city council shall designate a qualified city officer or administrative employee to serve as acting city manager until the city manager is reinstated or a new city manager is appointed.

ARTICLE FOUR

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Section 4-1 Composition, Term of Office and Powers.

(a) Composition - The school committee shall consist of the mayor, who shall chair the committee and six members elected at-large.

(b) Term of Office - School committee members shall be elected for terms of two years each, beginning on the first secular day of January in the year following their election and shall serve until their successors are qualified.

(c) Eligibility - Any voter shall be eligible to hold the office of school committee member, provided, however, that he/she shall have resided within the City for one year immediately prior to the election.

(d) Powers and Duties - The school committee shall have all the powers which are conferred on school committees by general law and such additional powers and duties as may be provided by the charter, by ordinance, or otherwise. Its powers and duties shall include, but shall not be limited to the following.

(1) To take general charge of all the public schools in the city, including the evening schools and evening high schools, and all special programs conducted by the school department.

(2) To appoint a superintendent of the schools who shall be charged with the day to day administration of the school system, subject to policy directives adopted by the school committee. The school committee may award a contract to the superintendent of schools for a term not to exceed six years, in accordance with section forty-one of chapter seventy-one of the General Laws.

(3) To appoint all other officers and employees connected with the schools, define their duties, fix their compensation, makes rules concerning their tenure of office, and to suspend or remove them at pleasure, subject to any applicable provision of the general law.

(4) To make all reasonable rules and regulations consistent with general law, for the management of the school department.

(5) To take control of all school buildings and grounds connected therewith. No site for a school building shall be acquired by the city unless the approval of the site by the school committee is first obtained. No plans for the construction of or alterations, with the exception of ordinary repairs, in a school building shall be accepted, and no such work shall be commenced on the construction or alteration of a school building unless the approval of the school committee and the city manager shall have first been obtained.

(6) To provide, when necessary, for temporary accommodation for school purposes. The school committee shall furnish all school buildings with proper fixtures, furniture and equipment and shall provide ordinary maintenance of all school buildings and grounds.

Section 4-2 Organization - Mayor, Vice-Chair.

(a) Organization - The school committee shall organize on the first secular day of January, in accordance with the procedures set forth for the organization of the city council in section 2-2.

(b) Chair - The mayor shall serve as chair of the school committee and shall have the same power to vote on every matter coming before the school committee, as any other member.

(c) Vice Chair - Once the school committee shall have organized and at that meeting, the committee shall elect one of its members, by majority vote of all the members elected, to serve as vice-chair. The vice-chair shall preside at all meetings of the committee at which the mayor is not present.

Section 4-3 Conflict of Interest.

Except as otherwise authorized by law, no member of the school committee shall, while a member thereof, hold any other office or position in the school department, the salary or compensation for which is payable out of the city treasury.

Section 4-4 Salaries.

The members of the school committee, other than the mayor, shall receive as compensation for their services a salary equal to fifty percent of the salary established for members of the city council in accordance with section 2-4 of this charter.

Section 4-5 Meetings of the School Committee.

(a) Rules of Procedure - The school committee shall from time to time establish rules for its proceedings which shall include and be subject to the following.

(i) All meetings of the school committee shall be open to the press and to the public, except as otherwise provided by section twenty-three B of chapter thirty-nine of the General Laws.

(ii) The vote on any particular measure shall be by roll call when requested by any member and the yeas and nays shall be so recorded.

Section 4-6 Vacancies.

If a vacancy shall occur amongst the six at-large members of the school committee, said vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided in section 2-10(a) for the filing of vacancies in the office of councillor-at-large, from among the candidates for election to the office of school committee at the preceding regular municipal election.

ARTICLE FIVE

FINANCIAL PROCEDURES

Section 5-1 Submission of Budget.

Within the period prescribed by general law, the city manager shall submit to the city council an annual budget which shall be a statement of the amounts recommended by him/her for proposed expenditures of the city for the next fiscal year. The annual budget shall be classified and

designated so as to show separately with respect to each city agency or undertaking for which an appropriation is recommended as follows.

(1) Ordinary maintenance, which shall also include debt and interest charges matured and maturing during the next fiscal year, and shall be subdivided as follows.

(a) Salaries and wages of officers, officials and employees other than laborers or persons performing the duties of laborers; and

(b) Ordinary maintenance not included under (a); and

(2) Proposed expenditures for other than ordinary maintenance, including additional equipment, the estimated cost of which exceeds one thousand dollars.

The foregoing shall not prevent the city, upon recommendation of the city manager and with approval, by majority vote, of the city council, from adopting additional classifications and designations.

Section 5-2 Action on the Budget.

(a) Public Hearing - The city council may, and upon written request of at least ten registered voters shall, give notice of a public hearing to be held on the annual budget, prior to final action thereon, but not less than seven days after publication of such notice in a local newspaper. At the time and place so advertised, or at any time or place to which such public hearing may from time to time be adjourned, the city council shall hold a public hearing on the annual budget as submitted by the city manager, at which all interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard for or against the proposed expenditures or any item thereof.

(b) Adoption - The city council may, by majority vote, make appropriations for the purposes recommended and may reduce or reject any amount recommended in the annual budget, but except on recommendation of the city manager, shall not increase any amount in or the total of the annual budget, nor add thereto any amount for a purpose not included therein, except as provided in section

thirty-three of chapter forty-four of the General Laws. Except as otherwise permitted by law or by this charter, all amounts appropriated by the city council, as provided in this section, shall be for the purposes specified. In setting up an appropriation order or orders based on the annual budget, the city council shall use, so far as possible, the same classifications required for the annual budget. If the city council fails to take action with respect to any amount recommended in the annual budget, either by approving, reducing or rejecting the same, within forty-five days after its receipt of the budget, such amount shall, without any action by the city council, become a part of the appropriations for the year, and shall be available for the purposes specified.

If the city manager shall fail to submit the annual budget to the city council within the period prescribed by general law, the city council shall within thirty days upon its own initiative prepare the annual budget, as far as apt. Within fifteen days after such preparation of the annual budget, the city council shall proceed to act by voting thereon and all amounts so voted shall thereupon be valid appropriations for the purposes stated therein to the same extent as though based upon a city manager's annual budget, but subject, however, such requirements, if any, as may be imposed by law. If the city council fails to take action with respect to any amount recommended in the annual budget, either by approving, reducing, or rejecting the same, within fifteen days after such preparation, such amount shall, without further action by the city council, become a part of the appropriations for the year, and be available for the purposes specified.

Section 5-3 Supplementary Budgets, Other Appropriations.

Nothing in this section shall prevent the city council, acting upon the written recommendation of the city manager, from voting appropriations, not in excess of the amount so recommended, either prior or subsequent to the passage of the annual budget.

In case of the failure of the city manager to transmit to the city council a written

recommendation for an appropriation for any purpose not included in the annual budget, which is deemed necessary by the city council, after having been so requested by majority vote thereof, the city council, after the expiration of seven days from such vote, upon its own initiative may make such appropriation by a vote of at least two thirds of its members, and shall in all cases clearly specify the amount to be expended for each particular purpose, but no appropriation may be voted hereunder so as to fix specific salaries of employees under the direction of boards elected by the people, other than the city council.

Section 5-4 Transfer of Appropriations.

On recommendation of the city manager, the city council may, by majority vote, transfer any amount appropriated for the use of any department to another appropriation to the same department, but no transfer shall be made of any amount appropriated for the use of any department to the appropriation for any other department except by a two-thirds vote of the city council on recommendation of the city manager and with the written approval of the amount of such transfer by the department having control of the appropriation from which the transfer is proposed to be made. No approval other than that expressly provided herein shall be required for any transfer under the provisions of this section.

Section 5-5 Capital Outlay Program.

(a) Submission - The city manager shall prepare and submit to the city council a five year capital outlay program at least three months prior to the final date for submission of a proposed annual operating budget.

(b) Contents - The capital outlay program shall include:

(1) A clear general summary of its contents.

(2) A listing of all capital expenditures proposed to be made during the five fiscal years next ensuing, with appropriate financial and other details concerning each such expenditure.

(3) Cost estimates, proposed methods of financing, and a time schedule for each such expenditure.

(4) The estimated annual cost of operating or maintaining any facilities to be acquired or constructed.

The above information shall be revised and extended, annually, The foregoing shall not prevent the city, upon recommendation of the city manager and with the approval, by majority vote, of the city council, from adopting additional classifications.

Section 5-6 Purchase or Taking of Land for Municipal and Other Purposes.

At the request of any department, and with the approval of the city manager and the city council, the city council may, in the name of the city, purchase, or take by eminent domain under chapter seventy-nine of the General Laws, any land within the city limits for any municipal purpose, and without the request of any department, but with like approval, the city council may, in the name of the city, purchase or take by eminent domain under said chapter seventy-nine, any land within the City limits for the purpose of conveying the same, with or without consideration, to the commonwealth for the use of a regional community college. Whenever the price proposed to be paid for land for any municipal purpose is more than twenty-five percent higher than its average assessed valuation during the previous three years, the land shall not be purchased but shall be taken as aforesaid. No land shall be taken or purchased until an appropriation by loan or otherwise for the general purpose for which land is needed has been made by the city council by a two-thirds vote of all its members; nor shall a price be paid in excess of the appropriation, unless a larger sum is awarded by a court of competent jurisdiction. All proceedings in the taking of land shall be under the advice of the law department of the city.

Section 5-7 City Manager to Approve Certain Contracts; Surety Bonds, etc.

All contracts made by any city agency where the amount involved is two thousand dollars or more shall be in writing, and no such contract shall be deemed to have been made or executed until the approval of the city manager and also of the officer or the head of the department or of the chair of the board, as the case may be, making the contract is affixed thereto. Any contract made as aforesaid may be required to be accompanied by a bond with sureties satisfactory to the board or official having the matter in charge, or by a deposit of money, certified check or other security for the faithful performance thereof, and such bonds or other securities shall be deposited with the city treasurer until the contract has been carried out in all respects; and no such contract shall be altered except by a written agreement of the contractor, the sureties on his/her bond, if any, and the officer, department or board, as the case may be, making the contract, with the approval of the city manager, affixed thereto. Any cash deposit or check payable to the city received as security for performance under this section may be deposited by said treasurer in any bank or trust company under a separate account to be known as a performance deposit account.

The provisions of this section shall be deemed to have been complied with on all purchases made under the provisions of sections twenty-two A and twenty-two B of chapter seven of the General Laws when one municipality acting on behalf of other municipalities complies with the provisions of this section, or when purchases are made from a vendor holding a contract with the commonwealth for the item or items being purchased.

ARTICLE SIX

CITY AGENCIES

Section 6-1 Reorganization of City Agencies.

(a) Submission - The city manager may from time to time prepare and submit to the city

council reorganization plans which may, subject to applicable provisions of the general laws and this charter, reorganize, consolidate or abolish any city agency, in whole or in part, or establish new city agencies, as he/she deems necessary or expedient. Any such reorganization plan shall be accompanied by an explanatory message when submitted.

(b) City Council Action - Every such reorganization plan shall upon receipt by the city clerk be referred to an appropriate committee of the city council which shall, not more than thirty days later, hold a public hearing on the matter and shall, within ten days following such hearing, report either that it approves or that it disapproves of the plan. A reorganization plan shall become effective ninety days after the date it is received by the city council unless the city council has prior to that date voted to disapprove the reorganization plan, or unless a later effective date is specified in the plan. A reorganization plan presented by the city manager to the city council under this section shall not be amended by it, but shall either be approved or rejected as submitted.

(c) Publication - A current record of any reorganization plan adopted under this article shall be kept on file in the office of the city clerk and copies of all such plans shall be included as an appendix in any publication of the ordinances of the city.

ARTICLE SEVEN

NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, INITIATIVE, AND REFERENDUM

Section 7-1 Board of Election Commissioners.

(a) Composition - The board of election commissioners shall consist of five members, of whom two shall always represent each one of the two leading political parties, as defined in section one of chapter fifty of the General Laws; and one person who shall not represent either of said political parties. One member shall reside in each of the five districts created for the election of city councillors in accordance with section 7-6 of this charter.

(b) Appointment, Term of Office - The city manager, subject to approval, by majority vote of the city council, shall appoint the members of the board of election commissioners in accordance with paragraph (a). Appointment of the two members representing the two leading political parties shall be made from a list to be submitted by the city committee of the political party from the members of which the position is to be filled, containing the names of three enrolled members of such party resident in the city and meeting the requirements of paragraph (a), selected by a majority vote at a duly called meeting, at which a quorum is present of such committee; and every member of said board shall serve until the expiration of his/her term and until his/her successor has qualified; provided, however, that if the chair of the city committee has not submitted such list to the city manager within forty-five days after notification to said chair by certified mail, the city manager shall make such appointment without reference to said list. Such appointments shall be for a term of four years beginning April first, except that any appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired term and shall be filled in the same manner as aforesaid.

(c) Organization - The board shall organize annually in the month of April by the choice of a chair and a secretary. Where the members are unable to agree upon a chair and a secretary, such officers shall be designated by the city manager. The secretary shall keep a full and accurate record of the proceedings of the board and shall perform such other duties as the board may require.

(d) Power and duties - All the powers, rights, privileges, liabilities and duties relating to caucuses, primaries and elections, by law vested in and imposed upon mayors, city managers, boards of alderman, selectman, city or town clerks and board of registrars of voters, except the power and duty of giving notice of elections and fixing the days and hours of holding the same, shall be vested in and performed by the board of election commissioners.

The board shall have such other powers and duties as provided under section sixteen A of chapter fifty-one of the General Laws, or otherwise prescribed to said board by general law.

The board may recommend such assistant commissioners and such assistants as it deems necessary; the two leading political parties shall be equally represented with respect to said appointments. Said assistant commissioners shall have such powers and perform such duties as the board may require. Persons appointed to serve temporarily as assistant commissioners or as temporary assistant commissioners, shall not be subject to chapter thirty-one.

(e) Compensation - The members of the board of election commissioners shall receive such compensation for their services as the city manager and city council may determine.

Section 7-2 City Elections: General: Preliminary.

The regular municipal election shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November in each odd numbered year.

The City manager and city council may fix the date of the preliminary election and may fix the time for filing nomination papers and for certification of the names thereon. Any action taken by the city manager and city council fixing any date as authorized by this section shall be taken not later than the sixtieth day prior to the date otherwise provided by general or special law, and if not so fixed, general or special law shall otherwise apply thereto.

Notice of such action shall be published in one or more local newspapers, if any, or posted in at least five public places, including the city bulletin board, within the city.

Section 7-3 Non-Partisan Elections.

All elections for city offices shall be non-partisan and election ballots shall be printed without any party mark, emblem, or other designation whatsoever.

Section 7-4 Preliminary Elections.

(a) Statement and Petition of Candidate for Nomination - There shall not be printed on the official ballot for use at such preliminary election the name of any candidate for

nomination at such election, unless he/she shall have filed, within the time period required, with the board of election commissioners a statement in writing of his/her candidacy, and with it a petition signed by the voters as required by paragraph (c); said statement and petition shall be in substantially the following form.

Statement of Candidate

Form of Statement - I (), on oath declare that I reside at (number if any) on (name of street) in the city of Worcester; that I am a voter therein, qualified to vote for a candidate for the office of (name of office) for (state the term) to be voted for at the preliminary election to be held on Tuesday, the day of , nineteen hundred and , and I request that my name be printed as such candidate on the official ballot for use at said preliminary election.

(signed)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ss.

Subscribed and sworn to on this day of ,
nineteen hundred and , before me.

(signed)

Justice of the Peace or

(Notary Public)

Petition Accompanying Statement of Candidate

Form of Petition - Whereas (name of candidate) is a candidate for nomination for the office of (state the office) for (state the term), we, the undersigned, voters of the city of Worcester, duly qualified to vote for a candidate for said office, do hereby request that the name of said (name of candidate) as a candidate for nomination for said office be printed on the official ballot to be used at

the preliminary election to be held on the Tuesday of _____, nineteen hundred and _____. We further state that we believe him/her to be of good moral character and qualified to perform the duties of the office.

No acceptance by the candidate for nomination named in the said petition shall be necessary to its validity or its filing, and the petition, which may be on one or more papers, need not be sworn to.

(b) Signature Requirements - The number of required signatures of voters to appear on the petition accompanying the statement of a candidate for election to the office of councillor at-large or school committee member shall be not less than three hundred. The number of certified signatures of voters from the district from which nomination is sought, required to appear on the petition accompanying the statement of a candidate for election to the office of district councillor, shall be not less than one hundred.

(c) List of Candidates, Official Ballots - On the first day, other than Sunday or a legal holiday, following the expiration of the time for filing the above described statement and petition, the board of election commissioners shall post on the city bulletin board, the names and residences of the candidates for nomination who have duly qualified as candidates for nomination, as they are to appear on the official ballots to be used at the preliminary election, except as to the order of the names. The board of election commissioners shall cause the ballots which shall contain said names, in their order as drawn by said commissioners, and no others, with a designation of residence, and of the office and term of service, to be printed, and the ballots so printed shall be official and no others shall be used at the preliminary election.

Blank spaces shall be left at the end of each list of candidates for nomination for the different offices equal to the number to be nominated therefore, in which the voter may insert the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom he/she desires to vote for nomination for

such office. There shall be printed on said ballots such directions as will aid the voter, as, for example: "vote for one", "vote for two" and the like, and the ballots shall be headed as follows.

Official Preliminary Ballot

Candidates for nomination for the offices of () in the City of , at a preliminary election to be held on the day of in the year nineteen hundred and (The heading shall be varied in accordance with the offices for which nominations are to be made).

(d) Election Results - The board of election commissioners shall, immediately upon closing of the polls at preliminary elections, count the ballots and ascertain the number of votes cast in the several voting places for each candidate, canvass said returns, and shall forthwith determine the result thereof, insert the same in one or more local newspapers and post the same on the city bulletin board.

(e) Determination of Candidates - The two persons receiving at a preliminary election the highest number of votes for nomination for each office shall be the sole candidates for that office whose names shall be printed on the official ballots to be used at the regular municipal election at which such office is to be voted upon, and no acceptance of a nomination shall be necessary to its validity; provided, however, that a person nominated at a preliminary election may withdraw his/her name from nomination by a request signed and duly acknowledge by him/her and filed with the election commission within five business days succeeding five o'clock in the afternoon of the day of holding such preliminary election. Such nominee shall be replaced by the candidate with the next highest number of votes in said preliminary, unless otherwise provided herein.

(f) Condition Making Preliminary Unnecessary - If at the expiration of time for filing statements of candidates to be voted upon at any preliminary election not more than twice as many such statements have been filed with the board of election commissioners for an office as candidates

are to be elected to such office, the candidates whose statements have been filed with the board of election commissioners shall be deemed to have been nominated to such office, and their names shall be voted upon for such office at the succeeding regular or special election, and the board of election commissioners shall not print said names on the ballot to be used at such preliminary election and no other nomination to such office shall be made. If in consequence it shall appear that no names are to be printed upon the official ballot to be used in any particular district or districts of the City, no preliminary election shall be held in such district or districts.

Section 7-5 Ballot Position, Incumbents.

The names of all candidates shall appear on the official ballot in the order in which they are drawn by lot. Each such drawing shall be conducted by the board of election commissioners. Each candidate or his/her duly authorized representative shall have an opportunity to be present at such drawing. After the name of each candidate for office who is an elected incumbent thereof, shall be added the words "candidate for re-election".

Section 7-6 Districts.

(a) Number, Requirements - The board of election commissioners shall divide the city into five districts for the purpose of electing district councillors under Article 2 of this charter. Each such district shall be compact and shall contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number of inhabitants, shall be composed of contiguous existing precincts, and shall be drawn with a view toward preserving the integrity of existing neighborhoods.

(b) Revision of District Lines - The city clerk shall immediately provide notice to the board of election commissioners of the results of each state census and division of the city into wards and precincts as required under chapter fifty-four of the General Laws. The board of election commissioners shall review the districts for conformance with the requirements of paragraph (a) and shall redraw said districts, if necessary, after public hearing, within sixty days of receiving notice

from the city clerk. Revision of district lines and new wards and precincts shall take effect simultaneously.

Section 7-7 Application of State General Laws.

Except as expressly provided in this charter and authorized by law, all city elections shall be governed by the general laws relating to the right to vote, the registration of voters, the nomination of candidates, the conduct of preliminary, general, and special elections, the submission of charters, charter amendments and other propositions to the voters, the counting of votes, the recounting of votes, and the determination of results.

Section 7-8 Initiative Petitions to Council or School Committee.

A petition conforming to the requirements hereinafter provided and requesting the city council to pass a measure, except an order granted under section seventy or seventy-one of chapter one hundred and sixty-four or chapter one hundred and sixty-six of the General Laws, or requesting the school committee to pass a measure, therein set forth or designated, shall be termed an initiative petition and shall be acted upon as hereinafter provided.

(a) Requirements, Commencement - The city council or school committee shall take action in accordance with paragraph (b), on any initiative petition filed in accordance with the requirements as set forth in this paragraph.

(1) Signatures - Initiative petitions shall contain signatures of voters equal to at least fifteen percent of the total number of voters in the city.

Signatures to initiative petitions need not all be on one paper. All such papers pertaining to any one measure shall be fastened together and shall be filed in the office of the city clerk as one instrument, with the endorsement thereon of the names and addresses of three persons designated as filing the same. Accompanying each signature to the petition shall be stated the place of residence of the signer, giving the street and number, if any.

(2) Certification - Within five days after the filing of a petition, the board of election commissioners shall ascertain by what number of voters the petition is signed and what percentage that number is of the total number of voters, and shall attach thereto their certificate showing the results of such examination.

When such certificate has been so transmitted, a petition shall be deemed to be valid unless written objections are made thereto by a voter within forty-eight hours after such certification by filing such objections with the city council or the school committee, and a copy thereof with the board of election commissioners.

A copy of the objections so filed shall forthwith be transmitted to the state ballot law commission which shall hold a public hearing on such objections, shall render a decision on the matter referred to it within fourteen days after the objections were filed and transmit a copy of its decision to the city council or the school committee.

(b) Action by City Council or School Committee if Initiative Petition is Fully Signed; Referendum - If any initiative petition, meeting the requirements of paragraph (a) is filed, the city council or school committee shall, within twenty days after the date of the certificate of the board of election commissioners to that effect:

1. Pass said measure without alteration, subject to the referendum vote provided by this charter; or

2. The city council shall call a special election to be held on a Tuesday fixed by it, not less than thirty nor more than forty-five days after the date of the certificate hereinbefore mentioned, and shall submit the proposed measure without alteration to the voters at that election; provided, that if any city election is otherwise to occur within ninety days after the date of said certificate, the city council may, at its discretion, omit calling the special election and submit the proposed measure to the voters at such approaching election.

(c) Proceedings if Petition Not Fully Signed - If an initiative petition is signed by voters equal in number to at least eight percent but less than fifteen percent of the total number of voters, and said measure is not passed without alteration, within twenty days by the city council or the school committee as provided in the preceding paragraph, such proposed measure without alteration, shall be submitted by the city council to the voters at the next regular municipal election.

(d) Question on the ballot - The ballots used when voting upon a proposed measure, or a measure or part thereof protested against hereunder, shall state the nature of the measure in terms sufficient to show the substance thereof.

(e) Passage, Date of Effect - A proposed measure or a measure or part thereof protested against hereunder, shall become effective if it shall be approved by the voters equal in number to one third of the total number of voters and also by a majority of the voters voting on such measure, but not otherwise.

Section 7-9 Citizen Referendum Procedures.

(a) Petition, Effect on Final Vote - If, within twenty days after the final passage of any measure, except a revenue loan order, by the city council or by the school committee, a petition signed by the voters, equal in number to at least twelve percent of the total number of voters, and addressed to the city council or to the school committee, as the case may be, protesting against such measure or any part thereof taking effect, is filed with the city clerk, the same shall thereupon and thereby be suspended from taking effect; and the city council or the school committee, as the case may be, shall immediately reconsider such measure or part thereof; and if such measure or part thereof is not entirely rescinded, the city council shall submit the same, by the method herein provided, to the voters either at the next regular city election, or at a special election which may, in the city council's discretion, be called for that purpose, and such measure or part thereof shall

forthwith become null and void unless a majority of the voters voting on the same at such election, vote in favor thereof.

(b) Certain Initiative Provisions to Apply - The petition described in this section shall be termed a referendum petition and section 7-8, with the exception of the last paragraph 7-8 (a) (2), shall apply to the procedure in respect thereto, except that the words "measure or part thereof protested against" shall, for this purpose, be understood to replace "measure" in said section wherever it may occur, and "referendum" shall be understood to replace the word "initiative" in said section.

Section 7-10 Ineligible Measures.

None of the following shall be subject to the initiative or the referendum procedures: (1) proceedings relating to the internal organization or operation of the city council or the school committee; (2) an emergency measure adopted in conformity with the charter; (3) the city budget or the school committee budget as a whole; (4) revenue loan orders; (5) any appropriation for the payment of the city's debt or debt service; (6) an appropriation of funds to implement a collective bargaining agreement; (7) proceedings relative to the election, appointment, removal, discharge, employment, promotion, transfer, demotion, or other personnel action; (8) any proceedings repealing or rescinding a measure or part thereof which is protested by referendum procedures; and (9) any proceedings providing for the submission or referral of any measure to the voters at an election.

Section 7-11 Submission of Other Matters to Voters.

The city council may on its own motion, and shall, upon the request of the school committee, if a measure originates with that committee and pertains to the affairs under its administration, submit to the voters for adoption or rejection at a general or special city election any proposed measure, or a proposition for the repeal or amendment of any measure, in the same

manner and with the same force and effect as are hereby provided for submission on petition.

Section 7-12 Conflicting Provisions.

If two or more proposed measures passed at the same election contain conflicting provisions, only the one receiving the greater number of affirmative votes shall take effect.

ARTICLE EIGHT

NEIGHBORHOOD AREA COUNCILS

Section 8-1 Purpose.

It is the purpose of this article to encourage citizen involvement in government at the neighborhood level by permitting limited self-government through the establishment of neighborhood area councils as legal entities of the city government.

Section 8-2 Establishment of Neighborhood Council Areas.

The city council may establish one or more neighborhood area councils to provide advisory and self-help functions that the neighborhood area council is authorized to undertake.

Section 8-3 Petition to Establish Neighborhood Area Council.

(a) A petition may be submitted to the city council requesting the establishment of a neighborhood area council to advise the city council on neighborhood affairs and to act on its behalf when specifically authorized to do so by majority vote of the city council. Such petition must be signed by twenty percent of the voters residing in such area. The petition shall describe the territorial boundaries of the proposed neighborhood council area, shall specify the advisory and self-help functions to be provided, and shall indicate the size of the neighborhood area council.

(b) Upon receipt of the petition and certification of the signatures thereon by the board of election commissioners, the city council shall, within thirty days following receipt of such

certification hold a public hearing on the question of whether or not the requested neighborhood area council should be established. The hearing may be adjourned from time to time but shall be completed within sixty days of its commencement.

(c) Within thirty days following the public hearing, the city council shall, by resolution, approve or disapprove the establishment of the requested neighborhood area council.

(d) A resolution approving the creation of the neighborhood area council may contain amendments or modifications of the boundaries of the neighborhood council area, functions or size of the neighborhood area council, as set forth in the petition.

Section 8-4 Boundary Changes of a Neighborhood Council Area.

Pursuant to a request from a neighborhood area council, accompanied by a petition signed by at least twenty percent of the voters residing in the area to be added or deleted, the city council may enlarge, diminish, or otherwise alter the boundaries of any existing neighborhood area council in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 8-3(b),(c), and (d).

Section 8-5 Criteria to Set Boundaries.

In establishing neighborhood boundaries and determining those functions to be undertaken by a neighborhood area council, the city council shall study and take into consideration, but shall not be limited to, the following criteria.

(1) The extent to which the area constitutes a neighborhood with common concerns and a capacity for local neighborhood initiative, leadership, and decision-making with respect to city government.

(2) City agency authority and resources which may appropriately be transferred or shared with the neighborhood council.

(3) Population density, distribution, and growth within a neighborhood area council to assure that its boundaries reflect the most effective territory for local participation and control.

(4) Citizen access to, control of, and participation in neighborhood area council activities and functions.

Section 8-6 Dissolution of a Neighborhood Area Council.

(a) The city council may, after a public hearing, dissolve a neighborhood area council on the initiative of the city council or pursuant to a petition signed by at least twenty percent of the voters living within the neighborhood area.

(b) The city council shall give notice, in a local newspaper of general circulation in that neighborhood area, of its intention to hold a public hearing on a proposed dissolution. Such notice shall be given not less than fourteen days before the date of the public hearing.

Section 8-7 Election of Neighborhood Area Council; Vacancies.

(a) A neighborhood area council shall consist of five to nine members. The term of office of each member shall be two years and he/she shall serve until his/her successor is qualified.

(b) Neighborhood area council members shall be elected at-large by and from voters residing in the neighborhood council area at the time of the election. The city council shall determine the time and manner of holding such elections. The district councillors who represent any portion of the area included in a neighborhood council area shall serve, ex-officio and with no power to vote, as members of the neighborhood area council.

(c) The director of a neighborhood center, or his/her delegate, whose center is a duly organized non-profit corporation which provides human services in the neighborhood area, or a portion thereof, shall be a member of said neighborhood area council with full voting power.

(d) The city manager may appoint an additional ex-officio member, with voting power, if such appointment is needed to satisfy the city's commitment to open, fair and equitable practices in city government. Such appointment shall be subject to approval, by majority vote, of the city council.

(e) A vacancy on a neighborhood area council shall be filled by the candidate for neighborhood councillor on that neighborhood area council who received the largest number of votes for said office, without being elected, provided that such individual remains eligible and willing to serve. The board of election commissioners shall certify such candidate to the office of neighborhood area councillor for the then unexpired term. If there be no such candidate, the vacancy shall be filled by the neighborhood area council who shall elect, by majority vote, a voter to serve for the balance of the unexpired term.

Section 8-8 Neighborhood Area Council Powers and Functions.

A neighborhood area council may exercise any power and perform any functions within the neighborhood area expressly authorized by the city council, which may include but shall not be limited to:

(1) Advisory or delegated substantive authority, or both, with respect to such programs as community action, urban renewal, relocation, public housing, planning and zoning actions, other physical development programs, crime prevention and juvenile delinquency programs, health services, code inspection, recreation, education, and manpower training. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to authorize the city council to delegate to any neighborhood area council any substantive authority with regard to zoning or the operation of private non-profit neighborhood centers.

(2) Self-help projects, such as supplemental refuse collection, beautification, minor street and sidewalk repair, street fairs and festivals, cultural activities, recreation, and housing rehabilitation and sale.

(3) Acceptance of funds from public sources, but not including city, private sources, including public subscriptions; and expenditure of monies to meet overhead cost of neighborhood area council administration.

Section 8-9 Compensation; Meetings; By-Laws; Quorum.

(a) Members of a neighborhood area council shall receive no compensation but may receive reimbursement of actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.

(b) A neighborhood area council shall adopt rules providing for the conduct of its business and the selection of a presiding officer and other officers. Copies of all rules adopted by neighborhood area councils shall be made available to the public upon request.

(c) A majority of the voting members of a neighborhood area council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Each member entitled to vote shall have one vote.

Section 8-10 Annual Report.

Each neighborhood area council shall make an annual report of its activities to the city council which shall be made available to the public. It shall also hold an annual meeting in the neighborhood area at which it will report on its activities and make copies of said annual report available.

Section 8-11 Financial Records.

Each neighborhood area council shall maintain complete financial records which shall be subject to audit by the city.

Section 8-12 Relationship to City Manager.

The city manager shall, at the request of the neighborhood area council, assign a representative to attend the meetings of the neighborhood area council and act as liaison between the neighborhood area council and the city manager.

ARTICLE NINE

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 9-1 Charter Changes.

This charter may be revised or amended in accordance with the procedures made available under the constitution of the commonwealth or pursuant to any applicable provision of the general laws.

Section 9-2 Severability.

The provisions of this charter are severable. If any provision of this charter is held invalid, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby. If the application of this charter, or any of its provisions, to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the application of this charter and its provisions to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 9-3 Specific Provision to Prevail.

To the extent that any specific provision of this charter may conflict with any other provision expressed in general terms herein the specific provision shall prevail.

Section 9-4 Rules and Regulations.

A copy of all rules and regulations adopted by city agencies shall be placed on file in the office of the city clerk and shall be made available for review by any person who requests such information at any reasonable time. No rule or regulation adopted by any city agency shall become effective until five days following the date it is so filed.

Section 9-5 Number.

Words importing the singular number may extend and be applied to several persons or things; words importing the plural number may include the singular.

Section 9-6 Reference to General Laws.

All references to the General Laws contained in this charter refer to the General Laws of the commonwealth of Massachusetts and are intended to refer to and to include any amendments or revisions of such chapters or sections, or to the corresponding chapters and sections of any recodification, or revision of such statutes enacted or adopted subsequent to the adoption of this charter.

Section 9-7 Certificate of Election or Appointment.

Every person who is elected, including those elected by the city council, or appointed to an office of the city shall receive a certificate of such election or appointment from the city clerk.

Except as otherwise provided by law, before performing any act under an appointment or election, all such persons shall take and subscribe to an oath of office and be sworn to the faithful performance of their duties.

ARTICLE TEN

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Section 10-1 Continuation of Existing Laws, etc.

All General Laws previously accepted by the City, special laws, ordinances, resolutions, orders, and rules and regulations of or pertaining to the city that are in force when this charter takes effect, and not specifically or by implication repealed herein, shall continue in full force and effect until amended or repealed, or rescinded by due course of law, or until they expire by their own limitations.

Section 10-2 Continuation of Government and Administration.

Until superseded under this charter, the organization of the city agencies and the powers and duties exercised by each such city agency, shall continue as established prior to the adoption of this

charter.

Section 10-3 Transfer of Records and Property.

All records, property, and equipment whatsoever of any city agency, or part thereof, the powers and duties of which are assigned in whole or in part to another city agency pursuant to this charter, shall be transferred forthwith to such agency when such agency shall have been established hereunder.

Section 10-4 Continuation of Personnel.

Any person holding a city office or a position in the administrative service of the city, or any person holding full-time employment under the city, shall retain such office, position or employment, and shall continue to perform the duties of such office, position or employment until provision shall have been made for the performance of those duties by another person or agency; provided, however, no person in the permanent full-time service of the city shall forfeit his/her pay grade, or time in service of the city. All such persons shall be retained in a capacity as similar to the capacity in which they were serving at the time this charter becomes effective, as is practicable.

Section 10-5 Effect on Obligations, Taxes, etc.

All official bonds, recognizances, obligations, contracts, and other instruments entered into or executed by or to the city before the effective date of this charter, and all taxes, special assessments, fines, penalties, forfeitures, incurred or imposed, due or owing to the city, shall be enforced and collected, and all writs, prosecutions, actions, and causes of action, except as otherwise provided herein, shall continue without abatement and remain unaffected by this charter; and no legal act done by or in favor of the city shall be rendered invalid by reason of the adoption of this charter.

Section 10-6 City Agencies Established by Special Law.

(a) Special Laws Retained - Nothing in this charter shall be construed so as to alter in any

manner the provisions of certain special laws establishing and governing the operation of:

(1) Worcester City Hospital - In particular, the provisions of chapter two-hundred and sixty-six of the acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-three and chapter three-hundred and eighty-six of the acts of nineteen hundred and eighty-four.

(2) Civic Center Commission - In particular, the provisions of chapter two-hundred and sixteen of the acts of nineteen hundred and seventy-six.

(3) Off-Street Parking Board - In particular, the provisions of chapter three-hundred and sixty-five of the acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-five.

(4) Board of Trustees of the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall - In particular, the provisions of chapter two-hundred and eighty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty.

Each of the aforesaid entities shall continue to operate under the provisions of law heretofore applicable to it, and its relationship with the several city agencies, the city manager, and the city council shall be unaffected by the adoption of this charter.

(b) Special Laws Repealed - Certain city agencies previously established and governed by special law are hereby continued as city agencies subject to the provisions of article six of this charter for the purposes of organization and reorganization. These city agencies include the board of health and the commissioner of public health established by chapter one-hundred and eighty-one of the acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-three, the commissioner of public works established by chapter two-hundred and ten of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-nine, and the parks and recreation commission established by chapter two-hundred and four of the special acts of nineteen hundred and seventeen (but the powers contained in chapter one hundred and eighteen of the acts of nineteen hundred and seventy-five are specifically preserved). The special laws establishing these agencies are hereby repealed but the provisions of such special laws are retained and shall have the force of city ordinances which may be amended, revised, or repealed in accordance with the power

to reorganize city agencies contained in article six of this charter.

Section 10-7 Effective Date of the Charter and Certain Provisions.

This charter shall become effective upon its approval by the voters pursuant to the procedures available under the constitution of the commonwealth or under the general laws, and in accordance with the following schedule.

(a) This charter, in its entirety, unless otherwise provided herein, shall take effect on January 1, 1987.

(b) Within ninety days of the adoption of this charter by the voters, each city committee of the two leading political parties shall submit the list required by section 7-1(b) to the city manager for the purpose of appointing the board of election commissioners. Said list shall comply with the requirements of section 7-1(a) except that the names may be selected from the city at large, giving consideration to the geographical distribution of the nominees within the city. Within sixty days of receipt of said list, the city manager shall appoint the board of election commissioners in accordance with section 7-1(b). In appointing this board of election commissioners, the city manager shall not be restricted by the district residency requirements contained in section 7-1(a), but shall give consideration to the geographical distribution of the members within the city.

Once the board of election commissioners shall have organized, the city clerk shall send an official notice informing said board of the results of the most recent state census and division of the city by the city council into wards and precincts as required under section one of chapter fifty-four of the General Laws. Within one hundred and twenty days following receipt of such notice, the board of election commissioners shall, after public hearing, divide the city into five districts for the purpose of electing district councillors under Article 2 of this charter. Each such district shall be compact and shall contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number of inhabitants, shall be composed of contiguous existing precincts, and shall be drawn with a view toward preserving the integrity of

existing neighborhoods.

Section 10-8 Home Rule Petition.

Immediately following the election at which this charter is adopted, the city clerk shall transmit to the members of the general court who represent the city, a certificate stating that the voters have approved of the filing of the following petition to enact a special law.

AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN POSITIONS IN THE CITY OF WORCESTER FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in the General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows.

Section 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the positions of city treasurer and city clerk in the city of Worcester shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter thirty-one of the General Laws.

Section 2. The provisions of section one shall not impair the civil service status of any incumbent holding permanent status in said positions on the effective date of this act.

ADDENDUM

Pursuant to the vote at the election held on November 3, 1987 the citizens of Worcester voted the following charter amendment eliminating the Citizen Complaints Officer.

QUESTION

" Shall this City approve the charter amendment proposed by the City Council summarized below?

The proposed charter amendment eliminates the position of Citizen Complaints Officer by deleting Section 2-8(c) of the Worcester Home Rule Charter which provides that the City Council shall appoint a Citizen Complaints Officer to process citizen complaints and inquiries."

Votes Cast Yes: 15641 No: 12663