



City of Quincy Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

1305 Hancock Street
Quincy, MA 02169

Kevin F. Coughlin
Brad L. Croall
Joseph G. Finn, President
Douglas S. Gutro

Kirsten L. Hughes
Margaret E. Laforest
Michael E. McFarland
Brian F. McNamee
Brian Palmucci

Joseph P. Shea, Clerk
Nicole L. Crispo, Assistant Clerk
Jennifer L. Manning, Clerk of Committees
Susan M. O'Connor, Auditor

City Council Meeting Agenda Monday, December 7, 2015 Location Change - *****City Hall Council Chamber***** James R. McIntyre - Government Center 1305 Hancock Street

**Public Hearing
7:00 PM**

Tax Classification

The City Council of the City of Quincy held a Public Hearings on Monday, November 16, 2015. Council President Joseph G. Finn called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Councillor Coughlin, Councillor Croall, Councillor Finn, Councillor Hughes, Councillor Laforest, Councillor McFarland and Councillor Palmucci. Councillor Gutro and Councillor McNamee were not present

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Quincy that the City Council will conduct a Public Hearing in the School Committee Room, Coddington Hall, 34 Coddington Street on Monday December 7, 2015 at 7:00 PM pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40 § 56 as well as guidelines of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue in order to determine the percentages of local tax levy to borne by each class of real property, as defined in § 2A of Chapter 59, and personal property in Fiscal Year 2016.

Assessor Peter Moran reviewed the computation of the Tax Rate-

Levy - \$201,704,295	Levy Limit - \$225,137,473	Excess - \$23,433,178
Tax Rate - Residential - \$14.36	C.I.P.P - \$29.37	

Residential Tax Rate of \$14.36 per \$1,000 of value is a decrease of .24 cents and Commercial Rate of \$29.37 per \$1,000 is a decrease of .89 cents. An Appropriation of \$3 million from Free Cash was used to offset the impact of on single family tax bill. Despite lower levy the value shift means a 5.9% increase or roughly \$296 to \$5,277 increase on average single family home. Adjustments save more than \$100 on the average single family home and this is more than \$300 less than allowed by Proposition 2.5

No one spoke in favor or opposition

Public Hearing was closed at 7:08 pm

It is anticipated that one or more matters contained within the City Council Calendar, including any or all listed items pending in Committee, may be discussed and acted upon at this meeting. For a full Council Calendar, go to www.quincyma.gov



Regular Council Meeting 7:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Quincy met on Monday, December 7, 2015 at 7:30 pm School Committee Room of Coddington Hall with President Finn presiding. Present were Councillor Coughlin, Councillor Croall, Councillor Finn, Councillor Hughes, Councillor Laforest, Councillor McFarland, and Councillor Palmucci. Councillor Gutro and Councillor McNamee were absent. Al Grazioso was in attendance as administration representative.

Mayor Thomas P. Koch spoke and welcomed everyone to the renovated Council Chambers

Moment of Silence for Divine Inspiration

Pledge of Allegiance – Lead by Boy Scout Troop 42

City Clerk Joseph Shea read the open meeting law

Honoring of Boy Scout Lucien Theberge for his Eagle Scout Project of An outdoor classroom at the Charles A. Bernazzani Elementary School by Ward 5 Councillor Hughes

2015 – 202 - Appropriation of \$1,953,836 to Community Preservations Accounts – Mayor Koch

Reading waived

Councillor McFarland recommends passages

Councillor Coughlin spoke regarding Community Preservation Committee

Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Coughlin

Councillor Palmucci questioned what the Administrative Account is for CPC

Deidra Hall stated that the account is for secretary, advertising, legal fees, etc.

Motion Passed by a 7-0 vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 203 - Department of Revenue Snow & Ice Deficit Amortization Program – Mayor Koch

Councillor McFarland recommends adoption

Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Coughlin

Councillor Palmucci questioned if this amount included damage claims.

Mark Cavanagh stated that it does not include damage claims and those are being paid thru Judgements \$273,000, where the funds that might

Councillor Croall questioned the if there was any interest will need to paid

Mark Cavanagh stated that there is no interest and this allows the city to limit impact on tax levy

State requires that 1/3 be amortized in the first year but remainder can be paid in one lump sum

Motion Passed by a 7-0 vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 204 - Appropriation –\$2,173,000.00 for Snow & Ice Personal Services and Contractual Deficits –

Mayor Koch

Councillor McFarland recommends approval

Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Palmucci

Councillor Laforest questioned if this will affect this years budget

Mark Cavanagh stated this is outside of the regularly budgeted snow removal

Motion Passed by a 7-0 vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent



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2015 – 205 - Appropriation of \$473,514.00 for Short-Term Interest from DIF Fund – Mayor Koch
Councillor McFarland recommends approval of this annual appropriation
Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Palmucci
Councillor Palmucci questioned what timeframe this is for and if it must be voted on this evening or if it can wait until we know what the will have for revenue
Mark Cavanagh this is the interest for 2016 and they have the estimate on the DIF
Deborah Coughlin stated that is on \$37 million that has been borrowed to date and we use special legislation that allows the City to pay interest only.
Peter Moran stated that the amounts have not been calculated but the appreciation of the properties in the DIF area will more than cover the payments
Councillor Palmucci would like a report for the first half of the year and projection for the second to show that there is sufficient revenue to support the payment
Susan O'Connor stated it does need to pass this evening and has reviewed the schedules
Motion Passed by a 7-0 vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 206 - Appropriation of \$3,000,000.00 to General Fund from Free Cash to Reduce Tax Rate – Mayor Koch
Councillor McFarland recommends approval
Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Coughlin
Motion Passed by a 7-0 vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 207 - Adopting Percentages of Local Tax by Each Class of Real & Personal Property for FY16 – Mayor Koch
Motion to waive the reading
Councillor McFarland recommends approval
Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Coughlin
Councillor Palmucci spoke regarding regressive taxes and its effect on the poor and elderly and the lack of local aid in the State Budget and has forced the burden onto cities and towns that in turn need to pass it on to home owners and the effect this has had across the state.
President Finn spoke regarding the pressures that the legislature finds themselves under and that Quincy protect that the residential tax payer is protected as much as possible.
Councillors Coughlin spoke to the prior votes to protect residential property owners and his appreciation of the state legislature and their difficult choices and the need to pass the tax rate tonight
Councillor Hughes thanked Councillor Palmucci and spoke regarding the difficult choice it is to support but it is need to support the budget passed in June
Councillor Laforest questioned Assessor Moran regarding abatement process and timing as well as Swap Program
Assessor Moran the January tax bills reflect 2014 values and they are generally under 90% of the value.
Abatement can be submitted by residents need to provide reasons for the abatement by February 1, 2016 and application is available online or in office in December. Swap program is available thru Council on Aging.
Councillor Croall discussed the need for the Council to receive Tax Rate information in a timelier manner
Assessor Moran stated he will work to get the information to the Councillors sooner next year
Councillor Coughlin asked what would happen if we do not have if we do not adopt a tax rate and the excess tax levy



Mark Cavanagh said waiting to pass the tax rate would not give enough time to the DOR to approve the tax rate and for the City's Treasurer to send out the bill. Average excess levy in the state is \$1 million and many towns are at there max and Quincy is at \$23,433,178

Motion Passed by a 6-1 vote – Councillor Palmucci voting No – Councillor Gutro & McNamee were absent

2015 – 208 - Adopting Residential Factor of .855706 for FY16 – Mayor Koch

Councillor McFarland

Councillor McFarland recommends passage

Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Coughlin

Motion Passed by a 6-1 vote – Councillor Palmucci voting No – Councillor Gutro & McNamee were absent

2015 – 209 - \$5,000.00 Donation from AvalonBay to Mayor's Cup Charity Golf Tournament Fund – Mayor Koch

Motion by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Coughlin

Motion passed by 6-0 roll call vote – Councillor Palmucci voted present

2014 – 176 – Update from Department of Inspectional Services to provide an update relative to violations at chronic blight properties – Councillor Laforest

Councillor Laforest reschedule to the December 21st City Council Meeting

Communications & Reports-

Approval of Minutes from the November 9, 2015 City Council Meeting

Motion to approve by Councillor McFarland, Seconded by Councillor Coughlin

I's have it

Approval of Minutes from the November 16, 2015 City Council Meeting

Motion to approve by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor McFarland

I's have it

From Traffic Department –

Ward 2 – Councillor Croall - **Add** - No Parking on Dartmouth St, #12 Dartmouth St Driveway to #20-22

Ward 3 – Councillor Coughlin - **Add** - Handicap Parking at 375 Belmont St.

Ward 3 – Councillor Coughlin - **Add** - No Parking on the East side of Amesbury St, Wilson Ave to 85' south of Wilson Ave.

Ward 3 – Councillor Coughlin - **Add** - Stop Sign on Wilson Ave, East and West Bound, Intersecting with Belmont St.

Ward 3 – Councillor Coughlin - **Add** - Handicap Parking -Loading Zone at 316 Farrington St.

Ward 5 – Councillor Hughes - **Add** – 2 Hour Parking on Coddington Street-Opposite Newcomb St. and 60" West 745' West



Ward 3 – Councillor McNamee **Add** – No Parking on East Side of Rawson Road from Billings Road to Vassall Street

I's have it

The above has been referred to Ordinance Committee for advertising

MSBA Sterling Middle School Letter to move to schematic design

Copy of letter to be refer to the Education Committee

Letter from Senator John Keenan Regarding Council Order 2015 – 169 regard resident petition to request MassDot install sound barriers in West Quincy

Councillor Palmucci Motion to waive the reading

Copy to be filed with Council Order 2015 - 169

Ordinance Committee –

Traffic Council Orders 2015 – 186 thru 2015 – 193 for Councillor Palmucci tabled at the request of Councillor Palmucci

2015 – 194 - **Add** – No Parking on both sides of Beach St, from Quincy Shore Dr. to Billings Rd

Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin

Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor Hughes

Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 195 - **Add** – No Parking-Tow Zone on Both sides of West Elm Ave, Quincy Shore Dr to 80' west of Quincy Shore Dr.

Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin

Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor Hughes

Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 196 - **Add** - 15 Minute Parking on the East side of Willow St, at 50 Willow St

Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin

Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor Hughes

Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 197 - **Add** – No Parking -Tow Zone on Both sides of Bayfield Road, from Quincy Shore Drive to North Bayfield Road and South Bayfield Road

Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin

Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor

Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 198 - **Add** – No Parking -Tow Zone on Both sides of Billings St, from Quincy Shore Dr. to 50' west of Quincy Shore Drive

Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin

Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor Croall

Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent



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2015 – 199 - **Add** - No Parking on the South side of East Squantum St, Hancock St to Newbury Ave
Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin
Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor Croall
Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 200 - **Add** - No Parking-Tow Zone on Both sides of Herbert Rd, Quincy Shore Dr to 60' west of Quincy Shore Dr
Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin
Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor Hughes
Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

2015 – 201 - Ward 6 – Councillor McNamee 2015 - 201 **Add** - No Parking-Tow Zone on both sides of Channing St, Quincy Shore Dr. to 70' west of Quincy Shore Dr
Positive recommendation made by Ordinance Committee Chairman Councillor Coughlin
Motion made by Councillor Coughlin, Seconded by Councillor Palmucci
Motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote – Councillor Gutro & Councillor McNamee were absent

Petitions, Memorial, Remonstrance –

Councillor Laforest will be hosting a Neighborhood Meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at the Houghs Neck Congregational Church - 300 Manet Avenue – Lower Level at 6:00pm to discuss Public Safety including the recent vandalism as well as the Houghs Neck Maritime Center/Public Landing

Councillor Palmucci commends Alba owner Leo Keka, Quincy Police Chief Keenan and District Attorney Michael Morrissey on their for Observe, Not Overserve and Free Taxi Ride Programs this holiday season

Councillor Coughlin reminded residents of the Safford Park Tree Lighting on Friday December 11th at 6 pm

Motions, Orders, Resolutions –

None

Scheduling of Committee Meetings & Public Hearings –

Monday, December 21, 2015	6:30 PM	Public Hearing – Gender Identity
	7:30 PM	Regular Council Meeting

Adjournment at 9:21 PM