



City of Northampton
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Select Committee on Pesticide Reduction of the Northampton City Council

Date: November 4, 2019 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: City Council Chambers, Puchalski Municipal Building, 212 Main St., Northampton, MA

Members Present: Adele Franks, Cynthia Suopis, Kathleen Simmons, Councilor Alisa F. Klein, Councilor James Nash

Minutes

1. Adele Franks opened the meeting at 10:00AM and announced that meeting is being recorded.

2. **Public comment**

Adele Franks recognized that there was no public comment.

3. **Approval of last meeting minutes**

Motion to approved October 30 minutes made by Adele Franks and Councilor Nash seconded the motion.

Councilor Klein pointed out that the minutes referred to the Select Committee as a subcommittee and moved to change 'sub' to 'select'. Kate Simmons seconded the change. All approved the motion. The October 30, 2019 minutes will be amended and sent to the City Clerk.

4. **Review and discussion: draft of final report.**

- a. The Select Committee reviewed Councilor Nash's draft report section on Pesticide Use on Northampton property. Several context and factual changes were discussed. Councilor Nash will make the recommended changes on the draft and submit to Adele Franks for final review.
- b. The Committee agreed to add an additional section in the report titled 'Limitations' outlining the impact of time constraints on the Committee's work that included an inability to follow up with Department Heads on their initial reports. Adele Franks will draft a Limitations section.
- c. Cynthia Suopis provided a summary of her conversation with the Director of Health in Marblehead where pesticides are regulated and enforced through the Board of Health. The Marblehead Board of Health has oversight over school property. Cynthia also met with the Director of the Health Department and the Chair of the Board of Health to update them on the Subcommittee's progress and potential impact on the Board of Health.
This information led to a discussion about City Council and Board of Health oversight over Northampton School property and the recommendation from the City Solicitor that school property oversight is the purview of the School Committee although the Board



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of Health may be the enforcement agent for a City Council ordinance. That direct question needs to be asked to City Solicitor for further clarification.

- d. The Committee discussed the placement of the Oversight Committee within the City structure but no specific conclusion or recommendation was made.

5. Review of proposed legislation

The Committee discussed the timing of a draft Ordinance proposed by Counselor Klein for submission to the City Council. Further discussion on the proposed Ordinance would be initiated at the next meeting scheduled for November 7, 2019 at 3:30.

6. New business

No new business was discussed.

7. Adjourn

Councilor Klein moved to adjourn the meeting with Councilor Nash providing the second motion. All approved. The meeting ended at 12:10pm.

Contact:

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