



ORDER NO. 2021-048-001
REQUEST OF CHAIR OF THE ORDINANCE AND RULES SUBCOMMITTEE

UPON THE REQUEST OF THE ORDINANCE AND RULES SUBCOMMITTEE, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

Be in ordained by the City Council as follows:

SECTION 1.

Article X of the Framingham General Ordinances is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

Section 8. Access to Public Records & Information.

8.1 Policy.

Framingham is committed to open and participatory government. The City aims to improve transparency through increased physical and electronic access to public information. Massachusetts law protects the right to access public information and has long mandated government disclosure of records. The City fulfills this responsibility to citizens by proactively posting commonly requested documents to its website and by providing timely access to or copies of public records upon request. The City will work diligently to be responsive to the spirit, intent, and content of public record requests in a timely manner.

Credentialed media should only be directed to the public records process as a last resort.

8.2 Municipal Bulletin Board

The Municipal Bulletin Board should be simple and direct, focused on the user experience. It should utilize best practices, modern equipment, and current techniques to make information readily accessible in-person or online.

In addition to items required by law, all multiple-member bodies, departments, divisions or offices of the City shall make every effort to proactively post items of interest or potential interest of residents, clusters of residents, or neighborhoods.

City of Framingham

The City Council of Framingham



8.3 Posting of All Rules & Regulations

Rules and regulations adopted by any multi-member body, department, division or office of the City of Framingham shall become effective five (5) days after the date it is posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board in accordance with Article I, section 12.

8.4 Contracts and Licenses

All licenses issued by the City, including licenses to grow, manufacture, and sell marijuana, and all contracts executed on behalf of the City shall be conspicuously published in a searchable format on the City website.

SECTION 2.

Article I, Section 6 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sections:

6.15 All multiple-member bodies shall separately post all background and supporting materials including visual presentations within the time required by the Open Meeting Law to post the meeting, provided that the multiple-member body may by a majority rollcall vote waive this provision; otherwise, the matter shall be postponed until a future meeting.

SECTION 3.

Severability

If any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then such provision shall be considered separately and apart from the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4.

Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

City of Framingham

The City Council of Framingham



FIRST READING:

YEAS: Bryant, Cannon, Case, Leombruno, Long, Ottaviani, Shepard, Stefanini, Steiner, Stewart-Morales
NAYS: King
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: All members were present in person or via teleconferencing
PASSED IN COUNCIL: May 4, 2021

SECOND READING:

YEAS: Bryant, Cannon, Case, Leombruno, Long, Ottaviani, Shepard, Stefanini, Steiner, Stewart-Morales
NAYS: TBD
ABSTAIN: TBD
ABSENT: All members were present in person or via teleconferencing
PASSED IN COUNCIL: May 18, 2021

A True Record, Attest:

5/21/2021
Date Approved

Lisa A. Ferguson
Lisa A. Ferguson, City Clerk
Emily L. Butler, Assistant City Clerk

6/3/2021
Date Approved

Yvonne M. Spicer
Yvonne M. Spicer, Mayor

See attached statement