

In City Council, November 25, 2024

6:15PM

SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held on Monday November 25, 2024, in the Council Chambers, 2nd. Floor, City Hall. President Rodrigues presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM with six members present. Councilors Asack, Minichiello, Tavares, Teixeira, and Nicastro absent.

638. Call of the meeting

Accepted & placed on file.

639. Officer's return of notice

Accepted & placed on file.

640. Ordered: That the City Council hereby determines the percentages of the local tax levy for FY2025 in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L., Ch. 40, Section 56, to be borne by each class of real property, as defined in Section 2A of Chapter 59, and personal property.

Councilor Tavares stepped in.

Chief Financial Officer Troy Clarkson explained to the Council that they are here to set the factor of the different property tax classes.

CFO Clarkson then stated that many gateway communities have the same shift that they are recommending.

Chairman John O'Donnell briefly explained differences in tax rates among differing properties within the City and then opened it up to the Council for questions.

Councilor Lally motioned to set the rate at 1.75 which was properly seconded.

On the motion, Councilor Thompson asked what the ideal percentage would be between residential producing income and the commercial producing income to which Mr. O'Donnell explained that the ideal situation would be 75/25% and that Quincy and Brockton are almost identical and that Boston stands alone with its split.

On the motion, Councilor Thompson mentioned how important this is to the growth of the City.

On the motion, Councilor Griffin asked how Brockton compares to other gateway cities to which Mr. O'Donnell gave comparisons for Lowell, Lynn, and other comparable cities.

On the motion, Councilor Griffin explained that the City needs to get the ball rolling in order to actually improve and have the city see benefits. Councilor Griffin also stated that money has to come from commercial redevelopment and not the residents themselves.

On the motion, Councilor Farwell stated that he agrees with his colleagues' previous statements but that another major focus needs to be containing costs. Stresses the need to be a cost-effective city.

On the motion, Councilor Tavares stated that the city makes it difficult for those who are trying to invest and asked how we can make it easier to work with them to which CFO Clarkson explained that he understands her concern, and that the city does welcome investors.

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; seven members present and four voting in the affirmative. Councilors Deroncourt, Griffin, and Tavares voting in the negative.

Councilor Farwell motioned to file for reconsideration with the wish that it not prevails and was properly seconded. Reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

Brief Recess

ORDERED: That the City Council hereby determines the percentages of the local tax levy in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L., Ch. 40, Section 56, to be borne by each class of real property, as defined in Section 2A of Chapter 59, and personal property.

Residential	85.7843
Commercial	16.3732
Industrial	1.8734

Personal Property

3.2085

(100.00)

The factor for such classification shall be: **1.75**

Meeting adjourned at 6:45PM