



150 Concord Street
Framingham, MA 01702

www.framinghamma.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 09/03/19

For further information, contact:

Kelly McFalls, Public Information Officer & Webmaster
Tel: (508) 532-5437

Media Alert

Mayor Spicer Issues First Veto

FRAMINGHAM, MA – Today Mayor Yvonne M. Spicer issued her first veto on a City Council Order. Mayor Spicer vetoed the “Appointments Ordinance” (Order #2019-045) because it is inconsistent with and contrary to the Framingham Home Rule Charter. The Charter defines the role of the Mayor and the role of the City Council for making appointments. Under Article III, Section 3 of the Charter, the Mayor is the appointing authority for a variety of municipal positions and is responsible for defining the process.

Under Article II, Section 10, the Council approves certain appointments made by the Mayor. The Appointments Ordinance proposed by the Council purports to govern the entire course of the process, including those used by the Mayor’s office to solicit, interview and recommend candidates.

“I share the Council’s interest in making the appointments process better for all parties and will seriously consider adopting portions of the ordinance provisions as part of my administration’s policies and practices regarding appointments,” said Mayor Spicer. “However, too many of the provisions in the proposed ordinance restrain me as Mayor from carrying out my role as Chief Executive under the Charter. These provisions conflict with the clear division of legislative and executive powers under the Charter, and until that conflict is addressed, I will not support and will decline to carry out this measure. I am choosing under the circumstances to use my power to veto the Council’s order as it has been presented.”

The City Solicitor has previously provided the Council with a redlined version of the ordinance (May 30, 2019, June 10, 2019, July 13, 2019, and August 9, 2019), providing specific recommendations to address the existing conflicts with the Charter. The Mayor has encouraged the City Council to collaborate with the City Solicitor, herself and staff to revise the proposed ordinance so that it will help both branches of the City government achieve the intent of the ordinance to the fullest extent permissible under the Charter.

###