

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances City of Lowell, Massachusetts, with respect to Chapter 9, entitled “Boards, Commissions and Committees”.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, as follows:

The City of Lowell seeks to establish a Sister City Committee; and

In order to establish consistent policy considerations relative to the establishment of new sister city relationships and to foster and strengthen the existing partnerships, it is recommended that a Sister City Committee be established.

This Committee, once established, will serve to further enhance existing relations and create new ones;

THEREFORE, “The Code of Ordinances City of Lowell, Massachusetts,” hereinafter called the “Code,” adopted by the City Council on December 23, 2008, is hereby amended with respect to Chapter 9 thereof, entitles “Boards, Commissions and Committees”, by adding a new Article XVI as follows:

ARTICLE XVI
Sister City Committee

§9-54. Establishment, function and purpose.

- A. Under the authority of the Home Rule Amendment, Article 89 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, there is hereby created a Sister City Committee for the City of Lowell.
- B. The Sister City Committee shall be responsible for establishing consistent policy considerations relative to the establishment of new sister city relationships and to foster and strengthen the existing partnerships.

§9-55. Membership; Appointment; terms; qualifications.

- A. The Sister City Committee shall be comprised of the City Mayor, two members of the City Council appointed by the Mayor, and two representative from the following disciplines: the arts community, historic preservation, urban planning, or legal profession.
- 1) Membership in the Sister City Committee shall be appointed through the authority of the City Mayor. Approval by the City Council shall not be required.
 - 2) The Committee shall consist of five (5) appointed members.
 - 3) A vacancy occurring otherwise by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.
 - 4) The Sister City Committee Board Members shall serve terms concurrent with the term of the City Mayor who made their appointment.
 - 5) The Members of the Sister City Committee must be residents of the City of Lowell.
 - 6) In the event of prolonged, unfilled vacancies, the City Mayor may appoint, subject to City Council approval, a nonresident who works in the City of Lowell.

All provisions of the Code of the City of Lowell, as amended, which are consistent with this Ordinance shall continue in effect but all provisions of said Code inconsistent herewith are repealed.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as amended.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Helene A. A. Tomlinson
City Solicitor



Thomas A. Golden, Jr.
City Manager

January 23, 2023

Mayor Sokhary Chau
And
Members of the Lowell City Council

REFERENCE: COUNCIL MOTION of 11/15/2022 by Mayor Chau – Req. City Mgr.
Establish A Standing Committee To Assist With The Implementation Of The Sister Cities
Program In Lowell.

Dear Mayor Chau and Members of the Lowell City Council,

Over the course of the past City Council term, a renewed importance has been placed on establishing new and strengthening existing relationships with Lowell’s various “sister cities”. These Sister City partnerships are representative of Lowell’s multicultural history and highlight the incredible diversity of City. After input from various departments including: Law, DPD, Historic, and Special Events (CASE), my Administration is recommending that a standing Sister City Committee (“The Committee”) be established by the City Council in the Code of Ordinances.

The Committee would be responsible for establishing consistent policy considerations relative to the establishment of new sister city relationships and to foster and strengthen the existing partnerships. The Committee would be comprised of representatives from the Mayor’s Office, members of the City Council, and staff from the City Manager’s Office, as well as community representatives from the following disciplines: the arts community; historic preservation; urban planning; and legal.

In addition to establishing policies and reporting progress to the City Council and promoting the sister city relationships to the public, the Committee would also establish the following: a standard application process; sister city criteria. Prior to the policy being formally adopted by the City, it must be approved by the City Council.

A copy of the proposed Ordinance is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Golden, Jr.
City Manager

Cc: Conor Baldwin, Chief Financial Officer
Helene A. A. Tomlinson, City Solicitor