

City of Woonsocket Rhode Island



December 30, A.D. 2024

Resolution

ESTABLISHING A CITY HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO EXPLORE AND ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN THE CITY OF WOONSOCKET

WHEREAS, the Woonsocket Home Rule Charter Chapter II, Section 19, allows the city council to form a committee to investigate and report on any matter referred to the committee; and,

WHEREAS, a systemic homelessness problem has plagued the City of Woonsocket for a number of years which has exponentially grown in more recent times; and,

WHEREAS, homelessness not only adversely impacts individuals who find themselves without a permanent residence or adequate temporary shelter but it has a further rippling negative effect on the community itself; and,

WHEREAS, the city council wishes to take a more proactive approach to the City's widespread homelessness issue by forming and establishing a committee to drill down on the issue and report back to the council with potential recommendations and solutions to tackle the growing problem; and,

WHEREAS, Chapter II, Section 19 provides in relevant part that: "[a]ll appointments to committees shall be made by the Council President and shall consist of at least three (3) members of the [c]ity [c]ouncil".

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF WOONSOCKET, AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. That the Woonsocket City Council hereby establishes a City Homelessness Committee of the City Council (the “Homelessness Committee”) to report to and make recommendations to the Council as a whole for all matters involving homelessness in the City of Woonsocket.

Section 2. In accordance with Chapter II, Section 19 of the City’s Home Rule Charter, the Council President hereby appoints the following members of the city council to serve as members of the Homelessness Committee:

- (i) Vice President Denise D. Sierra who shall also serve as Chairperson;
- (ii) Valerie Gonzalez; and
- (iii) Michael Dubois

Section 3. This committee shall have no executive or legislative powers and shall serve only as an advisory committee for which all reports and recommendations will be submitted to the whole City Council for determination or action, if any, by the City Council.

Section 4. The Homelessness Committee shall submit a report to the entire City Council which includes potential recommendations and solutions to addressing and resolving homelessness in the City of Woonsocket (the “Report”).

Section 5. The term of the Homelessness Committee shall be concurrent with the current term of the sitting City Council but shall expire earlier upon the Homelessness Committee submitting its Report to the entire City Council and the City Council passing a subsequent resolution terminating said committee.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage by the City Council.

Daniel M. Gendron
City Council President