



Informational GUIDELINE Release

Commissioner Ira A. Jackson
Deputy Commissioner Edward J. Collins, Jr.

Property Tax Bureau
Informational Guideline Release (IGR) No. 86-202
May 1986

DELAY OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
and
EXTENSION OF BUDGET DEADLINE IN CITIES
Chapter 9 of the Acts of 1985

This IGR informs local officials of two amendments to the General Laws regarding the municipal calendar. An amendment to G.L. Ch. 39, S.9 allows Selectmen to delay the Annual Town Meeting. An amendment to Ch. 44 S.32 extends the time period for the Mayor to submit the budget.

Topical Index Key:
Municipal Budgets
Town Meetings

Distribution:
Selectmen/Mayors
Finance Committees
City Council Presidents

Mary

These can just go into
communications from 6/9/86

Thanks
Joe



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
DIVISION OF LOCAL SERVICES

IRA A. JACKSON
COMMISSIONER

EDWARD J. COLLINS, JR.
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

PROPERTY TAX BUREAU
INFORMATIONAL GUIDELINE
RELEASE NO. 86-202
Subject: Annual Town Meeting
Budget Submission in Cities

May 1986

DELAY OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND
EXTENSION OF TIME FOR BUDGET SUBMISSION IN CITIES

Chapter 9 of the Acts of 1985
(Amending G.L. Ch. 39 S. 9 and Ch. 44 S. 32)

SUMMARY 1: Town Meeting

Section 9 of Chapter 39 setting out the time for holding town meetings has been amended by Section 1 of the Act which authorizes the board of selectmen to delay the annual town meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Annual town meetings must be held in February, March, April or May unless a special law or charter establishes a different time. This amendment allows the selectmen to delay the meeting regardless of any law, by-law or charter provision to the contrary.

GUIDELINE:

The annual town meeting may be delayed by vote of the selectmen but all business must be completed on or before June 30th. That portion of the annual town meeting providing for the election or certification of officers and ballot questions may not be delayed.

Example: The town charter states that the election of officers and voting on ballot questions will be conducted at the start of the annual town meeting on the second Monday in March.

Under this provision, the business portion of the annual town meeting can be delayed by vote of the selectmen provided all business is completed by June 30th. The election, however, must still be held on the second Monday in March.

SUMMARY 2: City Budget

Section 32 of Chapter 44 providing for the organization of city government and submission of the annual budget has been amended by

PROPERTY TAX BUREAU
Harry M. Grossman, Chief
Lucille F. Bayes, Asst. Chief

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Section 2 of the Act. The amendment extends the time period for the mayor to submit the budget from 90 days to 120 days and allows the city council 30 days to prepare the budget on its own initiative if the mayor does not act within the 120 day period.

GUIDELINE:

The mayor now has 120 days after the organization of city government to submit the budget to the city council. If no budget is submitted within this period, the city council may prepare and enact its own budget.

11 S-395
Comm. from the Mass. Dept. of Revenue, transmitting for informational purposes guidelines dated May, 1986 Re: Delay of annual town meeting & Extension of Budget deadline in Cities, Chapter 9 of the Acts of 1985.

In City Council,

June 9, 1986