

HOUSE No. 5009

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Linda Dean Campbell

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to increased city council oversight of finances in the city of Methuen.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>8/13/2020</i>

HOUSE No. 5009

By Mrs. Campbell of Methuen, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5009) of Linda Dean Campbell (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to increased financial oversight by the city council in the city of Methuen. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to increased city council oversight of finances in the city of Methuen.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Subsection (k) of section 3 of chapter 278 of the acts of 2018 is hereby
2 amended by inserting after the word “assessors” the following words:- , city accountant.

3 SECTION 2. Section 2-8 of the charter of the city of Methuen, which is on file in the
4 office of the archivist of the commonwealth, as provided in section 12 of chapter 43B of the
5 General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (a) and inserting in place thereof the
6 following subsection:-

7 (a)(1) City Accountant - The City Accountant shall report to and be under the direction of
8 the Chief Administrative and Financial Officer pursuant to subsection (k) of section 3 of chapter
9 278 of the acts of 2018.

10 (2) Fiscal Analyst - The City Council shall, on or before January fifteenth in odd
11 numbered years, elect, by ballot or otherwise, a Fiscal Analyst to hold office for a term of 2 years
12 and until their successor is qualified.

13 The Fiscal Analyst shall perform a legislative oversight and a post-audit function. The
14 Fiscal Analyst shall have free access to all books, accounts, bills and vouchers of the City and
15 shall continually review and examine the same. The Fiscal Analyst shall make periodic reports
16 thereon to the City Council, with such frequency as the City Council by ordinance, rule or other
17 vote may direct, but not less frequently than quarterly. All officials of the City shall cooperate
18 with the Fiscal Analyst in the performance of said oversight function.

19 The Fiscal Analyst shall have such other powers and duties as may be provided by
20 Charter, by ordinance or by other vote of the City Council.

21 SECTION 3. Said section 2-8 of said charter of the city of Methuen is hereby further
22 amended by striking out the words “City Accountant” and inserting in place thereof the
23 following words:- fiscal analyst.

24 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.