

Monday, January 8, 2007.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Prayer.

Gracious God, we look to You for guidance and direction as we begin to plan and organize our legislative proposals and agenda for the new General Court. We pray for the wisdom and vision to promote initiatives and programs which unite our various communities in knowing and serving the present and future best interests of the people and the Commonwealth. We are thankful for our personal, material and spiritual gifts and talents as well as the rich human and material resources within our borders. By our enthusiasm and our commitment to our opportunities and challenges, help us to motivate all in serving our communities in these uncertain and changing times.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, to the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

Pledge of
allegiance.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were considered forthwith, under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Pedone of Worcester; and they were adopted as follows:

Timothy P.
Murray.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Pedone, Spellane of Worcester, Binienda of Worcester and Fresolo of Worcester) recognizing Timothy P. Murray for his nine years of dedicated service to municipal government in the city of Worcester.

Orders.

The following order (filed this day with the Clerk by Mr. DiMasi of Boston) was considered forthwith, under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Pedone of Worcester, as follows:

Fourteenth
Worcester
Representative
District,—
time for
election to
fill vacancy.

Ordered, That the precept to be issued by the Speaker, under the provisions of Section 141 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, appointing a time for the election to fill the vacancy existing in the office of Representative in the General Court from the Fourteenth Worcester District shall designate, Tuesday, April 17, 2007, as the time ordered by the House of Representatives for said election.

The following order (filed this day with the Clerk by Mr. DiMasi of Boston) was considered forthwith, under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mrs. Canavan of Brockton, as follows:

Ordered, That there shall be a temporary committee on Rules on the part of the House to consist of 11 members, 8 of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker and 3 of whom shall be appointed by the Minority Leader. The temporary committee on Rules on the part of the House shall be authorized to meet jointly with the temporary committee on Rules on the part of the Senate; and, when constituted in such manner, shall be authorized to perform the duties of the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

Temporary
Rules
Committee.

The temporary committee on Rules on the part of the House shall cease to exist upon the appointment of the permanent committee on Rules.

Subsequently the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford) announced that Representatives Scaccia of Boston, Rogers of Norwood, Harkins of Needham, Rushing of Boston, Petrolati of Ludlow, Tobin of Quincy, Nangle of Lowell, Canavan of Brockton, Jones of North Reading, Rogeness of Longmeadow and Peterson of Grafton had been appointed to said temporary committee.

An Order (filed this day with the Clerk by Mr. DiMasi of Boston) relative to the appointment of a special committee of the House to make an investigation and study of the manner in which the Commonwealth protects children from abuse and neglect (House, No. 2009), was referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules.

Child abuse
and neglect,—
study.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for said committee, then reported recommending that the order ought to be adopted.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Casey of Winchester, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted.

Subsequently the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford) announced that Representatives Rogers of Norwood, Harkins of Needham, Donato, Hall of Westford, Koutoujian of Waltham, LeDuc of Marlborough, Malia of Boston, St. Fleur of Boston, Humason of Westfield, Lepper of Attleboro and Poirier of North Attleborough had been appointed to said special committee.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next
sitting.

Representatives Welch of West Springfield, Provost of Somerville, Sciortino of Medford and Toomey of Cambridge then moved that as a mark of respect to the memory of Joseph K. Mackey, a member of the House from Somerville from 1985 to 1990, inclusive, the House adjourn; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at twenty minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Ms. Provost, the House adjourned, to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.