

CITY OF NEWBURYPORT



IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDERED:

January 9, 2023

WHEREAS, section 154 of the Fiscal Year 2023 state budget granted a 5 percent cost of living adjustment (“COLA”) to state and teacher retirees on a \$13,000 base; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2022, the Governor signed Chapter 269 of the Acts of 2022 into law, providing local retirement systems with an option to increase the COLA for FY2023 to up to 5 percent on the base amount specified pursuant to G.L. c. 32, § 103; and

WHEREAS, section 2 of the act provides that a COLA increase pursuant to this act is retroactive to July 1, 2022 and any COLA increase, in addition to any COLA previously adopted for FY2023, will become part of the fixed amount of a retirees’ retirement allowance in the same manner as all COLAs granted pursuant to section 103; and

WHEREAS, the local approval mechanism is different than traditional COLA increases and COLA base increases in that in order for a system to adopt a COLA increase pursuant to this act, the retirement board must vote for the increased amount, the mayor must recommend the increase to the city council and the council must vote in favor (by a majority vote); and

WHEREAS, the Newburyport Retirement Board voted unanimously on December 29, 2022 to increase the previously adopted COLA of 3 percent to 5 percent and Mayor Reardon now recommends approval by the City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED THAT, the CITY COUNCIL of the City of Newburyport, hereby votes to approve an increase to the FY2023 COLA from 3 percent to 5 percent. This increase shall be effective July 1, 2022 and applied on the \$12,000 base amount specified pursuant to G.L. c. 32, § 103.

Councillor Sharif I. Zeid

In City Council January 9, 2023:

Motion to collectively refer ORDR00404, ORDR00405, ORDR00406, ORDR00407, ORDR00408, ORDR00409, ORDR00411, and ORDR00412 to Budget and Finance with note that ORDR00409 will also be simultaneously referred to COTW by Councillor Zeid, seconded by Councillor Preston. So voted.