



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

June, 18, 2019

Mayor Sarno Vetoes Municipal Election Notification Ordinance

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno states, “Are we now talking about publicly financing campaigns – is that our next step? There are certainly a lot of unanswered questions. Is this now going to lead to other elections including special elections, referendum questions, and/or state elections too?”

“First of all, there is no simple answer to this age old question. A committee needs to be formed, with media participation/involvement – extremely key. I’m always willing to work together with our City Council. I’d be okay with the ‘sandwich boards’ a week or so prior being put up to remind all voters – I believe we can do this within our Election Department’s budget. Mailings though – a lot of unanswered questions and ‘aren’t candidates supposed to do this?’ Also, I believe an effective tool would be something that retired Republican Newspaper Publisher David Starr championed some years ago when I was a City Councilor – ‘kids voting.’ This was a mock ballot program which had an educational component that all our students would participate in. Key here is getting our students involved and integrated at a young age and with that the family/adults will usually follow along with their child’s lead and reminder to go to the polls – you address two issues at one time.”