



# City of Methuen, Massachusetts

## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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### ORDER #

#### **A Resolution to Join the *Startup in a Day* Initiative**

*Requested by Vice-Chairman Beauregard and Councilor Zeigler*

**Whereas**, the Small Business Administration and the White House launched the *Startup in a Day* initiative several years ago to encourage local jurisdictions to streamline and consolidate the processes required to start a business into one easy-to-use online tool with the goal of enabling entrepreneurs to apply for all licenses and permits needed to start a business in 24 hours or less; and

**Whereas**, small businesses are the engines of the U.S. economy, creating 67% of net new jobs and employing almost 50% of the private sector workforce. When we make it easier for new businesses to start, we are also making it easier for them to grow and hire; and

**Whereas**, we must do our part to help ensure that entrepreneurs in the City of Methuen are able to easily adapt to the future of remote work after COVID-19; and

**Whereas**, streamlining and consolidating the process of creating and maintaining a small business is the most effective way to support business startup and development.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the City of Methuen commits to join the *Startup in a Day* initiative by providing resources that allow entrepreneurs in our community to apply for all licenses and permits needed to start a business in 24 hours or less.

## ***The Startup in a Day Pledge:***

“Our cities and communities are committed to making it easier for every entrepreneur to start a business. We believe an entrepreneur’s time is best spent developing innovative products and services, creating jobs, and growing local economies – not navigating red tape. While fair zoning rules, licenses, and permits are important to ensuring public safety and fair competition, it shouldn’t take more than a day for entrepreneurs to identify and begin to apply, ideally through a single online tool, for the licenses and permits they need to responsibly launch a business. Accordingly, we resolve to:

- 1. Create a ‘Startup in a Day’ online tool within 12 months:** We will develop within a year a website or application that lets most entrepreneurs identify and begin to apply within one day for all requirements to launch a business in our respective communities.
- 2. Develop a streamlined, business-friendly, online permitting system:** Our pledge is a first step in a larger effort to streamline, simplify, and bring online those regulatory requirements that have traditionally been fragmented across multiple agencies and handled through a paper-based process. Our ultimate goal is for small business owners to be able to manage and complete most of their regulatory obligations within a single easy-to-use online system.
- 3. Share best practices:** In an effort to encourage other municipalities to join us in this effort, we are joining a community of practice administered by the National League of Cities, and commit to sharing best practices, publicizing key learnings, highlighting tangible outcomes, supporting smart regulatory simplification, and providing visibility into our actions.”