



City Council

Special Meeting

~ Final ~

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

6:00 PM

Hybrid Council Chamber

Call to Order

6:00 PM Meeting called to order on November 28, 2023 at Hybrid Council Chamber, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kateri B. Walsh	At-Large Councilor	Remote	
Michael A. Fenton	Ward 2 Councilor	Remote	
Maria Perez	Ward 1 City Councilor	Absent	
Tracye Whitfield	At Large City Councilor	Present	
Zaida Govan	Ward 8 City Councilor	Present	
Timothy C. Allen	Ward 7 Councilor	Present	
Malo Brown	Ward 4 Councilor	Remote	
Justin Hurst	At Large Councilor	Remote	
Lavar Click-Bruce	Ward 5 City Councilor	Remote	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	
Sean Curran	At-Large Councilor	Remote	
Victor Davila	Ward 6 Councilor	Present	
Jesse Lederman	President	Present	

Orders

1. Order (ID # 7766)

Stabilization Transfer for Tax Levy

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Patrick Burns, 90 Clement Street, Acting CAFO spoke on the transfer.

Councilor Whitfield asked how much was invested in T bills and how much revenue does it generate.

Councilor Whitfield asked how much free cash did we have last year and how much do we have this year?

Councilor Fenton spoke on the transfer from the stabilization reserves.

Councilor Govan thanked the Finance team and asked the CAFO if the 27 million from last fiscal year came from the overpayment of taxes. CAFO Burns gave a brief explanation of where "free cash" is derived.

Councilor Hurst asked the CAFO why the City cannot add more from free cash to provide relief to tax payers.

CAFO explained the rationale behind transferring \$2 million.

Councilor Davila spoke and asked for clarification of the free cash and the stabilization fund.

Councilor Walsh asked for clarification on the item. Councilor Lederman gave an explanation.

Councilor Walsh asked if there were any programs to help residents with their taxes. Patrick Greenhalgh gave a brief explanation of programs available to tax payers.

Councilor Whitfield noted that "we should take a look at these top heavy departments where people are making \$90,000-\$100,000" in an effort to cut the budget. Councilor Whitfield made a motion to send the item to committee. Seconded by Councilor Govan.

Councilor Allen expressed his confusion on why the item is being sent to committee.

Councilor Lederman noted that if an item is sent to committee then the members would have to schedule a committee meeting and then meet.

Councilor Davila voiced his concern that sending this item to committee would cause an overall increase in the taxes.

Councilor Brown asked for clarification on the what the city is investing in?

Councilor Allen asked Councilor Whitfield if she would consider withdrawing the motion as we would have to meet Friday.

***** Please listen to the meeting from this point to create the minutes*****

Steve Lonergan explained the billing schedule to the Council.

Councilor Whitfield spoke here as well.....*****

*****Please listen to the meeting from the point to create the minutes*****

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Stab Reserves to FY24 General Fund Revenues - T-bills (DOCX)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [10 TO 2]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Allen, Brown, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
NAYS:	Zaida Govan, Justin Hurst
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

2. Order (ID # 7767)

Transfer - FY23 Certified Free Cash to FY24 Estimated Revenues - \$1,000,000.00

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Transfer - FY23 Certified Free Cash to FY24 Estimated Revenues - \$1,000,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Councilor Whitfield made a motion to send to committee and the motion was seconded by Councilor Walsh.

Councilor Allen noted that he would not be in support of sending the item to committee. He suggested staying and taking the item up tonight.

Councilor Walsh agreed with Councilor Walsh on sending the item to committee in order to identify additional funds

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - \$1M FY23 Free Cash to FY24 General Fund Revenues (DOCX)

RESULT:	CONTINUE VOTE [12 TO 0]	Next: 11/29/2023 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Tracye Whitfield, At Large City Councilor	
SECONDER:	Zaida Govan, Ward 8 City Councilor	
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman	
ABSENT:	Maria Perez	

3. Order (ID # 7768)

Tax Factor - FY24

RESULT:	CONTINUE VOTE [12 TO 0]	Next: 11/29/2023 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Tracye Whitfield, At Large City Councilor	
SECONDER:	Zaida Govan, Ward 8 City Councilor	
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman	
ABSENT:	Maria Perez	