



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, January 8, 2024

7:00 PM

Hybrid Council Chamber

Call to Order

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

President's Report for 2024 Procedures

2024 City Council Rules

Reports of Committees

ALL COUNCILORS PRESENTED VOTED TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENTED BY COUNCILOR TIMOTHY ALLEN.

Informational

1. Order (ID # 7824)

November Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ACTING CAFO PAT BURNS PRESENTED THE NOVEMBER REVENUE VS. EXPENDITURE REPORT. HE NOTED THE QUINN BILL OF APPROXIMATELY 3.1 MILLION CAM IN

ATTACHMENTS:

- November Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

Petitions

2. Petition (ID # 7826)

Elaine Circle- Private Way Conversion

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

HECTOR VELEZ, DPW ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

THE PETITION IS TO CHANGE ELAINE CIR FROM A PRIVATE WAY TO A PUBLIC WAY.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED FOR A LIST OF THE EXISTING PRIVATE WAYS THAT ARE LOOKING TO BE CONVERTED TO PUBLIC WAYS.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED FOR THE REPORT TO BE SHARED WITH ALL COUNCILORS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Final Elaine Circle Plan, Pet#10,302 (PDF)
- Petition Letter 10,302 (PDF)
- Master report Pet 10,302 (PDF)
- Elaine Circle Order (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

Grants

3. Order (ID # 7827)

FY24 Shannon CSI Grant - In-Kind Match Required - \$1,247,411.92

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

LT. BENOIT , SPD, SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE GRANT.

REOCCURING GRANT THAT HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED FOR THE PAST 13 YEARS.

COUNCILOR ALLEN ASKED WHAT THE FOLLOW UP WAS WITH PROGRAMS THAT RECEIVED FUNDING. HE ALSO ASKED IF THE RECIPIENTS MET TO EXCHANGE IDEAS ON USING THE FUNDS.

LT. BENOIT NOTED THAT THERE ARE MID AND END OF YEAR EVALUATIONS THAT ARE SUBMITTED. THE LT. NOTED THAT THE GROUPS DO MEET AND EXCHANGE IDEAS.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED IF THERE IS A METHODOLOGY TO WHAT PARTNERS ARE AWARDED FUNDS. HE ALSO ASKED WHO IS PART OF THE FUNDING COMMITTEE. HE ASKED IF IT WAS SPECIFICALLY FOR GANGS.

LT. BENOIT NOTED THAT THREE INDIVIDUALS ARE PART OF THE AWARDING COMMITTEE. LT. BENOIT NOTED THAT YES IT WAS FOR GANG INTERVENTION.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED IF THE 13 PARTNERS ARE THE SAME SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE GRANT.

COUNCILOR GOVAN NOTED THE INCREASE IN GUN VIOLENCE AND ASKED HOW THE GRANT HELPS TO CURB GUN VIOLENCE.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED FOR THE NAMES OF WHO IS ON THE REVIEW COMMITTEE. SHE ALSO ASKED FOR THE NAMES OF THE NEW APPLICANTS AND THEIR AWARD AMOUNT. SHE REQUESTED A LIST OF ALL THE AWARDEES AND THE AMOUNTS.

COUNCILOR WALSH ASKED HOW SUCCESS IS MEASURED?

LT. BENOIT GAVE AN EXPLANATION ON HOW THE AWARDS ARE GRANTED AND THE EFFICACY OF THE GRANT PROGRAM.

COUNCILOR DAVILA CONFIRMED THAT APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE MURDERS IN SPRINGFIELD CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO GANGS. LT. BENOIT CONFIRMED THAT STATISTIC. COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED HOW THE GRANT AWARD COMMITTEE WAS SELECTED. HE SUGGESTED THAT A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE ADDED TO THAT COMMITTEE.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD AGREED WITH COUNCILOR DAVILA THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE MORE OVERSIGHT ON THIS GRANT PROGRAM. SHE NOTED THAT SHE BELIEVES AN EXPANDED REVIEW COMMITTEE IS NEEDED.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED A FULL REPORT OF THE SHANNON GRANT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Request for Grant Set-Up Shannon 2024 (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [10 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSTAIN:	Lavar Click-Bruce
ABSENT:	Maria Perez
RECUSED:	Jose Delgado

Orders

4. Order (ID # 7825)

Thomas J. O'Connor Donations - \$27,310.00

ATTACHMENTS:

- TJO donations (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

5. Order (ID # 7829)

Authorizing Execution and Delivery of a Tax Incentive Financing Agreement for Performance Food Group at the Properties Known as 1982 Roosevelt Avenue (A.K.A. 1 Performance Boulevard), Springfield, MA.

A Project Summary is attached for reference.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

BRIAN CONNORS, ECO DEV, SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

NOTED THE EXPANSION OF THE PFG FACILITY, CREATION ON NEW JOBS AND TAX EXEMPTIONS THAT ARE ONLY PERTINENT TO THE EXPANDED PART OF THE FACILITY.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED IF THE REO ORDINANCE IS REFLECTED IN THE TIFF POLICY.

TAMMY GARDNER, PFG VP, SPOKE ABOUT THE FACILITY. NOTED THE GROWTH THE FACILITY IS EXPERIENCING AND THEIR NEED TO EXPAND. THE COMPANY WILL BE USING LOCAL CONTRACTORS ON THE BUILD.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO NOTED THE NEED TO PROVIDE LOCAL JOBS.

COUNCILOR DELGADO ASKED IF THE 350 JOBS WAS IMMEDIATELY OR OVER THE COURSE OF THE TIFF. HE ALSO ASKED HOW MANY EMPLOYEES WERE SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS.

HE ALSO ASKED WHO THE LARGEST COMPETITORS WERE IN THE REGION.

COUNCILOR DAVILA NOTED THAT THE AVERAGE SALARY WAS \$74,000. HE NOTED A VISIT THAT HE MADE TO THE FACILITY WHICH HE OBSERVED A STRONG WORK CULTURE. HE NOTED HIS SUPPORT OF THE TIFF AGREEMENT.

COUNCILOR ALLEN ASKED WHAT IS IN PLACE TO COUNT THE JOB CREATION. BRIAN CONNORS EXPLAINED THE ANNUAL REPORTING PROCESS WITH THE STATE.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED ABOUT THE MINORITY CONTRACTORS BEING ABLE TO BID FOR PROJECTS. HE ALSO ASKED ABOUT HOW LOCAL HIRING IS DONE INCLUDING SUMMER EMPLOYMENT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2 PFG Memo 010324 (PDF)
- 3 PFG TIF 010324 (DOCX)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

6. Order (ID # 7828)

Free Cash to Fire Department - SFCA Settlement & Overtime - \$2,500,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COMMISSIONER CALVI SPOKE ON THE TRANSFER.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Free Cash to Fire SFCA Settlement and Overtime (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

7. Order (ID # 7830)

Order Authorizing Expenditure of FY24 – State of Massachusetts Fair Share Amendment Funds \$1,642,228.00

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has appropriated an amount of local transportation aid funding as part of a State of Massachusetts FY2024 Fair Share Amendment for the City of Springfield in the amount of \$1,642,228.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR CHRIS CIGNOLI SPOKE ON THE ITEM

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED HOW IT IS DETERMINED WHAT STREETS GET PAVED. DOES IT INCLUDE POTHOLES? DO YOU HAVE A POTHOLE BUDGET FOR 2024?

MR. CIGNOLI EXPLAINED THE PROCESS. POTHOLES ARE BUDGETED SEPARATELY AND THERE IS 1-3 CREWS DEDICATED TO POTHOLES.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED HOW MUCH MILEAGE IS COVERED WITH THIS ABOUT OF MONEY? MR. CIGNOLI NOTED IT WOULD BE AN ESTIMATED 6-7 MILES OF ROAD.

COUNCILOR GOVAN SPOKE ON THE ITEM AND ASKED ABOUT SPEED HUMPS IN THE ORCHARD AND CAN THIS FUNDING BE USED FOR THOSE TYPES OF PROJECTS.

COUNCILOR WALSH NOTED THE FPCA'S REPORT OF ASPHALT PAVING ON SIDE WALKS VERSUS PAVEMENT. HE NOTED THAT ABOUT 1500 SIDEWALKS ARE REPAIRED WITH ASPHALT EACH YEAR. MR.CIGNOLI NOTED THAT A CONCRETE SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT WOULD COST \$5,000 FOR EACH REPAIR.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED IF THERE ARE STREETS THAT ARE REPAVED EACH YEAR. MR.CIGNOLI NOTED THAT STREETS ARE REPAVED EVERY 20 YEARS ON AVERAGE.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY2024 Fair Share Additional Funds (PDF)
- Fair Share Apportionment Grant Setup Form (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

8. Order (ID # 7834)

Order Granting Permanent Utility Licenses to Verizon NE & Eversource at Donna Blake Park

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE CITY WAS PRESENT.

COUNCILOR WALSH WOULD LIKE TO VOTE ON IT WITHOUT A REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE

COUNCILOR BROWN RECOMMENDED TO COMMITTEE

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED IF THIS WAS TAKEN UP IN THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

COUNCILORS FENTON AND EDWARDS NOTED THAT THIS ORDER IS NOT FINANCIAL IN NATURE.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Order - Verizon and Eversource Utility License Donna Blake Park (PDF)

RESULT:	CONTINUE VOTE [8 TO 4]	Next: 1/29/2024 7:00 PM
MOVER:	Tracye Whitfield, At Large City Councilor	
SECONDER:	Malo Brown, Ward 4 Councilor	
AYES:	Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Whitfield	
NAYS:	Kateri B. Walsh, Zaida Govan, Melvin A. Edwards, Michael A. Fenton	
ABSENT:	Maria Perez	

9. Order (ID # 7833)

Order Authorizing Contract Term Over 3 Years for Fiber Optic Network for School Department

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Bob St. Lawrence from SPS on contract for 5 year lease for fiber optic wide area network. This is already included in SPS budget. SPS is already eligible and offered this at a 90% discount as part of the federal e-rate program.

Councilor Santaniello clarified contract length.

Order approved

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Fenton
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

Executive Session

10. Order (ID # 7831)

Free Cash to Law Department Accounts - \$750,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Atty DeSousa intends on appropriating this tonight. Councilor Edwards makes motion to move into executive session. Seconded by Councilor Whitfield.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Free Cash to Law (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [9 TO 2]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Fenton
NAYS:	Zaida Govan, Tracye Whitfield
ABSENT:	Maria Perez
AWAY:	Malo Brown