



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, April 8, 2024

7:00 PM

Hybrid Council Chamber

Call to Order

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on April 8, 2024 at Hybrid Council Chamber, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kateri B. Walsh	At-Large Councilor	Present	
Timothy C. Allen	Ward 7 Councilor	Present	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor	Present	
Lavar Click-Bruce	Ward 5 City Councilor	Present	
Zaida Govan	Ward 8 City Councilor	Present	
Malo Brown	Ward 4 Councilor	Remote	
Victor Davila	Ward 6 Councilor	Present	
Sean Curran	At-Large Councilor	Remote	
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	Present	
Michael A. Fenton	President	Present	

Reports of Committee

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE WERE PRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

COUNCILOR DELGADO - AUDIT - CYR ARENA AND CYBER SECURITY (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

COUNCILOR GOVAN - Sustainability & Environment

COUNCILOR ALLEN - FINANCE COMMITTEE

COUNCILOR PEREZ - Impacted Neighborhood Stabilization Fund Oversight

COUNCILOR BROWN - MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT - ACME PARKING SITUATION

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO -HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES - LIBRARY TOUR

Informational

1. Order (ID # 7968)

February Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COMPTROLLER PATRICK BURNS SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

HE NOTED THAT THE COS IS WITHIN BUDGET AND HOPING TO REMAIN THAT WAY

ATTACHMENTS:

- February Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report (2) (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

2. Informational 2024-2

Confirmation of Appointment of Patrick Sullivan to the Barney Estate Board

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

PATRICK SULLIVAN SPOKE REGARDING HIS APPOINTMENT

COUNCILORS WALSH, BROWN, SANTANIELLO, WHITFIELD, PEREZ ALL SPOKE IN FAVOR OF MR. SULLIVAN'S APPOINTMENT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Patrick Sullivan - Barney Estate Board Appointment Letter (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

Petitions**3. Petition (ID # 7969)**

EVERSOURCE -Carew St.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 3, 4 & 5 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER.

DPW DIRECTOR CHRIS CIGNOLI SPOKE ON ALL THREE PETITIONS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 16094846 Carew St SPFLD UG Map (PDF)
- 16094846 Carew St SPFLD UG Order (PDF)
- 16094846 Carew St SPFLD UG Petition Signed (PDF)
- Carew St. Report (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

4. Petition (ID # 7970)

EVERSOURCE GAS- Springfield Street

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 3, 4 & 5 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER.

DPW DIRECTOR CHRIS CIGNOLI SPOKE ON ALL THREE PETITIONS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Report City Council Springfield Street (PDF)
- Springfield St - Springfield City Council Letter (PDF)
- 23EG042 Springfield St, Springfield IFC (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

5. Petition (ID # 7973)

CROWN CASTLE -Dwight St.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 3, 4 & 5 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER.

DPW DIRECTOR CHRIS CIGNOLI SPOKE ON ALL THREE PETITIONS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 24.46436 55 FRANK MURRAY CIVIL.SPRINGFIELD-C - 2 (PDF)
- 24.46436 grant of location intent letter (PDF)
- Report-Dwight Street (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

Petitions - Under Suspension

6. Petition (ID # 7977)

1000 Page Blvd Fuel Storage Increase

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ATTORNEY SETH STRATTON SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

ATTORNEY STRATTON NOTED THAT THE STATE NEEDS A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL FUEL STORAGE LICENSE FROM 1951.

THE HOLDING TANKS ARE CURRENTLY LICENSED BUT THE COPY CANNOT BE PRODUCED TO COMPLY WITH THE STATE FIRE MARSHALL.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED IF THERE IS A SCHEDULE OF POTHOLE FILING ONCE THE LICENSE IS APPROVED. COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED IF THERE IS A WAY THAT THE COUNCIL CAN KNOW THE POTHOLE FILLING SCHEDULE AND ALSO RECOMMEND STREETS THAT MAY NEED TO BE PAVED.

ATTORNEY STRATTON NOTED THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO FILL THE TANKS TOMORROW IF POSSIBLE.

DIRECTOR CIGNOLI NOTED THAT REPORTS OF POTHOLES SHOULD BE SENT DIRECTLY TO HIM. COUNCILOR WALSH GAVE A "SHOUT OUT" TO 311 FOR THEIR WORK IN TAKING REPORTS ON POTHOLES.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED ABOUT THE INCREASE IN ASPHALT STORAGE AND IF THERE IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES THAT CAN BE FORESEEN. HE ALSO ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE AN INCREASE IN TRAFFIC. WILL THE SPRINGFIELD LOCATION SERVICE OTHER AREAS OUTSIDE OF SPRINGFIELD. HE ASKED DIRECTOR CIGNOLI IF THIS INCREASE WOULD SATISFY THE CITY'S NEEDS.

ATTORNEY STRATTON NOTED THAT OLD TANKS REMOVED. NEW TANKS PUT IN. FUEL STORAGE LICENSE MUST BE PRESENTED. 3 TANKS PREVIOUSLY. 4 TANKS CURRENTLY. NEW TANKS ARE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY. NO INCREASE IN TRUCK TRAFFIC IS EXPECTED. ATTY STRATTON NOTED THAT THE SPRINGFIELD LOCATION WILL SERVICE SPRINGFIELD AND CLOSE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.

DIRECTOR CIGNOLI NOTED THE EXTREME NEED TO GET THIS INCREASE APPROVED IMMEDIATELY.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED ABOUT GENERAL POTHOLE PROCESSES.

COUNCILOR GOVAN NOTED THAT TRYING TO FIND A RECORD FROM 75 YEARS AGO IS DIFFICULT. SHE CONSIDERS THIS A REASONABLE REQUEST AND URGES HER COLLEAGUES TO VOT

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1000 Page Blvd Land Use Lic 2024 (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

Grants

7. Order (ID # 7965)

COPS Anti-Heroin Task Force Program Grant - No Match Required - \$15,000 (Increase)

ATTACHMENTS:

- AHO24 AMEND 3/30/24 (PDF)

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

8. Order (ID # 7967)

Springfield City Library Donation - \$3,000.00

ATTACHMENTS:

- Libraries Donation - \$3,000_Redacted (PDF)

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

9. Order (ID # 7966)

Springfield City Library Donation - \$100.00

ATTACHMENTS:

- Libraries Donation - \$100_Redacted (PDF)

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

Orders

10. Order (ID # 7971)

Bills of Prior Year - Various Departments - \$612.58

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert- BOPYS (DOCX)
- BOPY - HHS Fillion Associates (PDF)
- BOPY - VERCONNECT -TJO (PDF)
- BOPY- Xerox - Elections (PDF)

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
AYES: Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

11. Order (ID # 7972)

Order Authorizing Contract Over 3 Years for Lease Purchase Financing of School Department Computers

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

BOB ST. LAWRENCE FOM THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT PRESENTED AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS ON THE MATTER.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Order for Four-Year Contract for SPS Computer Lease 24-25 (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez, Fenton

12. Order 2024-4

An Order Amending Chapter 16, Board Commissions and Committees

HISTORY:

03/11/24 City Council **FIRST READING**

03/18/24 City Council **FIRST READING**

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COUNCILOR EDWARDS SPOKE ON THE ITEM. HE NOTED THAT THE AMENDMENT WOULD ONLY AFFECT THE CPC. ELIMINATE THE TERM LIMIT.

FIRST STEPS.

RESULT:	FIRST READING	Next: 5/6/2024 7:00 PM
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13. Order (ID # 7964)

An Order to Amend the City of Springfield "Rules of the Road"

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DPW CHRIS CIGNOLI SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

PUTTING FORWARD FORMAL RULES OF THE ROAD TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE HANDICAP PARKING ON COURT ST, STATE ST AND BRUCE LANDON WAY.

DESIGNATED HANDICAP PARKING SPACES TO ACCOMMODATE INCREASED PARKING IN AND AROUND DOWNTOWN.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED IF THEY WOULD BE PERMANENT HANDICAP SPACES.

DIRECTOR CIGNOLI NOTED IT WOULD NOT BE.

ATTACHMENTS:

- MMC Handicapped Parking (PDF)
- Traffic Commission Special Meeting 03.20.24 (PDF)

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

Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss strategy with respect to litigation where it has been declared that such a discussion may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body, to reconvene in open session for a vote.

COUNCILOR DELGADO MADE A MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION, IT WAS 2ND BY COUNCILOR PEREZ:

WALSH - YES

ALLEN - YES

DELGADO - YES

CLICK BRUCE - YES

GOVAN - YES

BROWN - YES

DAVILA - YES

CURRAN - AWAY

SANTANIELLO - YES

EDWARDS - YES

WHITFIELD - YES

PEREZ - YES

FENTON - YES

******EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD, MINUTES KEPT BY THE CITY CLERK******

COUNCILOR EDWARDS MADE A MOTION TO ENTER INTO OPEN SESSION, IT WAS 2ND BY COUNCILOR WALSH:

WALSH - YES

ALLEN - YES

DELGADO - YES

CLICK BRUCE - YES

GOVAN - YES

BROWN - YES

DAVILA - YES

CURRAN - AWAY

SANTANIELLO - YES

EDWARDS - YES

WHITFIELD - YES

PEREZ - YES

FENTON - YES

14. Order (ID # 7974)

FY23 Free Cash to Law Department Settlement Account - \$900,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

8:09PM EXECUTIVE SESSION

ATTORNEY DESOUSA SPOKE ON THE TRANSFER.

SHE GAVE DETAILS OF THE CASE. FAILURE TO PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE WHILE SHE WAS DETAINED. THE ESTATE OF THE DECEASED ALSO FILED A SUIT AGAINST THE HAMPDEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. THE CASE IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 20, 2024.

COUNCILOR PEREZ ASKED IF THE HC SHERIFF DEPT HAD SETTLED.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED IF THE CITY WAS PROPOSING A \$900,000 SETTLEMENT. HE ASKED IF THE PAYOUT WAS FOR EXPERTS AND ATTORNEYS OR JUST FOR THE ESTATE.

ATTORNEY DESOUSA NOTED THE SETTLEMENT WOULD GO TO ESTATE COMPLETELY.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED THE TIME FRAME OF THE DETENTION AND DEATH AS WELL AS HER CAUSE OF DEATH.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED ATTORNEY DESOUSA THE TOTAL LEGAL EXPENSES INCLUDING THE 900K SETTLEMENT. ATTORNEY DESOUSA DID NOT HAVE AN EXACT AMOUNT BUT ESTIMATED IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 NOT INCLUDING THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT.

COUNCILOR BROWN SPOKE AND ASKED WHY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT DOESN'T HAVE A NURSE ON STAFF. ATTY DESOUSA CONFIRMED THAT THE SPD DOESN'T HAVE A DEDICATED NURSE ON STAFF. COUNCILOR BROWN NOTED THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT HAS NURSES ON STAFF.

COUNCILOR WALSH ASKED IF THE PERSON DIED IN CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CUSTODY AND IF NOT HOW LONG AFTER BEING IN SPRINGFIELD PD CUSTODY DID SHE DIE?

DESOUSA NOTED SHE DIED IN CHICOPEE IN THE WOMEN'S DETENTION CENTER FOUR DAYS AFTER SHE WAS DETAINED.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED HOW MUCH WAS IN FREE CASH. COMPTROLLER BURNS NOTED THAT THE CITY HAS A LITTLE OVER 8.1 MILLION IN FREE CASH NOT COUNTING THE OPIOD MONEY THAT IS PROPOSED TO BE TRANSFERRED.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED IF THE DECEASED SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION AND WHETHER THE SPD CALLED AN AMBULANCE. THE DECEDENT DID ASK TO GO TO A HOSPITAL AND THE SPD DID NOT CALL AN AMBULANCE.

COUNCILOR DAVILA NOTED THAT THE CITY HAS A HISTORY OF SETTling CASES RATHER THAN GOING TO COURT. COUNCILOR DAVILA NOTED THAT HE THINKS WE SHOULD CONSIDER SENDING IT TO COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE A BETTER OFFER.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD AGREED WITH COUNCILOR DAVILA REGARDING THE CITY SETTling CASES

COUNCILOR FENTON ASKED ATTY DESOUSA TO EXPLAIN WHAT THE STANDARD WOULD BE FOR THIS CLAIM. ATTY DESOUSA NOTED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO SHOW THAT THE PERSON WOULD HAVE A MEDICAL CONDITION THAT THE AVERAGE LAY PERSON WOULD RECOGNIZE THE SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITION.

REASONABLY SIMILARLY SITUATED OFFICERS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Free Cash to Law (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [7 TO 4]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Govan, Brown, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
NAYS:	Jose Delgado, Lavar Click-Bruce, Victor Davila, Michael A. Fenton
ABSENT:	Sean Curran, Brian Santaniello