



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, June 3, 2024

7:00 PM

Hybrid Council Chamber

Call to Order

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on June 3, 2024 at Hybrid Council Chamber, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

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	Present	
Malo Brown	Ward 4 Councilor	Remote	
Victor Davila	Ward 6 Councilor	Present	7:09 PM
Sean Curran	At-Large Councilor	Remote	
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor	Remote	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	
Tracye Whitfield	At Large City Councilor	Absent	
Maria Perez	Ward 1 City Councilor	Remote	
Michael A. Fenton	President	Present	

Items in Committee

Order (ID # 8020)

PEG Access and Cable Related Fund FY24 Q4 Franchise Fee Payment - \$152,642.64

HISTORY:

05/13/24

City Council

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Next: 06/03/24

COUNCILOR ALLEN - THIS IS THE ONE ITEM THAT WE SPOKE ABOUT IN COMMITTEE THAT DID NOT GET APPROVED. SINCE THERE ARE SO MANY PROBLEMS WITH THE SOUND IN MEETINGS, WE SHOULD NOT APPROVE RIGHT AWAY TO PAY IT. TRY TO WORK AND TROUBLESHOOT THE ISSUES BEFORE THIS IS BILL GETS PAID.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILOR ALLEN TO SEND TO COMMITTEE AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILOR EDWARDS

ALL COUNCILORS VOTED TO SEND TO FINANCE COMMITTEE, COUNCILORS CLICK BRUCE, CURRAN, AND PEREZ WERE ABSENT.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN SENT TO COMMITTEE WILL BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA WHEN THEY REMAIN IN COMMITTEE AS A REMINDER TO COUNCILORS.

COUNCILOR ALLEN ASKED FOR THE PEG ACCESS APPROPRIATION TO BE KEPT IN COMMITTEE.

RESULT: LAY ON TABLE

Reports of Committee

COUNCILOR TIM ALLEN REPORTED ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

COUNCILOR DELGADO REPORTED ON THE DIGITAL EQUITY COMMITTEE

COU

Informational

1. Order (ID # 8052)

Confirmation of William St. Denis as Deputy Director of Veterans' Services

ATTACHMENTS:

- Bill St. Denis - Veterans Services Deputy Director (PDF)

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

Petitions

2. Petition (ID # 8056)

EVERSOURCE - Bicentennial Highway

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

JASON FERRARO, SPOKE ON THE PETITION ON BEHALF OF EVERSOURCE.

COUNCILOR SANTANTIELLO ASKED IF THE LUMENS FOR THIS PROJECT IS THE STANDARD.

MR. FERRARO NOTED THAT THE LUMENS FOR THIS PETITION IS THE STANDARD.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 14979475 SKETCH (PDF)
- 14979475 POLE PETITION (PDF)
- BICENTENNIAL Report (PDF)

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

Grants

3. Order (ID # 8048)

CDBG Entitlement Grant - No Match - \$3,740,488.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CATHY BUONO, CAFO, SPOKE ON THE GRANT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY25 CDBG Grant Setup Form (PDF)

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

4. Order (ID # 8050)

HOME Entitlement Grant - No Match - \$1,502,181.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

GERALDINE MCCAFFERTY, DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, SPOKE ON THE GRANT.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED HOW SHORT THE COS IS ON HOUSING.

DIRECTOR MCCAFFERTY NOTED WE ARE DONE "THOUSANDS" OF UNITS.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED FOR EXACT NUMBERS TO BE SHARED WITH THE COUNCIL.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY25 HOME Grant Setup Form (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Fenton
ABSTAIN:	Maria Perez
ABSENT:	Tracye Whitfield

5. Order (ID # 8051)

HOPWA Entitlement Grant - No Match - \$827,431.00

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY25 HOPWA Grant Setup Form (PDF)

RESULT: **ADOPTED [11 TO 0]**
AYES: Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Fenton
ABSTAIN: Maria Perez
ABSENT: Tracye Whitfield

6. Order (ID # 8049)

ESG Entitlement Grant - No Match Required - \$329,785.00

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY25 ESG Grant Setup Form (PDF)

RESULT: **ADOPTED [11 TO 0]**
AYES: Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Fenton
ABSTAIN: Maria Perez
ABSENT: Tracye Whitfield

7. Order (ID # 8060)

Fire Emergency Management Performance Grant Increase - \$4,000 - No Match Required

ATTACHMENTS:

- 23EMPG Springfield contract award increase email from MEMA (MSG)
- 23EMPG Springfield Contract to be signed (PDF)

RESULT: **ADOPTED [11 TO 0]**
AYES: Walsh, Allen, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Perez, Fenton
ABSENT: Tracye Whitfield
AWAY: Jose Delgado

8. Order (ID # 8053)

Donation - Police Superintendent Akers

ATTACHMENTS:

- Donation 5-28-24 (PDF)

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

9. Order (ID # 8059)

FY24 Libraries Cash Donations - \$435.92

ATTACHMENTS:

- Library Cash Donation \$435.00 (PDF)

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

Orders

10. Order (ID # 8058)

Bond Authorization - Two (2) Fire Apparatus - \$3,290,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CATHY BUONO, CAFO, SPOKE ON THE ITEM

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED IF THERE WAS AN INCREASE FROM THE INITIAL APPROVAL VOTE.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED ABOUT THE COST OF APPARATUS

COUNCILOR DAVILA NOTED THAT COMMISSIONER CALVI SPOKE TO THE BACKLOG IN ORDERING THE APPARATUS. HE NOTED THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL STAFFING OF THE TAC UNIT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Bond Auth - Purchase of Fire Apparatus (PDF)

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

11. Order (ID # 8057)

Budget Transfer Within a Department - Finance to Multi-Year Pay-Go Fund - \$1,478,065.72

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Budget Transfer Within a Department - Finance to Multi-Year Pay-Go Fund - \$1,478,065.72

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

LINDSAY HACKETT, DEPUTY CAFO, SPOKE ON THIS ITEM

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - FY24 EOY Pay-Go Transfer (PDF)

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

12. Order (ID # 8054)

Transfer from Reserve for Contingencies to the Office of Procurement - \$25,000

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Transfer from Reserve for Contingencies to the Office of Procurement - \$25,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CATHY BUONO, CAFO, SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED A QUESTION ABOUT THE UNUSED ARPA MONEY AND THE PROTOCCOL FOR AWARDED FUNDS THAT REMAIN UNUSED.

CAFO BUONO RESPONDED THAT THE FUNDS WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE CITY

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Procurement Advertising Transfer (PDF)

RESULT: **ADOPTED [12 TO 0]**

AYES: Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Perez, Fenton

ABSENT: Tracye Whitfield

13. Order (ID # 8061)

Collective Bargaining Agreement Ratification - National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) Local 1-021

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ATTORNEY MAHONEY, LABOR RELATIONS DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT.

ATTORNEY MAHONEY GAVE AN EXPLANATION ON THE PAY PLAN.

COUNCILOR CURRAN ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE RESIDENCY ISSUE AS IT RELATED TO THE POSITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CBA RATIFICATION.

COUNCILOR DELGADO ASKED IF THIS WAS AN EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT CBA.

COUNCILOR CURRAN ASKED IF THE BUILDING INSPECTORS HAD A UNION AND IF THERE WAS ANYONE PRESENT TO SPEAK ON THEIR BEHALF.

ATTACHMENTS:

- NAGE CAFO CERT (PDF)
- 2024-05-17 NAGE Report to City Council FY 2025-2027 (PDF)
- 5-13-24 NAGE Executed Tentative Agreement (PDF)

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

14. Order (ID # 8044)

Springfield Community Choice Power Supply Aggregation Plan

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

TINA QUAGLIATO SULLIVAN, AND MARK CAPPADONA, OF COLONIAL POWER, SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING EVERSOURCE RAISING DELIVERY RATES BECAUSE A RESIDENT CHOOSES TO OPT IN.

COUNCILOR DELGADO ASKED FOR THE HISTORY OF OTHER COMMUNITIES WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO ADOPT THIS COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PLAN.

MS. QUAGLIATO SULLIVAN NOTED THAT THE PROGRAM IS COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY AND USERS CAN OPT IN AND OPT OUT AT ANY TIME. SHE NOTED THAT ONCE THE PLAN IS APPROVED THERE WILL BE EXTENSIVE OUTREACH. ADDITIONALLY, SHE SHARED THE OUTREACH THAT WAS DONE PRIOR TO TONIGHT'S MEETING.

COUNCILOR DAVILA CONFIRMED THAT COLONIAL POWER WILL BE THE CONSULTANT ASSISTING THE COS. HE ALSO ASKED HOW THE PROCESS WOULD HAPPEN GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF THE RFP PROCESS INCLUDING THE GATHERING AND PRESENTATION OF THE DATA.

COUNCILOR DAVILA CONFIRMED

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED HOW MANY CITIES/TOWNS ARE BEING SERVICED BY HE ASKED WHAT THE COS IS ASKING OF THE COUNCIL TONIGHT. MS. QUAGLIATO SULLIVAN RESPONDED THAT THE COS IS ASKING FOR THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE DRAFT AGGREGATION PLAN.

HE ASKED FOR DETAILS ON THE "OPT OUT" ASPECT OF THE PROGRAM.

MARK CAPPADONA NOTED THAT COUNCILOR DAVILA IS CORRECT. THE PROGRAM IS AN OPT OUT PROGRAM. MEANING THAT ALL INDIVIDUALS ON BASIC EVERSOURCE WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND WOULD HAVE TO OPT OUT OF THE SPFLD COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY AGGREGATION PLAN.

COUNCILOR PEREZ NOTED HER SUPPORT FOR THE AGGREGATION PLAN AND THANKED LIVE WELL FOR THEIR WORK ON THIS DRAFT PLAN.

COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE NOTED THAT HE IS IN SUPPORT AND SHARED SUGGESTIONS FOR SPREADING THE WORD ON THE COMMUNITY AGGREGATION PLAN.

COUNCILOR BROWN NOTED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM IN THAT IT GIVES THE CONSUMERS ANOTHER OPTION.

COUNCILOR DELGADO ASKED IF THE CITY WOULD BE ABLE TO SEND COMPARISON BILLS/ESTIMATES ONCE CONSUMERS OPT IN.

MARK CAPPADONA NOTED THAT IT WILL NOT BE ON THE MONTHLY BILL AS IT IS CURRENTLY NOT ALLOWED.

COUNCILOR CURRAN THANKS COUNCILORS PEREZ, COUNCILOR GOVAN AND FORMER COUNCILOR LEDERMAN ON TAKING THE LEAD ON THIS ISSUE.

COUNCILOR GOVAN NOTED THE NEED FOR EXTENSIVE PUBLIC EDUCATION DUE TO THE AUTOMATIC OPT IN NATURE OF THE PLAN.

MS. QUAGLIATO SULLIVAN WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE COUNCIL ONCE THE PLAN IS APPROVED TO ASK FOR ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS ON OUTREACH.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF SAVINGS...

MARK RESPONDED WITH 7-10% OF THE CURRENT AVERAGE BILL.

COUNCILOR EDWARDS TOOK THE PODIUM TO ALLOW COUNCIL PRESIDENT FENTON TO STEP DOWN AND ASK QUESTIONS.

COUNCILOR FENTON ASKED IF COST IS THE ONLY VARIABLE IF THIS PLAN WAS ADOPTED. HE ALSO ASKED IF THE CONSUMER HAS TO DO ANYTHING ELSE ONCE THEY ARE OPTED IN.

HE ASKED IF THE CONSUMER GETS A COMPARISON IF THE COST IS LOWER HAD THEY STUCK WITH EVERSOURCE.

MARK NOTED THE WEBSITE WOULD HAVE THE DETAILS POSTED AS TO KILOWATTS/USAGE/COST.

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT HE IS IN FAVOR OF THE PLAN. HE ASKED HOW THE CONSUMER WILL BE BILLED AND FROM WHOM.

MARK NOTED THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE EVERSOURCE FOR SUPPLY DELIVERY.

COUNCILOR FENTON ASKED IF THE BILL WILL SPECIFY THAT THE CITY AGGREGATION PLAN.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT HE IS IN SUPPORT OF THE PLAN AS THERE WILL BE SAVINGS, HOWEVER, THE CITY SHOULD EXPECT INCREASED CONSTITUENT CALLS REGARDING POWER USAGE.

COUNCILOR FENTON ASKED IF WE CURRENTLY AGGREGATE OUR POWER AND REALIZE COST SAVINGS AS A RESULT. MS. QUAGLIATO SULLIVAN CONFIRMED THAT THE COS DOES BENEFIT FROM POWER AGGREGATION.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Springfield - Aggregation Plan (PDF)
- Springfield - Aggregation Plan Spanish (PDF)

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