



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, October 21, 2024

7:00 PM

Hybrid Council Chamber

Call to Order

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on October 21, 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	Present	
Zaida Govan	Ward 8 City Councilor	Remote	
Malo Brown	Ward 4 Councilor	Remote	
Victor Davila	Ward 6 Councilor	Present	
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	Present	
Michael A. Fenton	President	Present	

Reports of Committee

COUNCILOR ALLEN REPORTED ON THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

COUNCILOR BROWN REPORTED ON THE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

COUNCILOR DAVILA REPORTED ON THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

COUNCILOR GOVAN REPORTED ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

Informational

1. Order (ID # 8281)

September Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COMPTROLLER BURNS REPORTED ON THE SEPTEMBER

2027 NEW BRIDGE FOR THE NORTH END FROM SPRINGFIELD TO WEST SPRINGFIELD.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED FOR THE COST OF THE BRIDGE. 100 MILLION DOLLARS.

COUNCILOR PEREZ NOTED THE NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY CONCERNS AND THANKED DIRECTOR CIGNOLI

ATTACHMENTS:

- September Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report (PDF)

RESULT: **ADOPTED [11 TO 0]**

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

ABSENT: Sean Curran, Tracye Whitfield

2. Order (ID # 8298)

State Election Warrant

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

MADAM CLERK AND ELECTION COMMISSIONER GLADYS OYOLA LOPEZ STATED THAT 16,900 ABSENTEE BALLOTS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED AND MAILED OUT. SHE ALSO NOTED THAT THERE IS A RECORD AMOUNT OF WALK IN EARLY VOTERS, APPROXIMATELY 900 AS OF 10/21/24. SHE STATED THAT THERE WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL WEEK OF EARLY VOTING ACROSS THE STATE, DUE TO THE UPDATE IN THE STATE LAW.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED FOR THE ABSENTEE AND EARLY VOTING NUMBERS AGAIN. HE ALSO WANTED TO ENSURE THE ELECTION DEPARTMENT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY AND RESOURCES TO GET THROUGH THIS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. COMMISSIONER OYOLA LOPEZ STATED THAT THE CAFO, CATHY BUONO, HAS BEEN GREAT ABOUT CHECKING IN WITH HER ON THAT. COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED FOR THE BUDGET AND EXPENSES FOR THIS ELECTION, AND IT IS TOO EARLY TO GIVE AN ACCURATE AMOUNT AT THIS TIME.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 11.5.2024 Election Warrant (PDF)
- 2024 Polling Location List (PDF)

RESULT: **ADOPTED [11 TO 0]**

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

ABSENT: Sean Curran, Tracye Whitfield

Petitions**3. Petition (ID # 8287)**

Pet #10,304 Private Acceptance

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR CIGNOLI SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

COUNCILOR BROWN THANKED THE DIRECTOR FOR HIS WORK AND DEDICATION.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Petition Letter 10,304 (PDF)
- Aberdeen Road (PDF)
- Burdette St Order (PDF)
- Humburg St Order (PDF)
- Sterling St Order (PDF)
- Van Buren Avenue Order(PDF)
- 70774.05 ABERD-ABERDEEN 1 (PDF)
- 70774.05 ABERD-ABERDEEN 2 (PDF)
- 70774.05 BURDETTE-BURDETTE (PDF)
- 70774.05 DESROS-DESROSIER (PDF)
- 70774.05 HAMBURG-HAMBURG (PDF)
- 70774.05 STERLING-STERLING (PDF)
- 70774.05 VAN BUREN-VAN BUREN (PDF)
- Desrosiers St Order (PDF)

RESULT: **APPROVED [11 TO 0]**

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

ABSENT: Sean Curran, Tracye Whitfield

Grants

4. Order (ID # 8288)

DPW Massworks Infrastructure Program Grant - No Match - \$2,800,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR CIGNOLI SPOKE ON THE ITEM STATED THAT THE DPW IS COORDINATING WITH THE MASS DOT WILL MAKE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE PEDESTRIANS. WILL ALSO MAKE IMROVMENTS TO THE NORTH END BRIDGE.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED FOR AN ESTIMATED COST ON THE BRIDGE, AND IT IS \$100 MILLION DOLLARS. WILL START CONSTRUCTION IN 2027.

COUNCILOR PEREZ WANTED TO THANK DIRECTOR CIGNOLI, THERE HAS BEEN 2 DEATHS AT THE PRIDE CROSSWALK.

COUNCILOR DELGADO KUDOS TO THE DIRECTOR AND THE TEAM. THE ROWING IS A GREAT IMPROVEMENT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY25 MassWorks Infrastructure Grant (PDF)

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

5. Order (ID # 8284)

Prevention in Early Childhood Services Grant Increase- \$60,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 5-8 ARE BELOW THE THRESHOLD. ITEMS WILL BE VOTED ON TOGETHER.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Prevention in Early Childhood Grant Increase (PDF)

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

6. Order (ID # 8283)

FY24 Senior Community Service Employment Grant Increase- in Kind Match Required - \$39,898.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 5-8 ARE BELOW THE THRESHOLD. ITEMS WILL BE VOTED ON TOGETHER.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY 24 SCSEP Grant Increase (PDF)

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

7. Order (ID # 8285)

FY25 LSTA Health and Wellness Grant - No Match Required \$20,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 5-8 ARE BELOW THE THRESHOLD. ITEMS WILL BE VOTED ON TOGETHER.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Libraries LSTA Health and Wellness Grant (PDF)

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

8. Order (ID # 8286)

FY25 Libraries Cash Donations - \$732.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 5-8 ARE BELOW THE THRESHOLD. ITEMS WILL BE VOTED ON TOGETHER.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Cash Donation Libraries \$732 (PDF)

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

Orders

9. Order (ID # 8279)

Bond Authorization - Gerena School Feasibility Study - \$2,500,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

PETER GARVEY, SPOKE ON THE ITEM

MR. GARVEY DETAILED THE ELIGIBILITY STUDY AND FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE PROJECT.

COUNCILOR PEREZ SPOKE ON THE ITEM AND NOTED HER WORK ON THIS PROJECT DURING HER TENURE AS A SCHOOL COMMITTEE PERSON.

COUNCILOR DAVILA THANKED MR. GARVEY AND NOTED THE NEED FOR THE WORK TO BE DONE. HE NOTED THAT THE SCHOOL IS A KEY ACCESS POINT FOR RESIDENTS TO CROSS FROM PLAINFIELD TO MAIN STREET. HE NOTED THAT THIS IS ONE OF TWO BUILDINGS IN THE STATE BUILT IN

COUNCILOR ALLEN, CURRAN THANKED MR. GARVEY FOR HIS WORK

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Bond Auth - Gerena Feasibility Study (PDF)

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

10. Order (ID # 8282)

Supplemental Budget - Increase in State Aid - \$587,478.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

PAT ROACH, SCHOOL DEPT CAFO, SPOKE ON THE ITEM

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY25 Final Cherry Sheet Numbers(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 # 8297)

Order Approving a Request for Proposal Solicitation by the City of Springfield School Department for a Contract for Time and Attendance Services for a Term of Five Years

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

PAT ROACH PRESENTED. STATED THAT KRONOS IS AT END OF LIFE AND THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT IS IN NEED OF A NEW TIME KEEPING SYSTEM. WENT OUT FOR REQUESTS FOR PROPOSAL, AND THE TEAM IS RECOMMENDING TCM. THE 5 YEAR CONTRACT IS MORE REASONABLY PRICED THAN A 3 YEAR CONTRACT.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MICHAEL FENTON HAD VICE PRESIDENT MELVIN EDWARDS COVER THE CHAIR SO HE COULD SPEAK ON THE ITEM.

COUNCILOR FENTON RAISED CONCERNS FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS THAT THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN ASKED TO APPROVE CONTRACTS BEFORE THE BIDDING HAS BEEN COMPLETED. HE VOCALIZED THAT HE IS IN SUPPORT OF THE ITEM THIS EVENING, HOWEVER, YOU CAN ONLY DO THE BIDDING AFTER THE COUNCIL HAS AUTHORIZED A 3 YEAR AGREEMENT. THIS IS NOT THE CASE FOR THIS ITEM, BUT IT CAN BE DONE FOR THE 5 YEAR CONTRACT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Order Approving School Time and Attendance RFP - Contract Term of 5 years (DOC)

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

12. Order 2024-6

Amendment to Chapter 327, Solid Waste

HISTORY:

09/16/24	City Council	REFER COMMITTEE VOTE
Next: 10/07/24		
10/07/24	City Council	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
Next: 10/21/24		

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DPW DIRECTOR SPOKE ON THE ITEM

HE NOTED COMMUNICATIONS WITH COUNCILORS FENTON AND DAVILA.

COUNCILOR DAVILA REQUESTED AN INCREASE FROM \$16 TO \$24 FOR THE BULK TRASH STICKERS.

COUNCILOR DAVILA MADE A MOTION TO INCREASE. COUNCILOR FENTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE NOTED HIS CONCERN ON INCREASING THE BULK TRASH STICKER FEE. HE ASKED IF A MOTION TO COMMITTEE WAS IN ORDER.

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT A VOTE HAD TO BE MADE ON THE MOTION OR THE MOTION HAD TO BE WITHDRAWN BEFORE A VOTE TO COMMITTEE COULD BE MADE.

COUNCILOR BROWN NOTED THAT HE WAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE FEE. HOWEVER, HIS CONCERN CENTERS AROUND HOW THE COLLECTED FEES WOULD BE ALLOCATED.

COUNCILOR GOVAN SPOKE WITH SIMILAR CONCERNS.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED IF THE INCREASE TO \$24 WOULD ALSO INCREASE DUMPING OF MATTRESSES ACROSS THE CITY. DIRECTOR CIGNOLI COULD NOT VERIFY FOR CERTAIN THAT THIS WOULD BE AN ISSUE. THERE ARE NOT MANY MATTRESSES BEING DUMPED CURRENTLY, ACCORDING TO CLEAN CITY.

COUNCILOR WALSH RECOMMENDS EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF AN INCREASE TO \$16 BEFORE INCREASING TO \$24. STATED THAT SHE WOULD BE AGAINST THE INCREASE.

COUNCILOR PEREZ NOTED THAT SHE WOULD LIKE TO SEE INCREMENTAL INCREASES IN THE FEES FROM \$8 TO \$16 AND EVENTUALLY HIGHER IF NEEDED. SHE FLAGGED THIS FROM THE BEGINNING. STATED THAT RESIDENTS ARE ALREADY STRUGGLING WITH PROPERTY TAXES. SHE IS NOT IN SUPPORT OF A \$24 INCREASE.

COUNCILOR DAVILA INQUIRED ABOUT THE APPEALS PROCESS. DIRECTOR CIGNOLI STATED THAT REASONS WERE ADDED AS TO WHY TRASH SERVICE MAY BE DISCONTINUED. HE IS NOT RECOMMENDING ANY CHANGES TO IT AT THIS POINT. COUNCILOR DAVILA WANTS A NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVE INTO THE APPEALS PROCESS, A CITY COUNCIL APPOINTEE.

COUNCILOR FENTON ADVISED THAT AMENDMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE ADDED TO THE ORDINANCE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

COUNCILOR DAVILIA INQUIRED ABOUT THE PROCESS WHEN RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS ARE DISCOVERED IN THE TRASH. DIRECTOR CIGNOLI ADVISED THERE ARE FINES ASSOCIATED IF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IS FOUND. AS OF RIGHT NOW, THERE ARE NO FEES TO THE RESIDENT IF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IS FOUND IN THEIR TRASH. DPW CAN TARGET THE RESIDENCE AND PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION FOR FIRST OFFENDERS. WOULD LIKE TO ISSUE FINES IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN.

COUNCILOR FENTON SUBMITTED A CHANGE IN THE LANGUAGE AND COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON EMPLOYEES HANDLING POSSIBLY RADIOACTIVE WASTE.

MR. CIGNOLI NOTED THE ISSUE VIOLATION FEES FOR DUMPING.

COUNCILOR PEREZ NOTED THE INCREASE IN FEES WAS FAIR WHEN COMPARED TO NEIGHBORING CITIES/TOWNS

COUNCILOR DAVILA SPOKE ON HAZARDOUS MATERIAL DISPOSAL, A RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SWAC COMMITTEE. ALSO VOICED CONCERNS THAT THE DPW WORKERS ARE PROCTED WHEN HANDLING OR EXPOSED TO RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS. DIRECTOR CIGNOLI ADVISED THAT WORKERS ARE NOT EXPOSED DUE TO SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT (GEIGER COUNTERS) BEING USED.

ATTACHMENTS:

- § 327 (September 2024) - For City Council (PDF)

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

Motion to Amend

Councilor Davila made a motion to amend the order to raise the fee from \$8 to \$32

Seconded by Councilor Fenton

COUNCILOR WALSH - NO

COUNCILOR ALLEN - NO

COUNCILOR DELGADO - NO

COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE - NO

COUNCILOR GOVAN - NO

COUNCILOR BROWN - NO

COUNCILOR DAVILA - NO

COUNCILOR CURRAN - NO

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO - NO

COUNCILOR EDWARDS - NO

CUNCILOR WHITFIELD - ABSENT

COUNCILOR PEREZ - NO

COUNCILOR FENTON - YES

MOTION FAILED

Call the Question

Councilor Edwards made a motion to call the question and was seconded by Councilor Walsh:

COUNCILOR WALSH - YES

COUNCILOR ALLEN - YES

COUNCILOR DELGADO - YES

COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE - YES

COUNCILOR GOVAN - YES

COUNCILOR BROWN - YES

COUNCILOR DAVILA - YES

COUNCILOR CURRAN - YES

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO - YES

COUNCILOR EDWARDS - YES

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD - ABSENT

COUNCILOR PEREZ - YES

COUNCILOR FENTON - YES