



City Council

Hearings Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, October 28, 2024

7:00 PM

Hybrid Council Chamber

Hearings

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on October 28, 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	Present	
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor	Present	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	
Tracye Whitfield	At Large City Councilor	Absent	
Maria Perez	Ward 1 City Councilor	Absent	
Michael A. Fenton	President	Present	

Moment of Silence - Pledge of Allegiance

Petitions

1. Petition (ID # 8301)

Trenton Street- One Way

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Dickinson Street homeowner spoke in favor of the change to one way.

Safety concerns with many accidents on Trenton Street.

Councilor Davila asked for clarification on the direction of the one way and agreed that if the traffic commission gave a positive recommendation this should be a good safety measure.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 9-4-2024 Agenda (PDF)
- 24-19 (PDF)

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

2. Petition (ID # 8303)

Patton Street - One Way

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Councilor Walsh noted that if there is no objection

ATTACHMENTS:

- 24-24 Patton St one way(PDF)
- 10-2-2024 Agenda (PDF)

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

3. Petition (ID # 8299)

Panhandling Signs

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Tina Quagliato-Sullivan, Community Development, spoke on the petition.

She noted that the neighborhood councils have requested and approved the signs.

The signs and locations have been approved by the Traffic Commission.

Councilor Govan clarified the intent of the signs. She suggested an education program to clarify that the intent is not to criminalize poverty.

Councilor Davila asked about the placement of the signs to deter vandalism.

He also asked about the cost and funding source.

Ms. Sullivan responded with the cost, quantity and installation plan.

Councilor Davila noted some possible address errors in the attachments.

Councilor Davila noted that the signs are a good beginning and wants to look into doing more work to deter panhandling in Springfield.

Councilor Click-Bruce noted that the problem is multi-faceted and is pleading to the community to stop giving to pan handlers. He supports this step.

Councilor Delgado asked if the same organization will be the donor organization throughout. Ms. Sullivan noted that UWofPV is the listed organization for donations because the City has a contract with Mercy which is a partner with UWofPV.

Councilor Santaniello asked if any ARPA money was allocated to the homelessness issue.

Councilor Brown asked a question about the United Way and asked why the city hasn't considered donating to faith based organizations.

Ms. Sullivan responded and re-iterated why the United Way was selected.

Councilor Brown noted his support of adding faith based organizations being added to the list to receive donations.

Ms. Sullivan noted that she would not be able to respond to Councilor Brown's suggestion tonight. She noted that she would be willing to talk to the Law Department to vet the feasibility of addin

ATTACHMENTS:

- 24-31 Proposed Sign Locations (PDF)
- 24-31 PXL_20240909_132028844 (PDF)

RESULT: APPROVED [10 TO 1]

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

NAYS: Malo Brown

ABSENT: Tracye Whitfield, Maria Perez

4. Zoning Change (ID # 8172)

To Change the Zoning of the Property Known as WS Connecticut Avenue (03130-0047) from Residence a to Residence B.

PETITIONER:

Viktor Savonin

ADDRESS:

WS Connecticut Avenue

CHANGE REQUESTED:

Residence A to Residence B

HISTORY:

08/21/24	City Planning Board	DENIED
09/16/24	City Council	RECEIVED 1ST STEP
09/24/24	City Council	CONTINUE VOTE
Next: 10/28/24		

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Councilor Davila made a motion to withdraw without prejudice.

Seconded by Councilor Edwards

Councilor Davila suggested that a resident would speak on behalf of the neighborhood.

Mrs. O'Brien spoke in favor of keeping the Connecticut Ave a Residence A. She noted the safety issues pertaining making the change.

Councilor Curran asked if the council could vote down the motion to withdraw and vote the motion.

Councilor Fenton explained the parliamentary rules.

Councilor Davila noted that he is not in support of a vote on the zone change without the presence of the petitioner. Councilor Walsh and Allen agreed.

Councilor Curran respectively disagreed. He asks his colleagues to vote down the motion and end this matter tonight.

Councilors Walsh, Allen, Click-Bruce, Govan, Brown, Davila, Santaniello, Edwards and Fenton voted Yes.

Councilors Curran and Delgado voted No.

Councilors Whitfield and Perez were absent.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 3247_WS_Conn_Ave_2024_Revised (PDF)
- 3247_WS_Connecticut_Ave_2024_PB_Report (PDF)

Motion to Withdraw Without Prejudice

Councilor Davila made a motion to withdraw without prejudice.

Seconded by Councilor Edwards

Councilor Davila suggested that a resident would speak on behalf of the neighborhood.

Mrs. O'Brien spoke in favor of keeping the Connecticut Ave a Residence A. She noted the safety issues pertaining making the change.

Councilor Curran asked if the council could vote down the motion to withdraw and vote the motion.

Councilor Fenton explained the parliamentary rules.

Councilor Davila noted that he is not in support of a vote on the zone change without the presence of the petitioner. Councilor Walsh and Allen agreed.

Councilor Curran respectfully disagreed. He asks his colleagues to vote down the motion and end this matter tonight.