



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, December 9, 2024

7:00 PM

Hybrid Council Chamber

Call to Order

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on December 9, 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	Remote	
Malo Brown	Ward 4 Councilor	Present	
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	Present	
Maria Perez	Ward 1 City Councilor	Present	
Michael A. Fenton	President	Absent	

Reports of Committee

COUNCILOR ALLEN REPORTED ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

COUNCILOR DELGADO SPOKE ON THE DIGITAL EQUITY WORKING GROUP

COUNCILOR PEREZ REPORTED ON THE ELDER COMMITTEE AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE COMMITTEE. COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO, COUNCILOR WALSH AND COMMISSIONER CAULTON-HARRIS WERE ON THE MEETING.

COUNCILOR DAVILA REPORTED OUT ON THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Informational

1. Order (ID # 8355)

October Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ACTING COMPTROLLER STEPHEN LONERGAN SPOKE ON THE ITEM.

ATTACHMENTS:

- October Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

Petitions**2. Petition (ID # 8357)**

Eversource- 1650 Boston Road

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 2-7 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER WITHOUT OBJECTION

HECTOR VELEZ, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ENGINEER, SPOKE ON THE ITEMS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1650 boston Rd. Report (PDF)
- 1650 Boston Rd. Springfield, MA - Sketch 1 (PDF)
- 1650 Boston Rd. Springfield, MA - Sketch 2 (PDF)
- 1650 Boston Rd. Springfield, MA - Sketch 3 (PDF)
- 1650 Boston Rd. Springfield, MA - UG Order (PDF)
- 1650 Boston Rd. Springfield, MA - UG Petition (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

3. Petition (ID # 8358)

Eversource -Edgeland Street

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 2-7 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER WITHOUT OBJECTION

HECTOR VELEZ, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ENGINEER, SPOKE ON THE ITEMS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 19269303 SKETCH (PDF)
- PET # 19269303 EDGELAND ST SPFLD (PDF)
- ORD # 19269303 EDGELAND ST SPFLD (PDF)
- 65 Edgeland St. Report (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

4. Petition (ID # 8359)

Eversource - 55 Emery Street

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 2-7 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER WITHOUT OBJECTION

HECTOR VELEZ, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ENGINEER, SPOKE ON THE ITEMS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 55 Emery St. Report (PDF)
- ORD # 12571347 E COLUMBUS AVE SPFLD (PDF)
- 12571347 SKETCH (PDF)

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

5. Petition (ID # 8360)

Eversource Gas - 1655 Boston Road.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 2-7 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER WITHOUT OBJECTION

HECTOR VELEZ, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ENGINEER, SPOKE ON THE ITEMS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- MA-SPR-PIP-24-092 - 1655 Boston Rd - FPO Drawing - REV00 (PDF)
- Springfield City Council Letter - 1655 Boston Rd (PDF)
- Report City Council 1655 Boston Rd. (PDF)

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

6. Petition (ID # 8367)

Eversource Gas - Marsden Street

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 2-7 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER WITHOUT OBJECTION

HECTOR VELEZ, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ENGINEER, SPOKE ON THE ITEMS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Marsden St - Springfield City Council Letter (PDF)
- Marsden Street - Pro Drawing Rev0 (PDF)

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

7. Petition (ID # 8381)

COMCAST - Cadwell Drive

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 2-7 WERE TAKEN TOGETHER WITHOUT OBJECTION

HECTOR VELEZ, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ENGINEER, SPOKE ON THE ITEMS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 365 Cadwell Dr. Springfield MA (PDF)
- Cadwell Dr. Construction Details (PDF)
- Cadwell Dr. petition-Springfield (PDF)
- COMCAST REPORT - Cadwell Dr. (PDF)

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

AYES: Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez

ABSENT: Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

Orders

8. Order (ID # 8370)

Order Authorizing Mayor to Execute Quitclaim Deed for Transfer of Title of ES Deboo Dr., Lot 234 (03735-0008), ES Deboo Dr., Lot 235 (03735-0007) to the Springfield Conservation Commission for Consideration of \$1.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ADAM ANUELIWICZ OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED IF THE LOTS WERE BUILDABLE

ADAM SAID THAT THE LOTS WERE IN OR NEAR STANDING WATER AND NOT BUILDABLE.

COUNCILOR DAVILA CLARIFIED THAT THE ES LOIS ST WAS BEING REMOVED.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED ABOUT THE COST OF THE LOTS AND WHO THE CITY IS BUYING THEM FROM AND IF THE PROPERTY HAS ANY VALUE.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED WHO WOULD BE MAINTAINING THE PROPERTY ONCE THE CITY SELLS THEM.

ADAM NOTED THAT THERE WOULD BE PERIODIC CHECKS ON THE PROPERTY BUT NO NEED FOR CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE.

COUNCILOR DAVILA MADE A MOTION TO REMOVE THE LOT 123 AND THE LANGUAGE AND COUNCILOR PEREZ SECONDED THE MOTION.

ALL COUNCILORS VOTED YES - COUNCILORS CLICK-BRUCE AND FENTON WERE ABSENT.

RESULT:	ADOPTED AS AMENDED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

Motion to amend Item #8

MOTION TO AMEND BY REMOVING THE LANGUAGE "LOT 123 (07870-0036).

COUNCILOR DAVILA MADE A MOTION TO REMOVE THE LOT 123 AND THE LANGUAGE AND COUNCILOR PEREZ SECONDED THE MOTION.

ALL COUNCILORS VOTED YES - COUNCILORS CLICK-BRUCE AND FENTON WERE ABSENT.

COUNCILOR WALSH -	YES
COUNCILOR ALLEN-	YES
COUNCILOR DELGADO-	YES
COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE	ABSENT
COUNCILOR GOVAN-	YES
COUNCILOR BROWN-	YES
COUNCILOR DAVILA-	YES
COUNCILOR CURRAN-	YES
COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO-	YES
COUNCILOR EDWARDS-	YES
COUNCILOR WHITFIELD-	YES
COUNCILOR PEREZ-	YES
COUNCILOR FENTON-	ABSENT

9. Order (ID # 8365)

FY25 Mass Cultural Council Grant - No Match Required \$18,300.00

ATTACHMENTS:

- Mass Cultural Council Grant (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

10. Order (ID # 8372)

Parks Department - LWCF Grant - Magazine Park - \$1,000,000 - Match Required

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

LAURA WALSH, SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, SPOKE ON THE GRANT.

COUNCILOR BROWN SPOKE ON THE GRANT AND COMMENDED THE PARKS DEPT STAFF.

COUNCILOR CURRAN SPOKE ON THE GRANT AND COMMENDED THE PARKS DEPT STAFF.

COUNCILOR GOVAN SPOKE ON THE GRANT AND COMMENDED THE PARKS DEPT STAFF.

COUNCILOR PEREZ SPOKE ON THE GRANT AND COMMENDED THE PARKS DEPT STAFF INCLUDING FORMER PARKS DIRECTOR PATRICK SULLIVAN.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD SPOKE ON THE GRANT AND COMMENDED THE PARKS DEPT STAFF.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Springfield Magazine Park award letter (PDF)
- Grant Set Up Form_LWCF FY24_Magazine Park (PDF)
- CAFO Cert - Parks - Magazine Park (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

11. Order (ID # 8371)

BJA FY24 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program - No Match Required - \$1,300,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR GERRY MCCAFFERTY AND LIEUTENANT BRIAN ELLIOT SPOKE ON THE GRANT.

COUNCILOR DAVILA NOTED THAT THIS WAS "MONEY WELL SPENT".

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED FOR HOW MUCH CAPACITY THAT BHN AND WHY BHN IS THE ONLY ORGANIZATION THAT IS BEING USED TO DO THIS OUTREACH.

MS. MCCAFFERTY NOTED THAT BHN IS THE STATE CHOSEN AGENCY. LT. ELLIOT NOTED THAT THE WORKING FAMILIARITY WITH THE CLINICIANS THAT THEY ALREADY WORK WITH ARE FROM BHN. HE NOTED THAT THIS PARTNERSHIP WITH BHN AND THE SPD IS CAPITALIZING ON GOOD RELATIONSHIPS ALREADY ESTABLISHED.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED ABOUT BRANCHING OUT TO OTHER AGENCIES SUCH AS TAPESTRY AND GANDARA IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE COLLABORATION AMONG OTHER GROUPS.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED IF BHN WOULD BE ABLE TO SUBCONTRACT ON THIS GRANT. SHE NOTED THAT WE WOULD BE MORE POWERFUL IF WE DIVERSIFY.

MS. MCAFFERTY NOTED THAT THIS IS ONE OF MANY GRANTS THAT THE CONTINUUM OF CARE FUNDS MANY AGENCIES THAT DON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

COUNCILOR GOVAN IS APPRECIATIVE OF THE WORK AND WOULD LIKE THE COLLABORATION TO BE EXPANDED ON.

ATTACHMENTS:

- PD DOJ Grant Award_Package_FAW-186262 (PDF)
- BJA FY24 COSSUP (Project HOPE) Grant Set-Up SIGNED (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

12. Order (ID # 8366)

Free Cash to Pay-Go (Police Vehicles) - \$1,500,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CAFO BUONO SPOKE ON THE TRANSFER.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED IF NON-USE VEHICLES COULD BE KEPT AND PARKED AS HIGH VISIBILITY

SGT. HACKETT NOTED THAT THE SUGGESTION COULD BE FLOATED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Certification - Free Cash to Pay-Go (Police Vehicles) (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

13. Order (ID # 8363)

FY24 Certified Free Cash to Stabilization Reserve Fund - \$1,700,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CAFO BUONO SPOKE ON THE ORDER. WOULD LIKE TO REPLACE 1.7 MILLION THAT WAS TAKEN FROM RESERVE WITH THIS YEARS FREE CASH.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - FY24 Free Cash to Stabilization Fund (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [11 TO 0]**AYES:** Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez**ABSENT:** Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton**14. Order (ID # 8362)**

Free Cash to OPEB Trust - \$2,127,530

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CAFO BUONO SPOKE ON THE ORDER. YEARLY OBLIGATION TO 10% OF FREE CASH TO THE OPEB LIABILITY.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED WHAT IS COVERED IN THIS TRANSFER AND WILL THERE BE ENOUGH IN COVERING HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASES.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - OPEB Transfer \$2.1M(PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [11 TO 0]**AYES:** Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez**ABSENT:** Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton**15. Order (ID # 8364)**

FY24 Free Cash to Pension Stabilization Reserve - \$2,127,530

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Transfer of \$2,127,530 from FY24 Certified Free Cash to the Pension Stabilization Reserve Fund

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CAFO BUONO SPOKE ON THE ORDER. WOULD LIKE TO USE 10% OF FREE CASH INTO PENSION STABILIZATION RESERVE FUND. THERE IS CURRENTLY 17 MILLION IN THE FUND AND THERE IS A 9.2% INCREASE IN THE BUDGET EVERY YEAR. WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE BUILDING THIS FUND IN CASE THERE ARE STATE CUTS IN THE FUTURE.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED WHAT THE PERCENTAGE SHE WAS ASKING FOR AND IT IS \$2,127,530. IS OKAY WITH FREE CASH GOING INTO THE STABILIZATION FUND BECAUSE IT KEEPS THE CITY IN GOOD FINANCIAL HEALTH. SHE STATED THAT COUNCILOR GOVAN WANTED TO USE FREE CASH FOR PROPERTY TAXES.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ECHOED WHAT COUNCILOR WHITFIELD SAID. SHE IS STILL PROPOSING THAT 75% OF FREE CASH BE UTILIZED FOR THE PROPERTY TAX BILLS. PERCENTAGE IS NEGOTIABLE. SHE IS STILL WORKING ON THIS INITIATIVE.

COUNCILOR STATED TO COUNCILOR GOVAN THAT 75% IS TOO AGGRESSIVE AND SUPPORTS ANY BREAK TO THE TAX PAYERS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Certification - Free Cash to Pension Reserve (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

16. Order (ID # 8368)

Order Accepting Local Option Provision of the HERO Act – Adoption of an Act Relative to Honoring, Empowering, and Recognizing Our Servicemembers and Veterans (Chapter 178 of the Acts of 2024)

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COUNCILOR WALSH SPOKE ON THE ACT AS A CO-SPONSOR WITH MAYOR SARNO.

PATRICK GREENHALGH, ASSESSOR, SPOKE ON THE ACT AND GAVE A BRIEF EXPLANATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM.

COUNCILOR PEREZ ASKED ABOUT HOW RESIDENTS WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE ACT. PATRICK GREENHALGH RESPONDED.

COUNCILOR WALSH ASKED FOR VETERANS DIRECTOR DECARO TO SPEAK ON THE ACT. DIRECTOR DECARO SPOKE ON THE HEROS ACT.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED IF THERE WAS AN ESTIMATE ON WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE EXEMPTION AND IF THE CITY IS GETTING ANY MONEY FROM THE STATE.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED HER SUPPORT FOR THE LOCAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE ACT.

COUNCILOR CURRAN THANKED DIRECTOR DECARO AND ASSESSOR GREENHALGH FOR THEIR WORK AND ASKED HOW A VETERAN WOULD QUALIFY.

ASSESSOR GREENHALGH GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF THE APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS.

COUNCILOR CURRAN SUGGESTED USING THE RAY JORDAN SENIOR CENTER AND CITY STAFF TO ASSIST VETERANS IN APPLYING.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED THAT THE RAY JORDAN SENIOR CENTER HAS STAFF THAT CAN ASSIST WITH APPLICATIONS FOR ALL SENIORS.

COUNCILOR BROWN THANKED THE STAFF OF THE VETERANS OFFICE AND ASKED WHY THERE WASN'T A LARGER NUMBER OF VETERANS WHO QUALIFIED FOR THE EXEMPTION.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Order Accepting Local Option - HERO Act (DOCX)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
MOVER:	Kateri B. Walsh, At-Large Councilor
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

17. Order (ID # 8356)

EPA Community Change Grant Program - No Match Required - \$19,989,241.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR GERRY MCCAFFERTY SPOKE ON THE GRANT. PART OF THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT THAT ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES. MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS WORKED WITH LIVE WELL SPRINGFIELD. 20 MILLION DOLLARS OVER A 3 YEAR PERIOD. HEALTH HOMES, 1500 TREES, NORTH END TRAFFIC FLOWS, GEOTHERMAL TO 2 CITY BUILDINGS. WILL ALSO INCLUDE A COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM, AND DECARBONIZE HOMES. ALSO, JOB TRAINING. SPRINGFIELD IS ONE OF THE FIRST IN NEW ENGLAND TO RECEIVE THIS GRANT. TINA QUAGLIATO SULLIVAN WAS ALSO A BIG PART OF THIS GRANT.

COUNCILOR BROWN THINKS THIS IS HUGE. IS THE CITY SEEKING TO BE MORE EFFICIENT? PAT SULLIVAN STARTED THIS EFFORT AND IS CONTINUING.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED HER SUPPORT AND EXCITEMENT FOR THE GRANT, AND KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK.

COUNCILOR DELGADO SPOKE ON THE ITEM AND NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS GRANT TO THE C.O.S. GIVEN THE HIGH ASTHMA RATES IN SPRINGFIELD AND HAS DONE A TON OF RESEARCH ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY. KUDOS TO YOU ALL.

COUNCILORS ALLEN AND GOVAN SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF GRANT REFERENCE THE ARTICLE IN THE REPUBLICAN BY JEANETTE DEFORGE.

COUNCILOR PEREZ REMEMBERS BEING THE CHAIR OF THE CLIMATE JUSTICE TO STOP THE PIPELINE. SHE ATTENDED MANY MEETINGS AND THE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN ADVOCATING FOR THIS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Request for Grant Set Up and Supporting Documentation - EPA (PDF)
- Award 5F 00A01540-0 City of Springfield (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Delgado, Govan, Brown, Davila, Curran, Santaniello, Edwards, Whitfield, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

Ordinances

(18.) (ID # 8369) Amendment to Chapter 61 - Compensation for the City Council, School Committee and Mayor

AMENDING CHAPTER 61 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, 1986, AS AMENDED, BY DELETING ARTICLE I § 61-1 AND INSERTING A NEW ARTICLE I § 61-1, BY DELETING ARTICLE II § 61-5 AND INSERTING A NEW ARTICLE II § 61-5, AND BY DELETING ARTICLE IV § 61-7 AND INSERTING A NEW ARTICLE IV § 61-7.

- I. CHAPTER 61 ARTICLE I § 61-1 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Springfield, 1986, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new ARTICLE I, § 61-1, hereto as follows:

“§61-1 Compensation.

The annual compensation of the President of the City Council shall be \$28,500, and the annual compensation of all other members of the City Council shall be \$28,000 per annum, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Beginning on January 1, 2026 and annually on January first every year thereafter, the annual compensation for the members of the City Council shall be increased by the lesser of the most recent annual cost-of-living percentage adjustment made by the City of Springfield Retirement Board under M.G.L. c. 32 § 102 or two percent (2%), whichever is the smaller amount, whichever is the smaller amount. Beginning on January 1, 2026 and every year thereafter, the City Council President shall be paid \$1,000 more than the then applicable annual compensation for all City Council members. All compensation called for under this section shall be paid in equal installments at the end of each month of service.”

- II. CHAPTER 61 ARTICLE II § 61-5 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Springfield, 1986, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new ARTICLE II, § 61-5, hereto as follows:

“§61-5 Compensation.

The annual compensation of the Mayor shall be \$175,000, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Beginning on January 1, 2026 and annually January first every year thereafter, the annual compensation for the Mayor shall be increased by the lesser of the most recent annual cost-of-living percentage adjustment made by the City of Springfield Retirement Board under M.G.L. c. 32 § 102 or two percent (2%), whichever is the smaller amount.”

- III. CHAPTER 61 ARTICLE IV § 61-7 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Springfield, 1986, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new ARTICLE IV § 61-7, hereto as follows:

“§61-7 Compensation.

The annual compensation of the School Committee shall be \$18,000, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Beginning on January 1, 2026 and annually January first every year thereafter, the annual compensation for the members of the School Committee shall be increased by the lesser of the most recent annual cost-of-living percentage adjustment made by the City of Springfield Retirement Board under M.G.L. c. 32 § 102 or two percent (2%), whichever is the smaller amount. All compensation called for under this section shall be paid in equal installments at the end of each month of service.”

- IV. The amendments set forth herein shall be made effective upon passage.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [6 TO 5]
MOVER:	Victor Davila, Ward 6 Councilor
SECONDER:	Tracye Whitfield, At Large City Councilor
AYES:	Walsh, Allen, Brown, Davila, Edwards, Whitfield
NAYS:	Delgado, Govan, Curran, Santaniello, Perez
ABSENT:	Lavar Click-Bruce, Michael A. Fenton

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COUNCILOR DAVILA INTRODUCED THE AMENDMENT ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT MICHAEL FENTON AND GAVE A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCE. THIS WOULD GIVE A COST OF LIVING INCREASES, 2% OR LOWER, FOR THE CITY COUNCIL, SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE MAYOR. SPONSORS ARE COUNCILORS FENTON, DAVILA, WALSH AND WHITFIELD AND WALSH. THIS WOULD BE FOR FIRST STEP.

THERE WAS 14 YEARS BEFORE THESE BODIES RECEIVED AN INCREASE IN PAY AND THIS WOULD ELIMINATE ANY FUTURE DISCUSSIONS.

NOT ENOUGH VOTES - ITEM FAILS.

(19.) (ID # 8382) Amending Chapter 73 Article II a of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Springfield, as Amended, by Deleting Article II § 73-8(A) and Inserting a New Article II § 73-8(A)

AMENDING CHAPTER 73 ARTICLE II A OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, AS AMENDED, BY DELETING ARTICLE II § 73-8(A) AND INSERTING A NEW ARTICLE II § 73-8(A)

1. CHAPTER 73 ARTICLE II § 73-8(A) of the revised Ordinances of the City of Springfield, as amended, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with a new ARTICLE II § 73-8(A), hereto as follows:

“§73-8 Condition of Employment.

(A) Except as provided for in this article, every person first employed by the City of Springfield on or after March 17, 1995, shall, within 24 months of the start of employment, be a resident of the City of Springfield and shall not cease to be a resident during his/her employment by the City.”

2. The amendment listed above shall be made effective for employees hired by the City of Springfield on or after September 1, 2023, and shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Approved as to form,

Associate City Solicitor

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COUNCILOR DAVILA SPOKE ON THE AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCE AND GAVE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE AMENDMENT. THIS IS SPONSORED BY BOTH COUNCILOR FENTON AND DAVILA. THIS WOULD GIVE NEW HIRES COMING TO WORK FOR THE CITY 2 YEARS TO RELOCATE TO SPRINGFIELD. RIGHT NOW IT IS 1 YEAR, AND IT WOULD GO RETROACTIVE TO SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.

COUNCILOR PEREZ ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE AMENDMENT. SHE NOTED THAT SHE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BECAUSE THIS HAS BEEN AN ONGOING ISSUE IN SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS IN THE CITY.

ATTORNEY KEN SHEA NOTED THAT THIS AMENDMENT WOULD GO TO THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE IF IT PASSES FIRST STEPS.

COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE PERSON REACHES THE 24 MONTH EXPIRATION DATE. CITY SOLICITOR BUONICONTI GAVE AN EXPLANATION AND STATED IT WOULD BE A TERMINATION.

COUNCILOR DELGADO IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE 9/1/23 DATE. SOLICITOR BUONICONTI STATED THERE ARE ECONOMIC ISSUES AND THE CITY IS HAVING PROBLEMS ATTRACTING QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO WORK FOR THE CITY, AND FURTHER MOVE INTO IT. THERE ARE SEVERAL EMPLOYEES ARE COMING TO THEIR 1 YEAR EXPIRATION DATE, AND THEY ARE CONSIDERED "VALUABLE." COUNCILOR DELGADO WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION AND DOES NOT LIKE BEING PRESSURED TO TAKE A VOTE.

COUNCILOR ALLEN INCLINED TO MAKE A MOTION TO PUT INTO COMMITTEE. HE ALSO STATED THE EXPERT ON THIS TOPIC IS COUNCILOR FENTON, WHO IS ABSENT THIS EVENING. HE ASKED THE SOLICITOR IF THIS IS A TIME SENSITIVE MATTER, AND THE SOLICITOR CONFIRMED THAT IT IS. COUNCILOR ALLEN MADE A MOTION FOR COMMITTEE AND IT WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILOR WHITFIELD.

COUNCILOR DAVILA WANTED TO REMIND THE COUNCIL THAT IF THIS PASSES FIRST STEPS, IT WILL GO TO COMMITTEE ANYWAY.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ALSO STATED THAT SHE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION. SHE REFERENCED WHEN SHE WORKED FOR CITY HALL, THERE WERE EMPLOYEES THAT WENT FURTHER THAN THE 1 YEAR DATE AND WERE NEVER TERMINATED. SHE BELIEVES THAT THIS RULE HAS NEVER BEEN ENFORCED. SHE ALSO STATED THAT THE ECONOMY WILL COME BACK AND WOULD RATHER SEE TRAINING AND AGREES WITH SENDING IT TO COMMITTEE.

COUNCILOR GOVAN STATED THAT SHE AGREES WITH PASSING FIRST STEPS THIS EVENINGS DUE TO THE URGENCY WITH THE EMPLOYEES THAT WILL ARE COMING UP TO THEIR 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY DATE. REFERENCED THAT NEPOTISM EXISTED IN THE CITY BEFORE THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS WERE PUT INTO PLACE. STATED THAT EMPLOYEES ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY FINDING HOUSING IN SPRINGFIELD AND REFERENCED THE POLICE SUPERINTENDENT. WOULD LIKE TO URGE COLLEAGUES TO PASS FIRST STEPS. COUNCILOR GOVAN ALSO WOULD LIKE HUMAN RESOURCES SHOULD EXPAND ON WHERE THEY POST CITY JOBS.

COUNCILOR PEREZ WANTS TO GO ABOUT RESIDENCY THE RIGHT WAY. SHE STATED THAT THE COST OF LIVING AND THE HOUSING MARKET WILL NOT CHANGE MUCH IN 24 MONTHS, AS OPPOSED TO 12.

COUNCILOR ALLEN WOULD LIKE TO WITHDRAW HIS MOTION. DOES NOT WANT TO LOSE VALUABLE EMPLOYEES.

COUNCILOR DAVILA WANTED TO REITERATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ITEM. WANTS TO KEEP THE TALENT THAT WE HAVE. HE IS WILLING TO HOLD THE COMMITTEE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF FIRST STEPS ARE NOT PASSED TODAY, THIS WILL "DIE."

COUNCILOR BROWN FEELS THAT THIS IS NEEDED FOR THE CITY. HE BROUGHT UP THE STRICT EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN JOBS, AND THE CITY IS MISSING OUT ON EXPERIENCE CANDIDATES.

COUNCILOR WALSH ASKED THE SOLICITOR IF ANYBODY WOULD BE TERMINATED BY THE END OF THE YEAR? HE STATED IF THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT IS ENFORCED, THEN THE RESIDENCY COMMITTEE WILL MAKE THAT RECOMMENDATION.

COUNCILOR CURRAN THINKS THAT RESIDENCY SHOULD STAY AT ONE YEAR, THAT IT IS AMPLE TIME TO FIND HOUSING. WANTED TO KNOW HOW MANY EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN TERMINATED DUE TO RESIDENCY? THE SOLICITOR STATED THAT HE IS NOT AWARE OF ANY TERMINATIONS. FURTHER STATED THE RESIDENCY COMMISSION SENDS OUT COMMUNICATION 90 DAYS BEFORE THE ONE YEAR MARK.

COUNCILOR DELGADO DOES NOT LIKE THAT THIS IS BEING PUT ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE. THIS MATTER SHOULD HAVE BEEN UP FOR DISCUSSION MONTHS AGO. WANTS TO PUSH SKILLS BASED HIRING. LOOK AT WAIVERS INSTEAD OF TERMINATION.

COUNCILOR SANTANEILLO QUESTIONED IF CURRENT NON RESIDENT EMPLOYEES WOULD GET ADDITIONAL 2 YEARS. THE SOLICITOR STATED THAT THE EMPLOYEE WOULD GET 2 YEARS FROM THE DATE OF HIRE.

COUNCILOR PEREZ THINKS IF THE ORDINANCE IS BUMPED BACK TO 2023, THEN IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SPOKEN ABOUT SOONER. DOES NOT WANT TO COME OFF AS UNSYMPATHETIC TO THE EMPLOYEES, BUT AGREES WITH COUNCILOR DELGADO, DOES NOT LIKE BEING UNDER PRESSURE.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD AGREES WITH COUNCILOR DELAGAO AS WELL. BELIEVES THERE IS MORE THAN ONE EMPLOYEE THAT DOES NOT MEET THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT. THIS FEELS TOO RUSHED, AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MEET THIS WEEK, HER SCHEDULE IS BOOKED. DOES SYMPATHIZE WITH THE EMPLOYEE, BUT CANNOT VOTE TO PASS IT FOR FIRST STEP.

COUNCILOR GOVAN CALLED THE QUESTION.

COUNCILOR DAVILA STATED THAT HE WILL HAVE A COMMITTEE MEETING BEFORE DECEMBER 16TH. IF WE DO NOT PASS THIS, WE WILL LOSE TIME, TRAINING AND MONEY. THE HOUSING MARKET IS TOUGH. IT TOOK HIM OVER A YEAR TO BUY A HOUSE THE RIGHT WAY. HE REITERATED THAT HE IS NOT BEING SNEAKY OR PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE CITY COUNCIL TO TAKE AND PASS THE VOTE "QUICKLY."

10:00PM END POINT TO MEETING AND COUNCILOR BROWN OBJECTED TO CONTINUE THE MEETING.

Motion to Call the Question

COUNCILOR GOVAN MADE A MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION.

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILOR WHITFIELD.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION AND THE MOTION FAILED.

COUNCILOR WALSH -	ABSTAIN
COUNCILOR ALLEN-	YES
COUNCILOR DELGADO-	YES
COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE-	ABSENT
COUNCILOR GOVAN-	YES
COUNCILOR BROWN-	YES
COUNCILOR DAVILA-	NO
COUNCILOR CURRAN-	NO
COUNCILOR SANTANIELLO-	NO
COUNCILOR EDWARDS-	NO
COUNCILOR WHITFIELD-	NO
COUNCILOR PEREZ-	YES
COUNCILOR FENTON-	ABSENT