



**City of Springfield
Residency Commission
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103**

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Residency Commissioners

Drew Piemonte, Co-Chair
Judith Crowell, Co-Chair
Genesis Velez
Michael Fenton
Gladys Oyola
Alex Sherman
Al Rodriguez

Meeting of Thursday, December 5, 2024

MINUTES-PUBLIC MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. Commissioners Drew Piemonte, Judith Crowell, Gladys Oyola, Genesis Velez and Al Rodriguez were present.

FIRST order of business-Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Crowell motioned to approve the meeting minutes from November 7, 2024. Motion was 2nded by Commissioner Crowell. Roll call vote taken Commissioners Piemonte, Crowell, Fenton and Rodriguez voting to approve.

SECOND order of business – Discussion of City Council Govt. Sub Committee Meeting

Commissioner Piemonte was asked to attend the City Council Govt. Sub Committee Meeting by City Councilor Victor Davila. During the meeting there was discussion regarding employees who may be in domestic violence situations and how that can be addressed in the residency ordinance. DPW Director Cignoli also attended the Sub Committee Meeting and brought up issues employees at DPW were experiencing which included requesting to move out of the city to care for parents in hospice or to provide long term care. Director Cignoli has lost some employees due to this issue. There was also discussion regarding the hiring of full, part time and seasonal employees and who must abide by the residency ordinance. Commissioner Piemonte stated PBRM Director Tom Ashe was also present at the meeting and expressed concern for employees who are having difficulties finding a house to move into the city due to the housing market and mortgage rates. There was also discussion of extending the residency requirement to two years. City Solicitor Stephen Buoniconiti was present to speak with the Residency Commission regarding amending the current residency ordinance. He stated an amendment was filed at the request of City Councilor Davila to extend the residency requirement from one year to two years. This amendment would be retroactive for employees hired from September 1, 2023 to present.

THIRD order of business-Executive Session:

Case Assignment

Commissioner Velez made a motion to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing employment matters and the body will not be returning to open session. Motion was 2nded by Commissioner Crowell. Roll call vote taken with Commissioners Piemonte, Crowell, Oyola, Velez and Rodriguez voting in the affirmative to enter Executive Session.