



City Council

Finance Committee Meeting

~Final~

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Councilor Timothy Allen (Chair)

**November 17,
2025**

5:30 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Call To Order

5:30 PM Meeting called to order on November 17, 2025, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Roll Call

In Person: Roy Goodman, Cathy Buono, Stephen Lonergan, Kateri Walsh, Pat Burns, Chris Fraser, Sacoy Malone, Stephen Howard, Jose Delgado.

Zoom: Chris Cignoli, Robert St. Lawrence (School Dept), Alex Sherman, Pat Roach, Lindsay Hackett, City Clerk.

Public Portion

1. Order Authorizing Mayor to Execute Quitclaim Deed for Sale of NS Tyler St. (11715-0021) to Christopher J. Spears & Billie Jo Spears for Consideration of \$734.00
2. September Revenue Vs. Expenditure Report
3. AHO26 Grant - \$20,000 - No Match
4. FY26 Council on Aging Grant Increase - No Match Required \$30,561.00
5. FY26 SHINE Grant Increase - No Match Required \$57,342.13
6. FY26 GGCP Grant - \$100,000 - No Match
7. FY26 Chapter 90 Fair Share Supplemental Appropriation - \$1,302,093.35
8. Bond Authorization — Body-Worn Cameras & Tasers - \$2,500,000

9. PEG Access and Cable Related Fund FY26 Q2 Appropriation — \$124,152.77
10. School Department Supplemental Budget - Increase in Charter Tuition State Aid
11. Order Authorizing Contract Over 3 Years for Lease-Purchase Financing of School Department Computers
12. Order Authorizing Contract Term Over 3 Years for Cybersecurity Firewall for School Department

Minute Summary

Finance Committee – Meeting Minutes (Summary)

Overview

The Finance Committee meeting addressed property actions, fiscal performance, grant activity, capital planning, and cybersecurity preparedness. The session included review and approval of multiple items, updates on departmental budgets, and preparation for further discussion at the evening Council meeting.

Key Discussion Items

1. Property Action

- **Quick Claim Deed – North S. Tyler Street**

The committee reviewed all proposals and approved the conveyance to **Billy Joe Spears**.

2. Financial Performance

- **September Revenue vs. Expenditure Report (Presented by Pat Burns)**

- General Fund revenue: **\$270.2M (27% of budget)**.
- General Fund expenditures: **\$358.5M (35% of budget)**, temporarily higher due to the annual pension appropriation paid on **July 1**.
- Revenues remain on trend at 27%, slightly above expectations for the first quarter.

3. Grants and Program Funding

- **Anti-Heroin Grant** – \$20,000 for fentanyl/heroin investigations in partnership with Mass State Police.
- **Council on Aging Grant** – Increase to **\$30,561** supporting operations and salaries through FY2032.
- **SHINE Grant** – **\$57,342.13** for Medicare support services.
- **FY26 GGCP Grant** – \$200,000, pending additional discussion.
- **Tree Planting Grant (Forest Park Commercial Zone)** – \$100,000 non-matching grant for tree pits, structural soils, and maintenance as part of the broader **\$1.8M Greening the Gateway Cities** initiative; funds to be used this

spring.

4. Infrastructure & Capital Funding

- **Chapter 90 Allocation** – FY2026 award of **\$1.3M**, supporting next year’s paving list; funding increases attributed to the Fair Share Amendment.
- **Body-Worn Cameras & Tasers Bond** – Council requested to reauthorize the previously approved **\$2.5M bond**, omitted from the capital improvement plan.
- **Cable Franchise Revenue** – Comcast quarterly payments to Focus Springfield continue to decline.

5. School Department Updates

- Budget adjustments reflect rising **charter tuition** and **state aid**.
- **Three-year lease-purchase agreement** proposed for cyclical technology refresh (every four years for staff/students).
- Vendor selection practices reviewed, with assurances of best-value procurement.
- Discussion on a **cybersecurity firewall contract**, with preference for a **5-year commitment** to maximize ROI.

6. Cybersecurity Readiness

- Positive report on the “next-generation” firewall’s performance—no external threats have bypassed controls.
- Further review to occur in the subcommittee.

Next Steps / Recommendations

- **Councilor Delgado:** Recommend approval of **items 1, 2, 4–12**; forward to full Council.
- **Councilor Walsh:** Advance **item 3** for consideration at the evening Council meeting.
- **Pat Burns:** Present the **September Revenue vs. Expenditure Report** during tonight’s Council session.
- Attendees confirmed correct **name spellings** for record accuracy.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]