



City Council

Maintenance & Development

~Final~

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Councilor Malo Brown (Chair)

**December 18,
2025**

4:00 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Call To Order

4:00 PM Meeting called to order on December 18, 2025, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Roll Call

In Person:

Malo Brown
Charles Stokes
Dan Jackson/Republican
Channel 22
Duan Brown

Zoom:

Western Mass News
Luz ?
David Velez/Eversource
John Cadwell/Eversource
Olessa Stepanova
Jacquelyn Santini
Brendan O'Brien/Eversource
Leslie Gulluni/Eversource
Mike Vedovelli/Eversource
J. Ferrero
Rich Chin/Eversource
Gloria ?
Jayda ?
Victor Davila
Benjamin Rivera Jr.
Gloria ?

Justin Hurst
Tracye Whitfield

Public Portion

1. **EVERSOURCE** - Parker Street
2. Discussion on rates and what to expect during the winter months.
3. Discussion on Street lighting throughout the city.

Minutes:

Overview

The meeting opened with introductions from Eversource representatives and local officials. Discussions focused on persistent street lighting issues in Springfield, particularly in high-risk areas, and winter energy rate expectations. Councilors and residents raised concerns about the effectiveness of current reporting and repair processes, public safety impacts, and transparency in energy rates and infrastructure costs.

Key Discussion Points

- **Street Lighting Concerns:** Ongoing outages, delayed repairs, and reliance on resident reporting were cited as major issues, especially along State Street and in high-risk neighborhoods.
- **Reporting and Maintenance Process:** Eversource reviewed its online streetlight reporting portal. Councilors expressed concern that the process is reactive rather than sufficiently proactive in critical areas.
- **Infrastructure and Resources:** Updates were provided on the LED conversion project. Remaining challenges include decorative fixtures and underground wiring issues. Limited maintenance crew availability was noted.
- **Public Safety:** Councilors and residents emphasized the link between inadequate lighting and pedestrian safety incidents, calling for brighter lighting, temporary solutions, and improved maintenance of major corridors.
- **Technology and Improvements:** Potential solutions discussed included smart lighting technology, temporary lighting for underground repair areas, and a cost-benefit analysis for converting decorative lights to LED.
- **Energy Rates and Billing:** Eversource reviewed bill components and cost allocation. Councilors questioned the distribution of infrastructure and public benefit costs and

raised concerns about affordability and transparency.

Commitments and Actions

Eversource is committed to improving communication around the streetlight reporting process, researching lighting and technology solutions, and providing additional cost and billing information. Councilors are committed to sharing community resource information and continuing advocacy on lighting and rate concerns.

Next Steps

- **Eversource:**

- Share the streetlight repair portal link with Councilor Brown for community distribution and website posting.
- Coordinate with 311 on the updated reporting process. Pole numbers are no longer required.
- Conduct outreach to civic and neighborhood associations regarding streetlight reporting.
- Provide a cost-benefit analysis of converting decorative lights on State Street to LED.
- Research temporary lighting options for underground repair areas.
- Research smart technology options for automated outage detection.
- Provide a breakdown of maintenance and infrastructure operating costs.
- Share information about the bill assistance program and ensure the website is available.

- **Councilors:**

- Councilor Whitfield to share C3 Initiative, city resources, Parks Department, and DPW contact information with constituents.
- Councilor Brown to pursue discussion on freezing Eversource work orders pending resolution of rate concerns.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]