



City Council
Public Safety Meeting

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

~Final~

Lavar Click-Bruce (Chair)

**September 17,
2025**

4:30 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Call To Order

4:30 PM Meeting called to order on September 17, 2025, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Click-Bruce
Councilor Santaniello
Councilor Davila
Councilor Whitfield
Commissioner Calvi
Jeanette Deforge, Press

Public Portion

1. Discussion of junkyard fire and what safety measures are in place moving forward.

Minutes:

Quick Recap

The meeting reviewed safety measures following a recent fire at Chet's Wrecking Yard. The fire was successfully contained and mitigated by Commissioner Calvi's team. The investigation determined that the cause was a NICAD battery igniting during waste-handling operations. HAZMAT air monitoring confirmed minimal environmental impact. The discussion also addressed the city's oversight of hazardous chemicals and safety protocols at industrial facilities.

Key Discussion Points

Junkyard Fire Incident Review

- The fire was contained within approximately six hours and fully extinguished by the following day.
- Approximately 4.5 million gallons of water were used in suppression efforts.
- No malicious activity was involved.
- Video evidence confirmed the fire originated from a battery during routine operations.

Environmental and HAZMAT Assessment

- HAZMAT teams conducted air monitoring in the surrounding neighborhoods.
- Minor traces of volatile organic compounds were detected near the site perimeter.
- No significant environmental or public health impacts were identified.

Hazardous Chemical Management

- Facilities with reportable quantities of hazardous materials are required to submit annual Tier 2 reports.
- Chemical and industrial facilities are located within designated industrial zones.
- Companies maintain internal response plans for minor incidents, with escalation by the fire department and regional HAZMAT teams when necessary.

Industrial Fire Response and Risk Mitigation

- Fire department response and coordination were commended by meeting participants.
- Potential fire risks related to tire storage and scrapyards were discussed.
- Foam suppression was noted as the standard method for managing tire fires.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]