



City Council

Finance Meeting

~Final~

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Councilor Timothy Allen (Chair)

September 15,
2025

5:30 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Call to Order

5:30 PM Meeting called to order on September 15, 2025, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Allen
Roy Goodman, Director of Elders Affairs
Stephen Lonergan, Collectors & Treasurers
Cathu Buono, CAFO
Brian Elliott, PD
Councilor Delgado
Sacoy Malone, Grants Director
Chris Fraser, Finance
Stephen Howard, Constituent
TJO Director

Zoom:

Lindsey Hackett, Finance
Councilor Whitfield

Public Portion

Orders

1. Donation of Goods to Elder Affairs - Books
2. FY26 Libraries Cash Donation - \$25.00
3. FY26 Libraries Cash Donation - \$40.00
4. Parks Department - Donation - \$2,381.70 - No Match Required
5. Bills of Prior Year - Various Departments - \$16,768.68

6. PEG Cable Access Q1 Payment \$130,317.40
7. Mass in Motion Grant Award - No Match Required \$139,805.00
8. FY26 TJO Grant - No Match Required \$180,000.00
9. Department of Mental Health Jail/Arrest Diversion Program - No Match Required - \$323,000 (Increase)

Minutes:

Meeting Recap

The Finance Committee reviewed donations, grants, and financial authorizations, including library contributions, memorial donations, cable access payments, and prior-year bills. Key discussions focused on the FY26 jail/arrest diversion program, veterinary services at the TJO Animal Shelter, and Councilor Jose Delgado's recognition in the Puerto Rican Parade. Agenda items for the upcoming City Council meeting were approved.

Key Discussions

Donations and Financial Items

- Considered an anonymous \$321 book donation to Hungry Hill Senior Center (requiring Council approval).
- Reviewed library donations (\$65), memorial bench donation (\$23.81), and prior-year bills (\$16,768.68).
- Reviewed quarterly Comcast cable access payment.

Jail/Arrest Diversion Program

- Discussed funding for the Crisis Intercept Team, with BHN providing 65% of clinician coverage and the Police Department as fiduciary.
- Clarified roles for clinicians and police in crisis and community responses.

Grants and Shelter Services

- Reviewed Mass in Motion grant (\$139,805) and a \$180,000 TJO grant for veterinary services.
- Addressed challenges hiring a permanent veterinarian at TJO, reliance on relief vets, staffing issues, and partnerships with MSPCA, Dakin, and Tufts.

Puerto Rican Parade Recognition

- Acknowledged Councilor Jose Delgado's role as Padrino.

Next Steps

- Ben to continue hiring a permanent veterinarian at TJO, pursuing a residency waiver if needed.
- Committee members to attend the Springfield Library Foundation check presentation (\$137,000).
- Committee members to tour TJO Animal Shelter.
- Helen Caulton Harris/Health Commissioner, to provide Mass in Motion grant update at Council meeting.

Actions

- Agenda items 1–9 approved for the upcoming City Council meeting.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]