



City Council
**Maintenance &
Development Meeting**

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

Councilor Lavar Click-Bruce
(Chair)

~Final~

**February 25,
2026**

4:30 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Roll Call

In Person:

Barbara Gresham
Chris Cignoli
Nicole Coakley
Councilor Click-Bruce
Various Food Truck Owners
Neighborhood Councils
Jay Lattorre

Virtual:

Kathleen Brown
C
Councilor Davila
Mary Kober PPCC
Byron Jones
Beate Bolden
Maria Perez
Attorney Tom Moore
Councilor Fenton
Desi Jackson
Mary Johnson
Ana & Kelly
Council President Whitfield
Councilor Hurst *Late
Anna Dobbins PPCC

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
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Brian Santaniello	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Gerry Martin	City Councilor — Ward 7	Excused	
Maria Perez	City Councilor — Ward 1	Virtual	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Excused	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Excused	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Virtual *Late	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Virtual	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Virtual	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Present	
Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Excused	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Virtual	

Call To Order

4:30 PM Meeting called to order on February 25, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Public Portion

1. Amending Chapter 279: Peddling and Soliciting - First Step

Minutes:

Meeting Summary
Springfield Food Truck Ordinance Review

Quick Recap

The meeting focused on reviewing and refining the proposed food truck ordinance for the City of Springfield. Stakeholders included food truck operators, neighborhood council representatives, business owners, and city officials.

Chris Cignoli presented the current draft of the ordinance, outlining key provisions such as operating hours, setback requirements from residential properties, permit fees, enforcement

procedures, and regulations governing operations on both public and private property.

Key discussion points included:

- Concerns about the proposed permit fees and their potential impact on vendors, particularly minority-owned businesses
- The 500-foot buffer requirement from residential properties
- The requirement for property owner approval for food trucks operating on private property
- Enforcement procedures, with clarification that most violations would begin with verbal warnings rather than immediate fines
- The need for comparative analysis with other municipalities
- Traffic flow and parking concerns, particularly in high-activity areas such as Boston Road
- The possibility of adjusting the appeal's timeline from 30 to 45 days

A motion to send the ordinance to the full City Council was made by Councilor Perez and seconded by Councilor Davila and Councilor Click Bruce. The motion carried, and the ordinance was advanced to the City Council for initial discussion on March 9th.

Detailed Discussion Summary

Ordinance Overview

Chris Cignoli reviewed the permitting process, safety requirements, departmental approvals, including police, fire, and health, operating hours, and distinctions between public way and private property operations. Barbara Gresham clarified that food trucks must meet all safety and inspection standards prior to approval.

Vendor and Neighborhood Concerns

Food truck operators raised concerns regarding permit costs, overall financial burden, setback requirements from residential areas, the absence of designated food truck zones, and whether operators or property owners should bear certain fees.

Neighborhood representatives expressed support for reasonable regulation while emphasizing that responsible vendors, particularly minority-owned businesses, should not be displaced. Concerns were also raised regarding parking, accessibility, and neighborhood impact.

Enforcement and Appeals

The committee clarified that enforcement would prioritize compliance through warnings before fines. Special event permits would continue to follow the existing event approval process. Tom Moore from the Law Department recommended typographical corrections and suggested

extending the appeals period from 30 to 45 days to ensure greater fairness.

Operating Hours and Modifications

The group discussed flexibility in operating hours depending on location. Food trucks may remain on-site after closing hours, but are not permitted to continue sales. Procedures for amending operating hours through permit modification were also reviewed.

Fees and Comparative Analysis

Questions were raised about how Springfield's proposed fees compare to those of other municipalities. While some fees mirror public way standards, members agreed further review may be warranted to ensure fairness and competitiveness.

Next Steps

- Chris Cignoli: Present proposed ordinance modifications at the March 9th City Council meeting
- All stakeholders, including vendors, neighborhood councils, and residents: Submit additional concerns or requested changes via Focus, Daisy, or Sean from the City Council office for compilation prior to the meeting.
- Chair Click-Bruce: Prepare and submit a consolidated summary of concerns and proposed revisions for Council review
- City Council: Conduct initial discussion and consider potential amendments regarding fees, setback distances, operating hours, and enforcement procedures at the March 9th meeting
- Tom Moore, Law Department: Provide typographical corrections to the ordinance amendment
- City Council and Law Department: Evaluate extending the appeal's timeline from 30 to 45 days
- Chair Click-Bruce: Request that the food truck ordinance be moved earlier on the March 9th Council agenda, if feasible

Meeting Time

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM and adjourned at 5:45 PM.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]