City Council

Audit Meeting

~Final~

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

Justin Hurst (Chair)

April 9, 2026 | **12:00 PM** | **City Hall - Room 200**

Roll Call

Virtual:
Yong No
Justin Hurst
Kateri Walsh
Maria Perez
Jose Delgado
Tracye Whitfield

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
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	Virtual	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Virtual	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	excused	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	excused	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Virtual	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	excused	
Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	excused	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Virtual	

Call To Order
12:00 PM Meeting called to order on April 9, 2026, VIRTUAL ONLY.

Public Portion

1. Presentation of the Office of Internal Audit **Updated Charter**
2. Presentation of the **FY2027 Audit Plan**
3. Presentation and Discussion of the **Follow Up Review of the City's Workers Compensation Program**

Minutes:

The Springfield City Council Audit Subcommittee met April 9, 2026, at 12:02 PM, chaired by Councilor Justin Hurst. Auditor No presented on the Internal Audit Charter, Workers Compensation follow-up, and the FY27 Audit Plan.

The updated Internal Audit Charter defines authority, independence, and responsibilities aligned with Institute of Internal Auditors standards, including fraud prevention. The audit department reports functionally to the City Council through the subcommittee and administratively to the Mayor, applies to all departments including schools, and has full access to records and personnel. Revised report procedures send drafts first to management, then administration, and for school audits to the superintendent and School Committee before finalization, addressing prior Sodexo audit issues. The charter will be publicly posted.

The Workers Compensation follow-up reviewed the Future Comp program, about $1.8 million annually. Initial findings showed $58,000 in overbilling, oversight gaps, inconsistent reporting, and need for better fraud detection and injury prevention. As of April 2025, about $28,000 was recovered, with the rest under review. Improvements include itemized billing and loss control measures, with ongoing work on supervisor reporting. The safety coordinator role is vacant and being filled. Training targets schools and DPW, which generate over 70 percent of claims, including student altercation and slip and fall injuries. Councilor questions on claim duration and employment protocols remain pending.

The FY27 Audit Plan allocates about 5,300 hours across a three person staff for audits, fraud hotline, and administration, based on legal requirements and risk factors. Audits include investment compliance, student activities, and follow-ups on cybersecurity, police seized cash, parks, health insurance, and food services, plus performance audits of streetlights and the police evidence room. School audits include the Seaman’s energy contract and about $10 million in IT inventory. About 400 hours are reserved for emergent requests, with council input allowed. The subcommittee will review the plan before full Council approval.

Chair Hurst proposed audits of the Election Commission, parks landscaping, and DPW snow plowing, planned for FY27. Grant audits are usually external but may be reviewed internally if needed. Cybersecurity was not identified as a growing risk. Councilors supported the audit team despite limited staffing and discussed possible added resources.

The subcommittee agreed the charter improves accountability, the Workers Compensation audit shows partial recovery and operational progress with remaining oversight needs, and the FY27 plan is risk based and adaptable.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]