



City Council

Finance meeting

~Final~

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Zaida Govan (Chair)

April 21, 2026

2:00 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Govan

Councilor Walsh

Councilor Perez

Karen Lee

Adam Frenier (NEPM-new england public media)

Zoom:

Western Mass News

Councilor Davila

Attorney Ken Shea

Attorney Danielle Downy

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	Present	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Excused	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Present	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Virtual	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Excused	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	

Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Absent	
Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Excused	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Excused	

Call To Order

2:00 PM Meeting called to order on April 21, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Public Portion

1. **Supporting the establishment of the Springfield Community Impact and Stabilization Fund in connection with the Springfield Regional Justice Center Public-Private Partnership Lease**

Minutes:

On April 21, 2026, the Finance Committee was chaired by Councilor Zada Govan to review a referred resolution establishing a Springfield Community Impact and Stabilization Fund in connection with the proposed Springfield Regional Justice Center P3 lease. Karen Lee stated that the resolution supports the inclusion of a long-term impact funding mechanism within the state-led lease to address traffic, infrastructure, environmental, and community effects over an anticipated 40 to 60-year term, emphasizing that it does not alter procurement, assign costs, or bind parties. She stated the intent is to ensure long-term impacts are acknowledged and considered through a structured cost component in the lease, noted that timing is critical given active procurement, and explained that the proposal could be implemented through an addendum or a service-level agreement without modifying the request for proposals. She further stated some impacts cannot be fully quantified at the outset and indicated the project location is constrained within Springfield, with no expected material deterrence to bidders. Govan confirmed solicitor review with revisions and mayoral review without objection.

Councilor Victor Davila supported the measure as proactive for economic development, job creation, and revenue stability. Councilor Kateri Walsh questioned regional jurisdiction, timing before final siting, participation of other municipalities, adequacy of defined impacts, and bidder risk, citing limits of district improvement financing and prior unforeseen impacts. Karen Lee reiterated that the proposal maintains existing procurement parameters while enabling planning for long-term impacts not typically captured. Councilor Maria Perez supported the intent and requested clarification on the regional scope and transparency.

Attorney Ken Shea stated the City lacks authority to impose contractual obligations, characterizing the resolution as advisory and non-binding within a state-controlled process. Karen Lee acknowledged this and stated the intent is to influence state consideration in an evolving P3 structure, noting ongoing coordination with state officials—discussion referenced

prior development impacts and long-term municipal cost risks to support anticipatory planning. Councilor Davila moved to adjourn. The motion was approved, and the meeting adjourned without objection.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]