



City Council

Public Safety

~ Minutes ~

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

Tasheena Davis
4137876589

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

4:30 PM

City Hall -- Room 200

I. Call to Order

4:30 PM Meeting called to order on October 16, 2019 at City Hall -- Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tracye Whitfield	Councilwoman	Present	
Adam Gomez	Ward 1 Councilor	Present	
Timothy Ryan		Present	
Michael A. Fenton	Ward 2 Councilor	Present	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Excused	
E. Henry Twiggs	Ward 4 Councilor	Excused	
Kenneth E. Shea	Ward 6 Councilor	Excused	
Orlando Ramos	Vice President - Ward 8 Councilor	Present	
Jesse Lederman		Present	
Marcus J Williams	vice-president	Excused	
Timothy C. Allen	Ward 7 Councilor	Present	
Kateri B. Walsh	At-Large Councilor	Present	
Justin Hurst	President	Present	

2. Please note the first two items will be approximately 45 minutes and the third item will be 45 minutes.

II. Public Portion

III. Continued Discussion on CPHB ordinance.

IV. Ordinances

1. Ordinance (ID # 5095)

Police Commissioner and Civilian Review Board

HISTORY:

04/22/19

City Council

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Councilor Ramos moved to take this item out of order without objection.

Councilor Ramos moved to send the item to committee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Walsh.

Councilor Ryan spoke in opposition to the motion.

Councilor Walsh spoke in support of the motion.

Councilor Williams spoke in support of the motion.

Councilor Fenton spoke in opposition to the motion.

Councilor Allen clarified that the ordinance could pass first step and then be sent to committee.

Councilor Lederman spoke in support of sending the matter to committee.

Councilor Ramos spoke in support of the motion.

Councilor Whitfield spoke in support of the motion.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Whitfield	Y
Gomez	Y
Ryan	N
Fenton	N
Edwards	Y
Twiggs	Absent
Shea	Y
Ramos	Y
Lederman	Y
Williams	Y
Allen	N
Walsh	Y
Hurst	Y

06/17/19 **City Council**

Item was tabled for another discussion on June 24th at 5pm.

06/17/19 **City Council** **COMMITTEE**

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Council looking to make an ordinance to bring forth to the council. Will have a meeting on Oct. 23rd to discuss ordinance.

2. Ordinance (ID # 5315)

Springfield Police Commissioner & Civilian Review Board

HISTORY:

09/16/19	City Council	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
10/07/19	City Council	COMMITTEE

3. Ordinance (ID # 5366)

Ban on Facial Recognition Surveillance Technology

HISTORY:

10/07/19	City Council	FIRST STEP
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Councilor Ramos spoke in favor of the ordinance. He stated that this type of technology is not reliable yet. He stated four of five people were misidentified using the technology and people have a right to feel safe. Councilor Ramos stated he would not be against sending the item to committee for further discussion.

Councilor Gomez spoke in favor of the ordinance. He explained an ACLU study showed there is only a 35% success rate with this technology. He explained larger municipalities have passed local laws just like this.

Councilor Edwards asked if this is a ban or moratorium.

Councilor Ramos stated it is a ban for now because a moratorium requires an end date and advancement of the technology is uncertain.

Councilor Ryan spoke against the ordinance.

Councilor Williams stated using this technology is not in the City's best interest and he would support the ban with more discussion and information.

Councilor Allen stated he would like it to go to committee so the Council can learn more.

Councilor Whitfield spoke in favor of the ordinance. She explained there are enough implicit biases and we do not need anything else targeting black women.

Councilor Ramos made a motion to send the item to committee, seconded by Councilor Gomez. All being in favor, the item was sent to committee.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Council is looking to ban this Technology. Police commissioner advised that the department isn't looking into this technology at this time. Advised the council that she would have to bring this to them for approval.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FINAL Draft 1-Ban on Facial Recognition-10.01.19 (DOCX)