



City Council

Finance Sub-Committee

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

~ Minutes ~

Tasheena Davis
4137876589

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

6:15 PM

See Agenda

I. **This meeting will be held in the CAFETERIA OF REBECCA JOHNSON SCHOOL LOCATED AT 55 CATHARINE STREET**

6:15 PM Meeting called to order on November 19, 2019 at See Agenda, City of Springfield, Springfield, MA.

II. **Public Portion**

1. **Public Hearing regarding real estate tax classification/real estate ratio FY '20**

The Finance sub-committee held a public hearing to discuss the real estate tax classification/real estate ratio FY '20. Nancy Creed, the Director of the Western Mass Chamber of Commerce spoke on behalf of the businesses. She stated that the business owners carry the heavier load when it comes to the tax base. She is hoping when the tax rate is set it will be fair to the businesses who feel burdened by the high tax rates they are paying. Some businesses have closed and some can't afford to open in Springfield.

Richard Allen explained the tax ceiling, levy limit, etc. There were also a few homeowners in attendance who also showed concern about their taxes increasing. Several City Councilors were in attendance to listen to the Chair of the Assessors office and his overview of the setting of the tax rates. The numbers are not in from the DOR but he is hoping they will be in by the next meeting of the Finance sub-committee.

There will be another public hearing on Thursday evening at 6 PM at Frederick Harris Elementary School.

Meeting adjourned.