



City of Springfield

Special Meeting

~ Minutes ~

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

Linda Fitzpatrick
413-787-6559

Friday, January 30, 2015

4:00 PM

Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers

I. Call to Order

4:00 PM Meeting called to order on January 30, 2015 at Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Thomas M. Ashe	At-Large Councilor	Absent	
Timothy C. Allen	Ward 7 Councilor	Present	
Clodo Concepcion	Ward 5 Councilor	Present	
Kenneth E. Shea	Ward 6 Councilor	Absent	
Orlando Ramos	Vice President	Absent	
Timothy J. Rooke	At-Large Councilor	Absent	
Bud L. Williams	At-Large Councilor	Present	
E. Henry Twiggs	Ward 4 Councilor	Absent	
Justin Hurst	At Large Councilor	Present	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	
Zaida Luna	Ward 1 Councilor	Present	
Kateri B. Walsh	Vice President - At-Large Councilor	Present	
Michael A. Fenton	President - Ward 2 Councilor	Present	

II. General Business

1. Order (ID # 2942)

FY15 Snow & Ice Deficit Spending Authority

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Read and an explanation was given by DPW Director Christopher Cignoli stated that the snow and ice account had dipped below \$200,000 in the aftermath of storms, icy conditions and winter storm Juno and that the DPW was also facing a forecast of another snowstorm on Monday, February 2, 2015.

Councilor Concepcion asked why the amount was different from the amount in the paper. Mr. Cignoli said the cost of cleaning up the Juno's storm was \$366,000 including payroll and overtime, materials including sand and salt, and hired plows and the amount in the newspaper with a prior estimate of \$240,000 just referred to the cost of the private contractors for plowing.

Councilor Timothy Allen questioned if the City should budget more than \$1.6 million each year for snow removal. Mr. Cignoli said the City does often exceed that winter snow and ice budget, but that it is an area where cities and towns are allowed by law to deficit spend,

allowing some budget flexibility when winters conditions vary from year to year. City Comptroller Pat Burns said that is better off starting with a lower budget because the State allows increases in the “snow and ice account” and if the City raised the amount and did not use it, the City could not go to a lowest amount in the following year.

Councilors Williams and Hurst expressed concerns about snow plow trucks being attacked and the threat to stop snow plowing in certain neighborhoods and Mr. Cignoli said that plow operator said they would stop plowing if attacked and citizens must realized that the snow plow operator usually make 3 passes before all snow plowing operation are ended and the Order passed by the following roll call vote.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [8 TO 0]
MOVER:	Clodo Concepcion, Ward 5 Councilor
SECONDER:	Bud L. Williams, At-Large Councilor
AYES:	Allen, Concepcion, Williams, Hurst, Edwards, Luna, Walsh, Fenton
ABSENT:	Ashe, Shea, Ramos, Rooke, Twiggs



City of Springfield

ADOPTED

Meeting: 01/30/15 04:00 PM
Initiator: Mitchell Doty
Sponsors: Mayor Domenic J. Sarno
DOC ID: 2942

2.1

FY15 Snow & Ice Deficit Spending Authority (Mayor Sarno)

WHEREAS, Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 44, sec. 31D allows the city to spend funds for removal of snow and ice in excess of appropriations in any fiscal year upon the approval of the mayor and city council; and

WHEREAS, the City has exhausted its appropriations for snow and ice removal for fiscal year 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has requested that the City Council approve spending funds in excess of appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for the removal of snow and ice in the interest of public safety, and such order is on the City Council agenda for Monday, January 30, 2015;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 44, sec. 31D, that the City Council approves the request to incur liability and make expenditures in excess of available appropriations for snow and ice removal in fiscal year 2015. If the deficit is not addressed using existing funds in the current fiscal year then all expenditures made under the authority of this section shall be certified to the board of assessors and included in the next annual tax rate.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [8 TO 0]
MOVER:	Clodo Concepcion, Ward 5 Councilor
SECONDER:	Bud L. Williams, At-Large Councilor
AYES:	Allen, Concepcion, Williams, Hurst, Edwards, Luna, Walsh, Fenton
ABSENT:	Ashe, Shea, Ramos, Rooke, Twiggs