



CITY COUNCIL

City Clerk's Office 9/24/2020 12:00:00 PM

Special Meeting Agenda~

I hereby notify you that the following items of business have been filed with this office and can be acted upon at the meeting of the City Council **Tuesday September 29, 2020** at 05:00 PM.

City Clerk

COVID-19 Advisory:

In order to enable municipal government to continue its important work during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to ensure that elected officials can satisfy CDC social distancing guidelines to avoid exposure to contagions, the City of Springfield is providing public notice that it will conduct this meeting utilizing remote collaboration technology in accord with Governor Baker's Order concerning the Open Meeting Law. FOCUS Springfield Community TV will continue to broadcast meetings utilizing the technology listed below.

There are three (3) methods for City residents to be present during the meeting or, in the alternative, watch the meeting at a later date:

1. Viewers used to watching "live" or "on-demand" recordings via Livestream will continue to watch meetings using the same link: <https://livestream.com/focusspringfield/citycouncil>
2. Viewers used to watching "live" or recordings played back on Springfield's Comcast Channel 17 will continue to watch meetings on the same channel, and it is repeatedly aired several times a week until the next meeting
3. At any point, City Council meetings can be viewed at the FOCUS Springfield website <http://focusspringfield.com/>

Call to Order

5:00 PM Meeting called to order on September 29, 2020 at Virtual Meeting (Zoom) , Virtual Meeting, N/A, NA.

Orders

- (1.) Order Authorizing Litigation (Ward 1 Councilor Gomez, Councilor Lederman, President Hurst, Councilman Brown, Vice-President Williams, Ward 3 Councilor Edwards, Ward 2 Councilor Fenton, Councilwoman Whitfield, Ward 7 Councilor Allen, Councilman Davila)

Open Session

The Council will begin the meeting in Open Session and will return to Open Session after the purpose of the Executive Session has been met.

Executive Session

The Council will enter executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigating position regarding enforcement of Article XVII of Chapter 67 of the City Ordinances, if necessary. It has been declared that conducting the discussion in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body. The Council will reconvene in open session.

Open Session

The Council will reconvene in Open Session.



City Council

2.1

Meeting: 09/29/20 05:00 PM

Initiator: Tasheena Davis

SCHEDULEDSponsors: Gomez, Lederman, Hurst, Brown, Williams, Edwards, Fenton, Whitfield

DOC ID: 5892

Order Authorizing Litigation (Ward 1 Councilor Gomez, Councilor Lederman, President Hurst, Councilman Brown, Vice-President Williams, Ward 3 Councilor Edwards, Ward 2 Councilor Fenton, Councilwoman Whitfield, Ward 7 Councilor Allen, Councilman Davila)

Order Authorizing Litigation for Enforcement of Ordinance Establishing the Springfield Board of Police Commissioners

An order in the City Council in the City of Springfield, Massachusetts

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020 the Springfield City Council voted to retain the pro-bono legal counsel of Attorneys Thomas Lesser and Michael Aleo, to represent and advise the body with regard to our ongoing dispute with the Mayor concerning the enforcement of the Ordinance that established the Board of Police Commissioners, which is codified at §§ 67-84 - 67-96 of the City of Springfield Municipal Code, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Police Commissioners of the City of Springfield remains un-appointed by his honor The Mayor in violation of the ordinances of the City of Springfield, and

WHEREAS, the Springfield City Council has conferred with our legal counsel in this matter, Attorneys Lesser and Aleo, and concluded that necessary legal action must be taken to bring the administration into compliance with the city ordinances,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, that the Springfield City Council hereby authorizes Attorneys Thomas Lesser and Michael Aleo to file litigation in the courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts seeking enforcement of §§ 67-84 - 67-96 of the City of Springfield Municipal Code establishing the Board of Police Commissioners, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that such services be provided in a pro-bono capacity in accordance with the engagement letter previously executed between the Springfield City Council and Attorney Thomas Lesser and Attorney Michael Aleo.