



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, June 12, 2023

7:00 PM

Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers

Call to Order

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on June 12, 2023 at Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kateri B. Walsh	At-Large Councilor	Remote	
Michael A. Fenton	Ward 2 Councilor	Present	
Maria Perez	Ward 1 City Councilor	Absent	
Tracye Whitfield	At Large City Councilor	Remote	
Zaida Govan	Ward 8 City Councilor	Present	
Timothy C. Allen	Ward 7 Councilor	Present	
Malo Brown	Ward 4 Councilor	Remote	
Justin Hurst	At Large Councilor	Remote	
Lavar Click-Bruce	Ward 5 City Councilor	Remote	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	
Sean Curran	At-Large Councilor	Present	
Victor Davila	Ward 6 Councilor	Remote	
Jesse Lederman	President	Present	

Reports of Committee

COUNCILOR ALLEN FINANCE

COUNCILOR HURST AUDIT

COUNCILOR CURRAN MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ARPA OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

COUNCILOR ALLEN MENTIONED A VISIT HE AND COUNCILOR WALSH MADE TO THE GRANVILLE FACILITY AND NOTED THAT THE WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT WOULD BE VOTING THIS WEEK ON RAISING THE RATES.

COUNCILORS WALSH, FENTON, WHITFIELD, GOVAN, ALLEN, HURST, CLICK-BRUCE, EDWARDS, CURRAN, DAVILA AND LEDERMAN VOTED TO APPROVE THE REPORTS

COUNCILOR BROWN WAS MARKED AS "AWAY"

COUNCILOR PEREZ WAS MARKED AS "ABSENT"

Petitions

1. Petition (ID # 7443)

Fort Street

HISTORY:

06/05/23

City Council

REFER TO COMMITTEE

Next: 06/12/23

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CHRIS CIGNOLI, DPW DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON THE ITEM AND GAVE AN OVERVIEW.

COUNCILOR HURST ASKED WHEN AND WHY MR. CIGNOLI THE DPW IS COMING BEFORE THE COUNCIL FOR A STREET CLOSURE.

MR. CIGNOLI NOTED THAT THIS CLOSURE WOULD BE HAPPENING OVER THE COURSE OF YEARS FOR THE SAME PERIOD OF TIME (MAY THROUGH NOVEMBER). AS A RESULT OF THIS STREET CLOSURE BEING A MULTI YEAR PROPOSAL HE IS BRINGING IT BEFORE THE COUNCIL. THE APPLICANTS WILL HAVE TO APPLY EVERY YEAR TO BE PERMITTED.

COUNCILOR HURST NOTED THAT HE FEELS THAT THE FACT THAT ANY ONE DEPARTMENT CAN AUTHORIZE THE CLOSURE OF A STREET IS PROBLEMATIC. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE APPLICANT IS LOOKING TO INCREASE THEIR FOOTPRINT BY 14,000 SQUARE FEET. SUGGESTED THAT THE APPLICANTS SHOULD BE TAXED AS THEY WILL BE MAKING A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY ON OUTDOOR DINING AND THE STREET CLOSURE. HURST NOTED THAT HE HOPES THE APPLICANT IS NOT RECEIVING SPECIAL TREATMENT. COUNCILOR HURST QUESTIONED THE VERACITY OF MR. CIGNOLI'S ASSERTION THAT HE HAS THE RIGHT TO CLOSE DOWN ANY STREET IN THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD IN HIS CAPACITY AS DPW DIRECTOR. STATED THAT HE CANNOT SUPPORT THIS PETITION TONIGHT AND URGED COLLEAGUES TO NOT SUPPORT.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED HER CONFUSION REGARDING THE TIMING OF THE APPROVAL OF COUNCIL ON A STREET CLOSURE, AND AT WHAT JUNCTURE WOULD COME IN FRONT OF THE COUNCIL.

MR. CIGNOLI THAT THE APPLICATION PROCESS AND APPROVALS WILL BE REQUIRED ANNUALLY, BECAUSE IT IS FOR 6 MONTHS OUT OF THE YEAR, HE WANTED TO BRING IT BEFORE THE COUNCIL.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED THAT SHE DOES NOT WANT THE COUNCIL TO LOSE AUTHORITY AND THAT BOSTON CHARGES APPROXIMATELY \$7,500 FOR SIMILAR OUTDOOR DINING PERMISSIONS. SPRINGFIELD SHOULD LOOK AT DOING SOME SIMILAR. WILL NOT BE SUPPORTING THE ITEM TONIGHT.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED FOR ATTORNEY SHEA TO SPEAK TO THE QUESTION ASKED AT THE LAST MEETING REGARDING THIS ITEM.

ATTORNEY SHEA READ THE FINDINGS FROM HIS RESEARCH - DPW HAS THE AUTHORITY TO CLOSE THE STREET. HE EMAILED THE COUNCIL THE INFORMATION REGARDING STREET CLOSURES.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ASKED FOR THE PERMITTING FEES ASSOCIATED WITH OUTDOOR DINING. MR. CIGNOLI NOTED THE FEE IS \$75.00.

COUNCILOR GOVAN ALSO NOTED THAT AN ABUTTING BUSINESS, ANDREW MELENDEZ (LATINO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION) WAS IN FAVOR OF THE CLOSURE. IN FAVOR OF THE PETITION THIS EVENING.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT LEDERMAN ASKED THE CLERK TO RECOGNIZE THAT COUNCILORS BROWN AND DAVILA HAVE TRANSITIONED TO ATTENDANCE IN THE CHAMBERS AT 7:37PM.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED WHY THE COUNCIL IS GOING THROUGH THIS PROCESS NOW? MR. CIGNOLI NOTED THAT THE CHANGE IN THE STATE MANDATE TO ALLOW OUTDOOR DINING ENDED IN APRIL AND SHIFTED BACK TO MUNICIPAL CONTROL. AS A RESULT, MR. CIGNOLI SUBMITTED THIS PETITION TO COUNCIL DUE TO THE MULTI YEAR CLOSURE. THE BUSINESS STILL MUST APPLY EVERY YEAR. DIRECTOR CIGNOLI REITERATED THAT HE WANTED COUNCIL APPROVAL ACROSS THE BOARD FOR MULTI YEAR CLOSURES. COUNCILOR BROWN DOES NOT FEEL LIKE THIS SHOULD BE A MATTER THAT IS COMING BEFORE THE COUNCIL.

MR. CIGNOLI'S INTENTION WITH SUBMITTING THIS PETITION IS TO MAKE THE PROCESS MORE TRANSPARENT IN THE LONG TERM. IT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL BUSINESSES PENDING REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT IT IS UNDER THE DIRECTOR OF DPW'S PREVUE TO ADJUST THE RULES OF THE ROAD. MR. CIGNOLI HAS THE POWER TO MAKE THE TEMPORARY ADJUSTMENT. COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO OBJECTIONS THAT HE IS AWARE OF TO THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF FORT STREET. COUNCILOR FENTON CONFIRMED THAT ABUTTERS HAVE BEEN CONTACTED, AND IF THERE ARE COMPLAINTS, THEY DO OPEN THE ROAD.

CHRIS HAS THE AUTHORITY. HOWEVER HE IS DEFERRING TO THE CITY COUNCIL BY ASKING THEM TO VOTE ON THIS ITEM. COUNCILOR FENTON BELIEVES THIS VOTE BOLSTERS THE POWER OF THE BODY AND SEES NO REASON TO VOTE AGAINST THIS REGULAR TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURE.

COUNCILOR DAVILA REITERATED THE REASON FOR THE PETITION. HE ASKED IF MR. CIGNOLI IS ATTEMPTING TO REDUCE REDUNDANCIES. MR. CIGNOLI AGREED.

MR. DAVILA ASKED IF THE PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC WILL STILL BE ALLOWED REGARDLESS OF THE REGULAR TEMPORARY CLOSURE. COUNCILOR DAVILA SUGGESTED THAT THE FEES FOR THIS ITEMS GETS LOOKED AT DOWN THE ROAD.

DAVILA ASKED ATTORNEY SHEA WHAT CONSTITUTES AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME. ATTORNEY SHEA NOTED THAT THE ORDINANCE IS NOT CLEAR BUT "EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME" CAN BE EASILY ASCERTAINED (EX. 2 DAYS VS. 365 DAYS). COUNCILOR DAVILA IS IN FAVOR OF THE MATTER, AND MAYBE HAVE A 2 YEAR REVIEW.

COUNCILOR HURST STATED REGULARLY / TEMPORARILY CLOSING IS AN OXYMORON. WE ARE EITHER PERMANENTLY OR TEMPORARILY CLOSING THE STREET. IF DIRECTOR CIGNOLI HAS THE AUTHORITY FOR STREET CLOSURES INDEFINITELY, THEN I DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY YOU ARE HERE IN FRONT OF THE CITY COUNCIL. COUNCILOR HURST ASKED TO SEE THE LAW REGARDING TEMPORARY CLOSURES GIVING THE BUSINESS TO MAKE MONEY ON A PUBLIC WAY. THINKS THAT THE DPW SHOULD COME IN FRONT OF THE COUNCIL EVERY YEAR.

MR. CIGNOLI WANTS COUNCIL APPROVAL BECAUSE IT WAS A REGULAR CLOSURE EVERY YEAR. THE NEW LAW REQUIRES CITY APPROVAL, EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2023. THE ABUTTERS HAVE APPROVED FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS. IF ANY ABUTTER COMPLAINS, AND IS IMPACTING THE BUSINESS NEGATIVELY, THEN THE CLOSURE GOES AWAY.

COUNCILOR HURST STATED HE WANTS PROOF THAT THE ABUTTERS WERE NOTIFIED AND THAT THE ABUTTERS ARE IN FAVOR OF THE PETITION.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED THAT THE CURRENT FEE STRUCTURE SHOULD BE REVIEWED. SHE NOTED THAT ABUTTERS MAY CHANGE IN THE FUTURE AND WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HEAR FROM ALL OF THE ABUTTERS. COUNCILOR SPOKE ON THE LACK OF SPECIFICITY ON THE LANGUAGE OF "EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME". BELIEVES THE COUNCIL IS GIVING UP THEIR POWER.

COUNCILOR ALLEN NOTED THAT THIS TOPIC HAS BEEN DISCUSSED FOR 2 HOURS. AND MADE A MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION. COUNCILOR GOVAN 2ND THE MOTION.

WALSH - YES

FENTON - YES

PEREZ - ABSENT

WHITFIELD - YES

GOVAN - YES

ALLEN - YES

BROWN - YES

HURST - NO

CLICK BRUCE - YES

EDWARDS - YES

CURRAN - YES
DAVILA - YES
LEDERMAN - NO

VOTES ARE SUFFICIENT

ATTACHMENTS:

- Report Fort Street (PDF)
- location Fort St.(PDF)
- Petition Letter January 30 DPW (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [9 TO 3]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Govan, Allen, Brown, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
NAYS:	Tracye Whitfield, Justin Hurst, Lavar Click-Bruce
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

2. Petition (ID # 7460)

Eversource Gas - Mattoon Street

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR CIGNOLI PRESENTED ON THE MATTER - EVERSOURCE INSTALLATION OF 982 FEET OF NEW MEDIUM PRESSURE GAS SERVICE. TO REPLACE OUTDATED SERVICES.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Report Mattoon St. (PDF)
- Mattoon St - Springfield - Community Meeting Plot - EGMA (PDF)
- Mattoon St, Springfield City Council Letter (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez
AWAY:	Victor Davila

3. Petition (ID # 7468)

Wilbraham Ave Petition #10,299

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR CIGNOLI PRESENTED ON THE MATTER. STATED THAT THIS IS A DISCONTINUANCE OF A ROADWAY. WILBRAHAM AVE BETWEEN ALDEN STREET AND KING STREETS. SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE OWNS. DISCONTINUANCE MEANS THAT THE OWNERSHIP OF THE ROADWAY WILL DIVERT BACK TO THE COLLEGE FROM THE CITY. THE COLLEGE WILL MAINTAIN.

COUNCILOR ALLEN ASKED TO BE RECUSED FROM VOTING ON THIS ITEM.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED WHAT DOES TAKING AWAY ACCESS FROM THE PUBLIC CONSIST OF? HE IS CONCERNED WITH THE CONSTITUENCY. DIRECTOR CIGNOLI STATED

THAT THE LONG TERM PLAN WOULD BE MORE OF A PLAZA AREA, UNSURE IF IT WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THAT WOULD BE A SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE DECISION.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON EXACT LOCATION. THIS WILL MAKE PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT MADE BETTER IN THAT AREA.

MR. LESTER PRIMUS, VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION AT SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE, NOTED THE MASTER PLAN IS INTENDED TO ADD WALK ABILITY TO THE CAMPUS. IT IS INTENDED TO LIMIT AUTOMOBILE ACCESS. NEW ACADEMIC HEALTH AND SCIENCE CENTER. DRIVING THROUGH THE AREA WOULD BE LIMITED, NOT WALK ABILITY. COMMUNITY WILL STILL HAVE ACCESS. COUNCILOR WHITFIELD THANKED MR. PRIMUS FOR HIS EXPLANATION, AND THAT SHE DOES SUPPORT THIS ITEM.

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT THE ROAD CLOSURE IS VERY SIGNIFICANT. COUNCILOR FENTON MOTIONED THAT THE ITEM SHOULD BE SENT TO THE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO ASCERTAIN NEIGHBORHOOD IMPACT. SECONDED BY COUNCILOR EDWARDS.

COUNCILOR BROWN CONCURRED WITH COUNCILOR FENTON REGARDING THE MAGNITUDE OF THIS ROAD CLOSURE AND WHAT ABUTTERS WERE CONTACTED.

COUNCILOR EDWARDS NOTED THAT TWO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS OLD HILL AND UPPER HILL.

COUNCIL HURST NOTED THAT IT APPEARS THAT PETER PICKNELLY HAS MORE LEVERAGE OVER THIS BODY THAN SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE WHICH IS EXTREMELY PROBLEMATIC.

COUNCILOR DAVILA NOTED THAT EMERGENCY VEHICLES USE THAT PORTION OF WILBRAHAM ROAD FREQUENTLY. NOTED THE NEED FOR INPUT FROM PUBLIC SAFETY.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED SHE WILL SUPPORT THE MOTION TO COMMITTEE.

WALSH -YES

FENTON - YES

PEREZ - ABSENT

WHITFIELD - YES

GOVAN - YES

ALLEN - RECUSE

BROWN - YES

HURST - YES

CLICK BRUCE - YES

EDWARDS - YES

CURRAN - YES

DAVILA - YES

LEDERMAN - YES

ATTACHMENTS:

- plan # 10,299 DISCONTIN (PDF)
- Wilbraham Ave .10,299 (PDF)
- Petition 10,299 (PDF)
- Report Wilbraham Ave. 10299 (PDF)

4. Petition (ID # 7469)

Eversource Gas- Mooreland St.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

MR. CIGNOLI, DPW DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON ITEM.

MR. CIGNOLI ASKED COUNCIL PRESIDENT LEDERMAN IF ITEMS 4-7 COULD BE TAKEN TOGETHER, AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT AGREED.

EVERSOURCE GAS TO MOORELAND ST - CAREW STREET - CHAPIN TERRACE, 1400 FEET OF 2 INCH MEDIUM PRESSURE LINES THAT WOULD REPLACE LOW PRESSURE LINES.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Report Mooreland St. (PDF)
- Mooreland St - Poor Pressure - IFC (PDF)
- Mooreland St - Springfield City Council Letter (PDF)

RESULT: APPROVED [12 TO 0]

AYES: Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman

ABSENT: Maria Perez

5. Petition (ID # 7476)

Eversource - Maple Street

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

MR. CIGNOLI, DPW DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON ITEM.

MAPLE STREET - EVERSOURCE ELECTRIC INSTALLATION OF 35 FEET OF CONDUIT AND 1 HANDHOLE IN HE SIDE WALK TO BETTER SERVICE THE AREA.

ATTACHMENTS:

- plan location (PDF)
- PET # 12844521 MAPLE ST SPFLD (PDF)
- ORD # 12844521 MAPLE ST SPFLD (PDF)
- Maple St. Report (PDF)

RESULT: **APPROVED [12 TO 0]**
AYES: Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce,
 Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT: Maria Perez

6. Petition (ID # 7477)

Eversource - Pine Street CT

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

MR. CIGNOLI, DPW DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON ITEM.

PINE STREET COURT - EVERSOURCE ELECTRIC INSTALLATION OF 14 FEET OF CONDUIT AND 1 HANDHOLE IN HE SIDE WALK TO BETTER SERVICE THE AREA.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Pine St. Ct. Report (PDF)
- Plan location (PDF)
- PET # 12844526 PINE ST SPFLD (PDF)
- ORD # 12844526 PINE ST SPFLD (PDF)

RESULT: **APPROVED [12 TO 0]**
AYES: Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce,
 Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT: Maria Perez

7. Petition (ID # 7479)

Eversource - 619 Sumner Ave.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

MR. CIGNOLI, DPW DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON ITEM.

58 FEET OF CONDUIT TO A HANDHOLE IN THE SIDEWALK AT 619 SUMNER AVE.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Plan location (PDF)
- 12844563 SUMNER AVE SPFLD (PDF)
- ORD # 12844563 SUMNER AVE SPFLD (PDF)
- 619 Sumner Ave. Report(PDF)

RESULT: **APPROVED [12 TO 0]**
AYES: Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce,
 Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT: Maria Perez

Grants

8. Order (ID # 7466)

HUD Continuum of Care Grant - No Match - \$6,923,576.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING GERRY MCAFFERTY SPOKE ON THE ITEM:

ANNUAL HUD GRANT FOR HAMPDEN COUNTY. PROVIDE HOUSING FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- coc (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

9. Order (ID # 7462)

CDBG Entitlement Grant - No Match - \$3,752,266.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR OD ADMINISTRATION AND FINACNE - CATHY BUONA SPOKE ON THE ITEM:

YEARLY ENTITLEMENT USED FOR PARK, STREETS AND SIDEWALK RECONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CDBG Entitlement Grant (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

10. Order (ID # 7463)

HOME Entitlement Grant - No Match - \$1,810,898.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING GERRY MCAFFERTY SPOKE ON THE ITEM:

ANNUAL FROM HUD. MEETS DEVELOPMENT OF RENTAL HOUSING NEEDS, AS WELL AS RENTAL ASSISTANCE.

ATTACHMENTS:

- HOME Entitlement Grant (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

11. Order (ID # 7459)

Order Accepting Mass Gaming Commission Grant Contract Amendment For \$1,089,359.27 to Reimburse Police Department FY24 Costs of Participation in the Gaming Enforcement Unit at MGM Springfield - No Match Required

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DEPUTY CHIEF AKERS SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE SPD.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED IF THE GANG ENFORCEMENT UNIT IS SEPARATE FROM THE MGM SECURITY.

DEPUTY CHIEF AKERS NOTED THAT THE GEU IS SEPARATE. THE GEU CONSISTS OF THE SPD AND THE STATE POLICE. HE NOTED THAT THE GEU ENFORCES LAWS INSIDE THE CASINO. THE SPD SUPPORTS THE SECURITY. HOWEVER, THE MGM SECURITY IS THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE IN DEALING WITH THE PUBLIC.

COUNCILOR BROWN THANKED DEPUTY CHIEF AKERS FOR HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION AS A POLICE OFFICER.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED HOW MANY SPD WERE AT MGM. 1 LEIUTENANT AND 6 PATROL. STATE POLICE IS 18-21 OFFICERS AS THEY MAKE UP 2/3 OF THE TOTAL STAFFING. DOES THIS FUNDING INCLUDE EQUIPMENT? D.C. AKERS NOTED THAT THE MONEY IS ALSO USED FOR EQUIPMENT.

COUNCILOR HURST CONFIRMED THE AMOUNT OF OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO MGM AND ASKED WHAT SHIFTS WERE WORKED. HE FURTHER ASKED IF THEY WORKED INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE CASINO. D.C. AKERS GAVE DETAILS ON THE SHIFTS WORKED AND WHERE THE SPD WORKED IN RELATION TO MG.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Request for Grant Set-Up GEU FY24 (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

12. Order (ID # 7488)

DPW Transportation Construction Grant - Match Required - \$966,667

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DPW DIRECTOR CHRIS CIGNOLI SPOKE ON THE MATTER:

GAMING COMMISSION FOR DWIGHT STREET - NEW SIDEWALKS, CURBING, BIKE LANES AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - DPW Mass Gaming Commission Grant Dwight St. (DOCX)
- DPW Mass Gaming Commission Grant \$966,667 Dwight Reconstruction (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

13. Order (ID # 7465)

HOPWA Entitlement Grant - No Match - \$833,980.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING GERRY MCCAFERTY, SPOKE ON THIS GRANT.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS OR THAT ARE HIV POSITIVE - ASSISTS WITH HOUSING IN THE 3 COUNTIES.

ATTACHMENTS:

- HOPWA Entitlement Grant (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

14. Order (ID # 7464)

ESG Entitlement Grant - No Match Required - \$331,925.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING GERRY MCCAFERTY, SPOKE ON THIS GRANT.

FEDERAL FUNDS FOR HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY SHELTER.

ATTACHMENTS:

- ESG Entitlement Grant (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez
AWAY:	Victor Davila

15. Order (ID # 7485)

DPW Transportation Planning Grant - No Match Required - \$250,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CHRIS CIGNOLI, DPW DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON THIS ITEM.

GAMING COMMISSION GRANT TO THE UNION & MAPLE STREET INTERSECTION- TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- DPW Mass Gaming Commission Grant \$250K Union at Maple St Intersection (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

16. Order (ID # 7486)

DPW Rideshare Funding - No Match - \$58,472.20

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CHRIS CIGNOLI, DPW DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON THIS ITEM.

COUNCILOR CURRAN ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THIS ITEM.

MR. CIGNOLI EXPLAINED THE FORMULA - SIDEWALK AND HANDICAP IMPROVEMENTS. THIS IS "UBER MONEY - TAX MONIES COLLECTED ON RIDESHARES"

ATTACHMENTS:

- DPW Rideshare Funding (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

17. Order (ID # 7487)

Fire Last Call Foundation Grant - No Match - \$44,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 17 & 18 ARE UNDER 50K AND CAN BE TAKEN TOGETHER

ATTACHMENTS:

- Fire Request for Grant Setup LCF (PDF)
- Fire Last Call Foundation Award Letter LCF (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

18. Order (ID # 7483)

FY23 State Aid to Public Library Increase - No Match Required - \$3,962.17

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ITEMS 17 & 18 ARE UNDER 50K AND CAN BE TAKEN TOGETHER

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY23 state aid award increase (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

Orders**19. Order (ID # 7472)**

Amended Appropriation Order for Taking Damages for St. James Avenue at Tapley Street Intersection Im

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ATTORNEY ROBERT SHEWCHUK, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD.

ATTORNEY SHEWCHUK NOTED THAT THE INITIAL ORDER THAT WAS ALREADY SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL WAS INCORRECT.

THE CORRECT AMOUNT IS \$170,000 VERSUS THE \$140,000 THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY

ATTACHMENTS:

- Ex. A Corrected Appropriation Order (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

20. Order (ID # 7473)

Amended Order of Taking of Permanent and Temporary Easements for "St. James Avenue and Tapley Street" Project (\$170,000)

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ATTORNEY ROBERT SHEWCHUK SPOKE ON THE ITEM:

AMEND THE AMOUNT TO \$170,000.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

21. Order (ID # 7478)

Order Granting Permanent Utility Easement to C. & C. Homes, LLC at Clark Street

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

TINA QUAGLIATO-SULLIVAN, DIRECTOR OF DISASTER RECOVERY SPOKE ON THE ITEM:

SINGLE FAMILY AFFORDABLE HOME OWNERSHIP AT 414 CENTRAL STREET. INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE UTILITY LINES. THIS VOTE WOULD ALLOW TO MOVE FORWARD.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Easement SS Clark (Ex. 1) (PDF)
- Plan (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

22. Order (ID # 7480)

Order Authorizing Appropriations and Reserves for FY24 from the Community Preservation Fund

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE, BOB MCARROL, 96 ELLIOT STREET, SPOKE ON THIS ITEM.

\$2,440,000 - 10 % FOR HOUSING RESERVE, 10 % FOR HISTORIC RESERVE, 10% FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL RESERVE. THE REST IS \$78,400 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

COUNCILOR WALSH ASKED IF THERE MORE APPLICATIONS. MR. MCARROL SAID THERE WERE FEWER. COMMITTEE STARTED VOTING ON 10 RECOMMENDATIONS SO FAR.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
MOVER:	Jesse Lederman, President
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

23. Order (ID # 7481)

Order Authorizing Execution and Delivery of a Housing Development Incentive Program Tax Increment Exemption Agreement with Davenport Advisors LLC, Relative to Certain Property Known as 169 Maple Street

A Project Summary is attached for reference.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

BRIAN CONNORS, SPRINGFIELD STREET, OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, SPOKE ON THIS ITEM.

COUNCILOR EDWARDS NOTED THE LABOR REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROJECT.

JOY MARTIN, OF HYDE PARK, MA SPOKE ON THE ITEM NOTING THAT LAMONT CLEMENS, DONALD MITCHELL AND FOX TROT CONSTRUCTION (VETERANS) WILL BE WORKING AS GENERAL CONTRACTORS ON THIS PROJECT.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED HOW MANY UNITS WILL BE CREATED. MR. CONNORS STATED 11 UNITS.

COUNCILOR ALLEN ASKED ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY. HE ASKED MATT FONTAINE FOR THE ASSESSOR'S POINT OF VIEW.

MATT FONTAINE, 72 CARROL LANE, SPRINGFIELD BOARD OF ASSESSORS. PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM REAL ESTATE TAX.

JANUARY 1, 2024 WILL BE THE ASSESSMENT DATE OF THE PROPERTY. THE VALUE WILL BE BASED ON IT'S PHYSICAL CONDITION. ALSO WILL BE BASED ON HISTORICAL DATA. CANNOT PREDICT WHAT THE VALUE MAY BE. COUNCILOR ALLEN THANKED MATT FOR HIS INSIGHT.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 169 Maple Memo (PDF)
- 169 Maple St Tax Chart (PDF)
- Order Approving HDIP Agreement - 169 Maple Street (DOC)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

24. Order (ID # 7482)

Order Authorizing Execution and Delivery of a Tax Increment Financing Agreement with SNAPland 59, LLC Relative to Certain Property Known as 51-59 Taylor Street

A Project Summary is attached for reference.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

BRIAN CONNORS, SPRINGFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPOKE ON THE MATTER:

TIFF PROJECT BY SNAPLAND 59 REPRESENTS SNAPCHEF, A CULINARY TRAINING COMPANY SPRINGFIELD BASED IN CONJUNCTION WITH LOOPHOLE BREWING. 1ST FLOOR TAP ROOM RESTAURANT AND 2ND FLOOR IS EVENT SPACE. 3RD FLOOR IS FOR SNAPCHEF'S TRAINING CENTER. THIS WILL CREATE 30 NEW FULL TIME JOBS AND 20 NEW PART TIME JOBS. LOOPHOLE WILL ALSO HOST AN INCUBATOR SPACE TO HELP HOME AND HOBBY BREWERS IN THEIR ENDEAVORS. RUN WEEKLY EVENT SERIES.

COUNCILOR EDWARDS WANTS TO HEAR ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENTAL PART OF THE PROJECT. IMPORTANT TO HAVE LOCAL CONTRACTORS AS PART OF THE PROJECTS. HAS BEEN MONITORING PAYROLL ON CITY PROJECTS. ASKED BRIAN CONNORS WHO WILL BE MONITORING DURING CONSTRUCTION, AND CAN THE CITY RECALL MONIES IF NOT COMPLIANT. BRIAN RESPONDED THAT THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT'S COMPLIANCE DIVISION WILL MONITORS THESE THINGS. WANTS TO ENSURE PUBLIC MONEY STAYS IN THE CITY.

AARON SAUNDERS, BELCHERTOWN MA, SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF THE ORDER. HIGHLY INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH CONTRACTORS FROM THE CITY. SNAPCHEF EMPLOYS MORE THAN 50% OF SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS. THEY PROVIDE PAID TRAINING, AS WELL AS RIDES TO THE TRAINING FACILITIES.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED AARON SAUNDERS WHAT HIS CAPACITY IS IN THIS PROJECT. HE, TODD SOPKOFSKI, AND JEFF GOULET (LIFE TIME CITY RESIDENT) ARE PARTNERS IN LOOPHOLE. WANTED TO ENSURE AARON'S INVOLVEMENT BECAUSE HE KNOWS/TRUSTS HIM.

COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED AARON SAUNDERS ABOUT LOOPHOLE'S BUSINESS CONCEPT. LOOPHOLE LAUNCHED 3 YEARS AGO AND HAS 7 LOCATIONS ALL OVER NEW ENGLAND. MOST EXCITED ABOUT THE INCUBATOR TO ASSIST FELLOW BREWERS. SEEKING TO PARTNER WITH RAY BERRY AND WHITE LION BREWERY. COUNCILOR DAVILA ASKED FOR JEFF GOULET TO SPEAK ABOUT HIMSELF AND INTENTIONS WITH THIS INVESTMENT. THIS IS THE 11TH YEAR FOR WORTHY BREW FEST THAT CONTAINS 30 BREWERS. CAN USE LOOPHOLE'S LICENSE TO DISTRIBUTE STATEWIDE FOR ASPIRING BREWERS.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD ASKED BRIAN CONNORS ABOUT THE \$100,000 FOR OUTDOOR DINING. HE IS NOT AWARE OF ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDING. CONCERNED WHERE ARPA MONEY IS GOING WHEN OTHER APPLICATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN LOOKED AT. NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS BUSINESS PROJECT. WISHES BEST OF LUCK TO THE BUSINESS.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 51 Taylor TIF Memo (PDF)
- 51-59 Taylor St Tax Chart (PDF)
- Order Approving TIF Agreement - 51 Taylor Street (DOC)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [12 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman
ABSENT:	Maria Perez

25. Order (ID # 7475)

FY22 Certified Free Cash to Stabilization Reserve Fund - \$17,591,479.91

FY22 Certified Free Cash to Stabilization Reserve Fund - \$17,591,479.91

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

TJ PLANTE, CAFO - CITY OF SPRINGFIELD SPOKE ON THIS ITEM:

\$67.8 MILLION IN FREE CASH, \$28 MILLION DOES NEED TO BE MOVED.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD IS ASKING WHY MOVE \$17.5MILLION? DO NOT HAVE A SET NUMBER YET. FEELS THAT \$7 MILLION IS A GOOD STARTING POINT. SEE HOW THE ECONOMY IS DOING IN NOVEMBER. FREE CASH IS SET AT THE SAME TIME THE TAX RATE IS SET. ESTIMATED FREE CASH IS BETWEEN \$7-12 MILLION. WILL HAVE TO CHECK WITH PAT BURNS. CAFO WANTS TO TAKE A CAUTIOUS APPROACH. COUNCILOR WHITFIELD IS CONCERNED THAT THE PROPERTY TAXES ARE GOING UP 9 YEARS IN A ROW. SHE FEELS THAT THERE SHOULD BE DISCUSSIONS WITH COUNCILORS NOW DURING BUDGET SEASON. FEELS THAT THE STABILIZATION FUND IS STRONG, AND WILL SUPPORT THIS ORDER.

COUNCILOR GOVAN WOULD LIKE FREE CASH TO GO FOR MORE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR THE RESIDENTS. SHE WILL BE WORKING WITH BOARD OF ASSESSORS FOR RESIDENTS TO GET RELIEF. RESIDENTS ON FIXED INCOMES NEED RELIEF DUE TO COST OF LIVING CONSTANTLY GOING UP. WOULD LIKE TO USE FUNDS COMING IN (MGM & CANNABIS) TO GO TOWARDS PROPERTY TAX RELIEF.

COUNCILOR DAVILA REPECTS THE WORK THAT THE CAFO DOES. \$17 MILLION IS A LOT TO GO TO THE RESERVE FUND. COUNCILOR DAVILA REFERENCED A RECESSION COMING 2024/2025. INFLATION AND COST OF LIVING CONTINUE TO RISE, WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF. WOULD LIKE MORE TIME TO SPEAK ABOUT THE BUDGET. DOES NOT SEE THIS TRANSFER AS AN EMERGENCY.

COUNCILOR DAVILA MADE A MOTION TO SEND THIS ITEM TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. COUNCILOR WHITFIELD SECONDED THE MOTION.

COUNCILOR FENTON ASKED WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY DO NOT TRANSFER. THE BEST PRACTICE IS TO MOVE IT ALL BY 6/30, SO THE STATE DOES NOT PENALIZE.

COUNCILOR HURST WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF. DOES NOT LIKE THAT THE CITY IS PUTTING IN LESS THAN LAST YEAR. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NEEDED CLARIFICATION ON THE MOTION. SHE THOUGHT IT WAS DONE LAST YEAR. CAFO STATED THAT ALL THE FREE CASH WAS MOVED BEFORE JUNE 30TH OF LAST YEAR. IT WAS APPROPRIATED TO THE REVENUE SOURCE. THERE ARE ALWAYS NEGATIVE ACCOUNTS BECAUSE OF THE REIMBURSEMENT BASIS.

COUNCILOR ALLEN ASKED THE CAFO WHEN TAX RELIEF STARTED. THE CAFO STATED IT HAS BEEN DONE THE PREVIOUS 3 YEARS. WE HAVE LEVY CAPACITY AND NEED TO BE STRATEGIC AND SEE WHAT TAX RATES WILL BE IN THE FUTURE. COUNCILOR ALLEN WANTS THIS TRANSFER STABILIZED IN CASE THERE IS A RECESSION. WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THESE VOTES TONIGHT.

COUNCILOR WALSH - POINT OF INFORMATION. PENDING MOTION ON THE FLOOR HAS TO BE RECTIFIED.

COUNCILOR DAVILA WANTED TO KNOW IF HE WITHDRAWS THE MOTION. IT IS PAST 10 PM. ALL MATTERS NOT HEARD WOULD GO TO THE NEXT AGENDA.

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD WANTED TO CLARIFY THAT THE SHE ATTENDED A MEETING WITH THE STATE AND THE STATE COMMENTED THAT WE ARE IN GREAT FINANCIAL SHAPE. RELIEF IS STILL NEEDED AT THIS JUNCTURE.

COUNCILOR GOVAN MADE A MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION, COUNCILOR WALSH SECONDED:

COUNCILOR WALSH - YES

COUNCILOR FENTON - YES

COUNCILOR PEREZ - ABSENT

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD - YES

COUNCILOR GOVAN - YES

COUNCILOR ALLEN - YES

COUNCILOR BROWN - YES

COUNCILOR HURST - YES

COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE - YES

COUNCILOR EDWARDS - YES

COUNCILOR CURRAN - YES

COUNCILOR DAVILA - YES

COUNCILOR LEDERMAN - YES

ON THE MOTION TO SEND ITEM # 25 O THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE:

COUNCILOR WALSH - YES

COUNCILOR FENTON - NO

COUNCILOR PEREZ - ABSENT
COUNCILOR WHITFIELD - YES
COUNCILOR GOVAN - YES
COUNCILOR ALLEN - NO
COUNCILOR BROWN - YES
COUNCILOR HURST - YES
COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE - YES
COUNCILOR EDWARDS - NO
COUNCILOR CURRAN - YES
COUNCILOR DAVILA - YES
COUNCILOR LEDERMAN - YES

COUNCILOR FENTON MADE A MOTION TO CONTINUE FOR ANOTHER 30 MINUTES,
SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ALLEN:

MOTION WAS OBJECTED AND MEETING ADJOURNED.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY22 Free Cash to Stab Fund (DOCX)

26. Order (ID # 7470)

Transfer - FY22 Certified Free Cash to FY24 Estimated Revenues - \$5,000,000.00

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Transfer - FY22 Certified Free Cash to FY24 Estimated Revenues - \$5,000,000.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO MINUTES - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY22 Free Cash to FY24 Levy (DOCX)

27. Order (ID # 7474)

Transfer - FY22 Certified Free Cash to Neighborhood Enhancement Fund - \$3,000,000

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Transfer - FY22 Certified Free Cash to Neighborhood Enhancement Fund - \$3,000,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO MINUTES - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Free Cash to Neighborhood Enhancement Fund (DOCX)

28. Order (ID # 7471)

Transfer - FY22 Certified Free Cash to Roadway Improvements - \$2,500,000

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Transfer - FY22 Certified Free Cash to Roadway Improvements - \$2,500,000

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO MINUTES - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FY22 Free Cash to Roads and sidewalks (DOCX)

29. Order (ID # 7490)

Budget Transfer Within a Department - Finance to Multi-Year Pay-Go Fund - \$1,482,207.12

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Budget Transfer Within a Department - Finance to Multi-Year Pay-Go Fund - \$1,482,207.12

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO MINUTES - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - FY23 EOY Pay-Go Transfer (PDF)

30. Order (ID # 7484)

Bills of Prior Year - Law Department- \$11,385.00

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO MINUTES - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Law BOPY Invoice - Steiner Consulting (PDF)
- CAFO CERT - LAW BOPY (PDF)

31. Order (ID # 7467)

Bills of Prior Year - Police - \$2,628.82

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO MINUTES - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10.

ATTACHMENTS:

- SPD BOPY 06-12-2023 (PDF)

Resolutions

32. Resolution 2023-7

New Rodrick Ireland Hampden County Hall of Justice

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

NO MINUTES - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10.