



City Council

Hearings Meeting

~ Final ~

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

Gladys Oyola-Lopez

Monday, October 23, 2023

7:00 PM

Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers

Hearings

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on October 23, 2023 at Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kateri B. Walsh	At-Large Councilor	Present	
Michael A. Fenton	Ward 2 Councilor	Present	
Maria Perez	Ward 1 City Councilor	Present	
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	Present	
Justin Hurst	At Large Councilor	Remote	
Lavar Click-Bruce	Ward 5 City Councilor	Present	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	
Sean Curran	At-Large Councilor	Remote	
Victor Davila	Ward 6 Councilor	Present	
Jesse Lederman	President	Present	

Moment of Silence - Pledge of Allegiance

Petitions

1. Petition (ID # 7713)

Honorary Street Sign - Jone H. Murphy

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

AZELL CAVAN-MURPHY SPOKE IN FAVOR OF THE ITEM.

SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF JOHN H. MURPHY AND SPOKE ON HER FATHER'S LEGACY AND REASONS FOR SEEKING THE HONORARY STREET SIGN NAMING.

COUNCILOR BROWN SPOKE IN FAVOR OF THE STREET NAMING.

COUNCILOR WALSH AND COUNCILOR GOVAN NOTED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE STREET NAMING

COUNCILOR PEREZ NOTED THE WORK THAT MS. CAVAN MURPHY DOES FOR THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

COUNCILOR CLICK-BRUCE NOTED HIS SUPPORT

COUNCILOR EDWARDS NOTED HIS SUPPORT

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD NOTED HIS SUPPORT. SHE NOTED THAT SHE OWNS A PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND THAT SHE WILL BE SUPPORTING THE STREET NAMING.

COUNCILOR NOTED THAT JOHN MURPHY WAS A TITAN OF SPRINGFIELD INDUSTRY. HE IS HAPPY TO SUPPORT IT.

COUNCILOR LEDERMAN SPOKE ON HIS HISTORY.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 23-25 (PDF)
- 23-25 Pine Point letter (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Walsh, Fenton, Perez, Whitfield, Govan, Allen, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Curran, Davila, Lederman

New Section

COUNCILOR FENTON MADE A MOTION TO CORRECT THE SPELLING OF JOHN H. MURPHY'S FIRST NAME. COUNCILOR PEREZ SECONDED THE MOTION, AND IT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. SPELLING WENT FROM JONE TO JOHN.

Special Permits

2. Special Permit (ID # 7608)

For a Special Permit for an Accessory Wall Sign(S), Above the First Floor, at the Property Known as 1500 Main Street (08130-0132) (Book#22635/Page#273), as Authorized by M.G.L. and the Springfield Zoning Ordinance Article 9, Section 9.8.17.

Request:	See Above
Owner:	Springfield Tower Square, LLC
By:	Vid Mitta
Petitioner:	Big Y Foods, Inc.
By:	Lori Bryant

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

JOHN RENZI ... GRAPHIC IMPACT SIGNS

HE SPOKE ON THE PETITION ON BEHALF OF BIG Y FOODS.

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT THE PACKET DID NOT INCLUDE DETAILS ON THE LOCATION OF THE SIGN ON THE BUILDING.

MR. RENZI GAVE DETAILS ON THE LOCATION, LIGHTING AND TYPE OF SIGN.

COUNCILOR ALLEN ASKED WHAT OTHER BUSINESSES HAVE SIGNS ON THE BUILDING.

COUNCILOR BROWN ASKED ABOUT PLANS FOR UPKEEP ON THE SIGN.

JOHN GAVE DETAILS ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE SIGN AND EXPECTED LONGEVITY AS THE COST OF MAINTENANCE WOULD BE COST PROHIBITIVE.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1500_Main_St_Tax_Formal (PDF)
- Main_St_1500_2023 (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

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

Special Permit Reasons

COUNCILOR FENTON READ THE SPECIAL PERMIT REASONS INTO THE RECORD. THE REASONS WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Zoning Changes

3. Zoning Change (ID # 7424)

To Change the Zoning of a Portion of the Property Known as 710 Liberty Street (07770-0201) from Residence B and Commercial P to Business A.

PETITIONER: Hutton ST 21, LLC

ADDRESS: 710 Liberty Street

CHANGE REQUESTED: Residence B/Commercial P to Business A

HISTORY:

06/21/23	City Planning Board	APPROVED
07/17/23	City Council	APPROVED
08/21/23 Next: 09/26/23	City Council	CONTINUE VOTE
09/26/23 Next: 10/23/23	City Council	CONTINUE

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

COUNCILOR WALSH MADE A MOTION TO CONTINUE AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILOR GOVAN:

COUNCILOR WALSH - YES

COUNCILOR FENTON - NO

COUNCILOR PEREZ - YES

COUNCILOR WHITFIELD - YES

COUNCILOR GOVAN - YES

COUNCILOR ALLEN - NO

COUNCILOR BROWN - YES
COUNCILOR HURST - YES
COUNCILOR CLICK BRUCE - YES
COUNCILOR EDWARDS - YES
COUNCILOR CURRAN - NO
COUNCILOR DAVILA - YES
COUNCILOR LEDERMAN - YES

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED HIS OPPOSITION TO THE CONTINUANCE OF THIS ITEM BECAUSE IT WOULD BE THE 3RD CONTINUANCE FOR THIS ITEM. HE NOTED THE LETTER FROM THE HHNC REGARDING THEIR OPPOSITION. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THERE ARE COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT IN THE CHAMBERS TO SPEAK ON THE ZONE CHANGE. IN FAIRNESS TO THE RESIDENTS THAT SHOWED UP TO THE MEETING, HE WILL BE OPPOSING THE CONTINUANCE.

COUNCILOR ALLEN NOTED THAT, IF GRANTED, THIS IS THE 3RD CONTINUANCE FOR THIS ITEM. THIS IS NOT A NORMAL BUSINESS PRACTICE FOR THE COUNCIL.

HE NOTED THE NEIGHBORS OPPOSITION TO THIS ZONE CHANGE AND WILL BE VOTING TO OPPOSE A CONTINUANCE.

COUNCILOR EDWARDS IS IN AGREEMENT WITH COUNCILOR WALSH. HE NOTED THE PETITIONERS HAD INITIALLY ASKED FOR A NOVEMBER MEETING.

COUNCILOR GOVAN MENTIONED THE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING TOMORROW AND PLANS ON ATTENDING. SHE NOTED THAT IT IS HER HOPE TO GET MORE INFORMATION TOMORROW AND THEREFORE SHE PLANS ON SUPPORTING THE CONTINUANCE.

COUNCILOR PEREZ ASKED ABOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING TOMORROW FOR POINT OF CLARIFICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY.

COUNCILOR WALSH NOTED THE SAMPSON'S HISTORY AS BUSINESS OWNERS AND HOPES FOR PROGRESS AFTER TOMORROW'S MEETING. WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SEE THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL AND THE SAMPSON'S COME TO A COMPROMISE.

COUNCILOR DAVILA NOTED HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE PROCESS DRAGGING ON TOO LONG. HE WILL BE SUPPORTING THE CONTINUANCE, HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE TO COME UP WITH A SOLUTION PROMPTLY.

COUNCILOR FENTON NOTED THAT THE PETITIONER WILL BE HAVING A MEETING TOMORROW AT THE FUNERAL HOME TO SOLICIT COMMUNITY INPUT.

THE MOTION PASSED AND WILL BE CONTINUED TO THE NOVEMBER HEARING'S MEETING.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 710_Liberty_Street_Zone_Change_Formal (PDF)
- 3240_710_Liberty_St_2023 (PDF)
- 3240_710_Liberty_St_2023_PB_Report (PDF)

RESULT:	CONTINUE [10 TO 3]	Next: 11/27/2023 7:00 PM
AYES:	Walsh, Perez, Whitfield, Govan, Brown, Hurst, Click-Bruce, Edwards, Davila, Lederman	
NAYS:	Michael A. Fenton, Timothy C. Allen, Sean Curran	