



City Council
Public Safety
Subcommittee Meeting

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

Gerry Martin (Chair)

~Final~

August 26, 2026

4:45 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Call To Order

4:45PM Meeting called to order on August 26, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor At Large	Absent	
Gerry Martin	City Councilor — Ward 7	Present	
Maria Perez	City Councilor — Ward 1	Excused	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Virtual	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Excused	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Excused	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Excused	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Excused	
Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Excused	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Virtual	

In Person:

Councilor Martin
Jorge Perez

Virtual:

Council President Whitfield
Councilor Brown
Attorney Shea
Jana (*Constituent*)
Mass Appeal
Andrew Strniste, *Director of Community Planning*

Public Portion

1. Updates on the current conditions of Vibra Hospital.

Minutes:

On August 26, 2026, the Public Safety Committee, chaired by Councilor Gerry Martin, met to address public safety and property maintenance concerns at the former Vibra Hospital property on State Street. Concerns included unauthorized entry, fires, overgrown vegetation, property deterioration, and potential risks to nearby residents and properties. The committee reviewed the City's existing enforcement process, including code violations, court action, and challenges when property owners do not bring a site into compliance.

The committee and the Law Department discussed possible tools to strengthen accountability for problem properties and future development projects. Options included researching performance bonds for future projects, reviewing existing ordinances governing blighted and abandoned properties, and examining additional legal options for properties with repeated violations. The Law Department agreed to research these options and review Vibra property's current legal and enforcement status.

The committee also discussed historic considerations related to the property and requested additional information from the Historic Commission. The committee planned a follow-up meeting to continue reviewing the Vibra property and possible long-term solutions for addressing blighted properties throughout Springfield.

Meeting adjourned: 5:24 p.m.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]