



City Council
Elder Affairs Committee
Meeting

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Councilor Kateri Walsh (chair)

~Final~

October 1, 2026

1:00 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Call To Order

1:00 PM Meeting called to order on October 1, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Walsh

Detective McCain

Nikki Brookens, Raymond Jorda Senior Center

Zoom:

Ariel Mendez, Office Manager/Elder Affairs

Angela Truhearts, Clodo-Concepción Community Center

Ali Haqq, Hungry Hill Senior Center

Councilor Santaniello

Councilor Davila

Council President Whitfield

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor At Large	Zoom	
Gerry Martin	City Councilor — Ward 7	Excused	
Maria Perez	City Councilor — Ward 1	Excused	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Absent	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Excused	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Present	

Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Zoom	
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	Zoom	

Public Portion

1. Senior Scams
2. Constituent concerns regarding Greater Springfield Senior Services.

Minutes:

On October 1, 2026, the Elder Affairs Committee, chaired by Councilor Kateri Walsh, met to discuss scams affecting older adults and related safety concerns. Springfield Police Detective Gregory McCain provided information on current scams, including fraudulent phone calls and text messages, phishing, bank and tax scams, romance scams, false warrant demands, and individuals falsely representing utility or service companies. McCain advised residents not to respond to suspicious calls or messages, to independently verify the identity of callers or visitors, and to contact police when suspicious individuals appear at their homes.

The committee also discussed concerns regarding services and emergency assistance for older adults. Detective McCain reported difficulties obtaining follow-up information regarding referrals involving older adults and raised concerns about coordination with Greater Springfield Senior Services. The committee discussed the need to clarify the agency's response protocols and coordination with the Police Department. Additional discussion addressed cold-weather assistance and appropriate emergency shelter options for older adults, including possible coordination with City departments, community organizations, churches, and other facilities.

Follow-up will include continued scam-prevention education and outreach, including a November 17 presentation at the Raymond Jordan Senior Center and additional presentations by Detective McCain as requested. The committee will also follow up on emergency assistance and shelter options for older adults and seek a future meeting with Greater Springfield Senior Services to discuss its response protocols and coordination with the City and Police Department. The committee will continue reviewing these matters at a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]