



**City Council**  
**Finance Committee**  
**Meeting**

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

**Councilor Zaida Govan (Chair)**

~Final~

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**October 13, 2026**

**4:00 PM**

**City Hall - Room 200**

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**Call To Order**

4:00 PM Meeting called to order on October 13, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

**Roll Call**

**Zoom**

Madam President Whitfield  
Councilor Click-Bruce(member)  
Heather Benjamin  
Patrick Burns

**In Person**

Councilor Govan(Chair)  
Councilor Davila(member)  
Atty. Ken Shea  
Lindsay Hackett  
Cathy Buono  
Jeanette Deforge(media)

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

|                   |                         |         |                 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Justin Hurst      | City Councilor At Large | Excused |                 |
| Victor Davila     | City Councilor — Ward 6 | Present |                 |
| Michael Fenton    | City Councilor — Ward 2 | Excused |                 |
| Jose Delgado      | City Councilor At Large | Excused |                 |
| Lavar Click-Bruce | City Councilor — Ward 5 | Zoom    | Late-<br>4:07PM |
| Melvin Edwards    | City Councilor — Ward 3 | Excused |                 |
| Tracye Whitfield  | City Councilor At Large | Zoom    | Late-<br>4:16PM |

## Public Portion

### 1. Discussion on Cannabis Tax Revenue

On October 13, 2026, the Finance Committee, chaired by Councilor Zaida Govan, met to discuss cannabis tax revenue and the City's Cannabis Stabilization Fund. The committee reviewed how 33% of cannabis tax revenue is deposited into the stabilization fund, with the remainder allocated to the General Fund. The City previously repaid approximately \$1.4 million to two cannabis businesses after state law determined that additional fees collected under host community agreements were unallowable. The repayment was made from the stabilization fund, which currently has approximately \$1.7 million remaining.

The committee reviewed fund deposits of approximately \$543,000 in FY2025 and \$609,000 in FY2026, along with \$1.2 million in cannabis tax revenue allocated to the General Fund in FY2026. The stabilization fund is designated for educational and recreational programs, neighborhood business incentives, infrastructure improvements, recreational and community sites, and other eligible initiatives within 1.5 miles of cannabis establishments.

Discussion focused on using available funds to address neighborhood impacts, identifying eligible projects, and exploring the possibility of supporting targeted property tax relief. City financial representatives explained that accessing the funds would require coordination with the Mayor and City Council approval through a financial order. Expanding the fund's permitted uses would require changes to the existing authorization. The committee discussed establishing funding priorities, identifying neighborhood needs, and working with City officials to determine the process for allocating available funds. Additional discussion included improving public awareness of the City's targeted property tax relief program. No funding allocations or formal recommendations were made. The meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

[MIN\_SIGNATURES]