

CITY OF WORCESTER
JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, March 10, 2026
Esther Howland (South) Chamber
Convened: 6:35 P.M.
Adjourned: 11:12 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

AT-LARGE COUNCILORS

Morris A. Bergman
Khrystian E. King
Satya B. Mitra
Gary Rosen
Kathleen M. Toomey



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DISTRICT COUNCILORS

Tony Economou - District 1
Robert A. Bilotta - District 2
John P. Fresolo - District 3
Luis A. Ojeda - District 4
Jose A. Rivera - District 5

CITY CLERK

Nikolin Vangjeli

CITY MANAGER

Eric D. Batista

CITY AUDITOR

Robert V. Stearns

City Hall - 455 Main Street Worcester, Massachusetts

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. STAR SPANGLED BANNER

3. ROLL CALL - All present with the Mayor as the Chair, except for Councilor Economou.

4. PROCLAMATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, MOMENTS OF SILENCE

- 4a.** MOMENT OF SILENCE in memory of William J. McManus, who passed away on February 23, 2026 at the age of 96, as well as Dennis L. Irish, who passed away on January 8, 2026 at the age of 78. William J. McManus was a retired judge, former schoolteacher and served as a City Councilor from 1966 to 1971. Dennis L. Irish was a former City Councilor and community advocate, who served from 2000 to 2005, and again in 2007.
- 4b.** Mayor Petty read a Proclamation declaring March 16, 2026 as Dr. Robert and Esther Goddard's First Launch Centennial in the City of Worcester. The Proclamation was provided to Charles Slatkin and Philip Niddrie, who spoke concerning the item.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 5a. Order - That the City Council of the City of Worcester hereby approves the minutes of the City Council Meeting of February 10, 2026.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 6a. Mayor Petty read the item and recognized the following Speakers:

1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #11g CC, spoke in favor of items #12b CC, #12i CC, and spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #19a CC
2. Abby Mortillaro, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #19a CC, and spoke in favor of items #20a CC, #20c CC, and #20d CC
3. Gary Hunter, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #12n CC and spoke in opposition to item #19a CC
4. Mauro DePasquale, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #19a CC and #12q CC
5. David Huffman, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #17p CC
6. Jennifer Safford, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #19a CC
7. Andrew Marsh, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #12b CC
8. Margot Barnet, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to items #19a CC and #12s CC
9. Mark Borenstein, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #12c CC and #12s CC
10. Roberta Brien, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #12s CC and #19a CC
11. Genesis Santana, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #19a CC
12. David Minasian, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #19a CC
13. Colin Novick, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10.4E CM
14. Steve Hart, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #12s CC
15. Darnell Dunn, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #12s CC
16. Fred Taylor, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #12a CC
17. Evelyn Herwitz, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10.4C CM and spoke in opposition to item #12s CC
18. Paul Popinchalk, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10.4C CM and spoke in opposition to item #12s CC
19. Jermoh Kamara, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #19a CC and spoke in favor of item #13b CC
20. Eric Stratton, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to items #12b CC and #19a CC and spoke in favor of item #12s CC

7. HEARING AND ORDER

- 7a. Hearing: NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: WINDSOR ST. and NORTHAMPTON ST.

Granting permission to NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: WINDSOR ST. and NORTHAMPTON ST.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to open the hearing. Mayor Petty's motion was approved on a voice vote.

Mayor Petty asked if any abutters wished to be heard on the item. Hearing no speakers, Mayor Petty moved to close the hearing. Mayor Petty's motion was approved on a voice vote.

Mayor Petty moved to approve the item. Hearing held and Order adopted

8. FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS - Biannual Economic Development Reports - See Items #10.4A CM and #10.4B CM

9. PETITIONS

- 9a. Todd Rodman request to change the underlying zoning classification for the following properties from Manufacturing, General (MG 2.0) to Business, General (BG 3.0) in accordance with the attached plan: 1) 7 Brookfield St. (MBL 13-038-00002); 2) 8 Brookfield St. (MBL 13-039-00007); 3) 19 Glennie St. (MBL 13-30C-00010); 4) 284 Grove St. (MBL 13-039-00008); 5) 288 Grove St. (MBL 13-032-02+09); 6) 300 Grove St. (MBL 13-032-10+11); 7) 278 Grove St. (MBL 09-026-0000C); 8) 270 Grove St. (MBL 09-026-00045); 9) 15 North St. (MBL 09-026-00026); 10) 4R Powers Ct. (MBL 09-026-00023); 11) 4A Powers Ct. (MBL 09-026-0023A); 12) 4 Brookfield St. (MBL 09-020-00021); and 13) 2 Powers Ct. (MBL 09-026-00025).

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #9a CC and #9b CC to the Planning Board. Referred to the Planning Board

- 9b. Todd Rodman request to change the underlying zoning classification for the following properties from Manufacturing, General (MG 2.0) to Residential, General (RG - 5), in accordance with the attached plan: 1) 15 Milton St. (MBL 13-039-00004); 2) 17 Milton St. (MBL 13-039-00005); and 3) 19 Milton St. (MBL 13-039-00006).

Referred to Planning Board (See Item #9a CC)

- 9c.** Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of N. Paul TonThat request installation of a protective road barrier, such as concrete bollard posts, in front of 149 Belmont St. to protect the property from motorized vehicle collisions.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take items #9c CC through #9f CC collectively.
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rivera, who moved to amend item #9f CC to replace the word "resurfacing" with the word "installation."**
- Mayor Petty moved to refer the items to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee.**
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rivera for a second time, who moved to reconsider the item.**
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.**
- Mayor Petty recognized the City Clerk, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.**
- Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Economou absent)**
- 9d.** Councilor John P. Fresolo request sidewalk resurfacing on College St.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #9c CC)
- 9e.** Councilor John P. Fresolo request street resurfacing on College St.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #9c CC)
- 9f.** Councilor Jose A. Rivera request sidewalk resurfacing on Clover St. between Heard St. and Pine View Ave.
Referred to Public Works Committee as amended (See Item #9c CC)
- 9g.** Councilor Jose A. Rivera request installation of speed feedback/dynamic speed display signage on Chandler St. in the vicinity of Rockwood Field and Worcester Dual Language Magnet School, located at 525 Chandler St.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #9g CC through #9t CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee
- 9h.** Mayor Joseph M. Petty on behalf of Randy Chapdelaine request installation of speed humps on Enid St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9i.** William R. Robbins, Jr. request the handicap parking space in front of 61 Dorchester St. be relocated to the Arlington St. side of the property near the garage.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9j.** Manuel Vasquez Rivas request removal of two (2) handicap parking spaces in front of 26A Marjorie St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9k.** Councilor Luis A. Ojeda on behalf of Sarai Rivera request removal of the handicap parking space in front of 7 Lucian St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)

- 9l. Madison Valducci request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage in front of 9 Moore Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9m. Sonia Rodriguez request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage in front of 8 Englewood Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9n. Geraldine Conille request installation of resident permit parking on St. Elmo Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9o. Sherry Robinson request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage between 4 and 8 Perry Ave. to deter vehicles from blocking the driveways.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9p. Joseph Zwirblia request installation of speed humps on Fourth St., in the vicinity of 4 Fourth St., as well as at other locations throughout the street.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9q. Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Robert Sala request installation of speed humps on Copperfield Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9r. Lisa McHugh request installation of a speed hump on Standish St. between Cohasset St. and Hamilton St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9s. Lisa McHugh request Standish St. be made a one-way street.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)
- 9t. Lauren Cordeiro request installation of turn signal lights and a turning lane at the intersection of Park Ave. and Pleasant St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9g CC)

10. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

10.1 APPOINTMENTS

Non-City Council Confirmation

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointment of Kristen Gutierrez Livoti to the Historical Commission.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to place the item on file. Placed on file

10.2 APPOINTMENTS

City Council Confirmation

- A. Recommending the appointment of Willdalize Perez-Faria to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to confirm the appointment. Confirmed on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

10.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

William Bagley, Jr., Esq., Chief Human Resources Officer

10.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to Economic Development Initiatives.

Mayor Petty read the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved to take items #10.4A CM through #10.4C CM and #10.4F CM collectively.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Mayor Petty, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Mayor Petty.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Fresolo, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Fresolo.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mitra, Councilor Bilotta, Councilor Toomey and Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager and Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with increased communication and reports concerning properties the Worcester Redevelopment Authority takes various actions on.” (See Item #22d CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with an updated report concerning the city’s plans as it relates to redeveloping the Worcester Memorial Auditorium, located at 2 Highland St.” (See Item #22e CC).

Mayor Petty moved to refer the items to Economic Development Committee.
Referred to Economic Development Committee

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to an update on Housing & Neighborhood Development Activities.

Referred to Economic Development Committee (See Item #10.4A CM)

- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to Tree Canopy Protection.

Referred to Economic Development Committee (See Item #10.4A CM)

D. Recommend adoption of a zoning map amendment relative to Belmont Street / Plantation Street Corridor.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to Planning Board. Referred to Planning Board

E. Recommend adoption of orders transferring jurisdiction of several properties to the Conservation Commission

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the five (5) accompanying Orders. Five (5) Orders adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

F. Recommend adoption of a resolution for a certified project designation / tax increment financing agreement for the Day Resource Center at 134 Gold St.

Referred to Economic Development Committee (See Item #10.4A CM)

**10.5 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION
Kevin Lovaincy, Chief Equity Officer**

**10.6 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION
Division of Human Rights and Accessibility
Patricia M. LaFore, Director**

**10.7 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Administration Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner**

**10.8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Engineering and Architectural Services Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner**

**10.9 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Operations Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner**

**10.10 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, AND CEMETARY
Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Commissioner**

**10.11 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY
Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner**

**10.12 FIRE DEPARTMENT
Martin Dyer, Fire Chief**

- 10.13 POLICE DEPARTMENT**
Paul B. Saucier, Police Chief
- 10.14 DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**
Charles R. Goodwin, Commissioner
- 10.15 LAW DEPARTMENT**
Alexandra H. Kalkounis, Esq., City Solicitor
- 10.16 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Administration
Nicholas Antanavica, Commissioner
- 10.17 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Building and Zoning Division
David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner
- 10.18 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Housing and Health Inspections Division
Lee R. Hall, Director
- 10.19 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Administration
Seema Dixon, Commissioner
- 10.20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Elder Affairs
Amy Vogel Waters, Director
- 10.21 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Veterans Services
Alex R. Arriaga, Interim Veterans Services Director
- 10.22 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Youth Opportunities
Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Director
- 10.23 WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**
Jason L. Homer, Executive Director

- 10.24 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**
Election Commission Division
Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk
- 10.25 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**
Brian Allen, Superintendent
- 10.26 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Administration
Timothy McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer
- 10.27 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Assessing Division
Samuel E. Konieczny, City Assessor
- 10.28 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Budget Office Division
Erin E. Taylor, Director
- 10.29 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Purchasing Division
Christopher Gagliastro, Director
- 10.30 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Treasury and Collections Division
Francisco Hernandez, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes
- 10.31 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES**
James Bedard, Chief of Public Facilities
- 10.32 DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE**
John W. Odell, Chief Sustainability Officer
- 10.33 DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**
Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer
- 10.34 FINANCE ITEMS**
Capital Transfers

10.35 FINANCE ITEMS

Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00) from Jobs for the Future.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt items #10.35A CM, #10.36A CM through #10.36C CM and #10.37A CM. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

10.36 FINANCE ITEMS

Operational Transfers

- A. Recommend that Seven Thousand One Hundred Ninety One Dollars and Seventy One Cents (\$7,191.71) be transferred from various CDBG grant accounts and appropriated to CDBG Account #GFT-101362, Small Business Assistance, to provide funding for additional small business grant contracts.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #10.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$200,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1007-600100, Public Facilities Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1007-610100, Public Facilities Ordinary Maintenance.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #10.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$150,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1053-600100, DPW Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1053-610100, DPW Ordinary Maintenance, to provide funding through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2026.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #10.35A CM)

10.37 FINANCE ITEMS

Prior Year

- A. Recommend that Six Thousand Eleven Dollars and No Cents (\$6,011.00) be authorized from various Fiscal Year 2026 Department of Public Works cost centers for the payment of prior year invoices.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #10.35A CM)

10.38 FINANCE

Loan Orders

11. CHAIRMAN'S ORDERS

- 11a.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Police Chief provide additional traffic enforcement on Holden St. to Brattle St., especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt items #11a CC through #11g CC. Order adopted
- 11b.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Police Chief provide additional traffic enforcement on Ararat St., especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours.
Order adopted (See Item #11a CC)
- 11c.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility remove unauthorized stop sign facing Neponset St.
Order adopted (See Item #11a CC)
- 11d.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility extend the double yellow centerline on Neponset St. through the driveway intersection at 5 Neponset St.
Order adopted (See Item #11a CC)
- 11e.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility continue to monitor Stafford St., Heard St. and Curtis Pkwy intersection to evaluate the needs for left-turn arrow traffic signal on Stafford St.
Order adopted (See Item #11a CC)
- 11f.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility conduct a traffic study on Forest St. to provide recommendations for traffic calming measures to improve safety and manage speeding on said street.
Order adopted (See Item #11a CC)
- 11g.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility conduct a traffic study on Grove St. for the purposes of extending the bike lanes on said street.
Order adopted (See Item #11a CC)

12. ORDERS

- 12a.** Request City Manager and Mayor organize for the Irish Flag to be raised from before March 17, 2026, through March 18, 2026, in honor of Irish American Heritage Month. (Toomey)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to make a clerical amendment to the item to read as follows: “Request City Manager and Mayor organize for the Irish Flag to be raised on March 17, 2026, in honor of Irish American Heritage Month.”

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended

- 12b.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning how building of a future police station will be prioritized, including information related to the status of the current building and whether it serves the city’s present needs. (Petty, Toomey, Bergman)

Mayor Petty read the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Mayor Petty, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Mitra, who moved to add his name as a sponsor of the item.

Councilor Mitra then moved to amend the item to include the words “and Law Enforcement Officers’.”

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Toomey, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Rivera, who moved to add his name as a sponsor of the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Bergman, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

- 12c.** Request City Manager conduct a comprehensive review of all ordinances, permitting processes, fee structures, and all other practices that prohibit and/or delay investment in the city. (Petty)

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Mayor Petty, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved to add the entire City Council as sponsors of the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

- 12d.** Request City Manager execute all required tasks associated with establishing the City of Worcester as the official host city for Ghanaian fans, their delegation, community and cultural programming during the 2026 FIFA World Cup from June 18, 2026, to June 27, 2026. (Petty)

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with item #13b CC.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Mayor Petty, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved to add the entire City Council as sponsors of the items.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to adopt the items. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

- 12e.** Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation invite the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) to a meeting to discuss the ongoing Vernon Street/I-290 Interchange Transportation Study. (Bilotta)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bilotta, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Public Service and Transportation Committee. Referred to Public Service and Transportation Committee

- 12f.** Request City Manager request Chief Equity Officer develop an Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Transition Plan as part of the city's ongoing effort to assess the current level of ADA compliance in programs, services, activities, and city-owned facilities. (Bilotta)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bilotta, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Bilotta.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mitra, who moved to add his name as a sponsor of the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

12g. Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning deploying cameras to catch people who illegally pass stopped school buses. (King)

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to amend the item to read as follows: “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning exploring the feasibility of a pilot program for deploying cameras to catch people who illegally pass stopped school busses.”

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any collaborations between the city administration and Worcester Public Schools (WPS) related to the capacity and timeline for initiating a pilot program for deploying cameras to catch people who illegally pass stopped school busses.” (See Item #22f CC).

Councilor King then moved to amend the item: “Further, request City Manager explore any grant funding that may be available for initiating such a pilot program.”

Mayor Petty moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether Brockton is enforcing their program where cameras are used to catch people who illegally pass stopped school busses.” (See Item #22g CC).

Mayor Petty moved to add the entire City Council as sponsors of the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended

- 12h.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility review Highland St. where it intersects with Grove St. and Main St. for the purpose of adjusting the timing of the traffic lights and installing “Do Not Block Intersection” signage at said intersection, to ensure motorists coming down Highland St. towards Lincoln Square do not block traffic traversing between Main St. and Grove St. (Rosen)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Rosen, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to amend the item to read as follows: "Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility work with MassDOT to review Highland St. where it intersects with Grove St. and Main St. for the purpose of adjusting the timing of the traffic lights and installing “Do Not Block Intersection” signage at said intersection, to ensure motorists coming down Highland St. towards Lincoln Square do not block traffic traversing between Main St. and Grove St."

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any traffic challenges and safety issues related to cars turning in the vicinity of the Main St., Grove St., Highland St., Lincoln St., and Major Taylor Blvd. area.” (See Item #22h CC).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Bergman.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended

- 12i.** Request City Manager explore the feasibility of using the employee parking lot at 25 Meade St. for resident parking after work hours, particularly during inclement weather, to help improve plowing on side streets and ease the burden on residents impacted by parking bans. (Ojeda)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Ojeda, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12j.** Request Standing Committee on Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation host a discussion between the city, the Friends of Institute Park, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), and all other interested parties concerning making improvements to Institute Park, located in District 2 at 82 Salisbury St., as well as the sixteen (16) acre, man-made Salisbury Pond, located inside the park. Said beautiful and iconic park was named in recognition of WPI and donated by Stephen Salisbury, III in 1887 to provide green space for the school and the city. Said discussion should include strengthening the partnerships between all parties associated with the park's wellbeing, clearing the pond's perimeter of invasive growth, restoring/replacing the park's corroded restroom fixtures, sprucing up the park's branded entrance sign, and opening the never-used snack bar hidden away in the restroom concession building. (Rosen, Fresolo)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Rosen, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee. Referred to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee

- 12k.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works review and repair streetlight at pole #3 on Glennie St., which is out of service and needs to be repaired. (Mitra)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mitra, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12l.** Request City Manager review and enforce city ordinances associated with residents' bushes, fences, etc. obstructing visibility for vehicles turning onto roads. Said review should include bushes obstructing visibility on Burncoat St. at its intersections with Randall St. and Arbutus Rd. (Mitra)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mitra, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12m.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning how the city notified residents of the trash delays during the weeks beginning on February 23, 2026 and on March 2, 2026 stemming from winter weather events, in light of the absence of AlertWorcester. Further, request said report include additional strategies the city can implement to ensure residents are made aware of any such trash pickup delays. (Mitra)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mitra and Councilor Rivera, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Rivera.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12n.** Request City Manager consider implementing a discounted rate of twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) percent for parking at municipal garages or parking lots for the employees of the various businesses in the Downtown Worcester area. (Mitra)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mitra, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12o.** Request City Manager consider hiring a consultant to conduct a third-party evaluation/audit of the Department of Public Works (DPW) to evaluate departmental policies, operational procedures, internal communications, facilities, and equipment management. (Bilotta)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bilotta, who moved to amend the item: "Further, request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report concerning any evaluations that have been done related to the policies and procedures of the Department of Public Works (DPW), as well as what steps are being taken to improve operations."

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to add his name as a sponsor of the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended

- 12p.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works review the current road conditions on College St. for the purpose of determining any emergency street repairs that should be conducted on the street. (Fresolo)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Fresolo, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12q.** Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation invite representatives from WCCA TV 194 to discuss the progress, achievements and future of the public access TV station and community media center. (Rosen)

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to Public Service and Transportation Committee. Referred to Public Service and Transportation Committee

- 12r.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works review the sidewalk on Clover St. between Heard St. and Pine View Ave. for the purpose of completing any necessary emergency repairs at the location. (Rivera)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Rivera, who moved to place the item on file. Placed on file

- 12s.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Inspectional Services and Chief Development Officer consider freezing the implementation and regulatory enforcement of the Specialized Stretch Energy Building Code for a period of no less than twelve (12) months. (Bergman)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bergman, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman for a second time, who moved to amend the item to read as follows: “Request City Manager request Commissioner of Inspectional Services and Chief Development Officer provide City Council with a report detailing a recommendation relative to the feasibility of freezing the implementation and regulatory enforcement of the Specialized Stretch Energy building Code for a period of no less than twelve (12) months.”

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Ojeda, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Ojeda.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 8 Yeas and 2 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Fresolo, Mitra, Ojeda, Rivera, Rosen, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Bilotta, King) (Economou absent)

- 12t.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Inspectional Services provide City Council with a report detailing a recommendation as to the feasibility and advisability of eliminating the “four (4) or more unrelated parties,” portion of the city’s zoning ordinance, as it relates to tenants in multifamily buildings that were originally built with four (4) or more bedrooms. (Bergman)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bergman and Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to add his name as a sponsor of the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

13. RESOLUTIONS

- 13a.** That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby support and recognize March of 2026 as Irish American Heritage Month in the City of Worcester. (Toomey)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

13b. That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby affirm the city's intent to welcome Ghanaian fans and delegations in a manner consistent with public safety, cultural respect, and city policy. This Resolution is non-binding on the Republic of Ghana and does not create financial obligations beyond those lawfully approved by the city. Further, that the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby call upon the City of Worcester to step forward and be recognized as an official host city for Ghanaian fans, delegations, and related cultural, trade and community programming during the period of June 18, 2026 through June 27, 2026 during the 2026 FIFA World Cup, and further affirms the city's support for welcoming and accommodating Ghanaian visitors and supporters during such a time. (King, Petty)

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #12d CC)

14. COMMUNICATION OF THE CITY AUDITOR

14a. Transmitting an annual report concerning the Other Post Employment (OPEB) Trust Fund.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee. Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee

15. COMMUNICATION

15a. Kristi L. Turgeon, Clerk of the School Committee, transmitting a request for the City Council to authorize the Worcester Public Schools (WPS) and City of Worcester to enter a five (5) year lease renewal with Hilltop Group Holding LLC for the parking lot associated with the Durkin Administration Building.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Ojeda, who moved to recuse himself from the item and left the room.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (Ojeda recused)

16. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Part I

16a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson on behalf of Jonisha DeLeon request removal of a handicap parking space in front of 29 Shamrock St: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to advertise the proposed Ordinances associated with items #16a CC through #16s CC. Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

- 16b.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Dave Tayyeh request removal of handicap signage in front of 45 Ledgecrest Dr.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16c.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Paul Smith request installation of handicap parking space in front of 72, 74 or 76 Florence St. (Amended October 15, 2025): recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16d.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj on behalf of Greg MacGilpin request installation a handicap parking space in front of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, located at 921 Pleasant St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16e.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Hao Ha request installation of a handicap parking space in the vicinity of 41 Stoneland Rd., either in front of the property or on the Stoneland Rd. side of 42 Freeland St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16f.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Jacqueline Bolduc request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 35 Columbia St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16g.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Joseph Cummings request installation of additional handicap parking space in front of 53 Raymond St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16h.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Samaris Correras request removal of a handicap parking space across from 194 Pilgrim Ave.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)

- 16i.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Izan Alfonso Ramos Asevalo request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 9 Aetna St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16j.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Jose I. Rivera request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 81 Fairfax Rd.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16k.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Mincho Dominov request removal of handicap parking space in front of 16 Dayton St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16l.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Aderito Andrade request the handicap parking space in front of 51 Gates St. be removed: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16m.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Victoria Rodriguez request the handicap parking space in front of 183 Austin St. be removed: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16n.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Victoria Rodriguez request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 8 Cottage St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16o.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Jasmyne Smith request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 4 Cheney St. on the Apartment B side of the building: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16p.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Sarah Perez request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 21 May St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)

- 16q.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Adalberto Ruiz request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 97 Puritan Ave.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16r.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda on behalf of Kristin Lyons request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 17 View St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16s.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Paul Beland request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 27 Hitchcock Rd.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent) (See Item #16a CC)
- 16t.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Jason Gerum, Director of Facilities for Worcester Academy, request the crosswalk at 121 and 124 Providence St. be reviewed for the feasibility of installing additional traffic control and lighting options at the location: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept and adopt items #16t CC through #16z CC and #17a CC through #17e CC. Accepted and Adopted
- 16u.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Melissa Cohen request installation of a crosswalk with audio accessibility functions across Chandler St. at its intersection with Manhattan Rd.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)
- 16v.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of John Tonelli et al. request installation of an additional crosswalk at the cross-section of 58 Shrewsbury St. and Leo Turo Way, in order to increase pedestrian safety: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)
- 16w.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Robert A. Bilotta request installation of flashing pedestrian crosswalk signage at the intersection of Coburn Ave. and Bigelow Davis Pkwy./Hamilton St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

16x. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request installation of “No Parking Here to Corner” signage on Merrick St. at its intersection with Shawmut St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

16y. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Jasmine Hollins-Gadbois request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage at the intersection of Queen St. and Kingsbury St. between 58-54 Queen St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

16z. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Plato Dimitriadis and Suzanne Bradley request installation of "No Parking From Here to Corner" signage on Berkman St. at its intersection with June St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

17. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Part II

17a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Manuel Figueroa request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage between the driveways of 91 Seymour St. and 78 Vernon St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

17b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of David Dufresne request installation of turn indicator signs/arrows on Olean St. going southbound after 186 Olean St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

17c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj on behalf of Erin Morell request installation of “Dead End Street” signage on Winchester Ave.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

17d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Barbara Clifford request installation of “Not A Truck Route” signage in the approach of West Chester St., from Chester St. and from Barry Rd. Ext.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

17e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Stephen B. Harris request continuation of bike lanes on Grove St. from the intersection of Grove St. and Forest St. to the intersection of Grove St. and West Boylston St., and from Grove St. to the Worcester/Holden city line along Holden St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Accepted and Adopted (See Item #16t CC)

- 17f.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Christela Divil request removal of a handicap parking space in front of 29 Shamrock St.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept items #17f CC through #17y CC. Accepted
- 17g.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of William Hoag and Kayla Melvin request installation of two (2) or three (3) handicap parking spaces or a drop-off zone in front of 339 Main St. in the zone that is proximate north or south of the bus stop/fire hydrant near the wrought iron-gate: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17h.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Steve Soto request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 98 Maywood St.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17i.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Sotirag Shtrepi request removal of the handicap parking space in front of 45 Ledgecrest Dr.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17j.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Lorraine Adams request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 13 Jaques Ave.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17k.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Morris A. Bergman request installation of a bus stop in the vicinity of 633 Salisbury St. and Lynnwood Ln.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17l.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of the residents of Saxon Rd. request installation of "Go Slow, Children Playing" signage in the vicinity of Saxon Rd. and Westbrook Rd.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17m.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Emma Duprey request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage on one of the two sides of Norwood St.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17n.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Eric LeDoux request removal of "No Parking Anytime" signage in front of 48 Water St. to allow for additional parking spaces: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)

- 17o.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Kristian Albarracin request the sidewalks in the vicinity of 165 Belmont St. be reviewed and reconfigured to allow for the installation of additional parking at the location: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17p.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of the residents of Holden St. request increased speed enforcement from the Holden line to Brattle St. during the morning and afternoon rush hours: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17q.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Bob McCauley request increased speed enforcement on Ararat St., especially during morning and afternoon rush hours: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17r.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Deborah Fins request installation of a stop sign on Neponset St. at the entrance of Reliant Clinic parking lot (5 Neponset St.): recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17s.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Alexandra Cormier request installation of a dedicated left-turn-only signal at the intersection of Park Ave. and Lovell St.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17t.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Michael John Grandone request installation of electric traffic signal at the intersection of Sunderland Rd. and Massasoit Rd.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17u.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Patrick Grady request installation of left turn arrow traffic signals on Stafford St. at the intersection of Heard St. and Curtis Pkwy: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17v.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Sheila F. Shea request "Private Way" signage on the street sign of Greenleaf Terrace be reinstalled: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)
- 17w.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Petition of Ethan Bates request review of the intersection of Franklin St., Norfolk St. and Suffolk St. for traffic calming measures to address dangerous conditions for both pedestrians and motorists: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #17f CC)

- 17x.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Joseph Corazzini request all street markings on Salisbury St. be repainted, including median lanes, breakdown lanes, passing lanes, left and straight lane markings and crosswalks: recommend Petition be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #17f CC)

- 17y.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to School Zone signing: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #17f CC)

18. TO BE ORDAINED

- 18a.** Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group EM – Executive Management for the Director of Veterans’ Services Position.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to ordain the item. Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent)

19. HELD UNDER PRIVILEGE

- 19a.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager Recommend Approval of a Housing Development Certified Project Application / Tax Increment Exemption Agreement for 401-409 Main Street: recommend adoption of the accompanying Resolution. (Held Under Privilege - Petty February 24, 2026)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bergman, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mitra, who moved, "That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby reaffirm its commitment to upholding Subsection F of Section 35A of Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 relative to the general requirements and assurances associated with Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) Agreements granted by the City of Worcester, including any agreement to the Menkiti Group for 401-409 Main St., be declaring its intent to rescind any such agreement found out of compliance with the rules and regulations set forth in said Responsible Development Ordinance (RDO)." (See Item #22a CC).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Toomey.

Councilor Toomey then moved to add her name as a sponsor of item #22a CC.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Fresolo, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Fresolo.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mitra for a second time, who moved to amend item #22a CC to include the word, "future," before the word, "compliance."

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bilotta, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen, who moved to, "That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby resolve that any infraction of the city's Responsible Development Ordinance (RDO) by the Menkiti Group, its contractors or its subcontractors in its Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) agreement for the housing project at 401-409 Main St. will automatically result in a clawback of taxes already forgiven, as well as an elimination of future tax benefits on the aforementioned project." (See Item #22b CC).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman for a second time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Bergman.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey and Councilor Rosen for second times, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to enter into the record an email from the Office of the Attorney General related to the Fair Labor Division's enforcement action against Barber Drywall, Inc. and Joseph S. Barber, individually.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to suspend the rules to allow members of the City Council

to speak for additional times. Motion approved on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey and Councilor Bergman for third times, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Mayor Petty, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Mayor Petty.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen for a third time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Rosen.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rivera, who moved to amend Councilor Rosen's motion, Item #22b CC: "Further, request that the pursuit of any potential clawbacks related to Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) agreements between the City of Worcester and the Menkiti Group only be pursued if the Menkiti Group be found guilty of violating the city's Responsible Developer Ordinance (RDO)." – Not Put.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen for a fourth time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Rosen.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Mayor Petty, who spoke concerning the item.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized the Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Mayor Petty.

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Mitra for third times, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Solicitor and City Clerk, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Mitra.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey for a fourth time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Toomey.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen for a fifth time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a fourth time, who moved to, “Request City Manager work with the appropriate representatives from The Menkiti Group to provide City Council with a corrective action plan, as it relates to any infractions to the city’s Responsible Development Ordinance (RDO).” (See Item #22c CC).

Mayor Petty moved to adopt item #22c CC. Order adopted.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt item #22a CC as amended. Resolution adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Fresolo, Mitra, Rivera, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Bilotta, King, Ojeda, Rosen) (Economou absent).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen for a sixth time, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Clerk, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Rosen.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt item #22b CC. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Mitra) (Economou absent).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to accept and adopt the item. Accepted and adopted on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Fresolo, Mitra, Rivera, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Bilotta, King, Ojeda, Rosen) (Economou absent)

- 19b. ORDER of Councilor Satya B. Mitra - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and the Chief Information Officer review and provide a report to the City Council concerning ARRES, the world’s first autonomous vehicle that detects and seals road surface cracks to prevent potholes from forming. Such autonomous technology can be a less expensive option in comparison to conventional methods of sealing road surface cracks and potholes. See attached demo (<https://www.robotiz3d.com/arres-prevent/>). (Held Under Privilege - King February 24, 2026)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mitra, who moved to amend the item to include, “Further, request City Manager ensure the implementation of such a program would not adversely affect the number of union workers employed by the city.”

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mitra and Councilor King for second times, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Bilotta, Mitra, Rivera, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Fresolo, King, Ojeda, Rosen) (Economou absent)

20. TABLED ITEMS

20a. ORDER of Councilor Konstantina B. Lukes - Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a legal opinion regarding the process of instituting a residential rent control program and the resulting impact of implementing such a program. (Held Under Privilege - Lukes September 17, 2019 and September 24, 2019 and Tabled - Lukes October 15, 2019)

No action taken

20b. RESOLUTION of Councilor Khrystian E. King - That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby support Representative Rebecca Rauch and Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz's SD 699 HD 1283, An Act effectuating equity in COVID-19 Vaccination Bill. (Held Under Privilege - Bergman February 9, 2021 and Tabled - Bergman February 23, 2021)

No action taken

20c. ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj and Councilor Thu Nguyen - Request City Manager work with appropriate departments and stakeholders to establish an Office of Housing Stability in an effort to prevent the involuntary displacement of city residents who are in the process of being evicted or at the risk of losing their housing, as well as to enact policies to combat displacement, homelessness and enhance tenants' rights. (Held Under Privilege - Haxhiaj July 18, 2023 and Tabled - Haxhiaj August 22, 2023)

No action taken

20d. PETITION of Gordon Davis request City Council request Standing Committee on Public Safety investigate the issue of systemic racism and public safety with public hearings included. (Tabled - Toomey May 14, 2024)

No action taken

20e. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request City Manager conduct an equity audit of all city departments every five (5) years. (Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson December 10, 2024 and Held Under Privilege - Toomey December 17, 2024 and Tabled - Nguyen January 7, 2025)

No action taken

20f. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to how the U.S. Department of Justice's report on the Worcester Police Department differs from the account of the municipality. (Held Under Privilege - King April 29, 2025 and May 6, 2025 and Tabled - King May 13, 2025)

No action taken

20g. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager recommend Adoption of an Order Regarding the Jurisdiction and Disposition of Real Property at 100 Providence Street. (Held Under Privilege - Russell November 18, 2025 and November 25, 2025 and Tabled - Russell December 9, 2025)

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Fresolo, who moved for a roll call vote to take the item off the Table. Taken off the Table on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Economou absent).

Councilor Fresolo then moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege. – Not Put.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Clerk and City Solicitor, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report outlining an independent interpretation of appropriate instances for the City Council to Hold an Item Under Personal Privilege. Further, request said report include information concerning whether there have been any instances where the City Council Held an Item Under Privilege after it was taken off the Table following two instances where it had been Held Under Privilege.” (See Item #22i CC).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Fresolo, Rivera, Rosen, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Bilotta, King, Mitra, Ojeda) (Economou absent)

21. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the February 24, 2026 City Council meeting.

21a. ORDER of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda – Request City Manager request Police Chief provide City Council with a list of all the schools where the Worcester Police Department (WPD) are participating in various education initiatives. – Item #23a CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

21b. ORDER of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda – Request City Manager work with the Police Chief and Superintendent of Public Schools to increase Worcester Police Department (WPD) general community engagement efforts, as well as summer safety programming, during Worcester Public Schools (WPS) vacations. – Item #23b CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

21c. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the “Handle with Care (HWC) model, wherein law enforcement notifies schools when a child is exposed to a traumatic event. – Item #23c CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 21d.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing data around social workers and clinicians responding to emergency events with the Worcester Police Department (WPD) in the city. – Item #23d CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21e.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing data that categorizes the types of emergency calls received in the city, as well as measurements of responsiveness to said calls. – Item #23e CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21f.** ORDER of Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning various hiring incentives and bonuses the city can utilize to increase the amount of police officers employed by the Worcester Police Department (WPD). – Item #23f CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21g.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager ensure the city’s board and commission liaisons properly provide the City Clerk with the agendas and minutes of all their boards and commissions meetings for publishing on the city’s website. – Item #23g CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21h.** ORDER of Councilor Morris A. Bergman – Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report detailing how many public record requests have been received by the Law Department, organized by the type of record request and the reason for the request. – Item #23h CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21i.** ORDER of Councilor Morris A. Bergman – Request City Manager work with the appropriate representatives from the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) to encourage the WRTA to provide all their backup materials when submitting their agendas and minutes for posting to the city’s website. – Item #23i CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21j.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted Order from December 10, 2024, which read, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a copy of all memos, notes, and recommendations the city receives from the Human Rights Commission (HRC). – Item #23j CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21k.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with an update relative to a previously adopted Order from August 27, 2024 requesting City Manager to provide City Council with an update concerning a previously filed order from May 28, 2024, which read, “Request City Manager request City Solicitor explore the feasibility of filing litigation against Charter Spectrum to create an impetus for the company to ensure eligible seniors are reimbursed on any monies withheld from them relative to their service. – Item #23k CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 21l.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager organize an Executive Session at a future City Council meeting to discuss litigation strategies being employed by the city with respect to consultations with Spectrum. – Item #23l CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21m.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the process the city uses to store Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data pertaining to the city’s street infrastructure. Further, request said report include additional data relative to responsiveness, broken down and aggregated appropriately. – Item #23m CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21n.** ORDER of Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey – Request City Manager work with Worcester Polytechnic Institute’s (WPI) Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering (CEAE) to discuss creating a collaborate plan to address, fix, and maintain the city’s potholes. – Item #23n CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21o.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing which streets located within Worcester Housing Authority (WHA) and other affordable housing communities, such as Plumley Village, are city owned. Further, request said report include the process used to assess and address said streets. – Item #23o CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 21p.** ORDER of Councilor Tony Economou – Request City Manager review compensation provided to Deputy City Clerk I and Deputy City Clerk II positions. – Item #23p CC Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

22. NEW BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the March 10, 2026 City Council meeting.

- 22a.** Motion Mitra @ #19a CC – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby reaffirm its commitment to upholding Subsection F of Section 35A of Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 relative to the general requirements and assurances associated with Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) Agreements granted by the City of Worcester, including any agreement to the Menkiti Group for 401-409 Main St., be declaring its intent to rescind any such agreement found out of compliance with the rules and regulations set forth in said Responsible Development Ordinance (RDO).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mitra, who introduced the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to add her name as a sponsor of the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mitra for a second time, who moved to amend the item to include the word, “future.”

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item as amended. Resolution adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Fresolo, Mitra, Rivera, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Bilotta, King, Ojeda, Rosen) (Economou absent)

- 22b.** Motion Rosen @ #19a CC – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby resolve that any infraction of the city’s Responsible Development Ordinance (RDO) by the Menkiti Group, its contractors or its subcontractors in its Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) agreement for the housing project at 401-409 Main St. will automatically result in a clawback of taxes already forgiven, as well as an elimination of future tax benefits on the aforementioned project.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen, who introduced the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rivera, who moved to amend the item: “Further, request that the pursuit of any potential clawbacks related to Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) agreements between the City of Worcester and the Menkiti Group only be pursued if the Menkiti Group be found guilty of violating the city’s Responsible Developer Ordinance (RDO).” – Not Put.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Mitra) (Economou absent)

- 22c.** Motion King @ #19a CC – Request City Manager work with the appropriate representatives from The Menkiti Group to provide City Council with a corrective action plan, as it relates to any infractions to the city’s Responsible Development Ordinance (RDO).

Order adopted (See Item #19a CC)

- 22d.** Motion King @ #10.4A CM - Request City Manager provide City Council with increased communication and reports concerning properties the Worcester Redevelopment Authority takes various actions on.

Order adopted (See Item #10.4A CM)

- 22e.** Motion King @ #10.4A CM – Request City Manager provide City Council with an updated report concerning the city’s plans as it relates to redeveloping the Worcester Memorial Auditorium, located at 2 Highland St.

Order adopted (See Item #10.4A CM)

- 22f.** Motion King @ #12g CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any collaborations between the city administration and Worcester Public Schools (WPS) related to the capacity and timeline for initiating a pilot program for deploying cameras to catch people who illegally pass stopped school busses.

Order adopted (See Item #12g CC)

- 22g.** Motion Petty @ #12g CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether Brockton is enforcing their program where cameras are used to catch people who illegally pass stopped school busses.

Order adopted (See Item #12g CC)

- 22h.** Motion King @ #12h CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any traffic challenges and safety issues related to cars turning in the vicinity of the Main St., Grove St., Highland St., Lincoln St., and Major Taylor Blvd. area.

Order adopted (See Item #12h CC)

- 22i.** Motion King @ #20g CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report outlining an independent interpretation of appropriate instances for the City Council to Hold an Item Under Personal Privilege. Further, request said report include information concerning whether there have been any instances where the City Council Held an Item Under Privilege after it was taken off the Table following two instances where it had been Held Under Privilege.

Order adopted (See Item #20g CC)