

**CITY OF WORCESTER
JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Esther Howland (South) Chamber

Convened: 6:32 P.M.

Recess to Executive Session: 10:45 P.M.

**Reconvened from Executive Session to Adjourn: February 25, 2026 at 12:29
A.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. Councilor Bilotta participated in the meeting remotely.

4. PROCLAMATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, MOMENTS OF SILENCE

5. ELECTION - CITY CLERK - TWO YEAR TERM

5a. ELECTION - To elect Nikolin Vangjeli to a two-year-term as City Clerk.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to nominate Nikolin Vangjeli to a two-year term as City Clerk. Nikolin Vangjeli elected on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 6a. Order - That the City Council of the City of Worcester hereby approves the minutes of the City Council Meeting of February 3, 2026.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 7a. Mayor Petty read the item and recognized the following speakers:

1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #13d CC and spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #9a CC
2. Andrew Marsh, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #13n CC
3. Abby Mortillaro, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #13n CC, #17b CC, #21a CC, #21c CC, and #21d CC
4. Bob Bazinet, Grafton resident, spoke in favor of item #13l CC
5. Tom Marino, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #13b CC
6. David Webb, Olympia, WA resident, spoke in opposition to items #11.13A CM and #11.15A CM and spoke in favor of items #13b CC and #13n CC

8. HEARING AND ORDER

- 8a. Hearing: NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: KINGSBURY ST.

Granting permission to NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: KINGSBURY ST.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to open the hearing. Mayor Petty's motion was approved on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

Mayor Petty asked if any abutters wished to be heard on the item. Hearing no speakers, Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to close the hearing. Mayor Petty's motion was approved on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Hearing held and Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

9. RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 9a. ORDER of Mayor Joseph M. Petty – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby convene in Executive Session at its Tuesday, February 24, 2026, meeting for the purpose of discussing litigation strategy with respect to the case of Town of Holden v. Department of Conservation and Recreation and the City of Worcester, Superior Court Department Civil Action No. 1385CV00910D. The City Council will not reconvene in open session.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

10. PETITIONS

- 10a.** Timothy J. McMahon, the Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Worcester, request Zoning Map be amended to establish the Adaptive Re-use Overlay District (AROD) over the property located at 25 West Chester St. which is currently within the Residence, Single Family (RS-7) zoning district.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Planning Board. Referred to Planning Board on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 10b.** Arona Bauer request removal of small concrete posts throughout the sidewalks in the Corinth Dr. and Reardon St. neighborhood.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 10c.** Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Erik Vickstrom request installation of rapid rectangular flashing beacons at the crosswalk on Pleasant St. at its intersection with Huntley St.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer items #10c CC through #10s CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 10d.** Olsi Gjinko request removal of resident permit parking on Shirley St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10e.** Henry Halpern request installation of a yield sign on Indian Hill Rd. at Marconi Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10f.** Henry Halpern request installation of "Do Not Block Intersection" signage at the intersection of Indian Hill Rd. and Marconi Rd., as well as street markings with an "X" where cars should not block said intersection.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10g.** Henry Halpern request installation of a stop line at Indian Hill Rd. and Ararat St. intersection.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10h.** Julie Miller request installation of flashing crosswalk signage at the intersection of Salisbury St. and Monadnock Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10i.** Julie Miller request the crosswalk at the intersection of Salisbury St. and Monadnock Rd. be repainted.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)

- 10j.** Alexander Cordero request removal of the handicap parking space at 34 Beacon St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10k.** John Jeorgos request metered parking spaces in front of 25 Harvard St. be reviewed for modification or removal.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10l.** Lisette Arce-Batista request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 77 Merrifield St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10m.** Ismene Michaud request handicap parking space in front of 53 Raymond St. be relocated to across the street in front of 54 Raymond St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10n.** Kelly Barbon request installation of a traffic mirror on Randolph Rd. at the intersection of Bayberry Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10o.** Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request Beaver St. from Birch St. to Park Ave. be made a two-way street. Further, request the traffic light control signal at the intersection of Beaver St. and Park Ave. be reconfigured to reflect said two-way traffic.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10p.** Frank Kuffuor request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 188 Austin St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10q.** Nathalie Gibson request reinstallation of two (2) speed humps on Fourth St. in the vicinity of 31 and 33 Fourth St. and 62 and 67 Fourth St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10r.** Councilor John P. Fresolo request the existing winter parking ban provisions on Henrietta St. be replaced with a no parking ban on the odd side of the street, when declared.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)
- 10s.** Linda Prendiville request installation of a handicap parking space across from 4 Gage St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10c CC)

10t. NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: WINDSOR ST. and NORTHAMPTON ST.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to set a hearing for the item on March 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Hearing set for March 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

11. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

- 11.1 APPOINTMENTS**
Non-City Council Confirmation
- 11.2 APPOINTMENTS**
City Council Confirmation
- 11.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**
William Bagley, Jr., Esq., Chief Human Resources Officer
- 11.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
- 11.5 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION**
Kevin Lovaincy, Chief Equity Officer
- 11.6 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION**
Division of Human Rights and Accessibility
Patricia M. LaFore, Director
- 11.7 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**
Administration Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner
- 11.8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**
Engineering and Architectural Services Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner
- 11.9 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**
Operations Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner
- 11.10 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, AND CEMETARY**
Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Commissioner

A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the new Green Hill Park Community Garden planning application.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee. Referred to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to 2026 Arbor Day.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee. Referred to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to a report listing all permitted festivals in 2025 that includes the permit fees paid by each applicant and whether any funds are currently owed.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee. Referred to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

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

11.12 FIRE DEPARTMENT
Martin Dyer, Fire Chief

11.13 POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul B. Saucier, Police Chief

- A.** Transmitting informational communication relative to the 2025 Annual Report on Crime Statistics.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Police Chief, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Ojeda.

Councilor Ojeda then moved to, “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.” (See Item #23a CC).

Councilor Ojeda then moved to, “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.” (See Item #23b CC).

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Police Chief, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Mitra.

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

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

Councilor King then moved to, “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.” (See Item #23c CC).

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Police Chief, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Bilotta.

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

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

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

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.

Councilor King then moved to, “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.” (See Item #23d CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “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.” (See Item #23e CC).

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

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

Councilor Toomey then moved to, “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). (See Item #23f CC).

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

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

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

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Safety Committee. Referred to Public Safety Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

11.14 DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Charles R. Goodwin, Commissioner

11.15 LAW DEPARTMENT

Alexandra H. Kalkounis, Esq., City Solicitor

- A. Recommending adoption of proposed ordinance to increase fines for illegal dumping.

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized the City Solicitor, who responded to questions raised by Mayor Petty.

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee. Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

11.16 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Administration

Nicholas Antanavica, Commissioner

11.17 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Building and Zoning Division

David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner

11.18 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Housing and Health Inspections Division

Lee R. Hall, Director

11.19 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration

Seema Dixon, Commissioner

11.20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Elder Affairs

Amy Vogel Waters, Director

11.21 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Veterans Services

Alex Arriaga, Interim Veterans Services Director

11.22 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Youth Opportunities
Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Director

11.23 WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Jason L. Homer, Executive Director

11.24 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Election Commission Division
Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk

11.25 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Brian Allen, Superintendent

11.26 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Administration
Timothy McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer

11.27 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Assessing Division
Samuel E. Konieczny, City Assessor

11.28 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Budget Office Division
Erin E. Taylor, Director

A. Transmitting informational communication relative to to the financial update for the period ending Dec. 31, 2025.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee. Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

11.29 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Purchasing Division
Christopher Gagliastro, Director

11.30 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Treasury and Collections Division
Francisco Hernandez, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes

11.31 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

James Bedard, Chief of Public Facilities

11.32 DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

John W. Odell, Chief Sustainability Officer

11.33 DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer

11.34 FINANCE ITEMS

Capital Transfers

11.35 FINANCE ITEMS

Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file and accept a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection providing five air sensors.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take items #11.35A CM through #11.35H CM, #11.36A CM through #11.36E CM and #11.37A CM through #11.37D CM collectively.

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 items. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- B. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Six Dollars and No Cents (\$16,336.00) from the UMass Chan Medical School Prevention Research Center.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- C. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) from Family Care Adult Day Health, LLC.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- D. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of One Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$100.00) from Nancy and Paul Mendis.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- E. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Nine Hundred Fifty Six Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Eight Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$956,588.60) from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants and Research under the Shannon Community Safety Initiative Grant program.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- F. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Five Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$550.00) for a Memorial Tree Planting in memory Diane Santos.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- G. Recommend adoption of a resolution to apply, accept, and expend a grant of up to One Million Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000,000.00) from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- H. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00) from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs under the Drought Resiliency and Water Efficiency Grant.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

11.36 FINANCE ITEMS

Operational Transfers

- A. Recommend that Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1072-610100, City Manager's Contingency, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1017-610100, Emergency Communications Ordinary Maintenance.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that One Hundred Three Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$103,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1044-699399, Fire Capital Outlay, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1044-610100, Fire Ordinary Maintenance, for the purchase of firefighting equipment.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$500,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1072-610100, City Manager's Contingency, and be appropriated to various Snow accounts to provide funding for current and anticipated snow removal costs.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- D. Recommend that Seventeen Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars and Thirty-Five Cents (\$17,754.35) be transferred from Fund #FD313, RRA-Damage Settlements, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1081-610100, Transportation & Mobility Ordinary Maintenance.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- E. Recommend that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1026-600100, Water Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1026-610100, DPW Water Ordinary Maintenance.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

11.37 FINANCE ITEMS

Prior Year

- A. Recommend that Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Forty One Dollars and Seventy Nine Cents (\$8,741.79) 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 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that One Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$125.30) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1023-610100, Department of Health & Human Services Ordinary Maintenance, for the payment of a prior year invoice.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that Two-Thousand One Hundred Eighty Dollars and Eighty-One Cents (\$2,180.81) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2026 Cost Center #CC1023-600100, Department of Health & Human Services Salaries, for a retroactive salary increase.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

- D. Recommend that Twenty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Fifty-One Cents (\$22,317.51) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2026 from Cost Center #CC1077, Department of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Ordinary Maintenance, for payment of prior year invoice.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.35A CM)

11.38 FINANCE

Loan Orders

11.39 MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA TRANSMITTALS

12. CHAIRMAN'S ORDERS

- 12a.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report concerning the ways in which holding a zone change request to establish RL-7 zoning district for parcels at 34 Eskow Rd., 224 Southwest Cutoff, Weatherstone Drive Condos (CO-NDO-01061) (including parcel to the west – commonly owned with condominium land), 35 Balis Ave. (34-039-00218), 449 Massasoit Rd., and 483 Massasoit Rd. in Economic Development Committee will affect proposed future uses at the location that are inconsistent with the neighborhood's wishes.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt items #12a CC through #12g CC. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 12b.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a legal opinion concerning what further measures could be taken to strengthen enforcement of the Responsible Development Ordinance. Further, request said legal opinion be provided to City Council at the March 10, 2026 City Council meeting.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

- 12c.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report detailing an update relative to the progress made and methods to further strengthen the partnership between the Division of Public Health (DPH) and Inspectional Services Department, in an effort to improve oversight, protect residents, and advance public health outcomes.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

- 12d.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Request City Manager update the city's website to include links to the Worcester Community Food Assessment report and to additional food resources, such as centerfoodequity.com and foodhelpworcester.org.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

- 12e.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works work with Chief Sustainability Officer to provide City Council with a report detailing the feasibility of increasing access to the Residential Drop-Off Center to include weekday operational hours after 3:00 p.m., lowering disposal fees, and eliminating appointment requirements considering goals set within the Zero Waste Master Plan. Further, request said report include a fiscal analysis relative to costs associated with increasing such access to the Residential Drop-Off Center.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

12f. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager request Chief Sustainability Officer provide City Council with a report detailing measurables related to timelines, public communication, information provided on the city's website and social medias, temporary signage, usage monitoring, and overstay penalty plans relative to the Department of Sustainability and Resilience's (DSR) Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS) locations.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

12g. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager request Chief Sustainability Officer provide City Council with a report detailing the Department of Sustainability and Resilience's (DSR) 2026 goals, potential implementations, and timelines relative to the expected completion of said goals. Further, request said report include DSR's urban technology goals.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

13. ORDERS

13a. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility review the feasibility of completing an emergency resurfacing of Sagamore Rd. from Whitman Rd. to Park Ave. in the upcoming construction season. (Economou)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Economou 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 recognized Councilor Mitra, who moved to amend the item: "Further, request other sections of Sagamore Rd. also be considered during such a resurfacing."

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

13b. Request City Manager, in recognition of the importance of transparency and the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, ensure all supporting backup materials associated with each item that appears on the agendas of the more than three dozen city boards, commissions, and advisory committees are available online for public viewing. Said backup materials, along with the meeting agenda, should be submitted to the City Clerk's Office for posting prior to the date of the aforementioned board, commission, or advisory committee meeting to ensure no individual needs to submit a public records request to the city to gain access to said backup materials. (Rosen)

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

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

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

Councilor King then moved to, "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." (See Item #23g CC).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to, "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." (See Item #23h CC).

Councilor Bergman then moved to, "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." (See Item #23i CC).

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who moved to, "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)." (See Item #23j CC).

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

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 13c.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility make speed humps more visible through the application of high-visibility yellow traffic-rated paint with reflective glass beads pre-mixed in it, in an effort to protect the cars of motorists from potential damage. Yellow is generally regarded as the most effective color for night visibility on roads. (Rosen)

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

Mayor Petty moved to amend the item: “Further, request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report detailing federal rules related to the painting of traffic regulations on the city’s roads.”

Mayor Petty moved to add the entire City Council as sponsors of 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 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

13d. Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning the current state of negotiations for a new cable contract with Spectrum. The previous agreement, which expired in October 2023, was marred by Spectrum's contract violations, poor customer service, poor cable reliability and failure to provide contractual senior discounts, among others. (Rosen)

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

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

Councilor Rosen then moved to place the item on file. – Withdrawn.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to, “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.” (See Item #23k CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “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.” (See Item #23l CC).

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen, who moved to withdraw his motion to place the item on file.

Councilor Rosen then moved to refer the item to Public Service and Transportation Committee.

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Service and Transportation Committee. Referred to Public Service and Transportation Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey absent)

- 13e.** Since City Councilors often have a responsibility to address substandard care at a city hospital within their jurisdiction, and the local Department of Public Health has a responsibility to investigate, report, and act upon allegations of unsafe, unethical, or noncompliant care, request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report concerning the feasibility of the City Council requesting the Board of Health to investigate the all-too-frequent allegations of dangerous understaffing and complaints of unsafe conditions at St. Vincent Hospital. (Rosen)

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

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

Councilor King then moved to amend the item: “Further, request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the report and findings of the Department of Public Health (DPH) and National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) related to unsafe staffing and patient care concerns at St. Vincent Hospital.”

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, Councilor Bergman, and Councilor Mitra 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 9 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Bergman) (Toomey absent)

- 13f.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide a report to the City Council outlining the city's plan to address potholes now and as the weather breaks this spring. Said report should include the following: 1) how many crews will disperse throughout the city filling and repairing potholes; 2) what type of material the city intends to use to fill the potholes; and 3) if any new, more permanent patching, or new asphalt emulsion practices will be used, and if not, reasoning behind such a decision. Further, request said report including how many potholes and streets the city can expect to have filled per DPW crew and per shift, as well as whether the city can subcontract some of the work to private companies to augment the city's efforts to get the potholes done in a quick, timely and affordable manner. (Economou)

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with items #13h CC, #13i CC, and #13o CC.

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to add his name as a sponsor to items #13f CC and #13h CC.

Councilor King then moved to, “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.” (See Item #23m CC).

Councilor King then moved to Hold Item #13i CC Under Privilege.

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 recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to, “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.” (See Item #23n CC).

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

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

Councilor Rivera then moved to add his name as a sponsor of items #13f CC and #13h CC.

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

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 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.” (See Item #23o CC).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt items #13f CC, #13h CC, and 13o CC. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

13g. Request City Manager request Chief Financial Officer provide City Council with a report regarding the process the city uses to collect Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds from property owners, as well as whether the city has collected any duplicate funds directly from property owners or through their mortgage escrow accounts since the CPA's inception. Said report should also include information regarding whether any double payments have been made by property owners and the process used to credit back those property owners. Further, request City Manager request Chief Financial Officer make a publicly available list of all property owners that have paid double for the CPA surcharge, individually and through their mortgage escrow accounts, so said property owners can request their rightful refunds immediately. (Economou)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Economou and 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 Economou for a second time, who spoke concerning the item.

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

13h. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and the Chief Information Officer review and provide a report to the City Council concerning the feasibility of installing vehicle-mounted LiDAR and sensors on city vehicles to report potholes and modernize the city's roadway condition reporting with a rapid, data-driven approach. The goal is to have a city with no potholes, bring safety not only to vehicles, but to protect residents from potential health hazards. Further, request City Manager consider reviewing technologies offered by CYVL, an infrastructure intelligence platform that shows the user exactly what needs fixing, what it will cost, and how to get it done. See attached case study from Cambridge, MA (<https://www.cyvl.com/success-stories/cambridge-ma>). (Mitra)

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13f CC)

13i. 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/>). (Mitra)

Held Under Privilege - King (See Item #13f CC)

- 13j.** Request City Manager work with the members of City Council and local community partners to commission two (2) outdoor LED light displays for the purpose of promoting City Hall and the City of Worcester to both visitors and the broader public, and in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the nation. Said LED light displays should be installed near the front entrance of City Hall and in the City Hall Common. See attached preliminary draft of the LED light display. (Mitra)

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 13k.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility perform a traffic study in the vicinity of the Salisbury St. and Forest St. intersection for the purpose of providing greater traffic movement and pedestrians safety. (Mitra)

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 13l.** Request City Manager work with the Veterans' Services Officer/Director to create a monument/plaque that recognizes those from the city who served in World War II, but are not currently recognized. (Bergman)

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

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 13m.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report and draft ordinance to allow those with a veteran license plate and/or placard to park for free at city on-street meters and surface lots. Further, request said report include information concerning whether any reduction in revenue would be realized, as well as best practices used in other communities to ensure there is no abuse of the parking regulations from non-veterans. (Bergman)

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 13n.** Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted order on November 18, 2025, relative to conducting a full accessibility audit of City Hall that assess all physical, digital, and operational barriers that may impede access for City Councilors and the public. Said audit should include but not be limited to 1) the navigation of entrances, exits, stairways, elevators, meeting rooms, and all Council chambers; 2) digital and technological accessibility for Councilors and Public with vision, mobility, hearing, or processing needs; 3) public meeting access, seating arrangements, and safety considerations; 4) staff support systems for Councilors and Public requiring assistance while navigating City Hall; and 5) a timeline for corrective actions and recommendations for improvements that align with state and federal accessibility standards. (King)

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bilotta, who moved to amend the item: “Further, request City Manager consider developing an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) transition plan relative to public facility improvements.”

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, 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 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 13o.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report outlining any emerging technologies, including predictive analytics and GIS-based tools, available to the city to help the Department of Public Works (DPW) and other related departments in assessing, addressing and ameliorating potholes within the city. Further, request said report include information concerning potential pilot programs, associated costs, funding sources, and any operational or technological limitations to implementing said technologies, with the goal of improving efficiency, response time, and long-term roadway maintenance planning citywide. (King)

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13f CC)

14. RECESS TO FINANCE COMMITTEE - No items pending

15. COMMUNICATION OF THE CITY CLERK

- 15a. Recommend that City Council convene in Executive Session for the purpose of conducting contract negotiations related to the reappointment of Nikolin Vangjeli as City Clerk for a two (2) year term, from 2026 to 2028.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Economou, who moved for the following, “Request Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations review compensation provided to Deputy City Clerk I and Deputy City Clerk II positions.” (See Item #23p CC).

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

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

Councilor King then moved to amend Item #23p CC to make the request of the City Manager.

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

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

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

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 Mitra, who spoke concerning the item.

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt item #23p CC as amended. Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee. Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

16. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 16a. 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.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - Petty

17. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS

- 17a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS** Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of the proposed amendments to the City's ordinances related to the appointment of constables: 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 #17a CC and #17b CC. Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS** Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of ordinances incorporating the Commission of African American and Black Affairs and the Commission LGBTQIA+ Affairs: recommend passage of the accompanying two (2) proposed Ordinances.
Voted to advertise two (2) proposed Ordinances on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)
- 17c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS** Upon the Order of Councilor Satya B. Mitra - Request Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations review the Rules of City Council to consider amending Rule 3 of the Rules of City Council to change the seating assignments for the City Council's members every six (6) months, to allow the members to sit and work with different colleagues throughout each term (see attached for current Rule 3). Said seating changes should not impact the seat of the Vice Chairperson of the City Council, nor any members seated in specific locations for accessibility purposes: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Rosen, Councilor King, and Councilor Mitra, who spoke concerning the item.

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to accept and adopt the item. Order denied on a roll call vote of 4 Yeas and 7 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Mitra, Rivera, Toomey) (Nays – Bilotta, Economou, Fresolo, King, Ojeda, Rosen, Petty)
- 17d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS** Upon the Communication of the City Manager requesting review and approval of an amendment to the Municipality's Organizational Ordinances, modifying the Department of Public Works & Parks; creating the Parks, Cemetery and Recreation Department; relocating the Designer Selection Board to the Department of Administration & Finance; and restructuring the Fire Department: recommend Communication be placed on file.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept items #17d CC through #17j CC. Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

17e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City Manager requesting review and approval of enclosed reorganizational ordinance amendment regarding the Law Department: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17d CC)

17f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the financial update for the period ending November 30, 2025: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17d CC)

17g. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City manager transmitting informational communication relative to the financial update for the period ending October 31, 2025: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17d CC)

17h. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the financial update for the period ending Sept. 30, 2025: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17d CC)

17i. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to a financial update for the period ending August 31, 2025: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17d CC)

17j. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the financial update for the period ending July 31, 2025: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17d CC)

18. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

18a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the pros and cons of discontinuing the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept items #18a CC through #18c CC. Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 18b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to use of emergency warming and cooling centers for the last two (2) years: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #18a CC)

- 18c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to a Worcester Community Food Assessment report: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #18a CC)

19. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT

- 19a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT**
Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to Zero Waste Master Plan updates: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept items #19a CC through #19c CC. Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 19b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT**
Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to implementing a pricing plan for municipally-owned Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS): recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #19a CC)

- 19c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT**
Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative a Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Crowdsourcing Map: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #19a CC)

20. TO BE ORDAINED

- 20a. Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #2A Stowell Avenue.**

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to ordain items #20a CC through #20n CC. Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 20b. Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #18 Strathmore Road.**

Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)

- 20c. Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #120 Front Street.**

Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)

- 20d.** Amending Section 42 of Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 to Provide Handicap Parking in front of #32 Stoneland Road.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20e.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Additional Handicap Parking In Front Of #15 Caroline Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20f.** Amending Section 47 of Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 to Prohibit Parking on School Days Except For School Buses in front of #772 Main Street (Jacob Hiatt Magnet School).
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20g.** Amending Section 47 of Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances Of 2008 to Prohibit Parking on School Days Except For School Buses on a Portion of Murray Avenue (Jacob Hiatt Magnet School).
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20h.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking Across From 171 Washington Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20i.** Amending Section 42 of Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 to Provide Handicap Parking across from 55 Ward Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20j.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of 11 Rodney Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20k.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of 9 West Oberlin Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20l.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of 56 Cohasset Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20m.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of 1 Ames Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)
- 20n.** Amending Chapter Thirteen of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 Relative to Municipal Parking Facilities and the Use of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #20a CC)

21. TABLED ITEMS

21a. 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

21b. 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

21c. 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

21d. 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

21e. 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

21f. 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

21g. 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)

No action taken

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

- 22a.** ORDER of Councilor Tony Economou – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing a comprehensive review of the process the city uses during winter weather, snow and ice cleanup operations. Said review should include, but not be limited to, 1) an evaluation of the number of employees allocated and needed to conduct said operations; 2) whether other city employees should be cross-trained to work during snow operations; 3) whether the city has the proper equipment to conduct said operations; 4) whether additional training needs to be conducted; 5) the potential to repair or replace the city’s existing storage shed units; 6) whether additional sanding and salting sheds should be built throughout the city to ease transportation of materials; 7) how the winter parking ban impacts snow operations and if the ban should be changed in any way to increase plowing efficiency; and 8) the notification process used to inform the public of parking bans and options available to them for parking their vehicles during snow events. – Item #12a CC Order adopted
- 22b.** ORDER of Mayor Joseph M. Petty – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing the department’s plans to address the large number of potholes expected to be created due to the amount of snow the city received during the 2025-2026 winter season. – Item #12b CC Order adopted
- 22c.** ORDER of Councilor Satya B. Mitra – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing standardized systems the Department of Public Works (DPW) can establish to assess and track the quality and completion of tasks related to snow operations. – Item #12c CC Order adopted
- 22d.** ORDER of Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing a cost benefit analysis of selling unnecessary equipment and purchasing snow boots/wing plows, as well as underbody scraper plows to the city’s snow operations equipment and fleet. – Item #12d CC Order adopted
- 22e.** ORDER of Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey – Request City Manager include information regarding the city’s snow ordinances in its tax bill mailing. – Item #12e CC Order adopted
- 22f.** ORDER of Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey – Request City Manager work with the Commissioner of Public Works and Fire Chief to create videos pertaining to the importance of clearing snow around fire hydrants and catch basins. – Item #12f CC Order adopted

- 22g.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager document, outline and highlight the prioritization of main streets, bus routes and specials as part of winter weather snow operations. Said report should include a breakdown of how the snow removal in specific locations is executed. – Item #12g CC Order adopted
- 22h.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a staffing analysis of the Department of Public Works. – Item #12h CC Order adopted
- 22i.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report concerning the usage of snowplow equipment over the last five (5) years, the amount of money expended and transferred into accounts used to purchase snow plow equipment over the last five (5) years, as well as the percentage of snowplow equipment used in a storm against the amount of snowplow equipment owned by the city. – Item #12i CC Order adopted
- 22j.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager explore the feasibility of collaborating with Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) to share ideas and strategize best practices the city can utilize while plowing during snowstorms and winter weather events. – Item #12j CC Order adopted
- 22k.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager consider hiring an outside consultant to work with the Commissioner of Public Works to review and improve upon the existing snow operation practices of the department. – Item #12k CC Order adopted
- 22l.** ORDER of Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey – Request City Manager draft a letter to the State Legislature to highlight the importance of the city’s pending Home Rule Petition to increase the allowable hiring age for Worcester Police Officers to thirty-nine (39). – Item #12l CC Order adopted
- 22m.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting an informational communication relative to the plans to repair the Federal Plaza Garage, located at 570 Main St., including information concerning fixing the staircase on the Main St. side of the building, as well as upgrades to the elevators. – Item #12m CC Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee
- 22n.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting an informational communication relating to planning and design improvements at Newton Square and Highland Street. – Item #12n CC Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee
- 22o.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting an informational communication relative to the city’s Senior Work-Off Tax Abatement Program. – Item #12o CC Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee

- 22p.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting an informational communication concerning plans to remove invasive plant species in the city. – Item #12p CC Referred to Urban Technologies, Innovation and Environment Committee
- 22q.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting an informational communication concerning the number of pothole-related calls received by 311 since the beginning of the 311 program. – Item #12q CC Referred to Public Works Committee.
- 22r.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting an informational communication concerning the feasibility of installing water bubblers in the city’s parks that prioritizes Recreation Worcester locations. – Item #12r CC – Referred to Veterans’ Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee.
- 22s.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager ensure all Black History Month events are promoted using the city’s social media channels. Further, request said posts annually highlight the work done by Professor Thomas Doughton related to the Worcester Black History Trail, as well as the Worcester Black History Project (and their associated activities). – Item #12s CC Order adopted

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

- 23a.** Motion Ojeda @ #11.13A CM – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.13A CM)
- 23b.** Motion Ojeda @ #11.13A CM – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.13A CM)
- 23c.** Motion King @ #11.13A CM – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.13A CM)
- 23d.** Motion King @ #11.13A CM – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.13A CM)
- 23e.** Motion King @ #11.13A CM – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.13A CM)

- 23f.** Motion Toomey @ #11.13A CM – 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).
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #11.13A CM)
- 23g.** Motion King @ #13b CC – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13b CC)
- 23h.** Motion Bergman @ #13b CC – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13b CC)
- 23i.** Motion Bergman @ #13b CC – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13b CC)
- 23j.** Motion King @ #13b CC – 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).”
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13b CC)
- 23k.** Motion King @ #13d CC – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey Absent) (See Item #13d CC)
- 23l.** Motion King @ #13d CC – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey absent) (See Item #13d CC)
- 23m.** Motion King @ #13f CC – 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.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13f CC)

23n. Motion Toomey @ #13f CC – 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.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13f CC)

23o. Motion King @ #13f CC – 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.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13f CC)

23p. Motion Economou @ #15a CC – Request Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations review compensation provided to Deputy City Clerk I and Deputy City Clerk II positions.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Economou, who introduced the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to amend the item to make the request of the City Manager.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)