

CITY OF WORCESTER
MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 17, 2026
Esther Howland (South) Chamber
Convened: 5:09 P.M.
Recessed to Executive Session: 6:04 P.M.
Reconvened to Open Session: 6:15 P.M.
Adjourned: 6:18 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Satya B Mitra
Vice Chairperson Gary Rosen
Councilor Morris A Bergman



CLERK OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Nikolin Vangjeli

www.worcesterma.gov

City Hall - 455 Main Street Worcester, Massachusetts

Present Were:

Chairperson Councilor Satya B. Mitra
Councilor Gary Rosen
Councilor Morris A. Bergman

Also:

Commissioner of Inspectional Services Nicholas J. Antanavica
City Solicitor Alexandra Kalkounis
City Clerk Nikolin Vangjeli
Deputy City Clerk II Clare M. Robbins
Deputy City Clerk I Stephen AJ Pottle, clerk

1. Virtual Attendee Call-In Information

- a. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in-person and remote participation at all City Council and Standing Committee meetings. To partake in the meeting, you may attend the meeting in-person within the meeting location, follow the below link to join via Zoom or dial the direct line as indicated. If you join a Zoom meeting by dialing in with a phone number, you can raise your hand by dialing *9.

Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee Zoom Link:
<https://worcesterma.zoomgov.com/j/1614999501>

Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee Zoom Phone Number: +1 646 828 7666

Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee Zoom Access Code: 161 499 9501

Chairperson Councilor Mitra recognized the Deputy City Clerk II, who read the item.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra then recognized the following Speaker:

1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #3a

2. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Order - That the City Council Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations hereby approves the minutes of the Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee meeting of February 10, 2026.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra read the item and moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

3. Communication of the City Manager

- a. Recommending adoption of proposed ordinance to increase fines for illegal dumping.
11.15A CM February 24, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Mitra read the item and recognized the City Solicitor, who provided an overview relative to the changes made to the ordinance relative to Non-Criminal Fines and Penalties for Illegal Dumping.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra recognized Councilor Bergman, who discussed property owners being the responsible party if the property is found in violation of the ordinance, supportive evidence that demonstrates increasing illegal dumping fines as an effective method to reduce such violations, the process relative to issuing the illegal dumping fine to the correct violator with the Commissioner of Inspectional Services.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra recognized Councilor Rosen, who spoke concerning how illegal dumping is defined, the difference between littering and illegal dumping, and the process relative to issuing fines with the City Solicitor and Commissioner of Inspectional Services.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra recognized Councilor Bergman, who spoke concerning the process relative for enforcing an illegal dumping ordinance considering situations relative to those who are unhoused that encamp on private property and leave items considered as illegal dumping with the Commissioner of Inspectional Services.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra discussed the process relative to report and enforce ordinances related to property owners who do not maintain their properties to be inspected for illegal dumping, overgrowth, and/or nuisance trash with the Commissioner of Inspectional Services.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra then moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be approved.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

4. Communications of the City Clerk

- a. 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.

15a CC February 24, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Mitra read the item and moved for a roll call vote for the following motion: "That the Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations does hereby convene in Executive Session at its Tuesday, March 17, 2026 meeting 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. The Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations will reconvene in Open Session."

Recessed to Executive Session at 6:04 P.M. on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

Chairperson Councilor Mitra reconvened the meeting in Open Session at 6:15 P.M.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra then provided an overview related to the terms of the contract with Nikolin Vangjeli as the City Clerk of the City of Worcester. Said terms include but are not limited to:

- Provide that Mr. Vangjeli serve as City Clerk for a term of two (2) years
- Provide an annual salary of \$199,687.00, as reflected in the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) budget
- Provide a 3% increase, or such less percentage reflective of the highest percentage increase awarded to any city bargaining unit, effective July 1, 2026
- Provide a 3% increase, or such less percentage reflective of the highest percentage increase awarded to any city bargaining unit, effective July 1, 2027
- Require paid time off be removed from the City Clerk 2024-2026 Contract and require that Mr. Vangjeli be entitled to five (5) weeks paid time off, with applicable buyback allowance
- Full terms are available for viewing in the enclosed Report of the Committee.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be approved.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

- b. Transmitting an annual report outlining the goals and objectives for the City Clerk's Office for the year 2026.

13a CC February 3, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Mitra read the item and recognized the City Clerk, who provided an overview relative to the 2026 goals and objectives for the City Clerk's Office.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra recognized Councilor Bergman, who spoke concerning the item.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra recognized Councilor Rosen, who spoke concerning voter identification cards and the process relative for implementing such a change in policy, the process relative for the City Clerk and Deputy City Clerks to officiate wedding ceremonies in City Hall, the process relative to working with veterinary offices to aid the dog license registrations, the petition submission process, and issues relative to increased voter registrations and decreased voter turnout on election days with the Deputy City Clerk II, City Clerk, and City Solicitor.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra discussed the department having adequate staffing levels with the City Clerk.

Chairperson Councilor Mitra then moved for a roll vote to recommend the item be placed on file.

Recommend File on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays