

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

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Esther Howland (South) Chamber

Convened: 6:31 P.M.

Recessed: 9:03 P.M.

Reconvened: 9:07 P.M.

Adjourned: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 12:03 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, except for Councilor Toomey, who arrived at 6:34 P.M.

4. PROCLAMATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, MOMENTS OF SILENCE

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 September 8, 2026.

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

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 6a. 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 "Public Participation" section of 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.

City Council Zoom Link: <https://worcesterma.zoomgov.com/j/1613631913>

City Council Zoom Phone Number: +1 646 828 7666

City Council Zoom Access Code: 161 363 1913

Important Notice: Residents are advised of an ongoing scam involving the impersonation of city officials and departments. Scammers are fraudulently requesting payments be made for planning and zoning permits, as well as City Council petitions. All official emails regarding your petition will come exclusively from an @worcesterma.gov email address (such as clerk@worcesterma.gov), or via physical mail on the City of Worcester's official letterhead. Any legitimate hearing letter will always include your specific application details, along with the scheduled hearing date, time, and location. The City of Worcester will never request payments via wire transfer.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized the following Speakers:

- 1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to items #9d CC through #9f CC, spoke in favor of item #10l CC, and spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #18b CC**
- 2. Peter (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10l CC and #18a CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 3. Abby Mortillaro, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10l CC, #10s CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 4. Martha Assefa, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #18a CC and #10e CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 5. Dante Comparetto, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 6. David Minasian, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10l CC**
- 7. Rhiannon Snide, (no residence given), spoke in opposition of item #18b CC**
- 8. Grace Ross, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 9. Idella Hazard, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC and spoke in favor of item #8b CC**
- 10. Greg Degermajian, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10t CC**
- 11. Meg Coffin, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 12. Fred Taylor, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #8b CC and #10l CC**
- 13. Jermoh Kamara, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC and spoke in favor of item #10l CC**
- 14. Mike Kane, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #18b CC**
- 15. Gary Hunter, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10l CC, #12d CC and #18a CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 16. Heather Prunier Stanek, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #18a CC**
- 17. Kirsten Fraser, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #18a CC and #10l CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 18. Maria Montano, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8t CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 19. Brian Keaney, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 20. Mini (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 21. Jack Murray, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC and spoke in favor of item #10x CC**
- 22. Ashley Spring, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #18a CC, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC, and spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #8c CC**
- 23. Brady (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 24. Maria (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to items #10d CC and #18b CC and spoke in favor of items #10j CC, #10t CC, #10w CC through #10z CC, and #18a CC**
- 25. Thea (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 26. Yani (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 27. Rhonda Hicks a.k.a Wahya Guste Wolfpaw, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 28. Michelin Cahill, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 29. Ben Levine, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 30. Sam Davidson-Weiss, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 31. Janeen (no last name given), (no residence given), spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 32. Bill Hughes, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #13a CC**
- 33. Emma Narkewicz, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10a CC though #10c CC, #10h CC through #10l CC, #10s CC through #10z CC, and #18a CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC**
- 34. Janet Davis, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10l CC and #18a CC and spoke in**

opposition to item #18b CC

35. Jonathan Morales, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

36. Ex Todd, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10l CC and #18a CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

37. Gordon Ward, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8b CC

38. Sarah Bertrand, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

39. David Ginsburg, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

40. Danielle Alachoyan, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

41. Justin LaPorte, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

42. Amy Ebbeson, Rutland resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC and spoke in favor of items #10e CC and #18a CC

43. Dangelo Aponte, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

44. Margot Barnet, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10l CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

45. Vincent Pedone, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #18b CC

46. David Coyne, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

47. Natasha (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #18a CC and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

48. Jamerson Maurer, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

49. Kevin Lynch, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

50. Zakeem Benjamin, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

51. Wilson Lam, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to items #8c CC and #18b CC

52. Colleen (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8a CC

53. Isabella Corazzini, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

54. Feanna Jattan-Singh, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC and spoke in favor of item #10l CC

55. Terri Kelley, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

56. David Webb, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10e CC, #10j CC, #18a CC, and #20i CC, spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to items #9j CC and #8c CC, and spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

57. Samantha Martin, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

58. Anna C., Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

59. Jeff Burnett, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

60. Eric Stratton, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to items #10g CC and #18b CC

61. Laura Salice Matthew, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

62. Nadine Paige, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #18b CC

63. Tom Marino, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #18a CC

7. HEARINGS AND ORDERS

7a. Hearing: NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: GATES ST.

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

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to open the hearings for items #7a CC and #7b CC. 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 hearings. Mayor Petty's motion was approved on a voice vote.

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

7b. Hearing: NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: PATCH ST.

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

Hearing held and Order adopted (See Item #7a CC)

8. PETITIONS

- 8a.** Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of the residents of the Winter Heights Neighborhood request the granite survey markers that stick out of the sidewalks, some six to nine inches high, be cut down to pavement level, in the interest of public safety.

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

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee

- 8b.** Councilor Khrystian E. King and Councilor Robert A. Bilotta request Laurel St. from Summer St. to Everett Gaylord Blvd. be given the honorary street name designation of Arries Ann Ward Way.

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

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee

- 8c.** Councilor Morris A. Bergman request installation of multiple speed humps on Harrington Way.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with item #10d CC.

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to place the items on file. Placed on file

- 8d.** Carmen Franco et al. request installation of speed humps on Montague St.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #8d CC through #8f CC, #8h CC, #8j CC through #8q CC and #8s CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee

- 8e.** Jesse Gibson request installation of a crosswalk and rapid flashing beacons in the vicinity of Greater Outreach Ministries, located at 108 Planation St.

Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)

- 8f.** Areej Talaa request installation of a handicap parking space at 245 Constitution Ave.

Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)

- 8g.** Eliza Lawrence request installation of stop signage on Charlton St. at its intersection with Beacon St.

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

- 8h. Berardino Sasso request the handicap parking space in front of 12 Normal St. be removed.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8i. Councilor Robert A. Bilotta on behalf of Maritza Cruz request installation of a truck ban/weight restriction on Holden St. from the beginning of Shore Dr. to its intersection with Grove St.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Economou, who moved to amend the item to read as follows: “Councilor Robert A. Bilotta on behalf of Maritza Cruz request installation of a truck ban/weight restriction from the beginning of Shore Dr. at the intersection with Norton Dr., to exclude trailer trucks from travelling on Shore Dr.”
Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Traffic and Parking Committee as amended. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee as amended
- 8j. Councilor Jose A. Rivera request installation of a stop sign on Wharton St. at its intersection with Englewood Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8k. Councilor Jose A. Rivera request installation of a stop sign on Clive St. at its intersection with Minthorne St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8l. Councilor Jose A. Rivera request installation of a stop sign on Englewood Ave. at its intersection with Minthorne St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8m. Councilor Robert A. Bilotta and Councilor John P. Fresolo request installation of bollards, curb extensions and/or another type of barrier on Hamilton St. from 96 Hamilton St. to its intersection with Fairmont Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8n. Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request removal of resident permit parking on Boyden St. from 2 Boyden St. to 20 Boyden St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8o. Councilor Tony Economou request installation of “No Left Turn” signage on Grove St. for access to Parkton Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8p. Councilor Tony Economou request installation of “No Left Turn” signage on Holden St. for access to Parkton Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)
- 8q. Councilor Jose A. Rivera request installation of 25 MPH signage on Moreland Green Dr.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)

- 8r. Councilor Jose A. Rivera request the traffic control signal at the intersection of Southbridge St. and Hammond St. be reviewed to add at least five (5) additional seconds of a protected left turn for drivers travelling north, turning onto Hammond St.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Ojeda, who moved to amend the item: “Further, request said review include considerations for other neighboring traffic lights, including lights located on Quinsigamond Ave.”

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Traffic and Parking Committee as amended. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee as amended

- 8s. Councilor Jose A. Rivera request installation of a stop sign at the intersection of May St. and Lovell St.

Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8d CC)

- 8t. Maria V. Montano request Institute Pond (a.k.a. Salisbury Pond) be evaluated to implement humane and preventative measures to deter wildlife from going over Salisbury Pond Dam.

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

9. CHAIRMAN'S ORDERS

- 9a. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Request City Manager request Chief Development Officer provide City Council with a glossary of frequently used terms related to Executive Office of Economic Development programs.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take items #9a CC through #9o CC, except items #9c CC, #9d CC and #9g CC collectively.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to recuse herself from the items and left the room.

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 recognized Councilor Ojeda who moved to amend item #9l CC to include the words, “in multiple languages.”

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the items. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused)

- 9b. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Request City Manager request the Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility review the area in the vicinity of 42 Hermon St. to determine appropriate traffic improvement measures that can be installed to reduce traffic congestion at the area. Further, request City Manager request Police Chief provide increased enforcement of parking regulations at the location.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)

- 9c. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a draft ordinance amending the city's noise ordinance by increasing fines associated with violations of excessive noise.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor King, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - King

- 9d. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - Request City Manager review the feasibility of requiring that public hearings take place before the License Commission for all one-day event license applications, with public notices being sent to all abutters in the vicinity of the proposed location.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor King, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - King

- 9e. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Inspectional Services ensure data is provided at all one-day event license hearings before the License Commission that identifies whether the property has received complaints and/or citations relative to excessive noise and event permits for the purpose of increasing noise ordinance enforcement.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)

- 9f. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Inspectional Services provide City Council with a report detailing the step-by-step process used by the License Commission to approve event license applications. Said report should also include the requirement for public hearings, the process used to notify event location abutters, a list of identified problem properties, and best practices used in other communities relative to event permitting and permit violation enforcement.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)

- 9g. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the feasibility of increasing the Worcester Police Department (WPD) personnel to ensure the staffing of two (2) officers per route/patrol car. Said request report should also include an estimated cost analysis to institute such a practice.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor King, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - King

- 9h. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted order from July 21, 2026, which read, 'Request City Manager request Police Chief provide City Council with a report detailing incentives and efforts provided by other cities and towns relative to recruiting lateral police transfers.'
- Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**
- 9i. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing the city's processes for repairing and/or replacing streetlights due to damage of any kind.
- Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**
- 9j. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager request Police Chief and the Quality of Life Team to provide increased attention to illegal activities occurring in the vicinity of Hotel Vernon, located at 16 Kelley Sq.
- Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**
- 9k. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works review Hamilton St. between Almont Ave. and Fairmont Ave. for the purpose of installing additional streetlighting and/or the feasibility of increasing the watt intensity at existing streetlights.
- Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**
- 9l. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works work with the Commissioner of Emergency Communications and Management to provide street sweeping notifications to residents through ALERTWorcester.
- Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**
- 9m. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report detailing the entity responsible for maintaining the grounds relative to the walking path to Thorndyke Road School from the Lindale Rd. cul-de-sac.
- Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**
- 9n. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Clerk provide the School Committee Clerk with a duplicate version of the following request: 'Petition of David F. Dick, Jr. request walking path to Thorndyke Road School from the Lindale Rd. cul-de-sac to the southwest corner of Thorndyke Street School be repaired.'
- Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**
- 9o. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Clerk provide the School Committee Clerk with a duplicate version of the following request: 'Petition of Jeffrey Conlon request installation of "No Littering" signage with associated fines on May St. in the vicinity of the Worcester Dual Language Magnet School rear parking lot.'
- Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused) (See Item #9a CC)**

10. ORDERS

- 10a.** Request Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations hold a discussion concerning the feasibility of creating a new Rule 61 of the Rules of the City Council, to read as follows: “Rule 61. Annual Report of City Departments. In order to assist the City Council in carrying out its duties related to the oversight of legislative policies and budgetary functions within the city, each City Department listed within Appendix B of the Rules of City Council, through the City Manager, shall hereby submit an annual departmental report to the City Council no later than January 1 of each calendar year that includes said department’s performance measures for the upcoming calendar year. Said submission should be presented in a specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time bound (SMART) goals format and should include the department’s prior fiscal year budget information (see attached for City Manager Thomas R. Hoover’s Semi-Annual Fiscal Year Goals and Objectives from February 6, 2004). (Mitra)

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take items #10a CC through #10c CC up collectively.

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to amend the items to make the requests of the City Manager.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt item #10c CC as amended. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Blotta).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt item #10b CC as amended. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 8 Yeas and 3 Nay (Yeas – Bergman, Economou, Fresolo, Mitra, Rivera, Rosen, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Blotta, King Ojeda).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt item #10a CC as amended. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Blotta)

10b. Request Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations hold a discussion concerning the feasibility of creating a new Rule 62 of the Rules of the City Council, to read as follows: “Rule 62. Submission of Budget Recommendations. The City Council may, no later than March 1 of each calendar year, provide the City Manager with recommended budget priorities for city’s upcoming fiscal year budget. Said recommended budget priorities may include, but are not limited to, identifying proposed projects, programs, service improvements, operational needs, and/or policy initiatives that should all be considered by the City Manager when formulating each department’s budget. Said recommended budget priorities shall be submitted by each City Council Standing Committee according to the departments assigned to said committee within Appendix B of the Rules of City Council. (Mitra)

Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 8 Yeas and 3 Nay (Yeas – Bergman, Economou, Fresolo, Mitra, Rivera, Rosen, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Blotta, King Ojeda) (See Item #10a CC)

10c. Request Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations hold a discussion concerning the feasibility of creating a new Rule 63 of the Rules of the City Council, to read as follows: “Rule 63. Submission of a Preliminary Budget. The City Manager shall submit an annual preliminary budget report to the City Council for referral to the City Council’s Standing Committee on Finance. Said preliminary budget report shall be submitted no later than March 15 of each calendar year and should identify budget priorities for the upcoming fiscal year, including information concerning budgeted proposed projects, programs, service improvements, operational needs, and policy initiatives being considered as part of the upcoming fiscal year’s budget. (see attached for City Manager William J. Mulford’s 1993 Preliminary Budget Submission and the Fiscal Year 2004 Semi Annual Report on Goals and Objectives from March 16, 1993).

Order adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Blotta) (See Item #10a CC)

10d. Request City Manager request Police Chief provide increased traffic enforcement on Harrington Way to address speeding concerns in the area. (Bergman)

Placed on file (See Item #8c CC)

10e. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services work with Worcester Community Midwifery on their mission to expand quality midwifery care and education to diverse communities in the city. (King)

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

Mayor Petty move to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 10f.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing the feasibility of adding a recycling bin at the Clark St. Drop-Off Site to allow residents to drop off recycling items. (Economou)

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, 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

- 10g.** Request City Manager provide City Council with draft ordinances and/or regulations to ensure that operators of all kinds of motorized scooters, bikes, etc. have their vehicles licensed and registered. Further, request pedestrian safety considerations be made when drafting said ordinances and/or regulations. (Economou, Toomey)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who recused herself from the item and left the room.

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

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

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 (Toomey recused)

- 10h.** Request City Manager request Chief Development Officer work with housing partners and stakeholders to develop a New Homeowner and Tenant Summit to educate residents about housing programs, benefits, and tenants' rights. (Bilotta, Rosen)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bilotta, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - Bilotta

- 10i.** Request City Manager develop a policy to standardize mitigation and community benefits for new developments. Said policy should 1) create clear standards for mitigation funds; 2) offset or address negative impacts created by a project; and 3) ensure community benefits to enhance the surrounding neighborhood, through improvements to public infrastructure and neighborhood amenities. (Bilotta, Rosen)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bilotta, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - Bilotta

- 10j.** Request City Manager help identify locations throughout the city and beginning in District 2 to create permanent public bathrooms, in the interest of providing necessary public health measures with respect to the human condition. Further, while said permanent public bathroom locations are identified and built, request City Manager determine suitable locations to install porta-potties as a temporary measure while awaiting the permanent bathroom installations. (King)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor King, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - King

- 10k.** Request Standing Committee on Public Health and Human Services meet jointly with the Board of Health for the purpose of reviewing matters relating to public health, the elderly, the equality of women, youth services, public housing, the disabled and community development block grant funding listed on their agenda. (Rosen)

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Public Health and Human Services Committee. Referred to Public Health and Human Services Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 10l.** Request City Manager and Chief Development Officer explain to the City Council at its September 22, 2026 meeting why Optiline Enterprises, a commercial drywall and metal framing subcontractor with documented violations of labor and employment laws, is being allowed to work on the 364-unit residential complex being built on 274 Franklin St., which is a project heavily supported by \$11 million in local property tax relief over fifteen (15) years, as Optiline was previously banned from taxpayer-funded projects in Worcester in June 2025 due to documented violations including wage theft, paying employees under the table, failing to pay proper overtime rates to tradespeople working over forty (40) hours a week, and tax/insurance fraud. Said explanation should address whether Optiline's work on the aforementioned project is in violation of Worcester's Responsible Development Ordinance, a law mandating that developers receiving municipal tax relief or Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) benefits cannot hire contractors with documented labor or wage violations within the past three years. (Rosen)

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

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

Councilor Rosen then moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

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

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

Councilor King then moved to, "Request City Manager provide developers in the city with a list of contractors and subcontractors who are ineligible to work in the city due to violations/lack of compliance with the city's Responsible Developers Ordinance (RDO)." (See Item #21k CC).

Councilor King then moved to, "Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any issues the city is aware of related to Optiline Enterprises committing wage theft." (See Item #21l CC).

Held Under Privilege – Rosen

- 10m.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works fill the potholes on Oriental St. as soon as possible. (Economou)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10n.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works review and repair the pavement around the manhole cover on Bay State Rd., at its intersection with Bellingham Rd., which has sunk below the surrounding street area, causing a loud noise from speeding cars driving over the area. (Economou)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10o.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works conduct immediate, emergency repairs on the sidewalk slab at 2 Intervale Rd., in the interest of public safety. (Economou)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10p.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility provide City Council with a report and recommendations concerning the area surrounding Columbus Park Preparatory School, located at 75 Lovell St. Said recommendations should include, but not be limited to, ensuring safe passage for students crossing May St. at Lovell St. (Rivera)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10q.** Request City Manager request Police Chief provide increased enforcement of traffic regulations in the vicinity of Worcester State University, located at 486 Chandler St., and May Street Elementary School, located at 265 May St., to ensure children and crossing guards in the area are protected from drivers. (Rivera)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10r.** Request City Manager determine whether the city or school department is responsible for mowing and clearing the extremely overgrown plot of land adjacent and to the left of the new Doherty Memorial High School, located at 299 Highland St., approximately across from Germain St. (Rosen)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10s.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning efforts made by the city to establish a Homeless Strategic Plan, which would include the creation of congregate and non-congregate shelter spaces in the city for unsheltered individuals including women, families, trans, queer and senior residents. Said plan should also include implementation timelines, outline funding opportunities, discuss available resources, and identify potential barriers to implementation, as referenced in previously adopted Orders on November 14, 2023 and April 8, 2025. (King)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10t.** Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted Order on November 19, 2024, which read, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the timeline and efforts being made to secure a day center and general public facilities for the city’s homeless population.” (King)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10u.** Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted Order on November 26, 2024, which read, “Request City Manager reach out to members of Congress, including Congressmen Jim McGovern, to advocate for federal support to provide the city’s homeless population.” (King)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10v.** Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted Order on February 25, 2025, which read, “Request City Manager enhance and develop policy for the Department of Health and Human Services, and its outreach team, with respect to the terms of engagement and the intersection of when the State conducts homeless encampment sweeps. Further, request City Manager delineate how municipal workers engage with state and private sector outreach workers in said regard.” (King)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10w.** Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted Order on March 18, 2025, which read, “Request City Manager consider identifying, via an earmark, monies for additional services for the city’s homeless population. (King)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10x.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report, within forty-five (45) days, detailing the implementation of a Municipal ID program. Said report should include information pertaining to vendor options and costs, data security and privacy features, eligibility and verification pathways, integration with private social service non-profit models and/or library and city services, outreach plans, and a proposed launch timeline with key milestones. (King)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10y.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services ensure all materials from the Homelessness Steering Committee are published monthly to a public archive on the city's website. Said materials should include agendas, attendance, meeting notes, and should describe how input from providers and residents are incorporated in the information. Further, request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with an annual report relative to said Homelessness Steering Committee, detailing the committee's goals, with progress metrics. (King)

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

Held Under Privilege - Petty

- 10z.** Request City Manager utilize opioid settlement funds to hire public bathroom monitoring/maintenance staff, similar to the public bathroom programs in Miami and New York City. (Bilotta, King)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bilotta, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege.

Held Under Privilege - Bilotta

11. RECESS TO FINANCE COMMITTEE - No items pending

12. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY CLERK

- 12a.** Transmitting an informational communication concerning resident testimony brought forth at the Monday, August 17, 2026 Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations meeting related to the discussion of a potential review of the City Charter.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer items #12a CC through #12d CC to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee. Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 12b.** Transmitting an informational communication relative to advertisements for the Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations meeting on Monday, September 28, 2026 related to a discussion of the City Charter.

Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

- 12c. Transmitting an informational communication relative to the process required to place a non-binding question on the ballot of the upcoming local election.
Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)
- 12d. Transmitting an informational communication detailing possible charter changes that could be done without the creation of a Charter Review Commission, charter changes that require approval of such a commission, as well as City Council's role in passing ordinance changes.
Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #12a CC)

13. REPORTS OF THE PLANNING BOARD

- 13a. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of Timothy J. McMahon, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Worcester, request to amend the zoning map by establishing the Adaptive Re-use Overlay District (AROD) to wholly encompass the property at 25 West Chester St.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Economou, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee on a roll call vote of 8 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay - Economou) (King, Rivera abstained)
- 13b. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommending the zoning map be amended by extending the RG-5 (Residence, General) zoning district and Adaptive Re-use Overlay District (AROD) to wholly encompass the property at 128 Providence St.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer items #13b CC and #13c CC to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 13c. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of George Markopoulos on behalf of 95 Vernon Street LLC request the zoning map be amended by establishing the Adaptive Re-use Overlay District (AROD) to wholly encompass the property at 95 Vernon St.
Referred to Economic Development Committee on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #13b CC)

14. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 14a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of a resolution establishing a Tax Increment Financing Zone for GreenTech Park: recommend adoption of the accompanying Resolution.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept and adopt items #14a CC and #14b CC. Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 14b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommending adoption of a resolution to approve an Urban Center Housing - Tax Increment Financing (UCH-TIF) Agreement for 16 - 32 Lakeside Avenue and 18 - 20 Garland Avenue: recommend adoption of the accompanying Resolution.

Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #14a CC)

15. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS

- 15a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS** Upon the Communication of the City Auditor Transmitting an annual report concerning the Other Post Employment (OPEB) Trust Fund: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept items #15a CC through #15h CC. Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 15b. 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 June 30, 2026: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)

- 15c. 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 on May 31, 2026: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)

- 15d. 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 April 30, 2026: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)

- 15e. 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 March 31, 2026: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)

- 15f. 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 Feb. 28, 2026: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)

15g. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication to the financial update for the period ending Jan. 31, 2026: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)

15h. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to to the financial update for the period ending Dec. 31, 2025: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #15a CC)

16. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

16a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY Upon the Order of Councilor Tony Economou, Councilor Jose A. Rivera, Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey, Councilor Gary Rosen and Councilor Robert A. Bilotta - Request Standing Committee on Public Safety hold a discussion to review the city's ordinance relative to excessive and unreasonable noise. Further, request said discussion include the feasibility of amending the noise ordinance to allow for the creation of a special noise variance application for churches, festivals, or organizations holding certain events (see attached for Worcester noise ordinance, as well as other municipalities' processes): recommend Order be placed on file.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take items #16a CC and #16b CC collectively.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to recuse herself from the items and left the room.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to accept item items. Accepted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey recused)

16b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the Hospital Guard of the Worcester Police Department: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Toomey absent) (See Item #16a CC)

17. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

17a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou request installation of a sidewalk on the odd side of Northeast Cutoff from the David Clark Company at 125 Northeast Cutoff to the intersection of Clark St., in the interest of public safety: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept and adopt items #17a CC through #17h CC. Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 17b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Evan Corrigan request installation of sidewalk on the eastbound side of Mountain St. East from the Summit to The Fairways with planting of new trees on said sidewalk: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order to install sidewalks on the south, eastbound side of Mountain St. East from Quinapoxet Ln. to The Fairways.
Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)
- 17c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Mikeoll Echeverria on behalf of Stockton Street Development, LLC request sanitary sewer main extension on Stockton St. to serve a proposed two-unit residential development located on Lot 1 Stockton St. (Parcel ID: 10-007-0936A): recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)
- 17d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Nishan Papazian request installation of bollards at 8 Olde Millbury St. on the Arwick Ave. side of the property in the grassy areas around the sidewalk: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order to install a guardrail.
Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)
- 17e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Councilor Donna M. Colorio request installation of a guardrail on the Jonathan Cir. side of 381 Hamilton St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order to install two (2) to three (3) bollards.
Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)
- 17f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Catherine Holmes request installation of a streetlight at the intersection of Tallawanda Dr. and Brookline St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)
- 17g. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Councilor Morris A. Bergman on behalf of Paul and Aurora Brule request installation of additional, more effective street lighting on North Pkwy. at Burncoat (North) Park: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)
- 17h. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of June Vo request installation of “Please Pick Up After Your Dog” signage at the intersection of Malden St. and West Boylston St. that includes the penalty for not picking up after your dog: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17a CC)

- 17i. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Brian Dutremble request electronic notification be sent to residents prior to the occurrence of street sweeping actions: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to accept items #17i CC through #17o CC. Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17j. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Victoria Torres request the procedure for fall leaf collecting and spring street sweeping be reviewed and changed as shown in the attached plan: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17i CC)
- 17k. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Sherry Rice request streetlight in the vicinity of 76 Copperfield Rd. be reviewed to ensure it does not shine in on personal property: recommend Petition be granted Leave to Withdraw.
Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17i CC)
- 17l. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Councilor Robert A. Bilotta request installation of additional street lighting, with a preference for pedestrian scale lighting, on both sides of Lincoln St. between Norton St. and Harlow St.: recommend Petition be granted Leave to Withdraw.
Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17i CC)
- 17m. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Councilor Robert A. Bilotta request installation of streetlights on Wigwam Hill Dr.: recommend Petition be granted Leave to Withdraw.
Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17i CC)
- 17n. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Councilor John P. Fresolo on behalf of Richard Molinari request installation of a streetlight in front of 6 Woodcliffe Ave.: recommend Petition be granted Leave to Withdraw.
Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17i CC)
- 17o. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** Upon the Petition of Jenny Papagni request installation of an additional streetlight in the vicinity of 4-18 Millbury St.: recommend Petition be granted Leave to Withdraw.
Accepted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #17i CC)

18. HELD UNDER PRIVILEGE

18a. PETITION of Tom Marino request City Council consider adopting the attached proposal, in part or in whole, titled, "Executive Summary: A Proposal for Police Reform in Worcester," (see attached for proposal). (Held Under Privilege - Bilotta September 15, 2026)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to recuse herself from the item and left the room.

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 to refer the item to Public Safety Committee. Referred to Public Safety Committee

18b. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager recommend adoption of proposed Public Camping Ordinance in the context of “Disrupting the Cycle,” a strategic framework for supporting unhoused individuals. (Held Under Privilege - King September 15, 2026)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to recuse herself from the item and left the room.

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who provided a verbal presentation relative to the development of the “Disrupting the Cycle,” program, including a strategic framework for supporting unhoused individuals.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Rosen, who moved to recommit the item to the City Manager.

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

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Mayor Petty.

Mayor Petty then moved to, “Request City Manager work with the State Delegation to identify any additional funding that may be available to aid the city in its efforts to support shelter services for the city’s homeless population.” (See Item #21b CC).

Mayor Petty then moved to, “Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report concerning best practices used in other communities when creating permanent public bathrooms for use by the location’s homeless population.” (See Item #21c CC).

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, City Manager and Assistant Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager explore the establishment of a permanent overflow winter shelter for use by the city’s unhoused population.” (See Item #21d CC).

Councilor King then moved, “That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby oppose the implementation and passage of the city’s proposed ordinance introduced on September 15, 2026 relative to camping on public property.” – Not Put.

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report detailing the relationship between involuntary displacement of unhoused individuals with their rate of survival.” (See Item #21e CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager work with the City Council and Mayor to pursue engaging with other municipal, gateway cities to push the Governor’s Office of Maura Healey to provide the city with additional funding and resources to aid in addressing issues related to the unhoused population.” (See Item #21f CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a winter shelter readiness report that includes 1) an operator’s selection report; 2) the budget for such a shelter; 3) information relative to who will staff the shelter; 4) whether the city has an memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the company that will run the shelter; 5) a go-live date for the shelter and 6) a contingency plans if there are delays with the opening of the shelter.” (See Item #21g CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report of previously provided maps displaying locations of the homeless population’s encampments.” (See Item #21h CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the city utilizing clinical co-responses by the Department of Health and Human Services when responding to issues associated with the city’s unsheltered population.” (See Item #21i CC).

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Fresolo.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Bergman.

Councilor Bergman then moved to amend the accompanying proposed ordinance to remove all criminal offenses associated with violations of the ordinance and replace those offenses with civil offenses. – Not Put.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Mitra.

Councilor Mitra then moved to, “Request City Manager organize a meeting between city stakeholders, State Delegates and Federal representatives to discuss ways these entities can support the city in addressing the needs of the city’s homeless population.” (See Item #21j CC).

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Rivera.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Economou.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Ojeda.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who moved to place the item on file.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor King's motion to place the item on file. Motion denied on a roll call vote of 1 Yea and 9 Nays (Yea – King) (Toomey recused).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor Rosen's motion to recommit the item to the City Manager. Recommitted to the City Manager on a roll call vote of 8 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Bergman) (King abstained) (Toomey recused)

19. TABLED ITEMS

- 19a. 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

- 19b. 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

- 19c. 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

- 19d. 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

- 19e. 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

- 19f. 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

20. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the September 15, 2026 City Council meeting.

- 20a.** ORDER of Mayor Joseph M. Petty – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby suspend its rules to allow for the public participation section of the agenda on September 8, 2026 to occur one (1) hour beyond the typically allotted thirty (30) minutes. – Item #12a CC
- 20b.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby suspend its rules to allow for the public participation section of the agenda on September 15, 2026 to occur until such a time that all public speakers have had the opportunity to speak. – Item #12b CC Order denied on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 5 Nays (Note: The motion to suspend the rules requires the affirmative vote of at least eight (8) members regardless of the number present and voting per Rule 56 of the Worcester City Council).
- 20c.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works work with the Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility to provide City Council with a report detailing best practices the departments can implement to: 1) establish, monitor and measure the effectiveness of project timelines associated with the rehabilitation of the city's streets and sidewalks; 2) issue notices detailing when construction will occur; 3) hold contractors accountable relative to the bid process required for street and sidewalk rehabilitation; and 4) implement completion frameworks for roadway and sidewalk construction projects. – Item #12c CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 20d.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby suspend Rule 21 of the Rules of City Council to allow for Councilor John P. Fresolo to speak beyond the typically allotted ten (10) minutes on item #8.11A CM. – Item #12d CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 20e.** ORDER of Councilor Jose A. Rivera – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility create and provide City Council with a detailed process related to selecting streets and sidewalks for rehabilitation work, similar to the process used to install speed humps throughout the city. – Item #12e CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 20f.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning how the dissolution of the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance (CMRPHA) has impacted the city's ability to provide support for the unhoused population. Further, request said report include details of the mission and structure of said network. – Item #12f CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 20g.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request Standing Committee on Public Health and Human Services invite all social service agencies working with homeless and addiction treatment programs to discuss their efforts in assisting the city in ameliorating the public health and public safety issues over the last few months. – Item #12g CC Referred to Public Health and Human Services Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 20h.** ORDER of Councilor John P. Fresolo – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby suspend the Rules of City Council to allow for Councilor John P. Fresolo to discuss a matter not listed on the September 15, 2026 City Council agenda. – Item #12h CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 20i.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – That the City Council of the City of Worcester meet in Executive Session at its September 22, 2026 meeting to review matters pertaining to improper conduct of a Worcester Police Officer. – Item #12i CC Order denied on a roll call vote of 4 Yeas and 6 Nays
- 20j.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request Mayor provide City Council with a report concerning Rules 48 and 49 relative to Appointments to Committees and Temporary Appointments to Fill Vacancies, as well as any language in the City Charter related to such appointments. – Item #12j CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays

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

- 21a.** Motion Petty @ #6a CC – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby suspend its rules to allow for public participation section of the agenda on September 22, 2026 to occur until such a time that all public speakers have had the opportunity to speak.
Order adopted (See Item #6a CC)
- 21b.** Motion Petty @ #18b CC – Request City Manager work with the State Delegation to identify any additional funding that may be available to aid the city in its efforts to support shelter services for the city's homeless population.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21c.** Motion Petty @ #18b CC – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report concerning best practices used in other communities when creating permanent public bathrooms for use by the location's homeless population.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21d.** Motion King @ #18b CC – Request City Manager explore the establishment of a permanent overflow winter shelter for use by the city's unhoused population.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)

- 21e.** Motion King @ #18b CC – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services provide City Council with a report detailing the relationship between involuntary displacement of unhoused individuals with their rate of survival.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21f.** Motion King @ #18b CC – Request City Manager work with the City Council and Mayor to pursue engaging with other municipal, gateway cities to push the Governor’s Office of Maura Healey to provide the city with additional funding and resources to aid in addressing issues related to the unhoused population.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21g.** Motion King @ #18b CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a winter shelter readiness report that includes 1) an operator’s selection report; 2) the budget for such a shelter; 3) information relative to who will staff the shelter; 4) whether the city has a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the company that will run the shelter; 5) a go-live date for the shelter and 6) contingency plans if there are delays with the opening of the shelter.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21h.** Motion King @ #18b CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report of previously provided maps displaying locations of the homeless population’s encampments.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21i.** Motion King @ #18b CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the city utilizing clinical co-responses by the Department of Health and Human Services when responding to issues associated with the city’s unsheltered population.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21j.** Motion Mitra @ #18b CC – Request City Manager organize a meeting between city stakeholders, State Delegates and Federal representatives to discuss ways these entities can support the city in addressing the needs of the city’s homeless population.
Order adopted (See Item #18b CC)
- 21k.** Motion King @ #10l CC – Request City Manager provide developers in the city with a list of contractors and subcontractors who are ineligible to work in the city due to violations/lack of compliance with the city’s Responsible Development Ordinance (RDO).
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10l CC)
- 21l.** Motion King @ #10l CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any issues the city is aware of related to Optiline Enterprises committing wage theft.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays (See Item #10l CC)