

CITY OF WORCESTER
JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 20, 2026
Esther Howland (South) Chamber
Convened: 6:32 P.M.
Adjourned: 10:36 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

AT-LARGE COUNCILORS

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



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DISTRICT COUNCILORS

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

CITY CLERK

Nikolin Vangjeli

CITY MANAGER

Eric D. Batista

CITY AUDITOR

Robert V. Stearns

City Hall - 455 Main Street Worcester, Massachusetts

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. STAR SPANGLED BANNER

3. ROLL CALL - All present with the Mayor as the Chair.

4. PROCLAMATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, MOMENTS OF SILENCE

- 4a.** MOMENT OF SILENCE in memory of John R. Kelly, who passed away on Thursday, October 15, 2026 at age of 76 and Michael A. Earielo, who passed away on Friday, October 16, 2026 at the age of 56. Mr. Kelly served as the Commissioner of Inspectional Services for the City of Worcester prior to retiring in 2020, and Mr. Earielo worked in the community as the Director of Everyday Miracles Peer Recovery Center.
- 4b.** Mayor Petty read a Proclamation declaring the month of October 2026 as Dysautonomia Awareness Month in the City of Worcester. The Proclamation was presented to Kate McGrath, founder of Diss the Dys, a Dysautonomia Awareness Campaign.

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 October 6, 2026.

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

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #9hCC, #9i CC, #10a CC
2. Abby Mortillaro, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #9b CC, #10a CC, and #10b CC
3. Santos (no last name provided), (no residence provided), spoke in favor of item #10b CC
4. Gary Hunter, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10a CC and spoke concerning an item not listed on the agenda
5. Ryan Dominguez, (no residence provided), spoke in favor of item #10a CC
6. Michael Kane, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10a CC
7. Alex Mazin, (no residence provided), spoke in favor of item #10a CC
8. Ulysses Youngblood, (no residence provided), spoke in favor of item #10a CC
9. Peter DeCaro, (no residence provided), spoke in favor of item #10a CC
10. Idella Hazard, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #10a CC, spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #9f CC, and spoke in favor of items #9j CC and #9k CC
11. David Webb, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #9h CC, #9i CC, #10a CC, #10b CC, and #14f CC
12. Dominick Calsolaro, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7i CC through #7k CC

7. PETITIONS

- 7a. Karen Chevalier request city tree located at 42 Agate Ave. be trimmed to remove branches obstructing the stop sign.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cemetery. Referred to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cemetery

- 7b. Kevin Conklin request sidewalk repairs on the westerly side of Beeching St. between 95 Beeching St. and its intersection with Lenox St.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #7b CC through #7d CC to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee

- 7c. Councilor Robert A. Bilotta on behalf of the residents of Coburn Ave. request installation of two (2) additional streetlights on Coburn Ave. in the vicinity of 370 Coburn Ave. and 378 Coburn Ave.

Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #7b CC)

- 7d. Councilor Satya B. Mitra request the uneven sidewalk in the vicinity of 428 Shrewsbury St. be resurfaced.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #7b CC)
- 7e. Hope Joyce request a traffic and speed study be conducted on Englewood Ave. for the purpose of installing traffic calming measures, including speed humps.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #7e CC through #7u CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee
- 7f. Keila Alvarenga request installation of a speed hump between 126 and 132 Houghton St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)
- 7g. Robert Cesaitis request the handicap parking space in front of 17 Caroline St. be relocated to in front of 15 Caroline St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)
- 7h. Janessa Korzep and Christopher Minichilli request installation of speed humps from 77 Ward St. to 95 Ward St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)
- 7i. Dominick Calsolaro request installation of flashing pedestrian crosswalk signage at the existing crosswalks located at the intersection of Cambridge St., South Crystal St., and St. John's Rd.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Ojeda, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to, “Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility provide City Council with a report concerning research and data related to why pedestrian hybrid beacons would be ruled out at the intersection of Fremont St., Canterbury St. and Cambridge St., if appropriate.” (See Item #16a CC).

Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)
- 7j. Dominick Calsolaro request installation of flashing pedestrian crosswalk signage at the existing crosswalks located at the intersection of Cambridge St., Canterbury St., and Fremont St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)
- 7k. Dominick Calsolaro request a traffic study be conducted at the intersection of Cambridge St., Canterbury St., and Fremont St. for the purpose of determining the feasibility of redesigning said intersection to install a roundabout.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)
- 7l. Matthew Wamback request a traffic and speed study be conducted between 69 and 217 Mower St. for the purpose of installing traffic calming measures, including speed humps.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)
- 7m. Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Carol Chandley request installation of speed humps on Prouty Ln.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7e CC)

- 7n. Karen Chevalier request installation of three-way stop signage at the intersection of Agate Ave. and Anna St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7o. Alexander Hoppe request the eastbound lane markings be repainted on Melrose St. through its intersection with Burncoat St. to mitigate traffic from shifting lanes while traversing the intersection.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7p. Alexander Hoppe request installation of 25 MPH signage on Melrose St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7q. Alexander Hoppe request increased speed and traffic enforcement on Melrose St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7r. Samuel Torres et al. request installation of permanent speed humps on Endicott St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7s. John Yanczewski et al. request Dorchester St. be made a one-way street from Ward St. to Vernon St., with cars traveling eastbound and available parking on the southerly side.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7t. Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Octaviano Castro request installation of two (2) speed humps on Elmore Ave. in the vicinity of 2 Elmore Ave. and 27 Elmore Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7u. Councilor Robert A. Bilotta on behalf of Friendly House request installation of “No Parking Here to Corner” signage on Wall St. at its intersection with Thorne St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7v. CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS for a conduit location at: 135 KENBERMA RD.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to set hearings for November 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. for items #7v CC through #7x CC. Hearing set for November 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.
- 7w. NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: MAIN ST.
Hearing set for November 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. (See Item #7v CC)
- 7x. NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: NEWBURY ST.
Hearing set for November 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. (See Item #7v CC)
- 7y. Michael John Grandone request Union Station be reviewed to explore the feasibility of reconfiguring the pickup and drop-off area in the front of the building.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to the City Manager. Referred to the City Manager

8. CHAIRMAN'S ORDERS

- 8a. 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 at the intersection of Brantwood Rd. and Manhattan Rd.'

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt items #8a CC through #8e CC. Order adopted

- 8b. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing the process used to remove concrete survey markers protruding throughout the sidewalks in the city. Said report should include, but not be limited to, short term solutions to address safety hazards, potential funding opportunities and budget allocations, and the process used to select streets for concrete survey marker maintenance.

Order adopted (See Item #8a CC)

- 8c. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Cemetery provide City Council with a report related to the impact of adjusting the city's spray parks hours of operation by extending the operations by one hour for one day a week.

Order adopted (See Item #8a CC)

- 8d. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION - Request City Manager forward a copy of the September 8, 2026 Petition of Ilanit Megidesh related to reducing the population of the invasive bird species known as the European Starling to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife).

Order adopted (See Item #8a CC)

- 8e. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with an update in six (6) months concerning any efforts made to implement and/or improve upon humane and preventative measures to deter wildlife from going over the Salisbury Pond Dam.

Order adopted (See Item #8a CC)

9. ORDERS

- 9a. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Cemetery review and repair the driveway at the basketball courts on Coburn Ave. (Bilotta)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 9b.** Request City Manager identify funding to ensure toilet seats are installed on the toilets in the new bathrooms at Institute Park. (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.

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

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

Councilor King then moved to amend the item: “Further, request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing information related to best practices used by municipalities for public bathrooms and toilet seats.”

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

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

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

- 9c.** Request City Manager request City Solicitor work with the Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility and Commissioner of Public Works to review the city's ordinances and/or regulations associated with street and sidewalk resurfacing program to amend the process to become a more administrative function wherein the streets and sidewalks are submitted directly to the appropriate department for immediate review and consideration as part of the city's Pavement Management Program. Said review should maintain City Council oversight by including the streets and sidewalks added to the resurfacing lists as part of the city's monthly Construction Progress Reports. (Economou)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor 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, who spoke concerning the item.

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

- 9d.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works work with the Chief Financial Officer to identify a process wherein the Department of Public Works can accelerate the timeline associated with posting and awarding bids for street and sidewalk resurfacing, in an effort to ensure project timelines and construction begin and are completed in a faster and more efficient manner. Said process should include reviewing best practices used in other communities. (Economou)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to suspend the Rules of the City Council to allow Councilor Fresolo to speak beyond the typically allotted ten (10) minutes on the item. Motion approved on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – King).

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 9e. Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning a previously adopted order from March 31, 2026, which read, “Request City Manager request Commissioner of Inspectional Services provide City Council with a draft ordinance related to imposing escalating fees onto underdeveloped lots that have been underdeveloped and vacant for more than five (5) years. Further, request City Manager provide City Council with an updated report concerning any potential legal impediments to enacting such an ordinance.” (Bilotta)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bilotta, who moved to amend the item: “Further, request said draft ordinance also include escalating fines for the insufficient maintenance of properties.”

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with example ordinances from similarly populated municipalities related to imposing escalating fines on blighted properties.” (See Item #16c CC).

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

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

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

Mayor Petty 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 Rivera, who spoke concerning the item.

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bilotta, who moved to amend the item to replace the words, “underdeveloped lots,” and “vacant” with the words, “blighted properties.”

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor Rosen’s motion to place the item on file. Motion denied on a roll call vote of 2 Yeas and 9 Nays (Yeas – Economou, Rosen) (Nays – Bergman, Bilotta, Fresolo, King, Mitra, Ojeda, Rivera, Toomey, Petty).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Economic Development Committee as amended. Referred to Economic Development Committee as amended on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 2 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Bilotta, Fresolo, King, Mitra, Ojeda, Rivera, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Economou, Rosen)

9f. Request City Manager request Police Chief provide increased speed and traffic enforcement on Goddard Memorial Dr. in the vicinity of Beatrice Dr. (Rivera)

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

9g. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works work with the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Cemetery to review the feasibility of including in contracts associated with the resurfacing and/or reconfiguring of curbs and sidewalks a clause that would require contractors to plant a minimum of one (1) tree per property along the affected area. (Rivera)

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

9h. Request City Manager arrange a community forum, as soon as possible, to allow for representatives from Amazon to provide city residents and business owners with more information and details related to its expected Prime Air drone service, which is a program that intends to launch drones from Amazon's distribution center in Westborough into portions of the city. Said community forum should be held in the part of the city that is expected to be served by Amazon's drone delivery service. (Rosen)

Mayor Petty read the item moved to take the item up collectively with item #9i CC.

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

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

Councilor King then moved to, "Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report detailing the federal and state regulations related to zoning ordinances establishing locations to launch drones on publicly-owned land." (See Item #16d CC).

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 moved for a roll call vote to adopt item #9i CC. Order denied on a roll call vote of 5 Yeas and 6 Nays (Yeas – Economou, Fresolo, Rivera, Rosen, Petty) (Nays – Bergman, Bilotta, King, Mitra, Ojeda, Toomey).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – Bilotta).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to reconsider the item. Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 11 Nays

- 9i. Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report detailing what additions or changes, if any, might be needed to address the city's zoning ordinances in a way that would ensure the city has more control and regulation over locations where companies could propose the utilization of drone launch sites. (Rosen)

Order denied on a roll call vote of 5 Yeas and 6 Nays (Yeas – Economou, Fresolo, Rivera, Rosen, Petty) (Nays – Bergman, Bilotta, King, Mitra, Ojeda, Toomey) (See Item #9h CC)

- 9j. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report concerning the feasibility of establishing a proactive, annual pothole repair program wherein the Department of Public Works systematically reviews all public city streets and fills all potholes as they encounter them, in lieu of waiting for 311 service requests to be submitted. Further, request said report also include information concerning the feasibility of conducting a similar annual program for the review of all city sidewalks located in highly travelled pedestrian areas. (Mitra)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 9k. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility conduct a citywide survey of all damaged, faded, missing and otherwise illegible street and traffic signs and replace each sign, as needed. (Mitra)

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to amend the item: "Further, request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether any process is in place that allows for city employees to report missing streets signs when they are traveling to conduct city business and notice a missing sign."

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

10. RESOLUTIONS

- 10a. That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby go on record in opposition to Statewide Ballot Question 8 and urges the residents of Worcester and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to vote NO on Question 8 on November 3, 2026. (Petty, Rivera, Bilotta)

Mayor Petty read the item.

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey for a second time, who moved to, "Request Mayor consider creating an informational statement educating residents of the pros and cons of voting in favor or opposed to Question 8 on the State Election Ballot on Tuesday, November 3, 2026." (See Item #16b CC).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 0 Nays (Bergman, Economou, Fresolo, Mitra, Toomey abstained)

- 10b. That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby affirm its support for workers' rights and stands in solidarity with working people in Worcester and beyond. (King)

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

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

11. RECESS TO FINANCE COMMITTEE - No items pending

12. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

- 12a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda on behalf of Kelly M. Fay Rodriguez and Joselina Fay request Oread St. from Main St. to Beacon St. be given the honorary street name designation of Ruth Rodriguez-Fay Way: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept and adopt items #12a CC through #12f CC. Accepted and Adopted

- 12b.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Clifford Rose request sidewalk resurfacing in front of 50 Marland Rd.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #12a CC)
- 12c.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Pamela Stefanllari request the sidewalks on Neptune Rd. be resurfaced: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #12a CC)
- 12d.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request sidewalk resurfacing on Boyden St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #12a CC)
- 12e.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Pamela Stefanllari request Neptune Rd. be resurfaced: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #12a CC)
- 12f.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Michael Brennan request street resurfacing on Pine View Ave.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #12a CC)
- 12g.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Jose A. Rivera request sidewalk resurfacing from 31 Mower St. to 67 Mower St.: recommend Petitioner be given Leave to Withdraw.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept items #12g CC through #12i CC. Accepted
- 12h.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor John P. Fresolo request street resurfacing on Puritan Ave.: recommend Petitioner be given Leave to Withdraw.
Accepted (See Item #12g CC)
- 12i.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Petition of Councilor Robert A. Bilotta request curb cuts be completed for the crosswalk at the eastern intersection of Laurel St. and Everett Gaylord Blvd.: recommend Petition be referred to Traffic and Parking Committee.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #12g CC)
- 13. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION**
- 13a.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION Upon the Petition of Christina Foley request the city spray park hours of operation for the 2027 season be extended by one hour for one day a week. (Amended October 6, 2026): recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept and adopt the item. Accepted and Adopted

13b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the proposed Purple Heart and Gold Star Memorials at Worcester Common: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept items #13b CC through #13e CC. Accepted

13c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the summer 2026 aquatic program: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13b CC)

13d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION Upon the Petition of Patrick Grady request the court lights at Morgan Landing, located at 580 Grove St., be repaired: recommend Petition be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13b CC)

13e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION Upon the Petition of Ilanit Megidesh request efforts be made to reduce the city's population of the invasive bird species know as the European Starling: recommend Petition be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13b CC)

14. TABLED ITEMS

14a. 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

14b. 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

14c. 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

- 14d.** 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

- 14e.** 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

- 14f.** 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)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Rivera, who moved for a roll call vote to take the item off the Table. Taken off the Table on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay – King) (Bilotta absent).

Councilor Rivera then moved to place the item on file.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved, “Request City Manager request Police Chief provide City Council with an update concerning previously requested additional information related to how the U.S. Department of Justice's report on the Worcester Police Department differs from the account of the municipality.” (See Item #16e CC).

Councilor King then moved to Table the Item.

Councilor King then moved to Hold Item #16e CC Under Privilege.

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor King’s motion to Table the Item. Motion denied on a roll call vote of 2 Yeas and 8 Nays (Yeas – King, Ojeda) (Nays – Bergman, Economou, Fresolo, Mitra, Rivera, Rosen, Toomey, Petty) (Bilotta absent).

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor Rivera’s motion to place the item on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 8 Yeas and 2 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Economou, Fresolo, Mitra, Rivera, Rosen, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – King, Ojeda) (Bilotta absent).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to reconsider the item. Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Bilotta absent)

15. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the October 13, 2026 City Council meeting.

- 15a.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager ensure the Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility and Superintendent of Public Schools collaborate to provide students with proper notification and explanations related to the installation of various pedestrian safety measures when they are implemented in the vicinity of schools. – Item #14a CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 15b.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility provide City Council with a copy of the two (2) year strategic plan that relates to the city’s Safe Routes to School Taskforce. – Item #14b CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 15c.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility consider the installation of a hybrid beacon system for the crosswalks in the vicinity of Chandler Elementary Community School, located at 114 Chandler St. – Item #14c CC Order adopted on a roll vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 15d.** ORDER of Mayor Joseph M. Petty – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility provide City Council with a report concerning parking limitations and regulations in place in and around Roosevelt Elementary School, located at 1006 Grafton St., as well as Rice Square Elementary School, located at 76 Massasoit Rd., to determine any potential improvements that can be made at the locations. – Item #14d CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 15e.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request Standing Committee on Municipal and Legislative Operations review Rule Five (5) of the Rules of City Council, which allows for the mayor, or if the mayor is unable to serve, the vice chair of the city council, or any five (5) members thereof, to call a special meeting by causing written notices stating the time and purpose of holding such meetings, in an effort to determine any potential amendments to the rule that would better assist City Council in completing its regular business. – Item #14e CC Referred to Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 8 Yeas and 3 Nays

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

- 16a.** Motion King @ #71 CC – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility provide City Council with a report concerning research and data related to why pedestrian hybrid beacons would be ruled out at the intersection of Fremont St., Canterbury St. and Cambridge St., if appropriate.
Order adopted (See Item #71 CC)

- 16b.** Motion Toomey @ #10a CC – Request Mayor consider creating an informational statement educating residents of the pros and cons of voting in favor or opposed to Question 8 on the State Election Ballot on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.
Order adopted (See Item #10a CC)
- 16c.** Motion King @ #9e CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with example ordinances from similarly populated municipalities related to imposing escalating fines on blighted properties.
Order adopted (See Item #9e CC)
- 16d.** Motion King @ #9h CC – Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report detailing the federal and state regulations related to zoning ordinances establishing locations to launch drones on publicly-owned land.
Order adopted (See Item #9h CC)
- 16e.** Motion King @ #14f CC – Request City Manager request Police Chief provide City Council with an update concerning previously requested additional information related 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 (See Item #14f CC)