

CITY OF WORCESTER

JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Esther Howland Chamber

Convened: 6:31 P.M.

Adjourned: 8:38 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

AT-LARGE COUNCILORS

Morris A. Bergman

Donna M. Colorio

Khrystian E. King

Thu Nguyen

Kathleen M. Toomey



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DISTRICT COUNCILORS

Jenny Pacillo - District 1

Candy Mero-Carlson - District 2

George J. Russell - District 3

Luis A. Ojeda - District 4

Etel Haxhijaj - 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 Nguyen.

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 March 4, 2025.

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. David Webb, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7b CC, #7n CC, #7o CC, #8.33A CM, #8.33B CM, #9a CC through #9e CC, #9g CC, and #9h CC, spoke in opposition to item #8.3A CM and spoke neither in favor nor opposition to items #8.11A CM and #8.19A CM
2. John Edward Keough, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #10b CC
3. Ted Kostas, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7n CC, #7o CC, and #10d CC and spoke in opposition to items #7m CC, #14a CC, and #15d CC
4. Idella Hazard, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10c CC and #10g CC
5. Elizabeth Barnes, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #7m CC
6. Matt McAuliffe, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7d CC, #7n CC, and #7o CC and spoke in opposition of item #7m CC
7. Maura Coakley, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor nor opposition to item #7b CC
8. Ariel Tamar Alvarez Amasifuen, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7b CC, #7h CC, #8.4A CM, #8.19A CM, #9e CC, #10a CC, and #10d CC and spoke in opposition of items #10b CC, and #9b CC
9. Christina Ann, Worcester resident, spoke neither in support nor opposition to item #19l C
10. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7n CC and #7o CC and spoke neither in favor nor opposed to item #10b CC

7. PETITIONS

7a. Alex Corrales, Chief Executive Officer of the Worcester Housing Authority, request the discontinuance of certain portions of Joseph P. Carlson Way, Service Rd. and Great Brook Valley Ave. and order the alteration and layout of a new portion of Great Brook Valley Ave., the alteration of a portion of Great Brook Valley Ave., portions of Service Rd. and portions of James P. Carlson Way, all as depicted on the attached plans (see attached).

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

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

7b. Julie Miller request yellow trash bags and green recycling bins be replaced with rolling trash bins with lids.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to the City Manager. Referred to the City Manager

7c. Councilor Morris A. Bergman on behalf of Hope Perkins and Corinne Barnes request installation of a handicap parking space on the Mill Pond Rd. side of 576 Mill St.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #7c CC through #7j CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee

- 7d. Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson request installation of 30-Minute Parking in front of Elhoury Mobile Cell Phone & Computer Repair Shop, located at 391 Shrewsbury St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7e. Dayana Mora request installation of one-hour parking zone in front of 326 Shrewsbury St. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7f. Denise Higginson request installation of left hand turn signal on Research Dr. at the intersection of Plantation St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7g. Denise Higginson request installation of left hand turn signal on South Rd. at the intersection of Plantation St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7h. Linda Plotczyk request installation of audible pedestrian crossing signal at Chandler St. and Mill St. intersection.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7i. Reese Jane Freeman et al. request installation of a traffic light at the intersection of Salisbury St. and Forest St. with a mandatory stop on red.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7j. Reese Jane Freeman et al. request removal of left-turn restriction sign on Forest St. and Otsego Rd. to provide drivers with an alternative route.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #7c CC)
- 7k. NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: MOODY ST.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to set hearings on April 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. for items #7k CC and #7l CC. Hearing set for April 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
- 7l. NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. for a jointly-owned pole location: TAYLOR ST.
Hearing set for April 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. (See Item #7k CC)
- 7m. Margaret Natario request restrictions be set for the use of gas-powered leaf blowers to limit the allowable decibel level or consider the complete ban of gas-powered leaf blowers.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to, "Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing how the decibel level for leaf blowers is enforced in the city." - Withdrawn.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Colorio, who moved to place the item on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Haxhijaj, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nguyen absent)
- 7n. Fred Nathan request City Council request City Manager provide City Council with report concerning how much money cannot be collected every year due to TIF agreements.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson, who moved to place the item on file. Placed on file

70. Fred Nathan request City Council request City Manager provide City Council with report concerning tax-exempted properties in the city.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to the City Manager. Referred to the City Manager

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

8.1 APPOINTMENTS

Non-City Council Confirmation

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the reappointment of Charran Fisher to the License Commission.

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

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the reappointment of Johanna Hampton-Dance to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees.

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

- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to the reappointments of Eric Stratton, Nick Chacharone, and Brian Dardy to the Parks and Recreation Committee.

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

8.2 APPOINTMENTS

City Council Confirmation

8.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the 2024 gross payroll for City of Worcester and Worcester School Department employees.

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

8.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to Special Event Permitting.

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

8.5 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Kevin Lovaincy, Chief Equity Officer

8.6 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Division of Human Rights and Accessibility

Patricia M. LaFore, Director

8.7 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Administration Division

John K. Westerling, Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Chip Seal Pavement Preservation Report.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Russell, Councilor Pacillo, and Councilor Mero-Carlson, who spoke concerning the item.

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

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the 2025 Spring Sweeping Program

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

8.8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Engineering and Architectural Services Division

John K. Westerling, Commissioner

8.9 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Operations Division

John K. Westerling, Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the responsibilities of the Department of Public Works & Parks and the Department of Transportation and Mobility

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Russell.

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

8.10 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Parks Division

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner

8.11 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the municipality's Pavement Management Program.

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

- 8.12 FIRE DEPARTMENT**
Martin Dyer, Fire Chief
- 8.13 POLICE DEPARTMENT**
Paul B. Saucier, Police Chief
- 8.14 DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**
Charles R. Goodwin, Director
- 8.15 LAW DEPARTMENT**
Michael E. Traynor, Esq., City Solicitor
- 8.16 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Administration
David Horne, Interim Commissioner
- 8.17 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Building and Zoning Division
David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner
- 8.18 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Housing and Health Inspections Division
Lee R. Hall, Director

8.19 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration

Dr. Matilde "Mattie" Castiel, M.D., Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to an update on homelessness.

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

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

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

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

Councilor Haxhiaj then moved, "That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby declare homelessness and the lack of affordable housing in the city as a public safety and public health emergency." (See Item #21a CC).

Councilor Haxhiaj then moved to, "Request City Manager provide City Council with a report and update concerning the creation of public restrooms and washing stations for the city's homeless population. Further, if such public restrooms and washing stations are not to be created, request City Manager provide City Council with a report explaining the rationale of such a decision." (See Item #21b CC).

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

Councilor King then moved to, "Request City Manager review the Health and Human Services Department for the purpose of expanding the person power within the department, in an effort to make the department even more responsive." (See Item #21c CC).

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who moved to, "Request City Manager consider identifying, via an earmark, monies for additional services for the city's homeless population." (See Item #21d CC).

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Public Health and Human Services Committee. Referred to Public Health and Human Services Committee

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to educational efforts tobacco stores provide to customers.

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty recognized the Tobacco Prevention Specialist, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Mero-Carlson.

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Public Health and Human Services Committee. Referred to Public Health and Human Services Committee

8.20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Elder Affairs

Amy Vogel Waters, Director

8.21 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Veterans Services

Dr. Joe Robinson, Veterans' Services Officer/Director

8.22 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Youth Services

Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Director

8.23 WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Jason L. Homer, Executive Director

8.24 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Election Commission Division

Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk

8.25 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Rachel Monárrez, Superintendent

8.26 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Administration

Timothy McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer

- A. Recommend adoption of an Amendment to the municipality's Sewer Connection Fee and City Ordinances Chapter 5, Section 6, Subsection (c).

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Financial Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Russell.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to advertise the proposed Ordinance. Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the extent and impact of federal funding on the City of Worcester and Worcester Public Schools.

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

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

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

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved to refer the item to Education Committee. Referred to Education Committee

8.27 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Assessing Division

Samuel E. Konieczny, City Assessor

8.28 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Budget Office Division

Erin E. Taylor, Director

8.29 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Purchasing Division

Christopher Gagliastro, Director

8.30 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Treasury and Collections Division

Francisco Hernandez, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes

8.31 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES
James Bedard, Chief of Public Facilities

8.32 DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE
John W. Odell, Chief Sustainability Officer

8.33 DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY
Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer

- A. Recommend adoption of an order to authorize the City of Worcester to enter into a contract, or contract(s) related to the unified communications project for a term(s) of up to five years to enhance communication and collaboration within the municipality.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Mero-Carlson, Nguyen absent)

- B. Recommend adoption of an order to authorize the City of Worcester to enter into a contract, or contract(s) related to the data center modernization project for a term(s) of up to six years to ensure continuity of core infrastructure services.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Mero-Carlson, Nguyen absent)

8.34 FINANCE ITEMS
Capital Transfers

8.35 FINANCE ITEMS
Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept and expend an earmark in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$100,000.00) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Economic Development, to support the Worcester Public Library's Library in Every Classroom program.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt items #8.35A CM through #8.35I CM, #8.36A CM through #8.36E CM and #8.37A CM and 8.37B CM. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent)

- B. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$2,000.00) from The Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- C. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$500,000.00) from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's On-Street Charging Solutions Program.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- D. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept and expend a grant in the amount of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$35,000.00) from the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization, to support the purchase and installation of bike racks.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- E. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of One Million Dollars And No Cents (\$1,000,000.00) from the MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs on behalf of the National Park Service under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program for the Lake View Playground Renovation project.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- F. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Five Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$550.00) from Lisa Carignan for a Memorial Tree Planting at Coes Park.
Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- G. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of up to One Hundred Sixty Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$162,500.00) from a Jobs for the Future (JFF) – Fidelity Foundation Healthcare IT grant through the Boston Private Industry Council (Boston PIC, aka “MassHire Boston”).
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- H. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of up to Twenty Five Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$25,000.00) from the Department of Fire Services under the FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant, Round 2.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- I. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of Three Thousand Thirty Two Dollars And No Cents (\$3,032.00) from the National Fire Protection Association under the SFPE New England Fire Service Grant.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

8.36 FINANCE ITEMS

Operational Transfers

- A. Recommend that Twenty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$25,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1062-601100, Treasury Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1062-601101, Treasury Overtime, to fund overtime costs for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2025.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that Seven Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Eight Dollars and Seventy Five Cents (\$7,428.75) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1021-600100, MassHire Workforce Board Division Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1021-610100 MassHire Workforce Board Division Ordinary Maintenance, to cover costs of Training Certifications and Stipends for Worcester residents participating in occupation training programs for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that Three Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$300,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1015-602100, PS Injured on Duty Fringe Benefits, to various Human Resources Cost Centers, to fund expenses through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2025.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- D. Recommend that Sixty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$60,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1009-600100, Law Department Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1009-610100, Law Department Ordinary Maintenance, to provide additional funding for outside counsel expenses.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- E. Recommend that One Hundred Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$100,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1072-610100, City Manager's Contingency, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1030-610100, Auditing Ordinary Maintenance, to fund the costs associated with audits of police paid details and body worn camera procedures.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

8.37 FINANCE ITEMS

Prior Year

- A. Recommend that One Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$150.00) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1004 Economic Development Ordinary Maintenance, for payment of a prior year invoice.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that Forty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Three Dollars and Nine Cents (\$44,833.09) be authorized from various Fiscal Year 2025 Department of Public Works and Parks cost centers for the payment of prior year invoices.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen, Mero-Carlson absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

8.38 FINANCE

Loan Orders

8.39 MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA TRANSMITTALS

9. CHAIRMAN'S ORDERS

- 9a. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning properties owned by Limited Liability Companies (LLCs), including non-taxable properties.

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 9b. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager request Director of Emergency Communications and Management make available National Grid and Eversource's local financial savings information as a resource for residents who may be calling customer service lines for assistance.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt items #9b CC through #9k CC. Order adopted

- 9c. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing how the city's housing production will be affected by the Department of Energy Resources' Stretch Energy Code and changes to Mass Save.
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)
- 9d. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request Standing Committee on Public Works invite representatives from Eversource to a public forum to discuss the Mass Save cost benefit analysis report from the last year.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #9b CC)
- 9e. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the results relative to Florida's Vision Zero Safer Streets Program for Fort Lauderdale.
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)
- 9f. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning why an ordinance was not required to change the distance a vehicle can park from the curb during the reconstruction of Mill St.
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)
- 9g. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing any updates to the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA)'s route planning initiatives. Further, request City Manager request WRTA Administrator provide City Council with a presentation concerning said initiatives.
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)
- 9h. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the Salem Skipper ridesharing service.
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)
- 9i. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the feasibility of creating a plan to fund new sidewalk installations without assessing betterments to abutting property owners.
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)
- 9j. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report listing future public neighborhood meetings for projects associated with the Mobility Action Plan and Vision Zero Safety Action Plan.
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)
- 9k. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager provide City Council with a staffing analysis of the Department of Transportation and Mobility (DTM).
Order adopted (See Item #9b CC)

10. ORDERS

- 10a. Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the feasibility of creating a trial “superblock,” in the city, which is an area of urban land that is bounded by arterial roads and is typically the size of multiple traditional-sized city blocks. (Toomey)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 10b. Request City Manager request Police Chief provide City Council with an update concerning police overtime and paid details. Said report should identify challenges and potential solutions to address the needs of the department. (Toomey)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 10c. Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning plans for job opportunities available to the city’s youth during the summer months. (Petty)

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

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 10d. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Health and Human Services work with representatives from the city’s various shelters to review the conditions, safety situations and staffing levels of said shelters in the city. (Ojeda)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 10e. Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any existing railroad policy regarding transporting hazardous waste materials into the city by train. Further, request said report include information relative to practices followed by CSX to ensure the safety of residents during any such transportation. (Mero-Carlson)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 10f. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility reach out to the appropriate representatives at the Venerini Academy to determine the location and facilitate the installation of directional signage on Belmont St. towards the school. (Toomey)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 10g.** Request City Manager work with the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) Administrator to provide a report back to the City Council regarding ridership, bus routes, and the potential for installing additional bus stops and shelters in the city. Furthermore, request City Manager invite the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) Administrator to appear at the appropriate city council subcommittee to discuss said report. (Bergman)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

11. COMMUNICATION OF THE CITY AUDITOR

- 11a.** Transmitting the single audit report for the year ended June 30, 2024, required by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and conducted by the certified public accounting firm of CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP (CLA) in accordance with the OMB's Uniform Guidance.

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

12. COMMUNICATION OF THE CITY CLERK

- 12a.** Transmitting an informational communication regarding the filling of two (2) vacancies on the Library Board of Directors.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept the item as amended to have the Election for the Library Board of Directors to occur on April 15, 2025.

Accepted as amended

13. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 13a.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of Evelyn Darling, Executive Director of the Downtown Worcester Business Improvement District, transmitting an informational communication titled, "Downtown Worcester Business Improvement District Annual Report 2023.": recommend Communication be placed on file.

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

- 13b.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of Evelyn Darling, Executive Director of the Downtown Worcester Business Improvement District, transmitting an informational communication titled, "Downtown Worcester Business Improvement District FY2019-2022 Progress Report.": recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13a CC)

13c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Order of Councilor George J. Russell – Request Standing Committee on Economic Development consider the feasibility of amending the proposed zoning ordinance amendment relative to accessory dwelling units to allow for said units to be built through special permit only in single family zones: recommend Order be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13a CC)

13d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the feasibility of using Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to advance environmental sustainability goals: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13a CC)

13e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to a presentation on the City of Worcester's Housing Programs: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13a CC)

13f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to Housing & Neighborhood Activities: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13a CC)

13g. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting Informational Communication Relative to Housing and Neighborhood Activities: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #13a CC)

14. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

14a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Order of Councilor Etel Haxhijaj - Request Standing Committee on Public Works invite representatives from Eversource and National Grid to a public forum to discuss the recent increases in gas and electric bills: recommend Order be placed on file.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept the item. Accepted

15. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING

15a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Pina Conte request establishment of commercial load zone between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. and a passenger load zone between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. for the entire Wall St. frontage of 17 Wall St. (Amended on September 18, 2024): recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to advertise the proposed Ordinances associated with items #15a CC through #15h CC. Voted to advertise proposed Ordinances on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- 15b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING** Upon the Petition of Robert Mailloux request the "No Parking Passenger Dropoff" signage in front of 21 Fruit St. be changed to "No Parking Commercial Deliveries Only" signage and replaced: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
(See Item #15a CC)
- 15c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING** Upon the Petition of Matthew C. Morse request prohibition of left turn on Rodney St. onto Belmont St. between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
(See Item #15a CC)
- 15d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING** Upon the Petition of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request installation of resident permit parking on the odd side of Townsend St. from Park Ave. to Hudson St. on Monday to Friday from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. and Saturday to Sunday at all times: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
(See Item #15a CC)
- 15e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING** Upon the Petition of Federico Ortiz et al. request installation of resident permit parking on the odd side of Clement St., from Main St. to Beaver St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
(See Item #15a CC)
- 15f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING** Upon the Petition of Donald Tarallo and Hui En Huang et al. request the existing residential permit parking zone on Somerset St. be amended to remove the 5 p.m. to 6 a.m. limit and instead provide residential permit parking at all times: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
(See Item #15a CC)
- 15g. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING** Upon the Petition of Jason Diaz request extension of existing 15 minute parking zone on Hamilton St. to include 98 Hamilton St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
(See Item #15a CC)
- 15h. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING** Upon the Petition of Celia Blue request installation of resident permit parking on Newport St.: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.
Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
(See Item #15a CC)

16. REPORTS OF THE PLANNING BOARD

- 16a.** REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of Donald J. O'Neil request Zoning Map be amended by extending the BL-1.0 zone line, bisecting the property situated at 76 Mountain St. West and 78 Mountain St. West northeasterly to encompass the rear portion of both parcels, currently zoned RS-7, within the BL-1.0 zone.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee
- 16b.** REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of Dean Schneyer request the distance between Julien Ave. and Woodcliffe Ave. be connected to form a public road.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #16b CC through #16d CC to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee
- 16c.** REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of Nastacia Grant request Evelyn St. be made public.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #16b CC)
- 16d.** REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of Marisol Acosta et al. request Alden St. be converted from a private street to a public street.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #16b CC)

17. TO BE ORDAINED

- 17a.** Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group A - Administrative and Supervisory for the 911 Operations Manager.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to ordain items #17a CC through #17c CC. Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 17b.** Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group B - General Administrative for the Snow Customer Service Representative (When Assigned).
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #17a CC)
- 17c.** Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group P - Foreman and Supervisor for DPW - Snow Inspector, Snow Supervisor, and Winter Ops Coordinator (When Assigned).
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #17a CC)

18. TABLED UNDER PRIVILEGE

- 18a.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the impact the Community Benefits and the Inflation Reduction Act may have on the city. (Tabled Under Privilege - King March 11, 2025)
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

18b. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to an open meeting law complaint of the Education Committee. (Tabled Under Privilege - King March 11, 2025)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Haxhiaj, who moved to refer the item to the Education Committee.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to refer the item to the Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King a second time, who moved to place the item on file. – Not Put.

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Education Committee and Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee for a Joint Meeting. Referred to Education Committee and Municipal and Legislative Operations Committee on a roll call vote of 7 Yeas and 3 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Ojeda, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays- Haxhiaj, King, Pacillo) (Nguyen absent)

18c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS Upon the Order of Councilor George J. Russell - Request Standing Committee on Public Works hold a meeting to draft a policy relative to the creation of "Honorary Street Names." Said policy should include, but not be limited to: 1) what or who should be eligible for honorary street names; 2) whether the policy should be limited to Worcester residents/past Worcester residents; 3) whether business names should be included; 4) causes that would justify passage of an honorary street name title; and 5) whether passage should be limited to a certain number of years, decades or centuries that the entity gained notoriety. Further, request City Manager request City Solicitor and Commissioner of Public Works and Parks provide guidance and recommendations of best practices used in other Municipalities, at said meeting to aid the Committee in drafting the Honorary Street policy: recommend passage of the accompanying Ordinance. (Tabled Under Privilege - King March 11, 2025)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized 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 refer the item to the City Solicitor.

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor King's motion to refer the item to the City Solicitor. Motion failed on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 7 Nays (Yeas – Haxhiaj, King, Ojeda) (Nays – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Pacillo, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nguyen absent)

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who moved to amend the proposed ordinance to replace the words “district councilor” with “city council”, replace proposed subsection b with the previous language of subsection b, and require said petitions to be filed with the City Clerk's Office instead of being filed with a district councilor, councilor-at-large, or the mayor.” – Not Put.

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

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor King's motion to amend the item. Motion failed on a roll call vote of 4 Yeas and 6 Nays (Yeas – Haxhiaj, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nays – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nguyen absent)

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to advertise the proposed ordinance. Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 7 Yeas and 3 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Pacillo, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Haxhiaj, King, Ojeda) (Nguyen absent)

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to reconsider the item.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to reconsider the item. Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Nguyen absent)

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. (Tabled 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. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman February 9, 2021 and Tabled - Bergman February 23, 2021)

No action taken

19c. ORDER of Councilor Sarai Rivera - Request City Manager consider prioritizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for REC Worcester's capital project involving the development of the new REC Worcester headquarters and Center for Food Justice and Urban Agriculture (for Worcester and Central Massachusetts), in an effort to support community food security, as well as youth development and employment. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson October 26, 2021 and Tabled Under Privilege - Petty November 9, 2021 and Tabled - Rivera November 16, 2021)

No action taken

19d. CHAIRMAN'S ORDER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - Request City Council work to ensure City Council and School Committee districts are parallel, so as to ensure public clarity. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson May 24, 2022 and June 7, 2022 and Tabled - Petty June 14, 2022)

No action taken

19e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION Upon the Order of Councilor Morris A. Bergman and Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson - Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation Committee hold a public discussion with the WRTA Administrator relative to the removal of a bus route that passes the EcoTarium, 222 Harrington Way: recommend Communication be placed on file. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

19f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION Upon the Order of Councilor Sarai Rivera and Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation meet with the WRTA Administrator to provide City Council with a report concerning the WRTA's winter weather plan, especially including information as to how snow will be removed at each of the bus stops: recommend Order be placed on file. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

- 19g.** ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhij 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. (Tabled Under Privilege - Haxhij July 18, 2023 and Tabled - Haxhij August 22, 2023)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Haxhij, who moved to Take the Item Off the Table.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to Take the Item Off the Table. Motion denied on a roll call vote of 4 Yeas and 6 Nays (Yeas – Haxhij, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nays – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nguyen absent)

No action taken

- 19h.** 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

- 19i.** ORDER of Councilor George J. Russell and Councilor Morris A. Bergman - Request City Manager install metal detector safety equipment at City Hall whenever open, similar to the equipment used at Polar Park, the Worcester District Court and other public places, on or before December 31, 2024. (Tabled Under Privilege - Russell September 24, 2024 and October 1, 2024 and Tabled - Russell October 8, 2024)

No action taken

- 19j.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to a report detailing a United States Department of Justice Investigation of the Worcester Police Department and the City of Worcester. (Tabled - Petty December 17, 2024)

No action taken

- 19k.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request City Manager conduct an equity audit of all city departments every five (5) years. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson December 10, 2024 and Tabled Under Privilege - Toomey December 17, 2024 and Tabled - Nguyen January 7, 2025)

No action taken

19l. PETITION of Richard Cipro, Anthony Petrone and Thomas Duffy on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Police Officials Local 504 and New England Police Benevolent Association Local 911 request City Council request City Manager request the Department of Justice release and present in a public forum the full investigatory report, specifically to what the DOJ states are "credible allegations" of criminal sexual misconduct alleged to be committed by members of the Worcester Police Department. Further, request City Council request City Manager request the Department of Justice include the dates, times and names of all individuals alleged to have committed the stated misconduct and/or potential criminal activity. (Tabled Under Privilege - King December 17, 2024 and Tabled Under Privilege - Nguyen January 7, 2025 and Tabled - Russell January 14, 2025)

No action taken

19m. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager recommend adoption of MGL Ch 148, Section 26I, which mandates the installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems in residential buildings with four or more dwelling units. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson February 4, 2025, Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson and Haxhiaj February 11, 2025 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson February 25, 2025)

No action taken

19n. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to an update on the U.S. Department of Justice's pattern-or-practice report on the municipality and Worcester Police Department. (Tabled - Petty March 4, 2025)

No action taken

20. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the March 11, 2025 City Council meeting.

20a. ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether any zone changes may be required to accommodate modular homes in all areas of the city. – Item #23a CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays

20b. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Clerk provide City Council with a physical copy of the proposed ordinance amendment concerning the Honorary Street Name Program prior to the next City Council meeting. – Item #23b CC Order adopted

21. NEW BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the March 18, 2025 City Council meeting.

21a. Motion Haxhiaj @ #8.19A CM – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby declare homelessness and the lack of affordable housing in the city as a public safety and public health emergency.

Resolution adopted (See Item #8.19A CM)

21b. Motion Haxhijaj @ #8.19A CM – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report and update concerning the creation of public restrooms and washing stations for the city’s homeless population. Further, if such public restrooms and washing stations are not to be created, request City Manager provide City Council with a report explaining the rationale of such a decision.

Order adopted (See Item #8.19A CM)

21c. Motion King @ #8.19A CM – Request City Manager review the Health and Human Services Department for the purpose of expanding the person power within the department, in an effort to make the department even more responsive.

Order adopted (See Item #8.19A CM)

21d. Motion King @ #8.19A CM – Request City Manager consider identifying, via an earmark, monies for additional services for the city’s homeless population.

Order adopted (See Item #8.19A CM)