

CITY OF WORCESTER

JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Esther Howland (South) Chamber

Convened: 7:25 P.M.

Adjourned: 10:12 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 Councilor Nguyen. All members participated in the meeting remotely.

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 April 29, 2025.

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

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

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized the following speakers:

- 1. Rose D'Errico, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 2. Ariel Tamar Alvarez Amasifuen, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 3. Mark Duchesne, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 4. Larechia Baldwin, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 5. Glenn Pape, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 6. Ashley Spring, Worcester resident, spoke concerning an item not listed on the agenda**
- 7. Seth D., Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 8. David Webb, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 9. Maria Lawson, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 10. Carla Moore, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 11. Jenny Ryan, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 12. Kallan Berglund, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 13. Rowan Compton, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 14. Ronan Palmer, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 15. Marcus Palumbo, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 16. Kirsten Frazier, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #9a CC and spoke in favor of item #10g CC**
- 17. Julianne Morin, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 18. Shannon (no last name given), (no residence given), spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 19. Wahya Gutste Wolfpaw, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 20. Terri Kelly, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 21. James Miller, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 22. Jillian (no last name given), (no residence given), spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 23. Grace Ross, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 24. John Snyder, (no residence given), spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 25. Catherine Judd, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 26. Tom Marino, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 27. Anne Bureau, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 28. Danielle (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 29. Annie Kaplan, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 30. Sheila Brenner, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 31. Shawna (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 32. Eric Stratton, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 33. Margot Barnet, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #8.1A CM**
- 34. Jermoh Kamara, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #8.1A CM and spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 35. Cassidy Dusk, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 36. Atticus Clay, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC**
- 37. Marie Brouillette, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a**

CC

38. Leah Barresi, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

39. Feanna Jattan-Singh, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

40. Janice Sherman, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

41. Maydee Morales, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #8.1A CM and spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

42. Lucas Mosele, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

43. Javier Melendez, Worcester resident, spoke concerning an item not listed on the agenda

44. Echo Louissaint, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

45. Richard Klein, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

46. Yenni Desroches, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8.2B CM, spoke in opposition to item #8.1A CM, and spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

47. Brett (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

48. Angela (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

49. Cayden Davis, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

50. Sarai Rivera, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

51. Walter Bird, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

52. Lynn Kee, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

53. Daniel DiMassa, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

54. Tiffany Williams, (no residence given), spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

55. John Williams, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

56. Joseph (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor in opposition to item #9a CC

57. Keith Linhares, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7k CC and #7l CC and spoke in opposition to item #8.1A CM

7. PETITIONS

- 7a. Anthony Bianco, on behalf of St. Anthony Realty LLC, request acceptance of the reconstruction of the city street formerly known as Modoc St.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Planning Board. Referred to Planning Board on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- 7b. Councilor Jenny Pacillo on behalf of Mark Jacques request Hapgood Rd. be resurfaced.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer items #7b CC and #7c CC to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- 7c. Councilor Jenny Pacillo on behalf of Mark Jacques request Romola Rd. be resurfaced.

Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See item #7b CC)

- 7d. Paula F. Janowski request installation of speed humps on the straight section of Bjorklund Ave. between Chester St. and Lambert Cir.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer items #7d CC through #7g CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 7e. Joshua Lee Smith, on behalf of 446 Main Street Owner LLC, request installation of a commercial loading zone and passenger zone on the westerly side of Main St. beginning approximately 99.5 feet south of the intersection with Pleasant St. and extending 91 feet therefrom. Said zone will be utilized as a commercial loading zone from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and as a passenger zone from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., as shown in the attached plan.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #7d CC)
- 7f. Makay Hillier on behalf of Queen Ann HOA/Silver Linings Property Management request removal of bus stop in front of property located at 150 Lincoln St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #7d CC)
- 7g. Adrian Vazquez request installation of handicap parking space in front of 58 Haven Ln.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #7d CC)
- 7h. Councilor Etel Haxhij request "No Motorized Boats Allowed" signage be placed at a prominent location at Binienda Beach.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee. Referred to Veterans' Memorials, Parks and Recreation Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 7i. VERIZON for a conduit location at: 305 BELMONT ST.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to set a hearing for June 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. Hearing set for June 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 7j. David Webb filing an Open Meeting Law Complaint Form.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Law Department to prepare an answer and respond. Referred to Law Department to Prepare an Answer and Respond on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 7k. Keith J. Linhares request a searchable digital database be created to display all pending and reviewed petitions as described in the attachment.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to the City Clerk. Referred to City Clerk on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 7l. Keith J. Linhares request a searchable digital database be created to display all Department of Public Works projects, including scheduled works and service requests related to the street as described in the attachment.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to the City Manager. Referred to the City Manager on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

8.1 APPOINTMENTS

Non-City Council Confirmation

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointments of Kerry Whiterell and Jonathan Slavinskis to the Human Rights Commission.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with item #8.1C CM.

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 Pacillo, who spoke concerning the item.

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to place the items on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointments of Stephen Toomey and Mary Anne Dube to the Planning Board.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to recuse herself from the item and did not participate in the discussion.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to place the items on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (Toomey recused)

- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointment of Matthew Sacco to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.1A CM)

8.2 APPOINTMENTS

City Council Confirmation

- A. Recommending appointment of Kevin Gould to the Civic Center Commission.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to confirm the appointments for items #8.2A CM and #8.2B CM. Confirmed on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- B. Recommending appointment of Joseph Johnson to the Urban Forestry Tree Commission.

Confirmed on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.2A CM)

8.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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

- A. Recommend authorization to file the proposed legislation to exempt Official Service and Labor Service Positions from Chapter 31 of the General Law.

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

8.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

- A. Requesting adoption of the Housing Development Certified Project Application/Tax Increment Exemption Agreement for 17 Pearl St.

Mayor Petty read the item and 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 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- B. Recommend adoption of a Zoning Ordinance Amendment relative to Accessory Dwelling Units.

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

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Planning Board. Referred to Planning Board on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

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 improving fire hydrant reflectivity.

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

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to the 2025 Paul J. Moosey Employee of the Year Award.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with item #8.7C CM.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to place the items on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to the American Public Works Association's National Public Works Week from May 18 to May 25th.

Placed on file on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.7B CM)

- D. Transmitting informational communication relative to the sign creation process.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with item #8.7E CM.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to, “Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks ensure representation from Upper Blackstone Clean Water is present when the Standing Committee on Public Works meets to discuss the water and sewer rates.” (See Item #12m CC).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to, “Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks consider the feasibility of utilizing the water and sewer enterprise accounts to offset the financial need to increase water and sewer rates.” (See Item #12n CC).

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to refer the items to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to reconsider item #8.7E CM. Reconsideration denied on a roll call vote of 0 Yeas and 10 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- E. Transmitting informational communication relative to Water and Sewer rate recommendation.

Referred to Public Works Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.7D CM)

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

8.10 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS
Parks Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner

8.11 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner

- A. Requesting adoption of an order to Release Rights in an Easement affecting 20 Pearl St. and 10 and 22 Chestnut St.

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

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to 2025 speed hump installations.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

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, Commissioner

8.15 LAW DEPARTMENT

Alexandra H. Kalkounis, Esq., City Solicitor

- A. Recommending adoption of Zoning Ordinance Amendment Related to Driveways, Pavement, and Permits.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to refer the item to Planning Board. Referred to Planning Board on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

8.16 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Administration

Nicholas Antanavica, Commissioner

8.17 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Building and Zoning Division

David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to an update on the Rental Registry and Rental Dwelling Unit Periodic Inspection Program.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor King, 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 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

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

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

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

A. Requesting adoption of an order to authorize acceptance of a deed for the property to 25 Madison St.

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

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

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 (Nguyen absent)

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

8.34 FINANCE ITEMS

Capital Transfers

8.35 FINANCE ITEMS

Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Six Hundred Thirty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$639,200.00) from Massachusetts Executive Office of Aging & Independence under the COA Formula Grant program, to provide general support for the Division on Elder Affairs and the Worcester Senior Center.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt items #8.35A CM through #8.35E CM, #8.36A CM through #8.36C CM and #8.37A CM through #8.37D CM. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- B. Recommend the adoption of a resolution to accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$60,000.00) from UMASS Memorial Health, Inc. to the Division of Youth Opportunities, to support the Recreation Worcester Summer Program.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- C. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$10,000.00) from Massachusetts Council on Aging to support behavioral health services for older adults.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- D. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Thirty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$30,000.00) from the Friends of Worcester's Senior Center, Inc., to provide general support the Senior Center in Fiscal Year 2026.
Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)
- E. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$10,000.00) from the MassHire North Central Workforce Board, to support the Sterile Processing Technician Training program.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

8.36 FINANCE ITEMS

Operational Transfers

- A. Recommend that Fourteen Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$14,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1044-699399, Fire Capital Outlay, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1044-601100, Fire Overtime, to conduct a safety incident officer class.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that Fifty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$50,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1044-610100, Fire Ordinary Maintenance, and be appropriated to Project #PRJ-100298, McKeon Road Generator, to fund the generator replacement project at McKeon Road Fire Station.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that Twenty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$20,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1009-600100, Law Department Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1009-610100, Law Department Ordinary Maintenance, to provide funding for professional recruitment services.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

8.37 FINANCE ITEMS

Prior Year

- A. Recommend that Forty Three Dollars And Seventy Cents (\$43.70) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1007, Public Facilities Ordinary Maintenance, for the payment of prior year invoices.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred Twenty One Dollars And Thirty Cents (\$44,421.30) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1006, City Clerk Ordinary Maintenance, for the payment of a prior year invoice.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that Nine Thousand One Hundred Sixty Five Dollars and Eighty Cents (\$9,165.80) 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 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

- D.** Recommend that Eight Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$8,200.00) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1012, Human Resources Ordinary Maintenance, for the payment of a prior year invoice.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.35A CM)

8.38 FINANCE
Loan Orders

8.39 MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA TRANSMITTALS

9. HELD UNDER PRIVILEGE

- 9a.** 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)

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning requirements around U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents presenting warrants when detaining/arresting individuals.” (See Item #12b CC).

Mayor Petty then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).” (See Item #12c CC).

Mayor Petty then moved to, “Request City Manager create a written policy, with community input, concerning how the city interacts with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).” (See Item #12d CC).

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor King, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report outlining the scope, scale, and measure of the city’s response to the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Said report should be relative to the current operating procedures of the Worcester Police Department (WPD). (See Item #12e CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager request Police Chief release all body-worn camera (BWC) footage related to the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).” (See Item #12f CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager implement the co-deployment of a social worker clinical response to any matter pertaining U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations and/or pertaining to children, families, and traumatic events.” (See Item #12g CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager request Police Chief attempt to determine the identity of the alleged U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents involved in the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, as well as if the warrant associated with the incident listed the same person who was taken away.” (See Item #12h CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “That the City Council does hereby call upon its congregational partners to work towards initiating legislation that dictates when U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents are and are not able to wear masks.” (See Item #12i CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any exposure the city has relative to liability based on the response to the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), as well as any exposure that officers have incurred in other places relative to responses or intersections with ICE. (See Item #12j CC).

Mayor Petty then moved, “That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby suspend its rules to allow for an additional ten (10) minutes of speaking for Item #9a CC on the May 13, 2025, City Council agenda.” (See Item #12k CC).

Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether the individuals who presented themselves as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents at an incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, were truly from

that department or if they were from a different governmental agency.” (See Item #12I CC).

Councilor King then moved to Table the Item.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor King’s motion to Table the Item. Tabled on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent).

Tabled – King

- 9b.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report that details an accounting of the CSX Neighborhood Improvement Fund. Said report should include information concerning: 1) How much is currently in the CSX Neighborhood Improvement Fund?; 2) What is the total amount of funds that have come into said fund?; 3) How were said funds disbursed in previous years?; 4) What/who have the funds been disbursed to?; 5) Who decides where said funds go?; 6) Are there any committees or community members who help decide where said funds go?; and 7) How much revenue is generated from the annual container fee donation and is there tracking mechanism in place to know where these funds go? (Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson May 6, 2025)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege for a second time.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor Mero-Carlson's motion to Hold the Item Under Privilege for a second time. Held Under Privilege on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent).

Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson

- 9c.** RESOLUTION of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby commend and honor Justin Hyland, Dickie Collins, Paul Snape and Elijah Johnson of the Department of Public Works and Parks and Department of Transportation and Mobility for their roles in saving the life of a toddler who was found on Chilmark Street. (Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson May 6, 2025)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson, who moved to Hold the Item Under Privilege for a second time.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote on Councilor Mero-Carlson's motion to Hold the Item Under Privilege for a second time. Held Under Privilege on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent).

Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson

10. TABLED ITEMS

- 10a.** 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

- 10b.** 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

- 10c.** 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. (Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson October 26, 2021 and Held Under Privilege - Petty November 9, 2021 and Tabled - Rivera November 16, 2021)

No action taken

- 10d.** 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. (Held Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

- 10e.** 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. (Held Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Held Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

10f. ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhijaj 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 - Haxhijaj July 18, 2023 and Tabled - Haxhijaj August 22, 2023)

No action taken

10g. 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

10h. 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. (Held Under Privilege - Russell September 24, 2024 and October 1, 2024 and Tabled - Russell October 8, 2024)

No action taken

10i. 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

11. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the May 6, 2025 City Council meeting.

11a. RESOLUTION of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby commend and honor Justin Hyland, Dickie Collins, Paul Snape and Elie Johnson of the Department of Public Works and Parks and Department of Transportation and Mobility for their roles in saving the life of a toddler who was found on Chilmark Street. – Item #17a CC Held Under Privilege

12. NEW BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the May 13, 2025 City Council meeting.

12a. Motion Russell @ #6a CC – That the City Council does hereby suspend its rule to allow for the public participation section of the agenda on May 13, 2025, to occur thirty (30) minutes beyond the typically allotted thirty (30) minutes.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #6a CC)

12b. Motion Petty @ #9a CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning requirements around U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents presenting warrants when detaining/arresting individuals.

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

- 12c.** Motion Petty @ #9a CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)
- 12d.** Motion Petty @ #9a CC – Request City Manager create a written policy, with community input, concerning how the city interacts with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)
- 12e.** Motion King @ #9a CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report outlining the scope, scale, and measure of the city’s response to the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Said report should be relative to the current operating procedures of the Worcester Police Department (WPD).
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)
- 12f.** Motion King @ #9a CC – Request City Manager request Police Chief release all body-worn camera (BWC) footage related to the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)
- 12g.** Motion King @ #9a CC – Request City Manager implement the co-deployment of a social worker clinical response to any matter pertaining U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations and/or pertaining to children, families, and traumatic events.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)
- 12h.** Motion King @ #9a CC – Request City Manager request Police Chief attempt to determine the identity of the alleged U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents involved in the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, as well as if the warrant associated with the incident listed the same person who was taken away.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)
- 12i.** Motion King @ #9a CC – That the City Council does hereby call upon its congressional partners to work towards initiating legislation that dictates when U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents are and are not able to wear masks.
Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)
- 12j.** Motion King @ #9a CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any exposure the city has relative to liability based on the response to the incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, that resulted in a woman being arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), as well as any exposure that officers have incurred in other places relative to responses or intersections with ICE.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9a CC)

12k. Motion Petty @ #9a CC – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby suspend its rules to allow for an additional ten (10) minutes of speaking for Item #9a CC on the May 13, 2025, City Council agenda.

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

12l. Motion King @ #9a CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether the individuals who presented themselves as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents at an incident on Eureka St. on Thursday, May 8, 2025, were truly from that department or if they were from a different governmental agency.

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

12m. Motion Russell @ #8.7D CM – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks ensure representation from Upper Blackstone Clean Water is present when the Standing Committee on Public Works meets to discuss the water and sewer rates.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.7D CM)

12n. Motion Bergman @ #8.7D CM – Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks consider the feasibility of utilizing the water and sewer enterprise accounts to offset the financial need to increase water and sewer rates.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #8.7D CM)

12o. Motion King – Suspension of Rules – Request City Manager and City Clerk provide City Council with a report concerning the legal basis behind the decision to ban the public from City Hall, including references and citations as to why said decision does not violate the Open Meeting Law.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

12p. Motion King – Suspension of Rules – Request City Manager provide City Council with report concerning any communication provided to the public regarding public safety concerns for the public to congregate at City Hall for the May 13, 2025, City Council meeting.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)