

CITY OF WORCESTER
JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 9, 2025
Esther Howland (South) Chamber
Convened: 6:47 P.M.
Adjourned: 10:47 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 AND STAR SPANGLED BANNER

2. ROLL CALL - All present with the Mayor as the Chair, except for Councilor Nguyen.

3. PROCLAMATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, MOMENTS OF SILENCE

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 4a.** Order - That the City Council of the City of Worcester hereby approves the minutes of the City Council Meeting of July 15, 2025.

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

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

5a. Mayor Petty read the item and recognized the following speakers:

1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #11.15A CM and #12a CC and spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #12k CC
2. Martha Assefa, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #7a CC
3. Gary Hunter, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7a CC, #9g CC and #12a CC
4. Daron Barnard, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #9y CC
5. Katie Silverstein, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition to item #9y CC
6. Robin Rhodes, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #12r CC
7. Cheryl Rosen, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #9g CC and #12a CC
8. Tasia Cerezo, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #12e CC and #17f CC
9. Mike Kane, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #11.15A CM
10. David Webb, Olympia, WA resident, spoke in favor of items #11.12A CM and #17a CC and spoke in opposition to items #12o CC, #12p CC and #13b CC
11. Colleen West, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #12d CC and spoke in opposition to items #12f CC and #16a CC
12. Ashley Spring, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7a CC, #12s CC, #17a CC, #17f CC and #17g CC and spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #12p CC
13. Eric Stratton, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #7a CC and #16a CC and spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #12d CC
14. Aaron Dahrooge, Worcester resident, spoke neither in favor of nor opposed to item #9i CC
15. Trevor Brooks, Auburn resident, spoke in favor of items #10f CC through #10h CC

6. HEARINGS AND ORDERS

6a. Hearing: CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS for a conduit location at: HERMON ST.

Granting permission to CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS for a conduit location at: HERMON ST.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to open hearings for items #6a CC through #6c CC. Mayor Petty's motion was approved on a voice vote.

Mayor Petty asked if any abutters wished to be heard on the items. Hearing no speakers, Mayor Petty moved to close the hearings. Mayor Petty's motion was approved on a voice vote.

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

6b. Hearing: NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: HARRISON ST.

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

Hearing held and Order adopted (See Item #6a CC)

6c. Hearing: NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: WINFIELD ST.

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

Hearing held and Order adopted (See Item #6a CC)

7. SUSPENSION OF RULES TO TAKE UP A COMMITTEE REPORT AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

7a. ORDER of Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey - As Chair of the City Council Standing Committee on Public Safety and in accordance with Rule 33 (e) of the Rules of City Council, request City Council suspend its rules at its September 9, 2025, meeting to take up the 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, as presented to City Council and referred to the Standing Committee on Public Safety as Item #16k CC on the April 1, 2025, City Council agenda, along with related items pending before the Committee.

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).

Note: Refer to the “New Business Under Suspension” section of the agenda to view item #19a CC through #19d CC, which are the items reported out of the Standing Committee on Public Safety that is referenced in this Order.

8. FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS - Biannual Economic Development Reports - See Items #11.4A CM, #11.4B CM and #11.4E CM

9. PETITIONS - PART I

9a. Glenn M. Pape request installation of street name signage for Thornton Rd. at the intersection of Dennis Dr. and Thornton Rd.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to the Department of Public Works and Parks. Referred to the Department of Public Works and Parks

9b. Steven Fischer, Executive Director of The Regional Environmental Council, Inc., request Zoning Map be amended by extending the BG-6.0 (Business, General) zoning district and the CCOD-D (Commercial Corridors Overlay District - Downtown Parking Sub Area) to wholly encompass the properties located at 108 Beacon St. (MBL 06-028-00005) and 112 Beacon St. (MBL 06-028-00006).

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

9c. Deborah A. Valcourt request sidewalk resurfacing in front of 49 Rowena St.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take items #9c CC and #9d CC collectively.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to refer the items to the Department of Public Works and Parks. Referred to the Department of Public Works and Parks

9d. Jose Landaverde request sidewalk resurfacing at 43 Mendon St.

Referred to the Department of Public Works and Parks (See Item #9c CC)

- 9e. Elena Fechner request sidewalk resurfacing on McRae Ct. at the intersection of Shrewsbury St.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #9e CC through #9h CC, except for #9g CC, to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee
- 9f. Rocco DeMalia request installation of a sidewalk in front of 410 Mower St., from the intersection of Mower St. and Westmorland Dr. to 334 Mower St., in the interest of ensuring safe passageway to students walking to school on the street.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #9e CC)
- 9g. Mayor Joseph M. Petty and Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request Gardner St. from Main St. to Hollis St. be given the honorary street name of “William S. Coleman III Way.”
Vice Chairperson Councilor King read the item and moved to take items #9g CC and #12a CC collectively.

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

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

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Public Works Committee. Referred to Public Works Committee
- 9h. Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson request Oleum Ct. be resurfaced.
Referred to Public Works Committee (See Item #9e CC)
- 9i. Aaron Dahrooge request the extension of a water line on Hastings Ave. from the existing water main westerly to new buildings on the street, at no cost to the city.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to place the item on file. Placed on file
- 9j. Samaris Correas request removal of a handicap parking space across from 194 Pilgrim Ave.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #9j CC through #9z CC, except for #9y CC, to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee
- 9k. Izan Alfonso Ramos Asevalo request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 9 Aetna St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9l. Samuel Hernandez request installation of speed humps on Pilgrim Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9m. Rae Anne Shenette request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 1 Ames St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9n. Munish Verma request installation of a speed hump in the vicinity of 6 Boston Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)

- 9o. Jane Beahn request removal of a stop sign at the bottom of the hill on Chester St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9p. Heidy Ciciliane request Pasadena Pkwy. be reviewed for installation of speed humps or other traffic calming devices.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9q. Emma Duprey request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage on one of the two sides of Norwood St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9r. Jose I. Rivera request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 81 Fairfax Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9s. Magda L. Roman request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 444 Chandler St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9t. Brenda Hagen et al. request installation of speed humps on Schaffner St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9u. Deborah Fins request installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Neponset St. and West Boylston Dr.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9v. Deborah Fins request installation of a stop sign on Neponset St. at the entrance of Reliant Clinic parking lot (5 Neponset St.).
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9w. Lilian Sorto Cruz and Pedro Cruz request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday in front of 3 Thayer St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9x. Shameen Wijesundara request installation of a temporary speed hump on Ellis Dr.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)
- 9y. Keith J. Linhares request the Resident Permit Parking zone on Germain St. be reviewed for the feasibility of setting a time limit of 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. or removing the zone from parts of the street to allow for visitor parking.
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson and Councilor Colorio, who spoke concerning the item.

Mayor Petty moved to place the item on file. Placed on file
- 9z. Councilor Jenny Pacillo request installation of speed humps in the vicinity of 111 and 114 Barry Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #9j CC)

10. PETITIONS - PART II

- 10a. Councilor Etel Haxhiaj on behalf of Brianne Erban requests speed humps on Delawanda Dr.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #10a CC through #10n CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee
- 10b. Councilor Etel Haxhiaj on behalf of Kerri Wentworth request installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Wedgewood Rd. and Westmorland Dr.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10c. Doug Clark request installation of speed humps on Ashmont Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10d. Nicole Anuszczyk request installation of additional speed limit signage on Blackstone River Rd.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10e. Nicole Anuszczyk request installation of additional speed limit signage on Greenwood St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10f. Nicole Anuszczyk request installation of a crosswalk on Blackstone River Rd. in front of Quinsigamond Elementary School (14 Blackstone River Rd.).
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10g. Nicole Anuszczyk request the School Zone signage on Blackstone River Rd. be reviewed for the feasibility of changing the time from 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10h. Nicole Anuszczyk request the existing School Zone signage on Blackstone River Rd. be updated to include flashing beacons.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10i. Joel Wallen request removal of the Commercial Loading Zone in front of 237 Millbury St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10j. Anival Correa request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage in front of 21 Lodi St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10k. Councilor Etel Haxhiaj on behalf of Gordon Jon Davis request installation of speed humps on Varnum St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)
- 10l. Gary P. Peters request the three (3) way stop signs at the intersection of Parkton St. and Chester St. be replaced with two (2) yield signs and one (1) stop sign as previously configured.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)

10m. Jennifer O'Connor request installation of speed humps on Beverly Rd.

Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)

10n. Alyson Kenney request installation of a crosswalk that includes pedestrian walking signage with blinking lights on Main St. at the Richards St. intersection.

Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #10a CC)

11. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

11.1 APPOINTMENTS

Non-City Council Confirmation

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the appointment of Hasib Mahmud to the Worcester Arts Council.

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

11.2 APPOINTMENTS

City Council Confirmation

11.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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

11.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Semi-Annual Tax Increment Financing and Tax Increment Exemption Report for the period ending June 30, 2025.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Haxhiaj, who moved to, “Request City Manager request Chief Development Officer provide City Council with a report detailing any compliance work associated with the city’s Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) Agreements, including details about citations and fines against TIF and TIE developers, over the past six (6) months. Further, request said report also include information concerning determinations made by the city against contractors and subcontractors working on such projects.” (See Item #19f CC).

Councilor Haxhiaj then moved to, “Request City Manager request Chief Development Officer update future Semi-Annual Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) Reports to include information concerning compliance around the requirements of the Responsible Development Ordinance, including information concerning citations and fines of contractors working on such projects.” (See Item #19g CC).

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

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

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to Housing and Neighborhood Development Activities.

Mayor Petty read the item.

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

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

Mayor Petty moved to refer the item to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee

- C. Recommend Adoption of resolution to amend the Urban Center Housing Tax Increment Financing (UCH-TIF) Plan and Agreement for Lakeside Phase I Four LLC and Lakeside Phase I Nine LLC for the proposed affordable housing project located at 34-46 Lakeside Avenue.

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

- D. Transmitting Informational Communication Relative to Billboard Regulations.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee

- E. Transmitting informational communication relative to Economic Development Initiatives.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer the item to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee

11.5 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION
Kevin Lovaincy, Chief Equity Officer

11.6 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION
Division of Human Rights and Accessibility
Patricia M. LaFore, Director

11.7 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Administration Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner

11.8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Engineering and Architectural Services Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner

11.9 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Operations Division

John K. Westerling, Commissioner

11.10 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, AND CEMETERY

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Commissioner

11.11 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner

11.12 FIRE DEPARTMENT

Martin Dyer, Fire Chief

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Worcester Fire Department strategic plan, as relates to the Emergency Services Consulting International report.

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

11.13 POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul B. Saucier, Police Chief

11.14 DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Charles R. Goodwin, Commissioner

11.15 LAW DEPARTMENT

Alexandra H. Kalkounis, Esq., City Solicitor

- A. Recommending adoption of proposed Home Rule Petition authorizing the municipality to adopt a zoning ordinance requiring Institutional Master Plans.

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

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)

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to rental agreements for all municipal properties, including but not limited to churches renting Worcester Public Schools properties.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to recommit the item.

Councilor Russell then moved to, "Request City Manager provide City Council with updated information relative to rental agreements for all municipal properties, including but not limited to churches renting Worcester Public Schools properties. Said updated information should include all temporary arrangements in the city, including but not limited to such arrangements at Worcester Technical High School." (See Item #19h CC).

Mayor Petty moved to recommit the item. Recommitted to the City Manager

11.16 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Administration

Nicholas Antanavica, Commissioner

11.17 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Building and Zoning Division

David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner

11.18 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Housing and Health Inspections Division

Lee R. Hall, Director

11.19 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration

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

11.20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Elder Affairs

Amy Vogel Waters, Director

11.21 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Veterans Services

Dr. Joe Robinson, Veterans' Services Officer/Director

11.22 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Youth Services

Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Director

- 11.23 WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**
Jason L. Homer, Executive Director
- 11.24 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**
Election Commission Division
Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk
- 11.25 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**
Rachel Monárrez, Superintendent
- 11.26 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Administration
Timothy McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer
- 11.27 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Assessing Division
Samuel E. Konieczny, City Assessor
- 11.28 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Budget Office Division
Erin E. Taylor, Director
- 11.29 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Purchasing Division
Christopher Gagliastro, Director
- 11.30 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Treasury and Collections Division
Francisco Hernandez, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes
- 11.31 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES**
James Bedard, Chief of Public Facilities
- 11.32 DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE**
John W. Odell, Chief Sustainability Officer
- 11.33 DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**
Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer
- 11.34 FINANCE ITEMS**
Capital Transfers

11.35 FINANCE ITEMS

Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend One Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars and Forty-Five Cents (\$197,195.45) for the FY26 State 911 Training Grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt items #11.35A CM through #11.35F CM, #11.36A CM and #11.36B CM and #11.37A CM through #11.37F CM.

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

- B. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$75,000.00) from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD) for the Youth Employment Gateway Cities Learning Community Pilot.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)

- C. Recommend the adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Green Communities Competitive Grant Program.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)

- D. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety-Three Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$293,000.00) from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's (MassCEC) Climate-Critical Workforce Training, Equipment & Infrastructure grants program.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)

- E. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of One Million Ninety Thousand and Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$1,090,007.00) from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Action Grant FY2026.

Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)

- F. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Two Thousand Thirty Five Dollars and Three Cents (\$2,035.03) from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.
Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)

11.36 FINANCE ITEMS

Operational Transfers

- A. Recommend that Two Hundred Eleven Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$211,000.00) be transferred from Gift #GFT-1138, Community Fund/Gate Fees, and be appropriated to Project #PRJ-100203, Blithewood Park, to cover lighting improvements at Blithewood Park.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)
- B. Recommend Adoption of Revolving Fund (MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2), for the Co-Operative Paving and Patching Program.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)

11.37 FINANCE ITEMS

Prior Year

- A. Recommend that Three Thousand Three Hundred Nine Dollars and Seventy Three Cents (\$3,309.73) be authorized from Cost Center #CC1031, Department of Innovation and Technology Ordinary Maintenance, to provide funding 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 #11.35A CM)
- B. Recommend that Seven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty One Dollars and Seventy Six Cents (\$7,381.76) be authorized from various Fiscal Year 2026 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 #11.35A CM)
- C. Recommend that Ten Thousand Sixty Nine Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$10,069.30) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2026 Cost Center #CC1081, Transportation & Mobility 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 #11.35A CM)

- D. Recommend that Three Thousand One Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Twenty Seven Cents (\$3,117.27) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2026 Cost Center #CC1017, Emergency Communications 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 #11.35A CM)

- E. Recommend that One Thousand Six Hundred Fifteen Dollars And Forty Two Cents (\$1,615.42) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2026 Cost Center #CC1055, DPW Salary and Overtime, to allow for a prior year salary adjustment for an employee of the Department of Public Works.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #11.35A CM)

- F. Recommend that Nineteen Thousand One Hundred Fifty Five Dollars and Seventy Nine Cents (\$19,155.79) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2026 Cost Center #CC1044, Fire 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 #11.35A CM)

11.38 FINANCE

Loan Orders

11.39 MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA TRANSMITTALS

12. ORDERS

- 12a. That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby declare that William S. Coleman, III, be made an honorary City-Councilor-For-A-Day on October 20, 2025, in honor of his passing and contributions to the city. (Petty)

Order adopted (See Item #9g CC)

- 12b. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility conduct a traffic study for Bellevue St. from Pleasant St. to Chandler St. (Ojeda)

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

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12c. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility conduct a traffic study on Malden St. to determine appropriate speed calming measures that can be installed throughout the street. (Pacillo)

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

- 12d.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning safety protocols required for motorists using e-bikes and scooters, including information concerning where said motorists are required to drive, as well as whether said motorists are required to wear helmets when operating their vehicles. Further, request City Manager consider an education campaign around such requirements to ensure safe roadways for all road users. (Colorio)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12e.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report listing all the vacant lots in the city that are city-owned. (Haxhiaj)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Haxhiaj, who moved to amend the item to read as follows: "Request City Manager provide City Council with a report listing all city-owned and city-controlled sites, including land owned by Worcester Public Schools (WPS), empty parking lots and other city-leased parcels."

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

- 12f.** That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby amend its meeting schedule to cancel its meeting on November 11, 2025, in observance of the Veterans Day holiday, and make its November 18, 2025, agenda a joint City Council and City Manager agenda. (Petty)

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

- 12g.** Request City Manager conduct a staffing analysis of the city's inspectors to determine whether any additional best practices used in other municipalities could benefit the city in ensuring proper coverage that allows the city to keep up with the construction and permitting associated with the growth of the city. (Pacillo)

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

Mayor Petty moved to add the entire City Council as sponsors of the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12h.** Request City Manager review the existing playground equipment at Duffy Field to determine any upgrades that can be made to said equipment that would make the location safer for young children. (Pacillo)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12i.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility provide City Council with a presentation regarding plans to create a rotary at the intersection of May St. and Chandler St. in the vicinity of Worcester State University. (Bergman)
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Bergman and Councilor Haxhiaj, who spoke concerning the item.
- Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Haxhiaj.
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who spoke concerning the item.
- Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.
- Councilor King then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the timeline associated with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) project relative to creating a rotary at the intersection of May St. and Chandler St. in the vicinity of Worcester State University.” (See Item #19i CC).
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Bergman and Councilor Haxhiaj for second times, who spoke concerning the item.
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Russell, who spoke concerning the item.
- Mayor Petty recognized the City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Russell.
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who spoke concerning the item.
- Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted
- 12j.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any plans to eradicate invasive plants in the city. (Toomey)
Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who spoke concerning the item.
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson, who moved to amend the item to read as follows: “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any plans, including but not limited to the establishment of a taskforce or committee, to eradicate invasive plants in the city.”
- Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Pacillo, who moved to add her name as a sponsor of the item.
- Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item as amended. Order adopted as amended

- 12k.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the status of changes to fire stations alerting in the way of “quiet stations,” which would reduce the negative physical and mental health impacts on firefighters. Said efforts could include progressive tones, pre-announced soft messages, graduated lighting, and zoned alerting. (Toomey)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12l.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any plans around crosswalk enforcement in the city. (Toomey)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12m.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the status of PFAS-free turnout gear, in light of recent reports regarding the effectiveness and safety of gear currently being used by Worcester and other municipalities. Further, request said report include information as to whether there is any new legislation that could support the city’s efforts to purchase and increase the amount of PFAS-free turnout available to Worcester Fire Department (WFD) firefighters, as well as any additional fire suppression equipment that may be helpful in supporting the department. (Toomey)

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

- 12n.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the effectiveness of fire blankets and any recommendations for use by residents. (Toomey)

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

- 12o.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the current condition of the city’s Worcester Police Department (WPD) fleet. Said report should include information concerning what is needed to ensure the city is able to maintain maximum performance of the fleet. (Toomey)

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 12p.** Request City Manager work to ensure all construction projects occurring in the city have an assigned community liaison tasked with communicating to residents and businesses in the area of all pertinent information regarding said construction. (Mero-Carlson)

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

Mayor Petty moved to add the entire City Council as sponsors of the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

12q. Request City Manager request Assistant Commissioner of Public Works and Parks ensure any Master Plan associated with Poet Hill include work to be done with neighborhood stakeholders to install a plaque listing all poets associated with the location. (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

12r. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks review the area around the Lake Ave. pumping station to ensure all foul odors at the location be alleviated. (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

12s. Request City Manager provide City Council with proper legislation to allow the city to opt into the local option of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54 for the purposes of establishing a minimum value of personal property subject to taxation threshold of under \$10,000.00. Further, request City Manager include in said report information concerning additional strategies and follow up in potential unreported businesses, tracking for newly incorporated business entities, and comprehensive business tracking systems that are currently in play in the city. Further, request said report include information concerning the city's personal property team performance metrics with confirmation of \$2 to \$4 million in untaxed personal property accounts. Further, that said report include information concerning future efforts that said team plans to take to ensure continuous identification and fair taxation. Further, request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with information delineating whether once the local option is adopted it can be reversed in the future and that such enactment would require a special act filed with the state legislature. (King)

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

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

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

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

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

Councilor Bergman then moved to recuse himself from the item and left the room.

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

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 Haxhiaj, who moved to add herself as a sponsor of the item.

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

13. RESOLUTIONS

- 13a. That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby recognize the week of September 14, 2025, through September 20, 2025, as “Paint the Town Green,” week in the City of Worcester. (Petty)

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

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- 13b. That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby recognize and celebrate all neighborhood leaders who host monthly neighborhood meetings in partnership with the Worcester Police Department (WPD) and other city service departments, in appreciation of their dedication, hard work, and ongoing commitment to safety and quality of life in the city’s neighborhoods. (Petty)

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

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Bergman, who moved to amend the item to include the words, “including posthumous recognition.”

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

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Resolution adopted as amended on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

14. REPORTS OF THE PLANNING BOARD

- 14a. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of a Zoning Ordinance Amendment relative to Accessory Dwelling Units.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #14a CC through #14c CC to Economic Development Committee. Referred to Economic Development Committee

- 14b. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommending adoption of Zoning Ordinance Amendment Related to Driveways, Pavement, and Permits.

Referred to Economic Development Committee (See Item #14a CC)

- 14c. REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Petition of Daniel S. Ford request Zoning Map be amended by extending the BG-3.0 (Business, General) zoning district and the CCOD-C (Commercial Corridors Overlay District - Canal District Subarea) overlay district to fully encompass the property located at 3 Harding St. (MBL-05-021-0004A).

Referred to Economic Development Committee (See Item #14a CC)

- 14d.** REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD Upon the Communication of the City Manager Recommend Discontinuance of a Portion of the Former Foster Street Layout at Washington Square.

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

15. TO BE ORDAINED

- 15a.** Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group A - Administrative and Supervisory for Multiple Positions.

Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group C - Information Services for the Software Analyst Position.

Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group E – Fiscal for the Assistant Collector Position.

Amending the Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996 Occupational Group Na – Fire for the Director of Fire Engineering Position.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to ordain items #15a CC though #15c CC. Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- 15b.** Amending Article III of the Worcester Zoning Ordinance Adopted April 2, 1991 Relative to Extension of the Business Limited-1.0 (BL-1.0) Zoning District in the vicinity of Mountain Street East and Burncoat Street.

Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)

- 15c.** Amending Article III of the Worcester Zoning Ordinance Adopted April 2, 1991, Relative to Extension of the Residence, Limited (RL-7) Zoning District in the vicinity of Malden Street, Malden Terrace, Reynolds Street and West Boylston Street.

Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)

16. HELD UNDER PRIVILEGE

- 16a.** COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to Council request on the impact of adopting M.G.L Chapter 148, Section 26I. (Held Under Privilege - Toomey August 19, 2025)

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to place the item on file. Placed on file on a roll call vote 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Haxhiaj, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nguyen absent)

- 16b.** COMMUNICATION of the City Auditor transmitting an informational communication auditing construction progress reports completed or not completed, information related to street selections, as well as completed streets over the past five (5) years with funding considerations and realizations. (Held Under Privilege - King August 19, 2025)

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

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

Councilor King then moved to, "Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning how the city plans to be more inclusive as it relates to providing information to the public as to the progress of construction projects in the city, including information concerning sidewalk repair projects and private street conversions." (See Item #19e CC).

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

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

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

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

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

17. TABLED ITEMS

- 17a.** 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

- 17b.** 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

17c. 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

17d. 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

17e. 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

17f. ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj and Councilor Thu Nguyen - Request City Manager work with appropriate departments and stakeholders to establish an Office of Housing Stability in an effort to prevent the involuntary displacement of city residents who are in the process of being evicted or at the risk of losing their housing, as well as to enact policies to combat displacement, homelessness and enhance tenants' rights. (Held Under Privilege - Haxhiaj July 18, 2023 and Tabled - Haxhiaj August 22, 2023)

No action taken

17g. 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

17h. 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

17i. 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

17j. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to how the U.S. Department of Justice's report on the Worcester Police Department differs from the account of the municipality. (Held Under Privilege - King April 29, 2025 and May 6, 2025 and Tabled - King May 13, 2025)

No action taken

18. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the August 19, 2025 City Council meeting.

18a. PETITION of Councilor Jenny Pacillo and Councilor Morris A. Bergman on behalf of Paula Rosenblum et al. request speed hump plan associated with Haviland St. be amended to include three (3) speed humps placed as equal distance to each other as possible. – Item #25a CC Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays

18b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Report of the Planning Board Upon the Petition of Joshua Lee Smith on behalf of Wolfe Farms LLC request to amend the Zoning Map of the City of Worcester, as referenced in Article III, Section 2 of the City of Worcester Zoning Ordinance, by changing the zoning designation of the Properties identified below from the current zoning designation of Residence, Single Family (RS-7) to Residence, Limited (RL-7), as shown on the map attached hereto. The Properties include the properties known and numbered as 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 18, 40, 42, and 44 Malden Street, 1-6 Malden Terrace, 1-3, 5-7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 Reynolds Street, and 885, 915, 919, 921 and 923 West Boylston Street: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance. – Item #25b CC Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays

18c. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing prior City Council Orders and recommendations relative to trash management in the city. – Item #25c CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 18d.** ORDER of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson – Request City Manager review neighborhood concerns and clean/remove a large trash receptacle located in the Canal District. – Item #25d CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 18e.** ORDER of Mayor Joseph M. Petty – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any State Ethics Commission rulings relative to issues around City Council reaching a quorum when considering topics impacting many City Councilors and whether any exemptions exist around such circumstances. – Item #25e CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 18f.** ORDER of Councilor Jenny Pacillo – Request City Clerk provide City Council with a report detailing the operational challenges faced by the department relative to transitioning to a new agenda management software, OneMeeting by Granicus, and website. Further, request City Clerk include in said report information relative to any functions lost or gained concerning vital records operations on the city’s new website. – Item #25f CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 18g.** ORDER of Councilor George J. Russell – Request City Manager request Chief Information Officer provide City Council with a report concerning how much money the city is currently spending on software associated with both the city’s agenda management program and the city’s website. – Item #25g CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 18h.** ORDER of Councilor Jenny Pacillo and Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson – Request City Manager provide City Council provide City Council with a report concerning the feasibility of adjusting private utility permitting fees in relation to any utility rate changes. – Item #25h CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 18i.** ORDER of Councilor George J. Russell – Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a report concerning the legality of imposing retaliatory increases to private utility fees based on increases to resident utility bills. – Item #25i CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 18j.** ORDER of Councilor George J. Russell – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the amount the city is charging utility companies for utility work being done in the city’s streets, as well as the feasibility of increasing said charges to account for additional funds required to fix damage to the city’s streets associated with such work. – Item #25j CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 18k.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning the timeline and efforts being made to secure a day center and general public facilities for the city’s homeless population. – Item #25k CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 18l.** ORDER of Councilor Morris A. Bergman – Request City Manager consider requesting non-profits that own real estate in the city to voluntarily contribute back to the city funds they receive regarding Community Preservation Act (CPA) monies. – Item #251 CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 0 Nays

19. NEW BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the September 9, 2025 City Council meeting.

19a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY Upon the 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: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with item #16a CC and #19b CC.

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized the City Clerk and Fire Chief, who responded to questions raised by Councilor King.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Fire Chief and City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Toomey.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Fire Chief, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Bergman.

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

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

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Fire Chief, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Bergman.

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

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

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

Councilor King then moved to recommend the item be accepted and adopted. – Not Put.

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a fourth time, who moved to contest the ruling of the Mayor relative to how the Standing Committee on Public Safety's recommendation to place the item on file applied to the vote before the City Council. – Withdrawn.

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to accept the recommendation of Public Safety Committee to place the item on file. Accepted on a roll call vote 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Haxhiaj, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nguyen absent).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a fifth time, who 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)

- 19b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY** Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to the city's fire sprinkler policies and the potential impact of adopting M.G.L. Chapter 148, Section 26I: recommend Communication be placed on file.
Accepted on a roll call vote 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Haxhiaj, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nguyen absent) (See Item #19a CC)
- 19c. CHAIRMAN'S ORDER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY** - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any incentives the city can implement to encourage individuals to install sprinklers in their properties.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt the item. Order adopted
- 19d. CHAIRMAN'S RESOLUTION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY** - That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby reaffirm its established commitment to fire safety and prevention.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item. Resolution adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 19e. Motion King @ #16b CC** – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning how the city plans to be more inclusive as it relates to providing information to the public as to the progress of construction projects in the city, including information concerning sidewalk repair projects and private street conversions.
Order adopted (See Item #16b CC)
- 19f. Motion Haxhiaj @ #11.4A CM** – Request City Manager request Chief Development Officer provide City Council with a report detailing any compliance work associated with the city's Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) Agreements, including details about citations and fines against TIF and TIE developers, over the past six (6) months. Further, request said report also include information concerning determinations made by the city against contractors and subcontractors working on such projects.
Order adopted (See Item #11.4A CM)

19g. Motion Haxhiaj @ #11.4A CM – Request City Manager request Chief Development Officer update future Semi-Annual Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) Reports to include information concerning determinations relative to the requirements of the Responsible Development Ordinance, including information concerning citations and fines of contractors working on such projects.

Order adopted (See Item #11.4A CM)

19h. Motion Russell @ #11.15B CM – Request City Manager provide City Council with updated information relative to rental agreements for all municipal properties, including but not limited to churches renting Worcester Public Schools properties. Said updated information should include all temporary arrangements in the city, including but not limited to such arrangements at Worcester Technical High School.

Order adopted (See Item #11.15B CM)

19i. Motion King @ #12i CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the timeline associated with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) project relative to creating a rotary at the intersection of May St. and Chandler St. in the vicinity of Worcester State University.

Order adopted (See Item #12i CC)

19j. Motion Russell – Suspension of Rules – Request Standing Committee on Public Works hold a meeting to solicit input from the public regarding Zero Waste proposals and potential changes to the city’s current trash and recycling program. Further, request said meeting also include a discussion relative to the results of the Department of Public Works researching the contents of the city’s resident’s trash.

Referred to Public Works Committee