

CITY OF WORCESTER

JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Esther Howland (South) Chamber

Convened: 6:35 P.M.

Recessed: 7:50 P.M.

Reconvened: 7:58 P.M.

Adjourned: 9:36 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

AT-LARGE COUNCILORS

Morris A. Bergman

Donna M. Colorio

Khrystian E. King

Thu Nguyen

Kathleen M. Toomey



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DISTRICT COUNCILORS

Jenny Pacillo - District 1

Candy Mero-Carlson - District 2

George J. Russell - District 3

Luis A. Ojeda - District 4

Etel Haxhijaj - District 5

CITY CLERK

Nikolin Vangjeli

CITY MANAGER

Eric D. Batista

CITY AUDITOR

Robert V. Stearns

City Hall - 455 Main Street Worcester, Massachusetts

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. STAR SPANGLED BANNER

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

4. PROCLAMATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, MOMENTS OF SILENCE

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5a. Order - That the City Council of the City of Worcester hereby approves the minutes of the City Council Meeting of March 11, 2025.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt items #5a CC and #5b CC. Order adopted

5b. Order - That the City Council of the City of Worcester hereby approves the minutes of the City Council Meeting of March 18, 2025.

Order adopted (See Item #5a CC)

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

1. Fred Nathan, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8s CC, spoke in opposition of item #8w CC, and spoke neither in favor nor opposed of items #10a CC and #10b CC
2. Courtney Petrou-Bateman, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8a CC
3. Mauro De Pasquale, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of item #9.36A CM
4. Adam Thielker, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC and spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
5. Gary Hunter, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
6. Alex Rivera Ortiz, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC
7. Janet Davis, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
8. Kirsten Frazier, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC and spoke in opposition to items #10a CC and #10b CC
9. Sadie Lombardi, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
10. Ashley Spring, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC and spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
11. Emma Tosch, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
12. Robert Bilotta, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #8w CC and #9.12A CM and spoke in opposition of item #11d CC
13. Elizabeth Brodersen, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
14. David Webb, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC and spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
15. Matt McCullough, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC and spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
16. Sarah Bertrand, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
17. John Edward Keough, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items # 9.36A CM, #10a CC, and #10b CC
18. Karin Valentine Goins, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
19. Idella Hazard, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #11b CC and #13p CC
20. Phil Gagnon, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8a CC
21. John Foley, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
22. Saul Ramos, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC and spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
23. Ted Kostas, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #9.36A CM, #10a CC, and #10b CC
24. Denise Bilotta, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
25. Johanna Hampton-Dance, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #8w CC, #10a CC, and #10b CC
26. Colleen West, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #10a CC and #10b CC

27. Julia (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
28. Nathalie Gibson, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #8s CC, #8w CC, and #16k CC and spoke in opposition to items #8q CC, #10a CC, and #10b CC
29. Noah Rose, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
30. Tom Marino, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
31. Emma Narkewicz, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of items #8w CC and #16k CC and spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
32. Eric Stratton, Worcester resident, spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
33. Jessica (no last name given), spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
34. Jamie Courtney, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC and spoke in opposition of items #10a CC and #10b CC
35. Phil Niddrie, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8s CC
36. Charles Slatkin, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8s CC
37. Nelly Medina, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC
38. Manolo (no last name given), Worcester resident, spoke in favor of item #8w CC

7. HEARINGS AND ORDERS

- 7a.** Hearing: NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: MOODY ST.

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

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

Mayor Petty asked if any abutters wished to be heard on the 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

- 7b.** Hearing: NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. for a jointly-owned pole location: TAYLOR ST.

Granting permission to NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. for a jointly-owned pole location: TAYLOR ST.

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

8. PETITIONS

- 8a. Timothy Bateman request Wildwood Ave. from Apricot St. to 301 Wildwood Ave. be made public.

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Haxhiaj, who moved to refer the item to the City Manager. – Not Put.

Mayor Petty recognized the City Clerk and Assistant Chief Development Officer, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Haxhiaj.

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Russell, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with an update relative to efforts being made to allocate funding for private street repairs.” (See Item #18b CC).

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

- 8b. Councilor George J. Russell and State Representative Daniel M. Donahue request the establishment of an RL-7 (Residential, Limited) Zoning district on the existing ML-0.5 & MG-2.0 portions of the following parcels: 34 Eskow Rd., 224 Southwest Cutoff, Weatherstone Drive Condos (CO-NDO-01061)(including parcel to the west – commonly owned with condominium land), 35 Balis Ave. (34-039-00218), 449 Massasoit Rd., and 483 Massasoit Rd. The existing RS-7 zoning district shall remain unaltered & the rezoning shall not include the ROW portion of the 34 Eskow Rd. parcel. Said proposed rezoning shall continue east along the southeast corner of the parcel at 449 Massasoit Ave. horizontally across 34 Eskow Rd.

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

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

- 8c. Thomas Keane request installation of 15 Minute Parking in front of 85 Green St from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. for restaurant food pickup for the same spaces currently designated Commercial Load Zone from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to refer items #8c CC through #8q CC to Traffic and Parking Committee. Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee

- 8d. Caroline Peterson request installation of a handicap parking space in front of 194 Hamilton St.

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

- 8e. Kristin and Jonathan Cressman request installation of speed humps in the vicinity of 31 Halmstad St.

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

- 8f. Vanesa Anne Simmarano request installation of speed humps on Prentice St.

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

- 8g.** Rosemarie Galeotalanza request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage at the intersection of Franklin St. and Kiara Dr. that is at least six (6) to twenty (20) feet from the entrance of Kiara Dr.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8h.** Rosalyn Burnett request removal of the handicap parking space at 27 Richard St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8i.** Michael Chesna request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage directly across from the driveway of 90 Alvarado Ave.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8j.** Marguerite Cormier request installation of flashing yellow pedestrian lights in the middle of the island at the crosswalk where Nonquit St. and Lake Ave. intersect.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8k.** Mallory Shelly request installation of four-way stop signage at the intersection of Merrick St. and Larch St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8l.** Mallory Shelly request installation of speed humps on Merrick St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8m.** Mallory Shelly request Austin St. from Piedmont St. to Newbury St. be made a two-way street.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8n.** Robert Berry request installation of a handicap parking space across from 210 Ingleside Ave. on the odd side of the street.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8o.** Maria Castillo request installation of "Do Not Block Driveway" signage in the vicinity of the driveway at 8 Chapin St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8p.** Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson request removal of "No Parking Anytime" signage in the vicinity of 12 Branch St.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8q.** Councilor Khrystian E. King on behalf of Tedi Altif request installation of a handicap parking space in the vicinity of 3-5 Fourth Street.
Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee (See Item #8c CC)
- 8r.** NATIONAL GRID for a conduit location at: HEMANS ST.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to set a hearing for the item on April 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. Hearing set for April 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

- 8s. Philip Niddrie and Charles Slatkin request an opportunity to brief City Council regarding the Robert H. Goddard Centennial Committee's current efforts to prepare for the Centennial Events in March of 2026.

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

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

- 8t. Alexander Lorusso request City Council request City Manager install a monument/plaque outside of the Old Courthouse (2 Main St.) indicating the site of the Worcester Revolution of 1774.

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

- 8u. Patrick W. Grady request City Council request City Manager work with the Worcester Historical Museum to design a historical exhibit of Worcester City Hall and the old Worcester Town Hall to be on display at Worcester City Hall.

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

- 8v. Patrick W. Grady request City Council request City Manager restore the sconces to the facade at City Hall.

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

- 8w. Nelly Medina et al. request City Council adopt the attached item declaring and recognizing April 2, 2025 as Autism Acceptance and Awareness Day in the City of Worcester, fostering education and acceptance in our community (see attached).

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)

9. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

9.1 APPOINTMENTS
Non-City Council Confirmation

9.2 APPOINTMENTS
City Council Confirmation

9.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
William Bagley, Jr., Esq., Chief Human Resources Officer

9.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

A. Requesting adoption of amendment to Zoning Ordinance relative to the Floodplain Overlay District.

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

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

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

9.7 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS
Administration Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner

9.8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS
Engineering and Architectural Services Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner

9.9 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS
Operations Division
John K. Westerling, Commissioner

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

9.11 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to resurfacing and associated improvements to Massasoit Road.

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

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

9.12 FIRE DEPARTMENT

Martin Dyer, Fire Chief

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the city's fire sprinkler policies and the potential impact of adopting M.G.L. Chapter 148, Section 26I.

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to Take Item #16k CC off the Table. Motion approved on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

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

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

Councilor Haxhiaj then moved to refer the item to the Public Safety Committee.

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

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

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

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

Mayor Petty moved to refer the items to the Public Safety Committee. Referred to Public Safety Committee

9.13 POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul B. Saucier, Police Chief

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to a comparison of 2023 and 2024 police details.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Police Chief, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Toomey.

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

9.14 DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Charles R. Goodwin, Commissioner

9.15 LAW DEPARTMENT

Alexandra H. Kalkounis, Esq., City Solicitor

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to a report concerning the kind of political signage and messaging allowed to be displayed at public meetings.

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

9.16 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Administration

David Horne, Interim Commissioner

9.17 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Building and Zoning Division

David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner

9.18 DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Housing and Health Inspections Division

Lee R. Hall, Director

9.19 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration

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

9.20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Elder Affairs

Amy Vogel Waters, Director

- 9.21 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Veterans Services
Dr. Joe Robinson, Veterans' Services Officer/Director
- 9.22 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Youth Services
Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Director
- 9.23 WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**
Jason L. Homer, Executive Director
- 9.24 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**
Election Commission Division
Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk
- 9.25 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**
Rachel Monárrez, Superintendent
- 9.26 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Administration
Timothy McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer
- 9.27 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Assessing Division
Samuel E. Konieczny, City Assessor
- 9.28 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Budget Office Division
Erin E. Taylor, Director
- 9.29 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Purchasing Division
Christopher Gagliastro, Director
- 9.30 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Treasury and Collections Division
Francisco Hernandez, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes
- 9.31 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES**
James Bedard, Chief of Public Facilities

9.32 DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

John W. Odell, Chief Sustainability Officer

9.33 DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer

9.34 FINANCE ITEMS

Capital Transfers

9.35 FINANCE ITEMS

Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of Four Hundred Twenty Six Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Five Dollars And No Cents (\$426,385.00) from MA State 911 Department under the FY26 Development Grant Program program.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with items #9.35B CM, #9.36A CM through #9.36E CM, and #9.37A CM through #9.37D CM.

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

- B. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude the donation of used office furniture with an approximate monetary value of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) donated by Fallon Health to the Department of Public Facilities.

Resolution adopted with gratitude on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9.35A CM)

9.36 FINANCE ITEMS

Operational Transfers

- A. Recommend authorization to increase Fund #FD311, RRA – Cable Fund, by One Million Five Hundred Sixty Three Thousand One Hundred Sixty One Dollars and Seventy Nine Cents (\$1,563,161.79) and be deposited to various Cable programs to provide sufficient funding for the Cable programs for Fiscal Year 2026.

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

Mayor Petty recognized the Chief Development Officer and City Manager, who responded to questions raised by Councilor Mero-Carlson.

Councilor Mero-Carlson then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning potential opportunities to provide additional funding for the city’s cable services department, as well as public access TV, including WCCA TV.” (See Item #18c CC).

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning seeking legal recourse on behalf of the city’s seniors to recoup monies stolen from them by Charter Communications.” (See Item #18d CC).

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that Fifty Five Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Two Dollars And Forty Nine Cents (\$55,472.49) be transferred from Fund #FD313, Damage Settlements, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1040-610100, Police Ordinary Maintenance, to fund the repair of WPD vehicles involved in no fault motor vehicle accidents.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item 9.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that Three Hundred Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars And No Cents (\$309,750.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1051-699399, DPW Snow Capital Outlay, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1051-610100, DPW Snow Ordinary Maintenance, to fund contractually obligated payments to snow plow contractors.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item 9.35A CM)

- D. Recommend that Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$250,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1078-600100, Parks Maintenance Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1078- 601100, Parks Maintenance Overtime, to fund overtime costs for the remainder on Fiscal Year 2025.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9.35A CM)

- E. Recommend that Five Hundred Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$500,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center CC#1055-600100, DPW Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center CC#1055-610100, DPW Ordinary Maintenance, to provide funding for increased costs associated with trash and recycling.

Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #9.35A CM)

9.37 FINANCE ITEMS

Prior Year

- A. Recommend that Three Hundred Twenty Six Dollars and Ninety Six Cents (\$326.96) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1023, Health & Human Services 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 #9.35A CM)

- B. Recommend that Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Eight Dollars And Forty Six Cents (\$7,898.46) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1038, Police 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 #9.35A CM)

- C. Recommend that One Thousand Forty Four Dollars and No Cents (\$1,044.00) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1007, Public Facilities 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 #9.35A CM)

- D. Recommend that Two Hundred Forty Seven Dollars And Forty Eight Cents (\$247.48) be authorized from Fiscal Year 2025 Cost Center #CC1017, Emergency Communications 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 #9.35A CM)

9.38 FINANCE
Loan Orders

9.39 MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA TRANSMITTALS

10. CHAIRMAN'S ORDERS

- 10a. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS -**
That the Rules of the City Council of the City of Worcester are hereby amended by inserting the following Rule 61: Rule 61. Attendance and Temporary Absence of Council Members. “It is the responsibility of council members to attend all council and committee meetings. (City Charter Article 2 - Section 2-6 Exercise of Powers; Quorum; Rules). Members of the city council should notify both the chair and the City Clerk if they are unable to attend a meeting. The City Clerk shall keep a log of attendance and provide a report to the city council if a member of the council has missed 3 council meetings, in-person or remotely, or a total of 6 council and committee meetings, in-person or remotely, in one year without notification and good cause. (Good cause is defined as documented leave based on the City of Worcester’s Personnel Rules and Regulations for employees, including family, medical, and military leave. Any absence from city council and/or committee meetings without notification and good cause is defined as unauthorized leave.”

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Pacillo, who moved to, “Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with information concerning whether amending the City Council Rules relative to withholding a council member’s salary would be impacted by the Massachusetts General Law Chapter 39, Section 6A relative to public officials not being able to increase or reduce their compensation during a term.” (See Item #18e CC).

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

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

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

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor King for a second time, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any elected bodies that are held to the same Human Resources standards as its city employees.” (See Item #18f CC).

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

Mayor Petty moved for a roll call vote to adopt the items. Order failed on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Haxhij, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nguyen absent) (Per Rule 57 of the Rules of City Council, an amendment to the Rules of City Council require a two-thirds vote in the affirmative).

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

- 10b. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS** - That the Rules of the City Council of the City of Worcester are hereby amended by inserting the following Rule 62: Rule 62. Unauthorized Leave Without Pay. “In the event of an unauthorized leave, as defined in Rule 61, of a council member, the city council shall vote to withhold the council member’s salary and benefits. Upon a motion made by a council member, approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the council, a council member shall be subject to leave without pay. The city clerk shall communicate the city council’s vote declaring a council member on unauthorized leave without pay to the Human Resources Department for appropriate action on the salary and benefits. Any such motion made by the city council may also include a provision setting forth additional action if the council member continues to violate the attendance requirements set forth in Rule 61.”

Order failed on a roll call vote of 6 Yeas and 4 Nays (Yeas – Bergman, Colorio, Mero-Carlson, Russell, Toomey, Petty) (Nays – Haxhijaj, King, Ojeda, Pacillo) (Nguyen absent) (See Item #10a CC)

- 10c. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility provide City Council with a traffic study that reviews how traffic flow on multiple streets in the Green Island Neighborhood impact resident and business safety, including Canton St., Ellsworth St., Endicott St., Harding St., Lafayette St., Lamartine St., Millbury St., Seymour St., Sigel St., and Washington St.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to adopt items #10c CC through #10r CC. Order adopted

- 10d. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the timeline relative of when the City Council voted to fund the rental registry program, the amount of funding approved for such a program and the start date for the program. Further, request City Manager include in said report the definition of 110 inspections in comparison to rental registry inspections.

Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

- 10e. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the various properties exempt from taxation in the city, as well as undeveloped land owned by LLCs.

Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

- 10f. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report that organizes all LLCs in the city by common mailing address.

Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

- 10g.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility develop a plan to work with WPI to provide their students with digital educational and informational resources relative to parking ordinances and laws in the city.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)
- 10h.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility prioritize Fourth St. for the installation of speed humps.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)
- 10i.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the schedule relative to installation of temporary speed humps.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)
- 10j.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks conduct a street light study to ensure proper illumination of the crosswalks at the intersection of Audubon Rd. and Richmond Ave. in the interest of pedestrian safety.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)
- 10k.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks remove the vegetation overhanging the sidewalk on Plantation St. between Lord St. and Holmes Field.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)
- 10l.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility install additional one-way signage near the entrance to Thorndyke Rd. from Burncoat St.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)
- 10m.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning what effect school safety zones have on private streets that abut public schools.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)
- 10n.** FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the number and location of cooling centers throughout the city, which open during extreme heat events.
Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

10o. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning strategies being applied in the city relative to the implementation of cooling materials, including an analysis of albedo rooftops and surface paving effectiveness and ineffectiveness.

Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

10p. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning plans to increase the number of white/green roofs or a combination thereof in new development and future development in the city.

Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

10q. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager consider the feasibility of establishing a targeted heat surveillance system throughout the city, depending on the cost analysis of such a project.

Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

10r. FROM THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning how many tree wells are in the city, where they are located and plans to rectify said tree wells.

Order adopted (See Item #10c CC)

11. ORDERS

11a. Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks provide City Council with a report concerning the various ways the residents owning property along private portion of Wildwood Ave. can address concerns over the rapidly deteriorating conditions of the road. Said report should include: 1) information concerning the amount of signatures required to complete various forms of work on the road; 2) whether residents on the public portion of the road having to drive through the private portion to reach their homes would make the road eligible for pothole repairs and/or road resurfacing; 3) if the road became public when a duplex was allowed to be built on the road; and 4) any additional options available to address the road's deteriorating condition if it cannot be made public due to some residents being opposed to a conversion. (Haxhiaj)

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

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 11b.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the number of traffic stops that have occurred due to the implementation of a city-wide 25 MPH speed regulation. Said report shall include information relative to the number of traffic stops that have occurred in each City Council district, as well as each major arterial road in the city. Further, request said report also detail any revenues generated from said speed regulation. (Mero-Carlson)

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to take the item collectively with item #11c CC.

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

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

Councilor Mero-Carlson then moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning current, as of date, actual receipts relative to the city’s account for speeding and traffic enforcement.” (See Item #18g CC).

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the items. Order adopted

- 11c.** Request City Manager request Chief Financial Officer include in future financial updates to the City Council a breakdown of revenues generated from the enforcement of any traffic and parking regulations. Said information should be organized by City Council district. (Mero-Carlson)

Order adopted (See Item #11b CC)

- 11d.** Request City Manager request Chief Human Resources Officer work with any relevant city departments to create volunteer opportunities for seniors who are eligible for the Senior Tax Work-Off Program. Said opportunities should include providing support for election operations, Worcester Senior Center programming, and any other relevant support to city departments. (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

- 11e.** Request City Manager request Chief Development Officer work with the owner of the property at the former site of Price Chopper on Cambridge St. to block the property’s parking lot entrance. Further, request City Manager request Chief Development Officer provide City Council with an update concerning any conversations happening with the property owner regarding future use of the property. (Haxhiaj, Ojeda)

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

- 11f.** Request City Manager work with the appropriate representatives from Eversource to provide City Council with a report outlining the number of grade 1, 2, and 3 gas leaks that have occurred in the city over the past two (2) years, including how many have been repaired and how many have not. Further, request said report include a map detailing the locations of said gas leaks throughout the city, the amount of gas that has leaked out and the equivalent of leaked gas in dollars. (Haxhiaj)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Haxhiaj, who moved to amend the item to replace the words, “two (2),” with the words, “five (5).”

Mayor Petty recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the impact a gas leak in the vicinity of Wawecus Road School, 20 Wawecus Rd., had on the community.” (See Item #18h CC).

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

- 11g.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works and Parks work to allow residents to pay for their recycling containers with a credit card. (Toomey)

Mayor Petty read the item and recognized Councilor Toomey, who moved to amend the item to include the words, “in additional to any other city services.”

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

- 11h.** Request City Manager develop an ordinance that stops any utility or construction company from starting or applying for permits to dig new trenches in public streets until they have completed repairs on recent work elsewhere in the city’s streets. (Russell)

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 recognized Councilor Pacillo, who moved to add her name as a sponsor of the item.

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

Mayor Petty moved to adopt the item. Order adopted

- 11i.** Request City Manager request Commissioner of Transportation and Mobility assess and repair the roundabout at the intersections of Lovell St., Maywood St., Ferdinand St., and Englewood Ave. due to the loosening and dislocating of several pavers as a result of a car-involved incident. (Haxhiaj)

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

- 11j.** Request City Manager contact the appropriate representatives from Charter Communications regarding their announcement to shut down its call center in Worcester, which would lead to an anticipated one-hundred seventy-four (174) employees being laid off by June 26, 2025, in an effort to prevent the location from closing. (Petty)

Vice Chairperson Councilor King read the item and recognized Mayor Petty, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any operations to be continued by Charter Communications at 95 Higgins St. or at another property.” (See Item #18i CC).

Vice Chairperson Councilor King recognized Councilor Mero-Carlson, who moved to, “Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether Charter Communications has initiated providing early intervention re-employment services to their employees affected by the layoffs and closings through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).” (See Item #18j CC).

Vice Chairperson Councilor King moved to add the entire City Council as sponsors of the item.

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

- 11k.** Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the impact funding cuts and pauses by the federal government in the amount of \$1 billion to food banks across the country may have on food distribution in the city. (Petty)

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

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

12. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 12a.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Report of the Planning Board Upon the Petition of David Sadowski, on behalf of Joseph Jreij, request the Zoning Map be amended by changing the zoning designation of the property at 0 Grafton St. (Assessors Map 41-028-0000B) from MG-0.5 to BL-1: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to advertise the proposed Ordinances associated with items #12a CC and #12b CC. Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

- 12b.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of Amendment to the General Revised Ordinance – Numbering of Properties: recommend passage of the accompanying proposed Ordinance.

Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #12a CC)

12c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to a report on a request for an amendment to ordinances related to driveways, parking and paving: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

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

12d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to a List of Residential/Mixed-Use Residential Properties in the City of Worcester Owned by Limited Liability Companies (LLCs): recommend Communication be placed on file.

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

12e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication Relative to Semi-Annual TIF/TIE Reporting: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #12d CC)

12f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication Relative to FEMA Flood Map Updates: recommend Communication be placed on file.

Accepted (See Item #12d CC)

13. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING

13a. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of an amendment to GRO, Part I, Chapter 13, §79 related to establishment of reduced speed school zones: recommend passage of the accompanying Ordinance.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to advertise the proposed Ordinances associated with items #13a CC and #13b CC. Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)

13b. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Communication of the City Manager recommend adoption of an ordinance to prohibit parking on a portion of Coes Street: recommend passage of the accompanying Ordinance.

Voted to advertise proposed Ordinance on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #13a CC)

13c. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request installation of “No Parking Anytime” in the vicinity of the driveway of 48 Windham St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.

Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept and adopt items #13c CC through #13i CC. Accepted and Adopted

- 13d.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Jenny Pacillo request installation of a rapid flashing beacon at the Audubon Rd. and Richmond Ave. intersection crosswalk: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #13c CC)
- 13e.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Pedro Romero request installation of additional crosswalks throughout Plantation St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #13c CC)
- 13f.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Pedro Romero request installation of flashing speed limit signage throughout Plantation St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #13c CC)
- 13g.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Corinne Mannino request installation of additional "One Way" signage on Thorndyke Rd. in vicinity of the exits to Thorndyke Elementary School: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #13c CC)
- 13h.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request installation of one-way signage at the intersection of Austin St. and Crown St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #13c CC)
- 13i.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Etel Haxhij request repainting of yellow lines at Coes St.: recommend adoption of the accompanying Order.
Accepted and Adopted (See Item #13c CC)
- 13j.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Ibtisani Zachi request installation of handicap parking space in front of 30C Mount Ave.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept items #13j CC through #13p CC. Accepted
- 13k.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Margarita Panet and Orlando Lopez request installation of "No Parking Anytime" signage in the vicinity of the driveway at 48 Windham St.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #13j CC)
- 13l.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Nathalie Gibson request establishment of a 20 MPH Safety Zone on Fourth St.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #13j CC)

- 13m.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Corrine Mannino request pavement painting of one-way designation between 3 and 11 Thorndyke Rd.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #13j CC)
- 13n.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson request installation of a “No Left Turn” sign on Franklin St. entering the intersection of Plantation St. at the island in front of 267 Plantation St.: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #13j CC)
- 13o.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Petition of Councilor Etel Haxhij request repainting the lines at the Lovell St. roundabout: recommend Petition be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #13j CC)
- 13p.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND PARKING Upon the Communication of the City Manager transmitting informational communication relative to implementation of the 25 mph statutory speed limit: recommend Communication be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #13j CC)

14. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT

- 14a.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT Upon the Communication of Paul Matthews, Executive Director and CEO of the Worcester Regional Research Bureau, transmitting, "Environmental (In)Justice: An evaluation of climate impacts on Worcester neighborhoods.": recommend Communications be placed on file.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved to accept items #14a CC through #14d CC. Accepted
- 14b.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager Transmitting informational communication relative to Crowdsourcing Mapping - Plant a Tree Initiative: recommend Communication be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #14a CC)
- 14c.** REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT Upon the Communication of the City Manager Transmitting informational communication relative to the Smart Energy Advice Program: recommend Communication be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #14a CC)

- 14d. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON URBAN TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT** Upon the Communication of the City Manager Transmitting informational communication relative to tree planting plans for FY2025: recommend Communication be placed on file.
Accepted (See Item #14a CC)

15. TO BE ORDAINED

- 15a.** Amending Section 29 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 Providing For A Stop Sign On Wall Street At Chrome Street.
Mayor Petty read the item and moved for a roll call vote to ordain items #15a CC through #15ee CC. Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent)
- 15b.** Amending Section 29 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 Providing For Stop Signs On Mower Street At Olean Street And Kinney Drive.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15c.** Amending Section 29 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 Providing For Stop Signs At Grammont Road, Gloucester Road, And Baltic Road.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15d.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In Front Of #61 East Central Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15e.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #28 Proctor Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15f.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #83 Richland Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15g.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #28 Ledgecrest Drive.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15h.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #21 Vineyard Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15i.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #15 Rodney Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15j.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #364 West Boylston Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)

- 15k.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking Across From #12 Columbus Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15l.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking Across From #14 Minthorne Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15m.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #44 Paradox Drive.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15n.** Amending Section 29 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 Providing For Stop Signs On Clark Street At Saint Nicholas Avenue.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15o.** Amending Section 29 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 Providing For Stop Signs On Lake View Street At Sherbrook Avenue.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15p.** Amending Sections 29 And 31 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 Providing For Stop Signs On Chester Street And Parkton Avenue.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15q.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #40 King Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15r.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #32-34 Newbury Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15s.** Amending Section 43 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Modify The Winter Parking Ban On Lincoln Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15t.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking Across From #75 West Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15u.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking Across From #8 Shepard Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15v.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #11 Carlstad Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)

- 15w.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #35 King Philip Road.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15x.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #49 Abbott Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15y.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #3 Hitchcock Road.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15z.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Remove Handicap Parking In The Vicinity Of #197 Eastern Avenue.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15aa.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #5 Becket Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15bb.** Amending Section 43 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Modify The Winter Parking Ban On Windsor Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15cc.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #13 Shepard Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15dd.** Amending Section 42 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 To Provide Handicap Parking In Front Of #57 Paine Street.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)
- 15ee.** Amending Section 29 Of Chapter 13 Of The Revised Ordinances Of 2008 Providing For A Stop Sign On Azalea Drive At Rainbow Drive.
Ordained on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays (Nguyen absent) (See Item #15a CC)

16. TABLED ITEMS

- 16a.** ORDER of Councilor Konstantina B. Lukes - Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with a legal opinion regarding the process of instituting a residential rent control program and the resulting impact of implementing such a program. (Tabled Under Privilege - Lukes September 17, 2019 and September 24, 2019 and Tabled - Lukes October 15, 2019)
No action taken

16b. RESOLUTION of Councilor Khrystian E. King - That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby support Representative Rebecca Rauch and Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz's SD 699 HD 1283, An Act effectuating equity in COVID-19 Vaccination Bill. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman February 9, 2021 and Tabled - Bergman February 23, 2021)

No action taken

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

No action taken

16d. CHAIRMAN'S ORDER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - Request City Council work to ensure City Council and School Committee districts are parallel, so as to ensure public clarity. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson May 24, 2022 and June 7, 2022 and Tabled - Petty June 14, 2022)

No action taken

16e. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION Upon the Order of Councilor Morris A. Bergman and Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson - Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation Committee hold a public discussion with the WRTA Administrator relative to the removal of a bus route that passes the EcoTarium, 222 Harrington Way: recommend Communication be placed on file. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

16f. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION Upon the Order of Councilor Sarai Rivera and Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request Standing Committee on Public Service and Transportation meet with the WRTA Administrator to provide City Council with a report concerning the WRTA's winter weather plan, especially including information as to how snow will be removed at each of the bus stops: recommend Order be placed on file. (Tabled Under Privilege - Bergman January 17, 2023 and Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson January 24, 2023 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson January 31, 2023)

No action taken

16g. 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. (Tabled Under Privilege - Haxhiaj July 18, 2023 and Tabled - Haxhiaj August 22, 2023)

No action taken

16h. 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

16i. ORDER of Councilor George J. Russell and Councilor Morris A. Bergman - Request City Manager install metal detector safety equipment at City Hall whenever open, similar to the equipment used at Polar Park, the Worcester District Court and other public places, on or before December 31, 2024. (Tabled Under Privilege - Russell September 24, 2024 and October 1, 2024 and Tabled - Russell October 8, 2024)

No action taken

16j. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King - Request City Manager conduct an equity audit of all city departments every five (5) years. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson December 10, 2024 and Tabled Under Privilege - Toomey December 17, 2024 and Tabled - Nguyen January 7, 2025)

No action taken

16k. COMMUNICATION of the City Manager recommend adoption of MGL Ch 148, Section 26I, which mandates the installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems in residential buildings with four or more dwelling units. (Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson February 4, 2025, Tabled Under Privilege - Mero-Carlson and Haxhiaj February 11, 2025 and Tabled - Mero-Carlson February 25, 2025)

Referred to Public Safety Committee (See Item #9.12A CM)

17. BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the March 18, 2025 and March 25, 2025 City Council meetings.

17a. ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby declare homelessness and the lack of affordable housing in the city as a public safety and public health emergency. – Item #21a CC Order adopted

17b. ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report and update concerning the creation of public restrooms and washing stations for the city's homeless population. Further, if such public restrooms and washing stations are not to be created, request City Manager provide City Council with a report explaining the rationale of such a decision. – Item #21b CC Order adopted

- 17c.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager review the Health and Human Services Department for the purpose of expanding the person power within the department, in an effort to make the department even more responsive. – Item #21c CC Order adopted
- 17d.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager consider identifying, via an earmark, monies for additional services for the city’s homeless population. – Item #21d CC Order adopted
- 17e.** ORDER of Mayor Joseph M. Petty – That the City Council does hereby suspend its rules so no councilor shall speak for more than ten (10) minutes at a time nor more than twenty (20) minutes total on any agenda item, or a group of calendar items taken collectively. – Item #8a CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17f.** ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj – Request City Manager provide City Council with a schedule detailing when and how often the City Council will receive updates relative to the Department of Justice (DOJ) Report concerning the Worcester Police Department (WPD). Said report should also include information relative to the type of updates City Council and the public will receive, as well as how feedback received from the DOJ on the city’s progress is being reviewed. – Item #8b CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17g.** ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj – Request City Manager consider hiring an impartial party to conduct an independent review of all the cases mentioned in the Department of Justice (DOJ) Report concerning the Worcester Police Department (WPD) that identifies each case. Further, request City Manager consider providing City Council and the public with a report of the findings of said review. – Item #8c CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17h.** ORDER of Councilor Etel Haxhiaj – That the City Council of the City of Worcester does hereby enter into the record of the City Council meeting on March 25, 2025, the Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2020-2024 (see attached). – Item #8d CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17i.** ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report reviewing the commonalities found between the memos and recommendations for policing from the Human Rights Commission (HRC), the Community Dialogues on Race from 2015, the Department of Justice (DOJ) Report concerning the Worcester Police Department (WPD), and the equity audit of the Worcester Police Department (WPD). – Item #8e CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays

- 17j. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing any instances where the account within the Department of Justice (DOJ) Report concerning the Worcester Police Department (WPD) differs from the account of the city. Further, request said report include instances when the accounts of the DOJ have been confirmed by the city. – Item #8f CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17k. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report detailing the process followed by the Worcester Police Department’s (WPD) Bureau of Professional Standards (BOPS) during internal investigations. Further, request City Manager conduct an audit of the Worcester Police Department’s (WPD) Bureau of Professional Standards (BOPS) internal investigation process, with respect to any settlements that the city has entered over the past ten (10) to fifteen (15) years. Said report should also include any findings BOPS made in each instance and/or whether each instance was elevated to a WPD supervisor. – Item #8g CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays
- 17l. ORDER of Councilor Khrystian E. King – Request City Manager execute an Internal review and exploratory inquiry with regards to the matters at hand in the Department of Justice (DOJ) Report concerning the Worcester Police Department (WPD). – Item #8h CC Order adopted on a roll call vote of 10 Yeas and 0 Nays

18. NEW BUSINESS UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES - Items brought forth under suspension at the April 1, 2025 City Council meeting.

- 18a. Motion Petty @ #6a CC – That the City Council does hereby suspend its rule to allow for the public participation section of the agenda on April 1, 2025, to occur thirty (30) minutes beyond the typically allotted thirty (30) minutes.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 9 Yeas and 1 Nay (Nay - Russell) (Nguyen absent) (See Item #6a CC)
- 18b. Motion Russell @ #8a CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with an update relative to efforts being made to allocate funding for private street repairs.
Order adopted (See Item #8a CC)
- 18c. Motion Mero-Carlson @ #9.36A CM – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning potential opportunities to provide additional funding for the city’s cable services department, as well as public access TV, including WCCA TV.
Order adopted (See Item #9.36A CM)
- 18d. Motion King @ #9.36A CM – Request City Manager provide City Council with an update concerning seeking legal recourse on behalf of the city’s seniors to recoup monies stolen from them by Charter Communications.
Order adopted (See Item #9.36A CM)

- 18e.** Motion Pacillo @ #10a CC – Request City Manager request City Solicitor provide City Council with information concerning whether amending the City Council Rules relative to withholding a council member’s salary would be impacted by the Massachusetts General Law Chapter 39, Section 6A relative to public officials not being able to increase or reduce their compensation during a term.
Order adopted (See Item #10a CC)
- 18f.** Motion King @ #10a CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any elected bodies that are held to the same Human Resources standards as its city employees.
Order adopted (See Item #10a CC)
- 18g.** Motion Mero-Carlson @ #11b CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning current, as of date, actual receipts relative to the city’s account for speeding and traffic enforcement.
Order adopted (See Item #11b CC)
- 18h.** Motion Toomey @ #11f CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning the impact a gas leak in the vicinity of Wawecus Road School, 20 Wawecus Rd., had on the community.
Referred to Public Health and Human Services Committee (See Item #11f CC)
- 18i.** Motion Petty @ #11j CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning any operations to be continued by Charter Communications at 95 Higgins St. or at another property.
Order adopted (See Item #11j CC)
- 18j.** Motion Mero-Carlson @ #11j CC – Request City Manager provide City Council with a report concerning whether Charter Communications has initiated providing early intervention re-employment services to their employees affected by the layoffs and closings through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
Order adopted (See Item #11j CC)