



FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

Oct 03 2025 2:14 pm

REVISED

10:00 am, Oct 06, 2025

WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

October 7, 2025

**Fitchburg Legislative Building
700 Main Street
Fitchburg MA 01420
7:00 PM**

This meeting can also be viewed live on FATV. Go to www.fatv.org/watch-fatv for more information on accessing this meeting.

This is intended to help you understand the meeting format and assist you with the rules of the Council as they pertain to your participation.

All meetings of the Fitchburg City council are open to the public. This does not mean that the public participates in all aspects of the meeting. It simply means that the meeting itself, including all discussions and votes, is open for public view.

Executive Session

The only time a Council meeting can be closed to the public is when the Council votes for Executive Session in order to discuss sensitive matters in private, such as pending litigation. Any votes taken however, must be taken in open session.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK DURING A COUNCIL MEETING:

Public Forum

The Public Forum occurs immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance. The President will ask if anyone in the audience wishes to speak on any matter appearing on the Agenda. If you wish to address the Council, you must stand and be recognized and follow these rules before speaking:

1. State your name and city of residence.
2. Approach the center table and either stand or sit. This allows you to be seen and heard clearly by everyone in attendance.
3. You may speak only on items appearing on the agenda for no more than (2) minutes. Copies of the agenda are available on the center table prior to the meeting.
4. Please state the petition, order, ordinance, or resolution number to which you refer.

Public Hearings

Public hearings are held on various issues such as Special Permits and Zoning changes. The same rules apply with the following exceptions:

1. You must stand and be recognized either "in favor" or "in opposition" when asked by the Council President.
2. You need not refer to the petition number.

If you have any questions or comments either before or after the meeting, any Councilor would be happy to assist you.

Thank you for your interest!

I. PUBLIC FORUM

This meeting will be open to the public. Persons who wish to participate remotely in the Public Forum portion of the meeting may request a remote attendance link by contacting the City Clerk at cityclerk@fitchburgma.gov by 12:00 PM (noon) on the day of meeting.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

Regular City Council meeting minutes of September 17, 2025

IV. COMMUNICATION

Her Honor the Mayor

1. New-Appointment letters:

Jillian Jenkins, as a Member of the Fitchburg Board of Library Trustees, for a term to expire October 1, 2028.

V. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee

Meeting of September 24, 2025

Oral Report

- 152-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approves the expenditure of grant funds from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative in the approximate amount of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000) for the purpose of said grant, which is to support managed detection and response services to defend against cybersecurity threats.
(Be Adopted)
- 165-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of grant funds from the United Way of North Central Massachusetts, in the approximate amount of SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$7,500), awarded to the city Recreation Program from the DESE After School and Out of School Time Program Grant to help cover the cost of weekly STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts Math) activities in collaboration with the Fitchburg Public Library.
(Be Adopted)
- 166-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby raise and appropriate the sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$200,000), crediting School Department Expenses, for the purpose of funding a shortfall in the Fiscal Year 2025 Net School Spending requirement.
(Be Adopted)

Legislative Affairs Committee

Meeting of October 7, 2025

Oral Report

- 158-25. Council Derrick Cruz, to petition Her Honor, the Mayor, is hereby requested to: Convene a working group to assess the feasibility of creative solutions to food access in Fitchburg, including but not limited to a municipality owned grocery store.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

- 159-25. Mayor Samantha Squailia, on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, to take all Actions necessary and convenient for the formation of a “Fitchburg Tourism Marketing District” in accordance with Chapter 40X of the Massachusetts General Laws.

VII. ORDERS – FINANCE

- 167-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approves the expenditure of a gift made to the Fitchburg Senior Center of approximately SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$77,000) from the Estate and Trust of Deane A. Jakola.
- 168-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approves the expenditure of a gift made to the Fitchburg Public Library of approximately SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$77,000) from the Estate and Trust of Deane A. Jakola.
- 169-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of grant funds from the Federal Aviation Administration and MassDOT in the approximate amount of TWO MILLION FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,045,000) for the purpose of said grant, which is to install wildlife fencing and gates at the Fitchburg Municipal Airport.
- 170-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of funds in the approximate amount of THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND THIRTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$339,036) from the US Department of Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program.
- 171-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of a gift from the Nashoba Regional High School class of 1971, made to the Pawlak Playground gift account, in the approximate amount of SEVEN HUNDRED TWELVE AND 50/100 DOLLARS (\$712.50).
- 172-25. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$28,900) same to be charged against

RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES - Expenses and credited to the following departmental accounts:

ASSESSOR - Personal Services	\$3,400
TREASURER - Personal Services	\$5,100
CITY CLERK - Personal Services	\$3,400
POLICE - Personal Services	\$3,400
FIRE - Personal Services	\$1,700
BUILDING - Personal Services	\$1,700
PUBLIC WORKS- Personal Services	\$1,700
HEALTH - Personal Services	\$3,400
COUNCIL ON AGING - Personal Services	\$3,400
VETERANS - Personal Services	\$1,700

- 173-25. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred the sum of ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,700) from WATER PERSONAL SERVICES - Overtime to WATER PERSONAL SERVICES - Clerical.
- 174-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby raise and appropriate the sum of TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$29,495), crediting POLICE – VEHICLE REPLACEMENT.

VIII. ORDER – OTHER

- 175-25. ORDER THAT: Authorizing the City Clerk to notify the voters of the Municipal Election to be held on November 4, 2025.
(Suspension of rules)

IX. PETITIONS

- 176-25. Liz Murphy, Executive Director Community Development & Planning, request that the City Council accept the offered to purchase and authorize the Mayor to take any and all actions necessary to facilitate the transfer of this property:
0 Townsend St.
Assessor's Map 333-1-4A
(City Property)
- 177-25. Liz Murphy, Executive Director Community Development & Planning, request that City Council authorize the sale of the following property through an RFP Process:
0 Princeton Rd.
Assessor's Map W-11-B
(City Property)
- 178-25. President Zarrella to amend the Council Rules and Orders to provide for a new Committee on Human Resources as detailed in the enclosed petition.
- 179-25. City Councilor Bernie Schultz, in conjunction with Department of Public Works Commissioner Nick Erickson and Police Sergeant Liana Teague, to add a stop sign and stop bar at the end of Valley Street as Valley Street merges onto Canton Street.
(Public Safety)

- 180-25. Councilor Andrew Van Hazinga, to install a sidewalk on Upland Street along the frontage of 38 Upland Street, to connect an existing sidewalk in front of 26 Upland Street to Dudley Street, approximately 100 feet.
(Public Works)
- 181-25. Councilor Andrew Van Hazinga, to install a traffic sign at 16 Prospect Street cautioning drivers about a visually-impaired child living at this location.
(Public Works)

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 21, 2025 7:00 PM