



WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

July 7, 2026

**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 THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Appointments Committee

Oral Report

Meeting of July 7, 2026

New Appointment:

Poll Workers for the period of September 1st, 2026 through August 31st, 2027.

New-Appointment:

Fitchburg Human Rights

Heather De Jesus

(Term to expire on June 16, 2029)

Adrian Major

(Term to expire on June 16, 2029)

Re-Appointment:

Board of Assessors

Ryan Beauvais

(Term to expire on January 1, 2029)

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

Regular City Council meeting minutes of June 16, 2026

Council as a Whole meeting minutes of June 18, 2026

Council as a Whole meeting minutes of June 24, 2026

Special City Council meeting minutes of June 25, 2026

V. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Legislative Affairs Committee

Meeting of July 7, 2026

Oral Report

- 109-26. Christopher J. Paquette, Chief Assessor, requesting adoption of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54, which authorizes the City to establish an exemption threshold for taxable personal property valued at less than \$2,000. Adoption of this clause is intended to reduce the administrative costs associated with the assessment and processing of low-value personal property accounts.

M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54:

Personal property, if less than an amount established by the city or town, but not in excess of \$10,000 of value. This clause shall take effect upon its acceptance by a city or town, which shall establish a minimum value of personal property subject to taxation and may modify the minimum value by vote of its legislative body.

- 124-26. Councilor Beauchemin, respectfully requests a rule change to require In-Person Voting on Official matters as outlined in the enclosed petition.
[In-Person Voting on Official Matters](#)
- 125-26. Councilor Beauchemin and Councilor Fleming, respectfully requests to End-Work-From-Home Arrangements as outlined in the enclosed petition.
[End-Work-Home-Arrangements](#)
- 126-26. Michaela Horn, Treasurer/Collector request to adopt Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 200A, Section 9A, which establishes a clear and practical process for municipalities to manage abandoned funds held in municipal custody.
- 127-26. Michaela Horn, Treasurer/Collector request to adopt the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 23B, which authorizes municipalities to establish a fee schedule for the issuance of Municipal Lien Certificates (ML Cs). Adoption of this statute would provide a, legally authorized and equitable method of recovering a portion of the administrative costs associated with preparing and issuing these certificates.

Public Works Committee

Meeting of June 30, 2026

Oral Report

- 062-26. Councilor Fleming on behalf of the residents living at 77 Congress St to install a berm in front of the house and around the corner heading toward Lunenburg St.
- 058-26. To protect life and property at 47 Albee Street, City Councilor Bernie Schultz requests that Hassett Street be made a one-way street up from Albee Street.

VI. ORDERS - FINANCE

- 132-26. 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 FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000), 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 summer field trips and to bring educational entertainers to the Coolidge and Parkhill playground sites.
- 133-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200) from within CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE for the restoration of a historical stone in South Street Cemetery dating back to 1798.
- 134-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of approximately FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$564,800) for the purpose of reconstructing 42,000 square yards of the airport's Main Apron, from the following sources:
- | | |
|---|-----------|
| Federal Aviation Administration AIG Grant - | \$536,560 |
| Mass DOT Grant - | \$14,120 |
| Airport Receipts Reserved - | \$14,120 |
- 135-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure, by the Board of Health, of grant funds in the amount of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000) from the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts to support the City of Fitchburg Board of Health as lead municipality of the Montachusett Public Health Network (MPHN) in continuing with projects in progress and expanding services based on needs within the within the network of 13 communities.

VII. ORDER – OTHER

- 136-26. ORDER THAT: Authorizing the City Clerk to notify the voters of the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026.

VIII. ORDINANCE

- 077-26. AN ORDINANCE: Amending Chapter 44, Section 10 of the Code of the City of Fitchburg, as most recently amended, by adding thereto the following step assignments as outlined in the enclosed Ordinance.
[Amended Grade Steps Fiscal Year 2027](#)
(Final Reading)

IX. PETITIONS

- 137-26. Jacquelyn R. Poirier, Cemetery Superintendent request your approval of the following price increase and expenditure for your review and approval as outlined in the enclosed petition.
[Cemetery Trustee meeting motion](#)
[Cemetery Price Sheet 2024](#)
[Cemetery Price Sheet Increase 2026](#)
(Legislative Affairs)
- 138-26. Carolyn A. Parker, requesting issue of a new license for the underground storage of flammables and combustibles, pursuant M.G.L. Chapter 148 §13, to allow for the storage of 32,000 gallons of gasoline, and 8,000 gallons of diesel, for a total storage of 40,000 gallons at 49 John Fitch Highway.
(Public Hearing July 21, 2026)

X. RESOLUTIONS

- 139-26. RESOLUTION: A resolution by Councilor Schultz, that the Fitchburg City Council hereby adopts this resolution in support of the work of the Advisory Commission on the Seal, Flag and Motto of the Massachusetts, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2024 and appointed by Governor Maura Healey to recommend a new design for the official symbols of Massachusetts, and in support of a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth that may better reflect our aspirations for harmonious and respectful relations between all people who now call Massachusetts home. The city clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to State Senator John Cronin and State Representative Michael Kushmerek with the request that they support the work of the aforementioned Advisory Commission and advocate for a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth. **(Legislative Affairs)**
- 140-26. RESOLUTION: a resolution by Liz Murphy, Executive Director Community Development & Planning Department, If the Site or any portion thereof is sold, conveyed, gifted, demised, ground leased, or otherwise transferred, or refinanced, and as a result of said transaction, the Recipient receives funds that exceed the aggregate amount necessary for repayment of existing monetary liens, mortgage loans, and other debt on the Project and all of the costs incurred by them in the acquisition, development, ownership, and sale of the Site or of the portion of the Site transferred (the “Net Proceeds”), then Recipient shall reimburse MassDevelopment the full amount of the Net Proceeds up to the amount of the Recoverable Grant that has been disbursed and has not already been repaid to MassDevelopment (the “Disbursed Funds”).
(0 Princeton Rd)
(Suspension of rules)

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

- 103-26. AN ORDINANCE: Amending Chapter 44 of the City Ordinance is hereby amended as follows: in the table designating grades and steps by position, in the line designated "City Clerk", the grade and step shall be amended "13-11", effective July 1, 2026.
(Ref. 057-26)
(VETO OVERRIDE)

Open Meeting Law Complaint dated June 17, 2026, filed by Jacquelyn Wehtje regarding actions occurring at the June 16, 2026 meeting of the Economic Development Committee of the City Council – Review, Discussion, and Possible Response pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 23(b).

Next Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2026 7:00 PM