



May 15 2026 2:51 pm

WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

May 19, 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 COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

Regular City Council meeting minutes of May 5, 2026

IV. COMMUNICATION

Her Honor the Mayor

1. New Appointment letter:

Kat McLellan, as a member of the Fitchburg Cultural Council, for a term to expire June 2, 2029.

2. New Appointment letter:

Patrick P. Flathers, as a Full-Time Police Officer.

(Suspension of rules)

3. New Appointment letter:

Full Time Student Police Officer

Carly Poirier

(Suspension of rules)

4. Re-Appointment letters:

1. Bonnie Hautala, as a member of the Fitchburg Council on Aging, for a term to expire on December 31, 2028.

2. Amy Leblanc, as a member of the Fitchburg Disability Commission, for a term April 1, 2029.

3. Dennis Pierce, as a member of the Fitchburg Trustees of the Public Library, for a term to expire July 1, 2029.

4. Cynthia Jones, as a member of the Fitchburg Trustees of the Public Library, for a term to expire January 2, 2029.

5. James Reynolds, as an Associate member of the Fitchburg Zoning Board of Appeals, for a term to expire October 1, 2027.

Promotion Letter:

1. Promotion letter:

Firefighter Jonathan May to the rank of Lieutenant.

COMMUNICATION

Derrick J. Cruz – Finance Committee Chair

Finance Committee Informational Presentations May 27, 2026

- Veterans Services – Veteran Services Commissioner Marino

V. ANNUAL REPORT

- 063-26. ANNUAL REPORT: City of Fitchburg OPEB Liability Report for the year ending June 30, 2025.
[OPEB REPORT](#)

VI. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee
Meeting of May 13, 2026
Oral Report

- 056-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby transfers the sum of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) to BOARD of HEALTH EXPENSES – Food and Milk Inspector Services from BOARD of HEALTH PERSONAL SERVICES – Food and Milk Inspector.
(Be Adopted)

COMMUNICATION

Proposed Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant Year52
[CDBG Year 52](#)

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 059-26. Unitil to propose a new pole 30A on Rollstone Rd., approximately 195' from Anita Drive and approximately 178' from Belgian Way as outlined in the enclosed petition.
(454 Rollstone Rd)
- 060-26. Unitil to petition for a new proposed pole 34-A on Rollstone Rd., approximately 606' from Belgian Way and approximately 1060' from Bridle Cross Road as outlined in the enclosed petition.
(543 Rollstone Rd)

VIII. BUDGET ORDERS-FY 2027

064-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the Mayor’s Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget:

General Fund	\$ 191,371,167
Water Enterprise	\$ 9,997,019
Wastewater Enterprise	\$ 18,316,809
Airport Fund	\$ 1,137,919

065-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$700,000), same to be charged against OVERLAY SURPLUS and credited to the Fiscal Year 2027 TAX LEVY to reduce the tax rate.

066-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000), same to be charged against the STABILIZATION FUND and credited to the Fiscal Year 2027 TAX LEVY to reduce the tax rate.

067-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$178,566), same to be charged against PARKING METER/GARAGE RECEIPTS and credited to Fiscal Year 2027 accounts as follows:

Treasurer Personal Services	\$ 46,366
Treasurer Expenses	\$132,200

068-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000), same to be charged against PEG ACCESS AND CABLE RELATED FUND RECEIPTS and credited to Fiscal Year 2027 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - PEG Expenses.

069-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$45,000), same to be charged against CEMETERY SALE OF LOTS AND GRAVES and credited to Fiscal Year 2027 CEMETERY - PERSONAL SERVICES.

070-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of THREE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$3,776,232), same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to the Fiscal Year 2027 TAX LEVY to reduce the tax rate.

071-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FOUR HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$410,000), same to be charged against ARPA – Available Funds and credited to the Fiscal Year 2027 TAX LEVY to reduce the tax rate.

072-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of NINE MILLION NINE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN THOUSAND NINETEEN DOLLARS (\$9,997,019) same to be charged against WATER ENTERPRISE FUND RECEIPTS and credited to Fiscal Year 2027 Water Enterprise Fund accounts as follows:

Personal Services	\$2,484,996
Expenses	\$2,695,000
Indirect Costs	\$1,597,530
Debt Service	\$1,739,493
Capital Expenses	\$1,480,000

073-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of EIGHTEEN MILLION THREE HUNDRED SIXTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED NINE DOLLARS (\$18,316,809), charging \$17,581,965 against WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND RECEIPTS and \$734,844 against WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND RETAINED EARNINGS, crediting Fiscal Year 2027 Wastewater Enterprise Fund accounts as follows:

Personal Services	\$3,094,481
Expenses	\$4,637,600
Indirect Costs	\$1,710,830
Debt Service	\$7,196,648
Capital Expenses	\$1,677,250

074-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETEEN DOLLARS (\$1,137,919) same to be charged against AIRPORT RECEIPTS RESERVED and credited to Fiscal Year 2027 Airport Fund accounts as follows:

Personal Services	\$ 363,206
Expenses	\$ 774,713

075-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg is authorized to establish the following Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Sec. 53E 1/2, with a maximum annual expenditure limit of \$100,000, and in accordance with the following specifications:

REVOLVING FUND	PROGRAMS & PURPOSES	DEPARTMENTAL RECEIPTS	AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND
Planning Board	Applicant Advertising		
Community Development	Planning Board applicant advertising expenses	All receipts from Planning Board applicants for payment of advertising public meetings.	Community Development Director or designee

076-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the following Revolving Funds, authorized by City Ordinance, up to the amount available in the fund or \$100,000 (except Public Health Sustainability which shall have a FY2027 limit of \$750,000), whichever is less:

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Authorized Official</u>
Animal Control	Police Chief
Civic Days	Mayor or Mayor's Designee, Recreation Director
Communication Tower & Equipment	Fire Chief
Demolition	Community Development Director or Designee
Planning Board Advertising	Community Development Director or Designee
Public Cemetery	Cemetery Superintendent, Public Works Commissioner
Public Health Sustainability	Public Health Director
Public Library	Library Trustees, Chief Librarian
Traffic Enforcement	Police Chief
Traffic Safety Equipment	Police Chief
Senior Center Activities	Executive Director of the Council on Aging
Sidewalk	Public Works Commissioner
Stormwater Maintenance	Public Works Commissioner

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.
[Grade Steps Fiscal Year 2027](#)

IX. ORDERS – CDBG Year 52

[ORDERS 078-26 to 099-26](#)
(Be Held)

X. ORDERS - FINANCE

- 100-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Department of Fire Services Senior SAFE Grant in the approximate amount of THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY-ONE AND 88/100 DOLLARS (\$3,641.88) for the purpose of delivering fire and life safety education to seniors in the city.
(Suspension of rules)
- 101-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Department of Fire Services SAFE Grant in the approximate amount of NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FOUR AND 33/100 DOLLARS (\$9,104.33) for the purpose of delivering fire and life safety education to students in the city.
(Suspension of rules)

XI. ORDINANCE

- 103-26. AN ORDINANCE: Amending Chapter 44 of the City Ordinances to increase the grade of the "City Clerk" position in the salary matrix from 13 to 14. (Ref. 057-26)
(First Reading)

XII. PETITION

- 102-26. DriveIQ Motors, LLC to petition for a Class II Dealer License located at 349 Lunenburg St.
(Public Safety)

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Council as a Whole Meetings – Budget Hearings FY 2027

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Thursday, May 21, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Thursday, May 28, 2026 – 6:00 PM

All Proposed Budget Cuts

Wednesday, May 27, 2026 – 12:00 PM

Special City Council Meeting

Thursday, May 28, 2026
Begins immediately following the Council as a Whole Meeting

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2026 7:00 PM