



Apr 10 2025 4:07 pm

REVISED

2:56 pm, Apr 11, 2025

WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

April 15, 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 THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Appointments Committee

Oral Report

Meeting of April 15, 2025

New Appointment:

Fitchburg Human Rights Commission

(Term to expire April 1, 2028)

David De Jesus

Re-Appointment:

Fitchburg City Clerk

(Term to expire April 19, 2028)

Joanna Bilotta-Simeone

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

Regular City Council meeting minutes of April 1, 2025

V. COMMUNICATION

Her Honor the Mayor

1. New-Appointment letter:

Christopher Deloge, as an Associate Member of the Fitchburg Zoning of Appeals, for a term to expire on May 6, 2027.

VI. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee

Meeting of April 9, 2025

Oral Report

065-25. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000) from RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES – Capital Expenses to SCHOOL BUILDING MAINTENANCE – Capital Improvement.
(Be Adopted)

- 068-25. Fire Chief Suarez, to petition for an increase on the annual License fee for the Fire Alarm System monitoring from the current rate of \$200.00 to \$300.00. This increase will take effect January 1, 2026.
We request these funds be deposited into ~~an~~ a ~~enterprise~~ revolving fund for equipment maintenance and future upgrades.
This fee is charged annually through the ~~City Clerk's Office~~ Fire Dept. for all Fire Alarm Systems that are monitored by the Fitchburg Fire Department Dispatch Center, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.
(First half of petition granted, second half to be held as amended)

VII. ORDERS – FINANCE

- 071-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby transfers the sum of NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$9,500) from HEALTH – Travel & Meetings Expense to HEALTH -RUBBISH REMOVAL – Cleanup Funds.
- 072-25. ORDER THAT: there be and is appropriated from AVAILABLE FUNDS the sum of TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000) for HEALTH – RUBBISH REMOVAL – Cleanup Funds.
- 073-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of grant funds from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Complete Streets Funding Program, in the approximate amount of FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$456,121) to support pedestrian projects on Summer Street and at Electric Avenue and Rollstone Road.
- 074-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of earmark funds from the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities in the approximate amount of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) to support the conversion of vacant upper-story space in downtown into housing.
- 075-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from Round 2 of the Department of Fire Services Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant in the approximate amount of FIVE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO AND 33/100 DOLLARS (\$5,452.33) for the purpose of purchasing handheld thermal imaging cameras.
- 076-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby appropriate and transfer the sum of THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$350,000) from Available Funds to the Stabilization Fund.
- 077-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby appropriate and transfer the sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) from Available Funds to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund.
- 078-25. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$400,000) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to DPW ADMIN/ENGINEERING EXPENSES – Stormwater Contract Services.

- 079-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby transfers the sum of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000) from TREASURER PERSONAL SERVICES – Clerical to TREASURER EXPENSES – Temporary Services.
- 080-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby transfers the sum of EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$8,000) from TREASURER PERSONAL SERVICES – Assistant Department Head to TREASURER EXPENSES – Training.

VIII. ORDINANCES

- 020-25. AN ORDINANCE: to adopt the provisions of G.L. c.60, §62A as amended by Section 89 through 91 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024.
(First Reading)
- 027-25. AN ORDINANCE: the City Council of the City of Fitchburg that the ordering of the prior insertions in Ordinance 009-2024 is hereby corrected as follows:
1. Section 5 is struck its entirety.
 2. Section 6 shall now insert a new Article X entitle “Snow and Ice” at the end of Chapter 169 Vehicles and Traffic.
 3. A new Section 169-103 entitled “Duty to remove snow or ice from motor vehicles” shall be inserted under Article X and read as follows in Section 6 of Ordinance 009-2024.
- (First Reading)

IX. PETITION

- 081-25. Liz Murphy, to adopt the final draft of the Digital Equity Plan, as detailed in the enclosed material.
(Suspension of Rules)

[Digital Equity Plan](#)

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 7:00 PM