

**REVISED**

1:40 pm, Feb 13, 2026

## ***WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL***

**February 17, 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](http://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](mailto: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 February 17, 2026

#### New Appointment:

#### Fitchburg Planning Board

(Term to expire February 17, 2029)

Christopher Deloge

#### Re-Appointment:

#### Fitchburg Assistant City Clerk

(For a term to expire February 21, 2029)

Elizabeth (Betsy) McNiff

### IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

Regular City Council meeting minutes of February 3, 2026

## V. COMMUNICATION

Her Honor the Mayor

#### 1. New Appointment letter:

Abigail Wolf, as a Member of the Fitchburg Conservation Commission, for a term to expire on January 1, 2027.

#### 2. New Appointment letter:

Sabrina La Fave-Saletnik, as a Member of the Fitchburg Conservation Commission, for a term to expire on March 3, 2029.

#### Promotion Letters

#### 1. Promotion letter:

Provisional Sergeant Mei-Ling Polanco-Diaz to the rank of Police Sergeant

#### 2. Promotion letter:

Patrol Officer Colin Banahan to the rank of Police Sergeant

#### 3. Promotion letter:

Police Officer Nicholas Garcia to the rank of Police Sergeant

**Central Massachusetts – Mosquito Control Project**

**1. Notice of Preliminary Proposed Budget for FY 2027**  
[Mosquito Control Project](#)

**VI. ANNUAL REPORT**

024-26. ANNUAL REPORT: Monty Tech Annual Report FY 2025  
[Monty Tech Annual Report FY 2025](#)

**VII. REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

**City Property Committee**  
**Meeting of February 17, 2026**  
**Oral Report**

022-26. Liz Murphy, Executive Director of Community Development & Planning, to enter into a Conservation restriction located at 71 Bennett Road as outlined in the enclosed petition.  
[Petition](#)  
[Conservation Restriction](#)  
[Grant Conservation Restriction](#)

**Finance Committee**  
**Meeting of February 11, 2026**  
**Oral Report**

019-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FORTY-SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$46,100) same to be charged against RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES - Expenses and credited to the following departmental accounts:

PUBLIC WORKS - Labor	\$ 12,027
PUBLIC WORKS - Overtime	\$ 2,117
PUBLIC WORKS - Stipends	\$ 22,000
CEMETERY - Labor	\$ 2,380
CEMETERY – Overtime	\$ 445
CEMETERY – Stipends	\$ 4,000
PARKS – Stipends	\$ 3,000
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - Other	\$ 131

**(Be Held)**

020-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred the sum of NINETEEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$19,900) from within DPW Water Division PERSONAL SERVICES to the following accounts:

LABOR	\$ 4,113
OVERTIME	\$ 751
BUYBACKS	\$ 36
STIPENDS	\$ 15,000

**(Be Held)**

021-26. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred the sum of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) from within DPW Wastewater Division PERSONAL SERVICES to the following account:

STIPENDS \$5,000  
**(Be Held)**

**Legislative Affairs Committee**  
**Meeting of February 17, 2026**  
**Oral Report**

023-26. Building Commissioner Felix Zemel, is seeking to replace Sections 94-1, 94-2, and 94-3 of the City Code relative to Building Dept. fees as enclosed in the packet, following the word “paid.” In Section 94-1 of the City Code.

**VIII. ORDERS – FINANCE**

025-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of Massachusetts Vest-A-Dog, Inc. grant funds in the amount of TEN THOUSAND EIGHTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$10,086) for the purchase of a cruiser insert and Ace K-9 system.

026-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby transfers the total sum of ONE HUNDRED NINETY-ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$191,000) from within the following Police Department accounts:

From:

POLICE PERSONAL SERVICES – Patrolmen	\$131,000
POLICE PERSONAL SERVICES – Professional Standards	\$ 28,000
POLICE PERSONAL SERVICES – Sergeants	\$ 20,000
POLICE PERSONAL SERVICES – Sick Time	\$ 12,000

To:

POLICE PERSONAL SERVICES – Overtime	\$125,000
POLICE PERSONAL SERVICES – Clerical	\$ 35,000
POLICE EQUIPMENT & REPAIR – Contracted Services	\$ 20,000
POLICE EQUIPMENT & REPAIR–Recruit Academy Training	\$ 11,000

027-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of USDA Forest Service grant funds, through the Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation, in the approximate amount of SIX HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$667,800) for the purpose of acquiring a conservation restriction at 71 Bennett Road.  
**(Suspension of Rules)**

028-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of grant funds from the Massachusetts Office of Disability in the approximate amount of SIXTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$67,000) to fund the design of an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan.

## **IX. ORDER – OTHER**

- 001-26. ORDER THAT: Adopting Amended Rules of the City Council for the year 2026.

## **X. PETITIONS**

- 029-26. Councilor Amy Green, to petition for a 20–30-foot space with no parking at any time on Summer Street. Specifically at 401 Summer St. corner of **Poplar** St. and Summer St.  
**(Public Safety)**
- 030-26. City Councilor Bernie Schultz, on behalf of Nathaniel Pemberton of 47 Albee Street, to install bollards to protect life and property at the 47 Albee Street location, at the discretion of the Fitchburg Department of Public Works.  
**(Public Works)**

## **XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, March 3, 2026 7:00 PM

## **XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Not to return to open session)**

Pursuant to MGL c. 30A, § 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to litigation, in the matter of Spectrum Health Systems Inc. & another v. City of Fitchburg and others, Super Ct Civil Action No 2485CV00511, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the City.