

#### WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

#### **November 18, 2025**

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

This meeting can also be viewed live on FATV. Go to <a href="www.fatv.org/watch-fatv">www.fatv.org/watch-fatv</a> 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 <a href="mailto:cityclerk@fitchburgma.gov">cityclerk@fitchburgma.gov</a> by 12:00 PM (noon) on the day of meeting.

#### II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

Regular City Council meeting minutes of November 5, 2025

#### IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

## <u>Finance Committee</u> <u>Meeting of November 12, 2025</u> Oral Report

- ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of MassTrails Grant funds awarded to the city by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation in the approximate amount of NINETY-NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE AND 68/100 DOLLARS (\$99,999.68) for access and safety improvements at Coggshall Park. (Be Adopted)
- ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of funds awarded to the city by the Friends of Coggshall Park in the approximate amount of NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$9,500), to match the MassTrails Grant, for access and safety improvements at Coggshall Park. (Be Adopted)
- ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg accept a donation of property from the Ron Bouchard Racing Charity and Mrs. Paula Bouchard, in the form of a sculpture memorial, community bench, and story walk installation in Coolidge Park. (Be Adopted)
- 193-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of an earmark from the Commonwealth of Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation in the approximate amount of FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$40,000) for improvements to Lowe Park.
  (Be Adopted)

# Public Safety Committee Meeting of November 18, 2025 Oral Report

141-25. Councilor Paul Beauchemin, to request two electronic speed-limit signs to be installed on Clarendon Street heading northbound and southbound, near the intersections with Daniel Street and Franklin Street, in order to improve driver awareness, reduce speeds, and increase safety for motorist, bicyclist, and pedestrians.

- 161-25. Councilor Marisa Fleming, on behalf of Jessica Demeo of 74 Dartmouth Street., to install a stop sign at the intersection of Montrose St. and Dartmouth St. Every intersection on Montrose St. has at least two stop signs but this intersection does not.
- 162-25. City Councilors Amy Green and Bernie Schultz, on behalf of Pat and Don Dwyer of 42 Heywood Street, to request a resident parking space near their exterior stairs on Salem Street. Although Pat and Don qualify for a handicapped parking space, the road grade of Salem Street does not meet ADA requirements so as to prevent them from being issued a handicapped parking space.
- 163-25. Councilor Fleming on behalf of Yesenia Renderos of 683 Pearl St. to install a spot light to enhance the already existing signage or the addition of street level blinking signs to emphasize the 25MPH speed limit. Speeding has always been an issue when drivers transition from White St. in Lunenburg to Pearl St. in Fitchburg. With the recent paving, this issue is expected to get worse.
- 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.

### <u>Public Works Committee</u> <u>Meeting of October 28, 2025</u> Oral Report

- 164-25. City Councilor Bernie Schultz, on behalf of Louis Cormier of 93 Rainville Avenue, to repair several sections of sidewalk in front of his residence.

  (Be Granted)
- 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. (Be Granted)
- 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. (Be Granted)
- 141-25. Councilor Paul Beauchemin, to request two electronic speed-limit signs to be installed on Clarendon Street heading northbound and southbound, near the intersections with Daniels Street and Franklin Street Road, in order to improve driver awareness, reduce speeds, and increase safety for motorist, bicyclist, and pedestrians. (Be Held)

#### V. PUBLIC HEARING

189-25. Unitil, to petition relocate p#31-52. The proposed p#31-52 would be moved 14' west from original pole and located approximately 275' from Mount Elam Road., Fitchburg as enclosed outlined in the petition.

(Requestor asked to move hearing to December 2, 2025)

#### VI. ORDERS - FINANCE

- ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of Municipal Road Safety Grant funds in the approximate amount of FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT AND 85/100 DOLLARS (\$55,868.85) from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security for Police Department road safety initiatives.
- 197-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg appropriate and transfer the sum of FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000) from Reserve for Other Municipal Purposes to fund temporary administrative support in the Mayor's office.

#### VII. ORDINANCE

188-25. AN ORDINANCE: Chapter 111, § 111.2 of the Code of the City of Fitchburg be amended as follows:

That the General Ordinances of the City of Fitchburg, Chapter 111, § 111.2, as most recently amended, be further amended by adding the language denoted as emboldened:

§111.2 Board officers; quorum.

Amend by inserting the following emboldened language:

111.2 In February of each year the Board of Health shall organize by electing one of its members as **Chair** and **by electing** a Clerk, who need not be a member of the Board. The salary of the Clerk shall be fixed by the Board. Two members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. **(Final Reading)** 

#### VIII. PETITIONS

198-25. As outlined in the attached letter, to authorize the Mayor to negotiate terms of an air rights easement over a portion of the parking garage with a potential buyer of 424 Main St. subject to the final approval of the City Council

•412 Main Street Assessor's Map 43-2-0 <u>Air Rights Easement</u> (City Property)

199-25. Unitil, to petition for a new proposed stub pole #13-51, approximately 211' from Kilroy St., and 654' from Sheridan St. as outlined in the enclosed petition. (Public Hearing December 2, 2025)

## XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Next Regular Meeting Tuesday, December 2, 2025 7:00 PM