

***WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL*****January 6, 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 December 10, 2025
Regular City Council meeting minutes of December 16, 2025

IV. COMMUNICATION

Her Honor the Mayor

1. New-Appointment letter:

Reverend Daniel W. Spigelmeyer, Jr., as a Member of the Board of Trustees for the Public Library, for a term to expire January 20, 2029.

2. New-Appointment letter:

Thomas C. Hopkins, as a Member of the Fitchburg Council on Aging, for a term to expire January 1, 2029.

3. Re-Appointment letter:

Tiffany Wells, as a Member of the Fitchburg Disability Commission, for a term to expire October 1, 2028.

4. Re-Appointment letter:

Doris Matte, as a Member of the Fitchburg Disability Commission, for a term to expire February 1, 2028.

5. Re-Appointment letter:

Carolyn Quirk, as a Member of the Fitchburg Disability Commission, for a term to expire February 1, 2028.

6. Re-Appointment letter:

Barbara Slattery, for a Member of the Fitchburg Disability Commission, for a term to expire July 1, 2028.

7. Re-Appointment letter:

Deborah Dion, as a Member of the Fitchburg Council on Aging, for a term to expire January 1, 2029.

8. Re-Appointment letter:

Sabrina Holley-Williams, as a Member of the Board of Trustees for the Public Library, for a term to expire January 1, 2029.

9. Re-Appointment letter:

Joanne Huse, as a Member of the Board of Trustees for the Public Library, for a term to expire January 2, 2029.

V. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

City Property Committee
Meeting of January 6, 2026
Oral Report

215-25. Councilor Fleming on behalf of Eduard Gukasov, the current owner of 185 High Rock Rd is requesting a modification to the claw back provision of the property deed as outlined in the enclosed petition.

Finance Committee
Meeting of December 17, 2025
Oral Report

202-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Action grant funds in the approximate amount of ONE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY DOLLARS (\$143,970) to complete the design of pedestrian improvements and Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) features along the Elm Street corridor.
(Be Adopted)

203-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Dam & Seawall Repair or Removal Grant funds in the approximate amount of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) to complete design modifications for the Scott Reservoir Dam.
(Be Adopted)

204-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg transfer within the Treasurer/Collector accounts the sum of ELEVEN THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$11,025) from Tax Title - Continued Appropriation to Contracted Services.
(Be Adopted)

210-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg approve the expenditure of a donation from Amazon in the amount of THREE HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$315,400), to fund engineering design services for infrastructure improvements to Interval Road and Poplar Street to support Amazon's use of its 135 Intervale Road facility.
(Be Adopted)

211-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby transfers within the sum of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$180,000) to FIRE PERSONAL SERVICES – Overtime from:

FIRE PERSONAL SERVICES – Firefighter	\$100,000
FIRE PERSONAL SERVICES – Incentives (Be Adopted)	\$80,000

212-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of E911 Support and Incentive Grant funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security in the approximate amount of TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR DOLLARS (\$219,594) for the purpose of supporting dispatch salaries and to provide enhancements to the E911 service system.
(Be Adopted)

213-25. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of grant funds from the Mass DEP Sustainable Material Recovery Recycling Program - Recycling Dividends Fund, in the approximate amount of TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$24,000) to implement programs and policies to maximize the reuse, recycling, and waste reduction of curbside and drop-off disposal in Fitchburg.
(Be Adopted)

Legislative Affairs Committee
Meeting of January 6, 2026
Oral Report

205-25. ORDER THAT: That the City Council does hereby approve the Cannabis Social Equity Policy dated November 14, 2025 as included with this Order.

206-25. Councilor Fleming and Councilor Walsh on behalf of Elizabeth Keese, I am requesting consideration to move the “Announcements and Recognition” section to the end of the City Council agenda beginning in January 2026 as outlined in the enclosed petition.

VI. ORDERS – FINANCE

003-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant funds in the approximate amount of SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND SEVEN AND 11/100 DOLLARS (\$76,307.11) for the purpose of continuing the Police Department Civilian Domestic Violence Advocate program.

004-26. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the approximate amount of TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$29,556) for critical technology and equipment upgrades to support community policing efforts.

VII. ORDINANCES

214-25. AN ORDINANCE: Amending Chapter 169, § 54(C)(1) titled *Vehicles and Traffic* is hereby amended as follows:

That the General Ordinances of the City of Fitchburg, Chapter 169, § 54(C)(1), as most recently amended, be further amended by adding the following location to the list of streets, or parts thereof, which have been designated as permitted parking areas for only those with resident parking permits:

NAME OF STREET	SIDE	LOCATION
Salem Street	Northeast	From the intersection of Heywood Street and Salem Street, northwest for 100 feet

(Final Reading)

092-23. BE IT ORDAINED THAT – Chapter 3, Article IV, section 3-43 O. shall be amended as follows by adding to the end:

Attached to said petition shall be a communication from the City Auditor indicating what each salary would be if increased by the “CPI Adjustment Factor” as defined below, which communication shall be read out or summarized by the Chair at any session in which the Council or a subcommittee thereof debates or votes on such petition. For the purposes of this subsection, the CPI Adjustment Factor shall be defined as the lesser of five percent (5%) or the result of the following calculation: ~~[(CPI-U for January December of the then current fiscal year minus the January December CPI-U for the preceding fiscal year) divided by the previous fiscal year's January December CPI-U]~~ multiplied by 100 equals the CPI Adjustment Factor. But in no case shall the CPI Adjustment Factor be less than zero percent (0%). CPI-U shall mean the Consumer Price Index Boston-Cambridge-Newton MA-NH (1982-84 = 100) as published by the New England Information Office of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[\(www.bls.gov/regions/new-england/data/ConsumerPriceIndex_Boston_Table.htm\)](http://www.bls.gov/regions/new-england/data/ConsumerPriceIndex_Boston_Table.htm)

After a review of the proposed increase the City Council shall then vote on the Mayor's salary and the City Councilors' salary.

(Final Reading)

006-26. BE IT ORDAINED THAT – Chapter 172, §§ 172.1 through 172.6 of the Code of the City of Fitchburg be amended as follows to enhance enforcement of junk vehicle infractions:

That the General Ordinances of the City of Fitchburg, Chapter 172, §§ 172.1 through 172.6, as most recently amended, be further amended by deleting the language denoted with strikethrough and replacing with the language denoted as emboldened in the enclosed Ordinance.

[Ordinance 006-26](#)

(Legislative Affairs)

005-26. BE IT ORDAINED THAT – Chapter 138, §§ 138.2 through 138.3 of the Code of the City of Fitchburg be amended as follows to enhance enforcement of junk vehicle infractions:

That the General Ordinances of the City of Fitchburg, Chapter 138, §§ 138.2 through 138.3, as most recently amended, be further amended by adding the language denoted as emboldened in the enclosed Ordinance.

Ordinance 005-26

(Legislative Affairs)

VIII. PETITION

007-26. J & G Auto Sales, to petition for a Class II Dealer's License located at 369 River St. Fitchburg, MA 01420.

(Public Safety)

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2026 7:00 PM