



Jan 12 2023 3:55 pm

WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

January 17, 2023

**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 address.
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.

II. REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

There is no report of the Appointments Committee at this time.

III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

IV. COMMUNICATION

His Honor the Mayor

1. Promotion letter:

Captain Dante W. Suarez to Deputy Chief to replace retiring Deputy Chief Greg Normandin.

2. Promotion letter:

Lieutenant Patrick G. Haverty to Captain to fill the opening left by Captain Dante W. Suarez.

3. Promotion letter:

Private Yona Vaughan to Lieutenant to fill the opening left by Lieutenant Patrick G. Haverty.

1. Re-Appointment letter:

Alex Lopez, as member of the Planning Board, term to expire January 1, 2026.

2. Re-Appointment letter:

Tracy McGrath, as a member of the Planning Board, term to expire January 1, 2026.

3. Re-Appointment letter:

Paul Fontaine Jr., as a member of the Planning Board, term to expire January 1, 2028.

4. Re-Appointment letter:

Charles Caron, as a member of the Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority, term to expire July 1, 2024.

5. Appointment letter:

Special Police Officers – Fitchburg State University
Sergeant Michael Michael Turner and Officer Elijah Weiss

6. Appointment letter:

Sabrina Holley-Williams, as a member of the Trustees of Public Library, term to expire January 12, 2026.

V. COMMUNICATION

Ms. Tracy McGrath, as a full member of the Fitchburg Planning Board as an “emergency measure for 60 days”. Ms. McGrath is currently an Associate Member of the Planning Board and will be filling a vacancy created on January 1, 2023.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee

Oral Report

Meeting of January 11, 2023

- 003-23. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the I. C. Federal Credit Union gift in the approximate amount of \$5,000.00 (FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said gift, which is to provide heating assistance to city residents.
(Be Adopted)
- 004-23. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the MEMA Emergency Management Performance grant in the approximate amount of \$20,150.00 (TWENTY THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to purchase two haz-mat suits, two gas meters, and two battery powered generators.
(Be Adopted)
- 005-23. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services, Firefighter Safety Equipment grant in the approximate amount of \$24,999.00 (TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to update the communication base stations located at each of the city's three fire stations.
(Be Adopted)
- 006-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$25,500.00) same to be transferred from RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, CAPITAL EXPENSES and credited to INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXPENSES, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS for the purpose of installing drops and conduits at the Senior Center.
(Be Adopted)
- 007-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) same to be transferred from RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, CAPITAL EXPENSES and credited to CAPITAL PROJECTS, LONGSJO SCHOOL BOILER REPLACEMENT for the purpose of paying costs for the replacement of boilers at the Arthur M. Longsjo Middle School, including a feasibility study and all other costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Fitchburg may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), said amount to be expended under the direction of Fitchburg Public Schools. The City of Fitchburg acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the City incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Fitchburg.
(Be Adopted)

- 008-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$700,000.00) same to be transferred from EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, HEALTH INSURANCE and credited to SCHOOL EXPENSES.
(Be Adopted)
- 009-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND, FIFTY-TWO AND 49/100 DOLLARS (\$258,052.49) from RESERVE FOR APPROPRIATION, PEG ACCESS and credited to INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, FRANCHISE FEE for the purpose of paying FATV for franchise fees received during the second and third quarters of 2022.
(Be Adopted)
- 010-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$350,000.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to STABILIZATION FUND.
(Be Adopted)
- 011-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$250,000.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) TRUST FUND.
(Be Adopted)
- 012-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$27,500.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, CAPITAL EXPENSES.
(Be Adopted)

VII. ORDERS

- 015-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of FORTY-TWO THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$42,955.00) same to be transferred from RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, CAPITAL EXPENSES and credited to BUILDING, CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, VEHICLE REPLACEMENT for the purpose of replacing one vehicle used by the Building Department Inspectors.
- 016-23. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, SAFE grant in the approximate amount of \$5,481.00 (FIVE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to continue to teach fire safety to students.
- 017-23. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, SAFE grant in the approximate amount of \$2,477.00 (TWO THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to educate seniors in the community regarding fire and life safety topics.

- 018-23. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security VAWA grant in the approximate amount of \$60,530.07 (SIXTY THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY AND 07/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to support the Domestic Violence Advocate position within the Police Department.
- 019-23. ORDER THAT: the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, FY23 Shannon Community Safety Initiative grant in the approximate amount of \$416,812.00 (FOUR HUNDRED SIXTEEN THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED TWELVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to reduce gang and youth related violence.
- 020-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$25,000.00) same to be transferred from POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES, CIVILIAN DISPATCHERS and credited to POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES, DISPATCHER OVERTIME.
- 021-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, FIFTY-FOUR AND 20/100 DOLLARS (\$237,054.20) same to be transferred from POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES, PATROLMAN (\$200,000.00) and from POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL STANDARD (\$37,054.20) and credited to POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES, OVERTIME.
- 022-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500,000.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to STABILIZATION FUND.
- 023-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of TWO THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED TWENTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,620.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to ASSESSORS EXPENSES, CONTRACTED SERVICES.
- 024-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FOURTEEN THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$14,885.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to the following accounts:

FACILITIES, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,454.00
COUNCIL ON AGING, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 6,708.00
LIBRARY, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 5,723.00

0025-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$435,000.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to the following accounts:

POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$398,000.00
POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES, OVERTIME	\$ 30,000.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, OTHER BENEFITS	\$ 7,000.00

026-23. ORDER THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$532,000.00), same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to

FIRE, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$494,000.00
FIRE, PERSONAL SERVICES, OVERTIME	\$ 15,000.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, OTHER BENEFITS	\$ 23,000.00.

VIII. ORDINANCE

027-23. BE IT ORDAINED THAT: §3-160 entitled “Establishment; composition” under Article XVII Insurance Commission, of the City Code shall be amended by striking the words “the Superintendent of Public Buildings” and inserting in its place “the Director of Facilities” and shall now read as follows:

“§3-160 Establishment; composition.

There shall be an Insurance Commission, the membership of which shall consist of the following: City Auditor, the Director of Facilities and the Chair of the Board of Assessors.”

IX. PETITIONS

285-22. Councilor Marisa Fleming to place Jersey barriers at the intersection of Townsend St. and Marshall Rd. in to slow down cars taking left hand turn from Townsend St. into Marshall Rd.
(Leave to Withdraw)

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 7:00 PM