

City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

INÊS LETTE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: January 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Joseph D. Camara, presiding;
Councilors Shawn E. Cadime, Michelle M. Dionne, Paul B. Hart,
Bradford L. Kilby, Linda M. Pereira, Cliff Ponte, Andrew J. Raposo
and Laura-Jean Sampson

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: None

President Camara called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. Mayor and confirmation of the reappointment of Joan Medeiros to the Redevelopment Authority

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to confirm the reappointment.

2. Mayor and confirmation of the appointment of Katherine Driscoll to the Commission on Disability

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to confirm the appointment.

3. Mayor and confirmation of the following reappointments to the Commission on Disability:

a. Debbie Pacheco

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to confirm the reappointment.

b. Lisa Silva

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to confirm the reappointment.

4. Mayor and the following grant orders from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management (MassDEP):

a. \$710,838.00 – EOPSS – Municipal Public Safety Staffing (Police Department)

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

b. \$900,000.00 – EOPSS – Municipal Public Safety Staffing (Fire Department)

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

c. \$653,973.25 – EOPSS – Shannon Community Safety Initiative

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

d. \$52,000 – MassDEP – Sustainable Materials Recovery Program

Councilor Raposo asked if this grant funding would provide financial assistance for the cardboard collection pilot program. President Camara clarified that the City Administrator had confirmed it would not be related to the cardboard collection pilot program. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

e. \$5,000 – MassDEP – Drop Off Equipment Program

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

5. Mayor and Five Year Financial Forecast

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to refer the matter to the Committee on Finance.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

6. Board of Election Commissioners and orders authorizing the Preliminary Municipal Election on September 16, 2025, and the Municipal Election on November 4, 2025, and designating polling places for such elections

Councilor Raposo stated that he had questions regarding the current polling places being utilized for elections and requested that the matter be referred to the Committee on Finance for further discussion with the Director of the Board of Elections Department. On a further motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to refer the matter to the Committee on Finance.

7. Director of Engineering/Planning and 2024 Year End Departmental Update
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the item be accepted and placed on file.

8. Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to refer the recommendation to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES

Second Reading:

9. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous

Section 1

Stop intersections designated

- Emerson Street, westbound, at the intersection of North Underwood Street

Section 2

One-way streets designated

- Eddy Street, southbound, from Seigny Street to Bedford Street

Section 3

Thirty-minute parking

- Pleasant Street, north, 22 feet east of Barlow Street from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., Monday through Sunday

Section 4

Handicapped parking removals

- Blackstone Street, west, 131 feet south of Nashua Street
- London Street, south, 140 feet west of Johnson Street
- Pokross Street, 440 feet east of Bay Street
- South Street, north, 135 feet east of South Main Street
- Tripp Street, west, 93 feet south of Charles Street
- Wellington Street, north, 230 feet east of St. Mary Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and passed to be enrolled. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained.

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

RESOLUTIONS

10. The Committee on Public Safety convene with the Director of Traffic and Parking and a representative from the Fall River Police Department to discuss measures that may be implemented to improve safety at the four-way stop intersection of Bay Street and Mount Hope Avenue.

Vice President Pereira stated that the Director of Traffic has installed LED-flashing stop signs at this intersection and that a resident in the neighborhood reported that the new signs are more effective. As such, the matter may be resolved. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

11. The Committee on Economic Development and Tourism meet with community arts organizations to provide 2024 year in review and plans for 2025.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

12. The Committee on Public Safety convene with the Police Chief to discuss strategies to combat vehicular vandalism in the President Avenue and Madison Street neighborhood.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

13. Police Chief's report on licenses

Taxicab Drivers

Melissa Carvalho

Raymond Davila

Nicole McNeill

Jonathan Rodrigues

Jean P. Charlot

Justin L. Hollis

Teresa A. Menezes

Gary Teixeira

Christian R. Cunin-Choro

Angelina Magrath

Shawn Pereira

Private Livery Drivers

Bruce Domingos

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to lift item 14 from the table.

Transmission Lines

14. New England Power Company – Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road
(tabled 12-17-2024)

A motion was made by Vice President Pereira and seconded by Councilor Hart that the order be granted leave to withdraw. Councilor Kilby stated that the matter should be referred to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation for additional discussion prior to a City Council vote. On a motion made by Councilor Kilby and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to refer the order to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

15. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – November 21, 2024

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the minutes be accepted and placed on file.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to take items 16 through 18 together.

City Council Minutes

- 16. Public Hearings – December 17, 2024
- 17. Committee on Finance – December 17, 2024
- 18. Regular Meeting of the City Council – December 17, 2024

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

First Reading

- 8a. Proposed Ordinance – Creation of Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services – Budget and Compliance

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to pass the proposed ordinance through first reading.

- 8b. Proposed Ordinance – Affordable Housing Trust

Councilor Ponte expressed concern that this matter was recommended to be granted leave to withdraw as many other municipalities have created Affordable Housing Trusts to ensure that funding is protected from future changes in federal, or state, governmental policy. Councilor Ponte emphasized that these potential policy changes could affect the current funding sources of the Community Development Agency (CDA), which currently provides housing assistance. Councilor Ponte also explained that the proposed Affordable Housing Trust would provide aid with the conservation of properties and rental assistance programs. Councilor Ponte recommended that the matter be referred to the Committee on Finance for further discussion and that the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) be invited to a future meeting to answer additional questions.

Councilor Sampson explained that the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation had discussed the matter in depth and that the Affordable Housing Trust would duplicate the current services provided by CDA and that with the proposed funding, the trust would only cover the financial cost of six affordable housing units. Councilor Sampson emphasized that Fall River currently supplies more than the required percentage of affordable housing units and that neighboring communities, such as Somerset and Westport, should work to increase their affordable housing percentage. Vice President Pereira agreed and emphasized that the information provided to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation showed that the proposed Affordable Housing Trust would duplicate the current services provided by CDA, but with significantly less capital.

Councilor Ponte stated that the proposed Affordable Housing Trust would provide additional opportunities and funding to develop additional housing units in Fall River.

Councilor Cadime explained that the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation also discussed additional financial obstacles that would occur if an Affordable Housing Trust was created, including the establishment of a Board of Trustees and the restrictions of the M.G.L. Chapter 30B, Uniform Procurement Act, if the City were to become the owner of housing units. Councilor

Cadime stated that he understood the intent of the proposed Affordable Housing Trust was to assist in offsetting the cost of housing, but that CDA and the Community Preservation Committee are already providing these services with federal and state funding and the utilization of non-profit organizations.

On a motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to refer the resolution and proposed ordinance to the Committee on Finance.

8c. Proposed Ordinance – Short Term Rentals

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to pass the proposed ordinance through first reading.

A recess was held from 7:34 p.m. to 7:36 p.m. for the purpose of signing the traffic ordinance.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

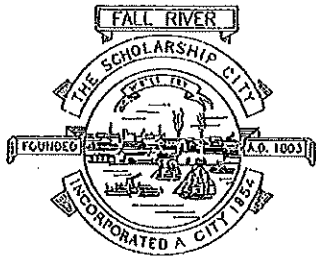
Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy. Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alison M. Bouchard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

City Clerk

In City Council, January 28, 2025
Approved.



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

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2025 JAN 10 A 10:55

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER
JANUARY 14, 2025
AGENDA

5:00 P.M. COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND LEGISLATION

6:55 P.M. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND LEGISLATION IF IT RUNS PAST 6:55 P.M.)

1. Citizen Input

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING IF IT RUNS PAST 7:00 P.M.)

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. *Mayor and confirmation of the reappointment of Joan Medeiros to the Redevelopment Authority
2. *Mayor and confirmation of the appointment of Katherine Driscoll to the Commission on Disability
3. *Mayor and confirmation of the following reappointments to the Commission on Disability:
 - a. Debbie Pacheco
 - b. Lisa Silva
4. *Mayor and the following grant orders from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management (MassDEP):
 - a. \$710,838.00 – EOPSS – Municipal Public Safety Staffing (Police Department)
 - b. \$900,000.00 – EOPSS – Municipal Public Safety Staffing (Fire Department)
 - c. \$653,973.25 – EOPSS – Shannon Community Safety Initiative
 - d. \$52,000 – MassDEP – Sustainable Materials Recovery Program
 - e. \$5,000 – MassDEP – Drop Off Equipment Program
5. *Mayor and Five Year Financial Forecast

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

6. *Board of Election Commissioners and orders authorizing the Preliminary Municipal Election on September 16, 2025, and the Municipal Election on November 4, 2025, and designating polling places for such elections
7. *Director of Engineering/Planning and 2024 Year End Departmental Update
8. *Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ADA Coordinator: Gary P. Howayock, Esq. 508-324-2650

One Government Center • Fall River, MA 02722
TEL 508-324-2220 • FAX 508-324-2211 • EMAIL city_clerks@fallriverma.org

ORDINANCES

Second Reading:

9. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous

Section 1

Stop intersections designated

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Section 2

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RESOLUTIONS

10. *The Committee on Public Safety convene with the Director of Traffic and Parking and a representative from the Fall River Police Department to discuss measures that may be implemented to improve safety at the four-way stop intersection of Bay Street and Mount Hope Avenue.
11. *The Committee on Economic Development and Tourism meet with community arts organizations to provide 2024 year in review and plans for 2025.
12. *The Committee on Public Safety convene with the Police Chief to discuss strategies to combat vehicular vandalism in the President Avenue and Madison Street neighborhood.

CITATIONS

ORDERS – HEARINGS

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

13. Police Chief's report on licenses

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Raymond Davila

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Christian R. Cunin-Choro

Angelina Magrath

Shawn Pereira

Private Livery Drivers

Bruce Domingos

- Transmission Lines
14. New England Power Company – Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road
(tabled 12-17-2024)

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

15. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – November 21, 2024

City Council Minutes

16. *Public Hearings – December 17, 2024
17. *Committee on Finance – December 17, 2024
18. *Regular Meeting of the City Council – December 17, 2024

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None


City Clerk

OTHER POTENTIAL MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (if received):

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

First Reading

- Proposed Ordinance – Creation of Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services – Budget and Compliance
- Proposed Ordinance – Affordable Housing Trust
- Proposed Ordinance – Short Term Rentals



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 9, 2025

Council President and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

I hereby request the confirmation of the City Council for the following reappointment:

Name: Joan Medeiros

Address 334 Palmer Street
Fall River, MA 02724

Position: Redevelopment Authority

Effective Date: January 24, 2025

Expiration: January 24, 2030

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

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2025 JAN -9 A 8 14
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 9, 2025

Council President and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

I hereby request the confirmation of the City Council for the following appointment:

Name: Katherine Driscoll

Address 1237 Meridian Street
Fall River, MA 02720

Position: Commission on Disability

Expiration: January 9, 2027

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

CITY OF FALL RIVER, MA

JAN -9 A 8 14

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City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 9, 2025

Council President and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

I hereby request the confirmation of the City Council for the following reappointment:

Name: Debbie Pacheco

Address 263 Hyacinth Street
Fall River, MA 02720

Position: Commission on Disability

Expiration: January 9, 2027

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

2025 JAN -9 A 8 14

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City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 9, 2025

Council President and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

I hereby request the confirmation of the City Council for the following reappointment:

Name: Lisa Silva

Address 1140 Meridian Street
Fall River, MA 02720

Position: Commission on Disability

Expiration: January 9, 2027

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

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2025 JAN -9 A 8 14
CITY OF FALL RIVER, MA



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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2024 DEC 18 A 8 46

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

December 18, 2024

Joseph Camara, Council President
Members of the Honorable Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

RE: Grant awards being presented for City Council approval

Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

Please find the following grant awards, which the City has been notified of, for your consideration and formal acceptance:

- (1) a Municipal Public Safety Staffing (MPSS) grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) in the amount of \$710,838.00;
- (2) a Municipal Public Safety Staffing (MPSS) grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) in the amount of \$900,000.00;
- (3) a Shannon Community Safety Initiative (Shannon CSI) grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) in the amount of \$653,973.25;
- (4) a Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) in the amount of \$52,000.00; and
- (5) a Drop Off Equipment Program grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) in the amount of \$5,000.00.

A table with additional details on each grant award has been attached to this letter for your convenience. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

ORDER:

The City of Fall River was awarded a grant through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) Municipal Public Safety Staffing Grant Program in the amount of \$710,838.00 with a duration of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. This grant would fund overtime hours to remedy staffing shortfalls within the Fall River Police Department in order to help preserve public safety in Fall River.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized in the name of the City of Fall River to accept and expend a Municipal Public Safety Staffing Grant through EOPSS in the amount of \$710,838.00 to remedy police staffing shortfalls and preserve public safety in Fall River.

BE IT FURTHER VOTED: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fall River, be and hereby is, authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in connection with said grant from EOPSS, including the expenditure thereof.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

ORDER:

The City of Fall River was awarded a grant through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) Municipal Public Safety Staffing Grant Program in the amount of \$900,000.00 with a duration of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. This grant would fund overtime hours to remedy staffing shortfalls within the Fall River Fire Department in order to help preserve public safety in Fall River.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized in the name of the City of Fall River to accept and expend a Municipal Public Safety Staffing Grant through EOPSS in the amount of \$900,000.00 to remedy fire staffing shortfalls and preserve public safety in Fall River.

BE IT FURTHER VOTED: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fall River, be and hereby is, authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in connection with said grant from EOPSS, including the expenditure thereof.

City of Fall River, In City Council

ORDER:

The City of Fall River was awarded a grant through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) Shannon Community Safety Initiative in the amount of \$653,973.25 with a duration of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. This grant would fund a variety of efforts to prevent youth gang involvement, including overtime hours for the Fall River Police Department and subgrants to community partners providing youth outreach services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized in the name of the City of Fall River to accept and expend a Shannon Community Safety Initiative grant through EOPSS in the amount of \$653,973.25 to help prevent youth gang violence in Fall River.

BE IT FURTHER VOTED: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fall River, be and hereby is, authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in connection with said grant from EOPSS, including the expenditure thereof.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

ORDER:

The City of Fall River was awarded a grant through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) in the amount of \$52,000.00 with a duration of February 15, 2025 to February 15, 2026. This grant would fund the implementation of programs and policies to improve municipal recycling efforts and reduce waste.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized in the name of the City of Fall River to accept and expend an SMRP grant through MassDEP in the amount of \$52,000.00 to help improve municipal recycling and waste reduction efforts in Fall River.

BE IT FURTHER VOTED: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fall River, be and hereby is, authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in connection with said grant from MassDEP, including the expenditure thereof.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

ORDER:

The City of Fall River was awarded a grant through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Drop Off Equipment Program in the amount of \$5,000.00 with a duration of February 15, 2025 to February 15, 2026. This grant would fund the purchase of a mercury collection shed that would help the City safely store hazardous waste collected at its drop-off facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized in the name of the City of Fall River to accept and expend a Drop Off Equipment Program grant through MassDEP in the amount of \$5,000.00 to purchase a mercury collection shed.

BE IT FURTHER VOTED: That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fall River, be and hereby is, authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in connection with said grant from MassDEP, including the expenditure thereof.

Grant Program	Funding Agency	Duration	Award Amount	Grant Contact	Minimum Required Match	Purpose
Municipal Public Safety Staffing Grant Program	Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EO PSS)	Jan. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025	\$710,838.00	Kelly Furtado, Chief of Police	None	Overtime hours to remedy staffing shortfalls within the Fall River Police Department and preserve public safety in Fall River
Municipal Public Safety Staffing Grant Program	Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EO PSS)	Jan. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025	\$900,000.00	Jeffrey Bacon, Fire Chief	None	Overtime hours to remedy staffing shortfalls within the Fall River Fire Department and preserve public safety in Fall River
Shannon Community Safety Initiative	Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EO PSS)	Jan. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025	\$653,973.25	Christian McCloskey, Youth Services Coordinator	None	Overtime hours to the Fall River Police Department and subgrants to various community organizations to prevent youth gang involvement in Fall River
Sustainable Materials Recovery Program	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Feb. 15, 2025 to Feb. 15, 2026	\$52,000.00	Charlie Dennead, Director of Community Maintenance	None	Funding to help implement programs and policies that maximize recycling and waste reduction
Drop Off Equipment Program	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Feb. 15 2025 to Feb. 15, 2026	\$5,000.00	Charlie Dennead, Director of Community Maintenance	None	Funding to facilitate the purchase of a mercury collection waste shed



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Department of Financial Services
TREASURER • COLLECTOR • AUDITOR • ASSESSOR

RECEIVED

2025 JAN -9 P 3:46

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

Bridget Almon
Director of Financial Services

January 8, 2025

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

RE: 5-year Financial Forecast

Dear Honorable Council Members

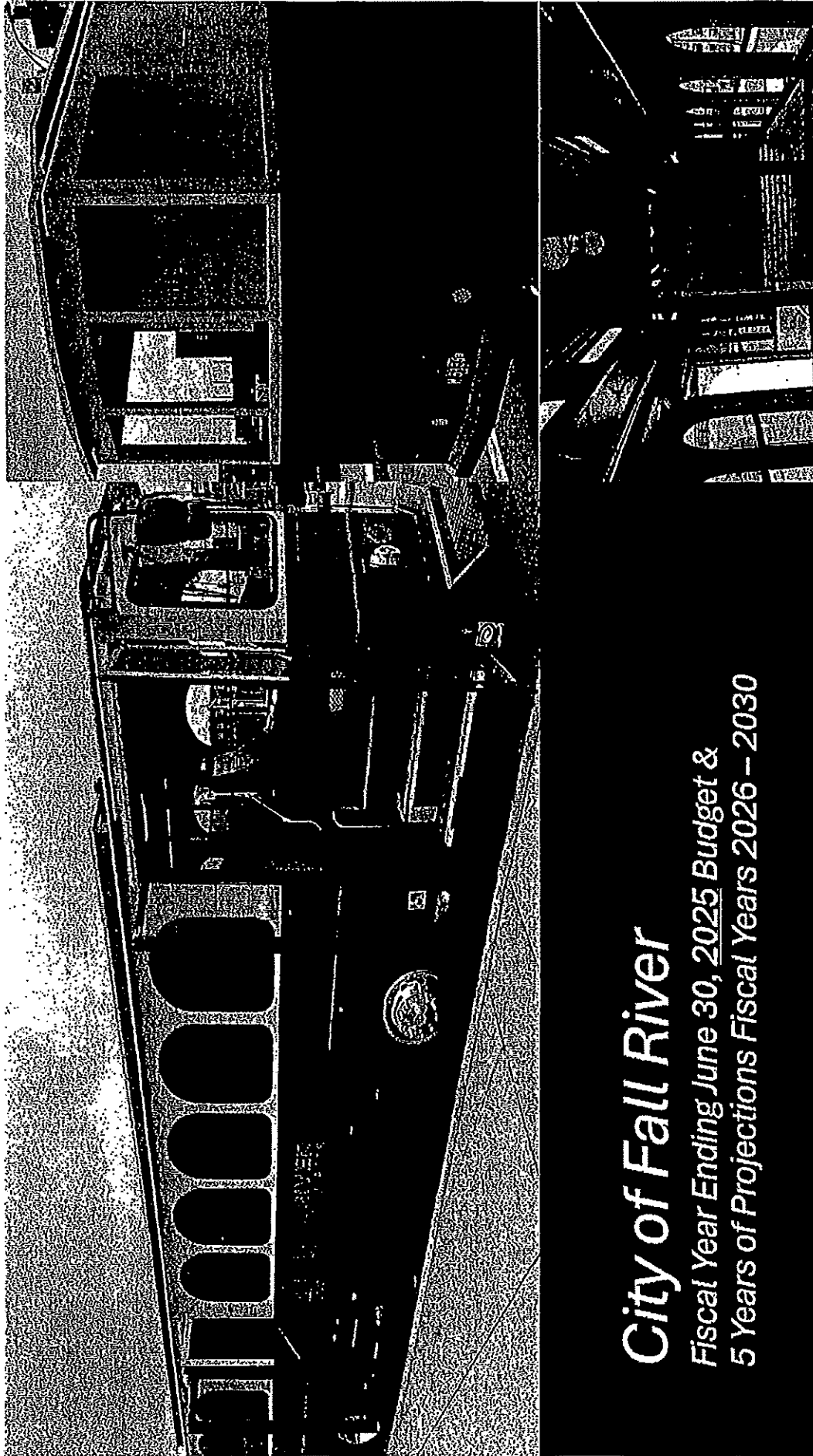
In accordance with Article 6-9 of the City Charter, I am submitting a 5-year Financial Forecast of the City Revenues and Expenditures within the General Fund Operating Budget. The financial forecast is built on a comprehensive analysis of revenue sources that are reasonably predictable, taking into account historical data, market trends, and any statutory or contractual obligations. In addition to this, the forecast also considers the projected expenses related to the core services currently provided by our City and School Departments.

The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget will be balanced through a strategic combination of revenues and expenses. Certified Free Cash will play a key role in ensuring that the Diman debt assessment burden remains as manageable as possible in the short term (FY2026), thereby easing the impact on the General Fund. Close monitoring of the amortization schedule and any amendments will be essential, as changes could necessitate adjustments to future projections or the development of additional funding strategies.

As with any forecast, the numbers will continue to be refined as projections become more accurate and projects progress from planning to implementation. Overall, our 5-year Financial Forecast is based on the information currently available. We are aware of the challenges ahead and are actively researching the best strategies to address them. I look forward to collaborating with the council to tackle these challenges and continue moving the City in the right direction.

Best Regards,

Paul Coogan
Mayor



City of Fall River
*Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 Budget &
5 Years of Projections Fiscal Years 2026 – 2030*

City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)

RESOURCES:

State Aid

General government, net of assessments
Education, net of assessments
Real Estate Taxes
Local Receipts
Indirects
From Free Cash
Free Cash assigned for Diman
From Stabilization - Operating
Other Sources of Funds

TOTAL RESOURCES

Water

Sewer

EMS

TOTAL RESOURCES - ENT FUNDS

LESS: NON-APPROPRIATED USES

Other Amounts to be Raised:

Snow & Ice Deficit & Appropriations

TOTAL NON-APPROPRIATED USES

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION

	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
Budget:	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections
\$	28,348,135	\$ 28,970,016	\$ 29,629,997	\$ 30,308,530	\$ 31,006,004	\$ 31,722,821
\$	173,264,657	\$ 183,172,625	\$ 198,778,071	\$ 204,726,413	\$ 210,853,205	\$ 217,163,802
\$	140,944,820	\$ 146,440,088	\$ 151,489,565	\$ 156,679,619	\$ 161,992,787	\$ 167,437,184
\$	20,476,026	\$ 22,443,900	\$ 22,310,599	\$ 22,182,127	\$ 22,433,592	\$ 22,690,106
\$	7,988,795	\$ 8,148,571	\$ 8,311,542	\$ 8,477,773	\$ 8,647,329	\$ 8,820,275
\$	1,583,488	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$	-	\$ 2,935,906	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$	30,284	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$	372,636,205	\$ 394,111,105	\$ 410,519,774	\$ 422,374,462	\$ 434,932,917	\$ 447,834,188
\$	16,214,779	\$ 16,455,078	\$ 16,699,639	\$ 16,948,547	\$ 17,201,891	\$ 17,459,759
\$	31,978,447	\$ 32,157,013	\$ 32,509,751	\$ 32,866,717	\$ 33,227,969	\$ 33,593,567
\$	14,723,080	\$ 14,597,776	\$ 14,907,814	\$ 15,224,937	\$ 15,549,311	\$ 15,881,108
\$	62,916,305	\$ 63,209,867	\$ 64,117,204	\$ 65,040,201	\$ 65,979,171	\$ 66,934,434
\$	177,018	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$	177,018	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$	435,575,491	\$ 457,520,972	\$ 474,636,978	\$ 487,414,663	\$ 500,912,087	\$ 514,768,622

City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
EXPENDITURES:	Budget	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections
General Government	\$ 4,139,441	\$ 3,979,308	\$ 4,021,738	\$ 4,065,178	\$ 4,164,654	\$ 4,161,566
Administrative Services	\$ 5,111,998	\$ 5,031,563	\$ 5,098,361	\$ 5,166,377	\$ 5,235,637	\$ 5,306,166
Financial Services	\$ 2,349,158	\$ 2,272,695	\$ 2,322,906	\$ 2,374,307	\$ 2,426,925	\$ 2,480,792
Facility Maintenance	\$ 3,771,287	\$ 3,602,023	\$ 3,600,382	\$ 3,654,721	\$ 3,710,063	\$ 3,766,428
Community Maintenance	\$ 18,872,098	\$ 21,823,333	\$ 22,115,895	\$ 22,413,371	\$ 22,715,862	\$ 23,023,469
Community Service	\$ 3,995,406	\$ 4,078,889	\$ 4,164,686	\$ 4,252,466	\$ 4,342,277	\$ 4,434,168
Education	\$ 191,948,380	\$ 206,164,367	\$ 219,824,842	\$ 227,221,703	\$ 233,049,849	\$ 239,698,320
Public Safety	\$ 46,132,892	\$ 47,263,467	\$ 48,399,230	\$ 49,562,936	\$ 50,755,279	\$ 51,976,970
Debt	\$ 14,755,881	\$ 14,220,383	\$ 14,481,458	\$ 13,433,229	\$ 12,987,478	\$ 10,176,491
Retirement	\$ 40,555,720	\$ 43,675,367	\$ 47,025,560	\$ 50,634,392	\$ 54,515,934	\$ 58,690,692
Insurance & Other	\$ 40,826,925	\$ 41,999,710	\$ 42,703,768	\$ 43,419,947	\$ 44,148,460	\$ 44,889,519
Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfers to Other Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS - GENERAL FUND	\$ 372,459,186	\$ 394,111,105	\$ 413,758,824	\$ 426,198,627	\$ 438,052,416	\$ 448,604,580
Water	\$ 16,214,779	\$ 16,455,078	\$ 16,699,639	\$ 16,948,547	\$ 17,201,891	\$ 17,459,759
Sewer	\$ 31,978,447	\$ 32,157,013	\$ 32,509,751	\$ 32,866,717	\$ 33,227,969	\$ 33,593,567
EMS	\$ 14,723,080	\$ 14,597,776	\$ 14,907,814	\$ 15,224,937	\$ 15,549,311	\$ 15,881,108
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS - ENT. FUNDS	\$ 62,916,305	\$ 63,209,867	\$ 64,117,204	\$ 65,040,201	\$ 65,979,171	\$ 66,934,434
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS - ALL FUNDS	\$ 435,375,491	\$ 457,320,972	\$ 477,876,028	\$ 491,238,828	\$ 504,031,587	\$ 515,539,014
BUDGET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (3,239,050)	\$ (3,824,165)	\$ (3,119,500)	\$ (770,292)

City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
State Aid (Cherry Sheet)	Budget	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections
Education:	\$ 242,243,118	\$ 255,995,286	\$ 271,498,755	\$ 279,400,380	\$ 287,537,195	\$ 295,916,081
School Aid Chapter 70	\$ 202,331,602	\$ 215,111,578	\$ 229,615,193	\$ 236,488,649	\$ 243,568,308	\$ 250,860,358
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	\$ 7,924,384	\$ 8,162,116	\$ 8,406,979	\$ 8,659,188	\$ 8,918,964	\$ 9,186,533
Education Offset: Direct Expenditures						
School Choice Receiving Tuition	\$ 295,461	\$ 304,325	\$ 313,455	\$ 322,858	\$ 332,544	\$ 342,520
General Government						
General Municipal Aid	\$ 29,342,997	\$ 30,076,510	\$ 30,828,423	\$ 31,599,134	\$ 32,389,112	\$ 33,198,840
Veterans Benefits	\$ 1,034,046	\$ 997,854	\$ 962,929	\$ 929,227	\$ 896,704	\$ 865,319
Abatements: Vets, Blind, Spouses	\$ 310,188	\$ 313,290	\$ 316,423	\$ 319,587	\$ 322,783	\$ 326,011
State Owned Land	\$ 658,742	\$ 675,211	\$ 692,091	\$ 709,393	\$ 727,128	\$ 745,306
Offsets: Direct Expenditures						
Public Libraries Chap. 78	\$ 345,758	\$ 354,402	\$ 363,262	\$ 372,344	\$ 381,652	\$ 391,193
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 142,550,803	\$ 147,540,088	\$ 152,589,563	\$ 157,779,619	\$ 163,092,787	\$ 168,537,184
- Prior Year Base	\$ 130,575,717	\$ 137,389,336	\$ 142,324,069	\$ 147,382,171	\$ 152,566,725	\$ 157,880,893
+2.5% of Base	\$ 3,190,521	\$ 3,434,733	\$ 3,558,102	\$ 3,684,554	\$ 3,814,168	\$ 3,947,022
Debt Exclusion (New High School)	\$ 5,161,467	\$ 5,216,019	\$ 5,207,394	\$ 5,212,894	\$ 5,211,894	\$ 5,209,269
Estimated New Growth	\$ 3,623,098	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Local Receipts	\$ 20,476,026	\$ 22,443,900	\$ 22,310,599	\$ 22,182,127	\$ 22,433,592	\$ 22,690,106
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 8,374,419	\$ 8,634,572	\$ 8,656,108	\$ 8,677,749	\$ 8,699,443	\$ 8,721,192
Other Excise						
Meals	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,634,986	\$ 1,675,860	\$ 1,717,757	\$ 1,760,701	\$ 1,804,718
Room	\$ 100,000	\$ 101,000	\$ 102,010	\$ 103,030	\$ 104,060	\$ 105,101
Other	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,375	\$ 15,759	\$ 16,153	\$ 16,557	\$ 16,971
Cannabis	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,418,900	\$ 1,438,055	\$ 1,457,489	\$ 1,477,145
Penalties and Interest	\$ 1,048,894	\$ 914,627	\$ 928,347	\$ 942,272	\$ 956,406	\$ 970,752
Payments in Lien of Taxes	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000
Fees	\$ 1,307,500	\$ 1,333,650	\$ 1,360,323	\$ 1,387,529	\$ 1,415,280	\$ 1,443,586
Rentals	\$ 44,000	\$ 93,449	\$ 93,449	\$ 93,449	\$ 93,449	\$ 93,449
Library	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,150	\$ 6,304	\$ 6,461	\$ 6,623
Cemeteries	\$ 89,000	\$ 91,225	\$ 93,506	\$ 95,843	\$ 98,239	\$ 100,695
Departmental Revenue	\$ 548,000	\$ 558,960	\$ 570,139	\$ 581,542	\$ 593,173	\$ 605,036
Licenses and Permits	\$ 2,321,995	\$ 2,518,435	\$ 2,568,804	\$ 2,620,180	\$ 2,672,583	\$ 2,726,035
Solid Waste - Other	\$ 250,000	\$ 430,000	\$ 440,750	\$ 451,769	\$ 463,063	\$ 474,640
Fines and Forfeitures	\$ 1,515,000	\$ 1,556,671	\$ 1,599,488	\$ 1,643,483	\$ 1,688,688	\$ 1,735,137
Investment Income	\$ 700,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,125,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000
Medicare Reimbursement	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 1,151,005	\$ 1,153,012	\$ 1,153,019	\$ 1,154,027
Recurring	\$ 112,218	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Non-Recurring	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000

City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
Budget	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections
Other Sources	\$ 9,602,567	\$ 11,084,477	\$ 8,311,542	\$ 8,471,773	\$ 8,647,329	\$ 8,820,275
Surplus Revenue (Free Cash)	\$ 1,583,488	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
From Free Cash (Diman Assessment)	\$ -	\$ 2,935,906	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Available Funds:						
Indirects:						
Sewer	\$ 7,988,795	\$ 8,148,571	\$ 8,311,542	\$ 8,471,773	\$ 8,647,329	\$ 8,820,275
Water	\$ 1,680,000	\$ 1,713,600	\$ 1,747,872	\$ 1,782,829	\$ 1,818,486	\$ 1,854,856
EMS	\$ 3,025,238	\$ 3,085,743	\$ 3,147,458	\$ 3,210,407	\$ 3,274,615	\$ 3,340,107
Other Sources of Funds	\$ 3,283,557	\$ 3,349,228	\$ 3,416,213	\$ 3,484,557	\$ 3,554,228	\$ 3,625,312
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Stabilization Fund	\$ 30,284	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$ 414,872,514	\$ 437,063,751	\$ 454,710,461	\$ 467,839,899	\$ 481,710,903	\$ 495,963,646
LESS: NON-APPROPRIATED USES						
Other Amounts to be Raised	\$ 838,165	\$ 678,854	\$ 697,045	\$ 715,734	\$ 734,933	\$ 754,638
Appropriation Deficits (Snow, etc.)	\$ 177,018	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Overlay/Revenue Deficits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ 641,219	\$ 658,727	\$ 676,717	\$ 695,202	\$ 714,196	\$ 733,714
Court Judgments/Tax Title	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Debt/Interest not on Sch B	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SRPEDD	\$ 19,928	\$ 20,127	\$ 20,329	\$ 20,532	\$ 20,737	\$ 20,945
State and County Assessments	\$ 39,989,107	\$ 41,173,791	\$ 42,393,641	\$ 43,649,703	\$ 44,943,053	\$ 46,274,799
County Tax	\$ 740,838	\$ 759,359	\$ 778,343	\$ 797,801	\$ 817,747	\$ 838,190
Mosquito Control Projects	\$ 141,339	\$ 144,872	\$ 148,494	\$ 152,207	\$ 156,012	\$ 159,912
Air Pollution Districts	\$ 24,482	\$ 25,094	\$ 25,721	\$ 26,364	\$ 27,024	\$ 27,699
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	\$ 434,360	\$ 445,219	\$ 456,349	\$ 467,758	\$ 479,452	\$ 491,438
Regional Transit Authorities (SRCA)	\$ 1,656,759	\$ 1,698,178	\$ 1,740,632	\$ 1,784,148	\$ 1,828,752	\$ 1,874,471
Special Ed. Chap. 71B	\$ 79,934	\$ 82,332	\$ 84,802	\$ 87,346	\$ 89,966	\$ 92,665
School Choice Sending Tuition	\$ 1,693,960	\$ 1,744,779	\$ 1,797,122	\$ 1,851,036	\$ 1,906,567	\$ 1,963,764
Charter School Sending Tuition	\$ 35,217,435	\$ 36,273,958	\$ 37,362,177	\$ 38,483,042	\$ 39,637,533	\$ 40,826,659
Reserve for Abatements	\$ 1,605,983	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,100,000
RESOURCES AVAILABLE	\$ 372,439,259	\$ 394,111,105	\$ 410,519,774	\$ 422,374,462	\$ 434,932,917	\$ 447,834,188

City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
	Budget	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections
EXPENDITURES:						
General Government	\$ 4,139,441 \$	3,979,308 \$	4,021,738 \$	4,065,178 \$	4,164,654 \$	4,161,566 \$
Mayor's Office	\$ 337,557 \$	336,034 \$	344,135 \$	352,435 \$	360,940 \$	369,654 \$
City Council	\$ 421,579 \$	423,256 \$	431,312 \$	439,543 \$	447,955 \$	456,551 \$
City Clerk	\$ 420,847 \$	416,946 \$	426,835 \$	436,967 \$	447,346 \$	457,979 \$
Elections	\$ 492,467 \$	424,305 \$	433,257 \$	442,417 \$	506,789 \$	467,754 \$
Veterans	\$ 2,466,991 \$	2,378,767 \$	2,386,199 \$	2,393,816 \$	2,401,624 \$	2,409,627 \$
Administrative Services	\$ 5,111,998 \$	5,031,563 \$	5,098,361 \$	5,166,377 \$	5,235,637 \$	5,306,166 \$
City Administration	\$ 188,507 \$	191,965 \$	196,682 \$	201,515 \$	206,469 \$	211,546 \$
Human Resources	\$ 343,042 \$	342,252 \$	350,646 \$	359,248 \$	368,064 \$	377,098 \$
Information Systems	\$ 3,176,035 \$	3,108,742 \$	3,146,557 \$	3,184,919 \$	3,223,837 \$	3,263,320 \$
Law Department	\$ 1,404,414 \$	1,388,604 \$	1,404,476 \$	1,420,695 \$	1,437,267 \$	1,454,202 \$
Financial Services	\$ 17,105,039 \$	16,493,078 \$	16,804,365 \$	15,807,536 \$	15,414,403 \$	12,657,283 \$
Assessor	\$ 601,884 \$	590,827 \$	602,698 \$	614,837 \$	627,250 \$	639,944 \$
Auditor	\$ 511,817 \$	472,676 \$	484,294 \$	496,201 \$	508,403 \$	520,908 \$
Director of Financial Services	\$ 164,043 \$	165,606 \$	169,671 \$	173,837 \$	178,106 \$	182,482 \$
Collector	\$ 481,611 \$	481,059 \$	491,993 \$	503,189 \$	514,654 \$	526,394 \$
Treasurer	\$ 451,717 \$	426,098 \$	434,585 \$	443,261 \$	452,133 \$	461,204 \$
Purchasing	\$ 138,086 \$	136,429 \$	139,666 \$	142,982 \$	146,379 \$	149,859 \$
Debt Service	\$ 14,755,381 \$	14,220,383 \$	14,481,458 \$	13,433,229 \$	12,987,478 \$	10,176,491 \$
Facility Maintenance	\$ 3,771,287 \$	3,602,023 \$	3,600,382 \$	3,654,721 \$	3,710,063 \$	3,766,428 \$
Buildings & Amory	\$ 3,771,287 \$	3,602,023 \$	3,600,382 \$	3,654,721 \$	3,710,063 \$	3,766,428 \$
Community Improvement	\$ 18,872,098 \$	21,823,333 \$	22,115,895 \$	22,413,371 \$	22,715,862 \$	23,023,469 \$
Cemeteries	\$ 516,382 \$	478,862 \$	489,462 \$	500,314 \$	511,422 \$	522,795 \$
Parks; Civic Celebrations	\$ 1,474,344 \$	1,480,092 \$	1,506,992 \$	1,534,464 \$	1,562,520 \$	1,591,174 \$
Trees	\$ 579,636 \$	461,786 \$	469,175 \$	476,707 \$	484,385 \$	492,212 \$
Engineering	\$ 349,058 \$	333,684 \$	341,523 \$	349,554 \$	357,780 \$	366,207 \$
Solid Waste	\$ 10,390,964 \$	13,765,780 \$	13,908,206 \$	14,054,209 \$	14,200,811 \$	14,349,030 \$
Streets & Highways	\$ 3,760,950 \$	3,588,767 \$	3,661,331 \$	3,735,537 \$	3,811,425 \$	3,889,035 \$
Snow Removal	\$ 526,243 \$	526,243 \$	526,243 \$	526,243 \$	526,243 \$	526,244 \$
Traffic and Parking	\$ 1,274,311 \$	1,188,119 \$	1,211,968 \$	1,236,344 \$	1,261,276 \$	1,286,772 \$

City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
	Budget	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections	Projections
Enterprise Funds						
City Planning	\$ 3,995,406	\$ 4,078,889	\$ 4,164,686	\$ 4,252,466	\$ 4,342,277	\$ 4,434,168
Inspectional Services	\$ 247,966	\$ 236,599	\$ 242,368	\$ 248,279	\$ 254,337	\$ 260,545
Health & Human Services	\$ 929,966	\$ 932,493	\$ 954,446	\$ 976,935	\$ 999,972	\$ 1,023,571
Library	\$ 838,629	\$ 921,787	\$ 944,181	\$ 967,128	\$ 990,642	\$ 1,014,737
	\$ 1,978,845	\$ 1,988,010	\$ 2,023,691	\$ 2,060,124	\$ 2,097,326	\$ 2,135,315
Enterprise Funds	\$ 62,916,305	\$ 63,209,867	\$ 64,117,204	\$ 65,040,201	\$ 65,979,171	\$ 66,934,434
Emergency Medical Services	\$ 14,723,080	\$ 14,597,776	\$ 14,907,814	\$ 15,224,937	\$ 15,549,311	\$ 15,881,108
Water	\$ 16,214,779	\$ 16,455,078	\$ 16,699,639	\$ 16,948,547	\$ 17,201,891	\$ 17,459,759
Sewer	\$ 31,978,447	\$ 32,157,013	\$ 32,509,751	\$ 32,866,717	\$ 33,227,969	\$ 33,593,567
Education	\$ 191,948,380	\$ 206,164,367	\$ 219,824,842	\$ 227,221,703	\$ 233,049,849	\$ 239,698,320
School Department	\$ 175,770,406	\$ 186,726,901	\$ 199,176,887	\$ 203,975,410	\$ 208,863,888	\$ 213,841,817
School Transportation	\$ 10,897,280	\$ 11,335,000	\$ 12,076,750	\$ 12,855,388	\$ 13,673,367	\$ 14,532,095
Vocational Assessments	\$ 5,280,694	\$ 8,102,466	\$ 8,571,205	\$ 10,390,705	\$ 10,512,594	\$ 11,324,468
Fire/Police	\$ 46,132,892	\$ 47,263,467	\$ 48,399,230	\$ 49,562,936	\$ 50,755,279	\$ 51,976,970
Fire/FREMA	\$ 19,628,137	\$ 20,140,349	\$ 20,628,592	\$ 21,128,889	\$ 21,641,539	\$ 22,166,850
Police	\$ 26,504,756	\$ 27,123,118	\$ 27,770,637	\$ 28,434,046	\$ 29,113,739	\$ 29,810,120
Insurance	\$ 40,826,925	\$ 41,999,710	\$ 42,703,768	\$ 43,419,947	\$ 44,148,460	\$ 44,889,519
Insurance	\$ 40,826,925	\$ 41,999,710	\$ 42,703,768	\$ 43,419,947	\$ 44,148,460	\$ 44,889,519
Retirement	\$ 40,555,720	\$ 43,675,367	\$ 47,025,560	\$ 50,634,392	\$ 54,515,934	\$ 58,690,692
Retirement	\$ 40,555,720	\$ 43,675,367	\$ 47,025,560	\$ 50,634,392	\$ 54,515,934	\$ 58,690,692
Revenue Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Revenue Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenditures	\$ 435,375,491	\$ 457,320,972	\$ 477,876,028	\$ 491,238,828	\$ 504,031,587	\$ 515,539,014

*City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)*

The included is a five-year projection (fiscal years ending 2026 – 2030) for the General Fund. The projections are based on the 2025 budget that was approved by the City Council with the following assumptions summarized:

Resources:

- Property taxes are projected to increase by 2 ½% over the 2025 base.
- New Growth is estimated at \$1.5 million based on information provided from the Board of Assessors for the years FY26 through FY30.
- The approved debt exclusion for Durfee High School is included in tax revenues.
- Unrestricted General State Aid, net of assessments is expected to grow approximately 2.5%. State Aid for Education is estimated to rise 7% through the end of the Student Opportunity Act, then leveling off to 3% starting in FY2028.
- Local Receipts are expecting to see nominal increases of approximately 1% based on current economic indicators and trends before ARPA funding.
- Diman Regional has provided their updated plan for the new school. Monitoring the amortization schedule and any amendments will be crucial, as changes could require further adjustments to future projections or the need for additional funding strategies. This allocation from Free Cash helps ensure that the debt service burden is manageable in the short term, easing the impact on the General Fund. The Administration has committed to allocating \$4 million of free cash to ease this burden.
- The investment income earned from the Stabilization Fund will be used to support routine small capital purchases. This approach allows the City to leverage its available reserves without resorting to the General Fund. The decision to use this income helps ensure that there are funds available for smaller capital needs (e.g., equipment, maintenance, or other minor infrastructure investments) without putting additional pressure on the General Fund. Since the amount of investment income is market-dependent, it's important to continuously monitor the performance of the Stabilization Fund and be ready to adjust the budget if returns are lower than expected.

Appropriations:

The projections account for inflationary adjustments and other known increases based on available data. The pension and retirement expenses are derived from the previously provided amortization schedule, with no changes to the funding date.

- The Administration is committed to 100% of Net School Spending.
- The Administration is actively exploring and implementing strategies to reduce operational costs. The projections include reductions in departmental expenditures. As each fiscal year's budget is prepared, these reductions will undergo close scrutiny, particularly as we continue to phase out ARPA funding, which has previously eased the pressure on the General Fund.
- The five-year projections include all funded positions from FY2025, with increases for cost of living expected.
- The Administration is working on a strategic Municipal Solid Waste reduction plan.

City of Fall River, Massachusetts

Fiscal Year FY25 Budget & 5 Years of Projections (Actual results may vary)

- Health Insurance costs are estimated to increase by 3.5% in FY2026, with a subsequent assumption of a 1.7% increase. However, Health Insurance expenses can be unpredictable due to several factors, making it challenging to accurately forecast costs in the long term. Key factors contributing to this unpredictability include the utilization of services, risk pool composition, regulatory changes, and claims experience. These costs will be closely monitored through the Employer Health Trust Fund, with guidance from our healthcare consultant
- Diman Regional has shared an updated plan for a new school, along with the corresponding amortization schedule. We are closely monitoring any amendments to the most recent schedule. Fall River's share of the assessment is 76%

The projections do not include estimates for new industries or any other unknown factors that could potentially increase revenues or reduce expenditures. The assumptions used in preparing this financial projection reflect a scenario or course of action that, while not necessarily expected to occur, is based on the known information available as of this date. The Administration will continue to collaborate closely with department heads to monitor all revenues and expenditures.



**BOARD OF ELECTION
COMMISSIONERS**

CITY OF FALL RIVER

RECEIVED

2025 JAN -8 P 3 32

January 8, 2025

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Honorable Members of the City Council
One Government Center
Fall River, MA. 02722

Dear City Councilors,

In accordance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth *Chapter 43, Section 44A* and the Municipal Charter *Section 7-1* I hereby request your approval to hold the Preliminary Election for the Offices of Mayor, City Council, and School Committee on Tuesday, September 16, 2025. All Polling Precincts shall be Open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

In addition, in accordance with *Section 7-3* of the Municipal Charter I request that the Biennial Municipal Election be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. All candidates nominated during the preliminary election for the Offices of Mayor, City Council and School Committee shall have their names printed on the official municipal election ballot. Also, included shall be any referendum question(s) ordered by the City Council to appear on the ballot. All Polling Precincts shall be Open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Sincerely,

Ryan Lyons
Chairman & Director
Chief Elections Official
Board of Elections Dept.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

6

ORDERED, that in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 54, Section 103P of the General Laws, the Preliminary Municipal Election to be held in the City of Fall River shall be held on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, and the Municipal Election shall be on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

ORDERED, that the following places be and the same are hereby designated as polling places for the Preliminary Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, and the Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. The polls to be opened from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., and all polling places shall be used.

CITY of FALL RIVER

Jan 09, 2025 09:34

Page No 1

List of Wards, Precincts and Polling Places

Ward	Prnct	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Address
1	A	ALFRED LETOURNEAU SCHOOL	323 ANTHONY ST
	B	EDWARD F. DOOLAN APTS	CORNER OF LAUREL & MITCHELL DR
	C	ALFRED LETOURNEAU SCHOOL	323 ANTHONY ST
2	A	BLESSED TRINITY CHURCH	1340 PLYMOUTH AVE (ENTRANCE ON WINTHROP ST)
	B	BLESSED TRINITY CHURCH	1340 PLYMOUTH AVE (ENTRANCE ON WINTHROP ST)
	C	CANDEIAS-NIAGARA FIRE STA	CORNER PLYMOUTH AVE & WARREN ST
3	A	GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH	1598 SOUTH MAIN STREET
	B	GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH	1598 SOUTH MAIN STREET
	C	MATTHEW J KUSS MIDDLE SCH	52 GLOBE MILLS AVENUE (ENTRANCE ON SHAW STREET)
4	A	MATTHEW J KUSS MIDDLE SCH	52 GLOBE MILLS AVENUE (ENTRANCE ON SHAW STREET)
	B	JAMES A. O'BRIEN APTS	34 WHIPPLE STREET
	C	THE ATRIUM AT GOV'T CTR	ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER (ENTRANCE ON SULLIVAN DRIVE)
5	A	CANDEIAS-NIAGARA FIRE STA	CORNER PLYMOUTH AVE & WARREN ST
	B	ST.ANTHONY OF THE DESERT	300 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
	C	MARY L. FONSECA SCHOOL	160 WALL ST
6	A	FRANCIS J. BARRESI HTS	1863 PLEASANT ST
	B	GEORGE H. COTTELL HTS	1685 PLEASANT ST
	C	ST.ANTHONY OF THE DESERT	300 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
7	A	UNION UNITED METH CHURCH	600 HIGHLAND AVE
	B	THE ATRIUM AT GOV'T CTR	ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER (ENTRANCE ON SULLIVAN DRIVE)
	C	RAYMOND D. HOLMES APTS	140 ESSEX STREET (ENTRANCE ON FULTON ST.)
8	A	MARY L. FONSECA SCHOOL	160 WALL ST
	B	BRIS.COMM.COLL. BUILD."G"	777 ELSBREE STREET
	C	BRIS.COMM.COLL. BUILD."G"	777 ELSBREE STREET
9	A	BRIS.COMM.COLL. BUILD."G"	777 ELSBREE STREET
	B	CALVARY TEMPLE ASSEM OF G	4321 NORTH MAIN ST
	C	CALVARY TEMPLE ASSEM OF G	4321 NORTH MAIN ST

Total Number of Polling Places: 27

No. Pages of Printed: 1

*** End of Report ***



**DEPARTMENT OF
ENGINEERING - PLANNING**
CITY OF FALL RIVER

PAUL E. COOGAN

Mayor

DANIEL AGUIAR

Director of Engineering & Planning

January 3, 2025

The Honorable Mayor Paul E. Coogan
Members of the Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

RECEIVED

2025 JAN -9 P 3:34

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

RE: 2024 Year End Departmental Update

Dear Mayor Coogan and Members of the City Council,

Happy New Year!! I wanted to take the time to update you all on what the Department has been able to complete this calendar year and to offer a glimpse into what we have planned for the year ahead. We have a small but extremely talented staff dedicated to providing exemplary service to our citizens and making great improvements to our City. The following are some of the highlights. As always, I am available to discuss anything related to "what we do" here in the Engineering and Planning Department.

MBTA Communities Zoning Compliance

With the concurrence of the Administration and City Council we were able to complete the expansion of the existing WTOD Zoning District. This endeavor sets the table for consistent growth in the vicinity of the Davol Street Corridor and MBTA Commuter Rail Station. We are one of only a handful of communities that were able to successfully complete the MBTA Zoning exercise and compliance model by the December 31, 2024 deadline resulting in being found "In Compliance" with the MBTA Communities Act. This ensures and protects our ability to qualify for many of the Commonwealth's grant programs.

Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Plan which inventories our Open Space and Recreational facilities and offerings is substantially completed with the final document available in the Spring of 2025. The process included extensive public outreach in various forms requesting input on our OSRP amenities, needs and wants for our open and recreational spaces.

Downtown Parking Study

Working with an outside consultant, this study is substantially completed with the final report available in the Spring of 2025. This project completed an inventory of existing parking in the subject area and included extensive stakeholder outreach, public survey and analysis of current zoning regulations.

Jerry Lawton Plaza

Construction is substantially complete including the complete reconstruction of the plaza/parklet at the corner of South Main and Anawan Streets. The project included new improved surfaces, ADA accessibility, landscaping and stage area.

MASS in Motion

Bicycle lanes, improved pedestrian crosswalks/signals and parking improvements along Water and Rodman Streets corridors were completed. This project also included the replacement of sidewalks within Pond Street near the Narrows Center for the Arts.

Quequechan Rail Trail Phase IVA

Picking up where the trail currently crosses at Quequechan Street, this expansion will continue easterly along the back side of the Curtain Loft Apartments, Knitting Mill Apartment, Espirito Santo School and Church terminating at Father Travassos Park. We have completed the design, permitting and bidding process. The project is under contract and scheduled to begin April 2025.

Bedford and Robeson Street Intersection

We have completed the design, permitting and bidding process. The project is under contract with construction beginning April 2025. This project includes the reconstruction of the intersection including signalization, geometry and traffic patterns.

Davol Street Corridor Master Plan

Spearheaded by Fall River Redevelopment Authority. The consulting firm Stantec was brought under contact in December 2023 and since then we have worked as a group to move this initiative forward. The process included extensive stakeholder outreach, public information sessions and potential developers' meetings which allowed us to craft such an exciting plan. We expect that the Final Master Plan document will be available this spring.

Permitting

The combined Departments were able to review and process the following permits and licenses:

62	Site Plan Review Applications
117	Varlance/Special Permit Applications
37	Subdivision plans
344	Water Street Opening Permits
95	Sewer Street Opening Permits
212	Gas Street Opening Permits
70	Curb Opening Permits
221	Trench Permits
55	Drainlayers Licenses
58	All Alcohol Common Victuallers
7	Beer & Wine Common Victuallers
16	All Alcohol Club Common Victuallers
2	All Alcohol Veterans Club Common Victuallers
21	All Alcohol Package Store
18	Beer & Wine Package Store
2	Farmer Brewer

Permitting (cont'd)

118	Common Victualler
88	Class I,II,III (New, Used & Junk vehicles)
3	Fortune Tellers
5	Lodging House

Fee Schedule Adjustments

With approval from the Administration and City Council we have been able to update our fee schedules across our various menu of permitting services. This will provide the ability to maintain staffing levels while being fair to our service users.

Sidewalk Replacement

During the 2024 construction season, approximately 200 +/- site specific locations experienced substantial sidewalk repair and or replacement.

Roadway Reconstruction

Projects recently or substantially completed

Acacia	New Boston	to	Dead End
Alsop	Roper	to	Russell Brogan
Bedard	Eastern	to	Notre Dame
Burke	New Boston	to	Dead End
Concord	Stone	to	Dead End
Concord	Chester	to	Dead End
Corbett	Highland	to	Dead End
County	Pleasant	to	McGowan
Emery	Bush	to	Plymouth
Estes	Lark	to	Dead end
Hutton	New Boston	to	Dead End
Hyacinth	New Boston	to	Bullock
Lee	So. Main	to	Melville
Progress	Stafford Road	to	Dead End
Railroad	No. Court	to	Dead End
Roper	Pleasant	to	Dead End
Ridge	Middle	to	Osborn
Smithies	Roper	to	Russell Brogan
Stafford	24 Overpass	to	Tiverton line
Stockton	Rodman	to	Stafford
Valentine	Robeson	to	Highland
Ward	New Boston	to	Cypress
Wilson	Riggenbach	to	Causeway
Willow	New Boston	to	Meridian
Weybosett	Pleasant	to	Wamsutta

Columbia and Canal Street Plaza

Plaza and parklet improvements are currently being planned for implementation this year at a location previously owned and maintained by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River. It is intended to renovate this area in homage to the cultural significance of the Columbia Street corridor.

Columbia Street

A highly anticipated and long overdue project is the Columbia Street Reconstruction effort. Spanning from the South Main Street intersection to Broadway, this endeavor will completely reconstruct Columbia Street, its sidewalks, lighting and landscaping. This culturally significant area is certainly deserving of these improvements. The project is currently being prepared for bid with construction to begin this spring or early summer.

Bedford Street

Picking up where our intersection project leaves off, Bedford Street, its sidewalks and landscaping will be revitalized incorporating significant pedestrian safety and accessibility measures. This gateway to our downtown will again serve as a vibrant connector corridor to City Hall, Post office, existing commercial areas, banks, restaurants and newly constructed apartments.

Zoning Amendments

The department is currently developing several proposed zoning amendments that will allow the city to achieve its growth potential while spurring on economic development, housing production and quality of life opportunities.

Proposed Roadway Reconstruction

Projects on the drawing board currently and being prepared for bid include the following.

Hyacinth	Locust	to	Bullock
Charles	Kilburn	to	South Main

As we continually strive to find new ways to improve this great City, please feel free to reach out at any time with any ideas you may have no matter how big or how small. We look forward to working together with you all on another successful year of growth.

Sincerely,

Daniel Aguiar, Director of Engineering & Planning

Patti Aguiar, Head Clerk Engineering

Kerri Ayash, Head Clerk Licensing

TJ Sullivan, GIS Specialist

Dennis Silva, Inspector

One Government Center • Fall River, MA 02722
 TEL (508) 324-2512 • FAX (508) 324-2564 • EMAIL daguiar@fallriverma.org

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2024 DEC 19 12:07

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

December 19, 2024

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Monday, November 18, 2024 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70

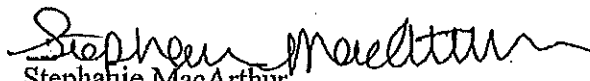
Section: 387

Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Bay Street	WEST	Starting at a point 20 feet North of Woodman Street. For a distance of 20 feet North

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

SN

City of Fall River, In City Council

9

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Fall River, as follows:

That Chapter 70 of the Code of the City of Fall River, Massachusetts, 2018, which chapter relates to traffic be amended as follows:

Section 1

By inserting in Section 70-241, which relates to stop intersections designated, the following:

Name of Street	Direction of Travel	At Intersection of
Emerson Street	Westbound	North Underwood Street

Section 2

By inserting in Section 70-281, which relates to one-way streets designated, the following:

Name of Street	Direction of Travel	Location
Eddy Street	Southbound	From Sevligny Street to Bedford Street

Section 3

By inserting in Section 70-374, which relates to thirty-minute parking, the following:

Name of Street	Side	Location	Hours
Pleasant Street	North	Starting at a point 22 feet east of Barlow Street, for a distance of 20 feet easterly	7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M. Monday through Sunday

Section 4

By striking out in Section 70-387, which relates to handicapped parking, the following:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Blackstone Street	West	Starting at a point 131 feet south of Nashua Street, for a distance of 20 feet southerly
London Street	South	Starting at a point 140 feet west of Johnson Street, for a distance of 25 feet westerly
Pokross Street	North	Starting at a point 440 feet east of Bay Street
South Street	North	Starting at a point 135 feet east of South Main Street, for a distance of 20 feet easterly
Tripp Street	West	Starting at a point 93 feet south of Charles Street, for a distance of 20 feet southerly
Wellington Street	North	Starting at a point 230 feet east of St. Mary Street, for a distance of 20 feet easterly

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

DEC 17, 2024

Passed through first reading

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Councilor Andrew J. Raposo)

WHEREAS, residents and property owners have expressed safety concerns related to the intersection of Bay Street and Mount Hope Avenue, and

WHEREAS, there have been numerous reports of northbound and southbound drivers failing to adhere to the stop signs located at this intersection, and

WHEREAS, these traffic violations have resulted in multiple vehicular accidents, threatening the wellbeing of pedestrians, drivers and property owners, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Safety convene with the Director of Traffic and Parking, a representative from the Fall River Police Department, and any interested parties to discuss additional safety measures that may be implemented at the intersection of Bay Street and Mount Hope Avenue.

(Filed 12-30-2024)

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

(Councilor Andrew J. Raposo)

WHEREAS, community organizations such as VIVA Fall River, Fall River Arts and Culture Commission, the Creative Arts Network, and others have put on many different exciting events in 2024, and

WHEREAS, many of these events were well attended and enjoyed by all, and

WHEREAS, these efforts should continue to be supported and highlighted, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Economic Development and Tourism invite these community organizations to discuss their 2024 year in review, share ideas for plans in 2025, and how we can further support their efforts to benefit the residents of the City of Fall River.

(Filed 12-30-2024)

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Councilor Paul B. Hart)

WHEREAS, there have been numerous residents who have experienced vehicular vandalism in the neighborhood of President Avenue and Madison Street, and

WHEREAS, residents in the area have reported this information to the Fall River Police Department, and other relevant parties, and

WHEREAS, the damage to vehicles in the neighborhood has persisted following the filing of the forementioned reports and those who live in the vicinity of this area are concerned about the well-being of all parties involved in this matter, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Safety convene with the Police Chief to discuss this ongoing issue and develop a strategy to combat property vandalism and increase public safety overall in the President Avenue and Madison Street neighborhood.

(Filed 1-2-2025)

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS

MEETING: December 17, 2024 at 5:55 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Joseph D. Camara, presiding;
Councilors Michelle M. Dionne, Paul B. Hart, Bradford L. Kilby,
Linda M. Pereira, Cliff Ponte, Andrew J. Raposo and
Laura-Jean Sampson

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Joshua Lee Smith, Attorney, Bowditch & Dewey, LLP
311 Main Street, Worcester, MA
Jamie Durand, Engineer, POWER Engineers, Inc.
2 Hampshire Street, #301, Foxborough, MA

The President called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m. and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium and that the purpose of the hearing was to hear all persons interested and wishing to be heard on the following:

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to open the hearing.

Transmission Lines

1. New England Power Company to construct, maintain, repair, operate and use transmission lines as follows:

<u>Public Way</u>	<u>Owners of Abutting Property</u>	<u>Map/Lot</u>
1. Copicut Road	Commonwealth of Massachusetts City of Fall River	W-42-0020 W-44-0100
2. Quanipaug Road	Commonwealth of Massachusetts City of Fall River	W-42-0020 W-44-0100

The center line of the proposed transmission lines across said public ways to be located not over 50 feet from the approximate location of the center line of each of the proposed transmission lines shown on the plans attached hereto entitled "Plan to accompany petition for street crossing on Quanipaug Road, Fall River, MA and "Plan to accompany petition for street crossing on Copicut Rd., Fall River, MA", which plans are incorporated herein by reference; the power wires to be strung not less than 23 feet from the ground above said public ways, and not over 10 wires per line to be strung from each structure across said public way.

The President asked if any proponents were present, and Joshua Lee Smith, Attorney, Bowditch & Dewey, LLP, and Jamie Durand, Engineer, POWER Engineers, Inc., came forward. Mr. Smith provided a summary of the proposal to install new electrical lines on existing structures that would cross over City property and explained that the project will be compliant with all related Massachusetts General Law requirements. Mr. Smith stated that New England Power Company has presented this matter to multiple state and local boards for approval and consideration, and this project will assist in providing vital utility services to Fall River and neighboring communities.

Vice President Pereira expressed concern that the wires would not be placed underground, and Councilor Kilby asked if underground conduit was necessary if these wires were to pass through a residential neighborhood. Mr. Durand explained that there are multiple factors that affected the choice to install the transmission lines above ground, including the existing structures for overhead lines, the need for additional property easements to repair and maintain underground conduits, and the overall financial expense. Mr. Durand also explained that there are currently overhead wires existing in residential communities, but in locations such as Boston, there are no corridor spaces available, so their lines are underground.

Councilor Sampson and Mr. Durand held a lengthy discussion regarding the roads near the Copicut Reservoir that will be used by trucks for this project and the need for street renovations. Mr. Durand stated that New England Power Company would utilize Belrock Road, Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road, as well as right-of-way passages in other towns, such as Dartmouth, MA. Mr. Durand also explained that the project includes performing surface grading, stone additives, water management and installation of swales, following the completion of construction, and that these roadways will undergo inspection by the City. Councilor Sampson expressed concern regarding the timeline of the project and how it may affect nearby neighborhoods. Mr. Durand stated that the current timeline for the project's completion is about one year, but there are anticipated delays that are based on requirements to maintain wildlife in the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve area. Mr. Smith also explained that, as this transmission line project is taking place on a wide area of property, the work will not always take place in the same location.

Councilor Cadime and Mr. Durand discussed the existing and pending permits and reviews from other governmental bodies for this project, including the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP), the Conservation Commission and the City Engineer. Mr. Durand explained that New England Power Company is waiting for a water quality survey being conducted by the MA DEP, has received an Order of Conditions from the Conservation Commission and has also received approval from the City Engineer. Councilor Cadime and Mr. Durand also discussed the removal of trees and vegetation in the construction areas. Mr. Durand explained that the project would require the removal of trees within a sixty-foot area near the easements for the large trucks and equipment that would be needed, and that, while they are not required to replace the trees, they will perform habitat mitigation in the area following completion of the project. Councilor Cadime expressed concern regarding the health

of those who live nearby to these types of wires. Mr. Durand explained that research had been conducted regarding the effects on the water supply, and an electro-magnetic field analysis was completed. Mr. Durand explained that the closest homes are further away from the lines and the safety concerns, regarding exposure to the electromagnetic field, are focused on those driving in this area.

Councilor Kilby, Mr. Smith and Mr. Durand discussed the tax revenue that the City of Fall River would receive from the property used for this wiring project, and that it had been almost ten years since the last installation of wires in this area, which was before the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioserve area was completed.

Councilor Hart asked if the project had been presented to other City officials. Mr. Durand explained that New England Power Company has been working with the Mayor, the Administrator of Community Utilities, the Forester/Project Manager, and the City Engineer. Councilor Hart expressed concern as speeding is a significant problem in the Copicut neighborhood and may get worse if the roads are repaired. Mr. Durand explained that New England Power Company has been working with the Fall River Police Department, as well as the Fall River Fire Department, regarding the roadways and they plan to install cameras in the project area during construction, which may assist with speeding issues.

Councilor Sampson expressed concern regarding the tree removals in the Copicut neighborhood, and the lack of required replanting of the trees following the completion of the project. Mr. Durand explained that the trees were being removed to allow vehicular access, and if they were replanted, these vehicles would face challenges if they needed to access the wire transmission structures in the future, and there were no requirements from the state or local governments for arbor restoration.

Mr. Smith stated that New England Power Company appreciated the feedback from the Councilors regarding this project, but that the petition itself is only to allow the wires to cross Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road. Mr. Smith encouraged the City Councilors to reach out to New England Power Company to discuss their concerns related to the overall plans for the project.

Councilor Sampson stated that, while the petition may be for the wires, it is the duty of the City Council to advocate for their constituents. Vice President Pereira asked if clearance for this project has been issued from the Energy Facilities Siting Board, and Mr. Durand explained that they are anticipating the clearance to be issued in January 2025.

The President asked if any opponents were present, and no one came forward.

2. New England Power Company to construct, maintain, repair, operate and use transmission lines as follows:

<u>Public Way</u>	<u>Owners of Abutting Property</u>	<u>Map/Lot</u>
1. North Main Street	New England Power Company	T-16-0013
	New England Power Company	T-25-0019
	New England Power Company	T-25-0022
	City of Fall River	T-25-0024

2. Highland Avenue	New England Power Company	T-25-0052
	New England Power Company	U-01-0023
3. Wilson Road	New England Power Company	U-01-0013
	New England Power Company	Z-04-0058
	Massachusetts Department of Transportation	N/A

The center line of the proposed transmission lines across said public ways to be located not over 50 feet from the approximate location of the center line of each of the proposed transmission lines shown on the plans attached hereto entitled "Plan to accompany petition for street crossing on North Main St., Fall River, MA", "Plan to accompany petition for street crossing on Highland Ave., Fall River, MA" and "Plan to accompany petition for street crossing on Wilson Rd., Fall River, MA", which plans are incorporated herein by reference; the power wires to be strung not less than 23 feet from the ground above said public ways, and not over 16 wires per line to be strung from each structure across said public way.

The President asked if any proponents were present, and Joshua Lee Smith, Attorney, Bowditch & Dewey, LLP, and Jamie Durand, Engineer, POWER Engineers, Inc., came forward. Mr. Smith explained that there are currently existing structures and lines in this area, but the petition is requesting to separate two existing lines that are currently housed in the same tower. This project will involve refurbishment throughout the existing line area.

The President asked if any opponents were present, and no one came forward.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to close the hearings at 6:44 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda (attached)

A true copy. Attest:



City Clerk

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEETING: December 17, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Joseph D. Camara, presiding;
Councilors Michelle M. Dionne, Paul B. Hart, Bradford L. Kilby,
Linda M. Pereira, Cliff Ponte, Andrew J. Raposo and
Laura-Jean Sampson

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Seth Thomas Aitken, City Administrator
Daniel Aguiar, City Engineer/Director of Engineering and Planning
Valarié Kilduff, Project Manager,
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

In accordance with a resolution adopted, as amended May 8, 2012, persons are allowed to address the Council for a period of three minutes prior to the beginning or at the conclusion of business in the Committee on Finance.

1. Citizen Input - None

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to lift item 2 from the table.

2. Resolution – Committee on Finance reconvene with a representative from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the City Administrator and the City Engineer for an update on the progress of the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Improvements Project

Daniel Aguiar, City Engineer/Director of Engineering and Planning, provided a brief update regarding the Route 79/Davol Street project, including general construction, streetlight and guard rail installation, and pavement of the roads. Mr. Aguiar explained that he visits the site every week and it appears that the construction is ahead of schedule. Mr. Aguiar stated that he has been speaking with many residents regarding the closing of a U-turn near Commonwealth Landing Lofts, to allow for the construction of drainage in the area. Mr. Aguiar explained that this construction resulted in a very long detour for those who lived in the apartment complex, and that the engineers are working to remedy this matter for drivers by January 2025. Mr. Aguiar stressed the importance of communication with residents, commuters and business owners, to allow any issues with construction to be addressed promptly.

Councillor Cadlme and Mr. Aguiar discussed the anticipated completion date of the project and transfer of the property from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the City of Fall River. Mr. Aguiar stated that the target date for completion is 2026. Valarie Kilduff, Project Manager, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MA DOT), stated that plans are ongoing for the transfer of property ownership from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the City of Fall River, and explained that it is overall a lengthy process.

Vice President Pereira and Councillor Hart stated that they had received calls regarding the effect of U-turn on the residents of Commonwealth Landing. Ms. Kilduff stated she has driven through the detour and understands the inconvenience it presents to the residents of Commonwealth Landing. Ms. Kilduff emphasized that she is working with the construction engineers to remedy this matter as soon as possible and that site distance studies are being conducted to ensure safety prior to changing the detour route. Mr. Aguiar stated that the existing three-mile detour is quite cumbersome for these residents.

Councillor Hart exited the Council Chamber at 6:56 P.M.

Councillor Dionne asked for clarification regarding the anticipated completion date for construction in 2026. Mr. Aguiar stated that he estimated the construction to end in the late summer or early fall of 2026. Mr. Aguiar reemphasized that, currently, the construction is ahead of schedule. Vice President Pereira and Councillor Dionne complimented the construction company, the MA DOT, the City Engineer and all parties involved in the construction project for the efficiency of the ongoing work.

President Camara asked if a meeting could be held with representatives from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Fall River to provide additional information to the Committee on Finance regarding how, and to whom, the property would be transferred when the project is completed. Seth Aitken, City Administrator, stated that he would contact the representatives that could provide this additional information and work to share additional materials with the Committee members.

On a motion made by Vice President Pereira and seconded by Councillor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to table the resolution, with Councillor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councillor Raposo and seconded by Councillor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:04 P.M., with Councillor Hart absent and not voting.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)


Clerk of Committees

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: December 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Joseph D. Camara, presiding;
Councilors Michelle M. Dionne; Bradford L. Kilby,
Linda M. Pereira, Cliff Ponte, Andrew J. Raposo
and Laura-Jean Sampson

ABSENT: Councilor Paul B. Hart

IN ATTENDANCE: Seth Thomas Aitken, City Administrator
Chief Nicholas S. Silva, Emergency Medical Services

President Camara called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. Mayor and order accepting a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from Mary Ann Dillon to the Fall River Public Library for the Library's Children's Section

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, December 18, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

2. Mayor and request to establish an ordinance creating position of Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services – Budget and Compliance

On a motion made by Councilor Dionne and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to waive the rules to allow the City Administrator and Chief of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to answer questions, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Seth Thomas Aitken, City Administrator, provided a summary of the request to create a new Deputy Chief of EMS position, which would be focused specifically on financial matters. Mr. Aitken stated that the Department of EMS has grown significantly, additional services are being offered and budget compliance has become more complex. Councilor Dionne inquired as to why additional Deputy Chiefs were needed within the Department of EMS. Mr. Aitken explained that the creation of this new position would reduce the burden that is currently on one employee, who handles the financial matters, including grant writing and budgeting, as well as medical care services, such as vaccine clinics and transportation to and from Charlton Memorial Hospital.

The City Administrator explained that the Fall River Fire Department has one Chief, two Deputy Chiefs and eight District Chiefs, while the Department of EMS has one Chief and two Deputy Chiefs. Mr. Aitken also stated that the medical services provided by the department are growing, along with the population of Fall River, the emergency rooms are overwhelmed, and the City's service calls have increased significantly over the past few years. Councilor Dionne and Chief Nicholas S. Silva, EMS, discussed rescue vehicles that have been added to the Department of EMS to assist with emergency and non-emergency calls.

Councilor Raposo and Mr. Aitken discussed the overall organization of the Department of EMS, and if the creation of a new Deputy Chief position would change the current chain of command. The City Administrator explained that the development process was still ongoing, due to significant changes that have occurred this year with the new Charlton Memorial Hospital program, but the most likely outcome would be that all billing and administrative staff would be working under the new Deputy Chief of EMS – Budget and Compliance position. Councilor Raposo requested that Mr. Aitken provide an amended organizational chart to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation members when this matter is addressed. Mr. Aitken stated that there are ongoing interviews for positions within the Department of EMS, and once that process is complete it will be easier for the Administration to answer specific questions regarding task assignment and organization of staff.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to refer the matter to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES – None

RESOLUTIONS

3. The Committee on Public Safety convene with the Director of Traffic and a representative of the Fall River Police Department to address traffic concerns regarding the Stafford Road exit of SouthCoast Marketplace.

Councilor Ponte made brief remarks regarding the letters he received from the students at Holy Trinity School regarding the safety of this intersection and the importance of addressing these safety concerns. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

CITATIONS

4. Liane Verville – Retirement after 40 years of service at the Fall River Public Library

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by President Camara, it was unanimously voted to adopt the citation, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

5. Joseph Cinquini – 90th birthday celebration

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the citation, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

6. Kenneth & Regina Mark, owners of Mee Sum – 1950 to 2024

On a motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the citation, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

ORDERS – HEARINGSTransmission Lines

7. New England Power Company – Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road.
A motion was made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Raposo to adopt the order. Councilor Sampson stated that she would like to visit the site of the project prior to voting on the matter. On a further motion made by Councilor Sampson and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was voted to table the order, 6 yeas, 2 nays, with Councilors Ponte and Raposo voting in the negative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting. Following the vote, Councilor Cadime asked that the matter be placed on the next City Council agenda as to not delay the Council's decision regarding the petition.

8. New England Power Company – North Main Street, Highland Avenue and Wilson Road
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.
 Approved, December 18, 2024
 Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS9. Police Chief's report on licenses2025 Taxicab Drivers

Michael Butruccio	Simone Desnoyers	Daniel Burgos Lopez	Todd J. Quintal
Mikael Raposa	Edward Rego	Betsy Tirado	Jose Vasconcelos
Dorothy Ward	Kyle Wilson		

On a motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

10. Auto Body Shop License Renewal

Joseph Silva d/b/a Supreme Auto, 421 Third Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

11. Auto Repair Shop License Renewal

Thomas A. Legault d/b/a Tom Legault's Auto Repair, 745 Brayton Avenue

David J. Motta d/b/a Action Cycles, 326 Pleasant Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, December 18, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

12. Auto Repair Shop License Transfer

Auto Repair Shop License No. 341, located at 1139 Slade Street, from Tiago Botelho d/b/a Mill City Diesels, LLC, to Justin Pacheco d/b/a Mill City Diesels, LLC.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, December 18, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

13. City Council Meeting Schedule – 2025

A motion was made by Councilor Raposo to amend the start time of the Regular Meeting by striking out "7:00 PM," and inserting in its place "6:30 PM," but there was no second. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

14. Election of City Council President for the year 2025

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting. President Joseph D. Camara received 8 votes and was declared President of the City Council for the year 2025. President Camara was then sworn into his duties by the City Clerk and delivered brief remarks regarding his re-election.

15. Election of City Council Vice President for the year 2025

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting. Vice President Pereira received 8 votes and was declared Vice President of the City Council for the year 2025. Vice President Pereira was then sworn into her duties by the City Clerk and delivered brief remarks regarding her re-election.

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

16. Planning Board Minutes

August 22, 2024 October 9, 2024 November 13, 2024

On a motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted that the minutes be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to take items 17-19 together, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

City Council Minutes

17. Public Hearings – December 3, 2024

18. Committee on Finance – December 3, 2024

19. Regular Meeting of the City Council – December 3, 2024

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the minutes be approved, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 17, 2024

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

All readings with Emergency Preamble:

- 2a. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Handicapped parking
- Brow Street, North, 143 feet east of Fifth Street
 - Irving Street, West, 71 feet north of Pleasant Street
 - Lester Street, West, 117 feet south of Hicks Street
 - Montgomery Street, North, 158 feet east of Crescent Street
 - North Underwood Street, West, 206 feet north of Weetamoe Street
 - Oliver Street, North, 151 feet east of Broadway
 - Weybosset Street, South, 33 feet west of Pleasant Street

On a motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was voted 8 yeas to adopt the emergency preamble, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through first reading, passed through second reading, passed to be enrolled and passed to be ordained, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, December 18, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

First Reading:

- 2b. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous

Section 1

Stop intersections designated

- Emerson Street, Westbound, at the intersection of North Underwood Street

Section 2

One-way streets designated

- Eddy Street, Southbound, from Sevigny Street to Bedford Street

Section 3

Thirty-minute parking

- Pleasant Street, North, 22 feet east of Barlow Street,
7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., Monday through Sunday

Section 4

Handicapped parking removals

- Blackstone Street, West, 131 feet south of Nashua Street
- London Street, South, 140 feet west of Johnson Street
- Pokross Street, 440 feet east of Bay Street
- South Street, North, 135 feet east of South Main Street
- Tripp Street, West, 93 feet south of Charles Street
- Wellington Street, North, 230 feet east of St. Mary Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through first reading, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Committee on Regulations recommending action:

2c. Order - Auto Repair Shop License Renewal - Luis Pimentel d/b/a L and S Auto, Inc.,
1138 Pleasant Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the order be adopted, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, December 18, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:37 p.m., with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy. Attest:



City Clerk

