

City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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 Shawn E. Cadime, 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 – HEARINGS

Transmission 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 – MISCELLANEOUS

9. **Police Chief's report on licenses**

2025 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 Seigny 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

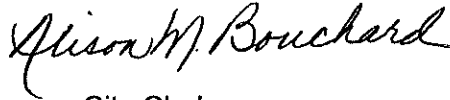
Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

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:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alison M. Bouchard".

City Clerk



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

RECEIVED

2024 DEC 13 A 9:41

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER
DECEMBER 17, 2024
AGENDA

5:15 P.M. COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND LEGISLATION

5:30 P.M. COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND LEGISLATION MEETING IF IT RUNS PAST 5:30 P.M.)

5:55 P.M. PUBLIC HEARINGS (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS MEETING IF IT RUNS PAST 5:55 P.M.)

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.

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

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

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.

6:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARINGS IF THEY RUN PAST 6:00 P.M.)

1. Citizen Input
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 (tabled 7-16-2024)

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

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.

CITATIONS

4. Liane Verville – Retirement after 40 years of service at the Fall River Public Library
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13. *City Council Meeting Schedule – 2025
14. Election of City Council President for the year 2025
15. Election of City Council Vice President for the year 2025

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

16. **Planning Board Minutes**

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City Council Minutes

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

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES - None


City Clerk

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

All readings with Emergency Preamble:

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1138 Pleasant Street

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



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

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2024 DEC -6 P 12:04

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

December 4, 2024

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

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council,

Attached please find correspondence from Library Administrator, Liane Verville, with a request to accept a donation in the amount of \$1000.00 from Mary Ann Dillon to be used by the Library's Children's Section.

We respectfully ask for your every consideration with this request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

ORDERED, that under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53A, the Fall River Public Library be, and the same is hereby, authorized to accept a gift donation from Mary Ann Dillon in the amount of \$1,000 to be used by the Children's Section of the Fall River Public Library.



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Department of Community Services
PLANNING • HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • LIBRARY
INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Fall River Public Library
fallriverlibrary.org

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

LIANE VERVILLE
Library Administrator
lverville@sailsinc.org

December 4, 2024

The Honorable Paul E. Coogan
Mayor
City of Fall River
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Mayor Coogan:

In accordance with the provisions of MGL c. 44 §53A I hereby ask that the City Council accept a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from Mary Ann Dillon (353 Archer Street, Fall River MA, 02720). Said donation is to be used by the Library's Children's Section.

Sincerely,

Liane Verville
Library Administrator

2



**City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor**

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

RECEIVED

DEC 12 P 1:34

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

December 12, 2024

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

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

I respectfully request your approval of the creation of a new position which will be classified under contract personnel as outlined in Chapter 50 of the Code of the City of Fall River, Massachusetts, 2018, Section 50-302: **Deputy Chief of EMS – Budget and Compliance.**

The Deputy Chief of EMS –Budget and Compliance position will report to the Chief of Emergency Medical Services and will assist with a variety of complex financial functions within the department. This position, in short, will be responsible for managing the department's annual operating budget, overseeing all medical billing and ensuring compliance to promote the growth and overall financial wellbeing of the department. The request from Chief Silva and a full job description is enclosed for your review.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please reach out to any member of my administration or Chief Silva with any questions.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor



**EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES**

CITY OF FALL RIVER

2

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DEC 12 P 1:38

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

December 9, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Mayor Coogan,

I recommend and I respectfully request your approval of the creation of a new position within the EMS Department: **Deputy Chief of EMS – Budget and Compliance.**

The Deputy Chief of EMS – Budget and Compliance position will report to the Chief of Emergency Medical Services and will be responsible for overseeing the department's budget, billing/collections staff and monitoring department compliance with stakeholders ranging from insurance carriers to government entities. This position is especially important in the regulatory processes for billing and collections of our new IFT division, which is much different than current processes in the 911 division. This position will safeguard us from MassHealth and Medicare audits as well as state OEMS regulatory audits and it will add significant value as our budget and department continues to grow and the regulation and audit process becomes larger and more involved. I believe that this is a much more cost-effective solution than utilizing a third-party billing and compliance service.

I believe the Deputy Chief of EMS – Budget and Compliance position should be classified outside the EMS Union and that the salary should be negotiable in order to solicit applicants with the requisite financial experience the department needs. The funds needed to add this position can be absorbed by the current EMS budget. A full job description is included.

Sincerely,


Nicholas Silva
Chief of EMS

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPUTY CHIEF OF COMPLIANCE AND BILLING

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES

Under the general supervision as delegated by the Mayor, and or City Administrator through the Chief of EMS. Oversees all billing and collection services, and monitors compliance and regulations through the authorizing authority. Participates in the evaluation of the performance of Emergency Medical Personnel, and recommends disciplinary action and performs related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THIS CLASSIFICATION

Work involves overseeing and supervising lower-level personnel that they provide timely and efficient service to the people of the city who respond to a variety of medical emergencies. To be responsible for conformance to city and state codes and standards of all work performed under his/her "control", and to conform to policies and directives promulgated by the Chief of EMS; to coordinate work for which he/she is responsible, and of other workers; this work is performed with the wide latitude in independent judgment and decision making, and under general direction; performs related work as assigned.

Examples Of Work (Illustrative only - The omission of any examples of work does not necessarily exclude that work or duty from being performed by any employee in this classification)

In addition to performing the duties of supervisor, he/she must be capable of performing duties at the level of Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic, and is required to perform the following:

FINANCIAL PLANNING AND BUDGETING:

- Developing and managing the annual operating budget for EMS, including revenue projections, expense control, and capital expenditures.
- Forecasting future financial performance and identifying financial risks.
- Monitoring budget changes and taking corrective actions as needed.

FINANCIAL REPORTING:

- Analyzing financial data to identify trends, opportunities, and areas for cost reduction.
- Providing insightful financial reports to senior management and the City Council and Administration.
- Balance revenue and fees to MUNIS.
- Review all medical billing to ensure maximization of reimbursements.
- Identify and analyze errors in insurance claims, including demographics, situational to maintain optimal compliance.
- Research and verify patient information to resolve discrepancies.
- Manage all appeals, and prior authorization and denials for appropriate reimbursement.

- Collaborate with patients to resolve insurance reimbursement issues.
- Oversight of all medical legal requests for information, medical examiner, District Attorney. Liaison to the Department of Children and Families for all urgent requests.

COMPLIANCE:

- Ensuring adherence to all applicable financial regulations and accounting standards.
- Managing internal controls to mitigate financial risks and ensure data accuracy.
- Staying updated on changes in healthcare regulations impacting EMS operations. Completion of all application insurance application updates, audits, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Government Ambulance Certified Public Expenditure, Medicare Cost Reporting.

LEADERSHIP:

- Providing coaching and mentoring to staff on billing management practices. Encouraging update training and billing practices for staff, to maintain insurance regulatory standards.
- Overseeing the day-to-day operations of the finance department
- Managing all clinical documentation and compliance, to adhere to all insurance regulations.
- Clinical oversight to employee success as a medical practitioner.
- Regulatory oversight for departmental programs, and reimbursement strategies.
- Collaborating purchasing contracts and managing outgoing expenses.
- Collaboration QA/QI clinical compliance, and reportable incidents for adherence to Department of Public Health guidelines, and MATRIS..
- Collaboration and specialty management of transfers to ensure Southcoast contact satisfaction, and reimbursement.

The Deputy Chief, under the direction of the Chief, will be responsible for overseeing:

- BSO Per-call ambulance reporting program and ESO/Zoll billing program, all medical payments for employee workman's comp, PCG Grant, Maintain Medicare/Medicaid certifications.
- Oversees Emergency Medical Service personnel in a lower grade on aspects of the Emergency Medical Services system.
- Is capable of performing the duties described in the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration job description for Emergency Medical Technician-Ambulance at all levels, and to supervise Emergency Medical Service personnel of a lower grade (e.g. EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate, EMT-Paramedic), in performance of Emergency Medical procedures both in the field, and in the hospital in conformance with established Emergency Medical Service Policy and Procedures;
- To respond to request for Emergency Medical assistance from the public;
- To examine, assess, and stabilize patients at an emergency scene;
- To prepare patients for transport;
- To keep documentation on pre-hospital care received by the patient;

- To act as group leader at major disasters and other special Emergency Medical Service stations;
- To keep informed of Emergency Medical Service communications systems, and Emergency Medical Services Policy and Procedures;
- To apply department Policy;
- To maintain familiarity with all equipment used in Emergency Medical Service;
- To maintain Emergency Medical Service vehicles;
- To use Emergency Medical service radio/communications systems;
- When required, to work in the Emergency Medical Service communications systems;
- To maintain all required certifications;
- To maintain all required documentations and records
- To be capable of training Emergency Medical Technicians at all levels of certifications in proper Emergency Medical Service techniques, and the proper operation of Emergency medical service equipment and vehicles;
- To perform related duties as required.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Knowledge of basic medical terminology;
- Knowledge of basic human anatomy and physiology;
- Knowledge of extraction techniques;
- Knowledge of local Emergency Medical Service point-of-entry procedures;
- Knowledge of National Registry and Massachusetts Department of Public Health Protocols;
- Knowledge of the major transportation routes in the locality;
- Knowledge of defensive and emergency driving procedures;
- Knowledge of Emergency Medical Service vehicle limitations;
- Knowledge of Emergency Medical Service communication system;
- Knowledge of department policies and standards;
- Knowledge of department disaster procedures;
- Knowledge of department personnel schedules and requirements;
- Knowledge of resources available to the Emergency Medical Service;
- Knowledge of the proper responses to Emergency Medical Service equipment failure;
- Knowledge of the principles and practices of management and administration including planning, organizing, coordinating, staffing;
- Knowledge of Emergency Medical Technicians' re-certification requirements and available training;
- Knowledge of the general content and application of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 31 and other Civil Service regulations;
- Ability to conduct triage; ability to evaluate the mechanism of injury;
- Ability to monitor a patient's status; ability to perform basic life support and Advanced Life Support;
- Ability to extricate patients in a safe and accepted manner;

- Ability to safely lift and carry a normal adult with all required Emergency Medical Service equipment with the aid of another Emergency Medical Technician;
- Ability to recognize and react to hazards at an emergency scene;
- Ability to operate Emergency Medical Service vehicle in a safe and accepted manner;
- Ability to inspect a vehicle's medical equipment;
- Ability to work effectively with other public safety personnel;
- Ability to evaluate the performance of Emergency Medical Service equipment, vehicles, and personnel;
- Ability to ensure proper inspection of Emergency Medical Service vehicles by employees of a lower grade;
- Ability to work effectively under pressure and stress;
- Ability to train Emergency Medical Service employees of a lower grade;
- Ability to evaluate and investigate complaints concerning Emergency Medical Service;
- Ability to compile clear and accurate reports.

ACCEPTABLE EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

A high school diploma. Must have at least three years of full time or equivalent ambulance experience as a Certified Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic as certified by the Department of Public Health or National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, providing Emergency Medical Services, of which one year must have been in the supervision or pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services. Other combinations of experience and training will be considered.

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Current certification as an Emergency Medical Technician -Paramedic by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and currently certified as a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Instructor and Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor, by the American Heart Association.

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Councilor Cliff Ponte)

WHEREAS, a class of sixth grade students from Holy Trinity School wrote letters regarding traffic safety concerns at the Stafford Road exit area of the SouthCoast Marketplace, and provided suggestions to address this matter, and

WHEREAS, many drivers and pedestrians utilize this plaza each day, as it is the location of a grocery store, movie theater, shopping centers and restaurants, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Safety convene with the Director of Traffic and a representative of the Fall River Police Department to discuss traffic flow in the area of the Stafford Road exit of SouthCoast Marketplace and potential modifications to existing traffic patterns to increase safety of drivers and pedestrians.

(Filed 12-6-2024)

City of Fall River, In City Council

ORDERED, that regular meetings of the City Council during 2025 shall be held as follows, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that at said meetings the Committee on Finance shall begin at 6:00 PM, or at the discretion of the Council President, and the Regular Meeting of the City Council shall begin at 7:00 PM unless otherwise ordered:

January	14 28
February	11 25
March	11 25
April	8 22
May	13 27
June	10 24
July	15
August	12
September	9 23
October	14 28
November	12 (Wednesday) 25
December	9 23

All meetings shall be held in the Council Chamber, One Government Center, unless otherwise ordered.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS

MEETING: December 3, 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: Aaron Roy, National Grid Engineer,
1250 Brayton Point Road, Somerset, MA
Scott Wiech, Project Manager, Prime Engineering, Inc.,
350 Bedford Street, Lakeville, MA
Jeffrey Furtado, 118 Primrose Street

The Vice President called the meeting to order at 5:57 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 Ponte, it was unanimously voted to open the hearing, with President Camara and Councilor Sampson absent and not voting.

Pole Location

1. Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for two new solely owned pole locations and one solely owned anchor, as follows:

High Street

Two (2) new pole locations
One (1) new anchor

Install two new solely owned poles and one solely owned anchor on High Street between Franklin Street and Pine Street. Proposed Pole 6 will be installed approximately 100 feet northerly of existing Pole 5 on High Street. Proposed Pole 7 will be installed 100 feet northerly of proposed Pole 6 on High Street. The proposed anchor will be installed on the northerly side of proposed Pole 7.

In accordance with Plan No. 31051185

The Vice President asked if any proponents were present, and Aaron Roy, National Grid Engineer, came forward. Mr. Roy explained that the installation of the new poles will help to extend electrical power in the area, both aboveground and underground. A brief discussion was held between Vice President Pereira and Mr. Roy regarding the process of removing older, unused poles throughout the city.

President Camara and Councilor Sampson arrived at 5:59 p.m.

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

Curb Removals

2. Sacred Heart Lofts, LLC, 30 Adams Street, Milton, MA, 02186, for the removal of curbing as follows:

	Existing Opening	Curbing to be Removed	Curbing to be Added	Combined Opening Proposed After Alteration
<u>160 Linden Street</u>				
Seabury Street	19.6'	2.4'	0'	22'
Pine Street	0'	22'	0'	22'
Total for 160 Linden Street:				44'

The existing parcel is currently serviced by a 19.6-foot curb opening on Seabury Street. The applicant proposes to extend that opening by an additional 2.4 feet for a total of 22 feet. Additionally, the applicant proposes to create a new 22-foot opening on Pine Street. The total opening for the location will be 44 feet.

The President asked if any proponents were present, and Scott Wiech, Project Manager, Prime Engineering, Inc., came forward. Mr. Wiech provided the specific measurements of the proposed curb removal and stated that the proposal had been approved by both the City Engineer and the Traffic Commission. The President then asked if any opponents were present, and no one came forward.

3. Jeffrey Furtado, 118 Primrose Street, for the removal of curbing as follows:

	Existing Opening	Curbing to be Removed	Curbing to be Added	Combined Opening Proposed After Alteration
118 Primrose Street	19'	7'	0'	26'

The existing parcel is currently serviced by a 19-foot curb opening. The applicant proposes to extend that existing opening by an additional 7 feet. The total opening for the location will be 26 feet.

The President asked if any proponents were present, and Jeffrey Furtado, 118 Primrose Street, came forward. Mr. Furtado explained that there are five vehicles owned by the residents of 118 Primrose Street, but that the current driveway only accommodates four vehicles. Mr. Furtado stated that this proposed curb removal would allow off-street parking for all residents, and eliminate the need for parking on Primrose Street. The President then 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 6:07 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:
Agenda (attached)

A true copy. Attest:

Alison M. Bouchard

City Clerk

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEETING: December 3, 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
Jason Bouchard-Nawrocki, Chair, Historical Commission
Alexander Silva, President, Fall River Preservation Society

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:08 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
2. Resolution – Convene quarterly with the Administration and a representative from the Historical Commission regarding funding plans for the renovation of the Bank Street Armory

Seth Thomas Aitken, City Administrator, provided a brief overview of a potential bid to purchase the Bank Street Armory. Mr. Aitken explained that a non-profit organization is working to develop a museum-type facility and, while they are touring structures throughout the region, they are working to inspect the Armory and develop an estimate for required renovation costs. The City Administrator stated that the Administration is working diligently to encourage the organization to develop their facility in Fall River.

Councilor Kilby emphasized the importance of the Administration, the Historical Commission and the Fall River Preservation Society working together in this endeavor, as the future of the Bank Street Armory will most likely involve federal and state historical grant funding. Jason Bouchard-Nawrocki, Chair, Historical Commission, stated that the Administration has worked closely with the Historical Commission. Mr. Bouchard-Nawrocki stated that the National Park Service Certified Local Government certification was recently issued to the City of Fall River, which will allow for additional grant applications to be submitted for historic properties, such as the Highlands Historic District, and that the Administration's assistance was pivotal in the

success of the certification. The Chair of the Historical Commission emphasized the need for historical research regarding any proposed changes to the Bank Street Armory during the redevelopment of the property.

Councilor Dionne made remarks regarding previous votes of the City Council to deny permission to sell the Bank Street Armory. Alexander Silva, President, Fall River Preservation Society, provided information regarding additional grant funding, such as Community Preservation Act funding, that could be obtained for renovation purposes in the future if the potential sale of the structure does not occur. Mr. Silva also explained that, if the property is sold to a non-profit organization and turned into a museum-type space, the organization may also be eligible for specific museum funding grants.

Councilor Dionne, Mr. Bouchard-Nawrocki and Mr. Silva held a brief discussion regarding the status of the structure's repairs, which includes a new roof and sealed windows, and the potential to perform a more up-to-date feasibility study of the property. Mr. Bouchard-Nawrocki stated that there are additional grant funding opportunities that can help offset the cost of a feasibility study.

Councilor Ponte and the City Administrator discussed the non-profit organization that has expressed interest in the Bank Street Armory, and alternative plans for the structure if the sale is not successful. Mr. Aitken stated that the organization is currently working on developing a financial proposal for the property. The City Administrator provided information regarding recent findings regarding the structure, such as the lack of proper foundation in certain areas, as well as the work being done by the Administration to obtain additional grant and earmark funding for the renovation of the property. Mr. Aitken explained that, while the goal is to sell the property, if the sale is not successful, the Administration's priority will be to maintain the structure, avoid water damage and prevent further degradation of the building. The City Administrator stated that, while the City Council voted against the sale of the building previously, the Administration's plan for the property to be redeveloped by an outside buyer has not changed and that the City of Fall River does not have the funding available to revive the structure without another party's investment.

Councilor Ponte emphasized the need to move forward on the redevelopment of the Bank Street Armory, as there are many old structures in the community that were not properly maintained, such as unused school buildings and the old police station. Councilor Ponte stated that the Council must make decisions that will benefit the taxpayers, and that the challenges of the structure, such as the lack of parking and failed heating systems, are not financially feasible for the City to solely address. President Camara and Councilor Kilby made brief remarks regarding the challenges of parking and that it is a deterrent for many potential developers.

Vice President Pereira expressed concern regarding the sale of the Bank Street Armory, as it is one of the few remaining historic structures in Fall River. Vice President Pereira requested that the Administration keep the Councilors updated on the proposed sale and work closely with the Historical Commission and the Fall River Preservation Society.

Councilor Sampson expressed concern that, since the Council's vote to deny the sale of the Bank Street Armory, no repairs or renovations have occurred. Councilor Sampson and the City Administrator discussed the lack of interested parties and that the current prospective bidder was the only organization that had expressed interest. Councilor Sampson emphasized that the property would continue to deteriorate, which would lower the value of the structure.

Councilor Cadime and Mr. Aitken discussed ongoing conversations with the non-profit organization, including potential grant funding from the Community Development Act. Councilor Cadime expressed concern regarding the lack of heat within the building, as temperature control will assist in preventing further deterioration. Councilor Cadime expressed his support for a new feasibility study, as well as developing additional parking for the building.

Councilor Dionne and the City Administrator discussed the benefits and detriments of the property being purchased by a non-profit organization, as they will not pay property taxes to the City, but they would be eligible for additional grant funding which could create revenue for Fall River through other means and attract more tourism.

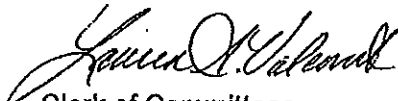
Councilor Ponte and Mr. Aitken discussed the potential of a new feasibility study, as it would provide additional information but may confirm that the property itself does not have positive net value. Mr. Aitken provided information regarding the City's utilization of on-call engineers and design services, and that they may provide inspection services prior to executing a new RFP for a feasibility study. Councilor Ponte suggested that, if the potential sale of the Bank Street Armory is unsuccessful, then the City Council should urge the Administration to submit a new RFP for a feasibility study to determine the best use of the property. President Camara advised Councilor Ponte to submit a resolution during the City Council meeting.

The City Administrator stated that it would be more financially efficient to have the Historical Commission, and the Fall River Preservation Society, perform this assessment as they are eligible to apply for grants to offset the cost of the feasibility study. Councilor Dionne agreed that it would be beneficial to allow the two bodies to work together to execute a new feasibility study. Mr. Aitken also stated that he will provide an update to the Councilors regarding this potential purchaser of the Bank Street Armory at an upcoming Committee on Finance meeting.

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

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:58 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:
Agenda packet (attached)


Clerk of Committees

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: December 3, 2024, at 7:00 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: None

President Camara called the meeting to order at 7:02 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 appointment of Nicholas S. Silva to Chief of Emergency Medical Services

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

2. Mayor and the confirmation of the following re-appointments to the Library Board of Trustees:

- a. Kathryn Clarkin

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

- b. Sharon L. Quinn

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

- c. Fran E. Rachlin

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

3. Mayor and order accepting a donation in the amount of \$70,000 from the Josephine M. Turner Trust to be used for general maintenance and repair of memorials and structures at Oak Grove Cemetery

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

Approved, December 4, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

4. Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to refer the recommendations to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES – None

RESOLUTIONS

5. The City Council urges the approval of the 310 CMR 9.21 Variance request sought by 52 Ferry, LLC, from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and endorses the utilization of 52 Ferry Street as the proposed variance satisfies environmental, recreation and economic interests that benefit the City of Fall River

Councilor Cadime provided a summary of the admirable work that 52 Ferry, LLC, has done in the City over the years and stated that this resolution would help support their business growth by developing a new marina in Fall River. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

CITATIONS

6. Elsie Audette – 100th Birthday

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

ORDERS – HEARINGS

Pole Location

7. Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid Installation of two (2) new solely owned poles and one (1) anchor on High Street

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

Approved, December 4, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

Curb Removals

8. Sacred Heart Lofts, LLC, 30 Adams Street, Milton MA – Removal of 2.4 feet on Seabury Street and removal of 22 feet on Pine Street for a total opening of 44 feet at 160 Linden Street (corner lot)

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

Approved, December 4, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

9. Jeffrey Furtado, 118 Primrose Street – Removal of 7 feet for a total opening of 26 feet at 118 Primrose Street

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

Approved, December 4, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

10. Police Chief's report on licenses

2025 Taxicab Drivers

Dustin J. Cabeceiras

Darril Carlsen

Robert R. DiGuiseppe

David R. LaFrance

Judy Palani

Natasha Smith

Ronald J. Souza

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

11. Auto Repair Shop License Renewal

Luis Pimentel d/b/a L and S Auto, Inc., 1138 Pleasant Street

The City Clerk stated that the Police Chief recommended disapproval of this license renewal.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to refer the matter to the Committee on Regulations.

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

12. Claims

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to refer the claims to Corporation Counsel.

13. Communication regarding lack of emergency exit easement at 239 Bedford Street

The City Clerk stated that a communication was received from the representatives of 239 Bedford Street on December 2, 2024, stating that the matter was being addressed by the property owners, and that Council involvement was not necessary at this time. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted that the communication be granted leave to withdraw.

14. Drainlayer License

Dixon Inc.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to approve the drainlayer application.

Approved, December 4, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

15. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes

October 17, 2024

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

City Council Minutes

16. Committee on Finance – November 19, 2024

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

17. Regular Meeting of the City Council – November 19, 2024

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

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES

18. Department of Environmental Protection – Notice of responsibility of diesel fuel release, Win Waste Innovations of Northern New England, in the vicinity of 14 Rodman Street on November 11, 2024

Councilor Cadime asked if this matter had been forwarded to the Board of Health and the City Clerk confirmed that they received a copy of this notice. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the notice be accepted and placed on file.

19. GEI Consultants, Inc., on behalf of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty – Notice of a Release Abatement Measure Plan for 120 Charles Street, a former manufactured gas plant site

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

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE **CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 3, 2024**

PRIORITY MATTERS

3a. Mayor and order accepting a donation in the amount of \$500 for the Fall River Public Library from Climate Democracy

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by President Camara, it was unanimously voted that the order be adopted.

Approved, December 4, 2024

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

RESOLUTIONS

5a. The Administration proceed with the issuance of a Request for Proposals regarding the sale of the Bank Street Armory if the currently anticipated bid for the property does not occur.

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

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy. Attest:

Alison M. Bouchard
City Clerk

