

City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

INÊS DA SILVA PAULINO LEITE
CITY CLERK

CHELSEA PACHECO
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: January 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Cliff A. Ponte, presiding;
Councilors Shawn E. Cadime, Joseph D. Camara, Michael G. Canuel,
Michelle M. Dionne, Paul B. Hart, Christopher M. Peckham, Sr.,
Linda M. Pereira and Andrew J. Raposo

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Kenneth C. Pacheco, Chief Operating Officer, Fall River Public Schools

President Ponte called the meeting to order at 7:31 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 – None

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to take items 1a through 1c together.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

1. Planning Board recommendation to **approve the acceptance** of the following streets:
 - a. Fieldstone Lane extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street
 - b. Brookfield Terrace extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street
 - c. Stonybrook Circle extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the Planning Board recommendation be accepted and placed on file and that the orders be adopted.

2. Board of Park Commissioners requesting the City Council assist with the creation of a fee schedule related to the placement of broadband infrastructure within the parks
The City Clerk explained that a fee schedule already exists for this type of infrastructure and that the matter was discussed with the Chair of the Board of Park Commissioners after this communication was received. Councilor Pereira stated that this matter should be referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation for further discussion, as the existing rates could be increased and these services will increase internet access within the parks.

Councilor Raposo stated that public internet access is provided in various areas and that providing that service would be at the will of the company installing the infrastructure. Councilor Peckham agreed with Councilor Pereira and suggested that the communication be discussed further by the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation.

On a motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file and to refer the communication to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation.

3. Director of Human Resources notifying the City Council of the completion of the external investigation related to the employment concerns raised by the Director of Veterans Services during the Committee on Finance meeting on September 9, 2025
Councilor Pereira made remarks regarding this communication, and the related investigation, and expressed concern that additional information regarding this matter was not shared with the public. Councilor Pereira's remarks are attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES

Second reading and enrollment:

4. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
Handicapped parking removals
- Eastern Avenue, East, 70 feet north of County Street
 - Maple Street, South, 275 feet east of Linden Street
 - Montaup Street, West, 119 feet south of Globe Street
 - President Avenue, South, 126 feet east of Charlotte Street
 - South Oxford Street, West, 395 feet south of Brayton Avenue

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, 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 Hart and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be ordained.

Approved, January 14, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

5. Second reading and enrollment, as amended:
Proposed Ordinance – Amendments to City Code Sections 2-130, 2-131, 2-132 and 2-134 re: loan order authorizations

A motion was made by Councilor Hart and seconded by Councilor Pereira to pass the ordinance through second reading and enrollment, as amended. Councilor Cadime stated that he supports this ordinance and will also file a resolution that will address the creation of a percentage rate restriction for bond authorizations in comparison to the City's applicable statutory debt limit, and that any loan order that is at, or above, that percentage rate will require voter approval. Councilor Cadime stated that other Councilors had expressed concern regarding the lack of a safety net to prevent excessive spending by the City and this process would allow oversight while also providing necessary adjustments based on inflation without amendments being required.

Councilor Canuel stated that he researched the existing ordinances for loan order authorizations and learned that §2-131 of the Code of the City of Fall River was ordained following a ballot question in 1977, which received over 20,000 votes in favor of the financial limitation for loan orders being created. Councilor Canuel compared the amounts listed in the original 1977 ordinance, which included a limit of \$1,000,000, and the amendment in 1998 that adjusted this amount to \$5,000,000, and the amendment made in 2013 that allowed for a \$20,000,000 aggregate per year. Councilor Canuel suggested that the proposed ordinance be amended to increase the financial limit to reflect inflation, but not to strike out the section in its entirety as it was approved by the voters.

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to waive the rules to allow Kenneth C. Pacheco, Chief Operating Officer, Fall River Public Schools, to answer questions.

Councilor Camara asked Mr. Pacheco if the amended amounts in Councilor Canuel's proposed amendment would assist the School Department with bond authorizations that are currently needed. Mr. Pacheco stated that the proposed ordinance, in its original form, along with Councilor Cadime's planned resolution, would provide more financial flexibility with upcoming projects related to the School Department.

President Ponte stated that Councilor Canuel's suggested amendment would result in a substantial change to the ordinance and recommended that the proposed ordinance be referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation for additional discussion first, prior to it being passed through second reading and enrollment, as amended.

Councilor Cadime stated that Councilor Canuel's proposed amendment would hinder financial jurisdiction from the City Council. Councilor Cadime stated that the City Council approved a municipal budget of over \$451,000,000, for Fiscal Year 2026, and that this budget included debt service line items that were well over the existing \$5,000,000, limit within §2-131 of the Code. Councilor Cadime also explained that requiring voters to determine if that spending is appropriate would delay all City projects for the remainder of the year until the next scheduled election. Councilor Cadime emphasized that the impact to the taxpayer does not change with this spending, whether it is regulated by a total financial limit or a percentage rate, as the City cannot increase property taxes more than the tax levy limitation listed within Proposition 2 ½, which can only be overridden with voter approval on a ballot. Councilor Cadime emphasized that the City Council is trusted by the voters to oversee all funding of the City's government and that keeping a financial restriction in place will delay necessary project funding that should be within the City Council's purview.

Vice President Dionne stated that, based on the history of the existing ordinance, the proposed amendment wouldn't be effective in the next ten to fifteen years, and would need to be amended again to reflect inflation. Vice President Dionne explained that the proposed resolution that Councilor Cadime had suggested would be more effective than the existing ordinance, as the percentage limit would not need to be amended for inflation and loan order authorization over this percentage limit would still require voter approval.

Councilor Canuel stated that the proposed amendment would allow for additional and necessary funding, without removing the power of the voters in the decision-making process. Councilor Canuel emphasized that loan orders that require ballot questions are uncommon, and most recently occurred with the new B.M.C. Durfee High School construction. Councilor Cadime clarified that the proposed funding for the new high school was not a loan order authorization, it was a debt exclusion that affected property tax rates, and it was required to be voted upon as a ballot question. Councilor Canuel reiterated that the decision to create the ordinance was voted upon by the residents of Fall River in 1977 and that he does not support striking out this portion of the Code in its entirety.

On a motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Camara, it was voted 1 yea, 8 nays, to refer the proposed ordinance with the following amendments to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation as follows: By striking out Section 2, in its entirety, and inserting in place thereof the following: "Section 2, By striking out in Section 2-131, which relates to Election required for authorization of certain loan orders, the following: "\$5,000,000," and inserting in its place "\$10,000,000," and by striking out "\$20,000,000," and inserting in place thereof, "\$30,000,000," with Councilor Canuel voting in the affirmative and the motion failed to carry.

On a further motion made by Councilor Hart and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted 8 yeas, 1 nay, that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and passed to be enrolled, as amended, with Councilor Canuel voting in the negative. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, as amended, with Councilor Canuel opposed.

Approved, January 14, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

RESOLUTIONS

6. Committee on Public Safety convene with the Fire Chief, the Director of Financial Services and the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1314, to discuss the need for a fire station in, or near, the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Project neighborhood, as well as the related cost that would be incurred by the City, including expenses related to apparatus, staffing and maintenance

Councilor Peckham explained that he wanted to discuss this matter with the Administration, the Fire Chief and the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1314, prior to housing being developed in the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Project area. Councilor Raposo stated that a discussion was held last year with the Fire Chief regarding a first responder response time analysis study that was taking place, and Councilor Peckham explained that the study had been completed. Councilor Raposo requested that the City Clerk obtain the results of the report to share with the City Councilors. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

7. Committee on Real Estate meet to discuss all City-owned real estate
- President Ponte stated that he filed this resolution to allow for more open, transparent discussions regarding City-owned properties. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

8. Committee on Real Estate convene to discuss City-owned property, located at 755 Pine Street, and the potential future use of this building to provide services to veterans

Councilor Raposo explained that the property should continue to be used for veterans' services and Councilor Pereira agreed, stating that there had been discussions about renovating the kitchen and veterans' quarters within the structure. Councilor Pereira also explained that the Mayor is in favor of this building being repurposed for veterans in the city, as it is more accessible for many veterans in comparison to Government Center. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

Councilor Hart exited the Council Chamber at 8:23 p.m.

9. Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Director of Inspectional Services and members of the Administration to review and discuss current code enforcement practices

Councilor Canuel stated that this resolution will provide additional clarification regarding the monitoring of habitually problematic properties in the city and determine if there should be adjustments to the current inspection methods. Councilor Raposo agreed and stated that he supported the resolution. Councilor Cadime expressed concern regarding the intention of the resolution, as the Department of Inspectional Services is under the jurisdiction of the Mayor, the inspection regulations are regulated by Massachusetts General Law requirements and any concerns related to these inspections are typically addressed by court actions. Councilor Cadime emphasized that the City Council cannot amend existing state laws related to inspections.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted 5 yeas, 3 nays, to adopt the resolution, with Vice President Dionne and Councilors Cadime and Pereira voting in the negative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

10. Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Administration and relevant service providers to review and report on the data related to Shelter Demand and Capacity, Estimated Unserved Population and Reporting

Councilor Canuel explained that this resolution would allow for discussion and information to be shared with the Committee in relation to how City and private services are assisting with homelessness in Fall River. Councilor Pereira stated that this matter has been discussed in depth, but that the resolution would allow Councilor Canuel and the Committee to receive up-to-date information. Councilor Pereira emphasized that there are many programs in the city to help those in need but emphasized that the City Council is limited when it comes to acting on the matter. On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was voted 8 yeas to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

11. Committee on Public Safety convene with the Chief of Police, or a representative of the Fall River Police Department at the Chief's discretion, to review current traffic enforcement practices and discuss strategies to increase police visibility and neighborhood-based enforcement efforts aimed at slowing traffic and improving roadway safety

A motion was made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Camara to adopt the resolution. Councilor Canuel stated that many residents have expressed concern regarding traffic safety and that this resolution would assist with potentially increasing police traffic patrols.

Councilor Cadime stated that the day-to-day operations of the Fall River Police Department are under the control of the Mayor. Councilor Cadime also stated that there are legal cases in relation to legislative bodies attempting to control police operations, as the enforcement of laws is under the jurisdiction of the executive branch of government. Vice President Dionne agreed and stated that she understands Councilor Canuel's intention to increase public safety, but that this resolution represents directive action by the City Council with executive functions of government. Councilor Camara agreed and stated that the Fall River Police Department addresses many issues throughout the municipality, and the City Council cannot assign tasks to the department. Councilor Camara also suggested that Councilor Canuel schedule a meeting with the Chief of Police to discuss his concerns. Councilor Pereira stated that she understands why Councilor Canuel submitted the resolution but expressed that the resolution be granted leave to withdraw. On a further motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted that the resolution be granted leave to withdraw, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

CITATIONS

12. Roger Williams University professor Elaine B. Stiles, Ph.D. and students assisting with Historic Preservation research and documentation of the Fall River Waterfront Cultural District:

Sarah Baker
Hailey Hill

Sophia Bazzanella
Samuel Powers

Zulange Gonzalez
Jimmy Vigar

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

13. Michael Labossiere – Retirement after over 40 years of service to the Fall River community (1985 – 2026)

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

14. Family of the late Kathleen (Beaulieu) Castro – Honoring her commitment to improving the Greater Fall River area

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

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

15. Auto Body Shop License Renewal

David Del Rosario d/b/a David Auto Repair, 751 Eastern Avenue

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

Approved, January 14, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

16. Auto Repair Shop License Renewals

Antonio F. Pinto d/b/a Pinto's Auto Repair & Sales, Inc.,
2447 South Main Street

David Rosenberg, RAH Fall River-VW, LLC d/b/a Audi Fall River/Volkswagen Fall River,
80 William S. Canning Boulevard

Paulo Pereira d/b/a Pereira Enterprise Auto & Diesel Repair, LLC,
65 Tower Street

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

Approved, January 14, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

17. Police Chief's Report on Licenses

Taxicab Drivers

Justin L. Hollis Michael Migliori Jose Vasconcelos

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

18. City Council Meeting Schedule – 2026

A motion was made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Peckham to adopt the order. A further motion was made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Cadime to strike out the dates of April 14, 2026, and April 28, 2026, and to insert, in their place, April 8, 2026, and April 22, 2026. A brief discussion was held between President Ponte and Councilors Camara, Canuel and Pereira regarding the proposed dates and potential scheduling conflicts and Councilor Pereira withdrew the motion to amend the order. On the motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

19. Claims

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to refer the claims to Corporation Counsel, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

20. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – November 20, 2025

On a motion made by Councilor Peckham 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.

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: JANUARY 13, 2026

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Finance recommending:

Referral to the Committee on Real Estate

- 3a. Resolution – Convene with Director of City Operations and a member of the Administration to discuss plans to repair the Central Fire Station

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to refer the resolution to the Committee on Real Estate, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Grant leave to withdraw

- 3b. Resolution – Convene with Corporation Counsel and a member of the Administration to discuss the existing City ordinances related to the Civil Service List and potential hybrid list

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the resolution be granted leave to withdraw, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

RESOLUTIONS

- 11a. Committee on Ordinances and Legislation convene to establish a proposed ordinance limiting the total authorized borrowing of the City as “not to exceed seventy percent (70%) of the City’s applicable statutory debt limit without additional voter approval” and providing specific requirements of information included on any required ballot question
Councilor Canuel stated that since the loan authorization ordinance that was passed to be ordained as amended removed the monetary limits for loan authorizations, he will support this resolution. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

- 20a. Communication from the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety and Licensing regarding M.G.L. Ch. 147, §47A re: the issuance of a license to Boxing Promoter Nick DiSalvo/Boston Boxing Promotions at The CYO, 403 Anawan Street, on February 13, 2026.

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Raposo abstaining and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

A recess was held from 8:43 p.m. to 8:47 p.m. for the signing of ordinances.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:49 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

In City Council, January 27, 2026
Approved.

**Statement made by Councilor Linda M. Pereira during the
January 13, 2026, Regular Meeting of the City Council**

"Mr. Ponte, I want to address this.

On Tuesday, September 9th, Veterans Service Officer Talos Farris appeared before the City Council during Citizen Input. He made some serious allegations of interference, workplace harassment and suggested that a hostile work environment was being created for him by an unnamed member, or members, of this body. By choosing to make those allegations publicly, without naming a person, naming anyone, Mr. Farris, in my opinion, irresponsibly cast suspicion over the integrity of the entire City Council and left the public to speculate who amongst us was being accused. This City Council had the right to demand transparency and an investigation. And in the same spirit of transparency, I'll now provide what the City failed to provide – the truth.

Despite initial, vague, public accusations, Mr. Farris later stated in an interview with the Fall River Reporter, on October 31st, three days before the municipal election, in that interview the allegations were directed at me. He named me explicitly. The timing of that interview, in my opinion, was not coincidental. It was calculated, and in my opinion, it was intended to impact my vote total. And while it may have had an impact on my vote total, the voters nevertheless returned me to this Chamber where I serve at their will. Following the events, we received minimal and wholly insufficient notice from Human Resources Director Nick Macolini stating only that an external investigator had been retained and that the investigation was complete. No findings were disclosed; no conclusions were shared. As the target of this investigation, I'll now put these conclusions on the public record.

The investigation is closed. The allegations were not substantiated, and I was fully vindicated. In plain language, they were false. It is unacceptable that this information was not disclosed publicly, especially after reputations were damaged in a public forum. I will not allow silence to substitute for facts. So let me be absolutely clear – this is my twenty-fifth year of serving the people of Fall River. I have been a relentless advocate for our veterans, and I will not stand by while my name is dragged through the mud, my commitment to veterans is questioned or my integrity is attacked. Whether it be for political or personal gain. So let the record reflect unequivocally, the investigations concluded and no wrongdoing was found on my part. The allegations were unsubstantiated, conflicting and without merit. And I thank you all. Mr. President, please move on with the agenda. With that, I yield."



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk
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2026 JAN 12 P 2:19

INÊS DA SILVA PAULINO LEITE
CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

CHELSEA PACHECO
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

ORIGINAL POSTING: JANUARY 9, 2026, AT 12:41 P.M.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER
JANUARY 13, 2026
REVISED AGENDA

6:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING

1. Citizen Input
2. *Resolution – Convene with Director of City Operations and a member of the Administration to discuss plans to repair the Central Fire Station (adopted 7-15-2025)
3. *Resolution – Convene with Corporation Counsel and a member of the Administration to discuss the existing City ordinances related to the Civil Service List and potential hybrid list (adopted 12-23-2025)

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 – None

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

1. *Planning Board recommendation to approve the acceptance of the following streets:
 - a. Fieldstone Lane extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street
 - b. Brookfield Terrace extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street
 - c. Stonybrook Circle extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street
2. *Board of Park Commissioners requesting the City Council assist with the creation of a fee schedule related to the placement of broadband infrastructure within the parks
3. *Director of Human Resources notifying the City Council of the completion of the external investigation related to the employment concerns raised by the Director of Veterans Services during the Committee on Finance meeting on September 9, 2025

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES

- Second reading and enrollment:
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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_clerk@fallriverma.gov

5. Second reading and enrollment, as amended:
*Proposed Ordinance – Amendments to City Code Sections 2-130, 2-131, 2-132 and 2-134 re: loan order authorizations

RESOLUTIONS

6. *Committee on Public Safety convene with the Fire Chief, the Director of Financial Services and the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1314, to discuss the need for a fire station in, or near, the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Project neighborhood, as well as the related cost that would be incurred by the City, including expenses related to apparatus, staffing and maintenance
7. *Committee on Real Estate meet to discuss all City-owned real estate
8. *Committee on Real Estate convene to discuss City-owned property, located at 755 Pine Street, and the potential future use of this building to provide services to veterans
9. *Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Director of Inspectional Services and members of the Administration to review and discuss current code enforcement practices
10. *Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Administration and relevant service providers to review and report on the data related to Shelter Demand and Capacity, Estimated Unserved Population and Reporting
11. *Committee on Public Safety convene with the Chief of Police, or a representative of the Fall River Police Department at the Chief's discretion, to review current traffic enforcement practices and discuss strategies to increase police visibility and neighborhood-based enforcement efforts aimed at slowing traffic and improving roadway safety

CITATIONS

12. Roger Williams University professor Elaine B. Stiles, Ph.D. and students assisting with Historic Preservation research and documentation of the Fall River Waterfront Cultural District:

Sarah Baker
Hailey Hill

Sophia Bazzanella
Samuel Powers

Zulange Gonzalez
Jimmy Vigar

13. Michael Labossiere – Retirement after over 40 years of service to the Fall River community (1985 – 2026)
14. Family of the late Kathleen (Beaulieu) Castro – Honoring her commitment to improving the Greater Fall River area

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

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80 William S. Canning Boulevard
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65 Tower Street

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

17. Police Chief's Report on Licenses
Taxicab Drivers
Justin L. Hollis Michael Migliori Jose Vasconcelos

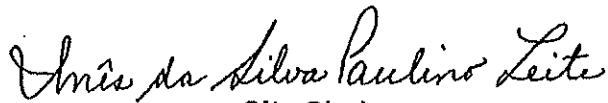
18. *City Council Meeting Schedule – 2026

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

19. *Claims

20. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – November 20, 2025

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None


City Clerk

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: JANUARY 13, 2026

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

- 20a. *Communication from the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety and Licensing regarding M.G.L. Ch. 147, §47A re: the issuance of a license to Boxing Promoter Nick DiSalvo/Boston Boxing Promotions at The CYO, 403 Anawan Street, on February 13, 2026.

20a

Ines Leite

From: Donovan, Benjamin E. (DPL) <Benjamin.E.Donovan@mass.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 9, 2026 11:47 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Boxing event 2/13/26

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the City of Fall River mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If you are unsure of the validity of the email, please contact IT.

Good morning,

The Department of Public Safety and Inspections, Massachusetts State Athletic Commission has approved an event license for Boxing Promoter Nick DiSalvo/Boston Boxing Promotions at The CYO, 403 Anawan St. Fall 02721 River, on February 13, 2026. If you have any questions I can be reached at 857-278-8143.

Ben Donovan
Compliance Officer
MSAC

RECEIVED
2026 JAN 12 P 2:04
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Part I

ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

Title XX

PUBLIC SAFETY AND GOOD ORDER

Chapter 147STATE AND OTHER POLICE, AND CERTAIN POWERS AND
DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND
INSPECTIONS OF THE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL
LICENSURE**Section 47A**PROHIBITION OF LICENSED EVENT BY MUNICIPALITY;
NOTICE OF EXERCISE OF MUNICIPAL OPTION

Section 47A. The commission shall notify a municipality in writing of the issuance of a license for an event scheduled to take place therein within 24 hours of its issuance. At its option, a municipality may prohibit an event licensed by the commission under section 33. The prohibition shall be by a majority vote of the city council with approval of the mayor in a city or by a majority vote of the board of selectmen in a town. The municipal option shall be exercised within 7 days of issuance of a license by the commission. The municipality shall notify the commission within 24 hours of any such action. Upon receipt of such notice, the commission shall immediately notify the promoter of the determination of the municipality and the license shall be revoked.



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

RECEIVED

2026 JAN -9 P 12:41

INÊS DA SILVA PAULINO LEITE
CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

CHELSEA PACHECO
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER
JANUARY 13, 2026
AGENDA

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 - b. Brookfield Terrace extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street
 - c. Stonybrook Circle extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street
2. *Board of Park Commissioners requesting the City Council assist with the creation of a fee schedule related to the placement of broadband infrastructure within the parks
3. *Director of Human Resources notifying the City Council of the completion of the external investigation related to the employment concerns raised by the Director of Veterans Services during the Committee on Finance meeting on September 9, 2025

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES

- Second reading and enrollment:
4. *Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
Handicapped parking removals
 - Eastern Avenue, East, 70 feet north of County Street
 - Maple Street, South, 275 feet east of Linden Street
 - Montaup Street, West, 119 feet south of Globe Street
 - President Avenue, South, 126 feet east of Charlotte Street
 - South Oxford Street, West, 395 feet south of Brayton Avenue

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_clerk@fallriverma.gov

5. Second reading and enrollment, as amended:
*Proposed Ordinance – Amendments to City Code Sections 2-130, 2-131, 2-132 and 2-134 re: loan order authorizations

RESOLUTIONS

6. *Committee on Public Safety convene with the Fire Chief, the Director of Financial Services and the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1314, to discuss the need for a fire station in, or near, the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Project neighborhood, as well as the related cost that would be incurred by the City, including expenses related to apparatus, staffing and maintenance
7. *Committee on Real Estate meet to discuss all City-owned real estate
8. *Committee on Real Estate convene to discuss City-owned property, located at 755 Pine Street, and the potential future use of this building to provide services to veterans
9. *Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Director of Inspectional Services and members of the Administration to review and discuss current code enforcement practices
10. *Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Administration and relevant service providers to review and report on the data related to Shelter Demand and Capacity, Estimated Unserved Population and Reporting
11. *Committee on Public Safety convene with the Chief of Police, or a representative of the Fall River Police Department at the Chief's discretion, to review current traffic enforcement practices and discuss strategies to increase police visibility and neighborhood-based enforcement efforts aimed at slowing traffic and improving roadway safety

CITATIONS

12. Roger Williams University professor Elaine B. Stiles, Ph.D. and students assisting with Historic Preservation research and documentation of the Fall River Waterfront Cultural District:
- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Sarah Baker | Sophia Bazzanella | Zulange Gonzalez |
| Hailey Hill | Samuel Powers | Jimmy Vigar |
13. Michael Labossiere – Retirement after over 40 years of service to the Fall River community (1985 – 2026)
14. Family of the late Kathleen (Beaulieu) Castro – Honoring her commitment to improving the Greater Fall River area

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

15. Auto Body Shop License Renewal
David Del Rosario d/b/a David Auto Repair, 751 Eastern Avenue
16. Auto Repair Shop License Renewals
Antonio F. Pinto d/b/a Pinto's Auto Repair & Sales, Inc.,
2447 South Main Street
David Rosenberg, RAH Fall River-VW, LLC d/b/a Audi Fall River/Volkswagen Fall River,
80 William S. Cannjng Boulevard
Paulo Pereira d/b/a Pereira Enterprise Auto & Diesel Repair, LLC,
65 Tower Street

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

17. Police Chief's Report on Licenses
Taxicab Drivers
Justin L. Hollis Michael Migliori Jose Vasconcelos

18. *City Council Meeting Schedule – 2026

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

19. *Claims

20. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – November 20, 2025

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None


City Clerk



PLANNING
CITY OF FALL RIVER

RECEIVED

2026 JAN -7 P 1:15

January 7, 2026

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

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

RE: Petition for Acceptance of Fieldstone Lane, Brookfield Terrace and Stonybrook Court

Honorable Councilors,

On July 31, 2025, a petition was filed with the City Council requesting that Fieldstone Lane, Brookfield Terrace and Stonybrook Court, extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street; be laid out and accepted. On August 12, 2025, the City Council referred the matter to the Planning Board for review and comment. On October 8, 2025, the Planning Board conducted a duly noticed public hearing to solicit comments on the petition.

Please be advised that, subsequent to the initial Planning Board public hearing, research and review by the Department of Engineering & Planning as well as the Department of Community Utilities, at a duly noticed public meeting of the Planning Board held on December 10, 2025, a quorum being present and voting, it was VOTED: To recommend that the City lay out and accept Fieldstone Lane, Brookfield Terrace and Stonybrook Court as requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Aguiar, Director of Engineering & Planning
On behalf of the Fall River Planning Board

Cc: Fall River City Clerk

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

1a

The City Council hereby recommends that the City Engineer prepare plans for the acceptance of Fieldstone Lane extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 12 2025

Referred to the
Planning Board

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

The City Council hereby recommends that the City Engineer prepare plans for the acceptance of Brookfield Terrace extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 12 2025

Referred To The
Planning Board

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

1c

The City Council hereby recommends that the City Engineer prepare plans for the acceptance of Stonybrook Circle extending from Hayfield Lane to Courtney Street.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 12 2025

Referred to the
Planning Board

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Department of Community Maintenance
 CEMETERIES • TREES • PARKS • SANITATION •
 STREETS & HIGHWAYS • VEHICLES

Administrative Services Division

PAUL E. COOGAN
 Mayor

DARREN MEDEIROS
 Parks Director



Dear Council President Ponte,

The Board of Park Commissioners considered a request from Ripple Fiber to install approximately 5x5 ground-mounted cabinets to support broadband infrastructure within three city parks. After review and discussion, the Park Board voted to refer this matter to the City Council for further consideration.

The Parks Director and Park Board recognize the importance of expanding broadband infrastructure within the city, and have identified locations within Kennedy Park, Columbus Park and Chew Park that would be non-intrusive and consistent with the preservation, aesthetics, and intended public use of these spaces.

However - the board felt it was appropriate to seek the City Council's guidance and assistance before any further action is taken.

Specifically, the Park Board is requesting the City Council's consideration of adopting a fee schedule related to the placement of broadband infrastructure within park property, as well as helping in the vetting and review process of the broadband provider. Establishing clear standards and expectations at the municipal level would help ensure consistency, transparency, and protection of park assets going forward.

We appreciate the City Council's attention to this matter and look forward to working collaboratively to balance infrastructure needs with the natural aesthetic of our city's beautiful parks. Please do not hesitate to reach out should you require additional information or wish to discuss this referral in greater detail.

Respectfully,

BJ McDonald
 Chairman
 Fall River Park Board of Commissioners

RECEIVED
 2026 JAN -7 P 2:55
 CITY CLERK
 FALL RIVER, MA



HUMAN RESOURCES
CITY OF FALL RIVER

RECEIVED

2026 JAN -7 P 3:58

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA.

January 7, 2026

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

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

On Tuesday, September 9, 2025, the City's Director of Veterans Services raised employment concerns during citizen input. Shortly thereafter, Corporation Counsel Rumsey and I met with the Director of Veterans Services and consistent with City policy initiated an investigation utilizing an external investigator. I can confirm that the investigation is now complete and that both parties were notified of the investigator's findings. As this is a personnel matter, I can only acknowledge that this was investigated and addressed accordingly.

Sincerely,

Nick Macolini
Director of Human Resources

City of Fall River, In City Council

4

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:

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

Name of Street	Side	Location
Eastern Avenue	East	Starting at a point 70 feet north of County Street, for a distance of 20 feet north.
Maple Street	South	Starting at a point 275 feet east of Linden Street, for a distance of 25 feet easterly.
Montaup Street	West	Starting at a point 119 feet south of Globe Street, for a distance of 25 feet southerly.
President Avenue	South	Starting at a point 126 feet east of Charlotte Street, for a distance of 20 feet easterly.
South Oxford Street	West	Starting at a point 395 feet south of Brayton Avenue, for a distance of 25 feet southerly.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

DEC 23 2025

passed through first reading

City of Fall River, In City Council

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

That Chapter 2 of the Code of the City of Fall River, Massachusetts, 2018, which chapter relates to Administration, be amended as follows:

Section 1

By striking out in Section 2-130, which section relates to Publication of proposed loan orders, "shall be published as provided in Section 23 of the Charter" and inserting in place thereof "may be published on the city website."

Section 2

By striking out, in its entirety, Sections 2-131, 2-132, and 2-134, which sections relate to Election required for authorization of certain loan orders, Time limit for implementation of projects approved under Section 2-131, and loan orders, respectively.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL
DEC 23 2025

*passed through first reading,
as amended*

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

(Councillor Christopher M. Peckham, Sr.)

WHEREAS, the City will be experiencing significant commercial and residential development near the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Project area within the next few years, resulting in an increased population density, business activity, traffic volume, and infrastructure use, and

WHEREAS, these changes will lead to an increase in 911 calls for medical and fire emergencies, and

WHEREAS, a timely emergency response is critical for the public safety of residents, business owners and visitors, and this response time is dependent on the location of the nearest fire station, and

WHEREAS, the former Engine 3 within Central Fire Station, which was in close vicinity to the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Project area, was closed down in 2015 following municipal budget reductions, and

WHEREAS, building, or reopening, a fire station in this neighborhood would increase the arrival speed of first responders to emergency calls, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Safety convene with the Fire Chief, the Director of Financial Services and the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1314, to discuss the need for a fire station in, or near, the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Project neighborhood, as well as the related cost that would be incurred by the City, including expenses related to apparatus, staffing and maintenance.

(Filed 1-6-2026)

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

7

(President Cliff A. Ponte)

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River owns significant real estate assets, including the Bank Street Armory, police facilities, municipal parking garages, and other City-owned properties, and

WHEREAS, ongoing oversight and transparency are necessary to ensure responsible management and long-term planning of these assets, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council Committee on Real Estate proceed with the following actions:

- The Committee shall review and discuss the status, condition, use, and planning of all City-owned real estate, including but not limited to the Bank Street Armory, police stations, parking garages, and related facilities.
- The Chair of the Committee is authorized to call meetings at any time, as necessary, to address matters involving City-owned real estate.
- The Committee shall provide a written report to the City Council on a quarterly basis, summarizing its findings and any recommendations, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall remain in effect unless amended or rescinded by the City Council.

(Filed 1-6-2026)

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

(President Cliff A. Ponte and Councilor Andrew J. Raposo)

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River is the owner of the municipal building formerly housing veterans' services located at 755 Pine Street, and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Association of Bristol County and related veterans' programs have announced plans to relocate their operations to a new facility, creating an impending vacancy at the Pine Street site, and

WHEREAS, the Pine Street building has historically served the City's veteran community and has benefited from public investment and recent renovations, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to ensure that any future use of City-owned real estate aligns with public purpose, fiscal responsibility, and community needs, including continued support for veterans' services where feasible, and

WHEREAS, the City Council Committee on Real Estate is charged with oversight and review of City-owned properties and their potential use, disposition, or repurposing, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Real Estate convene to discuss the 755 Pine Street property and perform the following actions:

- Examine current conditions, potential uses, and proposed plans for the property, including but not limited to continued veterans' services, community use, or other municipal purposes.
- Request information, reports, and attendance from relevant City departments, boards, or stakeholders as necessary to inform its review, and
- Provide a written report and recommendations to the City Council following its review.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

9

(Councilor Michael G. Canuel)

WHEREAS, residents have expressed concern about properties with chronic code violations, absentee landlords, and situations that persist despite repeated enforcement actions, and

WHEREAS, consistent monitoring and transparent reporting of enforcement outcomes are necessary to ensure compliance, public safety, and neighborhood quality-of-life, and

WHEREAS, a structured, progressive approach to code enforcement allows the City to target resources effectively while providing fair opportunities for property owners to correct violations, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that, within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this resolution, the Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Director of Inspectional Services and members of the Administration to review and discuss current code enforcement practices, including:

- Identification of Repeat Problem Properties:
 - Properties with chronic or recurring code violations over the past three years
 - Identification of absentee landlords or owners with multiple violations
- Enforcement Actions and Outcomes:
 - Summary of enforcement actions taken per property (warnings, fines, court actions, or remediation orders)
 - Properties where violations remain unresolved and reasons for delays or obstacles
- Corrective Action and Progressive Enforcement System
 - Current protocols for progressive enforcement (warnings → fines → court actions → remediation)
 - Opportunities to improve follow-up, compliance tracking, or escalation to ensure violations are addressed effectively
 - Recommendations for improving efficiency, fairness, and transparency in targeting repeat problem properties, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee report its findings, and any recommendations, to the full City Council, including data-supported proposals for improving enforcement effectiveness and neighborhood quality of life.

(Filed 1-8-2026)

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

(Councilor Michael G. Canuel)

WHEREAS, understanding the scope of homelessness in Fall River is essential to inform effective policy and resource allocation, and

WHEREAS, data on shelter usage and access is critical to identifying gaps in services and improving outcomes for residents experiencing homelessness, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that, within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this resolution, the Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with the Administration and relevant service providers to review and report on the following data:

- Shelter Demand and Capacity
 - The total number of individuals seeking shelter over the past 18 months
 - The number of individuals refused shelter due to lack of available space
- Estimated Unserved Population
 - The estimated number of individuals experiencing homelessness who refuse shelter or do not access available services
- Reporting
 - Identification of any gaps or limitations in available data
 - Recommendations for improving data collection to better inform city policies and services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee report its findings to the full City Council.

(Filed 1-8-2026)

City of Fall River, In City Council

11

(Councilor Michael G. Canuel)

WHEREAS, speeding remains a significant contributing factor in traffic injuries and fatalities across Massachusetts, with approximately 30 percent of fatal motor vehicle crashes statewide identified as speed-related, and serious injuries from speed-related crashes increasing in recent years, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and

WHEREAS, Fall River consistently records a high number of motor vehicle crashes relative to other municipalities in Southeastern Massachusetts and accounts for a notable share of Bristol County's traffic fatalities, indicating a persistent roadway safety challenge, and

WHEREAS, evidence-based traffic safety strategies — including targeted enforcement, increased police visibility, roadway design improvements, and public education — have been shown to reduce excessive speeding, lower crash severity, and save lives, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Safety convene with the Chief of Police, and/or a representative of the Fall River Police Department at the Chief's discretion, to review current traffic enforcement practices and discuss strategies to increase police visibility and neighborhood-based enforcement efforts aimed at slowing traffic and improving roadway safety.

(Filed 1-8-2026)

City of Fall River, In City Council

ORDERED, that regular meetings of the City Council during 2026 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	27
February	10 24
March	10 24
April	14 28
May	12 26
June	9 23
July	14
August	11
September	8 22
October	13 27
November	10 24
December	8 22

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



City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2026 JAN -6 A 10: 08

CITY CLERK #26-1
FALL RIVER, MA

1. Claimant's name: ANTONIO BRUM COUTINHO
2. Claimant's complete address: 93 APPLE CREEK LN
3. Telephone number: Home: 774-644-2877 Work: SAME
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
AUTO DAMAGE
5. Date and time of accident: 12/24/25 1729 Amount of damages claimed: \$
6. Exact location of the Incident: (include as much detail as possible):
175 EASTERN AVE FALL RIVER MA

7. Circumstances of the Incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):

MV1 was stopped facing south in west lane conducting mv stop. When operator of MV1 (OFFICER GARRETT GRIMLEY) opened his door to exit, he struck MV2 causing damage to mirror.

POLICE REPORT CRASH ID#25-2875-AC

8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Wants to go directly through City of Fall River

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 12/29/25

Claimant's signature: Antonio Coutinho

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:	☒ City Clerk	☒ Law	☒ City Council	☐ City Administrator	☒ Police	Date: <u>1/4/26</u>
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