

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: April 8, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

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

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Nicholas Macolini, Director of Human Resources

President Camara called the meeting to order at 8:28 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.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to take item 2d out of order.

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE **CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: APRIL 8, 2025**

PRIORITY MATTERS

2d. \$185,000.00 from CPA Fund Undesignated fund balance to CPA Historic Resources
Preservation, Projects

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

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to take item 12a out of order.

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

12a. Auto Repair Shop License Revocation

Steven Nasiff d/b/a Rodman Repair, Inc., 771 Rodman Street

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

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

On a further motion made by Councilor Sampson and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to take item 5 out of order.

PRIORITY MATTERS

5. Mayor and request for confirmation of the appointment of Kelly Furtado to Police Chief and order requesting approval of contract

Councilor Cadime expressed concern regarding the proposed Police Chief appointment, the contract that has been presented to the City Council, the recent termination of a former Police Chief, and the lack of an interview process to allow various candidates to apply for the position.

Councilor Sampson disagreed with Councilor Cadime's concerns and stated that the Police Department is in need of strong leadership and that a large amount of department employees support the candidate.

A recess was taken from 8:36 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Councilor Ponte expressed concern regarding the ongoing challenges that the Fall River Police Department has experienced over the past few years, including negative stories in the news outlets, multiple staff changes and overall morale within the department. Councilor Ponte also stated that he was not supportive of the recent termination of a former Police Chief and that a transparent interview process should be conducted prior to appointing an individual in this position.

On a motion made by Vice President Pereira and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted to waive the rules to allow Nicolas Macolini, Director of Human Resources, to answer questions and provide additional information.

Mr. Macolini provided a detailed overview of the Administration's procedure to select a candidate to temporarily fill the vacant Police Chief position, which began in September 2024, and that multiple candidates within the department had been interviewed by the Mayor, former City Administrator, and himself. Mr. Macolini also explained that the City Charter requires a permanent party to be chosen within the 90-day period following the appointment of an interim Police Chief, and that legal consultation would be required if there is not a permanent employee chosen this evening. The Director of Human Resources emphasized that there has been widespread support for the appointment of Interim Chief Kelly Furtado to the permanent position and that the proposed salary is comparable, and slightly lower than surrounding municipalities like New Bedford, Brockton and Attleboro. Vice President Pereira stated that this position is very important, and that the process needs to be slow and thorough, as the public has expressed concern regarding this matter.

Councilor Cadime and Mr. Macolini discussed overall morale within the Police Department, and the influence of various parties that may coerce employees to support specific individuals. Councilor Cadime asked if any formal evaluations were completed for Interim Police Chief Furtado, and Mr. Macolini stated that, while positive feedback has been received verbally, a formal evaluation was not conducted. Councilor Cadime stated that he has questioned the integrity of candidates in the past for various positions, and, as the City has had multiple Police Chiefs in a very short period, he is concerned.

Councilor Sampson expressed concern that some individuals believed employees were being influenced by others to support the appointment, as various groups and organizations frequently attend meetings concerning matters related to their departments, such as the Fire Department and Department of Emergency Medical Services. Councilor Sampson also asked Mr. Macolini if the investigation of a former Police Chief was conducted by the Administration or a third-party business, and Mr. Macolini stated that it was performed by an outside company.

Councilor Cadime, Councilor Ponte and Mr. Macolini held a lengthy, detailed discussion regarding a third-party investigation regarding a former Police Chief, the individuals who provided data and evidence for various accusations, and the timeline of the departure, and eventual termination, of the individual. The Director of Human Resources stated that information was presented by the Office of Professional Standards within the Fall River Police Department and then provided to the third-party investigation company. Mr. Macolini explained that he could not provide specific details regarding the process, but that the standard protocol was followed within the Police Department. Councilors Cadime and Ponte both expressed concern regarding the overall timeline of the investigation, and that it has hindered the reputation of a former Police Chief. Councilor Ponte stated that he was not comfortable with the lack of an interview process and formal evaluations for the interim Police Chief.

Councilor Kilby stated this matter may be litigated in the future and he suggested that the City Council refrain from discussing the investigation and termination of the former Police Chief. Councilor Kilby emphasized that this discussion should be focused on the proposed appointment and related salary contract.

Councilor Dionne stated that she had received many phone calls from constituents regarding this matter, and that she had concerns regarding the lack of an open interview process. She explained that this suggestion was not based on the specific individual who is serving as interim Police Chief, but that the process should be applied for all candidates who aspire to lead the department. Councilor Dionne suggested keeping the current interim Police Chief in her position while open, transparent interviews take place, and if Chief Furtado is the best candidate following those interviews, then the Administration can resubmit a request for confirmation. Vice President Pereira and Mr. Macolini held a brief discussion regarding how this matter would be addressed if the vote to confirm the Interim Chief's appointment was not successful, and Mr. Macolini explained that he'd need to convene with Corporation Counsel to discuss the legal pathway the City would need to follow.

Councilor Raposo expressed concern regarding the tumultuous discussion regarding this appointment and emphasized that the residents need a Police Chief for safety and community morale, and that Interim Chief Furtado has successfully provided those services to the City.

On a motion made by Councilor Sampson and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was voted 4 yeas, 5 nays, to confirm the appointment and adopt the order approving the Chief's contract, with Councilors Hart, Kilby, Raposo and Sampson voting in the affirmative, and the motion failed to carry.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was voted 5 yeas, 4 nays to reject the appointment and grant the order approving the Chief's contract leave to withdraw, with Councilors Hart, Kilby, Raposo and Sampson voting in the negative.

On yet a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was voted 9 yeas to send a letter to the administration requesting the creation of a formal search committee to interview candidates for the vacant Police Chief position, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

1. Mayor and Community Development Agency Five Year Consolidated Plan and Year One Annual Action Plan

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the matter be referred to the Committee on Finance.

2. Mayor and following transfers and appropriations:

- a. \$400,000.00 from EMS, Revenues to EMS, Salaries

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

- b. \$714,769.66 from EMS, Retained Earnings to EMS, Capital

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

- c. \$472,117.00 from EMS, Retained Earnings to EMS, Stabilization

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

3. Mayor and order declaring six (6) vehicles as surplus property

Vice President Pereira expressed concern regarding online auctions that are utilized to sell surplus vehicles and stated that only in-person auctions should occur. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

4. Mayor and request for confirmation of the appointment of Timothy R. Long to the Library Board of Trustees

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

6. Mayor and letter from the Fall River Retirement Board requesting

- a. increase to the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Base from \$12,000.00 to \$14,000.00 for City retirees

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

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

- b. increase to the Fall River Retirement Board Member stipend from \$3,000.00 to \$4,500.00 for the five (5) members of the Fall River Contributory Retirement Board

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

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

7. Mayor and School Committee's request to initiate and file an unfunded mandate petition with the State Auditor's office relative to the City's obligation to fund student transportation.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the request be referred to the Committee on Finance.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

8. Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the recommendations be referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES – None

RESOLUTIONS

9. The Planning Board convene to discuss naming the new skate park inside of Lafayette Park after the late Aronde Odom in honor and memory of his positive impact on the skateboarding community in Fall River

Vice President Pereira made brief remarks regarding the community support of naming the new skate park after Aronde Odom, and that there is currently an online petition that she will share with the Planning Board. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

10. A representative of the Administration, the Watuppa Water Board, Corporation Counsel, Director of Financial Services and Administrator of Community Utilities convene to analyze potential municipal customers for water services, and the revenue that may be generated by offering this service, in addition to sharing updates regarding this regionalized water service plan in a formal presentation to the City Council before the end of calendar year 2025.

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

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

11. Police Chief's report on licenses

Taxicab Drivers

Robert F. Allen Michaela Davis Derek Desrosiers Freddy Estrella

2025 License Renewals:

Pawnbrokers

Pawtucket Pawnbrokers Too, Inc., 302 South Main Street

Pool/Billiards

Robert Albin d/b/a Straight Shooters Billiards, 30 Front Street

Second Hand

Curt Barreira d/b/a Jimmy Jr.'s Tire Service, 729 Davol Street
TVI, Inc. d/b/a Savers Thrift Store, 109 Mariano Boulevard
Wayne Confoey d/b/a Cash for Gold, 1503 Pleasant Street
Pawtucket Pawnbrokers Too, Inc., 302 South Main Street
Joseph Bilan d/b/a BP Auto Service Repair, Inc., 1091 South Main Street
Patenaude Jewelers, Inc., 1473 South Main Street
Alan Confoey d/b/a Alan's Jewelry, 1661 South Main Street

On a motion made by Vice President Pereira and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the application for a Taxicab Driver license for Robert F. Allen be separated to be addressed by the Committee on Regulations. On a further motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order referring Mr. Allen's application to the Committee on Regulations. On a yet a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, as amended.

12. Auto Body Shop License Renewal

Michael Penacho d/b/a Mike's Auto Body, 535 Bay Street

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

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

13. Auto Repair Shop License Renewal

Michael Penacho d/b/a Complete Auto Tech Center, 535 Bay Street
Brian Vieira d/b/a Aime's Auto Repair Inc., 88 Earle Street
Robert Ferraz d/b/a Integrity Auto, 851 Globe Street

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

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

14. Claims

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

15. Drainlayer Licenses

Albert Moreira & Son
Alexandre's Excavating Inc.
Bristol Pacific Homes Inc.
Dixon Inc.
Green Acres Landscape & Construction Co., Inc.
JDQ Excavating Inc.
JLC Construction Co., Inc.
J.R.D. Inc.
K.R. Rezendes Inc.
Narragansett Improvement Company

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted to approve the drainlayer license applications.

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

16. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – February 20, 2025

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

City Council Minutes

17. Committee on Finance – March 25, 2025

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

18. Regular Meeting of the City Council – March 25, 2025

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

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: APRIL 8, 2025

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

All readings with emergency preamble:

- 8a. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Handicapped parking
- Osborn Street, North, 163 feet east of Arpin Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was voted 9 yeas to adopt the emergency preamble. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through first reading, second reading, passed to be enrolled and passed to be ordained. Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

First reading:

- 8b. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
Handicapped parking removals
- Broad Street, North, 137 feet west of Shove Street
- Osborn Street, North, 156 feet east of Arpin Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through first reading.

- 8c. Proposed Ordinance – Right-of-way fees for fiber optic cable installations

On a motion made by Vice President Pereira and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through first reading.

Second reading:

8d. Proposed Ordinance – Short Term Rentals

On a motion made by Vice President Pereira and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to amend the proposed ordinance by inserting, at the beginning of §14-723, "In addition to the mandatory registration with Massachusetts Department of Revenue on MassTaxConnect," and by striking out, in §14-723(E), "as set forth in §2-453 of the Code," and inserting, in its place, "(as set forth in Chapter A100 Fee Schedule of the City Code) to Inspectional Services," and by striking out, in Chapter A110-4, §14-723, "\$500" and inserting, in its place, "\$50," and that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, as amended. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be ordained, as amended.

Approved, April 9, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

Grant leave to withdraw

8e. Resolution– Convene with Corporation Counsel, the Building Inspector and a representative of the Community Development Agency to discuss the creation of a proposed ordinance regarding the regulation of boarding/rooming houses

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the resolution be granted leave to withdraw.

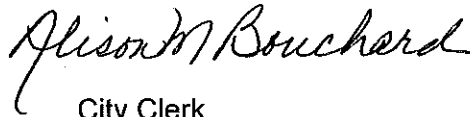
A brief recess was taken from 9:59 p.m. to 10:01 p.m. for the purpose of signing the Short-Term Rentals ordinance.

On a motion made by Councilor Sampson and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 10:01 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy. Attest:



City Clerk

In City Council, May 13, 2025

Approved.



City of Fall River Massachusetts
Office of the City Clerk

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

April 10, 2025

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

Dear Mayor Coogan,

During the Regular Meeting of the City Council held on April 8, 2025, a discussion was held regarding the appointment of Kelly Furtado to the position of Police Chief. On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was voted 9 yeas to send a letter to the Administration requesting the creation of a formal search committee to interview candidates for the vacant Police Chief position.

A formal search committee would provide objective assessments of all candidates, including those who are currently employed by the Fall River Police Department, as well as outside applicants. This action would reassure residents that the appointment will be based on experience, merit and qualifications to perform one of the most challenging duties within a community. The City Council looks forward to reviewing the recommended appointment after a thorough and transparent interview process is completed.

If you have any questions in this regard, feel free to contact this office. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Alison M. Bouchard
City Clerk

/lv

cc: Nicholas A. Macolini, Director of Human Resources



City of Fall River, Massachusetts
Office of the City Clerk

2025 APR -4 P 1:22

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER
APRIL 8, 2025
AGENDA

5:00 P.M. JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

5:55 P.M PUBLIC HEARING (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE IF IT RUNS PAST 5:55 P.M.)

Zoning Amendment

1. Apartment District (A-2)

6:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING IF IT RUNS PAST 6:00 P.M.)

1. Citizen Input
2. *Resolution – Convene with the City Administrator, the City Treasurer/Collector and Corporation Counsel to discuss current properties in Tax Title or tax possession by the City, the Abutters Lots Program, and future tax possession auction dates (adopted 2-25-2025)
3. Transfers and appropriations

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 Community Development Agency Five Year Consolidated Plan and Year One Annual Action Plan
2. *Mayor and following transfers and appropriations:
 - a. \$400,000.00 from EMS, Revenues to EMS, Salaries
 - b. \$714,769.66 from EMS, Retained Earnings to EMS, Capital
 - c. \$472,117.00 from EMS, Retained Earnings to EMS, Stabilization
3. *Mayor and order declaring six (6) vehicles as surplus property
4. *Mayor and request for confirmation of the appointment of Timothy R. Long to the Library Board of Trustees
5. *Mayor and request for confirmation of the appointment of Kelly Furtado to Police Chief and order requesting approval of contract
6. *Mayor and letter from the Fall River Retirement Board requesting
 - a. Increase to the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Base from \$12,000.00 to \$14,000.00 for City retirees
 - b. increase to the Fall River Retirement Board Member stipend from \$3,000.00 to \$4,500.00 for the five (5) members of the Fall River Contributory Retirement Board

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

7. *Mayor and School Committee's request to initiate and file an unfunded mandate petition with the State Auditor's office relative to the City's obligation to fund student transportation.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

8. *Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ORDINANCES

RESOLUTIONS

9. *The Planning Board convene to discuss naming the new skate park inside of Lafayette Park after the late Aronde Odom in honor and memory of his positive impact on the skateboarding community in Fall River
10. *A representative of the Administration, the Watuppa Water Board, Corporation Counsel, Director of Financial Services and Administrator of Community Utilities convene to analyze potential municipal customers for water services, and the revenue that may be generated by offering this service, in addition to sharing updates regarding this regionalized water service plan in a formal presentation to the City Council before the end of calendar year 2025.

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

11. Police Chief's report on licenses
Taxicab Drivers
Robert F. Allen Michaela Davis Derek Desrosiers Freddy Estrella

2025 License Renewals:

Pawnbrokers

Pawtucket Pawnbrokers Too, Inc., 302 South Main Street

Pool/Billiards

Robert Albin d/b/a Straight Shooters Billiards, 30 Front Street

Second Hand

Curt Barreira d/b/a Jimmy Jr.'s Tire Service, 729 Davol Street

TVI, Inc. d/b/a Savers Thrift Store, 109 Mariano Boulevard

Wayne Confoey d/b/a Cash for Gold, 1503 Pleasant Street

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Joseph Bilan d/b/a BP Auto Service Repair, Inc., 1091 South Main Street

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Alan Confoey d/b/a Alan's Jewelry, 1661 South Main Street

12. Auto Body Shop License Renewal
Michael Penacho d/b/a Mike's Auto Body, 535 Bay Street

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

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COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

14. *Claims
15. Drainlayer Licenses
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JLC Construction Co., Inc.
J.R.D. Inc.
K.R. Rezendes Inc.
Narragansett Improvement Company
16. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – February 20, 2025
- City Council Minutes
17. *Committee on Finance – March 25, 2025
18. *Regular Meeting of the City Council – March 25, 2025

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None


City Clerk

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: APRIL 8, 2025

PRIORITY MATTERS

- 2d. \$185,000.00 from CPA Fund Undesignated fund balance to CPA Historic Resources
Preservation, Projects

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

All readings with emergency preamble:

- Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Handicapped parking
 - Osborn Street, North, 163 feet east of Arpin Street

First reading:

- Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
 - Handicapped parking removals
 - Broad Street, North, 137 feet west of Shove Street
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- Proposed Ordinance – Right-of-way fees for fiber optic cable installations

Second reading:

- Proposed Ordinance – Short Term Rentals



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

4

RECEIVED

2025 APR -1 A 8:47

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

April 1, 2025

City 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 am pleased to forward to you the City of Fall River Five Year Consolidated Plan and Year One Annual Action Plan which I propose to file with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for continued funding of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs. The Action Plan details activities to be undertaken during the July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026 program year.

Under a separate cover on April 14, 2025, I shall submit a proposed resolution for your consideration at your April 22nd meeting. The resolution would authorize submission of the City of Fall River Five Year Consolidated Plan and Year One Annual Action Plan with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Five Year Consolidated Plan and Year One Annual Action Plan is being submitted to you now in order to provide adequate review time prior to City Council consideration of the resolution at the April 22nd meeting.

The proposed program of activities, which was advertised on February 26th for public comment, was developed on the basis of testimony and proposals received at public hearings held January 8th and March 12th.

The timetable provides for submission of the Year One Annual Action Plan no later than May 7, 2025.

Should you or any other Councilor have questions or comments prior to April 22nd, I urge you to immediately contact Michael P. Dion, Executive Director/ CFO of the Fall River Community Development Agency. Mr. Dion will also be present at the City Council meeting to respond to any questions.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor
Enclosure



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 APR -3 P 3:17

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

April 3, 2025

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

Dear Honorable Council Members:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws, I recommend the following appropriations to your Honorable Body.

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--|
| 1. | \$400,000 | That the sum of \$400,000.00 be, and the same is, hereby appropriated to EMS, SALARIES from EMS, REVENUES. |
| 2. | \$714,769.66 | That the sum of \$714,769.66 be, and the same is, hereby appropriated to EMS, CAPITAL from EMS, RETAINED EARNINGS. |
| 3. | \$472,117.00 | That the sum of \$472,117.00 be, and the same is, hereby appropriated to EMS, STABILIZATION from, EMS RETAINED EARNINGS. |

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please feel free to contact me.

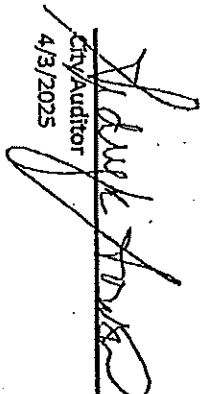
Best Regards,

Paul Coogan
Mayor

FY25 Appropriation/Transfer Number Analysis

Line	Original/Revised Appropriation	Amount Transferred	Adjusted Balance
EMS Salaries	\$ 8,622,323.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 9,022,323.00
EMS Capital	\$ 628,420.73	\$ 714,769.66	\$ 1,343,190.39
EMS Stabilization	\$ 726,702.30	\$ 472,117.00	\$ 1,198,819.30

I certify that there are sufficient funds available for these transfers.


City Auditor
4/3/2025

City of Fall River, In City Council

2A

April 8, 2025

ORDERED:

**That the sum of \$400,000 be, and the same is, hereby appropriated to EMS,
Salaries from EMS, Revenues.**

City of Fall River, In City Council

2B

April 8, 2025

ORDERED:

That the sum of \$714,769.66 be, and the same is, hereby appropriated to EMS, Capital from EMS, Retained Earnings.

City of Fall River, In City Council

21

April 8, 2025

ORDERED:

That the sum of \$472,117.00 be, and the same is, hereby appropriated to EMS, Stabilization from EMS, Retained Earnings.

3



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

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

RECEIVED
2015 APR -2 A 9:57
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

April 1, 2025

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

Dear Councilor President and Members of the Honorable Council:

Attached please find a letter from Rebekah Pontes, Assistant Treasurer/Purchasing Agent, related to a request for approval to conduct a public online surplus auction for the disposal of decommissioned vehicles in accordance with City of Fall River Ordinances Section 2-972.

Thank you and if additional information is needed on this or any other matter please contact my office.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

City of Fall River, In City Council

ORDERED, that the Purchasing Agent be, and the same is hereby authorized to sell at auction the following list of six (6) surplus, decommissioned vehicles:

Description	Model	VIN
2006 Ford Pickup with Plow	F250	1FTNF21586Ec53072
2003 Ford Pickup	F150	2FTRF17203CB00664
1983 Chevrolet	N/A	1GBJP32M8D3310861
2008 Ford Passenger Van	E150	1FMNE11W78DA14431
2008 Ford Passenger Van	E150	1FMNE11W98DA14432
2004 Ford Cargo Van	E150	1FTSE34L01HA82478



PURCHASING
CITY OF FALL RIVER

March 28, 2025

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

Dear Honorable Mayor Coogan,

Pursuant to Chapter 2, Administration, ARTICLE VIII. Public Property, § 2-972. Surplus property: I seek your assistance to solicit council approval to conduct a public online surplus auction to aid in the disposal of the decommissioned vehicles. Please see the listing on the attached breakdown. This will be facilitated through our continued partnership with Auctions International.

In my capacity as Purchase Agent, I will coordinate this effort in conjunction with Chief Operations Officer, Kenneth Pacheco; FRPS, who will act as the administrative agent upholding a Fall River School Committee action decided on Wednesday, January 22, 2025. (7 in favor, none opposed)

These vehicles are decommissioned due to repairs that prohibit them from passing inspections. In the case of any operational vehicles, the cost of repairs is too costly for a continued investment. Any autobody and major drivetrain parts that were salvageable from these vehicles or equipment will have been repurposed and reused on other vehicles that are still in service. Any Fall River Public Schools specific identifiers will be removed or indiscernible prior to the auction process. An inspection of any/all vehicles or equipment being auctioned can be accommodated upon request. There is no interdepartmental interest in these vehicles or equipment either on school or city sides. The estimated value is under \$10,000.00. Auction proceeds would be considered general fund. The vehicle titles will be held by Mr. Pacheco, until which time they are signed over to the respective auction winners if applicable.

§ 2-972 Surplus Property; Surplus property determined by the Purchasing Agent to be no longer useful for any municipal purpose shall be sold or disposed of under such terms and conditions as the City Council shall by order determine. Surplus property, which is not bid on or claimed within a reasonable amount of time may be disposed of by the Purchasing Agent in a manner he deems to be in the best interest of the City, with documentation.

Sincerely,

Rebekah A. Ponles, MCPPO
Assistant Treasurer/Purchase Agent



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

4

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 APR -4 P 12: 23

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

April 3, 2025

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

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

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

Name: Timothy R. Long

Address 1343 Newhall Street
Fall River, MA 02721

Position: Library Board of Trustees

Appointment Date: April 3, 2025

Expiration: April 3, 2027

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

5

RECEIVED

2025 APR -3 P 4: 01

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

April 3, 2025

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

Honorable Members of the City Council:

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

Name: Kelly Furtado
Address: 144 Place Avenue Somerset, MA 02726
To: Police Chief
Effective Date: March 31, 2025
Annual salary: \$215,000.00

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

5

ORDERED, that the appointment by the Mayor of Kelly Furtado as Chief of Police be and the same is hereby confirmed, and be it further

ORDERED, that the contract which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby approved.



**POLICE CHIEF
EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

This Employment Agreement (hereinafter "AGREEMENT") is made by and between the City of Fall River and Kelly A. Furtado.

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River is a municipal corporation (hereinafter "CITY"), located at One Government Center, Fall River, Massachusetts 02722; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to §2-401 of the Fall River Code, the Chief of Police is the head of the Police Department and shall be responsible for the management and operation of such department; and

WHEREAS, Paul E. Coogan, as the Mayor of the CITY, desires to appoint Kelly A. Furtado to serve in the position of Chief of Police for the City of Fall River; and

WHEREAS, Kelly A. Furtado (hereinafter "POLICE CHIEF") is willing to accept employment as the Chief of Police for the City of Fall River;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and agreements contained herein, the CITY and POLICE CHIEF hereby agree as follows:

DUTIES

POLICE CHIEF shall be the head of the Fall River Police Department and shall be responsible and accountable for the effective management and operation of said department in accordance with all laws, city ordinances, collective bargaining agreements, and city policies and procedures. POLICE CHIEF shall devote sufficient time, skill, and attention necessary to perform the duties under this AGREEMENT in an efficient, trustworthy and professional manner, all in the best interest of the CITY. POLICE CHIEF shall report directly to the Mayor, but shall have the authority to effectively and efficiently operate the Fall River Police Department, including, but not limited to, the following duties:

- A. POLICE CHIEF shall be responsible for the overall operation and management of the Police Department, including its property, equipment, motor vehicles, and buildings;
- B. POLICE CHIEF shall supervise the daily operations of the Police Department, including the assignment of personnel to tours, shifts, and duties as needed;

- C. POLICE CHIEF shall implement and supervise all training programs for Police Department personnel;
- D. POLICE CHIEF shall prepare the annual budget for the Police Department and shall oversee departmental finances;
- E. POLICE CHIEF shall establish uniform, equipment, weapons, and ammunitions specifications for the Police Department;
- F. POLICE CHIEF shall, when necessary, take appropriate disciplinary actions against members of the Police Department;
- G. POLICE CHIEF shall be responsible for communication with the public on matters related to public safety, police operations, and department policy; and
- H. POLICE CHIEF shall maintain appropriate and consistent communication with the Mayor, in order to keep the Mayor apprised of pertinent issues in the Police Department.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CITY will reimburse POLICE CHIEF for reasonable travel, food and lodging expenses incurred in connection with attendance at professional development courses and/or seminars that are approved by the Mayor. POLICE CHIEF must obtain the Mayor's approval of all professional development expenses before they are incurred.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

POLICE CHIEF'S performance may be reviewed and evaluated by the Mayor and/or the Mayor's designee during the term of this AGREEMENT for the purpose of evaluating the overall effectiveness of POLICE CHIEF.

TERM

The term of this AGREEMENT shall be three (3) years, beginning on March 31, 2025 and ending on March 30, 2028, and may be renewed by mutual agreement of the parties.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

CITY agrees to pay POLICE CHIEF an annual salary of Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$215,000.00) the first year of the contract (beginning March 31, 2025), payable at the same time and manner as other employees of the City of Fall River. The CITY and POLICE CHIEF agree to renegotiate the annual salary for the second year (beginning March 31, 2026) and the third year (beginning March 31, 2027). Additionally, POLICE CHIEF shall be entitled to the following benefits:

5

- A. Health, dental, life insurance, and retirement benefits.
- B. Vacation Days. Forty-Eight (48) paid vacation days per year, which will expire without compensation at the end of the calendar year (December 31st). Vacation requests must be approved by the Mayor or City Administrator and must not interfere with effective operation of the Police Department. Up to two weeks (16 days) of vacation each year may be sold back to the City for payment.
- C. Sick Leave. Sick leave shall be accrued in accordance with the Fall River Superior Officer's Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- D. Personal Days. Four (4) per year, which will expire without compensation at the end of the calendar year.
- E. Death in the Immediate Family. Bereavement leave in accordance with §50-153 of the Fall River Code, which is incorporated herein by reference.
- F. Holidays. Fourteen (14) paid holidays per year (included in POLICE CHIEF's compensation as outlined above), which include New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day After Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. The Chief may also elect to work on a designated holiday and, in exchange, take another day off within (30) days of the holiday occurring. This alternative day off must be scheduled with appropriate notice and approval to ensure departmental operational needs are met.
- G. POLICE CHIEF is entitled to injured on-duty benefits as set forth in M.G.L. c. 41, § 111F and M.G.L. c. 32, § 94.
- H. CITY agrees to reimburse POLICE CHIEF for annual dues paid to the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association.
- I. If the CITY has not paid POLICE CHIEF for compensatory time earned prior to execution of this AGREEMENT, then POLICE CHIEF shall be entitled to carry over and utilize the previously earned compensatory time with notice to the Mayor.

POLICE CHIEF acknowledges that she will often be required, without additional compensation, to devote evening and/or weekend hours as necessary for the proper performance of her duties as the Chief of Police. POLICE CHIEF is not entitled to overtime compensation or compensatory time. POLICE CHIEF may adjust her schedule taking into account such "extra" time so long as the same does not interfere with the obligations to perform her duties.

POLICE CHIEF acknowledges that she will not be entitled to any salary increases or bonuses, such as the Quinn Bill, unless specifically stated in this AGREEMENT. The parties understand and agree that the annual salary in this AGREEMENT is the maximum amount CITY

is required to pay POLICE CHIEF. Therefore, if CITY is required to pay any additional financial benefit, then the salary of POLICE CHIEF will be reduced by the same amount.

At the discretion of the Mayor, POLICE CHIEF may be awarded an increase to the compensation package during the term of this AGREEMENT, but at no time will the compensation or other benefits be reduced, except when such reduction is evenly applied across-the-board for all employees of the city.

AUTOMOBILE

CITY shall provide an unmarked city-owned vehicle for use by POLICE CHIEF in connection with the performance of her duties, with maintenance, operating expenses and insurance to be paid by the city.

Since POLICE CHIEF is frequently required to respond to emergencies and otherwise be on-call at all times, POLICE CHIEF is authorized to use the city-owned vehicle for personal use, provided that the vehicle is never taken more than fifty (50) miles from Fall River without prior authorization from the Mayor. POLICE CHIEF must relinquish possession of the city-owned vehicle if on leave or unable to perform the duties of the position for more than twenty-one (21) consecutive days. Failure to comply with the terms of this provision may result, in the Mayor's sole discretion, in a temporary or permanent loss of use of a city-owned vehicle and termination of this Automobile provision.

TERMINATION

This AGREEMENT may be terminated at any time for the following reasons:

- A. Termination for Just Cause. CITY may terminate this AGREEMENT at any time by providing POLICE CHIEF with written notice of the termination for just cause, including the facts and grounds in support thereof, at least thirty (30) days prior to termination. Just cause shall be defined to include any misconduct materially related to performance of official duties, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 1. Material breach of this AGREEMENT and/or the duties contained therein;
 2. Resume fraud or other acts of material dishonesty in the hiring process;
 3. Unauthorized leave;
 4. Conviction of a felony offense or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
 5. Material violation of the city's laws, ordinances, or regulations, including, but not limited to, the city policies against discrimination or harassment;
 6. Use and/or possession of illegal drugs;
- B. Termination Due to Incapacity. CITY may terminate this AGREEMENT due to the incapacity of POLICE CHIEF, which is defined as an inability to perform the Duties of the position for a continuous period of over sixty (60) days.
- C. Termination Due to Resignation, Retirement or Death. This AGREEMENT shall immediately terminate if POLICE CHIEF submits her resignation, retires, or is deceased.

5

POLICE CHIEF shall give at least three (3) months written notice to the Mayor prior to resignation or retirement.

INDEMNIFICATION

CITY agrees to defend and indemnify POLICE CHIEF from any claim, demand, action, or lawsuit arising out of any action or omission by POLICE CHIEF that occurs within the scope of employment. POLICE CHIEF understands and agrees that any intentional tort and/or criminal act is outside the scope of employment and will not be defended or indemnified by CITY. POLICE CHIEF acknowledges that CITY is self-insured and no policy coverage or rider is provided above and beyond the terms of this agreement for indemnification.

PROHIBITION OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY

During the term of this AGREEMENT, POLICE CHIEF shall not engage in political activity, including, but not limited to, publicly endorsing any candidate seeking elective office.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This AGREEMENT contains the entire agreement between the parties, and supersedes all other agreements, either oral or in writing. Any agreement, statement, promise, or inducement not contained within this AGREEMENT shall not be valid or binding upon either party. The terms of this AGREEMENT may only be changed or modified by written instrument duly executed by both parties.

MASSACHUSETTS LAW

This AGREEMENT shall be constructed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. If any provision in this AGREEMENT is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless continue in full force without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this AGREEMENT in the City of Fall River on this _____ day of April, 2025:

POLICE CHIEF:

CITY OF FALL RIVER:

Kelly A. Furtado
Fall River Police Department

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Approved as to Form & Manner of Execution Only:

Alan J. Rumsey
Corporation Counsel
City of Fall River



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 APR -3 P 3:17

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

April 3, 2025

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

Dear Councilor President and Members of the Honorable Council:

Attached for your consideration is a letter from the Fall River Contributory Retirement Board requesting an increase to the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Base from \$12,000.00 to \$14,000.00 for City retirees.

Thank you and if additional information is needed, please contact my office.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

6A

City of Fall River, In City Council

ORDERED, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32, Section 103(j) and Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010, that the City Council approves an increase to the Cost-of-Living Allowance Base of \$14,000 for retirees of the Fall River Retirement System.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Fall River Contributory Retirement Board
21 Father DeValles Boulevard • Suite GR1 • Unit 14 • Fall River, MA 02723
Tel. (508) 646-9120 • Fax (508) 646-9123

6A

Honorable Mayor Paul Coogan
City of Fall River
One Government Center, 6th Floor

April 1, 2025

Dear Mayor Coogan:

At a recent meeting of the Fall River Retirement Board, March 19th, 2025, a vote was taken to increase the Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) Base from \$12,000 to \$14,000 for retirees of the Fall River Retirement System in accordance with MGL C.32 §103(j) and Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010. I have attached relative sections of the above to this letter.

The Board recognizes the impact this could have on the City and has worked diligently with the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) and their actuarial staff to mitigate the impact. PERAC's actuarial staff has provided the Fall River Retirement Board with a potential funding schedule that could lower the City's Pension Appropriation, and its' other member units by approximately \$650,000 for FY 2026, if the COLA Base increase were to be approved by the Fall River City Council. For those retirees who have pensions of over \$14,000 this would increase their annual COLA from \$360 to \$420, or \$5 per month. For those retirees who make less than \$12,000 annually there would be no additional increase for them.

The Fall River Retirement Board respectfully requests to have this matter be heard before the City Council at their earliest convenience, as the applicable governing statute requires that the local legislative body also approve the measure taken by the Retirement Board.

If I can be of any further assistance or can answer additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at 508-646-9120.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pasternak
Executive Director

LB



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

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 APR -3 P 3:17

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

April 3, 2025

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

Dear Councilor President and Members of the Honorable Council:

Attached please find a letter from Michael Pasternak, Executive Director, Fall River Contributory Retirement Board with a request to increase the Fall River Retirement Board Member Stipend from \$3,000.00 to \$4500.00 for the five(5) members of the Fall River Contributory Retirement Board.

Thank you and if additional information is needed on this or any other matter please contact my office.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

LB

City of Fall River, In City Council

ORDERED, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32, Section 20(6)(a) and Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2011, that the City Council approves an increase of the annual stipend for the members of the Fall River Contributory Retirement Board to \$4,500.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Fall River Contributory Retirement Board
21 Father DeValles Boulevard • Suite GR1 • Unit 14 • Fall River, MA 02723
Tel. (508) 646-9120 • Fax (508) 646-9123

6B

Honorable Mayor Paul Coogan
City of Fall River
One Government Center, 6th Floor

April 1, 2025

Dear Mayor Coogan:

At a recent meeting of the Fall River Retirement Board, March 19th, 2025, a vote was taken to increase the Fall River Retirement Board Member Stipend from \$3,000 to \$4,500 for the five members of the Fall River Retirement Board in accordance with MGL C.32 §20(6)(a) and Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2011. I have attached relative sections of the above to this letter. The applicable governing statute requires that the local legislative body also approve the measure taken by the Retirement Board.

The Fall River Retirement Board respectfully requests to have this matter be heard before the City Council at their earliest convenience.

If I can be of any further assistance or can answer additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at 508-646-9120.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pasternak
Executive Director



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

7

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

April 3, 2025

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

RECEIVED

2025 APR -3 P 3:54

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Dear Councilor President and Members of the Honorable Council:

Dear Members of the City Council,

Following the March 18, 2025, vote of the Fall River School Committee, I am writing to formally request that the City Council initiate and file an unfunded mandate petition with the State Auditor's Office relative to the City's obligation to fund the transportation of Fall River Public Schools students.

The decision to file an unfunded mandate petition reflects our dedication to identifying areas where we can improve efficiency, ensure compliance with laws and regulations, and provide the highest level of service to our residents. I believe this initiative would send a strong and positive message to the community and further reinforce the Council's leadership role in advocating for the needs of our students and the community at large.

I urge you to consider this request at your next regular meeting and to take the necessary steps to file the petition with the State Auditor's Office as soon as possible. Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued commitment to the people of Fall River.

Thank you and if additional information is needed on this or any other matter please contact my office.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

Good afternoon Mayor Coogan and Superintendent Curley,

I am requesting the following two items be added to the available next School Committee agenda.

1. UNFUNDED MANDATE DETERMINATION PETITIONS

I am requesting that the School Committee authorize and direct our attorney, Bruce Assad, to file Unfunded Mandate Petitions with the Division of Local Mandates, to Determine if the below Laws and Regulations are Unfunded Mandates.

- 603 CMR 27.03
- 603 CMR 27.04
- 603 CMR 52.07
- MGL Chapter 71 section 68
- MGL Chapter 83 section 16

The Massachusetts regulations and laws including 603 CMR 27.03, 603 CMR 27.04, 603 CMR 52.07, MGL Chapter 71 Section 68, and MGL Chapter 83 Section 16 all place substantial financial obligations on local districts, creating what can be seen as unfunded mandates. These mandates, such as requirements for structured learning time, transportation, virtual school tuition obligations, and stormwater fees, impose financial burdens on districts without providing the necessary funding to meet these obligations. 603 CMR 27.03 and 27.04 outline school year and learning time requirements, but without sufficient state support, these can be costly for school districts to implement. Similarly, 603 CMR 52.07 requires payment for virtual school tuition, while MGL Chapter 71 Section 68 mandates the provision of school transportation. Additionally, MGL Chapter 83 Section 16 allows municipalities to charge school districts for stormwater usage, creating an indirect financial burden. Furthermore, under 603 CMR 52.07 (3), the state reduces a district's Chapter 70 funding to cover the virtual school tuition costs, further decreasing the financial resources available for educational services. As these laws do not come with adequate state funding, they create an undue financial burden on the school district, qualifying them as potential unfunded mandates.

While declaring any of these regulations or laws an unfunded mandate would recognize the financial burden placed on the district, it does not automatically absolve the district from its

funding directly impacts our budget. For the vast majority of these important regulations, the appropriate course of action is to request additional funding from the state to fully cover these mandates. This would allow us to allocate resources more effectively, ensuring that we meet our contractual obligations, help with negotiations, and provide adequate compensation to the educators and staff who are essential to the success of the district. By working with the state for better funding, we can relieve the burden on our budget and improve the financial health of our schools. The proposal above is a low risk, high reward solution that can provide much needed support to the financial team and the budget of our Fall River Public Schools.

2. Support for Legislative Bills

The Fall River School Committee goes on record in support of the following legislative bills:

- HD.2787 An Act to improve indoor air quality for highly-impacted communities
- HD. 1943 An Act parental rights legislation
- HD. 2100 An Act to promote food literacy
- HD. 4297 An Act relative to safer schools
- SD 1175 An Act requiring financial education in schools
- H.497 & S.240 An Act relative to the promotion of mental health education
- HD.3094 An Act relative to cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automatic external defibrillator education in public schools
- HD.3108 An Act relative to the use of mobile devices in public school districts
- HD. 764 An Act relative to the safety of schools, residences, and public assemblies
- HD. 323 An Act establishing a grant program for school connectivity
- HD.3322 An Act relative to healthy school lunches
- HD.82 An Act relative to AEDs for athletic fields
- HD.71 An Act establishing a grant program to increase the presence of mental health counselors in schools
- HD.3723 An Act to ensure equitable representation of required parent advisory councils to school committees
- SD.488 An Act providing for reserve funds for school districts
- H.46 An Act requiring financial education in schools
- SD 931 An Act relative to student representative voting rights

The School Committee also directs its Legislative Liaison, Collin Dias, to advocate for the passage of these bills. The School Committee also directs its Administrative Assistant to send a letter to State Representatives Carole Fiola, Alan Silvia, and State Senator Michael Rodrigues,



**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division

8

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 25, 2025

RECEIVED

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

2025 MAR 25 A 8:15

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Monday, March 19, 2025 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

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

Article: 70
Section: 281 One Way Street

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Direction of Travel	Location
Pine Street	East	From Seabury Street to Robeson Street

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

SW

**City of Fall River
Massachusetts**

Traffic & Parking Division

**Paul E. Coogan
Mayor**

2025 MAR 25 P 2:14

**Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking**

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

March 25, 2025

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

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Board.

So therefore, Chapter 70 of the Revised Ordinances be amended in the following section.

Article:	70	Parking Prohibited
Section:	371	at all times

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name Of Street	Side	Location
County Street	North	Starting at a Point 98 feet West of Covell For a Distance of 72 feet West.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

JS



**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division
RECEIVED

2025 MAR 27 A 8:43

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

Stephanie MacArthur
Parking Clerk

March 27, 2025

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

Honorable Council Members:

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

Article:	70	Parking Prohibited
Section:	371	At all Times

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
County Street	North	Starting at a point 118 feet West of Covell Street, Westerly for a distance of 60 feet

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Parking Clerk

JS

8

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS

Traffic & Parking Division



Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 MAR 25 P 2:14

Stephanie MacArthur
CITY CLERK, FALL RIVER, MA
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 25, 2025

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

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

Article: 70
Section: 387

HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Hall Street	North	Starting at a point 20 feet East of Allen Street. For a distance of 20 feet East.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

J.S.

8

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**



Traffic & Parking Division

RECEIVED

2025 MAR 25 P 2:13

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 25, 2025

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

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

Article: 70
Section: 387

HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Rodman Street	East	Starting at a point 69 feet North of Grattan Street. For a distance of 20 feet North.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

JS

8

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

RECEIVED

2025 MAR 25 P 2:13

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 25, 2025

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

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

Article: 70
Section: 387

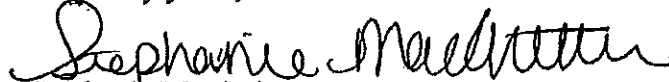
HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Tuttle Street	East	Starting at a point 64 feet South of Dwelly Street. For a distance of 20 feet South.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

JS

8

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**



Traffic & Parking Division

RECEIVED

2025 MAR 25 P 2:13

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

CITY CLERK Stephanie MacArthur
FALL RIVER, MA Director of Traffic & Parking

March 25, 2025

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

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

Article: 70
Section: 387

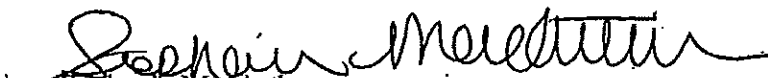
HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Walnut Street	North	Starting at a point 126 feet West of Grove Street. For a distance of 20 feet West.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

8

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 20, 2025

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

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

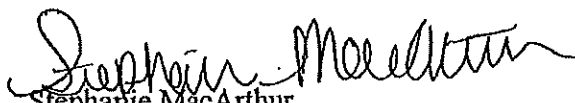
That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 **Handicapped Parking**

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Dwelly Street	North	Starting at a point 92 feet West of Peckham Street. For a distance of 30 feet Westerly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS

Traffic & Parking Division



Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 20, 2025

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

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

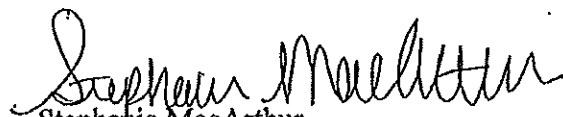
That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Hanover Street	West	Starting at a point 140 feet North of Locust Street. For a distance of 20 feet North.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

41

8

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 20, 2025

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

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

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

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Harrison Street	West	Starting at a point 490 feet South of Pleasant Street. For a distance of 20 feet Southerly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

8

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

March 20, 2025

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

RECEIVED
2025 MAR 21 P 12:13
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

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

Article: 70

Section: 387

Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Mulberry Street	East	Starting at a point 79 feet North of Division Street. For a distance of 20 feet North.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

9

(Vice President Linda M. Pereira)

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River is developing a new skate park within Lafayette Park, where residents and visitors of all ages can participate in outdoor activities together, and

WHEREAS, a City resident who was an active participant in the skateboarding community, and admired by many, recently passed away in a tragic accident, and

WHEREAS, numerous people were directly impacted by the loss of this individual, and have been expressing their desire to honor his legacy, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Planning Board convene to discuss naming the new skate park in memory of Aronde Odom, in honor of his talent and positive influence within the local skateboarding community, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Planning Board forward its recommendation to the City Council per Section 66-186 (E) of the Code of the City of Fall River.

(Filed 4-1-2025)

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

(Vice President Linda M. Pereira and Councilor Paul B. Hart)

WHEREAS, Fall River was once a mill-dependent manufacturing city that used large amounts of water from various resources, and

WHEREAS, the manufacturing industry has changed significantly over the years, and the overall volume of water used daily has decreased, and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure within the municipality was designed for heavy usage and requires regular maintenance for public safety to maintain the quality of the drinking water, and

WHEREAS, these services must be funded by the rate payers within the City of Fall River and the cost of these utilities is growing annually, and

WHEREAS, it has been suggested that water utility services could be offered to neighboring municipalities to help decrease the overall annual cost to the Fall River rate payers while still generating revenue to properly care for the necessary infrastructure, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that a representative of the Administration and the Watuppa Water Board, along with Corporation Counsel, the Director of Financial Services and the Administrator of Community Utilities, begin analyzing potential municipal customers for water services, and the revenue that may be generated by offering this service, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these parties share any developments, information or updates regarding this regionalized water service plan in a formal presentation to the City Council before the end of calendar year 2025.



City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2025 APR -1 A 11: 58

- 14
1. Claimant's name: Maria M. Tavares CITY CLERK 25-13
FALL RIVER, MA
2. Claimant's complete address: 506 Joseph Drive, Fall River, MA 02720
3. Telephone number: Home: 508-837-5457 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
property damage due to pothole
5. Date and time of accident: 3/25/27 @ 8:15 p.m. Amount of damages claimed: \$ 261.99.
6. Exact location of the incident: (Include as much detail as possible):
South side of Wilson Road, just east of the intersection of Wilson Road and Highland Avenue
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
Pothole in the road caused damage to my tire, which was not fixable. I had to get a new tire.
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

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: 3/27/25

Claimant's signature: Maria M. Tavares

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:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☒ DCM

Date: 4/1/25



RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2025 APR -3 P 3:52

25-#14

14

1. Claimant's name: TULINE RICHARDSON
2. Claimant's complete address: 72A SEABREEZE DRIVE DARTMOUTH
3. Telephone number: Home: 774 327 5338 Work: 00748
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
AUTO ACCIDENT
5. Date and time of accident: 03/13/25 Amount of damages claimed: \$12,974.58
6. Exact location of the incident: (Include as much detail as possible):
1577 Pleasant St Fall River 02723 ESTORIL RESTAURANT
7. Circumstances of the Incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
I WAS DRIVING INTO THE PARKING LOT AND MY CAR HIT THE HOLE IN THE CURB RAMP
CLAIM # 1718005

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
TRAVELERS INSURANCE NEW ENGLAND FAMILY INSURANCE
101 PRESIDENT AVE FALL RIVER MA 02720
- 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: 4/1/25

Claimant's signature: Tuline Richardson

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:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator

DCM

Date: 4/3/25

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEETING: March 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

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

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Emily Arpke, Interim Director of Financial Services
Sedryk Sousa, City Auditor
Terenzio Volpicelli, Certified Public Accountant,
Roselli Clark & Associates
Attorney Matthew J. Thomas, 261 Union Street, New Bedford, MA
Daniel Lane, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Assessors
Richard Gonsalves, Chair, Board of Assessors
Talos Farris, Director of Veterans' Services/Veterans' Services Officer
Paul Ferland, Administrator of Community Utilities
James V. Terrio, Jr., Chair, Watuppa Water Board

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 Time
Kelly Buchanan, 16 Bradford Avenue – Taxes
Bob Allen, No address listed – Taxi license
Sara Carvalho, 38 June Street – Water and sewer
Wendy Malenfant, 499 Dwelly Street – Water
Carlos Cesar, 367 Frost Street – Davol School

2. Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Audit prepared by Roselli, Clark & Associates Terenzio Volpicelli, Certified Public Accountant, Roselli, Clark & Associates, stated that the goal of this audit was to analyze the fairness of financial statements and explained that the audit performed was a statement audit, and not a forensic audit. Mr. Volpicelli gave a detailed overview of the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Financial Audit, including financial management, liabilities of the pension system and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), revenue within the General Fund, modest capital spending in FY24, long-term debts of general obligation bonds and enterprise funds, which exceeded \$342,000,000. Mr. Volpicelli also provided information regarding the remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding within City accounts, which totaled \$23,000,000 in FY24, and various types of spending throughout the fiscal year. Mr. Volpicelli stated that the City's bond credit rating from Moody's Ratings is A3, which is very high, but that Fall River may face changes in the market that affect the overall financial stance of the municipality.

Councilor Kilby and Mr. Volpicelli discussed the School Department's unused funds of \$8,300,000 that were allocated for the student lunch program. Councilor Kilby expressed concern regarding this surplus funding. Mr. Volpicelli explained that this type of surplus is not uncommon, as many municipalities still need to make financial adjustments following the Commonwealth's decision to fully fund all student meals.

Councilor Dionne requested additional information regarding expenditure and surplus revenues for FY24 and whether the budget accurately reflected those factors. Mr. Volpicelli explained that most of the surplus funds were a result of interest rate returns, as the interest rate on investments was much higher in FY24 than in past fiscal years. Emily Arpke, Interim Director of Financial Services, provided additional information regarding the annual Free Cash from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Mr. Volpicelli emphasized that the FY24 Free Cash increase from previous years is occurring in most municipalities in Massachusetts. Councilor Dionne expressed concern regarding the excess funds that remained within the City's accounts at the end of FY24, as it may reflect over taxation. Mr. Volpicelli stated that he cannot comment on the City's budgetary practices, but that there were historic amounts of certified Free Cash and unrestricted capital, such as ARPA funds and the Massachusetts Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, which affected this surplus.

Councilor Sampson agreed with Councilor Dionne's concerns and requested clarification regarding the remaining ARPA funds in the City accounts. Ms. Arpke explained that the funding has been committed to various projects but has not yet been spent. The Interim Director of Financial Services stated that the funds will be used by December 31, 2026, as required. Councilor Sampson and Mr. Volpicelli held a brief discussion regarding various fund balance increases that have occurred due to increased revenue, and Mr. Volpicelli stated that this occurrence is normal in many municipalities.

Councilor Ponte and Mr. Volpicelli discussed the stabilization funds that are utilized in various communities in Massachusetts, in comparison to Fall River, the frequent use of one-time funding within the City budget and whether the Roselli, Clark and Associates firm performs managerial audits. Mr. Volpicelli clarified that it is challenging to compare different municipalities regarding stabilization funds, as different budget practices are used throughout the Commonwealth, but that the \$17,000,000 listed in the stabilization fund, compared to the size of the total FY24 budget, isn't an unusually high amount of stabilization fund capital. Mr. Volpicelli also stated that many cities and towns in Massachusetts have been utilizing one-time funding, which isn't advisable but very common, and that he couldn't provide a formal financial opinion. Ms. Arpke clarified that the one-time funding used by the City was mainly ARPA capital and

Free Cash funds. Mr. Volpicelli also explained that, while Roselli, Clark and Associates does perform managerial audits, they'd need to examine the matter more thoroughly before confirming that the firm could perform that type of audit for the City, as specialized accountants are required for this service. Councilor Ponte and Mr. Volpicelli discussed the Moody Rating of A3, but Mr. Volpicelli explained that he is not qualified to provide any advice as to how the City may increase their bond credit rating.

On a motion made by Councilor Dionne and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to lift item 3 from the table.

3. Resolution – Convene with the City Administrator, Corporation Counsel, the Director of Financial Services, the Chairperson of the Board of Assessors and the Veterans' Services Officer to discuss potential tax exemptions for veterans, related to the HERO Act

Councilor Raposo requested additional information regarding the Massachusetts General Law acceptance order that will be presented to the City Council related to this resolution. Daniel Lane, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Assessors, explained that with the acceptance of certain sections of the HERO Act, those who currently qualify for M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 22, would see their abatement increase from \$400 to \$800, and that those who currently qualify for the M.G.L., Ch. 59, §5, Clause 22E, would see their abatement increase from \$1000 to \$2000. Vice President Pereira expressed support for this proposed change to existing exemptions for veterans and asked when individuals could apply for these new abatement rates. Mr. Lane stated that people may apply between July 1, 2025, and April 1, 2026, as this change will go into effect for Fiscal Year 2026.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted to lift item 4 from the table.

4. Resolution – Convene with the City Administrator, Corporation Counsel, the Director of Financial Services, and the Chairperson of the Board of Assessors to discuss tax exemptions and property abatements for senior citizens

Councilor Raposo requested additional information regarding the Massachusetts General Law acceptance order that will be presented to the City Council related to this resolution. Emily Arpke, Interim Director of Financial Services, explained that the abatement amount, in relation to M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 17D, is adjusted annually by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts based on Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA), and that number has not yet been released. Ms. Arpke explained that, typically, the COLA adjustment varies between 3-5% annually. Attorney Matthew J. Thomas also emphasized that the percentage rate adjustment can be placed on the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) exemption list now, but the final amount is not yet known.

Daniel Lane, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Assessors, explained that the M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 41C, abatement will be increased from \$500 to \$750. Councilor Raposo asked why this abatement was only increased by fifty percent. Ms. Arpke stated that the City received 323 applications for this abatement last year, and that the number may grow in FY26, so the financial adjustment is occurring slowly to collect data on how this will affect the City's overall tax revenue. Mr. Lane explained that applications are received daily for this type of exemption and many applicants will change the exemption that they apply for each year, so it's challenging to provide an estimated amount of abatements for FY26. Councilor Raposo requested that, once the data for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) is collected, the total number of exemptions for this category be provided to the City Councilors. Councilor Raposo asked what the revised, total

abatement would be for this clause in FY26, and Ms. Arpke stated it would total \$256,000, and that these funds would be transferred to an overlay account.

Vice President Pereira and Mr. Lane discussed asset and income limitations regarding various exemption clauses, and that the increase of limitations from \$20,000 to \$40,000, which was voted upon in 2024, has resulted in many more qualified applicants. Mr. Lane explained that there was an influx of applications from those who had been using other various clauses to M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 41D during FY25.

Councillor Dionne requested clarification regarding income limits versus asset limits with tax abatements. Mr. Lane stated that M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 41C has both income and asset limitations, and that M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 41D only has asset limitations. Attorney Thomas emphasized that more detailed information regarding applications to various clauses could be provided by the Board of Assessors at the end of Fiscal Year 2025.

On a motion made by Councillor Raposo and seconded by Councillor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to lift item 5 from the table.

5. Resolution – Convene with the City Administrator and the Administrator of Community Utilities to discuss overdue water service payments owed to the City of Fall River from the Town of Westport

Paul Ferland, Administrator of Community Utilities, and James V. Terrio, Jr., Chair, Watuppa Water Board, provided a detailed summary of recent, tentative agreements, that have been reached with the Town of Westport, MA, regarding overdue water invoices from 2016 through 2022. Mr. Ferland explained that the two municipalities had convened with a mediator who determined that Westport must pay an overdue balance of \$293,000 to the City of Fall River. Mr. Terrio stated that, with future agreements, additional late charges and penalties will be added to enforce payment and increase revenue from the Town of Westport.

Councillor Sampson expressed concern regarding the discrepancies of overdue bill amounts between the two municipalities. The Chair of the Watuppa Water Board explained that the Town of Westport had used incorrect meters to read their flush amounts when cleaning the fire hydrants, which affected the bulk water readings they provided to the Water Division.

Councillor Raposo requested information regarding the terms of payment, how future agreements with the town would implement additional fees and surcharges, and the number of water customers in Westport that are serviced by the City of Fall River. Mr. Ferland explained that Westport would need to pay the agreed-upon balance by July 1, 2025, and that a new intermunicipal agreement would be created for 2026. The Administrator of Community Utilities explained that the new agreement would include late fees, surcharges and dispute agreements to address any future issues that may arise and to avoid this type of negotiation. Mr. Ferland stated that there are currently 163 customers in Westport being serviced with water from Fall River, but that the number may increase within the next few years with ongoing expansion of water services near the Westport/Dartmouth border.

Councilor Dionne asked where the payment of \$293,000 will be deposited upon receipt. Mr. Ferland and Emily Arpke, Interim Director of Financial Services, explained that the receiving account hasn't been decided upon yet, but that the revenue is not required to go to a specific type of account, and that this payment would be a one-time budget increase.

A lengthy discussion was held between Councilor Cadime, Mr. Ferland, and Mr. Terrio regarding the City's ability to shut off water in the town, and the mediator decreasing the overdue debt owed from Westport. Mr. Terrio stated that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP) would file an injunction against the City of Fall River if the water was turned off to the town, as it would affect their Fire Departments and the public's access to drinking water. Councilor Cadime explained that in the previous decade, the City had turned off water to nuisance properties and the tenants of the property were evacuated to other locations for resources. Councilor Cadime stated that residents in Fall River are only allocated a flood abatement once every five years and are not given the same flexibility with payment that the agreement awards to Westport. The Administrator of Community Utilities and the Chair of the Watuppa Water Board reiterated that there were unit count issues due to the incorrect meter being installed for hydrant flushing, and that Westport did not submit the flushing totals for certain years, which is why the mediator adjusted the overdue payments to the City of Fall River. Councilor Cadime reemphasized that, if the residents of Fall River need to pay their water and sewer rates promptly, the same requirement should be held to the Town of Westport.

President Camara asked for the total amount that Westport owed to the City of Fall River. Mr. Ferland explained that there were discrepancies between what was sold to the town versus the amount that was bled off for water quality, and that the town hadn't provided information regarding flushing credits, so an exact total was challenging to calculate. Mr. Ferland also clarified that the Town of Westport argued that the City of Fall River owed them back payments based on their own calculated meter readings, so the mediator worked with both parties to settle the large discrepancies.

Councilor Dionne asked what the City's records indicate for the total debt owed for water services to Westport between 2016 and 2022. Mr. Ferland stated that the statements reflect a total balance of \$1,700,000 between 2016 and 2022, and that the Town of Westport has since paid \$800,000. Mr. Ferland also clarified that flushing credits totaling \$321,000 were applied to this balance, which decreased the amount owed to \$579,000. The Administrator of Community Utilities reiterated that there were years between 2016 and 2022 when the Town of Westport did not provide volume amounts for flushing credits, so those were estimated by the City and the mediator and applied to the agreement. President Camara emphasized the need to amend the new agreement between the municipalities to clearly state that any flushing credits that are not properly reported will not be applied, and Mr. Ferland confirmed that this adjustment would be included in future agreements with Westport to prevent this issue from reoccurring. Councilor Kilby agreed with President Camara and stated that resolution of these issues in the future is pertinent.

Vice President Pereira and Mr. Ferland discussed meetings of the Board of Selectman of Westport where the meter usage amounts varied significantly from the numbers provided by the City of Fall River. Vice President Pereira encouraged the Administrator of Community Utilities and the Chair of the Watuppa Water Board to work in achieving a larger payment from the Town of Westport. Councilor Hart and Mr. Ferland held a brief discussion regarding methods to avoid this confusion in the future and the need to properly amend future agreements to avoid overdue payments due to misread meters.

6. Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Enterprise Fund budgets for Water and Sewer Divisions

Paul Ferland, Administrator of Community Utilities, provided a detailed overview of the Fiscal Year 2026 Enterprise Fund budgets for the Water and Sewer Divisions with a PowerPoint Presentation. Mr. Ferland's presentation included information regarding the proposed rates for water and sewer utilities, historical rates over past fiscal years, fixed and volumetric expenses and revenue, and customer impacts that are based on volume of usage and cost comparisons to other utilities, such as electricity and natural gas.

President Camara, Councilor Cadime and Mr. Ferland discussed the United States Environmental Protection Act (EPA) mandates in relation to Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) and the related stormwater fee mandate applied in the City of Fall River. Councilor Cadime stated that many other municipalities do not apply this type of fee. President Camara explained that this fee was implemented in the past to help lower overall water and sewer rates, as the processing of stormwater is costly. Mr. Ferland explained that these fees allow all property owners to contribute to the funds used to manage stormwater runoff. The Administrator of Community Utilities stated that certain properties, such as grocery stores, have large parking lots that drain large amounts of storm water, but don't accumulate high invoices in relation to water use, and residential properties use much higher amounts of tap water for things like kitchens and bathrooms but may not produce as much storm water drainage. Mr. Ferland explained that by sharing both fees, each type of property owner pays a lower amount in water and stormwater rates annually. President Camara requested that Mr. Ferland create a graph for the Councilors that would show what the water rates would need to be if the stormwater fee didn't exist for a future presentation.

Councilor Sampson and Mr. Ferland held a detailed discussion regarding the lack of fluoride in City water. Mr. Ferland explained that the proposed budget has allocated \$90,000 for the cost of fluoride treatment, as the Board of Health has decided to continue fluoridization of the water, however the powder product needed for the City's equipment hasn't been available since 2019. Councilor Sampson emphasized the need for future research into this matter as the City needs to either find an alternative source of the element or discontinue adding funding to the Water Division budget. Mr. Ferland emphasized that the decision regarding fluoride in the City's water cannot be made by the Water Division as it falls within the purview of the Board of Health.

Councilor Ponte requested additional information regarding whether a performance audit was performed after the Fiscal Year 2025 meetings regarding the Water and Sewer Division budgets. Mr. Ferland explained that the audit contracts were finalized a few months ago, but the results haven't been submitted yet, but that they will be shared with the City Council once received. Councilor Ponte and Mr. Ferland also discussed the potential installation of solar panels to offset electricity costs at the new Water Treatment Facility. Mr. Ferland explained that after analyzing the electricity usage within the building with representatives from National Grid, it was determined that the cost of the project would outweigh the benefits, but that they are still exploring all energy source options. Councilor Ponte inquired as to what would occur if the proposed budgets for the Water and Sewer Divisions were not approved. Mr. Ferland explained that the proposed budgets are designed to fund the utility services and there would be various negative effects such as employment issues and machine maintenance problems. Councilor Ponte emphasized that the budget should be adjusted to remove expenditures that are not currently being used, such as the section that would provide \$90,000 in funding for fluoride treatment, when that service hasn't been provided since 2019. Councilor Ponte also made comments regarding the importance of using funding wisely, such as American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, as it will affect Fall River's future. President Camara and the Administrator of

Community Utilities discussed the ARPA funds that were approved for the Water and Sewer Divisions. Mr. Ferland stated that the divisions received roughly \$18,000,000 for utility projects.

Councilor Dionne and Mr. Ferland held a detailed discussion regarding revenue amounts that would be generated if the water rates are increased by \$0.01 per rate payer, and Mr. Ferland explained that this increase would result in a total of \$31,000 of annual revenue for the division. The Administrator of Community Utilities emphasized that the Water Division did not generate large amounts of revenue during FY25, due to the decreased amounts for rates that were approved, but that the current budget is showing 72% of anticipated revenue currently in the third quarter of the fiscal year. Councilor Dionne and Mr. Ferland discussed the timeline of the Water and Sewer Division Enterprise Fund Budgets, including the proposed ordinances regarding rates that need to be discussed within the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation prior to the full Council voting upon the matter.

Councilor Hart expressed support for the ongoing performance audit of the two enterprise funds as it provides additional information regarding data from previous fiscal years. Councilor Hart also emphasized that these types of audits don't always find ways to save funds within the divisions, which tends to be the expectation of the public. Mr. Ferland agreed and stated that he'd provide more audit information with the full Council as soon as it is available.

Councilor Cadime emphasized the need for the budget to match the actual expenditure of the Water and Sewer divisions, as the frequent increases in rates affect the ratepayers significantly. James V. Terrio, Jr., Chair, Watuppa Water Board, explained that the rates will continue to increase annually until there are more water customers. Mr. Terrio provided a summary of the water-related history of Fall River, including frequent use of water within mill buildings in the past, and stated that the service base has significantly decreased since these manufacturing businesses have closed, but that the costs have consistently increased. Mr. Terrio stated that the City of Fall River should research opportunities to provide water utility services to nearby municipalities, such as Westport and Dartmouth. President Camara and Councilor Cadime agreed that this method of widening the customer base would ease the cost burden placed on Fall River rate payers. Councilor Dionne made remarks regarding the development within the Route 79/Davol Street corridor, and that this project should generate more commercial and residential rate payers within the City. Mr. Terrio agreed with Councilor Dionne and stated that forty years ago the water reservoirs would be almost five feet lower in depth, which no longer occurs due to the significant decrease in water use.

President Camara emphasized the importance of zero-based budgeting, and that matters, such as the unused funding for fluoride, could be amended to achieve this type of funding balance. Emily Arpke, Interim Director of Financial Services, explained that she is currently working with all departments to balance FY26 budgets accordingly.

On a motion made by Councilor Dionne and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to refer the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Water and Sewer Division Budgets to the full Council for action.

On a further motion made by Councilor Kilby and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

PowerPoint Presentation re Proposed FY 2026 Enterprise Fund budgets for Water and Sewer Divisions, presented by Paul Ferland, Administrator of Community Utilities


Clerk of Committees

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: March 25, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

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

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: None

President Camara called the meeting to order at 8:27 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 request for confirmation of the re-appointment of Melissa Panchley to the Library Board

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

2. Mayor and resolution for approval of a TIE Agreement for 295 Bedford Street, LLC at 295 Bedford Street

Councilor Ponte stated that he supported this agreement, as it will assist in creating more affordable housing units and increasing water use within the City. Councilor Dionne expressed concern that only a portion of the property would be offering affordable housing units, as most would be market-rate housing units. On a motion made by Councilor Kilby and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Dionne opposed.

Approved, March 26, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

3. Mayor and orders as follows:

- a. M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 17F– Accept Elderly exemption

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

Approved, March 26, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

b. M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Cause 22J – Accept Veterans' exemption
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.
 Approved, March 26, 2025
 Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

c. M.G.L. Ch. 59, §5, Clause 41C – Increase exemption by 50%
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.
 Approved, March 26, 2025
 Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

4. Mayor and correspondence to establish right-of-way fees for fiber optic cable installations
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to refer the correspondence to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation.

5. Mayor and order for Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure at 158 Bedford Street (Parcel ID N04-0042)
Councilor Ponte stated that this property, which was once the old police station, must be sold as the building is dilapidated and unsafe. Vice President Pereira clarified that the Administration's plan is to demolish the building. On a motion made by Councilor Kilby and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.
 Approved, March 26, 2025
 Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

6. Mayor and request to hold the Annual Budget Joint Meeting with the City Council and School Committee on April 8, 2025
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file.

7. Mayor and order declaring twenty-one (21) vehicles as surplus property
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Sampson, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order.
 Approved, March 26, 2025
 Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

8. Planning Board report re: Proposed Zoning Amendment – Apartment District (A-2)
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the report be accepted and placed on file. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to refer the proposed ordinance to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation.

9. Planning Board recommendations to **not approve the acceptance** of the following streets:

a. Burt Street extending from New Boston Road southerly to terminus
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the report be accepted and placed on file. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to that the orders be granted leave to withdraw.

b. May Street extending from Pine Street to Cherry Street
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the report be accepted and placed on file. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to that the orders be granted leave to withdraw.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Public Safety recommending:

Grant Leave to Withdraw

10. Resolution – Committee on Public Safety convene with a representative from the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority and any other interested parties to discuss potential solutions to reduce noise pollution in the Weaver's Cove Layover area
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to that the resolution be granted leave to withdraw.

ORDINANCES

Second Reading and Enrollment

11. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
- Section 1
 Fifteen-minute parking (removal)
 • George Street, South side, 48 feet east of Lindsey Street,
 Monday – Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Section 2
 Fifteen-minute parking
 • George Street, South side, 52 feet east of Lindsey Street,
 Monday – Sunday 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Section 3
 One hour parking
 • Brayton Avenue, South side, 46 feet east of Rodman Street
 Monday – Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- Section 4
 Handicapped parking removals
 • Third Street, East, 190 feet north of Branch Street
 • Barnaby Street, West, 314 feet south of Lincoln Avenue
 • Bay Street, West, 20 feet north of Woodman Street
 • Diman Street, East, 100 feet north of Bradford Avenue
 • Eastern Avenue, West, 205 feet south of Downing Street
 • Irving Street, West, 212 feet north of Pleasant Street
 • Jencks Street, West, 21 feet north of Alden Street
 • Locust Street, South, 56 feet west of June Street
 • Oak Grove Avenue, East, 115 feet south of Lemuel Street
 • Oliver Street, South, 507 feet east of Broadway
 • Osborn Street, North, 51 feet west of South Main Street
 • Palmer Street, North, 356 feet east of South Main Street

- Pine Street, North, 122 feet east of Rock Street
- Ridge Street, East, 136 feet south of Osborn Street
- Sprague Street, South, 152 feet west of Broadway
- Tuttle Street, East, 52 feet north of Dwelly Street
- Wellington Street, North, 70 feet east of Fulton Street

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

Approved, March 26, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

12. Proposed Ordinance – Processing Archivist of Public Library Services

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

Approved, March 26, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

RESOLUTIONS

- 13. Committee on Public Works and Transportation convene with the Administration and a representative of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to discuss maintenance of the Interstate 195 underpass beneath Government Center and request that the state delegation advocate for further cleanup of this area**

Councilor Raposo made remarks regarding the current state of the underpass, which lacks efficient lighting and contains a significant amount of litter and debris. Councilor Raposo stated that he had spoken with State Representative Carole Fiola regarding this matter, who explained that the lighting replacement project had been planned, but the funding was never allocated. Councilor Raposo emphasized that the letter being sent to the Fall River Delegation, following the adoption of this resolution, should address the need to advocate for adequate light renovation funding. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

- 14. Committee on Public Safety convene with the Director of Traffic and Parking and a representative of the Fall River Police Department to discuss traffic safety concerns, including speeding and the need for additional ADA-compliant crosswalks, on Stafford Road**

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

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

- 15. Police Chief's report on licenses**

Taxicab Drivers

Robert F. Allen

Jeremias Cabral

Cheryl Kohane

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

16. Auto Repair Shop License Renewal

Kirk Carrier d/b/a Kirk's Transmissions, Inc., 461 Globe Street

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

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

17. Claims

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

18. City resident requesting to purchase a parcel of city owned land on Sion Street (Parcel D-07-0021)

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

19. Drainlayer Licenses

A. DiFazio Construction, Inc.

Sandstone Construction, Inc.

Biszko Contracting Corp.

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

Approved, March 26, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to take items 20 through 23 together.

City Council Minutes

20. Joint Meeting of the City Council and School Committee – March 11, 2025

21. Public Hearings – March 11, 2025

22. Committee on Finance – March 11, 2025

23. Regular Meeting of the City Council – March 11, 2025

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

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Real Estate recommending action:

10a. Orders – Disposition of the following municipal properties:

a. 112 Flint Street (former Davol School) (Parcel ID K-14-0011)

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

Approved, March 26, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

b. 138 Hartwell Street (former Silvia School) (Parcel ID N-21-0001)

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

Approved, March 26, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

A brief recess was taken from 8:45 p.m. to 8:47 p.m. for the purpose of signing the Traffic and Processing Archivist of Public Library Services ordinances.

On a motion made by Councilor Sampson and seconded by President Camara, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.

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



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

20

RECEIVED

2025 APR -4 P 12: 23

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

April 4, 2025

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

Dear Honorable Council Members:

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has identified one additional community project and has made recommendations for funding in accordance with the Community Preservation Act (CPA) MGL Chapter 44B Sections 4 to 7.

- Christ the Rock Church - \$185,000.00

Your approval of the associated Appropriation Order is respectfully requested.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

City of Fall River, In City Council

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APPROPRIATION ORDER

ORDERED that the following FY 26 supplemental appropriations be provided through the Community Preservation Act (CPA), reserves under the MGL Chapter 44B Sections 4 to 7 in the aggregate, amounting to \$185,000.00 to be appropriated as follows:

Voted: That \$78,062.00 be appropriate from the CPA Fund's Undesignated fund balance

For CPA Administrative Expenditures	\$0
For CPA Open Space/Outdoor Recreation PROJECTS	\$0
For CPA Historic Resources Preservation PROJECTS	\$185,000.00
For CPA Community Housing	\$0

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$185,000.00</u>
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Note: Please note this is a supplemental CPA appropriation for FY26. The City Council had earlier appropriated at \$1,816,444 for various CPA projects. The CPA fund balance is reported at \$3,986,054.92 on June 30, 2024 and is more than sufficient to cover this supplemental appropriations.



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**City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Community Preservation Committee**

JOHN BRANDT
Chairman

KRISTEN CANTARA OLIVEIRA
Vice-Chairman

March 26, 2025

Mr. Sedryk Sousa
City of Fall River, Auditor Office
One Government Center, 2nd floor
Fall River, MA 02721

Dear Mr. Sedryk Sousa.

The Community Preservation Committee voted on emergency funding for Christ the Rock Church at their last meeting, Monday, March 24, 2025.

- Christ the Rock Church - FY26 Funding, Historic Preservation - \$185,000.00

Repoint, mortar, and place ties in the East side and Northwest corner of the tower at a minimum to the gutter line and further if funds allow. In addition, a capital and maintenance plan must be provided to the CPC committee. All work must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

1. Tower East Façade and Northwest corner: Services are to include repointing, install mortar between the stone façade and interior brick wall, and installing support ties to a minimum height of the existing gutter line.
2. Tower North Façade: Services are to include repointing, install mortar between the stone façade and interior brick wall, installing support ties and reinstallation of existing stone blocks on the North face of the tower while preventing structural damages to the existing roof structure below to a height that will stabilize the north wall of the tower and to a height that is within this requested budget.
3. Project Report: Services are to include a capital and maintenance report submitted to the CPC committee that identifies materials used during installation, installation guidelines, maintenance guidelines and milestone dates for continual care of this historical building.
4. All work must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

A letter needs to come from the mayor approving this funding and for the Auditor to prepare an Appropriation Order for this project.

Because this an emergency funding request, we need this order to go to the City Council so it can get on the agenda for both the finance and regular meeting the same night, Tuesday, April 8, 2024 in order to avoid the two-week delay.

Respectfully,

John Brandt

John Brandt, Chair
Fall River Community Preservation Committee