



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: January 28, 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,
and Andrew J. Raposo

ABSENT: Councilor Laura-Jean Sampson

IN ATTENDANCE: None

President Camara called the meeting to order at 7:26 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. Mayor and confirmation of the appointment of Nelson Rego to the Cultural Council
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to confirm the appointment, with Councilor Sampson absent and not voting.
2. Mayor and confirmation of the reappointment of Eric Kelly to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate)
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to confirm the reappointment, with Councilor Sampson absent and not voting.
3. Mayor and confirmation of the following reappointments to the Planning Board:
 - a. John Ferreira
 - b. Gloria Pacheco*On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to confirm the reappointments, with Councilor Sampson absent and not voting.*
4. Mayor and request to deliver State of the City address on March 11, 2025
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Sampson absent and not voting.

5. Mayor and request for a Joint Meeting of the City Council and the School Committee on April 8, 2025 re development of FY2026 budget

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

6. Mayor and order to transfer \$2,500,000.00 from FY24 Surplus Revenue to the Employer Health Trust Fund

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

7. Fiscal Year 2025 Quarter 2 Budget Report

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to refer the report to the Committee on Finance, with Councilor Sampson absent and not voting.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

8. Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Public Works and Transportation recommending adoption:

Transmission Lines

9. Order – New England Power Company petition – Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road
Councilor Dionne explained that the Committee on Public Works and Transportation held a detailed discussion regarding this petition, and that the utility company provided over seventy-five pages of documentation related to community outreach, staff environmental training and supplies, such as cameras, that would be provided to the City of Fall River to assist with monitoring the neighborhood near the transmission lines. Councilor Dionne emphasized that the areas of concern were owned by the City and that an outside, private company cannot be held responsible for the quality of public roads, littering near the Copicut Reservoir and unlawful acts, such as illegal dumping. Councilor Dionne also stated that this transmission wire installation project, which will provide electricity to over seventeen municipalities, was still pending approval from the Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB), which has strict regulations. Vice President Pereira agreed that if the EFSB does not grant permission for this petition, the project will not proceed. Councilor Cadime emphasized that the environmental and safety concerns within the neighborhood were not the responsibility of a private company, and that the hearing was held to hear support or opposition from abutting property owners for the overhead transmission lines on Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road. Councilor Kilby stated that the City Council and the Committee on Public Works and Transportation have researched this matter thoroughly and cannot delay this petition due to matters that need to be addressed by the City of Fall River.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart opposed and Councilor Sampson absent and not voting.
Approved, January 29, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

ORDINANCES

Second Reading and Enrollment:

10. Proposed Ordinance – Creation of Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services – Budget and Compliance

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, with Councilor Sampson absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, with Councilors Hart and Sampson absent and not voting.

Approved, January 29, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

Councilor Hart exited the Council Chamber at 7:40 p.m.

11. Proposed Ordinance – Short-Term Rentals

The City Clerk stated that Corporation Counsel submitted amendments for this proposed ordinance and that the addition of a second section was recommended to allow for the creation of a registration fee for Short-Term Rentals. On a motion made by Councilor Ponte and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to refer the proposed ordinance to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, with Councilors Hart and Sampson absent and not voting.

RESOLUTIONS

12. The Committee on Finance convene with the City Administrator, the Director of City Operations and the Building Inspector to discuss safety concerns regarding the Pearl Street Parking Garage and the Third Street Parking Garage

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

13. The Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs and the Committee on Public Safety convene with interested parties to discuss ongoing environmental and safety concerns in the Copicut neighborhood.

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

14. The Committee on Finance 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

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

15. The Committee on Finance 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

Vice President Pereira stated that senior citizens in the community were facing financial hardships due to the increased cost-of-living. Vice President Pereira also explained that, while the adjustment to the annual income limit to be qualified for a property tax exemption was raised last year to \$40,000, which qualified additional households, reviewing additional methods of assistance for these residents should be a priority of the City. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilors Hart and Sampson absent and not voting.

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

16. Police Chief's report on licenses

Taxicab Drivers

Joseph A. Gonsalves

Michael Melo

Private Livery Drivers

Teofilo Braga

Amanda Desroches-Gross

Michel Josue

Hugh Williams

Private Livery Vehicles

Tavares Transport – One (1) vehicle

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

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

17. Claims

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

City Council Minutes

18. Committee on Finance – January 14, 2025

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes, with Councilors Hart and Sampson absent and not voting.

19. Regular Meeting of the City Council – January 14, 2025

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Pereira, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes, with Councilors Hart and Sampson absent and not voting.

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: JANUARY 28, 2025

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Finance recommending:

Action

- 9a. Board of Election Commissioners and orders authorizing the Preliminary Municipal Election on September 16, 2025, and the Municipal Election on November 4, 2025, and designating polling places for such elections

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

A recess was held from 7:47 p.m. to 7:49 p.m. for the purpose of signing the Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services – Budget and Compliance ordinance.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:49 p.m., with Councilors Hart and Sampson absent and not voting.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

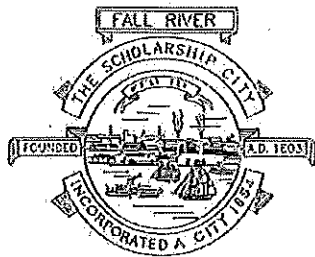
Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy. Attest:



City Clerk

In City Council, February 11, 2025
Approved.



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 24 P 12:15

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER
JANUARY 28, 2025
AGENDA

4:45 P.M. COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

6:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS IF IT RUNS PAST 6:00 P.M.)

1. Citizen Input
2. *Resolution – Convene with Director of City Operations to discuss efficiencies (tabled 9-10-2024)
3. *Board of Election Commissioners and orders authorizing the Preliminary Municipal Election on September 16, 2025, and the Municipal Election on November 4, 2025, and designating polling places for such elections (referred 1-14-2025)
4. *Five Year Financial Forecast (referred 1-14-2025)
5. *Transfer and Appropriation

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

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. *Mayor and confirmation of the appointment of Nelson Rego to the Cultural Council
2. *Mayor and confirmation of the reappointment of Eric Kelly to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate)
3. *Mayor and confirmation of the following reappointments to the Planning Board:
 - a. John Ferreira
 - b. Gloria Pacheco
4. *Mayor and request to deliver State of the City address on March 11, 2025
5. *Mayor and request for Joint Meeting of the City Council and the School Committee on April 8, 2025 re development of FY2026 budget
6. *Mayor and order to transfer \$2,500,000.00 from FY24 Surplus Revenue to the Employer Health Trust Fund
7. *Fiscal Year 2025 Quarter 2 Budget Report

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

8. *Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Public Works and Transportation recommending adoption:

Transmission Lines

9. *Order – New England Power Company petition – Copicut Road and Quanipaug Road

ORDINANCES

Second Reading and Enrollment:

10. *Proposed Ordinance – Creation of Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services – Budget and Compliance
11. *Proposed Ordinance – Short-Term Rentals

RESOLUTIONS

12. *The Committee on Finance convene with the City Administrator, the Director of City Operations and the Building Inspector to discuss safety concerns regarding the Pearl Street Parking Garage and the Third Street Parking Garage
13. *The Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs and the Committee on Public Safety convene with interested parties to discuss ongoing environmental and safety concerns in the Copicut neighborhood.
14. *The Committee on Finance 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
15. *The Committee on Finance 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

CITATIONS - None

ORDERS – HEARINGS - None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

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

Taxicab Drivers

Joseph A. Gonsalves Michael Melo

Private Livery Drivers

Teofilo Braga Amanda Desroches-Gross
Michel Josue Hugh Williams

Private Livery Vehicles

Tavares Transport – One (1) vehicle

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

17. *Claims

City Council Minutes

18. *Committee on Finance – January 14, 2025

19. *Regular Meeting of the City Council – January 14, 2025

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

Alison M. Bouchard

City Clerk



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

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 23, 2025

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 23 A 8:29

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

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

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

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

Name: Nelson Rego

Address 103 Crawford Street
Fall River, MA 02724

Position: Cultural Council

Expiration: January 22, 2028

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos



2

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

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 23, 2025

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 23 A 8:29

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

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

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

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

Name: Eric Kelly

Address: 1427 Highland Avenue
Fall River, MA 02720

Position: Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate)

Expiration: January 22, 2030

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

3a

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 23, 2025

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 23 A 8:29

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

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

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

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

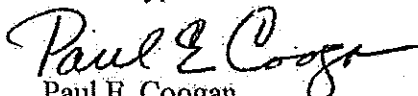
Name: John Ferreira

Address 21 Coral Street
Fall River, MA 02721

Position: Planning Board

Expiration: January 9, 2030

Sincerely,


Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos

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

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2025 JAN 23 A 8:29

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 23, 2025

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

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

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council:

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

Name: Gloria Pacheco

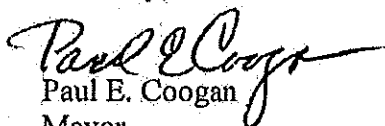
Address 411 Columbia Street (mailing)
Fall River, MA 02720

700 Shore Drive, Unit 205 (residence)
Fall River, MA 02721

Position: Planning Board

Expiration: January 9, 2030

Sincerely,


Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 15 P 2 25

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

January 15, 2025

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

Dear Council President:

In accordance with Section 3-6(c) of the City of Fall River Charter the mayor shall in each year on or before the third Wednesday in March make an address to a joint meeting of the city council and school committee, and shall include the city's multiple member bodies, city officers and department heads, to report on the state of affairs of the city. I am respectfully requesting the ability to deliver the "State of the City" on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 5:30pm prior to the start of the City Council meeting.

I ask for your consideration with this request and if additional information is needed, please contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos



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

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 15 P 2:25

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

January 15, 2025

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

Dear Council President:

In accordance with Section 6-2 of the City of Fall River Charter at least 75 days before the beginning of the fiscal year, the mayor shall call a joint meeting of the city council and school committee, including the superintendent of schools, to review the fiscal and financial condition of the city. I am reaching out to request this Annual Budget Meeting be called at 5:00pm on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, prior to the start of the City Council meeting.

I ask for your consideration with this request and if additional information is needed, please contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

January 23, 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. \$2,500,000.00 That the sum of \$2,500,000.00 be, and the same is, hereby transferred to the EMPLOYER HEALTH TRUST FUND from the FY24 SURPLUS REVENUE.

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

Best Regards,

Paul Coogan
Mayor

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 23 P 12:59

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

January 28, 2025

ORDERED:

**That the sum of \$2,500,000 be, and the same is, hereby transferred to
Employer Health Trust Fund from FY24 Surplus Revenue:**

FY24 Surplus Revenue

\$2,500,000

***To cover additional 87 new plans added to Health Insurance since start of Fiscal Year 2025**

FY25 Appropriation/Transfer Number Analysis

Line	Original/Revised Appropriation	Amount Transferred	Adjusted Balance
General Fund Free Cash	\$ 17,066,404.00	\$ (2,500,000.00)	\$ 14,566,404.00
Employer Health Trust Fund	\$ (480,048.70)	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 2,019,951.30

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


 City Auditor
 January 21, 2025

RECEIVED

2025 JAN 23 P 2:51

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

FY 2025

QUARTER 2

BUDGET REPORT

8

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2025 JAN 21 A 10:16

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

January 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, January 15, 2025 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

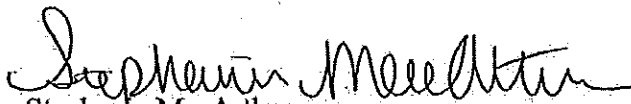
That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Third Street	East	Starting at a point 190 feet North of Branch Street. For a distance of 20 feet North

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

One Government Center Fall River, MA 02722
TEL: (508) 324-2123 FAX (508) 324-2578 EMAIL Smacarthur@fallriverma.gov

y

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2025 JAN 21 A 10:16

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

January 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, January 15, 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
Oliver Street	South	Starting at a point 507 feet East of Broadway. For a distance of 20 feet East.

Very truly yours,

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

One Government Center Fall River, MA 02722
TEL: (508) 324-2123 FAX (508) 324-2578 EMAIL Smacarthur@fallriverma.gov

SM
2/24/25

8

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2025 JAN 21 A 10:15

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

January 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, January 15, 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
Osborn Street	North	Starting at a point 51 feet West of South Main 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



RECEIVED

2025 JAN 21 AM 10:16

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

January 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, January 15, 2025 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

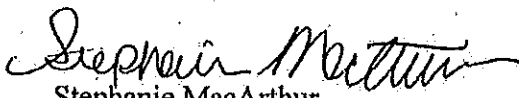
That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

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

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Ridge Street	East	Starting at a point 136 feet South of Osborn Street. For a distance of 20 feet South

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

One Government Center Fall River, MA 02722
TEL: (508) 324-2123 FAX (508) 324-2578 EMAIL Smacarthur@fallriverma.gov

JN

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2025 JAN 21 A 10:16

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

January 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, January 15, 2025 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

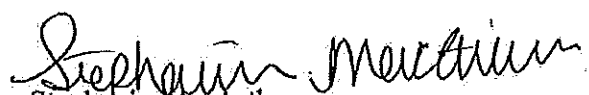
That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Sprague Street	South	Starting at a point 152 feet West of Broadway. For a distance of 20 feet West.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

381

CITY OF FALL RIVER

To the City Council

Councillors:

The Committee on Public Works and Transportation, at a meeting held on January 21, 2025, voted unanimously to recommend that the accompanying order be adopted, with Councilor Ponte absent and not voting.


Clerk of Committees

City of Fall River, In City Council

ORDERED, that permission be and the same is hereby granted to:

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

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

The center line of the proposed transmission lines across said public ways to be located not over 50 feet from the approximate location of the center line of each of the proposed transmission lines shown on the plans attached hereto entitled "PLAN TO ACCOMPANY PETITION FOR STREET CROSSING ON QUANIPAUG ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA and "PLAN TO ACCOMPANY PETITION FOR STREET CROSSING ON COPICUT RD, FALL RIVER, MA", which plans are incorporated herein by reference; the power wires to be strung not less than 23 feet from the ground above said public ways, and not over 10 wires per line to be strung from each structure across said public way.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

DEC 17 2024

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

JAN 14 2025

Tabled, 6 years, 2 days

*Referred to the
Committee on Public
Works & Transportation*

City of Fall River, In City Council

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

That Chapter 50 of the Code of the City of Fall River, Massachusetts, 2018, which chapter relates to Personnel be amended as follows:

By inserting in Section 50-302, which section relates to Salary schedules for contract personnel, in proper alphabetical order the following:

	Grade	Effective Date	Salary
Deputy Chief of EMS – Budget and Compliance	EMBC	1-1-2025	Per Contract

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL
DEC 17 2024

*Referred to the
Committee on Ordinances
and Legislation*

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

JAN 14 2025

*Passed Through
first reading*

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

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

That Chapter 14 of the Code of the City of Fall River, Massachusetts, 2018, which chapter relates to Businesses, be amended by inserting a new Article XXIII, which relates to Short-Term Rentals as follows:

§ 14-720. Purpose

To maintain the long-term residential use and quiet enjoyment of neighborhoods in Fall River, while providing limited opportunities for rental income under carefully controlled conditions.

§ 14-721. Definitions

When used in this Short-Term Rentals Article, the following terms and phrases shall have the following meanings:

CONTACT INFORMATION

Includes the telephone number, mailing address, and e-mail address.

DWELLING

A building designed for or occupied as a residence.

INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

The City of Fall River's Inspectional Services Division, as identified in §§ 2-802 through 2-806 of the Code of the City of Fall River.

LOCAL CONTACT

The individual who must respond in person, within two (2) hours of a telephone call to the Local Contact's provided telephone number, to any issue or emergency that arises during the short-term rental period.

OPERATOR

The person(s) offering a dwelling unit or bedroom for short-term rental. The operator must be a legal owner of the dwelling unit and, if a condominium, must also have the written permission of the condominium association to use the condominium as a short-term rental.

RESIDENTIAL UNIT

A residential or dwelling unit within a building designed for or occupied as a residence.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL

The rental of one or more bedrooms, along with any associated living area, within a dwelling for a duration of not more than thirty (30) consecutive days.

§ 14-722. Requirements for Short-Term Rental

A. Compliance

No Residential Unit located in the City of Fall River shall be offered as a Short-Term Rental unless in full compliance with all provisions of this Article.

B. Operator's Primary Residence

The Operator must reside in the dwelling unit being offered as a Short-Term Rental for a minimum of nine (9) months of each calendar year.

C. One Party of Renters

A residential unit offered as a Short-Term Rental shall only be rented to one party of renters at a time, and shall not be rented as separate bedrooms, beds, or spaces to separate parties.

D. Number of Guests

A residential unit offered as a Short-Term Rental shall be limited to eight (8) guests, or two (2) guests per bedroom, whichever number is fewer.

E. Annual Certification

The Operator must file with Inspectional Services a sworn certification attesting to continued compliance with the requirements of this article and all applicable public safety codes. Such certification shall be filed annually.

F. Annual Notice to Abutters

The Operator must, within thirty (30) days after registration of a Short-Term Rental, provide notice of such registration to all abutters and owners of land directly opposite any public or private street or way. Such notification shall include the contact information of the Operator and the Local Contact, and the registration number provided by Inspectional Services. This notice must thereafter be provided annually to all abutters and owners of land directly opposite any public or private street or way. Failure to provide such notice shall constitute a violation of this ordinance.

G. Posting of House Rules

The Operator must post and maintain, in a conspicuous location inside the Short-Term Rental, a sign, brochure, or similar document that contains the following information for the renter:

- (1) Contact information for the Operator and Local Contact.
- (2) Instructions for disposal of waste per the city's recycling and trash programs.
- (3) Information regarding the city's local parking regulations, including street sweeping schedules, if any, and snow emergency regulations.
- (4) The following statement: "All noises that interrupt or disturb the sleep of City residents between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays and between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Sundays are prohibited by city ordinance, § 46-7."

H. No Signage

No signage associated with the Short-Term Rental is permitted on the premises.

I. No Outstanding Violations, Fines, or Taxes

A residential unit offered as a Short-Term Rental shall not have an outstanding building, sanitary, zoning, or fire code violation, an unpaid tax, fine or lien, or an unresolved judgment, penalty, or order to take corrective action. If a violation, fine, tax, or order to take corrective action is outstanding, the Short-Term Rental use shall be terminated until the issue is resolved.

J. Three or More Violations within a Twelve-Month Period

If a property receives three (3) or more violation notices of any kind within a six-month period, the residential unit shall be ineligible to be used as a Short-Term Rental for a period of six (6) months from the third or subsequent violation.

§ 14-723. Annual Registration Requirements

Operators must annually register the Short-Term Rental with Inspectional Services prior to the occupancy of any Short-Term Rental located in the City of Fall River by submitting each of the following:

A. State Certificate

A copy of the certificate of registration from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, issued in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 62C, § 67.

B. Proof of Ownership

Proof of Operator's ownership of the residential unit being offered as a Short-Term Rental, which can be demonstrated by providing Inspectional Services with a copy of the deed.

C. Proof of Primary Residence

Proof that the Operator resides in the residential unit being offered as a Short-Term Rental for a minimum of nine (9) months of each calendar year, which can be demonstrated by providing Inspectional Services with a copy of the Operator's driver's license (or state issued identification) and a utility bill.

D. Compliance with Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Requirements

A copy of the Certificate of Compliance from the Fall River Fire Department, indicating that the property meets all smoke detector and carbon monoxide requirements, to include the requirements set forth in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 148, § 26E.

E. Annual Filing Fee

The Operator of any Short-Term Rental must pay the annual registration filing fee, as set forth in § 2-453 of the Code.

F. Affidavit of Operator

A signed Affidavit of Operator, in a form established by Inspectional Services, that contains the following information:

- (1) Name and contact information for Operator and Local Contact;
- (2) Description of the Short-Term Rental, to include the number of bedrooms/units available for rent;
- (3) Operator's sworn statement that he/she owns the residential unit being offered as a Short-Term Rental and resides in the unit for a minimum of nine (9) months of each calendar year.
- (4) Operator's sworn statement certifying that the Short-Term Rental is fully compliant with all provisions of this Short-Term Rentals Ordinance and with all federal, state, and local laws and codes.

§ 14-724. Ineligible Residential Units

The following residential dwellings or units are NOT eligible to be offered or rented as a short-term rental:

- A.** A residential unit located in a single-family residence zoning district as set forth in §§ 86-141 through 86-142 of the Code of the City of Fall River.
- B.** A residential unit that is not the operator's primary residence or is not located in a dwelling that includes the operator's primary residence.

- 11
- C. Any income restricted residential unit, including, but not limited to, a residential unit subject to an affordability covenant or subject to housing or rental assistance under federal, state or local laws.
 - D. Any residential unit that cannot be leased, subleased, or used as a short-term rental due to federal, state, or local law.
 - E. Any residential unit that is barred from short-term rental by local rule or regulations, such as a condominium or HOA rules and regulations.
 - F. Any residential unit that receives three (3) or more violation notices of any kind within a six-month period, is ineligible to be used as a Short-Term Rental for a period of six (6) months from the third or subsequent violation.
 - G. Any residential unit that has an outstanding building, sanitary, zoning, or fire code violation, an unpaid tax, fine or lien, or an unresolved judgment, penalty, or order to take corrective action is ineligible to be used as a Short-Term Rental until the issue(s) is resolved.

§ 14-725. Inspections

Inspectional Services, Health and Human Services, and/or the Fire Department may conduct inspections of the Short-Term Rental as may be required to ensure safety and compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances and local, state, and federal codes.

§ 14-726. Enforcement

Inspectional Services, Health and Human Services, and/or the Fire Department may enforce compliance with this ordinance and with all applicable fire and safety codes.

§ 14-727. Penalties

For any violation of this Short-Term Rentals ordinance, the Operator shall be subject to the general penalty set forth in § 1-15 of the Code of the City of Fall River or the noncriminal procedure set forth in §§ 2-1021 through 2-1025 of the Code.

§ 14-728. Miscellaneous

- A. Each violation of any provision of this Short-Term Rentals ordinance shall be considered a separate offense.
- B. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.
- C. Failure of an Operator to pay any fine arising from enforcement of this ordinance shall constitute a debt in favor of the City of Fall River and the City is authorized to place a lien on the property if the debt is not paid within sixty (60) days.
- D. Nothing in this section is intended to preclude the City from instituting a civil or criminal judicial action, including a demand for injunctive relief, to enforce the provisions of this nuisance ordinance.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
IN CITY COUNCIL

JAN 14 2025

*Passed Through
first reading*

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Vice President Linda M. Pereira)

WHEREAS, the general public, including those who are conducting business within the City, serving as a juror in the local courthouses or working for the City of Fall River, utilizes the Pearl Street Parking Garage and the Third Street Parking Garage, and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised regarding the structural soundness, lack of cleanliness and general safety within these parking garages, especially in the evening and early morning hours, and

WHEREAS, those who park inside these structures are required to pay a parking fee to the City of Fall River, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Finance convene with the City Administrator, the Director of City Operations and the Building Inspector to discuss structural concerns, costs of required renovations and potential methods that may be implemented to increase safety within the Pearl Street and Third Street Parking Garages.

(Filed 1-21-2025)

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Councilor Andrew J. Raposo)

WHEREAS, members of the Copicut Neighborhood have expressed concerns about the amount of litter, illegal dumping, and other activities that are negatively impacting the neighborhood, and

WHEREAS, these activities pose a threat to the Copicut reservoir and surrounding areas, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Health and Environmental Affairs convene with concerned citizens, the City Administrator, the Administrator of Community Utilities, and the Director of Community Maintenance to seek ways to reduce or stop these activities that negatively affect the environment of the community, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Safety convene with concerned citizens, the City Administrator, the City Engineer/Planner, a representative of the Fall River Police Department and the Director of Traffic and Parking to seek ways to reduce or stop the activities that negatively affect the safety of the community.

(Filed 1-22-2025)

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Vice President Linda M. Pereira)

WHEREAS, the HERO Act (An Act Honoring, Empowering, and Recognizing our Servicemembers and Veterans) was signed into law in 2024, and

WHEREAS, this legislation provides updated benefits and services to those who have served the United States of America at home and abroad, and

WHEREAS, there is a section of this new law related to property tax exemptions which must be accepted by local municipal governments, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Finance 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 these potential tax exemptions.

(Filed 1-23-2025)

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Vice President Linda M. Pereira)

WHEREAS, the City Council has been working with numerous departments to determine how tax exemptions and abatements may be applied for senior citizens, and

WHEREAS, in 2024 the Municipal Empowerment Act, proposed by the Governor, would have provided additional options for cities and towns to assist seniors who are on a fixed income, and this proposed bill was not enacted, and

WHEREAS, the cost-of-living has been rising, property taxes continue to increase due to these economic changes, and income requirements for exemptions and abatements may need amendments to reflect the current financial position for elderly residents, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Finance convene with the City Administrator, Corporation Counsel, the Director of Financial Services, and the Chairperson of the Board of Assessors to discuss alternative methods that may be utilized to adjust income limitations, tax exemptions and property abatements for senior citizens, as well as the financial effects that may result from these changes.

(Filed 1-23-2025)

**Stillman
&
Associates, P.C.**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

51 Mill Street, Suite 11
Hanover, MA 02339
T (781) 829-1077
F (781) 829-2077

Rhode Island Office
(401) 787-4241

December 31, 2024

MGL CH. 258 DEMAND

Rachelle Alves, City Clerk
City of Fall River
Clerk's Office
One Government Center, Rm. 227
Fall River, MA 02722

RECEIVED
JAN - 8 P 12:50
CITY CLERK # 23-744
FALL RIVER, MA

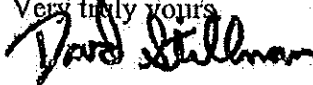
RE: Plymouth Rock Assurance a/s/o Mary Lou Gomes
Date of Loss: 10/4/2023
Claim # 657402334774

Dear Ms. Alves:

We have been retained by Plymouth Rock in a subrogation matter stemming from an incident that occurred on 10/4/2023 in Fall River, MA. A vehicle owned by Mary Lou Gomes and insured by Plymouth Rock was struck by a 2013 Chevy Equinox owned by the City of Fall River and operated by Dennis Silva (Fall River Public Works Department employee). This letter is being sent pursuant to M.G.L. ch 258.

Plymouth Rock paid \$1,743.53 for property damages caused by the negligence of the city employee and is seeking this amount. Please contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss this loss.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

David H. Stillman

City Clerk ✓ Law ✓ City Council ✓ Engineering ✓ Date 1/8/2025



RECEIVED

2024 DEC 17 A 8:54

CITY CLERK 24-90
FALL RIVER, MA

17

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

1. Claimant's name: Taylor Rego
2. Claimant's complete address: 12 Fairway Dr. Tiverton RI 02878
3. Telephone number: Home: 774-264-1811 Work: _____
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: 11/16/24 7:30am Amount of damages claimed: \$ vehicle totaled
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
Highway 195 West Mile Marker 9
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
Traveling to work on highway 195 West. At mile marker 9 the entire roadway and all three lanes of traffic were covered with debris. This debris was caused by dump truck owned by the city of fallriver plate M73568
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
Allstate insurance Address: P.O. Box 666636 Dallas TX 75266 Claim # 0775904709

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: 11/14/24Claimant's signature: Taylor Rego

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☒ DCMDate: 12/17/24



17

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2024 DEC 26 P 12:12

1. Claimant's name: Tamara Santos CITY CLERK 24-91
2. Claimant's complete address: 94 Vestal St. Fall River, MA 02720
3. Telephone number: Home: 774-660-3269 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
flat tire
5. Date and time of accident: 11/4/24 945AM Amount of damages claimed: \$ 201.46
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
94 Vestal St. Fall River, MA 02720
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
I wrote info on a separate sheet.
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:

11/4/24

Claimant's signature:

TAMARA SANTOS

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 Engineering Date: 12/26/24

Water



RECEIVED

2025 JAN 17 A 10:05

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

CITY CLERK 25-1
FALL RIVER, MA

1. Claimant's name: Khalil Jackson
2. Claimant's complete address: 107 Sunset Hill Fall River Ma 02720
3. Telephone number: Home: 706-258-8654 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Police lost Drivers license & Car Registration
5. Date and time of accident: 12-21-2024 Amount of damages claimed: \$ 80.00
6. Exact location of the Incident: (Include as much detail as possible):
Top of Pokross St Fall River Ma
7. Circumstances of the Incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
I got pulled over there was a incident where a individual ran and the officer who pulled me over pursued them & somehow lost my license & Registration
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: 1-17-2025

Claimant's signature: [Signature]

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 ☒ Police Dept Date: 1/17/25



RECEIVED

2025 JAN 23 A 9 51

CITY CLERK 25-2
FALL RIVER, MA

17

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

1. Claimant's name: Dylan S Ramos
2. Claimant's complete address: 46 Hunter St. Fall River, MA 02721
3. Telephone number: Home: 774. 461. 2114 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Auto
5. Date and time of accident: 1-20-2025 Amount of damages claimed: \$ _____
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
Hope St. Parked Unoccupied
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
The Ambulance Crashed into my Parked Car
Weather caused the Ambulance to slide into my car
It caused Damage to my whole side of my car
And Now its Not Safe to Drive.
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: 1-22-2025Claimant's signature: [Signature]

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☒ EMSDate: 1/23/25

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEETING: January 14, 2025, at 6:55 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

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

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: None

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:58 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

Sara Riley, 1679 Copicut Road – National Grid Quanipoag Crossing

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Dionne, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:04 P.M.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

Photographs of litter collection near the Copicut Reservoir,
provided by Sara Riley, 1679 Copicut Road


Clerk of Committees

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

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

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: None

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

PRIORITY MATTERS

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

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

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

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

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

- a. Debbie Pacheco

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

- b. Lisa Silva

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

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

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

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

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

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

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

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

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

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

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

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

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

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

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

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

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

5. Mayor and Five Year Financial Forecast

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

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

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

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

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

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES

Second Reading:

9. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic; Miscellaneous

Section 1

Stop intersections designated

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

Section 2

One-way streets designated

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

Section 3

Thirty-minute parking

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

Section 4

Handicapped parking removals

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

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

Approved, January 15, 2025

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

RESOLUTIONS

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

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

11. The Committee on Economic Development and Tourism meet with community arts organizations to provide 2024 year in review and plans for 2025.
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

12. The Committee on Public Safety convene with the Police Chief to discuss strategies to combat vehicular vandalism in the President Avenue and Madison Street neighborhood.
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Kilby, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS – None

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

13. Police Chief's report on licenses

Taxicab Drivers

Melissa Carvalho

Raymond Davila

Nicole McNeill

Jonathan Rodrigues

Jean P. Charlot

Justin L. Hollis

Teresa A. Menezes

Gary Teixeira

Christian R. Cunin-Choro

Angelina Magrath

Shawn Pereira

Private Livery Drivers

Bruce Domingos

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

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

Transmission Lines

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

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

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

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

City Council Minutes

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

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

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

First Reading

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

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

- 8b. Proposed Ordinance – Affordable Housing Trust

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

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

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

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

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

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

8c. Proposed Ordinance – Short Term Rentals

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

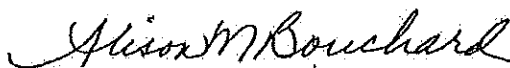
A recess was held from 7:34 p.m. to 7:36 p.m. for the purpose of signing the traffic ordinance.

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

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy. Attest:



City Clerk

