



**City of Fitchburg
Massachusetts 01420**

CITY COUNCIL

Councillors at Large

**Sally H. Cragin
Marcus L. DiNatale
Amy Green
Samantha M. Squailia
Anthony M. Zarrella**

President

Anthony M. Zarrella

Vice President

Andrew J. Van Hazinga

Ward Councillors

**Ward 1 – Bernard J. Schultz III
Ward 2 – Paul R. Beauchemin
Ward 3 – Andrew J. Couture
Ward 4 – Andrew J. Van Hazinga
Ward 5 – Marisa R. Fleming
Ward 6 – Derrick J. Cruz**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fitchburg was held at the Legislative Building at 700 Main Street and over the Zoom meeting platform and live streamed at FATV Studios, Fitchburg, on April 19, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by President Anthony Zarrella at 7:00 P.M. The meeting opened with a salute to the Flag led by Councilor Van Hazinga. The Clerk called the roll and 9 Councillors were present. Councilor Green was present remotely. Councilor Fleming was absent. Councilor Couture arrived at 7:11 P.M. Board consists of 11 members.

I. PUBLIC FORUM

Fitchburg resident Jaqueline Wehtje spoke in opposition of petition 015-22.

II. REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

There was no report of the Appointments Committee.

III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

The Committee on records reported the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2022 were correctly recorded. Report accepted and minutes adopted.

V. COMMUNICATION

His Honor the Mayor

Appointment Letter

New Appointment:

Full-Time Student Police Officers for the Fitchburg Police Department

Anslo Gilot, Jr.
Scott George

Appointment read and referred to the Appointments Committee.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

City Council as a Whole Committee

Meeting of April 13, 2022

The Council as a Whole Committee recommended the following Petitions be granted:

- 015-22. Liz Murphy, chair, NICE TASK FORCE, Director of Housing and Development, to approve the enclosed petition to accept M.G.L. Chapter 40U in its entirety.
[Petition to adopt Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40U](#)
- 016-22. Liz Murphy, chair, NICE TASK FORCE, Director of Housing and Development, To accept the enclosed petition to establish a residential and commercial Vacant Property Registry Ordinance with minimum requirements.
[DRAFT Fitchburg Vacant Property Registration Ordinance](#)

Report read and accepted. Petitions granted by roll call vote of 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Beauchemin, Couture). 10 members present. Board consists of 11 members. Petitions forwarded to the City Solicitor for Ordinance Preparation.

Finance Committee

Meeting of April 13, 2022

[Finance Committee Minutes of April 13, 2022](#)

The Finance Committee recommended the following LOAN ORDER be adopted:

- 064-22. LOAN ORDER: Approp. \$2,750,000.000 to pay the cost of demolishing the existing and constructing a new Oak Hill Water Storage Tank in the City and construction a new Oak Hill Water Storage Tank in the City as outlined in the enclosed Order.

Report read and accepted. Loan Order sent to a first reading and ordered advertised by unanimous consent 10/0. 10 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

The Finance Committee recommended the following Orders be adopted:

- 065-22. ORDERED THAT: There be and hereby is appropriated the sum of ONE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$1,400,00.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL, VEHICLE REPLACEMENT for the purchase of a new ladder truck.
- 066-22 ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, funds available for Projects in the approximate amount of \$50,000 (FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to cover the additional hours spent by the Community Development Department on ARPA Compliance and administration.

Report read and accepted. Orders adopted by unanimous consent 10/0. 10 members present. Board consists of 11 members. Orders signed by the Mayor April 20, 2022.

The Finance Committee recommended the following Order be held:

067-22. ORDERED THAT: There be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$55,000) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to BUILDING DEPARTMENT-VEHICLE REPLACEMENT for the purpose of replace and inspection vehicle.

Report read and accepted.. Order held by unanimous consent 10/0. 10 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

The Finance Committee recommended the following Resolution be adopted:

089-22. RESOLUTION: A Resolution pertaining to a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services, Drinking Water Supply Protection (DWSP) Grant Program as outlined in the enclosed Resolution.

Report read and accepted. Resolution adopted by unanimous consent 10/0. 10 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

Resolution signed by the Mayor April 20, 2022.

V. ORDERS – FINANCE

The following Orders were referred to the Finance Committee:

098-22. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services, Firefighter Safety Equipment grant in the approximate amount of \$25,000.00 (TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to purchase in-suit communication system radios to be used by the Haz-Mat team and a combustible gas meter.

099-22. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Massachusetts Office of Grant and Research grant in the approximate amount of \$2,500.00 (TWO THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to purchase a defibrillator.

100-22. ORDERED THAT: There be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of SIXTEEN THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$16,750.00) same to be charged against HEALTH PERSONAL SERVICES, WEIGHTS & MEASURES INSPECTOR and credited to HEALTH EXPENSE, WEIGHTS & MEASURES CHARGES for the purpose of covering expenses associated with the annual testing and sealing of commercial weighing and measuring devices.

101-22. ORDERED THAT: There be and hereby is appropriated the sum of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$150,000.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to POLICE PERSONAL SERVICES, OVERTIME.

102-22. ORDERED THAT: There be and hereby is appropriated the sum of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$161,865.00) same to be charged against WASTEWATER ENTREPRISE FUND, RETAINED EARNINGS and credited to the following WASTEWATER PERSONAL SERVICES accounts:

Technicians	\$10,300.00
Maintenance	\$40,861.00
Operators	\$86,006.00
Overtime	\$17,995.00
Clothing Allowance	\$ 3,500.00
Vacation/Sick Buyback	\$ 3,203.00

103-22. ORDERED THAT: there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of FIFTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$57,972.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited to the following accounts:

MAYOR, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 3,289.00
CITY AUDITOR, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 5,691.00
PURCHASING, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,610.00
ASSESSOR, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,715.00
TREASURER, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 4,959.00
HUMAN RESOURCES, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 3,915.00
CITY CLERK, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,349.00
COMM. DEV., PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,715.00
FACILITIES, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,454.00
POLICE, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 4,907.00
FIRE, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 5,481.00
BUILDING, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,819.00
PUBLIC WORKS, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 3,237.00
HEALTH, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,976.00
COUNCIL ON AGING, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,349.00
LIBRARY, PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 2,506.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, OTHER BENEFITS	\$ 3,000.00

104-22. ORDERED THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the following PERSONAL SERVICES accounts the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,830.00) same to be credited to the following accounts:

WATER ENTERPRISE FUND	\$ 2,976.00
WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND	\$ 2,715.00
AIRPORT FUND	\$ 2,141.00

VI. PETITIONS

The following Petition was referred to the Legislative Affairs Committee:

105-22 City Auditor, Calvin D. Brooks, to amend the City Code Chapter 3 Administration, Article XVII Insurance Commission, Section 3-160 Establishment; composition by removing “the Superintendent of Public Buildings” and inserting in its place “the Director of Facilities” as outlined in the enclosed petition.

The following Petition was referred to the Planning Board:

106-22. Almousa, Basemah Trustee, Owner of 339 River Street, to amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section 181.643 of the City Code, to include the following uses: Marijuana Courier and Marijuana Delivery Operator, and to allow same in the Commercial District, as outlined in the enclosed Petition.

The following Petition was referred to the Public Safety Committee:

107-22. Michael Jreige and Taleh Mammodov, River Street Auto Sales, DBA J & G Auto Sales, to petition for a class II Dealer’s License located at 369 River Street.
(Note: There is a current Dealer’s license at this location – this is for change of ownership)

The following Petition was referred to the Public Works Committee:

108-22. Councilor Fleming on behalf of the residents of Stoneybrook to have thirty-two (32) trees removed due to uprooting and erosion making sidewalks impassable.

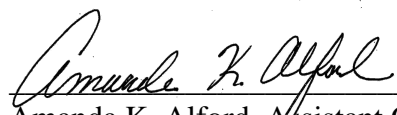
VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Zarrella announced the following:

- Councilor Schutlz is hosting a Ward 1 meeting on Monday, May 9th at 6:30PM in the Legislative Building. Mayor Stephen DiNatale and Treasurer Anne Cervantes will make presentations and answer questions from residents.
- Go Green with veterans and families event will be held at the Highland Baptist Church on Saturday, April 23rd from 10AM to 1PM.
- Ward cleanups for Wards 1 and 6 will be held on Saturday, April 23rd and Wards 2 and 3 on Saturday, April 30th from 8AM to 12PM.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.


Amanda K. Alford, Assistant City Clerk