



FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

Oct 22 2021 11:23 am

**City of Fitchburg  
Massachusetts 01420**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**Councillors at Large**

**Marcus L. DiNatale  
Amy Green  
Thomas C. Hughes  
Samantha M. Squailia  
Anthony M. Zarrella**

**President**

**Anthony M. Zarrella**

**Vice President**

**Elizabeth R. Walsh**

**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 – Elizabeth R. Walsh**

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 October 19, 2021. The meeting was called to order by President Anthony Zarrella at 7:00 P.M. The Clerk called the roll and 11 Councilors were present. The meeting opened with a salute to the Flag led by President Zarrella.

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**I. PUBLIC FORUM**

This meeting will be open to the public. Persons who wish to participate remotely in the Public Forum portion of the meeting may request a remote attendance link by contacting the City Clerk at [cityclerk@fitchburgma.gov](mailto:cityclerk@fitchburgma.gov).

There were no requests for public comment.

**II. REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

The Appointments Committee recommended the following Appointments be confirmed:

**New Appointments:**

**Member of the Fitchburg Cultural Council**

(Term to expire October 1, 2024)

Ms. Liz Murphy

**Associate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals**

**(Term to expire October 1, 2023)**

Mr. Gary N. Kirschke

Report read and accepted. Appointments confirmed by unanimous consent 11/0. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

### III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

The Committee on records reported the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2021 were correctly recorded. Report accepted and minutes adopted.

### IV. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

#### Finance Committee

#### Meeting of October 12, 2021

The Finance Committee recommended the following Orders be adopted:

- 162-21. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Community Compact Best Practices Program in the approximate amount of \$40,000.00 (FORTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is for a review and analysis of the city's staffing levels in all departments, excluding public safety and school departments.
- 177-21. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Action Grant in the approximate amount of \$173,350.00 (ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to explore ways to mitigate flooding in the Baker Brook drainage Basin.
- 178-21. ORDERED THAT: there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of TWO HUNDRED TWELVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$212,000.00) same to be transferred from RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, CAPITAL EXPENSES and credited to POLICE, CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, VEHICLE REPLACEMENT for the purpose of replacing four police vehicles.
- 179-21. 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 \$500,000.00 (FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to increase Covid-19 testing, vaccination, and contact tracing activities.

Report read and accepted. Orders adopted by unanimous consent 11/0. 11 members present.

Board consists of 11 members.

Orders signed by the Mayor October 20, 2022.

**Legislative Affairs Committee**  
**Meeting of October 12, 2021**

The Legislative Affairs Committee recommended to amend the Petition to strike Rule 3.5 and replace with language outlined in the enclosed minutes and amend Rule 3.6 to add "To withdraw the pending motion pursuant to Rule 3.5, and grant as amended:

165-21. Councilors Marcus DiNatale, Marisa Fleming, and Bernard Shultz, to amend City Council rule 3.5 by removing "by unanimous consent" and inserting in its place "by simple majority vote of the City Council which shall be recorded by roll call".

Report read and accepted. Petition amended to strike Rule 3.5 and replace with language outlined in the enclosed minutes and amend Rule 3.6 to add "To withdraw the pending motion pursuant to Rule 3.5".

Petition granted by roll call vote of 11 in favor and 0 opposed. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

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The Legislative Affairs Committee recommended to amend the Petition to add sections 3.19, 3.20 and 3.21 re: speaking opportunities, and grant as amended:

169-21 Councilors Anthony Zarrella and Bernard Schultz, to amend the City Council Rules as outlined in the enclosed Petition.

A motion to amend the petition to strike rules 3.20 and 3.21 was approved by a vote of 10/1 (Squailia)

A motion to grant as amended was adopted by roll call vote of 11 in favor and 1 opposed (Squailia). 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

Link to the Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes:

[https://ma-fitchburg.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/8860/Legislative-Affairs-Minutes\\_October-12-2021](https://ma-fitchburg.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/8860/Legislative-Affairs-Minutes_October-12-2021)

Final Approved Council Rules:

<https://ma-fitchburg.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/8882/APPROVED-Council-Rules-10-19-2021>

## **V. PUBLIC HEARING**

185-21. Game on Way, to install four 1,000 gallon propane tanks above ground and four 1,000 gallon propane tanks underground at 200 Game on Way.

President Zarrella declared the hearing open.

Present to represent Game on Way was Peter Sangermano. Councilors asked various questions regarding the safety of the local constituents, the inspection process, and general safety procedures. Beth Romano of 161 Victoria Lane requested the residents in the area be consulted on any developments concerning the site.

Hearing declared closed.

Petition granted by roll call vote of 11 in favor and 0 opposed. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

## **VI. ORDER-OTHER**

Motion to take the following Order under Suspension of the rules passed by roll call vote of 11 in favor and 0 opposed. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

186-21. ORDER: Authorizing the City Clerk to notify the voters of the Municipal Election to be held on November 2, 2021.

Link to view Order:

<https://ma-fitchburg.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/8881/186-21>

Order adopted under Suspension of the Rules by roll call vote and approved by unanimous consent of 11 in favor and 0 opposed. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

Order signed by the Mayor October 20, 2021.

## **VII. ORDINANCE**

180-21. AN ORDINANCE: Amending the City Code by inserting the words “and the property owner as identified in the city assessor’s records” at the end of the definition of PERMIT HOLDER in s 140-2 and at the end of s140-3 C1.

And further amended by inserting a new s140-11 F as follows:

S140-11 F. Failure to pay amounts due may in the discretion of the Chief become a municipal charges lien and will be collected as such in the ordinary course.

(Reference Petition #020-21)

Ordinance was sent to a third and final reading and adopted to be enrolled and ordained by roll call vote of 11 in favor and 0 opposed. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

Ordinance signed by the Mayor October 20, 2021.

## **VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Zarrella stated the following Announcements:

On Monday, 10/25/21, a Ward 1 Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the Legislative Building, 700 Main Street to be hosted by Fitchburg Ward 1 City Councilor Bernie Schultz. Tom Skwierawski, Fitchburg Executive Director of Planning and Community Development, and Nick Erickson, DPW Commissioner will make presentations and answer questions from the audience.

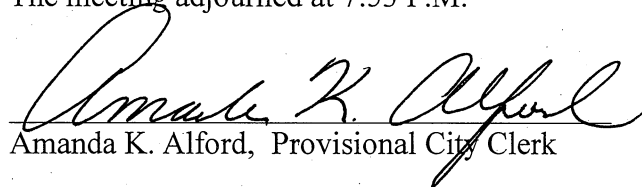
The fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry will visit Forest Hill Cemetery Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. as part of a tribute to veterans, in particular, soldiers that fought at Ball’s Bluff in 1861. Their salute will be followed by a walking tour in which volunteers and veterans will tell the stories of the individual men who fought. Researchers Sally Cragin and Kathy Flynn are creating the narrative which will be read. If you would like to be a part of this event, email [sallycragin@verizon.net](mailto:sallycragin@verizon.net). No experience needed, just enthusiasm for our veterans.

Early Vote by Mail is available for the upcoming Municipal Election. The deadline to request an early vote by mail ballot is Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office or on the City of Fitchburg's website.

### **IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.



Amanda K. Alford, Provisional City Clerk