



WELCOME TO THE FITCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

March 15, 2022

**Fitchburg Legislative Building
700 Main Street
Fitchburg MA 01420**

7:00 PM

This meeting can also be viewed live on FATV. Go to www.fatv.org/watch-fatv for more information on accessing this meeting.

This is intended to help you understand the meeting format and assist you with the rules of the Council as they pertain to your participation.

All meetings of the Fitchburg City council are open to the public. This does not mean that the public participates in all aspects of the meeting. It simply means that the meeting itself, including all discussions and votes, is open for public view.

Executive Session

The only time a Council meeting can be closed to the public is when the Council votes for Executive Session in order to discuss sensitive matters in private, such as pending litigation. Any votes taken however, must be taken in open session.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK DURING A COUNCIL MEETING:

Public Forum

The Public Forum occurs immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance. The President will ask if anyone in the audience wishes to speak on any matter appearing on the Agenda. If you wish to address the Council, you must stand and be recognized and follow these rules before speaking:

1. State your name and address.
2. Approach the center table and either stand or sit. This allows you to be seen and heard clearly by everyone in attendance.
3. You may speak only on items appearing on the agenda for no more than (2) minutes. Copies of the agenda are available on the center table prior to the meeting.
4. Please state the petition, order, ordinance, or resolution number to which you refer.

Public Hearings

Public hearings are held on various issues such as Special Permits and Zoning changes. The same rules apply with the following exceptions:

1. You must stand and be recognized either "in favor" or "in opposition" when asked by the Council President.
2. You need not refer to the petition number.

If you have any questions or comments either before or after the meeting, any Councillor would be happy to assist you.

Thank you for your interest!

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.

II. REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Re-Appointments:

Fitchburg Historical Commission

(Term to expire February 1, 2025)

Ellen DiGeronimo

(Term to expire February 1, 2025)

Donald Ostrowski

New Appointments:

Fitchburg Disability Commission

(Term to expire March 1, 2025)

Ms. Marshal D. Haneisen

Full-Time Police Officers

Fitchburg Police Department

Esteban Bonilla-Perezhannon Burke

Shannon Burke

III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECORDS

V. COMMUNICATION

His Honor the Mayor

Promotion Letter

1. Lieutenant Andrew Doughty to permanent Fire Captain.
2. Private Kyle Forrest to permanent Fire Lieutenant.
3. Private Paul Duquette to permanent Fire Lieutenant.
4. Lieutenant Ryan Cringan to permanent Captain
5. Michael Smith to permanent Lieutenant.

IV. ANNUAL REPORT

63-22. ANNUAL REPORT: Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority for Fiscal Year 2021 and the Audited Financials for Fiscal Year 2020.

[Memo to City Council](#)

[FRA Annual Report - Fiscal Year 2021](#)

[FRA Audited Financials](#)

V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee Meeting of March 8, 2022

[Finance Committee Minutes of March-8-2022](#)

030-22. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts grant in the approximate amount of \$30,000.00 (THIRTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to provide outreach services to the homeless population in the city.
(Be Adopted)

031-22. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditures of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Housing and Community Development grant in the approximate amount of \$100,000.00 (ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to provide outreach services to the homeless population in the city.
(Be Adopted)

Community Development Block Grant Year 48

(Be Adopted)

[CDBG Year 48](#)

VI. ORDERS – FINANCE

035-22. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive office of Public Safety and Security, SAFE grant in the approximate amount of \$3,255.00 (THREE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to educate seniors in the community regarding fire and life safety topics.

036-22. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive office of Public Safety and Security, SAFE grant in the approximate amount of \$6,275.00 (SIX THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS)) for the purpose of said grant, which is to continue to teach fire safety to students.

037-22. ORDERED THAT: There be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of FIFTEEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$15,552.00) same to be transferred from VETERANS PERSONAL SERVICES, CLERICAL and credited to VETERANS EXPENSES, TEMPORARY PERSONAL SERVICES.

VII. ORDERS – AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

- 038-22. 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 \$137,600.00 (ON HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to pay for a second outreach worker as well as purchase necessary supplies.
- 039-22. 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 \$658,000.00 (SIX HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to update playgrounds at Parkhill and Mama Fitz Park.
- 040-22. 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 \$275,000.00 (TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to expand the original design for Green Acres to include a medical office and reception area.
- 041-22. 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 \$125,000.00 (ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to expand the Wallace Tower Apartments to include more space for community activities and a medical office and reception area.
- 042-22. 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 \$413,900.00 (FOUR HUNDRED THIRTEEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to complete the buildout of community space, offices and infrastructure in The Center for Change.
- 043-22. 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 \$6,500,000.00 (SIX MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND, AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to create a 21st century library and the Fitchburg Public Library.
- 044-22. 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 \$250,000.00 (TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to activate vacant store fronts and remove blight by creating a revolving loan pool to provide loan funds to Main St. building owners.
- 045-22. 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 \$450,000.00 (FOUR HUNDRED, FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to close the funding gap for the Fitchburg Arts Community housing development.

- 046-22. 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 \$250,000.00 (TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to create a rental repair revolving loan fund for landlords of small properties.
- 047-22. 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 \$62,500.00 (SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to support CDP's existing loan fund form ARPAQ-eligible investments in local businesses.
- 048-22. 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 \$90,000.00 (NINETY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to develop a youth Boxing Activity Center on Broad Street in downtown Fitchburg.
- 049-22. 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 \$475,000.00 (FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to revitalize four (4) vacant commercial storefronts located at 689-701 Main St. into small business incubators.
- 050-22. 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 \$250,000.00 (TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to provide no-interest and low-interest loans at favorable terms to help developers and businesses with construction, infrastructure and capital costs.
- 051-22. 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 \$1,078,000.00 (ONE MILLION, SEVENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is continue the improvements to reduce flooding along Baker Brook to facilitate better vehicular and pedestrian access throughout John Fitch Highway corridor.
- 052-22. 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 \$3, 750,000.00 (THREE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to upgrade all water mains on Boulder Dr., as well as those in the intersecting streets between Boulder Dr. and Main St.

- 053-22. 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 \$235,000.00 (TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100) for the purpose of said grant, which is to design water, sewer, and drainage upgrades at the intersection of North St., Pearl Hill Rd., and John Fitch Highway.

VIII. ORDERS-OTHER

- 054-22. WHEREAS, a third amendment is necessary in order to allow the Town of Westminster to transfer discharge from the Route 31 sewer line to the Route 2A sewer line and the Parties entered into the Agreement and wish to continue into good faith negotiations relative to the terms of a new Intermunicipal Agreement after receipt of certain studies that remain outstanding and input from the Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency so as to best accommodate increased flow from Westminster.

[Third Amendment to Intermunicipal Agreement](#)

IX. ORDINANCE

- 055-22. AN ORDINANCE: Amending Section 169-25 of the City Code, re: No Parking, Ellis Street, Kingsbury Street, Drury Street as outlined in the enclosed Ordinance. (Reference Petition 166-21)

[Ordinance](#)

X. RESOLUTION

- 056-22. RESOLUTION: Providing for the Amendment to the Fitchburg Downtown Urban Revitalization and Development Plan as outlined in the enclosed Resolution:

[Resolution](#)

XI. PETITIONS

- 057-22. Tom Skwierawski, Executive Director of Community Development & Planning, to request the City Council to declare the following Parcel as surplus property:
491 Main Street, Assessor's Map 43/8/0
(City Property Committee)
- 058-22. Sgt. Daniel Boudreau, FPD Traffic Unit, to petition for "No Parking at All Times" on Industrial Road and Stevens Road, both sides.
(Public Safety Committee)
- 059-22. Sgt. Daniel Boudreau, FPD Traffic Unit, to petition for a "No Parking Tow Zone" on both sides of Roper Road from Industrial Road to Westminster Line.
(Public Safety Committee)
- 060-22. Sgt. Daniel Boudreau, FPD Traffic Unit, to petition for "No Parking During Game On Functions Tow Zone" entire length, both sides of Victoria Lane.
(Public Safety Committee)

- 061-22. Councilors Marcus DiNatale and Paul Beauchemin, on behalf of Elmer Eubanks, to repair a damaged berm in front of 427 Oak Hill Road that is now causing water runoff onto the property.
(Public Works Committee)
- 062-22. Councilor Paul Beauchemin, to install a berm from the corner of Stanley Street to 80 Pershing Street on both sides of the road to mitigate water runoff.
(Public Works Committee)

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 5, 2022 - 7:00 PM