



CITY OF WORCESTER

CITY COUNCIL

WEEKLY SUMMARY

9/16/2024 - 9/22/2024



City Council Meeting - Joint Agenda 9/17/2024

- Link to Full Agenda: <https://www.worcesterma.gov/agendas-minutes/city-council/2024/20240917.htm>
- Link to Recorded Meeting: <https://play.champds.com/worcesterma/event/2417>

INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION REGARDING WPI'S PURCHASE OF HOTELS

ITEM 9.39 A: TRANSMITTING INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE'S PURCHASING OF HAMPTON INN & SUITES AT 65 PRESCOTT ST. AND COURTYARD MARRIOTT AT 72 GROVE ST.

MAYOR PETTY FIRST REQUESTED THAT THE CITY MANAGER CONSIDER POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN WPI AND THE WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS, FUTURE INVESTMENTS WPI COULD MAKE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, THE IMPACT OF LOSING TWO HOTELS ON THE CITY'S CAPACITY TO ACCOMMODATE VISITORS, AND THE POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF THE WAGE THEFT ORDINANCE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH WPI.

COUNCILOR MERO-CARLSON FOLLOWED BY ASKING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENSURE THAT TAXATION NUMBERS ASSOCIATED WITH WPI'S RECENT PROPERTY PURCHASES AT 65 PRESCOTT ST. AND 72 GROVE ST. ACCURATELY REFLECT THEIR POST-PURCHASE VALUES. COUNCILOR BERGMAN THEN CALLED FOR THE CITY MANAGER TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON HOW THE CITY COULD PROTECT ITSELF FROM MORE PROPERTIES BEING TAKEN OFF THE TAX ROLLS BY COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES. COUNCILOR TOOMEY ASKED THE CITY MANAGER TO REVIEW HOW THE DOVER AMENDMENT APPLIES TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.

COUNCILOR KING ADDED A MOTION, URGING THE CITY MANAGER TO MOVE FORWARD WITH CREATING A TASK FORCE TO ASSIST WITH PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOTS). THROUGHOUT THE DISCUSSION, COUNCILORS RUSSELL, COLORIO, AND HAXHIAJ SHARED THEIR PERSPECTIVES. THE CITY MANAGER AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ADDRESSED QUESTIONS POSED BY COUNCILOR KING, AND COUNCILOR OJEDA ALSO SPOKE ON THE ISSUE, FOLLOWED BY THE CITY MANAGER RESPONDING TO HIS INQUIRIES.

THE ITEM WAS ULTIMATELY REFERRED TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AFTER A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 11 YEAS AND 0 NAYS.

**ITEM TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:
SEPTEMBER 24TH AT 5 PM**

REPORT OF WPS FACILITIES - WRRB

ITEM 13A: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION UPON THE COMMUNICATION OF PAUL MATTHEWS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO OF THE WORCESTER REGIONAL RESEARCH BUREAU, TRANSMITTING, "BUILDING THE FUTURE: INVESTING IN WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FACILITIES," AND THE ONLINE VISUALIZATION, "UNDERSTANDING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS." RECOMMEND COMMUNICATION BE PLACED ON FILE

THE WORCESTER REGIONAL RESEARCH BUREAU (WRRB) HAS SUBMITTED TWO KEY RESOURCES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION: A REPORT TITLED *BUILDING THE FUTURE: INVESTING IN WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FACILITIES*, WHICH OUTLINES THE CONDITION OF WPS FACILITIES AND THE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THEM, AND AN INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD THAT PROVIDES SCHOOL PROFILES AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA. THE WRRB REQUESTS THAT THESE RESOURCES BE ENTERED INTO THE PUBLIC RECORD AND IS AVAILABLE TO PRESENT FINDINGS OR BRIEF THE CITY COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES.

MAYOR PETTY READ THE ITEM AND MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEMS #13A CC AND #13B CC. ACCEPTED ON A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 11 YEAS AND 0 NAYS

CITY'S EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT TRANSITIONING FROM SMART911 TO RAPIDSOS

ITEM 14A: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY UPON THE COMMUNICATION OF THE CITY MANAGER TRANSMITTING INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO THE CITY'S TRANSITION FROM SMART911 TO RAPIDSOS: RECOMMEND COMMUNICATION BE PLACED ON FILE.

THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT WILL TRANSITION FROM SMART911 TO RAPIDSOS ON OCTOBER 1, 2024, TO IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION AND RESPONSE DURING EMERGENCIES. THIS NEW SYSTEM OFFERS REAL-TIME LOCATION TRACKING AND HEALTH PROFILES, ACCESSIBLE THROUGH A FREE RAPIDSOS PROFILE OR APPLE'S MEDICAL ID ON IPHONES. THE CHANGE AIMS TO ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF EMERGENCY RESPONSES BY PROVIDING TELECOMMUNICATORS WITH BETTER INFORMATION AND TOOLS.

MAYOR PETTY READ THE ITEM AND MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEMS #14A CC THROUGH 14C CC. ACCEPTED ON A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 11 YEAS AND 0 NAYS



Standing Committee Meetings



URBAN TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT: MET ON WEDNESDAY, 9/17/2024

- CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR KHRYSTIAN E. KING** - VICE CHAIRMAN / AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR GEORGE J. RUSSELL** - DISTRICT 3 CITY COUNCILOR
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **COUNCILOR MORRIS A. BERGMAN** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- LINK TO AGENDA: [HTTPS://WWW.WORCESTERMA.GOV/AGENDAS-MINUTES/STANDING-COMMITTEES/URBAN-TECHNOLOGIES-INNOVATION-ENVIRONMENT/2024/20240917.HTM](https://www.worcesterma.gov/agendas-minutes/standing-committees/urban-technologies-innovation-environment/2024/20240917.htm)
- LINK TO RECORDED MEETING: [HTTPS://PLAY.CHAMPDS.COM/WORCESTERMA/EVENT/2416](https://play.champds.com/worcesterma/event/2416)



TRAFFIC AND PARKING: MET ON WEDNESDAY, 9/18/2024

- CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR DONNA COLORIO** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR KHRYSTIAN E. KING** - VICE CHAIRMAN / AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **COUNCILOR THU NGUYEN** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- LINK TO AGENDA: [HTTPS://WWW.WORCESTERMA.GOV/AGENDAS-MINUTES/STANDING-COMMITTEES/TRAFFIC-PARKING/2024/20240918.HTM](https://www.worcesterma.gov/agendas-minutes/standing-committees/traffic-parking/2024/20240918.htm)
- LINK TO RECORDED MEETING: [HTTPS://PLAY.CHAMPDS.COM/WORCESTERMA/EVENT/2420](https://play.champds.com/worcesterma/event/2420)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- 9/24 @ 5:00 P.M. - **STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
 - @ CITY HALL, LEVI LINCOLN CHAMBER, 3RD FLOOR, 455 MAIN STREET
 - LINK TO AGENDA: [HTTPS://WWW.WORCESTERMA.GOV/CITY-CLERK/PUBLIC-AGENCY-MEETINGS/STANDING-COMMITTEE-ON-ECONOMIC-DEVELOPMENT18](https://www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-agency-meetings/standing-committee-on-economic-development18)
- 9/24 @ 6:30 P.M. - **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
 - @ CITY HALL, ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER, 3RD FLOOR, 455 MAIN STREET
 - LINK TO AGENDA: [HTTPS://WWW.WORCESTERMA.GOV/AGENDAS-MINUTES/CITY-COUNCIL/2024/20240924.HTM](https://www.worcesterma.gov/agendas-minutes/city-council/2024/20240924.htm)
- 9/25 @ 5:00 P.M. - **STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERAN'S MEMORIALS, PARKS AND RECREATION**
 - @ CITY HALL, ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER, 3RD FLOOR, 455 MAIN STREET
 - LINK TO AGENDA: [HTTPS://WWW.WORCESTERMA.GOV/AGENDAS-MINUTES/STANDING-COMMITTEES/VETERANS-MEMORIALS-PARKS-RECREATION/2024/20240925.HTM](https://www.worcesterma.gov/agendas-minutes/standing-committees/veterans-memorials-parks-recreation/2024/20240925.htm)



Events



MONTVALE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY MEETING

ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH, DISTRICT 1 CITY COUNCILOR JENNY PACILLO, MET WITH THE RESIDENTS OF THE MONTVALE NEIGHBORHOOD TO DISCUSS THE RECENT TRAFFIC STUDY THAT HAD CONCLUDED FOR THE AREA. THE COUNCILOR WAS JOINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC AND MOBILITY COMMISSIONER, STEPHEN ROLLE AND TODD KIRrane TO SHARE THE DATA FROM THE STUDY. A SURVEY WILL BE MAILED TO RESIDENTS SOON TO GATHER FEEDBACK REGARDING POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS FOR THE ISSUES THE NEIGHBORHOOD HAS BEEN FACING.



POET HILL NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON, HAD COORDINATED A NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP EVENT IN THE POET HILL NEIGHBORHOOD. THE COUNCILOR, ALONG WITH RESIDENTS, THE CITY MANAGER'S QUALITY OF LIFE TEAM AND CALLAHAN CONSTRUCTION, WAS ABLE TO COLLECT FOUR PICK-UP TRUCKLOADS WORTH OF LITTER THROUGHOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD. GREAT JOB TO ALL THAT WERE ABLE TO ATTEND!



THIS WEEK'S *COMMUNITY MEETINGS*

- **WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 25 -**

- **WHITTIER TERRACE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 4:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: WHITTIER TERRACE APTS, 86 AUSTIN STREET

- **QUINSIGAMOND VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: THE JOURNEY CHURCH, 46 GREENWOOD STREET

- **THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 26 -**

- **STRATTON HILL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 5:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: 161 W. MOUNTAIN STREET, ADAMS HOUSE COMMUNITY ROOM

- **COLUMBUS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: STEARNS TAVERN, 72 COES STREET

- **SHREWSBURY STREET NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 7:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: ALTA ON THE ROW, COMMUNITY ROOM, 22 MT. CARMEL WAY

- **MONDAY - SEPTEMBER 30 -**

- **ELM PARK NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 4:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL, LIBRARY ROOM, 10 IRVING STREET

- **GREEN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:30 P.M.
 - WHERE: ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH, 228 LINCOLN STREET