

VOTES TAKEN  
METHUEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.

Organizational Business - Accept 2025 City Council Meeting Calendar **amended and approved Unanimous vote**

Reading and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meetings: November 18, 2024, Regular Meeting **Approved Unanimous vote**

Consideration of Appointments None

Public Service:

- A) Grants: None
- B) Licenses: None
- C) Contract(s):

C-25-50 Carbon Activated Corporation \$1.95 per pound (\$230K available) Granular Activated Carbon (Requested by the Director of DPW, to be funded through the FY25 Enterprise Fund) **Approved Unanimous vote**

C-25-51 Woodard and Curran \$990,000.00 Arlington neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements -Phase 1 (Requested by the Acting Mayor and Director of DPW, to be funded through ARPA) **Approved Unanimous vote**

C-25-52 Woodard and Curran \$550,000.00 Construction Services for Lowell St. Drainage Improvement Project (Requested by the Acting Mayor and Director of DPW, to be funded through ARPA) **Approved Unanimous vote**

D) Vote Tax Classifications

1. Whether the City will authorize a residential exemption of up to 35% of the average assessed valuation of residential property. **Vote: Unanimous No**
2. Whether the City will authorize an exemption of up to 25% for all property that may be classified as Class II - Open Space **Vote: Unanimous No**
3. Whether the City will authorize a partial tax exemption to all qualifying small commercial properties. **Vote: 6 no, 2 Yes (Clr. Pesce, Clr. Soto)**
4. To determine the percentage of the Tax Levy to be borne by each class of property in Fiscal Year 2025. **Approved maximum shift Vote: Unanimous**

Unfinished Business

Resolutions:

TR-24-74 – Resolution Approving Historic Preservation Restriction on 2 Cooper Lane, Methuen, and Authorizing Acting Mayor to Execute Recordable Instrument Confirming

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Restriction (*Sponsored by the Acting Mayor and the Director of Economic and Community Development*) Approved Unanimous vote

TR-24-75 – Resolution Authorizing the Order of Taking for Liam’s Lane (*Per Recommendation of the Community Development Board*) Approved Unanimous vote

TR-24-76 - Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of a \$39,110.86 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Fiscal Year 2025 Federal Municipal Road Safety Grant (*Requested by the Acting Mayor and Chief of Police*) Approved Unanimous vote

TR-24-77 - Resolution Ratifying the General Court’s Requested Amendment to HR4895, “An Act Authorizing Raising the Maximum Retirement Age of Special Police Officers in the City of Methuen to 70 Years Old” (*Requested by the Acting Mayor and Chief of Police*) Approved Unanimous vote

Ordinance(s):

TO-24-11 An Ordinance Amending the Wage and Salary Classification Plan, Unaffiliated, to add the new position of HR Generalist (*Requested by Mayor and Director of Human Resources*) (remove from the table) Approved Unanimous vote

TO-24-12 An Ordinance Authorizing the Establishment of the Searles Estate Commission (*Sponsored by Councilor Soto, Co-Sponsored by Councilor Valley and Councilor Marsan*) (Remove from the table) Referral to Community Development Unanimous vote

TO-24-13 Ordinance Authorizing the Establishment of the Searle Estate Revolving Fund (*Sponsored by Councilor Soto, Co-Sponsored by Councilor Valley and Councilor Marsan*) (Remove from the table) Referral to Finance Committee Unanimous vote

TO-24-14 – Commissioners of the Searles Estate herein incorporated with Ordinance #XXX Ordinance Authorizing the Establishment of The Searles Estate Commission and Ordinance # XXX Ordinance Authorizing the Establishment of The Searles Estate Revolving Fund Composition, Mode of Appointment, Term of Office (*Sponsored by Councilor Soto, Co-Sponsored by Councilor Valley and Councilor Marsan*)(Remove from the table) **Item remains tabled**

TO-24-16 An Ordinance Amending the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to Add a New Section V-X Multi-Family Overlay District (MFOD) as Required by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, Section 3A (MBTA Communities Act) (remove from the table)  
Approved Vote: 6 yes, 1 no (Clr. Pesce) (Clr. Saffie was out of the room)

New Business:

Resolutions:

TR-24-79 Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of \$4,450 from the Workplace Safety and Education Grant Program (*Requested by the Acting Mayor and Director of DPW*) Approved Unanimous vote

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TR-24-80 Resolution Authorizing Transfer \$545,106 from the General Fund Employee Benefits other expenses budget line, to various General Fund Personal Services budget to fund the various agreed upon Collective Bargaining Agreements (Requested by the CAFO) **Approved Unanimous vote**

TR-24-81 Resolution Authorizing Transfer \$8,600 from the Enterprise Fund Employee Benefits budget line, to the Enterprise Fund Personal Services budget line to fund the agreed upon Middle Management Collective Bargaining Agreement (Requested by the CAFO) **Approved Unanimous vote**

TR-24-82 Resolution Authorizing Transfer \$140,000 from Free Cash, to be transferred to Accounting Expenses to fund an Operational Audit of the School Department, pending completion of state certification (Requested by the Acting Mayor) **Tabled Unanimous vote**

TR-24-83 Resolution to Repurpose \$1,010,601 of Approved Eligible ARPA Funding between Multiple Projects (Requested by the Acting Mayor and CAFO) **Approved Vote: 7 yes, 1 no (Clr. DiZoglio)**

Ordinances: None