



**January 15, 2025**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Boston was held in the Christopher A. Iannella Chamber, City Hall on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 12:07 PM.

President Louijeune in the Chair. Absent Councilors Breadon, Fernandes Anderson, and Pepén.

Father Paolo Cumin, Sacred Heart Parish, delivered the invocation and the meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

The Chair moved to adopt the minutes from the January 8, 2025 meeting. Motion Prevailed.

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- 0236** Message and order for your approval a new home rule petition to the General Court, “Petition for a Special Law Re: An Act Relative to Residential Tax Relief in the City of Boston.  
Referred to the Committee on Government Operations.
- 0237** Message and order for your approval an Order to reduce the FY25 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by One Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$128,700.00) to provide funding for the Boston Police Department for the FY25 increases contains within the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Boston and the Boston Police Detective Benevolent Society (BPDBS)-Forensic Group.  
Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.
- 0238** Message and order for a supplemental appropriation Order for the FY25 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by One Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$128,700.00) to cover the FY25 cost items contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the City of Boston and the Boston Police Detective Benevolent Society (BPDBS)- Forensic Group. The terms of the contracts are October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2027. The major provisions of the contract include a market adjustment to base wages in FY25, as well as base wage increase of 2% to be given in January 2026 and 2027 and flat amounts of \$900 and \$800 to be added to annual salaries in January 2026 and 2027, after the percent increases.  
Filed in the Office of the City Clerk on January 13, 2025.  
Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.
- 0239** Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) in the form of a grant, for the FY25 Training Academy Earmark, awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services to be administered by the Fire Department. The grant will fund the purchase of equipment and supplies, and to fund training initiatives for the Boston Fire Training Academy to ensure the department remains current in the firefighting services.  
Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Criminal Justice.

- 0240** Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend for the benefit of the City of Boston, a donation from the National Nuclear Security Administration's Office of Radiological Security (ORS) of 2024 GMC Sierra 4WD Crew Cab Pickup valued at Sixty Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty-Three Dollars (\$60,233.00). The truck will be used as a Radiological Security Awareness and Response (RSAR) support truck and will allow the Boston Police Department to continue the sustainment of RSAR training programs.  
Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Criminal Justice.
- 0241** Message and order temporarily extending Urban Renewal Plans in the City of Boston until March 31, 2027 or passage of a proposed relevant Home Rule Petition.  
Referred to the Committee on Planning, Development & Transportation.
- 0242** Notice was received from the Mayor of the appointment of Midori Morikawa, as a member of the Boston School Committee Nominating Panel, effective immediately.  
Placed on file.
- 0243** Communication was received from Councilor Flynn regarding discrepancies in the 2024 Boston Detainer Requests.  
Placed on file.
- 0244** Communication was received from Councilor Flynn regarding the Boston Crime Lab Director.  
Placed on file.
- 0245** Communication was received from Councilor Breadon regarding her absence from the City Council meeting on January 15, 2025.  
Placed on file.
- 0246** Communication was received from Councilor Breadon regarding the passage of Chapter 360 of the Acts of 2024, An Act increasing the maximum amount of penalties which may be imposed for violations of ordinances in the City of Boston.  
Placed on file.
- 0247** Communication was received from Kenzie Bok, Administrator of the Boston Housing Authority regarding an update on the elevator situation at several Boston Housing sites.  
Placed on file.
- 0248** Notice was received from the City Clerk in accordance with Chapter 6 of the Ordinances of 1979 re: action taken by the Mayor on papers acted upon by the City Council at its meeting of December 4, 2024.  
Placed on file.
- 0112** Message and order for your approval an Order to reduce the FY25 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by Six Million Six Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$6,637,486.00) to provide funding for the Boston Public Schools (BPS) for the FY25 impact of increases contained with the collective bargaining agreement between the Transdev and its bus drivers.  
Remains in the Committee on Ways and Means.

**0113** Message and order for a supplemental appropriation Order for the FY25 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by Six Million Six Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$6,637,486.00) to cover the impact of FY25 cost items contained within the Collective Bargaining agreement between Transdev and its bus drivers on the City's transportation contract with the vendor, Transdev. The term of the contract is July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028. The major provisions of the contract include a market rate adjustment, an increase for regular wages and an increase in minimum weekly hours from 31 to 35. Filed in the Office of the City Clerk on January 6, 2025. Remains in the Committee on Ways and Means.

Councilor Worrell, on behalf of the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following:

**0114** On the message and order, referred on January 8, 2025, Docket #0114, to reduce the FY25 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by Four Hundred Twenty One Thousand Three Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$421,318.00) to provide funding for the Mayor's Office of Housing for the FY25 increases contained within the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Boston and SEIU Local 888, Mayor's Office of Housing, the committee submitted a report recommending that the order ought to pass.

The report was accepted; the order was passed; yeas 10.

**0115** On the message and order, referred on January 8, 2025, Docket #0115, for a supplemental appropriation for the Mayor's Office of Housing for FY25 in the amount of Four Hundred Twenty-One Thousand Three Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$421,318.00) to cover the FY25 cost contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the City of Boston and SEIU, Local 888 Mayor's Office of Housing. The terms of the contracts are October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2027. The major provisions of the contracts include base wage increases of 2% to be given in January of each fiscal year of the contract term and flat amounts of \$250.00, \$500.00, \$900.00, and \$800.00 to be added to annual salaries in January of each fiscal year, the committee submitted a report recommending that the order ought to pass.

The report was accepted; the order was passed; yeas 10.

Councilor Weber, on behalf of the Committee on Labor and Workforce Development, submitted the following:

**0116** On the message and order, referred on January 8, 2025, Docket #0116, authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Eight Hundred Sixty Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$860,169.70) in the form of a grant for the One Stop Career Center grant, awarded by MassHire Department of Career Services to be administered by the Office of Workforce Development. The grant will fund comprehensive career services and resources to unemployed job seekers such as reviewing job postings, career counseling and job coaching, education/skills training, and job placement assistance.

The report was accepted; the order was passed; yeas 10.

Councilor Worrell, on behalf of the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following:

- 0108** On the message and order, referred on December 4, 2024, for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of One Hundred Ten Million Dollars (\$110,000,000.00) for purposes of funding the Housing Accelerator Program. The expenditures related to the program are one-time in nature and are assumed to be non-recurring costs of the City, therefore, are appropriate to be funded with non-recurring revenue. Filed in the Office of the City Clerk on December 2, 2024. Councilor Mejia moved to postpone the vote until the January 29, 2025 meeting. Motion failed; yeas 2 (Flynn, Murphy), nays 7, present 1 (Mejia). The report was accepted; the order was passed; yeas 10.
- 0249** **Councilor Worrell, Coletta Zapata, Louijeune, Durkan, Flynn, Mejia, Murphy, Santana and Weber offered the following:** Ordinance amending City of Boston Code 18-1.2B to make certificates of birth and death free. On motion of Councilor Worrell, Rule 12 was invoked to include Councilors Coletta Zapata and Louijeune as original co-sponsors. Referred to the Committee on Government Operations.
- 0250** **Councilor Durkan, Coletta Zapata, Santana, Weber, Worrell and Louijeune offered the following:** Order for a hearing regarding the feasibility and impact of a Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax in Boston. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.
- 0251** **Councilor Durkan, Santana, Louijeune, Coletta Zapata, Mejia, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to investigate the use, impact, and potential ban of algorithmic price setting in the Boston rental housing market. On motion of Councilor Durkan, Rule 12 was invoked to include Councilors Santana and Louijeune as original co-sponsors. Referred to the Committee on Housing and Community Development.
- 0252** **Councilor Flynn, Durkan, Coletta Zapata, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss expanding the urban tree canopy in District 2. Referred to the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks.
- 0253** **Councilor Flynn, Murphy, Coletta Zapata, Durkan, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss the goals and priorities of the City of Boston's Office of Veteran Services. Referred to the Committee on Veterans, Military Families, and Military Affairs.
- 0254** **Councilor Worrell, FitzGerald, Mejia, Coletta Zapata, Durkan, Louijeune, Murphy and Weber offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss long-term city job vacancies. On motion of Councilor Worrell, Rule 12 was invoked to include Councilors FitzGerald and Mejia as original co-sponsors. Referred to the Committee on Labor, Workforce, and Economic Development.

- 0255 Councilor Flynn, Durkan, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss new cancer presumptions announced by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.  
Referred to the Committee on Veterans, Military Families, and Military Affairs.
- 0256 Councilor Flynn and Murphy offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss discrepancies in Boston's 2024 detainer requests.  
Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Criminal Justice.
- 0257 Councilor Flynn, Coletta Zapata, Durkan, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss accessibility in Boston City Hall.  
Referred to the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology.
- 0258 WITHDRAWN**
- 0259 Councilor Flynn, Coletta Zapata, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss the status of the elevators at the BHA Ruth Barkley apartments.  
Referred to the Committee on Housing and Community Development.
- 0260 Councilor Worrell, Breadon, Coletta Zapata, Durkan, Mejia, Murphy, Santana, Weber and Louijeune offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss the use of battery energy storage systems (BESS) in the City of Boston.  
Referred to the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks.
- 0261 Councilor Weber, FitzGerald, Worrell, Coletta Zapata, Durkan, Flynn, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy and Santana offered the following:** Order for a hearing to address programming needs for older adults in the City of Boston.  
On motion of Councilor Weber, Rule 12 was invoked to include Councilors Fitzgerald and Worrell as original co-sponsors.  
Referred to the Committee on Strong Women, Families, and Communities.
- 0262 Councilor Durkan, Coletta Zapata, Louijeune, Flynn, Mejia, Murphy, Santana and Weber offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss the creation of a Parks Administrator for Downtown Parks including the Boston Common, Public Garden, Commonwealth Avenue Mall, Copley Square and Christopher Columbus Park.  
On motion of Councilor Durkan, Rule 12 was invoked to include Councilors Coletta Zapata and Louijeune as original co-sponsors.  
Referred to the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks.
- 0263 Councilor Durkan, FitzGerald, Mejia, Santana and Weber offered the following:** Order for a hearing to explore the creation of a citywide merchandise licensing program.  
Referred to the Committee on Small Business and Professional Licensure.
- 0264 Councilor Louijeune, FitzGerald, Worrell, Flynn, Mejia, Murphy, Santana and Weber offered the following:** Order for a hearing regarding strategies to expand homeownership programs in Boston.  
Referred to the Committee on Housing and Community Development.

- 0265 Councilor Murphy, Flynn, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss the preservation of historical artifacts in Boston Public Schools slated for closure or merger. Referred to the Committee on Education.
- 0266 Councilor Flynn, FitzGerald, Santana, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss pedestrian safety, traffic calming, and expanding the safety surge program in the City of Boston. Referred to the Committee on Planning, Development & Transportation.
- 0267 Councilor Murphy, Flynn, Coletta Zapata, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss Boston Public Schools transportation for student athletes. Referred to the Committee on Education.
- 0268 Councilor Murphy, Flynn, Coletta Zapata, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to address the plans underway to do facilities work this summer at several of our buildings that may impact the services we provide. Referred to the Committee on Strong Women, Families, and Communities.
- 0269 Councilor Murphy, FitzGerald, Weber, Coletta Zapata, Flynn, Louijeune, Mejia, Santana and Worrell offered the following:** Order for a hearing to discuss residential property values and the assessing process. On motion of Councilor Murphy, Rule 12 was invoked to include Councilors FitzGerald and Weber as original co-sponsors. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.
- 0270 Councilor Coletta Zapata, Santana, Worrell, Durkan, FitzGerald, Flynn, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy and Weber offered the following:** Order to adopt the Good Landlord Tax Abatement as a local option in the City of Boston. On motion of Councilor Coletta Zapata, Rule 12 was invoked to include Councilors Santana and Worrell as original co-sponsors. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.
- 0271 Councilor Flynn, Coletta Zapata, Durkan, FitzGerald, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Santana, Weber and Worrell offered the following:** Resolution in support of the replacement of concurrent traffic signals in the City of Boston. On motion of Councilor Flynn, the rules were suspended; the resolution was adopted; yeas 10.
- On motion of Councilor Worrell and pursuant to Rule 16, Docket #0282 was removed from the Consent Agenda.
- 0282 Councilor Worrell, Santana, Coletta Zapata, Durkan, FitzGerald, Flynn, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy and Weber offered the following:** Resolution recognizing January 20 as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the City of Boston. On motion of Councilors Worrell and Santana, the rules were suspended; the resolution was adopted; yeas 10.
- 0143 Councilor Coletta Zapata called Docket #0143, Petition for a Special Law Re: An Act Relative to Senior Homeowner Property Tax Exemption, from the Committee on Government Operations.** On motion of Councilor Coletta Zapata, the petition was passed; yeas 10.

**0117** Councilor Santana called Docket #0117, message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Five Hundred Ninety-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$593,750.00) in the form of a grant, for the FY25 Hazmat Earmark grant, awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services to be administered by the Fire Department. The grant will fund the needs of the hazardous materials response teams, as specified the line items 8324-0000 and 8324-0050 of the FY25 General Appropriation Act, from the Committee on Public Safety & Criminal Justice.

On motion of Councilor Santana, the rules were suspended; the order was passed.

**0110** Councilor Coletta Zapata called Docket #0110, message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) in the form of a grant for the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC), awarded by the MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to be administered by the Parks and Recreation Department. The grant will fund the prospect of cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes, from the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency & Parks.

On motion of Councilor Coletta Zapata, the rules were suspended; the order was passed.

The Chair stated in absence of objection, six late file matters would be added to the Agenda. No objection being heard, the following items were added:

**0283** Councilor Louijuene offered the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employee Cisnell Baez in City Council, effective January 18, 2025.

Passed under suspension of the rules.

**0284** Notice was received from Councilor Fernandes Anderson of her absence from the January 15, 2025 City Council Meeting.

Placed on file.

**0285** Notice was received from Councilor Pepén of his absence from the January 15, 2025 City Council Meeting.

Placed on file.

**0286** Communication was received from Council President Louijeune to address the Open Meeting Law complaint and respond accordingly on behalf of the Boston City Council.

Referred to the Law Department.

**0287** Communication was received from Councilor Durkan regarding Docket #0127, the designation of Boston City Hall as a Landmark.

Placed on file.

**0288** Message transmitting certain information under section 17F re: new City workforce headcount and funding, filed on Docket #1565, passed by the City Council on October 23, 2024.

Placed on file.

**15/25** Legislative Calendar for January 15, 2025.

The Chair moved adoption of a Consent Agenda containing the following items:

**0272** Councilor FitzGerald offered the following: Resolution recognizing Maura Doyle.

- 0273 Councilor Louijeune offered the following:** Resolution congratulating Evangeline Roussel Lucien.
- 0274 Councilor Durkan offered the following:** Resolution recognizing Nakama Kamara.
- 0275 Councilor Louijeune offered the following:** Resolution congratulating The Chery Family.
- 0276 Councilor Louijeune offered the following:** Resolution congratulating Samuel Luxama.
- 0277 Councilor Louijeune offered the following:** Resolution congratulating Haitian Artists Assembly of Massachusetts.
- 0278 Councilor Flynn offered the following:** Resolution recognizing Flynn Foley.
- 0279 Councilor Flynn offered the following:** Resolution recognizing Xiamen University Alumni Association in New England.
- 0280 Councilor Flynn offered the following:** Resolution recognizing the National Asian Women's Association.
- 0281 Councilor Weber offered the following:** Resolution recognizing PN Transportation

The Chair stated in absence of objection three late file matters would be added to the Consent Agenda. No objection being heard, the following items were added:

- 0289 Councilor Louijeune and Worrell offered the following:** Resolution celebrating, honoring and designating January 18, 2025 as Charlotte Golar Richie Day.
- 0290 Councilor Breadon offered the following:** Resolution in memory of Raymond M. Arthur.
- 0291 Councilor Breadon offered the following:** Resolution recognizing Craig Richard Cemate.

The matters contained within the Consent Agenda were severally adopted.

Adjourned at 4:48 p.m. on motion of President Louijeune, and in memory of Raymond Arthur, Barry M. Anderer, Margaret C. "Peg" "Hon" Rooney, Christian Barros, Mary-Jo Arn, and Keith Gloe, to meet again on Wednesday, January 29, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

Attest:

Alex Geourntas  
City Clerk