

City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Shawn E. Cadime, presiding;
Councilors Richard Cabeceiras, Joseph D. Camara, Steven A. Camara,
Pam Laliberte-Lebeau, Stephen R. Long, Linda M. Pereira and Cliff Ponte

ABSENT: Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell

IN ATTENDANCE: None

President Shawn E. Cadime called the meeting to order at 7:48 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. Mayor and veto of \$123,000,000 loan order for Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan Improvements
On a motion made by Councilor Stephen R. Long and seconded by Councilor Steven A. Camara, it was unanimously voted that the veto be laid over to the next meeting in accordance with the City Charter, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.
2. Mayor and order for ballot question for \$123,000,000 loan order for Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan Improvements
On a motion made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Linda M. Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the order be tabled, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.
3. Collective bargaining agreement for LAW Local 124 Building Custodians
On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Linda M. Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the collective bargaining agreement be referred to the Committee on Finance, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.
4. Mayor and order to adopt Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2008 "An Act Relative to the Retirement Benefits of Emergency Medical Technicians"
On a motion made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Pam Laliberte-Lebeau, it was unanimously voted that the order be referred to the Committee on Finance, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting. Councilor Cliff Ponte requested that a representative from the Retirement Board and Corporation Counsel be invited to the Finance Committee Meeting when this matter is discussed. Councilor Linda M. Pereira requested that the Director of Financial Services also be invited to discuss how this will increase the retirement liability.

5. Mayor requesting proposed ordinance to establish the position of Treasurer/Collector
On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Cliff Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the communication be referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting. Councilor Cliff Ponte commended the Administration for sending this request to the Council so that discussion can be held prior to posting any position.
6. Mayor and resolution regarding Section 108 loan application for the replacement of fire equipment in low income census tracts
A motion was made by Councilor Linda M. Pereira and seconded by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras, to refer the resolution to the Committee on Finance. Councilor Stephen R. Long stated that this was just a change in the language that the Federal Government is requesting and he would rather just vote on the matter tonight. The motion to refer the resolution to the Committee on Finance was unanimously voted, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.
7. Board of Election Commissioners and orders authorizing Preliminary Municipal Election to be held Sept. 12, 2017 and Municipal Election to be held Nov. 7, 2017 and polling places
On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Cliff Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the orders with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Finance recommending:

Referral to Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits

8. Fiscal Year 2017 Quarter 2 Budget Report
On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Steven A. Camara, it was unanimously voted to refer the report to the Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

ORDINANCES – None

RESOLUTIONS – None

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS

Auto Repair Shop License

9. Tiago Botelho, 424 High Hill Road, Dartmouth, MA, d/b/a Mill City Diesels Auto Repair and Sales, for a license to operate an auto repair shop at 1139 Slade Street
On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Pam Laliberte-Lebeau, it was unanimously voted that the order be adopted with restrictions, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting. Councilor Linda M. Pereira requested the City Clerk to read the restrictions. They are as follows:

Restrictions:

1. Hours of operation Sun-Sat 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
2. Down Shielded lights after 7:00 p.m.
3. Signs to confirm with the B-L District
4. No work on vehicles outside

5. No storage of vehicles outside other than the vehicles for sale
6. No activity after 7:00 p.m.
7. No towing after 7:00 p.m.

Approved, February 14, 2017, Mayor Jasiel F. Correia II

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

10. Home rule petition providing accidental death benefits to surviving spouse of Fall River Firefighter Adam Franco

A motion was made by Councilor Cliff Ponte and seconded by Councilor Pam Laliberte-Lebeau to adopt the home rule petition. Councilor Linda M. Pereira stated that Firefighter Adam Franco had served the Fall River Fire Department for four years and eight months. That made him four months short of being covered by the cancer bill and she believes that this would be the right thing to do, as a community. The motion to adopt the home rule petition was unanimously voted, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

Approved, February 14, 2017, Mayor Jasiel F. Correia II

On a motion made by Councilor Stephen R. Long and seconded by Councilor Steven A. Camara, it was voted 8 yeas to lift the financial order for the transfer of \$30,000 from the Mayor's Office Salaries to the Mayor's Office Expenditures from the table, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

Order - \$30,000 Financial Order Transfer from Mayor's Office Salaries to Expenditures
(tabled 1/10/17)

A motion was made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras to grant the order leave to withdraw, but received no second. A further motion was made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Stephen R. Long to adopt the order. A further motion was then made by Councilor Stephen R. Long and seconded by Councilor Pam Laliberte-Lebeau to waive the rules to allow the City Administrator and the Director of Financial Services to answer questions in this regard and it was unanimously voted, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting. Councilor Pam Laliberte-Lebeau asked what the \$30,000 would be used for. The City Administrator stated that once the funding is approved, an RFP would be issued for an event to promote the branding initiative. Councilor Richard Cabeceiras stated that he would like to have it in writing that the City can use the slogan "Make It Here" from Corporation Counsel. A motion was made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Stephen R. Long to amend the order from \$30,000 to \$20,000. It was voted 5 yeas, 3 nays to amend the order, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting and Councilors Richard Cabeceiras, Linda M. Pereira and President Shawn E. Cadime voting in the negative. A further motion was then made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Stephen R. Long to adopt the order, as amended. It was voted 5 yeas, 3 nays to adopt the order, as amended with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting and Councilors Richard Cabeceiras, Linda M. Pereira and President Shawn E. Cadime voting in the negative.

11. Police Chief's report on licenses

Taxicab Drivers:

Ryan Anderson	Dereon Broderick	Gerald Conyers
Jonathan Farias	James Gomes Jr.	Richard Hannah
Bethany Isherwood	David Marshall Sr.	Colin M. Redlich
Muhammad Shabbir	Matthew L. Stets	

Private Livery Drivers:

Sandra Barcellos Dion
David Marshall Sr.

Private Livery Vehicles:

Princess Limousine LLC – 8 vehicles

On a motion made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

12. Auto Repair Shop license renewals:

- Robert Luongo d/b/a Bob Luongo's Auto Sales, 643 Brayton Avenue
- Kirk Carrier, Kirk's Transmissions, Inc., 461 Globe Street

On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Cliff Ponte, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting. Approved, February 14, 2017, Mayor Jasiel F. Correia II

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

13. Claims

On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Linda M. Pereira, it was unanimously voted to refer the claims to Corporation Counsel, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

14. Communication from Attorney General regarding OML complaint of January 17, 2017 regarding OML complaint of December 27, 2016

On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Cliff Ponte, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

15. Communication from Tammy Moutinho, Dept. of Bldgs. & Grounds re: reporting overtime hours of department employees

On a motion made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Pam Laliberte-Lebeau, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file with a copy to the Mayor and City Administrator, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

16. Drainlayer license - Peter Deterra Excavating

On a motion made by Councilor Steven A. Camara and seconded by Councilor Linda M. Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the drainlayer license be approved, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

17. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – December 15, 2016

On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Steven A. Camara, it was unanimously voted that the minutes be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell absent and not voting.

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

On a motion made by Councilor Richard Cabeceiras and seconded by Councilor Steven A. Camara, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

CD and DVD of meeting

Correspondence submitted by EMS Personnel (attached)

A true copy. Attest:

Alison M Bouchard

City Clerk

In City Council, April 25, 2017
Approved.



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

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2017 FEB -3 P 3:28

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA _____

INÊS LEITE
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

ALISON M. BOUCHARD
CITY CLERK

FEBRUARY 3, 2017

MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017

AGENDA

5:45 P.M. CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

Auto Repair Shop License

1. Tiago Botelho, 424 High Hill Road, Dartmouth, MA, d/b/a Mill City Diesels Auto Repair and Sales, for a license to operate an auto repair shop at 1139 Slade Street

6:00 P.M. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING IF IT RUNS PAST 6:00 P.M.

1. Resolution req. update on status of city owned properties currently for sale (tabled 9-27-16)

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING IF THAT MEETING RUNS PAST 7:00 P.M.

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. *Mayor and veto of \$123,000,000 loan order for Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan Improvements
2. *Mayor and order for ballot question for \$123,000,000 loan order for Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan Improvements
3. *Collective bargaining agreement for LAW Local 124 Building Custodians
4. *Mayor and order to adopt Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2008 "An Act Relative to the Retirement Benefits of Emergency Medical Technicians"
5. *Mayor requesting proposed ordinance to establish the position of Treasurer/Collector
6. *Mayor and resolution regarding Section 108 loan application for the replacement of fire equipment in low income census tracts
7. Board of Election Commissioners and orders authorizing Preliminary Municipal Election to be held Sept. 12, 2017 and Municipal Election to be held Nov. 7, 2017 and polling places

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Finance recommending:

Referral to Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits

8. Fiscal Year 2017 Quarter 2 Budget Report

ORDINANCES – None

ADA Coordinator: Gary P. Howayeck, Esq. 508-324-2650

One Government Center • Fall River, MA 02722

TEL 508-324-2220 • FAX 508-324-2211 • EMAIL city_clerks@fallriverma.org

RESOLUTIONS – None

CITATIONS – None

ORDERS – HEARINGS

Auto Repair Shop License

9. *Tiago Botelho, 424 High Hill Road, Dartmouth, MA, d/b/a Mill City Diesels Auto Repair and Sales, for a license to operate an auto repair shop at 1139 Slade Street

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

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COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

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14. *Communication from Attorney General regarding OML complaint of January 17, 2017 regarding OML complaint of December 27, 2016
15. *Communication from Tammy Moutinho, Dept. of Bldgs. & Grounds re: reporting overtime hours of department employees
16. Drainlayer license - Peter Deterra Excavating
17. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – December 15, 2016

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None


City Clerk

ADA Coordinator: Gary P. Howayeck, Esq. 508-324-2650

City of Fall River, In City Council

Finance Cmte. # 1

(Councilor Raymond A. Mitchell)

WHEREAS, the Administration has been working with a marketing firm to assist with the sale of various city owned properties, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Finance convene with the Administration to receive an update on the status of city owned properties that are currently for sale.

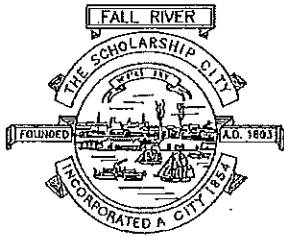
In City Council, September 13, 2016
Adopted

A true copy. Attest:

Alison M. Bouchard

City Clerk

*Filed
9-27-16*



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
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2017 FEB -2 P 3:54

JASIEL F. CORREIA II
Mayor

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

February 2, 2017

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Honorable Council Members:

At your City Council Meeting on January 10, 2017, you approved a Financial Order that I submitted to you in the amount of \$123 million to begin implementation of improvements as outlined in the City's Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan. This Order was presented to me on January 31, 2017 for approval. As a result of subsequent information I received while attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors Meeting the week of January 16, 2017, I am exercising my authority under Section 55 of the City Charter to Veto this Order.

My communication to you dated January 27, 2017 outlines my intention to delay action on this Loan Order until such time as the new Trump Administration puts forth its plan to address communities' infrastructure needs and establishes the environmental priorities our City will need to address. While the projects within the Master Plan are all essential to the City's wastewater and stormwater management systems, federal funding for these projects may include new guidelines that have yet to be determined. Certainly the City Council shares my desire to conform with all EPA guidelines and avail ourselves of State and Federal funds prior to issuing local bonds supported by enterprise funds.

I respectfully request that you sustain my Veto of this Loan Order and further vote to table the Loan Order Ballot Question until such time as the Federal Government's infrastructure plans and funding programs have been put in place. I will continue to closely monitor the actions of the Federal Government as it relates to these issues and plan to keep you updated on our next step. Working together hopefully we can minimize the cost to our residents with much needed support from the Federal Government.

Best Regards,

Jasiel F. Correia II
Mayor

2



**City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor**

JASIEL F. CORREIA II
Mayor

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2017 JAN 31 P 1:57
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

January 27, 2017

The Honorable City Council
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Councilors:

This letter has been prepared to identify my planning and intent related to the expenditures identified to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act and the Federal CSO Court Order.

As you know the City has expended nearly \$200 million dollars on CSO Abatement to comply with the Federal Court Order that was issued in 1992. Said order has a completion date of 2025. This has been a huge financial burden on our residents and businesses. The debt associated with these improvements to the sewer and drainage systems has been the direct cause of the majority of the increases in the utility bills as issued by the Department of Community Utilities.

Recently, the City Council at my request approved loan orders for the implementation of a modified spending plan associated with the Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan. I thank you for your support. These requests were per the recommendations from Mr. Sullivan based on his work with the EPA to put forth a spending plan that was significantly less than the Master Plan. The recommendations included needed improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (including review of low cost nitrogen management plans); sewer pumping stations; CSO control; flood management control; equipment and asset management systems.

The loan order for \$3.8 million for the planning and design of the projects as approved is going to proceed as planned.

The loan order for \$123 million is currently subject to continued evaluation based on information that I have received in Washington, D.C. I have attached the proposed ballot question language for your review and input. I am holding off setting a date for the ballot

question based on potential dramatic changes that could occur in the near future related to funding and regulatory control of infrastructure projects nationally.

Information that I received indicates the following:

- Management of EPA and associated regulations could dramatically change.
- Infrastructure financing opportunities via new Federal programs could dramatically reduce the burden on communities.

As the details of such Federal changes are not clear at this time and much work has to be done I ask that you continue to work with me over the next six months to identify alternative paths to achieve environmental improvement and minimize the cost burden to our residents and businesses via the potential changes of the Federal program structure.

The work that the City Council has done with these loan orders is not lost. I am simply recommending that we evaluate the Federal changes that are being discussed and assure that we take the maximum benefit from any infrastructure financing improvements.

The next steps planned are as follows:

- Review and approve the language in the attached ballot question.
- Monitor and review the potential changes to the Federal programs.
- Work cooperatively to identify the next steps associated with infrastructure improvements and regulatory compliance.

I believe that we all agree that environmental protection and compliance with the Clean Water Act are critical needs that we are all in favor of. However, I believe that we all agree that the financial impact on our residents and businesses is overwhelming and counterproductive to the economic survival of our community.

I look forward to our cooperative efforts together; the support of our Federal/State delegations and the potential improvements within the Federal infrastructure regulatory and financing programs.

Sincerely,



Jasiel F. Correia II

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

2

An ORDER, Allowing the City of Fall River To Place a Ballot Question On the
_____ Fall River Election Ballot

The Board of Elections shall place on the official ballot for the Fall River election to be held on _____ in the City of Fall River the following question:

Do you approve of the following loan order
which has been adopted by the City Council and
approved by the Mayor?

Yes _____
No _____

ORDERED, that the sum of \$123,000,000 be and hereby is appropriated to pay costs of planning, design and construction services related to the Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan improvements, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; that to raise this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow \$123,000,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 29C and Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws, as amended, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue and sell bonds or notes of the City therefore, and further, that the Mayor and the Treasurer are each authorized to file an application to qualify under Chapter 44A of the Massachusetts General Laws any and all bonds of the City issued under and pursuant hereto, and to provide such information and execute such documents as may be required in connection therewith.

Which question may be followed by a summary as follows:

The Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan Improvements are intended to continue to address compliance with the Clean Water Act via infrastructure improvements to address rehabilitation of the aged Wastewater Treatment Facility, replacement of aged sewer pumping stations, flooding and drainage issues, combined sewer overflow abatement, equipment replacement and asset management systems.

Adoption of the question will allow initiation of the Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan Improvements.

Rejection of the question will not allow the Integrated Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan Improvements system and can result in violations of the Clean Water Act, environmental pollution, regulatory enforcement orders from the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection mandating such improvements and/or fines.



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

JASIEL F. CORREIA II
Mayor

February 2, 2017

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Honorable Council Members:

Consistent with the requirements of MGL Chapter 150B, Section 7, I am forwarding the recently negotiated Memorandum of Agreement between LAW Local 124 Building Custodians and the City of Fall River for your approval. It has been ratified by the membership. Enclosed please find the copy for your review.

This Agreement will become a part of the prior contract document and in combination they establish the contractual obligations affecting custodians at Government Center and the Public Library. The Administration is grateful to the members of LAW Local 124 for their understanding of the City's fiscal limitations in approving the terms of this Agreement.

Your approval of this Agreement is respectfully requested. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

Jasiel F. Correia II
Mayor

3

CITY OF FALL RIVER
AND LAW LOCAL 124 – BUILDING CUSTODIANS
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

For good and valuable consideration, each to the other given, the City of Fall River and LAW Local 124, Building Custodians, hereby agree as follows:

1. The Parties agree that employees currently assigned to the library may transferred to Government Center and that bargaining unit work currently being performed at the library will be assumed by a private contractor.
2. All full-time employees that are employed as of the ratification date shall not be laid off as a result of transfer of bargaining unit work to a private contractor during the term of this Agreement. The foregoing provision shall not be subject to the automatic renewal provision of Article XV, section 3.
3. Wages – 2% adjustment effective July 1, 2017

- 2% adjustment effective July 1, 2018
4. Article VI – Hours of work – add to end “Work schedules shall be established by the Director of Building and Grounds. The City shall retain the discretion to determine the number of day shifts and night shifts necessary for the operation.”
5. Article VII – Overtime –
 - A. Add to 4th paragraph – “Employees called into work more than two (2) hours but less than four (4) hours prior to the start of their regularly scheduled shift shall receive four (4) hours of overtime in addition to their regular pay for that day. Employees called into work more than one-half (1/2) hour but less than two (2) hours early shall receive two (2) hours of overtime pay, in addition to their regular pay for that day.”
 - B. Add to end – If two (2) employees are on vacation at the same time, the City shall not be obligated to fill on overtime additional vacancies caused by sick, personal or any other paid leave.
6. Article VIII – Flag Duties – Delete
7. Article IX – Holidays –
 - A. last paragraph – eliminate triple time -
 - B. Delete paragraph granting additional paid day off during vacation week.

3

8. Article X – Personal Days –

A. Delete (a), (c)

B. (housekeeping) – Management Rights should be separate article

9. Article XI –

A. For employees hired on or after date of ratification of this Agreement, vacations shall be in accordance with the following schedule:

After six (6) month of service - two (2) weeks vacation.

After five (5) years of service - three (3) weeks vacation.

After ten (10) years of service - four (4) weeks vacation.

B. No more than two (2) employees on the same shift on vacation without the approval of the Director of Buildings and Grounds.

10. Article XV – Section 1 – Duration – July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019, modify dates in Section 2 to reflect same.

11. Article XV, section 15 – Bidding, Job Assignments – Add “When vacancies occur, staffing levels, scheduling and number of available shifts shall be determined by the City, acting through the Director of Buildings and Grounds.”

12. Article XV – Sections 21 – delete –

13. Article XV – Section 24 – head custodian only gets \$75 not \$50 above in section 21 Leave current language as is.

14. Article XV - Car Allowance – – Effective July 1, 2017, delete this article, employees receive a one time payment of \$700.00.

15. Article XV – section 13 – Housekeeping – correct omission from last collective bargaining agreement, snow bonus should be \$2300.00.

For the City of Fall River

For LAW Local 124

Keith R. Luvion
City Administrator

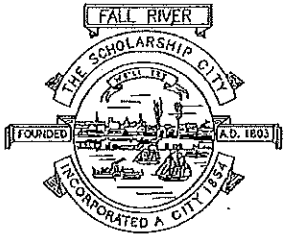
Date 1.26.17

Augustine Camacho
L.A. HO

Date 1/26/2017

[Signature]
LAW PRES
1/26/17

Approved as to Form &
Manner of Execution Only:



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

JASIEL F. CORREIA II

Mayor

February 2, 2017

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Honorable Council Members:

In compliance with the recently approved contract with AFSCME Local 1202 EMS Unit, I am forwarding an Order allowing the City to Adopt Chapter 467, "An Act Relative to the Retirement Benefits of Emergency Medical Technicians," paragraph G of subdivision (2) of Section 3 of Chapter 32 of Massachusetts General Laws, which legislation will place emergency medical personnel within Group 4 of the Retirement System. In accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, this action will take effect on the last day of the contract June 30, 2019. Please know that the benefits of Group 4 are not retroactive, and will only be applied to years of service subsequent to the June 30, 2019 enactment.

Your support for this measure recognizes that our EMS personnel confront many of the same personal safety risks encountered by the members of other public safety departments. Your adoption of this Order is respectfully requested.

Best Regards,

Jasiel F. Correia II

Mayor

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

4

ORDERED, that Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2008 "An Act Relative to the Retirement Benefits of Emergency Medical Technicians", be and the same is hereby accepted.

Chapter 466. AN ACT TO PROMOTE BREASTFEEDING.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 221. (a) A mother may breastfeed her child in any public place or establishment or place which is open to and accepts or solicits the patronage of the general public and where the mother and her child may otherwise lawfully be present.

(b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the act of a mother breastfeeding her child, and any exposure of a breast incidental thereto that is solely for the purpose of nursing such child, shall not be considered lewd, indecent, immoral, or unlawful conduct.

(c) No person or entity, including a governmental entity, shall, with the intent to violate a mother's right under subsection (a), restrict, harass or penalize a mother who is breastfeeding her child.

(d) The attorney general may bring a civil action for equitable relief to restrain or prevent a violation of subsection (c).

(e) A civil action may be brought under this section by a mother subjected to a violation of subsection (c). In any such action, the court may: (i) award actual damages in an amount not to exceed \$500; (ii) enter an order to restrain such unlawful conduct; and (iii) award reasonable attorney fees.

(f) A place of religious instruction or worship shall not be subject to this section.

Approved January 9, 2009.



Chapter 467. AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS.

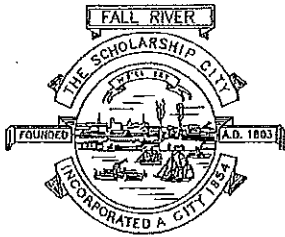
Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Paragraph (g) of subdivision (2) of section 3 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

A municipality may elect to place in Group 4 uniformed employees of a municipal or public emergency medical service who are certified at any level by the department of public health as an emergency medical technician. This section shall take effect in a municipality upon its acceptance in the following manner: in a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter, by majority vote of its city council and approved by the manager; in any other city by majority vote of the city council and approved by the mayor; in a town, by vote of the board of selectmen.

Approved January 9, 2009.

5



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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2017 FEB -2 P 3: 54

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

JASIEL F. CORREIA II

Mayor

February 2, 2017

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Honorable Council Members:

As my Administration works to achieve increased efficiencies and productivity within our local government, we continue to evaluate our management structure to assure long term stability. Each Division is being reviewed for its ability to provide consistency and continuity in the delivery of the services our residents and businesses receive from their local government. This proposed Ordinance to establish a new position of Treasurer/Collector will address this goal within our Financial Services Department.

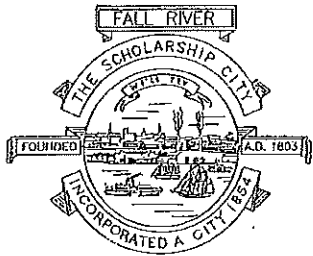
Treasurer/Collector: The primary function of the Treasurer/Collector is to preserve, protect and manage the financial resources of the City. The Treasurer/Collector is responsible for receipt, accurate accounting, and prudent investment of all City funds in order to maximize yields while maintaining adequate liquidity and ensuring compliance with Massachusetts General Laws, City of Fall River ordinances, and any other applicable financial mandates. The Treasurer/Collector is also responsible for negotiating all municipal borrowings (both short and long term), collecting committed taxes (Real Estate, Personal Property, and Auto Excise), and providing prompt and courteous assistance to the taxpayers and residents of the City.

We anticipate that this new position will be budget neutral. The current positions of Treasurer and Tax Collector will not be filled as these responsibilities will become part of the new position's job description. The positions of Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Tax Collector will be filled in order to create a secondary capacity to operate these Departments in the absence of the Treasurer/Collector.

We look forward to further discussion at the Ordinance Committee regarding salary parameters and the implementation of this change.

Best Regards,

Jasiel F. Correia II
Mayor



JASIEL F. CORREIA II
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Community Development Agency
RECEIVED

2017 FEB -2 A 10:43

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

buyfallriver

MICHAEL P. DION
Executive Director / CFO

February 2, 2017

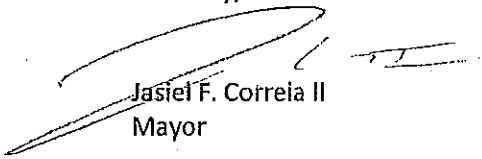
Council President Shawn Cadime and City Councilors
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear President Cadime and City Councilors:

I am pleased to forward to you an amended resolution changing only the terms of pledge collateral on the approved Section 108 Loan Application with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the replacement of fire equipment in low income census tracts.

Because this matter is of a time sensitive nature, I am requesting that Michael P. Dion, Executive Director/CFO be allowed to come before the Finance Committee on February 21, 2017.

Sincerely,


Jasiel F. Correia II
Mayor

Enclosure

Mayor Jasiel F. Correia II

**RESOLUTION OF LOCAL GOVERNING BODY PLEDGING THE CITY'S
FULL FAITH AND CREDIT IN SUPPORT OF ITS SECTION 108 LOAN FOR
THE REPLACEMENT OF FIRE APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT.**

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River (the City) developed a Section 108 Loan Guarantee Application with the goal of obtaining financing for the replacement of the City's aging fire apparatus and equipment; and

WHEREAS, by resolution adopted by the City Council on April 19, 2016 and approved by Mayor Jasiel F. Correia II on April 22, 2016, the City Council authorized the Mayor Jasiel F. Correia II to submit the Section 108 Loan Guarantee Application and to accept and/or execute the contract(s) with the United States of America and to do all things necessary to carry out the City's application; and

WHEREAS, the City's Section 108 Loan Guarantee Application was approved on August 1, 2016 and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development issued an offer of commitment to guarantee the debt obligations of the City in the principal amount of \$4,998,000, plus interest thereon (the Note) to finance activities described in the City's application; and

WHEREAS, HUD's guarantee of the Note will be governed by a Contract for Loan Guarantee Assistance under Section 108 of the Housing and Community Development act of 1974, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5308, between the City and HUD (the Contract), which requires a Resolution of the City Council to pledge the City's full faith and credit as security in support of all the obligations of the City of Fall River under the Note and Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FALL RIVER CITY COUNCIL that:

Section 1. The City Council hereby pledges the full faith and credit of the City of Fall River for the prompt payment of the principal and interest of its Section 108 Loan for the replacement of aging fire apparatus and equipment, as evidenced by the Note, and such other charges as may be authorized under the Contract. The Note and other charges as may be authorized under the Contract constitutes a general indebtedness of the City of Fall River, payable from tax revenues of the City of Fall River and such other money as is lawfully available. For as long as the Note is outstanding the City of Fall River

irrevocably pledges that it shall, in the manner provided by law within the constitutional and statutory limitations provided by the law without the assent of the voters, include in its annual property tax levy amounts sufficient, together with other money that is lawfully available, to pay principal and interest on the Note, and such other charges as may be authorized under the Contract, as the same become due. The full faith and credit of the City of Fall River is pledge irrevocably for the prompt payment of the principal and interest on the Note, and such other charges as may be authorized under the Contract, and such pledge shall be enforceable in mandamus against the City of Fall River.

Section 2. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, finds any provision of this ordinance to be invalid or unenforceable as to any person or circumstance, such offending provision shall, if feasible, be deemed to be modified to be within the limits of enforceability or validity. If the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be null and void with respect to the particular person or circumstance, and all other provisions of this ordinance in all other respects, and the offending provision with respect to all other persons and all other circumstances shall remain valid and enforceable.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

9

ORDERED, that permission be and the same is hereby granted to:

Tiago Botelho, 424 High Hill Road, Dartmouth, MA, d/b/a Mill City Diesels Auto Repair and Sales, for a license to operate an auto repair shop at 1139 Slade Street, on Lot E-01-0039, Assessors Plan.

FALL RIVER ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

DATE OF MEETING: August 18, 2016

DATE OF SUMMARY: August 19, 2016

01. JOSHUA HETZLER

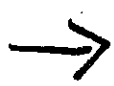
North West corner of Dickinson and Robin Street, Lot D-5-44

Variance request **GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS** to construct single family dwelling waiving dimensional requirements in a Single Family Residence District [S]. Lot size 5,400 +/- s.f. [Conditions being: 1. That the shed be razed; 2. Dimension as shown on plan, front yard 25 feet, rear yard 25 feet and side yard 15 feet.]

02. SABER INVESTMENTS INC.

Thompson Street, Lot O-7-4

Variance request **WITHDRAWN WITHOUT PREJUDICE** to construct a single family dwelling waiving dimensional requirements in a Local Business [B-L]. Lot size 4,870 +/- s.f.



03. ERICA DIAS & TIAGO BOTELHO

1139 Slade Street, Lot E-1-39

Variance request **GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS** to operate Auto Repair/Sales business within the existing commercial building waiving dimensional requirements in an Apartments District [A-2]. Lot size 11,554 +/- s.f. [Conditions being: 1. Hours of operation Sun-Sat 7:00am to 7:00pm; 2. Down Shielded lights after 7:00pm; 3. Signs to conform with the B-L District; 4. No work on vehicles outside; 5. No storage of vehicles outside other than the vehicles for sale; 6. No activity after 7:00pm. 7. No towing after 7:00pm;]

04. DAVID J. MELLO

72 Belmont Street, Lot M-24-7

Variance request **GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS** to subdivide an existing parcel leaving existing multi-family dwelling on one lot and to construct single family dwelling on other parcel waiving dimensional requirements in a Single Family Residence District [S]. Lot size 25,189 s +/- s.f. [Conditions being: 1. No further Subdivisions of the property; 2. All utilities shall be separated and an affidavit signed under the penalties of perjury indicating that all utilities have been separated shall be recorded at the Bristol County Registry of Deeds prior to the sale and/or transfer of the property, but no later than one year from the date of the grant of the variance; 3. At least 2 off-street parking spaces for newly created lot;]

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

An Act Relative to the presumptive disability of Firefighter Adam Franco in the City of Fall River.

An Act directing the Fall River Retirement Board to pay a certain retirement benefit to the surviving spouse of Adam Franco.

Be it enacted, as follows:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary and in order to promote the public good, the Fall River Retirement Board shall pay Angela Franco, the surviving spouse of Adam Franco, a former firefighter for the Fire Department of the City of Fall River, as accidental death benefit pursuant to Section 9 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws.

Section 2. This Act shall take effect as of March 16, 2015.



Subrogation Group

RECEIVED

A division of Insurance Recovery Group, Inc.

Jan 18, 2017

CITY CLERK 17-10
FALL RIVER, MA

VIA USPS Certified Mail - 9171082133393978066073

City of Fall River
Attn: Town Clerk
1 Government Center
Fall River, Massachusetts 02721

RE: FORMAL NOTICE OF CLAIM PURSUANT TO M.G.L. c. 258, §4

Claimant: Government Employees Insurance Co. as subrogee of Matthew Lovell
Claim #: 0446511390101044
Date of Accident: Oct 18, 2016
Location: 17th St, Fall River, MA, United States
Type of Claim: Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle
Damages Alleged: Property Damage, Towing and Deductible totaling \$2893.18

Dear Attn: Town Clerk:

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 258 §4, Government Employees Insurance Company as subrogee of Matthew Lovell is hereby making a claim for damages due to a motor vehicle accident. Attached is a copy of the damage appraisal with photos and tow invoice. If you require additional documentation to investigate this claim pursuant to your statutory obligation please contact me. If you are inclined to discuss settlement of this claim or deny this claim within the six (6) month statutory period, please forward the appropriate communication to my attention.

Government Employees Insurance Company insured a 2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee owned by Matthew Lovell, 400 Foxborough Boulevard, Foxborough, Massachusetts. On Oct 18, 2016, Michael Rodrigues negligently operating MA Reg#M90347, a City of Fall River vehicle, at 17th St, Fall River, MA, United States and negligently failed to yield to established traffic in the roadway when pulling from a stop sign and negligently struck Matthew Lovell's vehicle. At the time of the collision, Michael Rodrigues negligently operating MA Reg#M90347 was acting as an agent, servant, or employee of the City of Fall River. In accordance with the insurance policy, Government Employees Insurance Company paid Matthew Lovell, or on their behalf, \$2393.18 for property damage and rental expense. Matthew Lovell also incurred a \$500 deductible. Government Employees Insurance Company seeks recovery of all payments, including the insureds deductible totaling \$2893.18.

If we do not hear from you within six (6) months of your receipt of this Formal Notice of Claim, this office intends to commence litigation promptly in Superior Court on our client's behalf.



13

RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2017 JAN 26 P 2:04

CITY CLERK 17-11
FALL RIVER, MA

1. Claimant's name: Lynn Delzenere
2. Claimant's complete address: 211 Dwelly St, Fall
3. Telephone number: Home: 508-679-0935 Work: 508-646-6410
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
property damage to my vehicle due to pothole
5. Date and time of accident: 11-29-16 Amount of damages claimed: \$ 818.00
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
Dwelly Street turning onto Tuttle Street
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
see attached letter

8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Only because I have a five hundred dollar deductible

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 1-19-17

Claimant's signature: [Signature]

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:	
Copies forwarded to: <input type="checkbox"/> City Clerk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Council <input type="checkbox"/> City Administrator <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DAW	Date: <u>1/26/17</u>



RECEIVED

13

2017 JAN 30 P 12:13

City of Fall River
Notice of ClaimCITY CLERK 17-12
FALL RIVER, MA

1. Claimant's name: Caleb Aguiar (Kimberly Gwentel-Aguiar - mother)
2. Claimant's complete address: 58 Daisy Lane, Fall River, MA 02721
3. Telephone number: Home: (508) 324-4338 Work: 774-930-6886
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
accident in school
5. Date and time of accident: 11/17/15 3:00pm Amount of damages claimed: \$ 942.91
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
Health classroom at Russ Middle in Fall River
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
Custodian apparently fix a table and placed it back in the classroom. When students went up to get their papers the table collapsed on my son's foot.
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 1/25/17Claimant's signature: Caleb Aguiar
Kimberly Gwentel-Aguiar (mother)

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☒ City Administrator ☒ SchoolDate: 1/30/17



RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2017 FEB -1 A 11: 57

CITY CLERK 17-13
FALL RIVER, MA

1. Claimant's name: Sukhmanjit S. Seera
2. Claimant's complete address: 5500 N. Main St Apt 15207 Fall River MA 02722
3. Telephone number: Home: 201-443-7671 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Property Damage - Pot hole.
5. Date and time of accident: Jan 15, 2017 Amount of damages claimed: \$ 274.11
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
1148 DAVOL ST, Fall River MA, Right next to Performance
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary): auto motive Center Inc.
I was driving at 35 MPH, My car hit this Pot hole
then I stopped my car at Community Connections Inc. and
saw that the passenger side of the tire developed a big
side bubble and took pictures of the pothole. See attached pag
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 1/30/2017Claimant's signature: Sukhmanjit S. Seera

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

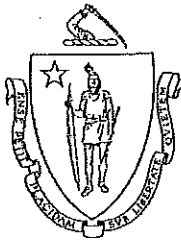
Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd FL, One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☒ DUM Date: _____

14



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

MAURA HEALEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(617) 727-2200
(617) 727-4765 TTY
www.mass.gov/ago

January 26, 2017

CJ Ferry
300 Buffinton Street
Fall River, MA 02721

RE: Open Meeting Law Complaint

Dear Mr. Ferry:

Thank you for contacting the Attorney General's Office. On January 23, 2017, we received your Open Meeting Law complaint, which was originally received by the Fall River City Council on or about December 27, 2016. We will review your complaint and will contact you in the event that we require additional information. We will notify you of our determination following our Office's review.

Your complaint may be resolved through either a formal order or informal action. Formal orders contain a detailed discussion of the alleged violation, applicable legal requirements, and may order any of the remedies provided in G.L. c. 30A, § 23(c). If a complaint is appropriate for informal action, we will attempt to resolve the matter by speaking to the parties, followed by a brief letter noting whether or not there was a violation and what remedial action was taken.

For additional information on the Open Meeting Law and the complaint process, please visit our website at www.mass.gov/ago/openmeeting. Please do not hesitate to contact the Division of Open Government with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Maher
Paralegal
Division of Open Government

cc: Joseph I. Macy, Esq., Fall River Corporation Counsel
Fall River City Council

RECEIVED
2017 JAN 30 A 11:49
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA



OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

Your Contact Information:

First Name: CJ Last Name: Ferry

Address: 300 Buffinton Street

City: Fall River State: MA Zip Code: 02721

Phone Number: +1 (508) 646-9026 Ext.

Email: cj.ferry@comcast.net

Organization or Media Affiliation (if any):

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?

(For statistical purposes only)

☒ Individual ☐ Organization ☐ Media

Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:

☒ City/Town ☐ County ☐ Regional/District ☐ State

Name of Public Body (including city/town, county or region, if applicable): City Of Fall River City Council

Specific person(s), if any, you allege committed the violation:

Date of alleged violation: Jan 17, 2017

Description of alleged violation:

Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

On December 27, 2016, the entire Fall River City Council was served with this Open Meeting Law Complaint with copies to the Fall River City Clerk and the Fall River Corporate Council.

Under MGL 30A §23(b), the public body is allowed fourteen (14) business days to respond to the complaint from the date of filing.

The Fall River City Council, failed to provide a response to the complaint of December 27, 2016 within the fourteen business days as required by MGL 30A §23(b).

This is evidenced by the response of the Fall River City Corporate Counsel hereto attached dated January 23, 2017.

The City Council deliberately chooses to assign responses to another individual, office or entity by which they regularly and continuously fail to meet the requirements under MGL 30A § 23(b), these acts are willful and deliberate and refuse to meet with the complainant regarding these issues as does the assigned individual, office or entity.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

The City Council should implement a policy where a meeting or discussion with the complainant on possible resolutions to the complaint be held to amicably resolve these issues. The assessment of the maximum pecuniary assessment against the City Council members as they have the legal responsibility to insure that the law is complied with and have regularly failed to comply with the law.

Review, sign, and submit your complaint

I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.

Public Record. Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, will be considered a public record and available to any member of the public upon request. In response to such a request, the AGO generally will not disclose your contact information.

II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.

The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.

The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to openmeeting@state.ma.us.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____

Date: January 23, 2017

For Use By Public Body

For Use By AGO

Date Received by Public Body

Date Received by AGO

From: moutin.t@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 6:42 AM
To: Madeline Coelho
Cc: City Council; Tammy Moutinho
Subject: Buildings & Grounds.Misappropriation of Funds

Good Morning Madeline,

Just after noon time on Wednesday this week I went to your office in attempt to discuss a situation with you. Nick informed me that you were with someone. He asked if I would I like for him to have you call me and I replied "yes please." As of 4:15pm yesterday I still had not heard from you and will now relay this current situation via this correspondence.

Due to the cemetery ordeal that I fell victim to and according to your comment that it was my responsibility as the clerk to pursue notification to additional levels of management when the situation(s) that I had brought to my immediate supervisor failed to be addressed resulting with me being blamed for the situation I feel that it is my fiduciary responsibility as the payroll clerk for the Department of Buildings and Grounds to bring this current situation to your attention:

Chris Gallagher is instructing personnel to charge overtime hours to school projects for which they are not actually performing the work at that specific location. The directive has been done in my presence and has continued on a regular basis since at least November. The individuals are directed to perform various assignments at a variety of locations and instructed, by Chris Gallagher, how to list the work on their overtime sheet that they submitted to me for payment on the payroll. For example, they may be asked to open the Kerr Mill or do Armory related assignments but when I receive their overtime sheet it will say Morton School Project or Westall School Project when the fact is they never performed work at these locations.

I was seeking your explanation of how the funding is generated for these specific capital projects and if the funds are to be used specifically for the project intended or if this is indeed an allowable practice. I have felt uneasy with this practice and the employees involved have also expressed to me their uneasiness. As much as the overtime is appreciated by these individuals they do not want to get in trouble over it and I do not want to become the victim of a known improper practice or unfavorable situation once again.

When I did not hear from you I continued to research (via individuals/agency/committee) the protocol for the funding for these school projects along with the proper use of the funds. As a result, it is my understanding that the City Council approves the funding specifically for each individual project and the funds are intended to be used only for the specific projects for which the funding is intended.

In summation, I feel that Mr. Gallagher's practice is a gross misappropriation of city/government funds. Additionally, Mr. Gallagher is abusing his authority and demonstrating mismanagement at its finest when directing employees to misrepresent the work/project that is actually being carried out.

Feel free to contact me at your convenience to further discuss this matter.

Respectfully,

Tammy Moutinho
Department of Buildings and Grounds

Dear Council Members,

I was asked by President Leonardo to write about my experience with a "dangerous" call while on duty. I apologize in advance for not being able to address you in person as I am currently on duty this evening. During the time I was assigned as the Field Supervisor on Medical Rescue 4 at the Center Station in 2015 we were dispatched in the middle of the night to an address on Tremont St for a male with an eye injury.

Upon arriving on scene of a poorly illuminated area of the street and a house without any lights on, we were approached by a female running out to the street screaming and waving her hands frantically over her head. As I exited the Rescue she continued to approach me shouting but what she was saying was unclear as she was so frantic. Finally I was able to understand what she was trying to relay to me when I saw a male of large stature coming from a dark porch running towards me, at the time 30 weeks pregnant, wielding a large knife above his head yelling and making a forward progression.

At this time my partner and I retreated back to the Rescue where we contacted the dispatcher to request FRPD to respond to the scene as they were not initially dispatched to the call along with us. We attempted to have the female enter the Rescue to bring her to a safe location along with ourselves until police arrive, however, she refused and fled the scene. My partner and I remained in the Rescue one street away until FRPD arrived on scene as the male party continued to make a forward progression at us even while we were in the Rescue.

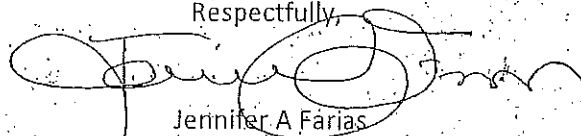
Charges were pressed against this individual through the FRPD. Both my partner and I had to testify in court regarding this case.

Although I in fact do have a "dangerous call" story, while I was 30 weeks pregnant, this is but one of many "dangerous" situations I have found myself in over the past 12 years that I have been employed by the EMS Division of the Fall River Fire Department. Situations like this and others arise on a daily base on multiple Rescues. As an EMS Lieutenant I am aware of all of these situations, big or small, as they are reported to me by those under my command.

As I previously stated the majority of the time we arrive on scene alone without additional resources and without protection. FRPD Officers arrive on scene to dispatched calls with protection via taser or firearm. FRFD Firefighters arrive on scene to dispatched fires with protective SCBA gear. We arrive on scene with a First In Bag and a Cardiac Monitor to calls that in my opinion 45% of the time are the total opposite of what we are told or high intensity calls where family members emotions are heightened by the nature of the call.

Had President Leonardo requested stories from all members of this division current and past I am confident you would have multiple volumes of examples of times Paramedics were placed in harms way and in some cases unfortunately injured. I know I could go on and on with just my stories alone. I thank you for giving me this time to address the council.

Respectfully,



Jennifer A Farias

EMS Lieutenant Medical Rescue 5
AFSCME Local 1202 Secretary

February 7, 2017

Dear Retirement Board Members,

I am writing this letter in support of Fall River EMS and their application to be considered eligible for Group 4 retirement. I understand that the paramedics in Fall River are considered to be Group 2 at this time because they are not considered to be public safety and not a profession that is dangerous. This could not be further from the truth.

When a person is experiencing an emergency they call 911 and the dispatcher determines the nature of the call and the appropriate response agency, whether Police, Fire, or EMS. Many times several or all of the listed groups respond and work together. EMS personnel work at the same motor vehicle collisions that fire and police do. They are at the same fires that fire and police respond to. They are involved with shootings, overdoses, domestics, and unstable patients just like the police and fire are. All are dangerous situations and deemed emergencies, although only fire and police personnel are considered dangerous professions and entitled to be a part of Group 4. Fire, Police, and EMS are all public safety and are all dangerous professions. To not include EMS does a disservice to all of the Paramedics in your city.

Massachusetts General Law c.32, §3(2) requires a retirement board to classify members within one of the four applicable groups. Where eligible a member's group classification may impact a member's individual retirement allowance. Please consider changing the current Group 2 status for Fall River Paramedics to Group 4 so that they can receive the same benefits as Police and Firefighters in Fall River.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Keith Nickelson

President IAFF Local 1802 Westport

Greetings,

Emergency Medical Services has become a up and coming topic for the last 20 plus years. From professional journals to television shows and movies. It has become more and more main stream conversation in topics such as mass causality, critical care transport, and community paramedicine. With these terms comes education, continuous training, situational awareness and fitness. It also brings safety hazards such as fatigue, stress, both emotional and physical.

I have obtained my first certification in EMS in 1991 at 21 years old. I have work in the private commercial setting as well as municipal service. During my time in EMS and the Fire service, I have been fortunate enough to return home safely, but not without a certain amount of risk.

Many times I have stepped on to a busy road, opening the ambulance door narrowly escaping a collision from a distracted driver been exposed to weapons, chemicals, weather, fire, smoke, and violence. The ambulance is called to everywhere to emergencies, water rescue, highway incident, chemical spills, medical illness, cardiac arrest, substance abuse, hostage stand off, domestic assault, fire, and countless time are we put in the "sites" of danger.

This brings to mind several incidents where I was put into positions where my and my partners life was in direct danger. Causing me to evaluate how responses are evaluated and how these incidents directly effect our longevity to our careers. The term safety is lightly washed over EMS like butter scrapped over bread, as there is always risk.

We were dispatched to a medical emergency as follows, Medical rescue dispatched to ... County st. for a party having an asthma attack. Arriving at the call my partner and I did what we normally do we grab the first in bag, the drug bag and the ekg monitor. As we walk to the apartment complex we are directed by bystanders to the door, there are multiple people outside of all ages. We enter the apartment and are directed to the bathroom. We find women kneeling on the floor over the bathtub she is in obvious respiratory distress and upon her initial evaluation she is asked how long she has been diagnosed with asthma. She replies "I don not have asthma, I cant breath". I was at this time I realize that my partner had began coughing as well as other residents in the home. There were other adult and children of various ages in the apartment. During this time the male residing in the home returned and forced his way physically by myself and my partner to gain access to a room before the police arrived. It is still unknown what was in the room. Or what gas was in the home.

As we continued to treat the patient, our symptoms began to increase as I began to have a irritation in my throat and then the coughing began. It was then apparent that there was a foreign substance gas in the air causing the ailment and we are now exposed, we then immediatly ushered people out of the home including the patient carried more than one child out, several ambulances were called as well as more recourses such as police, fire and chief officers. After we were exposed we were transported to the hospital as well as victims at the scene and other paramedics that treated us and the victims were also exposed. These paramedics were treated as well as they arrived at the hospital for respiratory distress. Point being, We were exposed to gas and we called for a asthma attack. However there was a 5 sentence article printed deep in the newspaper several days later at the bottom of the page:

Several times over my career have we responded to parties that are treated that have weapons rolled in their clothing, violent diabetics, violent overdoses, domestic assault, people trapped in cars that without immediate treatment they would expire. Paramedics are also exposed to agents on patient whether its smoke, chemical agent, disease, blood born pathogens, and bodily fluids.

Animals also play a factor multiple dogs are kept in homes as protection unleashed and trained to defend there family and property, and we usually get the proverbial "he's fine and friendly" as the pet is bearing its teeth and lunging at the door.

The intent of this letter is to try provide insight that the job of a paramedic is extremely dangerous. We are all encompassing problem solvers. We usually are first on scene often only with your partner, you have to be fluent in law, fire, chemical, mass causality, traffic safety, emergency medicine, and countless amounts of other vocations. Other careers that are similar are labeled public safety, and those individuals are considered in the line of immediate health and danger. These ae the same municipal employees on the same incidents that you are on.

Paramedics are part of public safety. We provide a service that is often times overlooked and taken for granted.

Public safety is public safety regardless of the label put upon it.

Respectfully,

Secretary Treasurer Westport Permanent Firefighters Local 1802

FF Robert J Porawski II EMT-P I/C

RECEIVED

2017 FEB -7 A 11:49

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

Massachusetts

Man assaults paramedic, pulls fire alarm

Jeffrey Ryan Kiernan

Wednesday

Posted Jan 18, 2017 at 8:31 PM

By Norman MillerDaily News Staff

A Natick man assaulted an ambulance driver, harassed a teenage patient at the hospital and then pulled the building's fire alarm Tuesday, authorities said.

Natick Police arrested Jeffrey Ryan Kiernan, 27, at MetroWest Medical Center in Natick at 8:33 p.m. after doctors discharged him, according to a police report filed in Natick District Court on Wednesday.

Police and firefighters went to Kiernan's 52 Pond St. home around 7:40 p.m. for a report of a "heavily intoxicated" man. Paramedics decided to bring Kiernan to the hospital because he was so drunk.

Once in the ambulance, Kiernan swore at a paramedic and then "backhanded" the man across the face, police wrote in the report.

November 8, 2016

BELCHERTOWN, Mass. — A college student pleaded not guilty Monday to charges of assaulting a paramedic who was attempting to treat him.

Dec 11, 2014

He suffered multiple wounds from an intoxicated woman; this is the second time in five years BOSTON, Mass. — EMT Tony O'Brien, a 15-year veteran of Boston EMS, recalls the moment he was bitten and scratched on his face and neck after an intoxicated female patient attacked him and his partner Sean Feeney on December 10.

Nationally

Sep 9, 2016

By EMS1 Staff

CLEVELAND, Tenn. — A Bradley County Emergency Medical Services worker is recovering after being stabbed in the neck during a call early Thursday morning.

The paramedic responded to a call around 2:00 a.m. to medically assess a person found on the campus of Lee University as EMS employees approached the person and began their line of questioning, the suspect stood up, turned and stabbed the paramedic in the neck with a set of keys.

Sept 9, 2015

DETROIT (WXYZ) - Monday morning, medics were responding to a call of a motor vehicle crash on Detroit's west side.

Sources tell 7 Action News, when the medic attempted to keep a patient from entering the roadway, he was punched in the face.

The assault is the latest incident involving attacks on medical first responders.

Last week, a guy put a loaded gun in the face of a medic because he was upset about where the ambulance was parked.

October 20, 2015

DETROIT, Michigan (WWJ) – Officials say two paramedics are in serious condition after they were attacked and stabbed repeatedly while trying to help a woman on Detroit's west side. "It was a horrific scene," said Fire Commissioner Eric Jones. "It was a stabbing and a slashing."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwJdiDgzjeU>

if you can watch the link its pretty good

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/category/ems-close-calls/>
<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/category/ems-close-calls/>

BOSTON GLOBE

Fielding more calls, city EMTs often attacked, injured

By David Abel, Globe Staff | August 29, 2007

One had his nose broken four times. Another was attacked with cinder blocks dropped off the roof of a housing project. Others have been stabbed with drug-filled syringes, chased by dogs, and strafed by gunfire after arriving at crime scenes before the shooting stopped.

Boston's emergency medical technicians, who often run red lights and speed through the opposite lane of traffic to save lives, are trained to confront broken bones and cardiac arrest.

But EMTs, who are responding to more calls each year, often become victims themselves as they face Boston's rampant street violence without the guns, mace, and nightsticks that police officers carry.

Last year, 28 percent of the 193 injuries suffered by city EMTs were the result of violence, a figure that has held constant over the past five years, according to Boston Emergency Medical Services. This year EMTs have been injured in 24 attacks.

Since 1994, four EMTs have left the department as a result of injuries from violence.

Nationally, no one tracks the number of EMTs and paramedics -- highly trained EMTs -- injured in violence on the job, but the National EMS Memorial Service, a volunteer group in Virginia, said 30 EMTs have died because of violence since 1993, 14 of them while responding to the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

"Violence isn't something an EMT should have to deal with," said Richard Serino, chief of Boston EMS, who noted that more than half of last year's total number of injuries left his employees out of work for a day or more. "One EMT injured as a result of an assault is too many."

Last fiscal year, the city's 333 EMTs responded to 99,266 calls and made a record 68,943 trips to hospitals-- an increase of about 5,000 since 2002 -- without a significant change in staff.

Many EMTs said they are overworked and undertrained for what they confront. They said they are increasingly sent to calls that in the past may have been answered by the police -- such as a report of a "man down" or someone drunk in the street -- and too often must work without police assistance to subdue hostile patients or others interfering with their care.

When they encounter trouble, they have only a radio to call for help and handcuffs to restrain the attacker. Their radios, they say, aren't much help, because they can't call police directly; they must wait for an EMS dispatcher to e-mail police dispatchers.

James Orsino, who has suffered a broken nose four times during his 23 years as a city EMT, said he has dodged bullets after being caught in the crossfire and been punched more times than he can remember. Like other EMTs, he has also been injured by people not willing to accept his help; he once tore his rotator cuff in a struggle with a man trying to jump off the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge.

"We're in a time when there's a lot more going on in the street, and you can feel it," said Orsino, president of the EMS division of the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association. "With everyone's resources stretched thin, we often arrive on the scene before police. Those are classic cases to get hurt on."

Boston EMS, overseen by the Boston Public Health Commission, dispatches teams of two medical technicians from an office adjacent to police dispatchers at police headquarters. When a 911 call comes in, an operator determines whether to transfer the caller to a specially trained EMT dispatcher.

The department, which has a \$37 million budget this fiscal year, offers EMTs the opportunity to take a two-hour self-defense class, but Orsino and others contend it's not enough. He said the city should require EMTs to be certified annually in self-defense, as they are for defensive driving and CPR. He said the department should also outline standard procedures for how to deal with violent patients.

EMTs also worry about fighting back for liability reasons, he said, which is why they don't carry mace.

"When someone is violent in a hospital, six people are used to restrain the person," he said. "In the street, it's you and your partner. There's no one else, nothing to help you out. Whatever comes out of it is what happens, which is why so many people get injured. It's a crazy situation."

Nearly every city EMT has a story about being attacked.

Jim Allen, 33, who has worked as an EMT for 11 years, said it's not uncommon for people to start yelling as his ambulance passes and to "make violent gun gestures."

"I've been bitten by more people than dogs," he said. "It seems every other call they dislike you for something. I think it's because of the badge we wear."

Alcohol and drug abuse are fueling the violence against EMTs. Zach Schiess, 29, who has worked as an EMT for six years, said he was called to a bar in South Boston after a man's arm was twisted in a fight. When he arrived, he said, the man and his girlfriend started swinging at him and his partner, forcing them to lock themselves in their ambulance.

"You can never take for granted what can happen when someone is drunk," he said.

City EMTs receive at least eight months of training, from life support to how to use the radios to how to operate the ambulances. The advanced EMTs, or paramedics, receive two years of training, which includes more advanced life-saving techniques.

Serino said all EMTs are trained to manage aggressive behavior, but he said, "We're always looking for ways to improve our training."

To cope with the stresses of the job, one city paramedic is writing about his experiences on a blog, "Other People's Emergencies: Random Thoughts of an Urban Paramedic."

Jay Weaver, a 22-year veteran and the author of urbanparamedic.blogspot.com, has been stuck with a needle by an AIDS patient, confronted people wielding guns and knives, and dragged three blocks by a man who grabbed him through the window of a car.

On his blog, he covers subjects ranging from how EMTs deal with drunken doctors interfering at scenes, how they subdue people trying to commit suicide, and among other things, how they handle grumpy patients and drivers who cut off their ambulances.

At the end of a December entry titled "Danger," the 47-year-old paramedic wrote: "We are forever one misstep away from serious injury or even death. The next time we fly through an intersection, the impact might be more powerful. The next time I get stuck with a needle, it just might contain a lethal virus. The next time I walk through a door in the projects, there might be a lunatic waiting for me on the other side

with a handgun or a knife. I'm not going to dwell on any of this. You can't do the job if you're afraid of each call."

On a recent shift, Weaver and his partner weaved through rush-hour traffic. They raced through streets that looked like parking lots for calls that required them to do everything from subduing a large psychiatric patient who began beating his social worker on Boston Common to treating a father who was stabbed while taking his 2-year-old son for a stroll in Charlestown.

At the end of the night, as their radio continued to squawk, Weaver said the key to surviving was expecting the unexpected.

"We have family members screaming in our face and people throwing things at us," he said. "You just don't know what you're going to experience on any call."

BANGED UP & BURNED OUT: ASSAULTS BY PATIENTS AGAINST PARAMEDICS & EMTS

AS SEEN ON EXEL MAGAZINE: DREXEL UNIVERSITY RESEARCH MAGAZINE

Twice in her life, Jennifer Taylor has needed to call 911 because a food allergy put her into anaphylactic shock.

"I would have died if I wasn't resuscitated," says Taylor, an associate professor of environmental and occupational health in Drexel's School of Public Health.

When any of us dials 911 for medical reasons, we're confident an emergency medical technician (EMT), trained in basic life support, or a paramedic, who can perform more advanced procedures such as inserting breathing tubes, will show up quickly. For Taylor, that's what happened.

"It's a great social value: If you call 911, someone will come to you," she says.

But consider that 911 experience from the perspective of the EMT or paramedic. When Taylor called, she was helpless, experiencing a life-threatening emergency. But the medics who jumped into an ambulance and headed toward her likely had no idea what they would encounter. They're entering private homes, sometimes where residents are living on the very edge. Sometimes, what's waiting are people who are potentially dangerous, because they're delirious, desperate, on drugs or just plain belligerent. The unfortunate outcome in such a situation might be an injured medic.

Taylor's area of research is injury prevention and control, and she uses her knowledge to address safety issues in health care and first responder industries. With Federal Emergency Management Agency grants of \$870,000 in 2010 and \$1 million in 2013, she's spent the past five years studying line-of-duty nonfatal injuries in members of the fire service in order to understand what it would take to create a national registry of firefighter injuries.

As an epidemiologist, she studies large datasets for patterns and correlations. And so it happened that while she was examining 10 years of firefighter,

paramedic and EMT injury shared with her by the Philadelphia Fire Department, she stumbled across something unexpected.

A striking number of first responders were reporting being assaulted while on a call. At first, Taylor thought the injuries were gender related: 22 percent of women's injuries were caused by being struck by a patient, compared to just 9 percent of men's.

"We didn't understand why women would be reporting that type of injury more than men," she says. Were women easier targets for aggression? Were men less likely to report an assault?

To find the answer, she and her colleagues did something simple: "We asked them."

But as discussions unfolded, the first responders pointed out an important fact that sent Taylor's investigation into an entirely new direction: Most of the women employed by the Philadelphia Fire Department are not firefighters but rather paramedics and EMTs. When it comes to a preponderance of "struck by" injuries, the controlling factor was not gender-related.

"It's all about the occupation," Taylor says of her "a-ha!" moment.

She reorganized the data and discovered that medics are twelvefold more likely than firefighters to be assaulted.

"We think of cops being in a hazardous profession," Taylor points out, "but not EMTs and paramedics."

In her conversations with emergency personnel in the Philadelphia Fire Department, Taylor heard many stories of medics being unexpectedly harmed. One paramedic, for example, told Taylor about an incident where a patient was sitting on a stretcher when he "just comes up and punches me in my mouth with everything he had."

The descriptions of assaults experienced by medics in the fire department's own reports read like police reports from a brawl: "struck by patient on head resulting in laceration above the eye;" "was punched in the face by a drunkard;" "was tackled by a large man;" "patient head-butted [EMT] on the jaw;" "in transport patient became combative."

Taylor also discovered a sad reality: Along with occasionally being hit by the people they're trying to help, many medics feel emotionally battered by their job.

In Philadelphia, 200 paramedics operate 40 advanced life-saving ambulances, each staffed with two responders. About 20 of those vehicles are active at any point. The volume of work is astonishing. In 2011, emergency medical services workers went on more than 337,000 runs. That comes out to nearly 1,000 runs a day.

"Our department is overworked and overstressed; we have a lot of calls," one female paramedic told Taylor. "And I understand that they need to get the units back out on the street ... to get to these people, or else it becomes an embarrassment to the city if something was to go wrong."

The pressure results in stress, burnout and, by extension, some of those injuries, since the hectic pace leaves little time to establish situational awareness. "We're not giving our medics the rest they need to do this job," says Taylor.

Meals, usually poor-quality ones, are scarfed down quickly between runs, during which the medics often deal with traumatic events and might be exposed to people living in desperate conditions. What's the salary for a job this challenging? A mere \$35,000 or so for an EMT and about \$42,000 for a paramedic.

One obvious solution would be to increase the department's headcount, but no national standard exists for how many paramedics a city should employ per 100,000 population. "That doesn't help a city government or a fire department when they're trying to say, 'How many paramedics should we have?'" says Taylor.

Other practical improvements to improve on-the-job safety would entail giving the medics better information going into a scene — Is there a shooter? Is this a house where drugs are sold? — as well as providing training on how to manage a combative patient and de-escalate a scene.

"We're dispatched in way too many incidents that we have no idea what we're walking into," a male EMT said to Taylor. "When we ask dispatch what it is, they're very vague about — 'Oh, I don't know. [It was] sent by police.' That's what we walk into every day."

Police officers are taught how to handle dangerous encounters, but not paramedics and EMTs. A female paramedic noted, "Everybody forgets that we're in the same violent situation because we're dealing with the same people, but no one teaches us how to protect ourselves."

Many medics expressed that they felt undervalued by their leadership and the public, particularly in comparison with the firefighters they work next to in their

department. "When a firefighter gets injured, they go all out," said a female paramedic, describing the resources her bosses marshal. "When a medic gets injured, nothing. ... No one visits us. And that's how it is."

Joe Schulle, president of the Philadelphia Fire Fighters and Paramedics Union, can fire off several suggestions for mitigating the issues faced by medics. He would like to see placards on EMS vehicles like the ones in Canada that tell people it's a felony to assault a first responder, as a reminder that medics fall into that category and are just as important as firefighters and police officers.

"They don't feel anybody cares," Schulle observes.

In addition, the medics need a chance to recover from the exhausting pace and sometimes traumatic runs. "When you talk about what paramedics experience," he says, "there are very few mechanisms to deal with the stress."

He gives an example of a unit that responded to a disturbing car accident that killed an entire family: "Twenty minutes later, [the medics] were required to be back in service."

REMAKING THE MISSION

One of the most intriguing solutions that Taylor posits has to do with the aforementioned community expectations: the idea that if you call 911, a medically trained person will soon appear.

In practice, this policy invites regular overuse of the system by people who don't feel that they have anywhere else to turn. Twenty-six percent of Philadelphians live below the poverty line, with almost half of those in "deep poverty," meaning a family of three that brings in only \$10,000 annually. According to a 2014 report from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, nearly 20 percent of adult residents lack health insurance. Underserved and low-income populations call for paramedics when they have fevers, need prescriptions picked up or want assistance getting into bed.

"People think we're there to be their taxi service," one EMT reports.

While those events require valuable resources that should be reserved for emergencies, they reveal a powerful underlying attitude: Employees of fire departments are trusted. People readily invite them into their homes. What if there were a way to harness that trust to improve community health?

The model is called community paramedicine, and it entails expanding the job definition of paramedics. Rather than only showing up at the scene of a medical emergency and providing transportation to a hospital, the medics become an extension of the health-care system, providing proactive referrals for people in need of other, long-term services.

Ideally, community paramedicine would identify problems at an early stage. As Taylor explains it, "Medics can figure out what patients need and then connect them with the services or provide that service right there."

Community paramedicine can be employed in urban areas where lack of knowledge about options causes people to let health problems fester or to rely on familiar services, like 911, when another is more suitable.

The model is already being used elsewhere in the United States, including at Christian Hospital, a 13-hospital system in St. Louis with the busiest emergency room in Missouri.

"We were not taking care of these people to the best of their potential," Chris Cebollero, chief of Christian's EMS division, says of the area's low-income population. "We were taking care of the episode, but not the problem."

Cebollero sees clear benefits for the EMTs at Christian Hospital. "A lot of our folks get into this career field because they want to help people," he says. "There are times when they get frustrated by their lack of ability to get people where they really should be. Now we're getting people where they need to go."

The hospital paid for the needed additional training by moving money around, but Cebollero notes that by reducing the use of expensive ambulances to repeatedly transport what he jokingly calls "members of the EMS loyalty program" to the ER, the hospital could save money in the long run.

In Philadelphia, where the fire department's structure is rigidly traditional and its budget is controlled by City Council, change will require political will and persuasive arguments.

Taylor, for her part, is actively pursuing funding to assess every medic and firefighter in the Philadelphia Fire Department for stress, burnout and other indicators of physical and emotional labor.

In the meantime, "The number of calls is increasing, but the number of medic units isn't," says union president Schulle. "You just can't keep adding workload."