

*City of Salem, Massachusetts
Office of the City Clerk*

*Ilene Simons
City Clerk*



*Room 1
City Hall*

02/11/2025

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

The Salem City Council will hold its regular meeting in-person on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, 93 Washington Street, 2nd floor for the purpose of discussing any and all business.

In-Person shall be the primary method of public access to such meetings. A secondary method of public access may be provided, if technologically feasible through Salem Access Television, and/or remotely through Zoom. See below for remote access and SATV information.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82856069840?pwd=7G5oIFISWBDQr2jkVjVghxXX6bC0c7.1>

Password: 694887

Go to the website link: <https://zoom.us/join>. Enter meeting/webinar ID# **828 5606 9840** followed by the meeting password above if directed to do so.

Or Telephone: Participants can dial a toll free number at 877-853-5257 (Toll Free) or 888-475-4499 (Toll Free). When prompted, enter meeting/webinar ID#: **828 5606 9840** and follow the instructions to join the meeting. For those dialing in, you may press *9 to raise your hand to speak if signed up for public testimony or to participate in the public hearing portion of the agenda (if applicable).

The public may also watch the meeting live on SATV on Channel 22.

Very truly yours,

ILENE SIMONS
CITY CLERK

ATTEST:

“When in person, individuals requiring auxiliary aids and services for effective communication such as sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device, or print material in digital format or a reasonable modification in programs, services, policies, or activities, may contact the City of Salem ADA Coordinator at (978-619-5630) as soon as possible and no less than 2 business days before the meeting, program, or event.” Assistive Listening System is available for City Council Meetings. Those interested in utilizing these devices for meetings at 93 Washington Street may contact the City Clerk’s Office at 978-745-9595 ext. 41200 or isimons@salem.com.

“Know Your Rights Under the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A ss. 18-25, and City Ordinance Sections 2-2028 through 2-2033.”

CITY OF SALEM
February 13, 2025
REGULAR MEETING

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held in-person on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM for the purpose of transacting any and all business. Notice of this meeting was posted on February 11, 2025, at 1:08 PM. This meeting is being recorded and is live on S.A.T.V. and Zoom unless technological issues interrupt the transmission.

Councilors absent:

Council President Prosniewski presided.

Councilor _____ moved to dispense with the reading of the record of the previous meeting. **VOTED**

President Prosniewski requested that everyone please rise to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Salem City Council Land Acknowledgement

The Salem City Council honors that this land is Naumkeag, or fishing place, where generation of Naumkeag people from the Pawtucket band of the Massachusetts Tribe lived and passed through for centuries.

We acknowledge that this is unceded Indigenous land and also acknowledge the Massachusetts Tribe, who continue to honor and hold this land into the present.

Salem's City Council is committed to having ongoing meaningful dialogue with the indigenous peoples who have presence in Salem in order to dismantle the legacies of oppression and inequities that persist today.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Public Testimony not to exceed 15 minutes. Public Testimony is not a public hearing or question and answer period. Sign up must occur 30 minutes prior to meeting. The President shall, depending on the number of speakers, set a time limit, not to exceed three minutes, which each individual presenting testimony must abide.

How to Sign Up:

You may participate in Public Testimony in-person or remotely, if technologically feasible by either of the following two methods:

1. On-line form: <https://records.salem.com/Forms/PublicMeetingSpeaker>

This form will be available beginning 6:30 PM on the Tuesday before the meeting and remains open until 6:30 PM on the day of the Council Meeting. This form requests information such as your name, address, and whether you will attend in person or

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remotely. If the form is not available due to technology issues, you must use option #2. In addition, if you plan to have signed up to speak on Zoom, we will allow you to speak as long as it is technologically feasible.

2. You may also sign the roster in the City Clerk's Office not later than 6:30 PM on the date of the meeting.

HEARINGS

NONE

APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

Held from the last meeting the Mayor's Appointments for the following with terms to expire:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>TERM TO EXPIRE</u>
William Burnham	289 Essex St., Salem	Sustainability, Energy and Resiliency Committee	January 22, 2028
Peter Habib	77 Webb St., Salem	Zoning Board of Appeals	July 1, 2026
Brendan Murray	1 Lynn St., Salem	Historical Commission	January 22, 2027
Robert J. Peterson	21 Settlers Way, Salem	Historical Commission	January 22, 2028
Emily Rubio	78 Essex St., Salem	Scholarship & Education Committee	September 15, 2025

Action Contemplated

Councillor Varela	Moved Confirmation by RCV	Yea	Nay	Abs
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Held from the last meeting the Mayor's Re-Appointments of the following with terms to expire:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>TERM TO EXPIRE</u>
Richard Jagolta Jr	41 Chestnut St	Assessors	January 31, 2028
Michelle Bettencourt	5 Beachmont Rd.	Council on Aging	January 31, 2028
Jaime Garmendia	6 Rawlins St.	Transportation Commission	February 23, 2028
Kerry Neenan	330 Lafayette St.	Commissions on Disabilities	February 13, 2028

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Anthony O'Donnell	35 Washington Sq.	Cemetery Commission	February 13, 2028
Robert "Zach" Sanzone	91 Essex St.	Cemetery Commission	January 31, 2028
Matt Caruso	1 Carol Way	Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee	February 10, 2028
Conor Ryan	39 Daniels St.	Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee	February 10, 2028
Annie Wolf	13 South St	Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee	February 10, 2028
Charlie Heaps	10 Williams St.	Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee	February 10, 2028

Action Contemplated

Councillor Varela	Moved Confirmation by RCV	Yea	Nay	Abs
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Mayor's Appointment of Christa McGaha of 19 Pickman St. to the Zoning Board of Appeals, replacing Paul Vicca with a term to expire May 1, 2025.

Action Contemplated

Councillor Watson-Felt	Moved Held Under the Rules	Voted
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Mayor's Appointment of Glenn Larose of 6 Lovett St. to the Salem Redevelopment Authority, replacing Cynthia Nina-Soto with a term to expire December 8, 2026.

Action Contemplated

Councillor Stott	Moved Held Under the Rules	Voted
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Mayor's Appointment of Emily Gonzalez of 4 Henry St. to the Historical Commission, replacing Lawrence Spang with a term to expire February 12, 2028.

Action Contemplated

Councillor Harvey	Moved Held Under the Rules	Voted
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Mayor's Appointment of Aiyana Lilly of 17 Appleton St. and Johnny Fabian of 196 Loring Ave. to the Salem Youth Commission filling the two (2) adult seats, with terms to expire February 12, 2027.

Action Contemplated

Councillor Varela Moved Held Under the Rules Voted

Mayors Appointment of Alexa Ogno of 180A Federal St. to the Bicycling and Shared Path Advisory Committee, replacing Paul Carson with a term to expire February 12, 2028.

Action Contemplated

Councillor Watson-Felt Moved Held Under the Rules Voted

Mayor's Re-Appointment of the Following City Employees with Terms to Expire:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>TERM TO EXPIRE</u>
Greg Salamida	Assistant Building Inspector	February 12, 2027
Stephen Cortes	Director of Assessing	January 31, 2026
Leonard Rose	Sealer of Weights & Measures	January 31, 2028
Kristen Lindberg	City Treasurer	January 31, 2028

Action Contemplated

Councillor Varela Moved Held Under the Rules Voted

Mayor's Re-Appointments of the Following with Terms to Expire:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>BOARD/COMMISSION</u>	<u>TERM TO EXPIRE</u>
Joshua Nagle	35 Washington Sq.	Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee	February 13, 2028
Walter Morrell	65 Palmer St.	Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee	February 13, 2028
Jacob St. Louis	34 Buffum St.	Cemetery Commission	February 13, 2028
David Pabich	8 Harbor View Ter.	Salem & Beverly Water Supply Board	February 28, 2028

Action Contemplated

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Councillor Varela

Moved Held Under the Rules

Voted

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Appropriation of \$75,000.00 in the Retirement Buyback Account to be expended for sick leave buybacks to be paid out for active employees

Councillor Merkl

Suspension of Councillor
the Rules

Objection

Action Contemplated

Councillor Merkl

Refer to the Comm. on Admin. &
Finance
OR
Moved Adoption

Voted

Appropriation of \$37,635.30 within Retirement Buyback account for contractual buyback for Public Library and School Dept. Employee

Councillor Merkl

Suspension of Councillor
the Rules

Objection

Action Contemplated

Councillor Merkl

Refer to the Comm. on Admin. &
Finance
OR
Moved Adoption

Voted

Per MGL Ch. 44 Sec. 64 Pay for a prior fiscal year invoice using current fiscal year appropriation in the amount of \$5,593.43 for the IT Department (2/3 vote required)

Councillor Merkl

Suspension of Councillor
the Rules

Objection

Action Contemplated

Councillor Merkl

Refer to the Comm. on Admin. &
Finance
OR
Moved Adoption by RCV

Voted

Yea Nay Abs

REGULAR MEETING

Appropriation of \$5,000.00 to the Golf Course Souvenirs/Merchandise Account			
Councillor Merkl	Suspension of the Rules	Councillor	Objection

Action Contemplated

Councillor Merkl	Refer to the Comm. on Admin. & Finance OR Moved Adoption	Voted
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An Ordinance Amending an Ordinance relative to Regulating the Maintenance of
Abandoned and Foreclosing Residential and Commercial Properties
Action Contemplated

Councillor Hapworth	Moved Refer to the Comm. on Ord., Lic. & Legal Affairs	Voted
	OR	
	Adopted for first passage	Voted

Home Rule Petition Relative to An Act to Increasing the Local Option Tax in the City of Salem on the Sale of Marijuana and Marijuana Products
Action Contemplated

Councillor Hapworth	Moved Adoption by RCV	Voted
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ORDERED: That the Salem Public Schools is hereby authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) regarding the administration of origin transportation costs under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to maximize Federal Financial Participation from the Federal Government through Title IV-E of the Social Security Act (Title IV-E).

Action Contemplated

Councillor Varela	Moved Adopted	Voted
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Order: That the Mayor is hereby authorized to use the City Seal on minted Salem 400+ medallions commemorating the City's quadricentennial.

Action Contemplated

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Councillor Morsillo	Moved Refer to the Comm. on Government Svcs.	Voted
	OR	
	Move Adopted	Voted

Resolution: Recognizing the Service of Lawrence Spang
Action Contemplated

Councillor Watson-Felt	Moved Adoption by RCV	Voted
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MAYOR'S INFORMATIONAL PAGE

NONE

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councillor Merkl offered the following report for the Committee on Administration and Finance co-posted with the Committee of the Whole to whom was referred the matter of \$80,000.00 Appropriation for study to fund ballards installation design plans on Essex St. Pedestrian Mall. Has considered said matter and would recommend Adoption.

Accept the Report	Voted
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Adopt the Recommendation	Voted
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Councillor Hapworth offered the following report for the Committee on Ordinances, Licenses and Legal Affairs to whom was referred the matter of Granting of Certain Licenses: Second Hand Clothing and Second Hand Valuables.

Accept the Report	Voted
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Adopt the Recommendation	Voted
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Councillor Varela offered the following report for the Government Services Committee to whom was referred the matter of Creating an Election Commission. Has Considered said matter and would recommend discharge from Committee with no action taken.

Accept the Report Voted

Adopt the Recommendation Voted

Councillor Varela offered the following report for the Committee on Government Services to whom was referred the matter of the Home Rule Petition establishing an Election Commission. Has considered said matter and would recommend Adoption by Roll Call Vote

Accept the Report Voted

Adopt the Recommendation Yeas Nays Absent
by RCV

Councillor Prosniewski offered the following report for the Committee of the Whole to whom was referred the matter of the Re-Appointment of City Clerk Ilene Simons. Has considered said matter and would recommend: Action unknown, meeting held after agenda deadline.

Accept the Report Voted

Adopt the Recommendation Voted

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Per Chapter 32, Article 5, Section 32-121, communication from Police Chief requesting authority to install video surveillance cameras or have access to camera system at the following locations outlined in the attached letter
Action Contemplated

Councillor Hapworth Moved Adoption Voted

The Salem Affordable Housing Trust Fund Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024 submitted by Elena Eimert from the Planning Department
Action Contemplated

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Councillor Stott

Moved Received and Filed

Voted

PETITIONS

Petition from National Grid to install Conduits to 14 Buchanan Rd.
Action Contemplated

Hearing Ordered February
27, 2025

Request from B&S Fitness to hold the Black Cat 10 & 20 Miler Road Race and use of city streets on March 23, 2025 at 8:00 AM
Action Contemplated

Councillor Hapworth

Moved Granted

Voted

The Following License Applications:
PUBLIC GUIDES
TAXI OPERATORS
TAXI CAB/LIMOS
Action Contemplated

Councillor Hapworth

Moved Granted

Voted

The Following License Application:
PUBLIC GUIDE
Action Contemplated

Councillor Hapworth

Moved Denied

Voted

The Following Claims:
Action Contemplated

Councillor Hapworth

Moved Refer to the Comm.
on Ord., Lic. & Legal Affairs

Voted

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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Tabled from the Meeting Held on September 12, 2024

Councillor Morsillo Motion to Remove from the Table

Councillor Seconded the Motion

The Mayor's Re-appointments of the following Salem Residents to the Zoning Board of Appeals, for the terms set forth below.

Stephen Larrick	17 Carlton St.	term to expire: September 10, 2026
Ellen Simpson	1 Geneva St.	term to expire: September 10, 2026
Nina Vyedin	41 Felt St.	term to expire: September 13, 2029

Action Contemplated

Councillor Morsillo	Moved Confirmation by RCV	Yea	Nay	Abs
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Second Passage of an Ordinance amending traffic Ch. 42 Sec. 50B - Handicap Parking - Wisteria Street

Action Contemplated

Councillor Cohen	Moved Adoption for second passage	Voted
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Second Passage of an Ordinance to amend Traffic - Ch. 42 Secs. 51 & 74 relative to Willson Street and Jefferson Avenue

Action Contemplated

Councillor Morsillo	Moved Adoption for second passage	Voted
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ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councillor Morsillo, the meeting adjourned at

P.M.

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