



CITY OF TAUNTON

In Municipal Council 20.....

Ordered, That

At a regular meeting of the Municipal Council, held on

March 10, 2026, the Municipal Council voted to accept:

The following be adopted as Standard Order of the Municipal Council, previously adopted on December 22, 2025, be amended as follows and shall constitute the procedural rules of the Taunton Municipal Council:

RULES AND ORDERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MARCH 10, 2026
ADOPTED

JENNIFER L. LEGER, CITY CLERK

PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR AND APPROVED,
MARCH 11, 2026

SHAUNNA O'CONNELL, MAYOR

A TRUE COPY:
ATTEST:

Jennifer L. Leger
JENNIFER L. LEGER, CITY CLERK

..... *Clerk.*

..... March 11, 2026²⁰ Approved,

.....
Shanna O'Connell Mayor.

Order Relative to

RULES AND ORDERS OF THE MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL

.....
.....
.....

Offered by

Councilman,

.....

CITY OF TAUNTON
FEB 17 2026
IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

CITY OF TAUNTON
MAR 10 2026
IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 17, 2026.
PASSED TO A SECOND READING.

Jennifer L. Leger
JENNIFER L. LEGER, CITY CLERK

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, MARCH 10, 2026.
ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, 8 COUNCILORS PRESENT,
7 COUNCILORS VOTING IN FAVOR. (COUNCILOR
DUARTE VOTING IN OPPOSITION. COUNCILOR
BOTELLIO WAS ABSENT)

Jennifer L. Leger
JENNIFER L. LEGER, CITY CLERK

Ordered That,

**The RULES AND ORDERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,
previously adopted as a Standing Order of the Municipal Council on December 22, 2025,
be amended as follows:**

Language to be added is shown in italics and language to be deleted is shown with strikethroughs.

§ A501-2. Agenda.

- A. The original of any message, communication, ordinance, resolution, vote or other measure to be considered by the Municipal Council shall be delivered to the office of the City Clerk before 10:00 a.m. on the date that notice of the meeting is required to be posted under Massachusetts law preceding any meeting of the Municipal Council. Such submission is a prerequisite to any item's consideration at such meeting. Notwithstanding the above, any member of the Municipal Council may submit any communication that was not included within the agenda. Any request or submission to be on the agenda is to include the name and address of the person or entity submitting said communication to be reviewed.
- B. It shall be the duty of the City Clerk to prepare and cause to be printed for each meeting a listing of all matters submitted.
- C. Items not on the agenda but placed on the Councilors' desks that evening or otherwise raised at the meeting will either be referred to a particular committee or referred to a subsequent meeting.
- D. To the extent possible, the Clerk is to email any ancillary documents that are placed on the Councilors' desks as early as possible prior to the meeting.
- E. The Council may suspend the rules if there is a vote of six to take certain matters under consideration.
- F. Public input shall be a standing agenda item. Individuals who wish to have their matters addressed by the Council may submit a form prescribed by the Municipal Council to the office of the City Clerk by 10:00 a.m. on the date that notice of the meeting is required to be posted under Massachusetts law preceding any meeting of the Municipal Council. Individuals who wish to provide public input on matters on the meeting agenda or not appearing on the agenda may sign up in advance as stated above or may register prior to the start of the meeting in the location of said meeting. The public may bring up any matter and, as to matters not appearing on the agenda, the same will be referred to the appropriate committee or City department for discussion or action. Public input shall be limited to three minutes per person. There shall be a timer that is visible to both the speaker and the person presiding. Public Input is included on the agenda for the express purpose of giving members of the public an opportunity to address the Council on matters of their concern. City Councilors may not use Public Input.

~~G. Councilors shall submit new business requests and referrals on the agenda unless a true emergency arises. The person presiding shall determine if the matter rises to the level of an emergency. In the absence of a true emergency, the matter shall be referred to the next agenda under the "New Business" category.~~

§ A501-24. Standing committees.

- A. All standing committees shall consist of between three and nine members.
- B. The role of each committee shall be to provide a forum for in-depth review and analysis of all City departments, boards, agencies, and to provide a means for residents of the City of Taunton to address their concerns with regard to services provided by the City of Taunton.
- C. Committees shall focus upon (1) public policy, (2) efficiency of service delivery, and (3) cost containment, it being the goal of City government to provide appropriate services while ensuring that public moneys, which derive from our citizenry, are spent wisely and cautiously.
- D. Each committee shall recommend such changes in the ordinances or statutes as will provide the greatest necessary services for the tax moneys expended.
- E. There shall be appointed standing committees as follows:
 - (1) Committee of the Whole (nine members), which shall concern itself with any litigation involving the Municipal Council and all other matters referred to it. The committee shall exercise general oversight over the Office of the Mayor.
 - (2) Finances and Salaries (three members), which shall exercise general oversight with respect to revenues and expenditures of the City of Taunton and all other component units with the exception of the budget for the Taunton School Department. The Committee may report to the Council the cost of the implementation of any order, ordinance, program or other initiative pending before the body, and shall make such report whenever requested by another committee or directed to do so by the Council; shall be referred to it all matters concerning appropriations, the City budget, expenditures and loans; and, further, no appropriation, budget expenditure or loan shall be voted out of Committee except upon a majority vote of its members. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the Assessing, Auditing, Collector, the Treasury Department, and Budget Director.
 - (3) Department of Public Works (three members), which shall concern itself with any matters that are within the purview of the Department of Public Works. The Committee shall exercise general oversight with respect to the Department of Public Works.
 - (4) Public Property and Information Technology (three members), which shall concern itself with any matters relating to or affecting all public buildings or other public property. The Committee shall also concern itself with telecommunications, new technologies, information technology, computer technology and the internet. The Committee shall explore ways for all City departments to become more effective and efficient in the use of computer technology for

the benefit of residents of the City. The Committee shall exercise general oversight with respect to the Building Department and the Information Technology Department.

(5) Fire Department (three members), which shall exercise general oversight with respect to the Fire Department.

(6) Police and Licenses (three members), which shall exercise general oversight with respect to the Police Department. The Committee shall concern itself with any matters that relate to granting, review, renewal or revocation of licenses granted by the City. The Committee shall concern itself with transportation policies for the City, including issues related to parking, traffic flow on City streets, and hackney/jitney licenses.

(7) Public Health and Human Services (three members). The Committee shall concern itself with issues related to health across the age spectrum. This shall include the special problems of aging, including personal safety, access to health care, independent living, home health, services, and nutrition. This shall also include the impact of industry on public health. The Committee shall also concern itself with the natural resources of the City, including wetlands and all matters relating to the problems of air, land and water pollution, and open space conservation. The Committee shall also concern itself with the issues relevant to natural disasters occurring in the City of Taunton. The Committee shall concern itself with the provisions of services to children and adolescents in Taunton and shall work to strengthen cooperation among City, state and private agencies engaged in providing youth services and to expand support for public and private youth activities and programs.

(8) Ordinances and Enrolled Bills (three members), which shall exercise general oversight with respect to the Law Department, the City Clerk, Department of Human Resources, and workers' compensation and group insurance matters. The Committee shall concern itself with organization and structure of City government, including departmental fees and charges. The Committee shall have referred to it all proposed ordinances and special laws affecting the structure, duties, and responsibilities of all City departments, agencies, and commissions.

(9) Housing and Economic Development (three members). The Committee shall concern itself with the physical and economic development of the City, job training and opportunities stemming from new and planned development, public policy involving housing issues, the relationship of the City to SRPEDD and other regional and state planning agencies, and the effect of large scale development on neighborhoods and the people of Taunton. The Committee shall exercise general oversight with respect to the Mayor's Office of Economic and Community Development and the Senior Planner.

(10) Zoning (three members). The Committee shall concern itself with the zoning ordinances of the City.

(11) Solid Waste (three members). The Committee shall concern itself with recycling and other resource recovery efforts; protection from improper storage, transportation and disposal of wastes, and especially hazardous and infectious wastes. The Committee shall exercise general oversight with respect to the operation and management of the Taunton Landfill.

(12) Golf Course Commission Representative (one member). The Council member shall attend meetings of the Golf Course Commission and shall concern himself or herself with the efficient management and operation of the John F. Parker Municipal Golf Course.

(13) Downtown Taunton Foundation/Business Improvement District Representative (one member). ~~The Council member shall be a member of the Committee on Economic Development and Technology. He or she~~ *The Council member* shall attend meetings of the Downtown Taunton Foundation/Business Improvement District and shall concern himself or herself with the development of a vibrant business climate for downtown Taunton.

(14) Veterans and Military Affairs (three members). The Committee shall concern itself with all matters pertaining to veterans, veterans' organizations, and military affairs and related City departments and divisions.

(15) Transportation (three members). The Committee shall concern itself with all matters related to the city's transportation infrastructure and services including, but not limited to, public transit, traffic flow, and pedestrian and bicycle access. The subcommittee aims to support safe, sustainable, and equitable mobility for all residents while advising on transportation-related improvements and opportunities.