

Notice is hereby given that the regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council was held on Monday evening December 8th, 2025 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 45 School St., Brockton, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM with all eleven members present.

Public Hearing on the question of adoption of the percentages of the local tax levy to be borne by each class of real property for fiscal year 2026.

President Thompson opened the Hearing.

No one has signed up to speak.

President Thompson closed the hearing.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. Appointment of Scott D. Uhlman of 142 Cashman Road, Brockton, MA 02301 as Chairman of the Brockton License Commission for a three-year term, ending in November 2028.

City Clerk Cruise explained that the following appointment is just a communication. Mr. Uhlman is already on the board so they don't need to vote on it. The Mayor appoints the chairman of the board.

Councilor Asack motion to table and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

2. Appointment of Aurelia Mboyo of 42 Albert Street, Apartment 1, Brockton, MA 02302, to the Women's Commission for a three-year term, ending in December 2028.

Referred to Finance

HEARINGS:

3. Petition of Teen Challenge New England, Inc. of 1311 Main Street, Brockton, MA 02301 for a Garage License Transfer located at 12 Clifton Avenue, Brockton, MA 02301. (POSTPONED FROM CITY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 27TH, 2025) (POSTPONED FROM CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 10TH, 2025)

Councilor Nicastro motioned to postpone to the next City Council Meeting and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

4. Petition of Teen Challenge New England, Inc. of 1311 Main Street, Brockton, MA 02301 for a Motor Vehicle Mechanical Repair License Transfer located at 12 Clifton Avenue, Brockton, MA 02301. (POSTPONED FROM CITY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 27TH, 2025) (POSTPONED FROM CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 10TH, 2025)

Councilor Nicastro motioned to postpone to the next City Council Meeting and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

REPORTS:

5. Of the Ordinance Committee for its meeting of November 25th, 2025

Accepted and placed on file.

6. Of the Finance Committee for its meeting of December 1st, 2025

Accepted and placed on file.

COMMUNICATIONS:

7. From the Mayor appointing Scott D. Uhlman of 142 Cashman Road, Brockton, MA 02301 as Chairman of the Brockton License Commission for a three-year term, ending in November 2028.

Accepted and placed on file.

8. From the Mayor appointing of Aurelia Mboyo of 42 Albert Street, Apartment 1, Brockton, MA 02302, to the Women's Commission for a three-year term, ending in December 2028

Accepted and placed on file.

9. From the Mayor requesting a waiver of the City of Brockton's residency requirement for Officer Spencer Benoit. Officer Benoit has over seven years of combined service as a Police Officer and Brockton resident. He has a young family, and due to speech therapy needs for his daughter, he is requesting the waiver.

Accepted and placed on file.

10. From the Fire Chief requesting from the Brockton Fire Department to accept and expend a total of three hundred twenty-three thousand, eight hundred twenty-two dollars and seventy-one cents (323,822.71) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. The Fire Department intends to use these Grant funds for overtime necessary to maintaining staffing levels. This is a non-matching grant with no cost to the City.

Accepted and placed on file.

11. From the Mayor in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, hereby recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$323,822.71 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to the Brockton Fire Department.

Accepted and placed on file.

12. From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying that the financial resources and revenues of the City of Brockton are and will continue to be adequate to support the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$323,822.71 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to the Brockton Fire Department, without detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services.

Accepted and placed on file.

13. From the Mayor in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$175,688.00 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to the Council on Aging.

Accepted and placed on file.

14. From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying that after an evaluation of all pertinent financial information reasonably available, that the financial resources and revenues of the City of Brockton are and will continue to be

adequate to support the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$175,688.00 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to the Council on Aging, without detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services.

Accepted and placed on file.

15. From the Mayor in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$13,000.00 from Old Colony Planning Council to the Council on Aging. These funds will be used for support of the Council on Aging's exercise programs.

Accepted and placed on file.

16. From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying that the financial resources and revenues of the City of Brockton are and will continue to be adequate to support the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$13,000.00 from Old Colony Planning Council to the Council on Aging, without detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services. These funds will be used for support of the Council on Aging's exercise programs.

Accepted and placed on file.

17. From the Mayor in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council accepts the lease agreement entered into with New England Golf Cars, a corporation which has an address of 62 Industrial Way, Seekonk, MA.

Accepted and placed on file.

18. From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying that the financial resources and revenues of the City of Brockton are and will continue to be adequate to support the lease agreement entered into with New England Golf Cars, a corporation which has an address of 62 Industrial Way, Seekonk, MA, without detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services.

Accepted and placed on file.

19. From the Mayor in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council authorize the approval of prior year unpaid bills of \$44,134.24. These funds will be used to pay invoices from FY25.

Accepted and placed on file.

20. From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying that the financial resources and revenues of the City of Brockton are and will continue to be adequate to support approval of prior year unpaid bills of \$44,134.24, without a detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services. These funds will be used to pay invoices from FY25.

Accepted and placed on file.

21. From the Mayor in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council authorize the proposed transfer of \$40,642.50. This appropriation provides funding for one (1) year (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026), of a one (1) year contract. This is a reasonable and financially sustainable settlement for the city.

Accepted and placed on file.

22. From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying that the financial resources and revenues of the City of Brockton are adequate to support the proposed transfer of \$40,642.50 for purposes of funding the Public Employees' Local

Union 1162, Water & Sewer contract, without detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services. This appropriation provides funding for one (1) year (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026), of a one (1) year contract. This is a reasonable and financially sustainable settlement for the city.

Accepted and placed on file.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

23. ORDINANCE: An Ordinance Amending Article III, Division 2, Sec. 2-137. - Vacation Leave.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Brockton as follows:

Article III, Section 2-137 - Vacation Leave is hereby amended by changing the title from "Vacation Leave" to "Vacation Leave and Personal Days."

And further,

Article III, Section 2-137 - Vacation Leave is hereby amended by replacing subsection (a) with the following:

(a) Every employee occupying a full-time position subject to the classification and pay plans shall be granted two (2) weeks' vacation with pay and four (4) personal days with pay after completion of thirty (30) weeks in a paid status. Thereafter, every employee shall receive two (2) weeks' vacation with pay and (4) personal days with pay annually, which shall be granted on the anniversary date of their original hire date. Any employee terminated within the first 90 days of employment shall receive no compensation for vacation leave or personal days granted under this ordinance.

And further,

Article III, Section 2-137 - Vacation Leave is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:

(1) Any personal days unused in the twelve (12) months after they were obtained will not accumulate. Personal days granted pursuant to this ordinance are intended solely as a benefit to promote employee wellness and work-life balance. These personal days shall not be considered wages, compensation, or remuneration for purposes of the Massachusetts Wage Act, as codified in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 149, Section 148. Accordingly, employees shall not be entitled to payment for any unused personal days upon separation from employment or at any other time unless otherwise required by applicable state or federal law. (FAVORABLE AS AMENDED)

Passed to a third reading as Amended by a hand vote.

24. ORDINANCE: Amendment to Zoning Map for Parcel IDs identified

Be it ordained, pursuant to Section 27-5 of the City Ordinances "Zoning Map" whereby reference is made to and incorporation of said boundaries of each of the zones established as shown on the map entitled, "The City of Brockton, Massachusetts Zoning District Map" dated November 10, 1967, and thereafter amended, that said map be amended to reflect the Following zoning change:

Parcel ID	133-002	R-1(current) to	R-1/R-5 Zone
	133-003	R-1(current) to	R-1/R-5 Zone

175-160	R-1(current) to	R-1/R-5 Zone
175-003	R-1(current) to	R-1/R-5 Zone
174-376	R-1(current) to	R-1/R-5 Zone

(FAVORABLE) (PASSED TO A THIRD READING) (IN CITY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 24TH,2025 AMENDED AND POSTPONED)

Ordained as Amended by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and all voting in the affirmative.

25. Appointment of Faye Slayton of 116 Norwood Street, Brockton MA 02302, as an alternate on the Board of the Brockton Council on Aging, for a three-year term ending in November 2028 (FAVORABLE)

Confirmed by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and all voting in the affirmative.

26. Appointment of: F. Peter Gaskins Jr of 101 Country Club Lane, Brockton MA 02301 to the Cemetery Board of Trustees for a 5-year term ending in November 2029. (POSTPONED FROM FINANCE MEETING NOVEMBER 17, 2025) (FAVORABLE)

Confirmed by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and all voting in the affirmative.

27. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$175,000.00.

FROM: BARR FOUNDATION	\$175,000.00
TO: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS- COMMISSIONER	\$175,000.00

(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and all voting in the affirmative.

28. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$68,000.00.

FROM: MassDEP	\$68,000.00
TO: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - REFUSE	\$68,000.00

(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and all voting in the affirmative.

29. Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$293,453.44.

FROM: DPW REFUSE - PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$277,891.92
DPW STORMWATER - PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$15,258.00
DPW HIGHWAY – PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$228.52
DPW HIGHWAY – GOODS AND SUPPLIES	\$75.00
TO: REPUBLIC SERVICES	\$277,891.92
APEX ENGINEERING	\$15,258.00

SPRAGUE	\$228.52
STEPHEN GOGAN (FAVORABLE)	\$75.00

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and ten voting in the affirmative. Councilor Derenoncourt in the negative.

- 30.** Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$72,842.93.

FROM: SEWER – GOODS AND SUPPLIES	\$6,432.51
SEWER – PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$66,410.42
TO: EASTERN SLING AND SUPPLY	\$1,247.51
CUES INC.	\$5,185.00
EQUIPMENT EAST	\$4,550.00
BERTARELLI BROTHER LLC	\$5,700.00
FEDEX	\$41.49
BROCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$1,730.68
CORE & MAIN	\$33,035.18
ALTUS POWER	\$20,078.07
HOLBROOK POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$715.00
PLYMPTON POLICE	\$560.00
(FAVORABLE)	

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and all voting in the affirmative.

- 31.** Ordered: That the following named sum be and the same hereby transfer as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:
Appropriation of: \$13,760.20

FROM: HUMAN RESOURCES – BENEFITS	\$13,760.20
TO: PUBLIC PROPERTY – PERSONAL SERVICES NON-OT (FAVORABLE)	\$13,760.20

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and ten voting in the affirmative. Councilor Derenoncourt in the negative.

- 32.** Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$72,275.48.

FROM: WATER – GOODS AND SUPPLIES	\$12,321.88
WATER – PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$59,953.60
TO: CORE & MAIN	\$33,035.19
ALTUS POWER	\$20,078.07
JOHN HOADLEY & SONS	\$1,129.26
TI SALES	\$5,562.63
WOODWARD AUTO PARTS	\$5,599.99
BROCKTON POLICE	\$3,680.34
PLYMPTON POLICE	\$560.00
EVERETT’S AUTO PARTS	\$30.00
EQUIPMENT EAST	\$2600.00
(FAVORABLE)	

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and all voting in the affirmative.

- 33. Ordered:** That the following named sum be and the same is hereby transferred as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Transfer of: \$134,735.00

FROM: CERTIFIED FREE CASH \$134,735.00

TO: DPW REFUSE – RETAINED EARNINGS \$134,735.00
(FAVORABLE)

CFO Dr. Clarkson explained as he mentioned at the finance committee when they passed this passing this finally is contingent upon the certification of free cash. They did provide that to the department of revenue but they have not yet certified the free cash. They do expect it to be completed tomorrow. So, he would ask that they postpone this and take it up at your next meeting.

Councilor Asack motioned to postpone and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

- 34. Ordered:** That the following named sum be and the same hereby transfer as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Appropriation of: \$100,000.00

FROM: HUMAN RESOURCES – BENEFITS \$100,000.00

TO: FIRE – PERSONAL SERVICES NON OT \$100,000.00
(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and ten voting in the affirmative. Councilor Derenoncourt in the negative.

- 35. Ordered:** That the following named sum be and the same is hereby transferred as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Transfer of: \$3,388,863.00

FROM: PENSION STABILIZATION FUND \$3,388,863.00

TO: RETIREMENT – CONTRIBUTORY PENSION \$3,388,863.00
(FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members present and ten voting in the affirmative. Councilor Derenoncourt in the negative.

- 36. Ordered:** That the following named sum be and the same is hereby transferred as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Transfer of: \$1,609,443.00

FROM: CERTIFIED FREE CASH \$1,609,443.00

TO: RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION DEFICITS \$1,609,443.00
(FAVORABLE)

Councilor Farwell stated he was unable to attend the meeting of Finance committee and he understands this came up during that meeting. He sent an email out on December 4th asking for information about what are they paying for, to whom are they issuing checks for \$1.6 million and taking the money out of free cash, which can be used for any reason. and he didn't get an answer, but fortunately Councilor Nicaastro sent out a message today and she did get an answer back from the city auditor. From what they're told, as requested, and he's reading from the email, as requested, here is what makes up the deficit transfer plus the previous fiscal year numbers. So apparently starting in fiscal year 21 and continuing into fiscal year 25, the Brockton Redevelopment Authority ran deficits in community development block grant funds, home funds, and lead paint funds. And in particular in fiscal year 25 in the lead paint program, \$683,88642 for a deficit. in the home funds program, \$118,145.80 for a deficit. And for the CDBG program, \$779,88366 for a deficit. So now they're taking money from free cash, which can be used for any reason in this city, and we're paying to offset deficits that were incurred by the Brockton Redevelopment Authority. He does understand that there is an investigation or a review going on, but he wanted to know where the money went. Where did \$779,88366 go in fiscal year 25 paid out of Brockton Redevelopment Authority authorization? Who received the money? What vendor? In what amount? He thinks that they would be abdicating our responsibility to track this deficit spending and to find out where the money went if they just perfunctorily approve this appropriation tonight and let the bills be paid. What he would propose is, and I won't make the motion until I hear from others, that this matter be postponed until the next city council meeting. They ask that the appropriate information be submitted to them.

Councilor Farwell motion to refer back to Finance committee and was properly seconded.

Councilor Derenoncourt on the motion backs 100% of what his colleague stated. Thinks it will be benefit of the people here to understand and have it on the record.

The motion carried by a hand vote.

37. Resolve: Be it resolved to invite the Executive Director and the Chairman of the Board of Brockton Community Access to appear before the Finance Committee of the Brockton City Council to discuss the recent inability to cover the Brockton municipal elections as well as the continuing poor coverage of the Brockton municipal government meetings as well as any other coverage deemed appropriate by the City Council. (FAVORABLE)

Adopted by a hand vote.

ORDERS:

38. ORDERED: A waiver of the City of Brockton's residency requirements under section 2-110 of the city ordinances for Officer Spencer Benoit.

Referred to Finance

39. ORDERED: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$323,822.71.

FROM: EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY \$323,822.71

TO: BROCKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT \$323,822.71

Referred to Finance

40. ORDERED: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$175,688.00.

FROM: EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ELDER AFFAIRS \$175,688.00

TO: COUNCIL ON AGING \$175,688.00

Referred to Finance

41. ORDERED: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$13,000.00.

FROM: OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL \$13,000.00

TO: COUNCIL ON AGING \$13,000.00

Referred to Finance

42. ORDERED: That pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, § 14 and the City of Brockton's Ordinance 2-157, the City of Brockton hereby accepts the Lease Agreement entered into with New England Golf Cars, a corporation which has an address of 62 Industrial Way, Seekonk, MA, for 74 new golf carts for D.W. Field Golf Course. Said lease agreement shall run for a five-year term with payments beginning May, 2026 and ending October, 2030. The Mayor is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in connection with said Lease Agreement.

Referred to Finance

43. ORDERED: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$44,134.24.

FROM: PUBLIC PROPERTY – STADIUM PURCHASE OF SERVICE \$35,102.79
PUBLIC PROPERTY - PURCHASE OF SERVICE \$5,255.70
PUBLIC PROPERTY - GOODS AND SUPPLIES \$3,775.75

TO: ANANIA PLUMBING \$13,367.79
QUABBIN WELL&PUMP \$18,735.00
VERIZON \$3,000.00
UNITED SECURITY \$5,255.70
GRANITE CITY \$3,775.75

Referred to Finance

44. ORDERED: That the following named sum be and the same hereby transfer as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Transfer of: \$40,642.50

FROM: HUMAN RESOURCES – BENEFITS \$40,642.50

TO: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – SEWER \$14,461.20
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – WATER \$26,181.30

Referred to Finance

45. ORDERED: That the City Council hereby determines the percentages of the local tax levy for FY2026 in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L., Ch. 40, Section 56, to be borne by each class of real property, as defined in Section 2A of Chapter 59, and personal property.

CFO Dr. Troy Clarkson: this is something that the city council is asked to do every year. what they're doing tonight is agreeing to what's called the factor, meaning they take a vote of how to distribute the tax levy. The levy is the maximum amount of property taxes that they can tax the property owners in this city every year. That's divided up into the classes that they see here in the packet that was provided to them by Mr. O'Donnell. Residential, commercial, industrial, and personal. Approximately 86% of the property in Brockton is residential. So, what this vote does on an annual basis, you have the ability to distribute how those taxes are assessed to those different classes. meaning they can change the amount that each class is taxed to either increase or relieve the burden on other classes. What they have chosen to do for the last several years is to adjust that classification to lessen the burden on the residential taxpayers of this city. Gradually over the last several years that number has been increased to last year providing the maximum benefit to residential taxpayers in the city or what we call a factor of 1.75. So, the extensive information here in their packets provides detail on the total valuation what the tax rates have historically been and what different votes could mean in terms of the distribution of that tax burden. So simply what they're asking them to do tonight is to decide on a tax factor meaning what that distribution is between the classes and then they have the numbers of how that will impact the tax rate for each of those classes.

Chairman of Assessors Mr. O'Donnell: the fiscal year 2026 classification hearing. First, he would like to thank the entire staff of the assessor's office for their support and assistance throughout this year. The purpose of this hearing is to establish the proportion of the tax levy raised by the residential, commercial, industrial, and personal property classes under Mass General Laws Chapter 40, Section 56. They're required to do this yearly. The assessed values for fiscal year 2026 represent the estimate of market value as of January 1st, 2025 utilizing verified sales data from calendar year 2024. Assessments represent 100% of market value as required by Mass General Law. Department of Revenue has certified the real and personal properties for the city as well as the new growth value. The assesses are required to fairly assess 27,518 parcels and accounts in the city. There are 24,276 residential parcels, 1,711 commercial parcels, commercial and industrial parcels, and 1553 personal property accounts. The total taxable value of all real and personal property in the city for the fiscal year 2026 is just over \$14 billion, which is a 8.21 increase from fiscal year 2025 and is the highest total taxable value ever for the city of Brockton. This year, the city added a total of \$2,421,975 in new growth tax dollars in residential, commercial, and personal property. The residential class total value increased 8.29%. The commercial class total value increased 6.36%. The industrial class total value increased 13.59%. And the personal property class total value increased 8.2%. to 0%. People often associate rising assessments with rising taxes. However, this is not the case. Rising budgets cause rising taxes. If the budget increases, typically taxes increase. The assessed value represents the market value of all properties. If all assessments went down 25% in the budget increase, taxes would still increase. The purpose of tonight's tax classification hearing is to adopt a residential factor. The city council will decide on how much a tax levy the owners of residential properties will pay and how much a tax levy the owners of commercial industrial and personal property pay. This decision is what creates two tax rates or a split rate in the city of Brockton. The split rate in the city of Brockton taxes commercial industrial personal property at a higher rate than residential properties. If there was no shift, there would be one rate. And based on this year's levy, the single rate for the city of Brockton would be \$13.28. Last year, last November, the city council voted to set the fiscal year 2025 shift factor at 1.75. This meant for 2025, commercial, industrial, and personal properties while representing only 14.22% of the total taxable value paid 24.88% of the total taxes.

President Thompson stepped down to Councilor Lally's seat and Councilor Lally stepped up as acting President.

Councilor Thompson: He's going to seek a factor shift of 1.73. This will result in a \$19 increase for single family homes from the tax factor of 1.75 which is a little less than \$5 per quarter. What that will do is it will result on medium difference or medium reduction of \$234 for their businesses. It's no doubt that for everyone costs have risen. That's also true for their business owners and for the past five years, this council has shifted the max tax burden onto their businesses. Today they have an opportunity to provide some relief to their existing businesses and those who seek to open a business in Brockton. This council often talks about Brockton being more business friendly, and this evening they can show that commitment with their actions and not just their words. He thinks a shift of 1.73 is a small increase from 1.75 to their residences, but it provides a much larger reduction for their businesses. In the last few years a 1.75 factor has resulted in a decrease both for residents and commercial. This is an opportunity to get a little more bang for their buck for their businesses and that's why he seeks a tax factor of 1.73. Mr. assessor, maybe he could speak about those numbers, about what their shift has been over the last 5 years. How that's impacted their businesses, both pros and cons, and how this year's numbers kind of work out a little bit differently where a small shift of \$19 a year can result in a \$230 difference for our businesses.

Chairman of Assessors Mr. O'Donnell: the last 5 years the shift is 1.75 and so go back to 2021 was the first year that you went to 1.75. Single family's value single family's tax bill increased \$93, but the commercial tax bills decreased \$428. 22, single families went up \$267, but commercial went down \$821. 23, , single families went up \$884 and, commercial went down \$1 131. 24, singles went up 115. Commercials went up 528. And last year singles run 211 and commercial ramp 273. So the commercials did the first three years of the shift the commercials did benefit and now it's as now it's shifting the other now it's shifting where the burden is becoming a much bigger factor on our businesses. The residential values have gone up a lot more than the commercial values.

Councilor Farwell: understands where his colleague the council president is coming from, but thinks they have to be resident friendly. It it's one thing to be business friendly, but he thinks they have to be resident friendly. And coast to coast, the word we hear is affordability. Everything is going up for people. Whether it's transportation costs, whether it's clothing, homeowner's insurance, transportation costs, everything is squeezing people to a point where some of the people in this city live paycheck to paycheck and they live from social security check to social security check. When we talk about being business friendly, let's not forget that they offer tax increment exemptions. They're pretty generous with what they do for businesses that want to come into the city and then they want to offset some of the increase in taxes for which they would ordinarily be subjected and they enter into a 10-year tax increment exemption agreement. In addition, let's face it, the state in provides low-income housing tax credits. There are a lot of different programs that benefit businesses, but what do we do for the middle-class homeowner who would like to buy a \$550,000 house here in Brockton and become part of the community? They don't offset any of their tax liability. If they should invest in their property and they increase its value, eventually they're going to tax that. They're going to pull building permits and they're going to catch up with them. He thinks of all of the times they need to retain that 1.75 factor and give a break to homeowners, it's right now. Simply do not believe that they can talk about increasing the real estate burden. Then they have debates going on about the trash fees, and then they have debates going on about the water fees, and then they have debates going on about sewer fees. And you know what? Some people at some point people just can't keep up. They simply cannot keep up in the aggregate with everything that's being demanded of them. He would hope that they would retain the 1.75 factor. While I have great respect for Councilor Thompson even raising this issue, he probably has a little more political courage than he does. He just doesn't see it happening now. He doesn't see it as appropriate right now.

Councilor Tavares: She's 100% with her colleague. He's totally right. The home owner think they should kind work with them because everything becomes so high right now. The mortgage become very high the tax the water like everything and in the income still the same. Thinks the priority right now is to focus on the taxpayer. Very blessed to have Michelle and Rita they still work with her to try to find out the resource for community stuff like that is so hard sometimes some of them they get approved sometimes some of them not got approved in the many times so the landlord you know struggle to get the rent to the tenant you know it's got to go through all the process and then they late on the mortgage as well. They are going through so much hardship right now. She's not saying they need a business but at this point thinks they should focus with the middle class because things are getting hard.

Councilor Nicastro: She's stuck in the middle seeing both sides because she's desperate to bring more commercial activity into the city because by doing so they will ultimately lower their residential rate and help their residents. But at the same time, right now, their residents are there's so many uncontrolled in expense increases, not just in Washington, but especially in Washington. There was a really moving report this morning on NPR about how much people's medical insurance is going to go up unless Congress acts and poor Congress can't get out of their own way. She just wanted to say that she appreciates councilor Thompson's position, but people have to come first. Her heart aches for some of their commercial businesses, but she thinks right now it's their residents that they have to think of.

Councilor Asack: She agrees with her colleagues, all of them. She sees councilor Thompson's point. She thinks he's trying to make it a little more attractive for businesses. She agrees with them as five out of the 10 top taxpayers that are on the list are located in W 7. They want to see more. They want to make it you know more appealing for businesses to come into the city, but at the same time as councilor Farwell stated, their homeowners are many of them are suffering and living paycheck to paycheck. This has got to be the toughest meeting that in 12 years it's the toughest one that they go through because they know they're trying to make the best decisions they can for the residents and business owners. Is it possible to get a breakdown so people at home can hear what the difference is between the 1.75 for residents and businesses and the 1.74 compared to one councilor Thompson stated the 1.73 how much it goes up just the breakdown of what it would go up?

Chairman of Assessors Mr. O'Donnell: at 1.74 single family's average bill would be go up \$223.77. The two families would go up \$220.85. Three families would go up \$444.85. Commercial would go up \$784.38 and industrials go up \$2,663.22. That's for the 1.74 factor. At 1.75 \$21416 for single families. two families \$27.85. Three families \$429.94. commercial will go up \$879.75, industrial will go up 272 \$2,779.25.

Councilor Asack: I see that there's new growth, but the percentage is really low. I think what was it? 2% or something for new growth.

Chairman of Assessors Mr. O'Donnell: No, new growth was \$2.4 million.

Councilor Asack: what's the majority of that?

Chairman of Assessors Mr. O'Donnell: the majority is personal property all the work that National Grid and Eversource has been doing in the city. That's where the majority of it comes from. It's broken down. Page 16. So the residential class had new growth of \$567,773. Commercial was 33 336,949. Industrial only had \$34,047 and personal property new growth was \$1,483. \$83,26.

Councilor Asack: the top taxpayers in past years, it's usually like Brockton Hospital. I didn't see them on here this time. Where have they fallen?

Chairman of Assessors Mr. O'Donnell: Good Sam doesn't pay. That's another reason why he should have mentioned that before why the commercial so good Sam's assessed value doesn't go away. It stays in the levy. It stays there. So that's been re-dispersed among all

properties in the City of Brockton. So, it doesn't decrease the tax dollars decreases. Brockton Hospital now that they're Brockton Hospital never pay taxes.

Councilor Asack: okay they don't. We want to appeal to businesses to come into the city. She knows they've lost a few in the past year or so that have decided to leave the city. Just hoping they make the right decision this evening.

Councilor Thompson: costs have risen. It is getting tough. But the increases it's a \$19 increase for the year, which is a little less than \$5 per quarter. Their seniors are afforded the 41c exemption. Just one thing about their tie agreements are mainly aimed towards their residential developments. Those are the ones who the majority are getting our tie agreements. They have very little incentive for their businesses and thinks that 1.73 factor will show their businesses both existing and those wanting to come to Brockton that they are business friendly and that they do take their concerns into account. He knows it will be the will of this council.

Councilor Thompson makes a motion for a factor of 1.73 and was properly seconded.

The motion Fails by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays", eleven members present one in the affirmative and Councilors Asack, Derenoncourt, Farwell, Griffin, Lally, Minichiello, Nicastro, Rodrigues, Tavares, Teixeira in the negative.

Councilor Derenoncourt stepped out.

Councilor Farwell makes a motion for a factor of 1.75 and was properly seconded.

Adopted by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Derenoncourt not present.

Councilor Lally motioned to file for reconsideration with the wish that it not prevail and was properly seconded. reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

Councilor Derenoncourt stepped back in.

The City Clerk Cruise read in to record the Order

That the City Council hereby determines the percentages of the local tax levy in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L., Ch. 40, Section 56, to be borne by each class of real property, as defined in Section 2A of Chapter 59, and personal property.

Residential	75.2323
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Commercial	15.7115
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Industrial	3.4416
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Personal Property	5.6147
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	(100.00)
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The facts for such classification shall be	1.75
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Councilor Asack motioned to accept the tax class order and was properly seconded. the motion carried by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; eleven members present and ten voting in the affirmative. Councilor Derenoncourt voting in the negative.

Councilor Lally motioned to file for reconsideration with the wish that it not prevail and was properly seconded. reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

Councilor Lally motioned to accept a late file and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

COMMUNICATIONS:

From the Fire Chief requesting a transfer of four hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$400,000.00) from Unused Sick leave, three hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$300,000.00) from Shift Differential, three hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$300,000.00) from Holiday premium and three hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$300,000.00) from Vacation Buyback for a total of one million three hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$1,300,000.00) to regular overtime account to maintain all Companies through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2026.

Accepted and placed on file.

From the Mayor in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council authorize the proposed transfer of \$1,300,000.00. This transfer will fully fund the Fire Department’s overtime category for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Accepted and placed on file.

From the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying that the financial resources and revenues of the City of Brockton are adequate to support the proposed transfer of \$1,300,000.00, without detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services. This transfer will fully fund the Fire Department’s overtime category for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Accepted and placed on file.

ORDER:

ORDERED: That the following named sum be and the same hereby transfer as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Transfer of: \$1,300,000.00

FROM: FIRE – PERSONAL SERVICE NON-OVERTIME	\$1,300,000.00
TO: FIRE – PERSONAL SERVICE OVERTIME	\$1,300,000.00

Referred to Finance

Councilor’s Recognition

Meeting adjourned: 7:55PM

All council business as listed on the agenda have been emailed to the City Council members in their complete form, with exception of oversized material, such as maps, photos, etc.

Recommendations are based on reports from committees.