



## **Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council**

*Councilor Deborah Klemer, Chair  
Councilor Meg Robbins, Vice Chair  
Councilor Aline Davis  
Councilor Rachel Maiore*

### **FY2027 Budget Listening Session**

Meeting Date: February 10, 2026  
Time: 6 - 8 p.m.

Council Chambers, 212 Main Street

**The February 10, 2026 Finance Committee meeting will be conducted in hybrid format, with the option for both councilors and the public to attend in person or participate remotely. The public may follow the committee's deliberations by attending in person, watching the meeting live on Comcast Channel 15, live-streaming the meeting on YouTube [here](#) or joining the virtual meeting by phone or computer.**

**Public comment begins at 6 p.m.**

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR CALLING IN OR JOINING THE MEETING**

[PUBLIC MEETING LINK](#)

**MEETING ID: 856 6006 7321**

**PARTICIPANT #: #**

**PASSCODE: 923835**

- 1. Meeting Called To Order And Roll Call**
- 2. Announcement That Meeting Is Being Audio/Video Recorded**  
This meeting is being audio/video recorded.
- 3. Approval Of Minutes From The Previous Meeting**
  - A. Minutes Of January 21, 2026 Finance Committee Organizational Meeting**
- 4. Public Comment (20 Min. Overall/2 Min. Per Speaker)**

General Public Comment on Financial Topics other than those directly related to FY2027 budget.

#### **5. Budget Listening Session - Community Spending Priorities For FY2027**

The City Council Committee on Finance is holding a Listening Session to solicit input from residents on spending priorities in preparation for the FY2027 budget process. Following a brief introduction, participants will be invited to address the Finance

Committee for up to three minutes each on topics related to the budget.

Documents:

[2026 budget listening session.pdf](#)

**6. New Business**

*-Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.*

**7. Adjourn**

*Contact: Deborah Klemer at [dpastrichklemer@northamptonma.gov](mailto:dpastrichklemer@northamptonma.gov)  
or 646-824-2102*



# **BUDGET LISTENING SESSION**

**In preparation for the FY2027 Budget season, the City Council Committee on Finance is hosting a ‘Listening Session.’**

<b>Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026</b>	
<b><u><a href="#">Virtual Meeting</a></u>, Zoom Only 6 p.m.</b>	
<b>Meeting ID: 856 6006 7321</b>	<b>Passcode:923835</b>

It has been said that a budget is not just a collection of numbers but an expression of a community’s values. State law requires a balanced budget, but communities hold distinctive values and therefore have unique priorities for spending residents’ limited tax dollars.

The process for how the city budget is created is determined by Massachusetts General Law and Northampton City Charter. The Mayor of Northampton creates the budget and presents it to the City Council for adoption at least 45 days before the beginning of the fiscal year (May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026).

This is a chance for residents to let City Councilors hear their priorities for spending [or not spending] on programs and services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026. The ‘listening session’ is intended to allow participants to speak and be heard by the City Council. This listening session is separate from the budget meetings and hearings required by City Charter during the formal budget process led by the Mayor.

Please plan your comments for three minutes or less to ensure time for all to speak. Anyone unable to attend may submit comment by email to [citycouncil@northamptonma.gov](mailto:citycouncil@northamptonma.gov).