

*City of Taunton  
Office of the Mayor*



For Immediate Release: 06/30/2023

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## **O'CONNELL REDUCES FEES FOR SMALL BUSINESS**

Taunton, MA... Today Mayor Shaunna O'Connell announced the Zoning Board unanimously adopted her recommendations to further reduce fees to encourage economic development in Taunton.

“We are working around the clock at City Hall to make Taunton a leading city in the Commonwealth. By encouraging the entrepreneurial spirit, we can continue to revitalize our city. That’s why I recommended that the Zoning Board further reduce fees,” said O’Connell.

O’Connell’s recommendations include:

1. All Commercial/ Industrial Variances and/or Special Permits be reduced for petitions of 5,000 square fee or less from the proposed \$670 to \$500.
2. That the renewal fee for an Accessory dwelling unit be reduced from \$100 to zero and therefore be eliminated.
3. That the proposed fees for continuances be reduced from the three tiered \$150, \$200, \$300 structure to a single \$100.00 continuance fee regardless of the number of continuances.
4. That the proposed additional \$150.00 fee for “after the fact” filing be eliminated.

“These fee adjustments will further enforce our commitment to being a leading city in the Commonwealth by supporting housing, business, and economic development in the City of Taunton. I want to thank the Zoning Board members for adopting my recommendations,” said O’Connell. “Having been a strong advocate for small businesses over the past decade, I understand that three out of every four new jobs in the Commonwealth are created by small businesses. I want entrepreneurs to know that Taunton welcomes them.”

O’Connell is a longtime supporter of small business. As a legislator, she was the first to establish a caucus on small business. She went on to file the Small Business Bill of Rights. O’Connell also passed several resolutions for Small Business Saturdays. As Mayor of Taunton, she has continued to demonstrate her commitment to small business by expanding grant opportunities and establishing programs designed to promote the growth and development of small business.###