

Medford City Council Medford, Massachusetts

#### Resident Services and Public Engagement Committee, February 13, 2024

#### **Voting Members**

Matt Leming, Chair
George A. Scarpelli, Vice Chair
Anna Callahan
Emily Lazzaro
Justin Tseng

This meeting will take place at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber on the 2nd floor of Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford, MA and via Zoom.

Zoom Link: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83125350265">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83125350265</a>
Call-in Number: +19292056099, 83125350265# US

Broadcast Live: Channel 22 (Comcast) and Channel 43 (Verizon)

To submit written comments, please email AHurtubise@medford-ma.gov.

# CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### <u>24-006</u> - Offered by Isaac Bears, Council President

Resolution that each Council Committee review the 2024-2025 Council Governing Agenda as amended at the January 24, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting

#### 24-015 - Offered by Justin Tseng, City Councilor

Resolution to Discuss Modernizing Council Communications and Outreach Strategy

#### 24-022 - Offered by Emily Lazzaro, City Councilor

Resolution on Bi-Annual Training on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

#### **PAPERS IN COMMITTEE**

**19-312** Resolution to Establish a Gender Equity Commission

IN CITY COUNCIL 4/9/2019, 1/18/2022

IN COMMITTEE 6/4/2019, 8/13/2019, 10/21/2020

**20-456** Council Create User-Friendly Public Participation Guide

IN CITY COUNCIL 06/23/2020

**21-351** Resolution to Establish a Youth Commission

IN CITY COUNCIL 05/04/2021, 01/18/2022

**22-291** Resolution to Establish a Beautification Committee

IN CITY COUNCIL 06/23/2020, 01/18/2022, 03/29/2022 IN COMMITTEE 10/17/2020, 04/27/2022, 05/03/2022

23-053 Request Report on Social Justice Roadmap Updates

IN CITY COUNCIL 02/28/2023

23-054 Resolution to Conduct Updated Racial Equity Study

IN CITY COUNCIL 02/28/2023

23-055 Resolution to Consider Welcoming City Ordinance

IN CITY COUNCIL 02/28/2023

**23-282** Request Administration Include Translated Signage at City

Hall for Residents Who Speak Languages Other Than English

IN CITY COUNCIL 04/25/2023

23-297 Request Administration Identify Issues that Affect Political

Participation by Immigrant Communities

IN CITY COUNCIL 05/09/2023

<u>24-016</u> Discuss Updating the City Website

IN CITY COUNCIL 01/23/2024

## <u>Adjournment</u>



## Medford City Council Medford, Massachusetts

**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

Isaac Bears, Council President

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

**24-006** - Resolution that each Council Committee review the 2024-2025 Council Governing Agenda as amended at the January 24, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that councilors submit items to be included in a 2024-2025 Medford City Council Governing Agenda document (draft template attached in packet) that will guide the work of this Council and its committees during this term.

Be it Further Resolved that councilors submit items to the City Clerk by Thursday, January 18th, 2024 for further discussion in committee of the whole.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. 2024-2025 Medford City Council Governing Agenda DRAFT COW 1.24.24

## 2024-2025 Medford City Council Governing Agenda

Updated with Councilor Feedback for 1.24.24 Committee of the Whole Meeting

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## **Helpful Documents**

2024 City Council Committees

**Code of Ordinances (Municode)** 

Medford Comprehensive Plan

Medford Housing Production Plan

Medford Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Medford Open Space and Recreation Plan

## Committee of the Whole

## Projects Currently in COW

19-070: Tree Preservation, Protection, and Replacement Ordinances

- Lead Councilors: President Bears, Vice President Collins
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2024End Date Goal: June 2024
- Description and goals:
  - o Protect tree inventory in Medford by creating regulations on cutting down trees
  - Create a Tree Committee to promote the planting and protection of trees
  - Create a Tree Fund to supplement the City budget for public tree maintenance, tree planting, stump removal, and tree-planting site-preparation as well as a fund for City residents to petition to fund private tree maintenance
- Current Status:
  - Awaiting replies from city staff
  - Current Drafts

#### 21-057: Leaf Blower Ordinance

- Lead Councilors: President Bears, Vice President Collins
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2024End Date Goal: June 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Regulate the use of (mainly gas-powered) leaf-blowers and reduce noise and carbon emissions
- Current Status:
  - Awaiting incorporation of several motions made during committee meeting

#### 20-020: Food Truck Ordinance

- Lead Councilors: President Bears, Vice President Collins
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2024End Date Goal: March 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Update regulations on one-time and special event food truck licensing and moving approvals from the City Council to the Board of Health
- Current Status:
  - Awaiting replies from city staff

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## **Administration and Finance Committee**

- Areas: Budget, Finance, Auditing, Taxation, Assessing, Procurement, Grant Administration, Retirement/Pensions, Personnel
- Departments: Finance, Treasurer/Collector, Assessor, Community Preservation, Law, Human Resources, Credit Union, Mayor's Office
- Relevant City Ordinances/City Regulations: Chapter 2 Administration, Chapter 50 -Human Relations, Chapter 66 - Personnel

## **Major Projects**

#### Annual Budget Process

- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - Recurring annually, January to June
- Description and goals of project:
  - Review, recommend, and approve/cut Mayor's proposed annual budget for General Fund and Enterprise Fund

#### Revenue Generation/Prop. 2.5

- Estimated length and timing of project: 6-18 months
- Description and goals of project:
  - Work with the Mayor, Finance Department, Medford Public Schools, and other stakeholders to develop a plan to generate additional revenue via the override and/or debt exclusion mechanisms allowed by Proposition 2.5 state law to fund essential city and school services and capital projects

## Classification and Compensation Study Implementation

- Estimated length and timing of project: 6-12 months
- Description and goals of project:
  - Review Collins Center's Classification and Compensation Study
  - Discuss potential changes to classification and compensation ordinance
  - Determine fiscal impact of accepting all recommendations and discuss prioritization of changes based on available revenue

#### **Ordinances**

## 22-494: Budget Ordinance

- Lead Councilor: Bears
- Timeline

Start Date: January 2024End Date Goal: March 2024

- Description and goals:
  - Complete Budget Ordinance drafting with administration as discussed at several meetings in 2023
  - Pass final draft in 2024 and begin using framework for FY25 budget

#### Commercial Vacancy Tax

Lead Councilor: Leming

Timeline

Start Date: May 2024

o End Date Goal: December 2024

- Description and goals: Unspecified
  - Possible to work on in the Planning and Permitting Committee as well

#### 24-010: Good Landlord Tax Credit Local Option

• Lead Councilor: Collins

Timeline

Start Date: May 2024

End Date Goal: December 2024

- Description and goals:
  - Work with Committee, Finance Director and Chief Assessor to develop a tax exemption for Medford landlords whose properties' rental rates and tenants' incomes meet eligibility requirements; and to develop those eligibility requirements within the parameters put forth by MGL.

## Community Benefits Agreement Ordinance

Lead Councilors: Collins, Tseng

• Timeline:

Start Date: November 2024End Date Goal: May 2024

- Description and goals:
  - An ordinance to create a requirement that developers of eligible projects (meeting certain size/footprint, etc. thresholds) convene and work with a community advisory group (i.e. a neighborhood group, perhaps with municipal representatives) to identify and establish community benefits that will be created/conferred as a condition of the development.
  - Create a Community Benefits Committee to help negotiate community benefits with large real-estate projects and non-profits, manage the needs assessment process, and develop an approach for distributing funds to worthy projects and initiatives that address pressing needs

#### 20-515: Percent for Art Ordinance

- Lead Councilor: Collins
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2025
  - End Date Goal: December 2025
- Description and goals:
  - In line with Percent for Art Ordinances modeled by other municipalities, create a requirement that 1% of private development costs/development project budgets be earmarked for public art projects in Medford, and to set up the necessary financial and administration infrastructure for such a fund.

#### 22-014: Paid Family and Medical Leave

- Lead Councilor: Bears
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2025End Date Goal: June 2025
- Description and goals:
  - Work with Administration to institute PFML Program for all City employees and become first municipality in the Commonwealth to join the state's PFML system

#### 20-090: Extended Illness Leave Bank

- Lead Councilor: Bears
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2025
  - o End Date Goal: December 2025
- Description and goals:
  - Work with Administration to institute an extended illness leave bank for City employees

## Oversight and Engagement

## Financial Review and Long-Term Budget Planning and Forecasting

- Estimated length and timing of project: Recurring annually, July to December
- Description and goals of project:
  - o Review city's financial status with Finance Department
  - Develop frameworks to allow for discussion of long-term financial planning and revenue forecasting (5 to 10 year projections)

## Review Relevant City Ordinances and Regulations

- Subject: Chapter 2 Admin, Chapter 50 Human Relations, Chapter 66 Personnel
- Estimated length and timing of project: Recurring annually
- Description of project:
  - Review named ordinances and regulations for any out-of-date provisions, to improve readability, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

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## **Education and Culture Committee**

- Areas: Arts, City Events, Education, History, Recreation, and Youth Affairs
- Departments: Medford Public Schools, Medford Public Library, Recreation, Parks Commission, Medford Arts Council
- Relevant City Ordinances/City Regulations: Chapter 2, Article III Boards/Commissions, Chapter 2, Article IV - Officers/Employees, Chapter 26 - Education, Chapter 62 - Parks and Recreation

## **Major Projects**

None (as of this draft)

#### **Ordinances**

None (as of this draft)

## Oversight and Engagement

Review Relevant City Ordinances and Regulations

- Subject: Chapter 2, Article III Boards/Commissions, Chapter 2, Article IV -Officers/Employees, Chapter 26 - Education, Chapter 62 - Parks and Recreation
- Estimated length and timing of project: Recurring annually
- Description of project:
  - Review named ordinances and regulations for any out-of-date provisions, to improve readability, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

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## **Governance Committee**

- Areas: Ordinances, Rules, Charter, Elections
- Departments: Clerk, Law, Election Commission, Boards/Commissions
- Relevant City Ordinances/City Regulations: Review Part I Charter; Chapter 2, Article III Boards/Commissions; Chapter 2, Article IV Officers/Employees; Chapter 30 Elections; Appendix B Rules of the Medford City Council; Appendix C Special Acts; Appendix D Acts Accepted

## **Major Projects**

Updates to the City Charter

- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - o 12-18 months
- Description of project:
  - Create a proposal for an updated city charter to, with the approval of the Mayor, submit to the State House and State Senate for approval
  - Review charter study committee research and draft language as well as any proposals from previous councils, city staff, boards, or commissions for inclusion in the new city charter
  - Begin preliminary meetings prior to September 2024 and invite charter study committee and Collins Center to submit any recommendations prior to the final report of the study committee to help the council start its process

## **Ordinances**

None (as of this draft)

## Oversight and Engagement

Elections Department Oversight Report and Recommendations

- Lead Councilor: Bears
- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - o 1-4 months
- Description of project:
  - Review report requested by the Council regarding persistent issues with the timely counting and accurate release of results and systemic issues that led to breakdowns in the 2023 municipal election process

 Council make recommendations directly to the Mayor regarding funding, resources, staffing levels, personnel, department, structure, etc...

### Review Relevant City Ordinances and Regulations

- Subject: Review Part I Charter; Chapter 2, Article III Boards/Commissions; Chapter 2, Article IV - Officers/Employees; Chapter 30 - Elections; Appendix B - Rules of the Medford City Council; Appendix C - Special Acts; Appendix D - Acts Accepted
- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - Review annually
- Description of project:
  - Review named ordinances and regulations for any out-of-date provisions, to improve readability, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

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## **Planning and Permitting Committee**

- Areas: Climate, Code Enforcement, Economic Development, Housing, Licensing, Parking, Planning, Permitting, Signs, Sustainability, Transportation, Zoning
- Departments: PDS, Building, Parking, DPW Engineering
- Relevant City Ordinances: Chapter 14 Businesses, Chapter 38 Environment, Chapter 48 - Historical Preservation, Chapter 78 - Traffic and Vehicles, Chapter 87 - Wetlands, Chapter 90 - Vehicles for Hire, Chapter 94 - Zoning
- Relevant City Regulations: Traffic Commission Decisions and Regulations, Licensing Commission Decisions and Regulations

## **Major Projects**

### Zoning Reform

- Estimated length and timing of project until completion:
  - Start Date: January 2024
  - o End Date Goal: September 2025
- Description and goals of project:
  - Work with selected consultant (Innes Associates + Bobrowski, Blatman, Haverty, & Silverstein) and staff from the Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability to overhaul the substance of the Medford Zoning Ordinance based on the structure outlined in the 2022 Zoning Recodification
  - Update zoning districts, allowed uses, dimensional requirements, etc...
  - Implement the Medford Comprehensive Plan, Housing Production Plan, Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, and other city plans
  - Pass a new official zoning map for the city in digital format

## **Ordinances**

#### 23-077: Condo Conversion Ordinance

- Lead Councilor: Collins
- Timeline:
  - Start Date: January 2024End Date Goal: May 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Implement an ordinance restricting conversion of rental apartments into condominiums as allowed under state law

#### **22-310**: Housing Home Rule Petitions

- Lead Councilors: Bears, Collins, Leming
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2024End Date Goal: June 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Real Estate Transfer Fee Draft a home rule petition to the State Legislature to enable Medford to enact local option real estate transfer fee to fund affordable housing projects
  - Tenant First Right of Refusal Draft a home rule petition to the State Legislature to enable Medford to enact local option right of first refusal to purchase for tenants
  - Rent Stabilization Draft a home rule petition to the State Legislature to enable Medford to enact local option rent stabilization
  - Submit to Mayor for approval and to legislature for enactment

#### 24-008: Review Fee Schedule

- Lead Councilors: Bears
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2024
  - o End Date Goal: December 2024
  - Review annually
- Description and goals:
  - Review city fee schedule and update as needed
  - Review all city fees set by the city council and suggest amendments based on inflation, increased cost for the city's work needed to verify accuracy and sufficiency of applications, comparisons to nearby, similar, or equivalently comparable communities

## Cycling Safety Ordinance

- Lead: Collins
- Timeline
  - Start Date: July 2024
  - End Date Goal: December 2024
- Description and goals: An ordinance to create a structure/mandate that whenever road renovation, repaving, or road redesign is done on City-owned roads, bike lane infrastructure must be concurrently considered and implemented to the maximum extent feasible.

## Transportation Demand Management

Lead Councilors: Leming, Tseng

- Timeline
  - Start Date: July 2024
  - End Date Goal: December 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Adopt a transportation demand management ordinance whereby large commercial and institutional developments and/or large employers must develop a transportation demand management plan, designed to reduce private vehicle trips to the site
  - o T 1.4.G. in the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

#### Energy Disclosure

- Lead Councilor:
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Cambridge and Boston recently passed these, it asks large buildings to begin reporting their emissions, then later meeting certain goals.
  - o BE 2.2.D in Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

#### Benchmarking Ordinance

- Lead Councilor: Tseng, Callahan
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Carbon emission reduction
  - Implement a reporting/disclosure ordinance for commercial and multifamily residential buildings over a particular size threshold that will require eligible buildings to track and disclose energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Consider requiring benchmarking for water usage as well. Lead focus groups to gather input from property-owners, managers, renters, real estate brokers, and other relevant sectors in the design and implementation of the programs; include outreach, education, and training initiatives as part of program implementation.
  - o BE 2.2.A in Climate Action and Adaptation Plan
  - o CR 2.1.2. in Comprehensive Plan
  - "Research a benchmarking ordinance for smaller buildings if it turns out that a large building ordinance (as potentially passed by the state) will have little effect because most of our emissions are from smaller buildings. Work with experts to write such an ordinance if it seems necessary from our research."

#### Rental Licensing Ordinance

- Lead: Callahan
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Advance affordable housing and climate goals
  - "CAAP BE 2.2.D, 'Develop a rental licensing ordinance with energy efficiency standards.'

#### Pesticide Regulations

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Consider adopting pesticide and fertilizer use ordinances to restrict the use/timing of applying synthetic products in order to protect the health of residents, pets, waterways, soils, and ecosystems
  - o EN 1.3.F in Climate Action and Adaptation Report

## 23-475: Blasting and Earth Removal Regulations

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Develop a basic system of permitting, regulation, and notification for blasting and earth removal projects

#### Green Score

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Points-based system whereby developers must meet a specific set of points, awarded based on the integration of natural systems (e.g., plantings, trees, green roofs, green walls, etc.)
  - Encourage new development and redevelopment to mitigate the urban heat island effect through the incorporation of green space and natural systems

- Encourage new development and redevelopment to capture, infiltrate, and evapotranspirate more stormwater on site to reduce stormwater volume, flood risk, and stress on the stormwater system
- Encourage new development and redevelopment to meet healthy soil standards, which ensure soil in the city can better infiltrate stormwater, sequester carbon, reduce erosion, and support ecological health
- Consider standards that would require developments to meet one of four options: 1) Leaving native soil and vegetation undisturbed and protecting it from compaction during construction; 2) Amending existing site topsoil or subsoil on site to meet specifications; 3) Removing and stockpiling existing topsoil during grading, reapplying, and amending the soil in place to meet specifications; or 4) Importing a topsoil mix, including compost, to achieve an appropriate pH and sufficient soil organic matter and depth

## Oversight and Engagement

#### Review Relevant City Ordinances and Regulations

- Subject: Review Chapter 14 Businesses, Chapter 38 Environment, Chapter 48 -Historical Preservation, Chapter 78 - Traffic and Vehicles, Chapter 87 - Wetlands, Chapter 90 - Vehicles for Hire, Chapter 94 - Zoning; Traffic Commission Decisions and Regulations; Licensing Commission Decisions and Regulations
- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - Review annually
- Description of project:
  - Review named ordinances and regulations for any out-of-date provisions, to improve readability, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

## Review License, Permit, and Sign Applications

- Lead: Subcommittee on Licensing, Permitting, and Signs
- Timeline
  - Review following required legal process and deadlines
- Description of project:
  - Review any applications for licenses, permits, or sign appeals and render a recommendation to the council

## Efficiency retrofits for existing buildings

- Lead Councilor: Callahan
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - o End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:

- o Diminish building carbon footprint
- o Work with Administration to implement CAAP BE 2.1 and BE 2.2 and subsections

## Transit Signal Priority

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Implement a strategy to reduce delays to transit vehicles at traffic signals to reduce transit travel times and improve transit reliability

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## **Public Health and Community Safety Committee**

- Areas: Emergency Response, Public Health, Inspectional Services, Animal Control
- Departments: Health, Police, Fire, Building, DPW, Civil Defense
- Relevant City Ordinances: Chapter 6 Animals, Chapter 10 Buildings and Building Regulations, Chapter 22 - Civil Emergencies, Chapter 34 - Emergency Services, Chapter 42 - Fire Prevention and Protection, Chapter 46 - Floods, Chapter 54 - Law Enforcement, Chapter 58 - Offenses
- Relevant City Regulations: Board of Health Rules and Regulations

## **Major Projects**

#### Warming and Cooling Center

- Lead Councilor: Lazzaro
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - o End Date Goal:
- Description and Goals:

#### Alternative Emergency Response/Civilian Oversight

- Lead Councilor: Collins
- Timeline
  - Start Date: July 2024
  - End Date Goal: September 2025
- Description and goals:
  - Work with Committee, community members and Administration to create a policy and timeline for instituting alternative emergency response systems in Medford and establishing a civilian oversight board over MPD.

#### One-Stop Center for Public Services

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date: TBD
  - End Date Goal: TBD
- Description and goals:
  - Integrate existing public/social services into a one-stop shop where residents can easily find and access them

#### **Ordinances**

#### Plant Medicine Decriminalization Ordinance

Lead Councilor: Leming

Timeline

Start Date: February 2024End Date Goal: March 2024

Description and goals of project: Unspecified

#### Overgrowth Ordinance

Lead Councilor: Collins

Timeline

Start Date: February 2024End Date Goal: June 2024

- Description and goals:
  - Create an ordinance that gives Board of Health/Code Enforcement the authority to do enforcement/issue warnings and tickets when vegetative overgrowth from private properties interferes with the public way (i.e. untrimmed plants blocking sidewalks).

#### 23-449: Wildlife Feeding Ordinance

• Lead Councilor: Collins

Timeline

Start Date: July 2024

End Date Goal: December 2024

- Description and goals:
  - Create an ordinance that gives Board of Health/Code Enforcement the authority to do enforcement/issue warnings and tickets when overfeeding/inappropriate feeding of wildlife is creating nuisances or health hazards

## **23-453**: Regulating retail sales of animals raised in commercial breeding facilities

Leader Councilors: Collins

Timeline

Start Date: July 2024

End Date Goal: December 2024

- Description and goals:
  - To create a regulation against the retail sale of pets and other animals raised in inhumane conditions (i.e. puppy mills)

## **22-379 and 22-453:** Gender-Affirming Care and Reproductive Healthcare Protection Ordinance

Lead Councilor: Tseng

Timeline

o Start Date: April 2024

o End Date Goal: September 2024

Description and goals:

- Protect patients and medical professionals seeking and providing gender-affirming and reproductive healthcare
- Prohibit the opening of crisis pregnancy centers

## Oversight and Engagement

#### Surveillance Ordinance Reporting

Lead Councilor: Collins

Timeline

Start Date: April 2024End Date Goal: June 2024

Review annually

Description and goals:

- Review reports from city administration required under the 2023 Community Control Over Public Surveillance Ordinance
- Follow up with Administration and Departments on reports due under new CCOPS ordinance, discuss implementation and compliance, discuss implementation and gather feedback from community advocates

## Housing Stability Notification Ordinance Implementation and Enforcement

• Lead Councilor: Collins

Timeline

Start Date: April 2024End Date Goal: June 2024

Review annually

• Description and goals of project:

 Work with Board of Health and PDS department to review preliminary implementation of Housing Stability Notification Ordinance - review and evaluate methods of informing/alerting landlords to the new law, track progress on alerting residents to existence of law, develop mechanisms for checking compliance

### Emergency Response Equipment Replacement

- Lead Councilor:
- Timeline

Start Date: January 2025End Date Goal: June 2025

- Description and goals:
  - Review capital plan for funding replacement of equipment for emergency responders

## Review Relevant City Ordinances and Regulations

- Subject: Review Chapter 14 Businesses, Chapter 38 Environment, Chapter 48 -Historical Preservation, Chapter 78 - Traffic and Vehicles, Chapter 87 - Wetlands, Chapter 90 - Vehicles for Hire, Chapter 94 - Zoning; Traffic Commission Decisions and Regulations; Licensing Commission Decisions and Regulations
- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - Review annually
- Description of project:
  - Review named ordinances and regulations for any out-of-date provisions, to improve readability, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

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## **Public Works and Facilities Committee**

- Areas: Streets, Facilities, Infrastructure, Utilities
- Departments: DPW Streets (Highway, Fleet, Electrical, Engineering), DPW Facilities (Facilities, Forestry, Parks, Cemetery, Waste), DPW - Water/Sewer, IT Department
- Relevant City Ordinances: Chapter 18 Cemeteries, Chapter 62 Parks and Recreation, Chapter 70 - Solid Waste, Chapter 74 - Streets/Sidewalks, Chapter 82 - Utilities, Chapter 86 - Vegetation

## **Major Projects**

Street and Sidewalk Repair and Accessibility

- Lead Councilor: Callahan
- Timeline
  - Ongoing
- Description and goals of project:
  - Review city pavement management plans for streets and sidewalks
  - Review city plans to improve accessibility and walkability
  - Discuss funds appropriated relative to what's necessary to achieve goals contained in the pavement management plans
  - "...understand which of the proposed plans in the 2021 Pavement Management Study we have chosen, or if none what the plans are for the next 5 years. Ideally we can be transparent with the public about both the funding and which specific streets will be paved in what calendar year."

## City Facilities and Equipment

- Lead Councilor:
- Timeline
  - Ongoing
- Description and goals of project:
  - Review facilities management plans or renovation plans
  - Discuss funds appropriated relative to what's necessary to ensure all facilities are in a state of good repair and provide effective services

## Public Restrooms in Parks/Squares

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:

- Description and goals:
  - Work with partners to develop plans to set up more public restrooms in public spaces

#### **Ordinances**

#### Lead Ordinance

- Lead Councilors: Bears, Callahan
- Timeline
  - Start Date: July 2024
  - End Date Goals: December 2024
- Description and goals of project:
  - Pass an ordinance regarding lead water lines pursuant to pending federal regulations and similar ordinances in other communities with water systems in poor condition like Medford

#### Home rule petition to increase excise taxes for large trucks

- Lead Councilor: Collins
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2025End Date Goal: May 2025
- Description and goals:
  - In collaboration with constituent and nonprofit advocates, develop a home rule
    petition for the right to increase the amount of excise tax levied upon trucks over
    a certain size/weight, to make that tax commensurate with the greater amount of
    damage incurred to municipal roads by very large vehicles.

## Oversight and Engagement

## Public Utility Accountability

- Lead Councilor:
- Timeline:
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goals:
- Description and goals of project:
  - Hold utility companies accountable to provide services and benefits to the community and mitigate impact of their assets and poor asset condition on the city

#### Tree Planting Volunteer Network

- Lead Councilor: Callahan
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goals:
- Description and goals:
  - Work with the mayor and staff to allow residents to become trained volunteer tree planters
  - Look to other cities that have modeled similar programs as examples

#### Review Relevant City Ordinances and Regulations

- Subject: Review DPW Streets (Highway, Fleet, Electrical, Engineering), DPW -Facilities (Facilities, Forestry, Parks, Cemetery, Waste), DPW - Water/Sewer, IT Department
- Relevant City Ordinances: Chapter 18 Cemeteries, Chapter 62 Parks and Recreation, Chapter 70 - Solid Waste, Chapter 74 - Streets/Sidewalks, Chapter 82 - Utilities, Chapter 86 - Vegetation
- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - Review annually
- Description of project:
  - Review named ordinances and regulations for any out-of-date provisions, to improve readability, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

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# Resident Services and Public Engagement Committee

- Areas: Racial Justice, Disability, Elder, Veterans, Communications, Public Engagement, Elections
- Departments: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Council on Aging, Veterans Services, Clerk, Medford Community Media, Communications
- Relevant City Ordinances: Chapter 2, Article III Boards/Commissions, Chapter 2, Article IV - Officers/Employees

## **Major Projects**

20-456: Multilingual Public Participation Resident Guide

- Lead Councilor:
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Committee on Resident Services and Public Engagement work with DEI Office, MVP Community Liaisons, Human Resources, Medford Community Media, Communications Office, etc. to create a multilingual user guide for participation in City public meetings and for general navigation around City Hall programming, offices and services

## **Ordinances**

23-398: Gender Equity Commission

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2024End Date Goal: June 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Create a commission to focus on gender equity issues in Medford

23-398: Youth Commission

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date: January 2024

- o End Date Goal: June 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Create a commission for youth participation in local government
  - Help identify youth needs in city services

#### 23-055: Welcoming City Ordinance

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date: April 2024
  - o End Date Goal: September 2024
- Description and goals:
  - Codify Medford's existing non-cooperation policy with ICE
  - Expand to general city services and schools

### **22-501**: Data Equity

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date: November 2024End Date Goal: May 2025
- Description and goals:
  - o Ensure data published by the city is grounded in equity principles
  - Disaggregate data currently collected under larger race/ethnicity categories
  - Help target city services to different communities more efficiently

#### Open Data

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - o End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Create a system for residents to engage with data collected by the City of Medford and collaborate with city partners on policy development

## Immigrants' Commission

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Institutionalize outreach to non-citizen residents and participation in local governance/policy making (advisory role)

- Work to address the needs of Medford's immigrant communities and strengthen the ability of immigrants to fully and equitably participate in Medford's economic, civic, social, and cultural life
- o Integrate this work under the umbrella of a reformed Human Rights Commission

#### Language Access Policy or Ordinance

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Increase/cement existing access to city services for residents who speak languages other than English or who have at least one disability
  - Focus on availability of interpretation, translation, and assistive technologies
  - Review quality of existing services

## Human Rights Commission Reform

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date:
  - End Date Goal:
- Description and goals:
  - Involve former and current members of the HRC, as well as HRC target communities, in modernizing the HRC's enabling ordinance
  - Remove langutiveage/powers from the enabling ordinance that is outdated/restrictive

## Oversight and Engagement

## Review Relevant City Ordinances and Regulations

- Subject: Review DPW Streets (Highway, Fleet, Electrical, Engineering), DPW -Facilities (Facilities, Forestry, Parks, Cemetery, Waste), DPW - Water/Sewer, IT Department
- Relevant City Ordinances: Chapter 2, Article III Boards/Commissions, Chapter 2, Article IV - Officers/Employees
- Estimated length and timing of project:
  - Review annually
- Description of project:
  - Review named ordinances and regulations for any out-of-date provisions, to improve readability, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

#### Modernizing the City Council Communications Strategy

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Start Date: By June 2024
  - Ongoing
- Description and goals:
  - o Press Releases:
    - Create a subcommittee to work on monthly press release updates to send out to social media accounts and city email list
    - Rotating responsibilities (?)
  - Senior Center Newsletter
    - Bullet point summaries from press releases
  - Social Media:
    - Create social media accounts
    - Determine social media use rules
  - Short-form Videos:
    - Create update videos on meetings and important issues and post onto either social media/Medford Community Media
  - Website:
    - Hold a Standing Committee meeting (and invite the city's Communications Director to attend) to solicit feedback from the public, propose changes, and updates to the City Website
    - Create a list of what we want to see on the City Council website

## Meetings with Underrepresented Groups

- Lead Councilor: Tseng, Callahan
- Timeline
  - Ongoing
- Description and goals:
  - Listening sessions with under-represented and under-served populations (city councilors listen)
  - Work with community partners to hold meetings outside of City Hall if possible
  - Celebrations for underrepresented faith groups

## Increase Public Input via Open Surveys and Forms

- Lead Councilor: Tseng
- Timeline
  - Ongoing
- Description and goals:
  - Increase accessibility of providing input to the City Council by developing surveys and input forms

## Twice-Annual Training with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Office

- Lead Councilor: Lazzaro
- Timeline
  - Twice annually
- Description and goals of project:
  - Implement a framework of diversity, equity, and inclusion in City Council business, starting with a standard bi-yearly training/refresher with Frances Nwajei or her designee - keep this standard going in perpetuity to ensure DEI is woven into all conversations and calculations of the City Council

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MEETING DATE

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

Justin Tseng, City Councilor

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

**24-015** - Resolution to Discuss Modernizing Council Communications and Outreach Strategy

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

Be it Resolved that the Committee on Resident Services and Public Engagement meet to discuss modernizing the Council's communications and outreach strategy, including but not limited to developing guidelines and action plans for social media and press releases.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



MEETING DATE

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

Emily Lazzaro, City Councilor

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

24-022 - Resolution on Bi-Annual Training on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

Be it resolved that the Medford City Council will hold bi-annual trainings/refreshers with Medford Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Frances Nwajei or her designer, so that our body may keep these values top of mind in all our work and interactions with the public.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

19-312 - Resolution to Establish a Gender Equity Commission

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

#### 19-312 - Offered by Vice President Lungo-Koehn

Be it Resolved that the Medford City Council request that the Administration look into setting up a Women's Commission such as the one Somerville has to discuss all topics facing women and girls such as self-defense training and updating policies and procedures in our city and schools.

- a) Vice President Lungo-Koehn offered an amendment referring the paper to a Committee of the Whole meeting with the City Solicitor for further review.
- b) Councillor Knight offered an amendment requesting that the Council create a Women's Commission through a City Ordinance.

Addressing the Council: Jennifer Flygare, 25 Shapely Road

Vice President Lungo-Koehn moved for approval as amended (Councillor Knight second)—passed.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- I. Committee of the Whole Report 19-312 October 21, 2020
- 2. Committee of the Whole Report 19-312 September 11, 2019
- 3. Committee of the Whole Report 19-312 June 4, 2019

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING REPORT WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020 @ 5:30 P.M.

At 6:47 p.m., President Falco turned discussion the Gender Equity Ordinance. He said the Council has had at least three Committees of the Whole on this ordinance. He said it might be good to take the current version of the ordinance, move forward, and see if there are questions that the City Solicitor can answer. He said he wants to make sure that the Council does this the right way.

President Falco read some of the language of the ordinance and its intent.

Councillor Bears moved to strike "women, gender and sexual minorities," and replace it with "women and people with marginalized gender identities or sexual orientations," throughout the document (Councillor Morell second)—passed on a roll call vote of five in favor, Councillor Morell opposed, and Councillor Knight absent.

Councillor Morell said that her perspective is that the new language is from a deficit point of view. Councillor Bears said that he thought the old language was from a deficit point of view.

Divya Anand, 122 Foss Street, said that this was the language that she had followed previously and wanted consistent language. She said she recognized using the word disenfranchised rather than marginalized or minority.

Councillor Bears moved to reconsider the prior vote (Councillor Morell second)—passed on a roll call vote of six in favor and Councillor Knight absent.

Councillor Marks asked a procedural question about the document itself and whether the Council would be going through the document line by line.

President Falco recommended taking the path taken at last night's Committee meeting.

Councillor Bears moved to strike "women, gender and sexual minorities," and replace it with "women and people with disenfranchised gender identities or sexual orientations,"

President Falco read additional language of the ordinance. Councillor Morell said that she wanted to be sure that these duties under this ordinance past tight legal scrutiny. Solicitor Scanlon said that in her opinion, the ordinance is fine in terms of language but that it could perhaps be tightened up further.

President Falco read language about the composition of the Commission. The Commission shall be composed of eleven members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by a majority the City Council, with staggered terms. There are memberships reserved for people of color. After expiration of the staggered terms, all terms would be three years. There would be reserved places for people of color and different gender identities. Councillor Morell said that she wanted Solicitor Scanlon to look into this.

Solicitor Scanlon said she needed to research this further. She said that Councillor Morell's question about technical assistance would require further clarification.

President Falco read language that a liaison shall be appointed from among the employees of the City. The liaison would not have a vote.

Councillor Morell asked to include language that the City employee be a woman or person of disenfranchised sexual minority. Solicitor Scanlon asked for clarification on appointment of the liaison, and who appoints the liaison.

Vice President Caraviello asked why we need a liaison if we have a commission. The commission would be the liaison. Attorney Scanlon said that there is probably not a need for a liaison.

Councillor Morell said that the intent is probably that an ex officio member would have a connection to City employees.

Ms. Anand said that the liaison was not her idea, but it was part of previous discussions a year ago. She said she would prefer that the commission not have a liaison.

Councillor Bears moved to strike subsection B.

C. Cochairs shall be chosen from among the members by majority vote. President Falco read this language and asked if this would be the only commission with co-chairs.

Councillor Morell said that this was by ordinance and the ad hoc committee she is aware of with co-chairs is not by ordinance.

President Falco read provisions for removal based on three unexcused absences, and recommendations from the Chairs to the Mayor on removal.

President Falco read language on filling vacancies on the commission (vacancies to be filled within 30 days for the remainder of the member's term).

President Falco read language that the commission shall be representative of all (section F).

President Falco read a list of qualifications in the draft ordinance. Councillor Morell said that it read like a litmus test.

Councillor Morell moved to add language saying that all prospective commissioners shall support the mission of the commission.

Councillor Bears suggested an amendment saying that the commissioners shall support the purpose and intent of the commission, rather than its mission.

Councillor Marks asked how one would go about accomplishing that role. He said that he doesn't think that's a requirement of other commissions.

Ms. Anand said that consistency might imply using the same solutions to problems, and that this needs to focus on equity. She said that she hoped that people wanting to serve on the commission would be tied to the mission in more ways than one. She wants a board that is built from the ground up.

Councillor Marks asked who makes this decision on whether someone is acceptable to sit on this commission and how people who might not be of like mind would be evaluated for this commission. He said it is important to be consistent across the board.

Ms. Anand asked how many boards and commissions are representative of the demographics of the City. Councillor Marks said that this is up to the Mayor as the appointing authority.

Ms. Anand said that she would want appointees to be a little more democratic in how they are appointed. Perhaps there could be a different process in appointing commissioners that is more democratic. Councillor Marks said that he would support that.

President Falco said that he remembers a great deal of discussion on ward representation on the commission. He said that this is something the Council could definitely revisit.

Councillor Marks said that the process needs to be open and well known if candidates are to be scrutinized. He doesn't want people to feel excluded or as if they are not welcome.

Councillor Bears said he is open to different appointing authorities. He said that there would be some responsibility from the appointing authority and confirming authority. He said it makes sense to have commissioners support the purpose and intent of the commission. He said he was open to having someone other than the Mayor make all the appointments.

The resident at 32 Pearl Street (identified on Zoom as BACE NMC) asked a question about the purpose and intent. She asked if it is okay to have commissioners who are not actively searching for opportunities for equity for women of color or people with different sexual identities.

Councillor Marks said that the reverse would also be the same. People join boards and commissions to advance something that they care about, so why should there be a litmus test. He said he doesn't want to create anything that might exclude someone, or determine a person's intent for sitting on a board or commission. He said that there was never a litmus test for the Liquor Commission.

Councillor Morell said she had a question for Solicitor Scanlon on the legal language for this ordinance. He said that a gender equity commission is different from a liquor commission. She said that as the only woman on the Council, there are certain challenges. She said she doesn't see the sense of including people on the commission who support the advancement of women and people who don't.

Solicitor Scanlon said that her hope is that people who want to join a commission would support it. She said the word "prospective" jumped out at her. Councillor Morell said "prospective" would imply qualifications to be considered. Solicitor Scanlon said she would look into this.

Ms. Anand asked who we are scared of excluding. She said that when we are talking about disenfranchised communities, it is essential to provide safe spaces for people who adhere to these communities. She said without these safe spaces, the intent for the commission is moot.

Councillor Morell said that the Council needs to address this after Solicitor Scanlon shares her thoughts on this.

Matthew Page Lieberman said he had a general concern about what should be included in the ordinance. He said he was thankful that the Council is taking this up again. He said that there is a record of a certain kind of people who participate in these types of commissions, and that there are immigrants, poor people and working class people who don't feel welcome as part of these commissions. He asked how we make sure women who are immigrants or poor and working class people can feel represented on this commission.

Ms. Anand recommended addition of class and immigration status and wording using the term intersectionality. She said that the reality does not always represent the oppression people face, and that this is especially true for Black women. She said she would draft language around that.

President Falco read language that commissioners must be domiciled in Medford at appointment and throughout the term. No member of the Mayor's Office or City Council can serve on the commission. He read further language about co-chairs and adoption of regulations.

He read language about the powers and duties of the commission. Councillor Bears suggested technical correction of a typo.

Vice President Caraviello asked for an explanation of the authority recommendations to the Mayor and City Council. Councillor Morell said she thought the intent was to have the body make recommendations to the Mayor and Council. Ms. Anand said that this was about recommending needs to the Council and Mayor.

Vice President Caraviello said that it appears that the commission can dictate to departments what goes on in those departments. He asked if the commission recommendations are recommendations on policy or if there is further authority.

He asked for a legal opinion on what power this commission would actually have.

Solicitor Scanlon said that she understood the vagueness in recommending policy. She said that the Mayor would recommend policy. She said that other recommendations would be involving gender equity and other areas under the purview of the commission.

Ms. Anand said that if, for example, Medford celebrated Women's History Month, the equity commission could help to coordinate efforts on celebrating that throughout the City.

President Falco read additional portions of the proposed ordinance.

Councillor Marks said that future meetings should have Administration representation at the meetings.

Councillor Marks said that boards and commissions have their own policies and procedures. He asked if there is a need to have this in the ordinance. He said that much of this might not have to be dictated through ordinance.

Councillor Morell said she thought this was an explicit addition from Solicitor Rumley.

Councillor Marks said he would rather streamline and leave certain things up to the commission once it is established. He recommended that policy and procedure be

dictated by the membership, not by ordinance. He doesn't think it should be up to the legislative branch to dictate membership in a national organization or other entity.

Councillor Marks asked the City Solicitor to research boards and commissions and to research the authority for them, how they are created, by ordinance, statute or administrative role, and for a breakdown of this. He said he can appreciate establishing commissions by ordinance because administrations change. Solicitor Scanlon said that changing an ordinance is a much more involved process than changing a policy.

Ms. Anand suggested that the City Solicitor look at policies or commissions created for equity.

Vice President Caraviello asked if the commission will be acting in a legal capacity if there was some sort of incident. Solicitor Scanlon said that it appears that this is the intent behind the wording. He said he assumed that if there was an issue of discrimination, it would go to the Solicitor. Solicitor Scanlon said she might not hear about the issue before it goes to MCAD.

President Falco said it would make sense to have Solicitor Scanlon provide an updated version of the ordinance with the recommendations and changes, and to have another meeting to discuss the changes.

Vice President Caraviello so moved (Councillor Bears second)—passed on a roll call vote of six in favor and Councillor Knight absent.

Vice President Caraviello moved to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. (Councillor Bears second)—passed on a roll call vote of six in favor and Councillor Knight absent.

President Falco adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

[End of Committee of the Whole Report.]

Ms. DiBenedetto said that the quality of the work is excellent and that there was very little disruption. She wants to see the work confined to that area of the city. She asked if the permits are annual and reviewable.

Mr. Abruzese said that all licenses are annually renewable.

Councillor Dello Russo renewed his motion to approve (Councillor Caraviello second)—passed on a roll call vote of 6-0 with Councillor Marks absent.

Councillor Knight moved to report the paper out favorably and for the report to reflect that the Committee vote was favorable (Councillor Caraviello second)—passed.

Councillor Dello Russo moved to adjourn at 6:16 p.m. (Councillor Caraviello second)—passed.

President Falco adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

[End of Committee of the Whole Report.]

Vice President Lungo-Koehn moved to accept the report (Councillor Knight second)—passed.

19-481; 19-312 - September 11, 2019 Committee of the Whole Report.

<u>19-481</u> 19-312

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MEETING REPORT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019, @ 6:00 P.M.

IN ROOM 207, COUNCIL OFFICE

MEDFORD CITY HALL

Attendees: Council President John Falco; Council Vice President Breanna Lungo-Koehn; Councillor Richard Caraviello; Councillor Frederick Dello Russo; Councillor Adam Knight; Councillor Michael Marks; City Clerk Adam Hurtubise; Building Commissioner Paul Mochi; Assistant City Solicitor Kimberly Scanlon; Jennifer Grogan, City Clerk's Office; Allie Fiske, Business and Cultural Liaison, Office of the Mayor; Divya Anand; Jennifer Flygare; Attorney Sean Beagan.

President Falco called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Office in Room 207, Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford, Massachusetts.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the following draft ordinances:

- Brewery and Tasting Room/Taproom Ordinance
- Gender Equity Ordinance

The Committee discussed the Brewery and Tasting Room/Taproom Ordinance first. President Falco said that the outstanding questions included whether to allow Breweries and Taprooms in C-1 by right, and whether to allow food production on site, off site, or on site with food trucks.

Councillor Marks suggested allowing taprooms by right in C-1. He said that his understanding, after speaking with Max Heinegg, is that a brewery is a larger operation, with canning involved, and that brewery should be allowed in C-2 by right because the product is produced for distribution purposes.

Vice President Lungo-Koehn said that breweries are generally noisier operations.

Councillor Marks said that Fulton Street near the Flynn Rink was discussed, but that it needs ample on-site parking.

Mr. Mochi said that the Fulton/Flynn Rink area was very congested without much parking available.

Councillor Marks said that according to his conversation with Max Heinegg, a brewery produces more than ten barrels.

Councillor Knight arrived at 6:13 p.m.

Mr. Mochi showed and explained the zoning maps.

Councillor Dello Russo said that, to be consistent, breweries and taprooms might have to be handled by special permit.

Councillor Marks asked if the issue is that we will be allowing tap rooms in C-1 without approvals. President Falco said that yes, this was his understanding.

Councillor Marks said that certain areas, certain C-1 districts, such as Medford Square, South Medford, and Wellington Plaza should allow these businesses by right.

President Falco referred this portion to Ms. Scanlon, who said that there is a legitimate concern with spot zoning. Mr. Mochi said that there are challenges in place, calculated by the Building Department.

Ms. Fiske said that she would contact state agencies including the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission to get additional information for the Council.

President Falco asked if the draft ordinance is modeled on an ordinance from another city or town. Mr. Mochi said that the draft ordinance seems to be modeled on Woburn, Malden, Everett and other communities.

Councillor Dello Russo asked, if we require special permits, can we do something by right here?

Councillor Knight asked whether this ordinance would allow the sale of alcohol produced on site but not for consumption on the premises. He also suggested allowing tasting rooms by right in C-1.

Ms. Fiske said that the ABCC might define tasting rooms and tap rooms as the same thing.

President Falco said that the definitions are the crux of the whole thing. He said it sounds like we need to hear back from the ABCC. He said we need:

- 1. Clarification on the definition of brewery, tasting room, and tap room, and differences between them.
- 2. Is there a definition issued by the state?
- 3. If something is allowed by right, must it be consistent with similar venues and similar products in the same zone?
- 4. Can square footage requirements be used in C-1?
- 5. Can a site allow retail sales not to be consumed on the premises for anything not attached to a brewery?

Councillor Caraviello arrived at 6:30 p.m.

Councillor Knight asked for the definition of a beer garden. Ms. Fiske said she could get that.

Councillor Marks said that detaching a tap room from a brewery gives it more flexibility.

Vice President Lungo-Koehn said that this could take lengthy research beyond the quick questions.

Ms. Fiske said that the quick questions can be answered within a week after receiving them.

Councillor Dello Russo said that the big issue is consistency. We don't want to seem arbitrary and capricious. He said he thinks we can move this forward fairly quickly.

Councillor Dello Russo moved to keep the paper in Committee of the Whole with the Clerk reporting out the questions, to reconvene with the same parties attending (Councillor Knight second)—passed.

Councillor Caraviello said that if we don't require food, we've now become a bar. This is a slippery slope.

Ms. Scanlon suggested having food available, even if it is limited.

Councillor Marks said that the Community Development Board recommended allowing food produced on site, off site, or in food trucks on site.

Councillor Knight noted that in issuing special permits, there are guidelines. He said that it sounds like the Council can address these through restrictions on special permits.

Mr. Mochi said some of these guidelines are noise, landscaping and setbacks.

Councillor Marks said it made sense to wait for answers and re-convene in a few weeks.

Councillor Knight asked what happens if the Licensing Commission passes regulations and then the Council passes an ordinance on the same topic? What governs?

Ms. Scanlon said that ordinance likely supersedes the regulation.

At 6:51 p.m., the Council began discussing Gender Equity.

President Falco suggested reviewing the language and the changes made.

Ms. Scanlon reviewed the changes and said that the Mayor had concerns with the idea of a co-chair and questioned why the Director of Diversity and Inclusion was removed. She said the Mayor had no objection to moving the Director of Diversity and Inclusion from ex officio to Liaison to the Commission.

Councillor Knight said he had no problem with the changes. He suggested eliminating the Director as ex officio, having him remain as liaison and a non-voting member.

Ms. Anand said that the reasoning was to remove the Diversity Director and insert someone else to get a gender minority or under-represented person in place.

Ms. Flygare said that this is future-proofing, to make this a permanent and legal commission rather than an ad hoc commission.

Councillor Dello Russo said that all of these items are under the purview of the Diversity Director's job. We already have a body that deals with these issues.

Councillor Knight said that no other boards have co-chairs. We need to be consistent. He said he doesn't see the value in a co-chair.

Councillor Marks agreed that we need to remain consistent.

Ms. Anand said that a co-chair would be in place because the issues are complex and one person might not have the requisite expertise or representation.

Councillor Marks said that this is true of all representative bodies.

Ms. Scanlon asked if there was a preference for nine or eleven members. Councillor Knight said that nine was more than enough.

Ms. Flygare suggested using eleven members and reserving two members for gender minorities and a woman of color.

Councillor Knight recommended nine members and recommended eliminating the Diversity Director as co-chair. Councillor Knight also said that he does not like the ward-representation language because it limits the ability to recruit the best and the brightest from our city. He said that staggered initial terms make sense. He repeated that he had no problem eliminating the Diversity Director as an ex officio member and making him a liaison. He recommended narrowing the group to one chair, with every attempt being made to reflect and represent geographic diversity across the community rather than ward representation.

Councillor Knight asked if we are allowed to reserve spots by gender or for people of color.

Ms. Scanlon said that this could result in discrimination.

Vice President Lungo-Koehn said that best efforts will be made to reserve space for gender minorities and people of color.

Councillor Knight said that the language says that a liaison shall be appointed from among employees of City Hall. He said that every best effort should be made to include a staff member from City Hall who represents a sexual or gender minority group. He said that the Mayor shall appoint the liaison and that the liaison should be the Diversity Director.

Councillor Dello Russo said that the Diversity Director should be an ex officio member.

Vice President Lungo-Koehn said that there could be language in favor of the Diversity Director "or a city employee appointed by the Mayor." Councillor Dello Russo said that he was opposed to that. He said he is not in favor of excluding the Diversity Director.

Councillor Knight moved to include the Diversity Director as Liaison (Councillor Caraviello second)—passed on a roll call vote with five in favor, Councillor Dello Russo opposed and Councillor Scarpelli absent.

Councillor Knight moved to adopt a nine-member commission (Councillor Caraviello second)—passed with Councillor Dello Russo opposed.

Councillor Knight moved to eliminate the co-chair, replacing the co-chair with a chair (Councillor Dello Russo second)—passed with Councillor Dello Russo opposed.

Councillor Knight moved to have the Assistant City Solicitor produce a new draft of the ordinance, with changes consistent with this meeting, and to have the new draft produced before the next meeting on this topic (Vice President Lungo-Koehn second)—passed with Councillor Dello Russo opposed.

Attorney Beagan said that he had grave concerns with what the Council is creating. He said that this Commission will have oversight over everything that happens in this city. He said that we are opening a huge can of worms. He said that this gives the board purview over the entire city.

Councillor Dello Russo said that the Council is abdicating its power with this Commission.

Mr. Beagan said that the Council needs to be careful.

Councillor Dello Russo moved to keep the paper in Committee, with edits to the text by the Assistant City Solicitor, and to adjourn and reconvene (Vice President Lungo-Koehn second)—passed.

President Falco adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

[End of Committee of the Whole Report.]

Councillor Knight moved to accept the report (Councillor Scarpelli second)—passed.

At 9:16 p.m., Councillor Knight moved to take papers in the hands of the Clerk (Councillor Caraviello second)—passed.

19-578—Offered under suspension by Councillor Marks

Be it Resolved that the "Do Not Enter" at the bottom of Bowen Ave. be discussed.

- a) Councillor Marks offered an amendment, in the interests of public safety, for people crossing Bowen and for people who live on Bowen, requesting placement of an additional "Do Not Enter" sign on the bottom section of Bowen Ave. and also that a street marking of "Do Not Enter" be painted at the bottom of Bowen Ave.
- b) Councillor Marks offered an amendment requesting that the Traffic Commission review all the streets that say "Do Not Enter" along Mystic Ave.

Councillor Marks moved for approval (Councillor Scarpelli second)—passed.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

<u>16-759-</u>	Update on expenditures for property		
	IN CITY COUNCIL	NOVEMBER 15, 2016	TABLED
<u>18-417-</u>	Petition on Access TV Management		
	IN CITY COUNCIL	MAY 8, 2018	TABLED
<u>18-457</u>	Solicitor Draft Debt Exclusion Referendum Question		
	IN CITY COUNCIL	MAY 22, 2018	TABLED

Councillor Marks moved for approval as amended (Councillor Knight second)—passed.

#### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

<u>19-312</u> –

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING REPORT TUESDAY, JUNE 4 @ 6:00 P.M. IN ROOM 207, COUNCIL OFFICE MEDFORD CITY HALL

Attendees: John Falco, Council President; Breanna Lungo-Koehn, Council Vice President; Richard Caraviello, Councillor; Frederick Dello Russo, Councillor; Adam Knight, Councillor; Michael Marks, Councillor; George Scarpelli, Councillor; Mark Rumley, City Solicitor; Adam Hurtubise, City Clerk; Mark Rumley, City Solicitor; Jennifer Grogan, Head Clerk, City Clerk's Office; Nicole Morell; Divya Anand.

President Falco called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was live-streamed.

The purpose of the meeting was for the Committee of the Whole to discuss formation of a Medford Women's Commission. This was the result of the Council vote during the April 9 meeting at which the Council referred the paper to the Committee of the Whole. Councillor Knight's amendment to the paper was to create a Women's Commission by City Ordinance.

Vice President Lungo-Koehn summarized the prior Council action taken on the topic [see above paragraph].

Councillor Knight said that a City Ordinance is the way to go. He said it might also make sense to put the Commission under the purview of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Councillor Marks thanked Vice President Lungo-Koehn for initiating this work. He favors a Commission created by City Ordinance rather than an ad hoc Committee that can be disbanded.

Councillor Dello Russo said that the Somerville ordinance sounds almost hostile at some points. He mentioned Mayor Marilyn Porreca, the first female Mayor of Medford. He said that many leadership positions in City Government are held by women. He said he is wary of commissions that might divide people rather than being inclusive. He advocates having people exercise their collective voice together rather than separately. He wants any language establishing a Commission, by ordinance or otherwise, to be tempered and more open and accepting.

City Solicitor Rumley said that the movement to make all playing fields equal (rather by ordinance or an ad hoc committee), anything that increases the level of equality is a good thing, but the language needs to be examined.

Mr. Rumley said the Somerville Ordinance does not cover all intended categories (he cited the word "creed," in one place but not in another section of the Somerville ordinance.

Mr. Rumley also said that giving a Commission investigatory powers without investigatory muscle to go with it. He thinks subpoena power should be used very

sparingly, and that there should be cooperation with the police department and district attorney's office if investigation is necessary.

Mr. Rumley also said he fears that there is a litmus test required for membership on the commission. He asked whether personal political positions would disqualify membership, and he also wondered if some of those personal political positions might result in discrimination based on faith or belief.

Vice President Lungo-Koehn said the Council needs to discuss who is appointed, by whom, and how many.

Councillor Knight suggested a five-member commission, with Council advice and consent, and Medford residency required. He also suggested 8 people, one from each ward, with a residency requirement.

Councillor Knight requested that the City Solicitor draft some opinions for the Council. He also reminded the Council that the Somerville ordinance was drafted in 1988.

President Falco said that the main concern is getting the ordinance right.

Councillor Dello Russo recommended leaving the paper in committee.

Vice President Lungo-Koehn requested language from the City Solicitor. Mr. Rumley said he could get language to the Committee within the next couple of weeks.

President Falco suggested meeting on this in the third week of June.

Mr. Rumley said he'd be meeting with the Diversity Director during the drafting of any language.

Ms. Morell said that Somerville has had trouble keeping its commission staffed.

Councillor Knight amended his request to have the commission be 8 people, one from each ward, with residency, with the Diversity Director ex officio in the event of a tie.

Councillor Dello Russo (Councillor Scarpelli second) moved to keep the paper in committee until re-convened. He moved to report out the pertinent points of discussion that would be helpful for further consideration and for the City Solicitor as he drafts an ordinance—passed.

Councillor Scarpelli said that he would also suggest 8-ward-based members and one at large.

Ms. Morell said that it would be great if the City Solicitor consulted a woman in drafting the ordinance.

Ms. Anand said that the City needs to account for the disparate barriers that women face across cultures. She says that the voices of these women need to be heard from the very beginning.

Councillor Dello Russo moved adjourn at 6:44 p.m. (Vice President Lungo-Koehn second)—passed.

President Falco adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

[End of Committee of the Whole report.]

Councillor Dello Russo moved for a brief summary in lieu of reading the full report (Councillor Knight second)—passed.



**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

**22-291** - Resolution to Establish a Beautification Committee

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

Be it Resolved that the Medford City Council create a user-friendly guide for public participation that is translated into multiple languages and is easily accessible on the city website.

Be it Further Resolved that the Medford City Council work with the City Clerk to improve the resolution tracking system on the city website.

Be it Further Resolved that the Medford City Council work with the City Clerk to update the manner and file format in which Council meeting agendas are posted to enable "copy/paste" accessibility and ensure access to Council meeting agendas for people with disabilities.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Subcommittee Ordinances Rules Report 042722 Beautification Ord
- 2. Subcommittee Ordinances Rules Report 050322 Beautification Ord

## 20-006 SUBCOMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES & RULES MEETING REPORT WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87479523197

Meeting ID: 874 7952 3197

One tap mobile

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- +19292056099,,87479523197# US (New York)

#### Dial by your location

- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 874 7952 3197

Find your local number: https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kcbJmqhNzp

To participate remotely outside of Zoom, please e-mail <u>AHurtubise@medford-ma.gov</u>.

Attendees: Councillor Vice President Isaac "Zac" Bears, Subcommittee Chair; Councillor Kit Collins; Karen Fopiano representing the Office of the City Clerk. Other attendees as noted in the body of this report.

Chairman Bears called the meeting to order Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 6:10 P.M. on Zoom. The purpose of the meeting on Paper **20-006** was to review and update the beautification ordinance.

Chief of Staff Nina Nazarian spoke of the on going updates the Administration has been doing around the City. Light posts have been scraped and painted and look vivid. Also, noted was the "Welcome to Medford" signs need to be done.

Chairman Bears mentioned the planting flowers in pots in each square of Medford. Which are maintained by independent business owners in each square. Medford High School is having an ongoing clean-up. This Saturday, April 30, 2022, is Medford Clean-up Day. Which has garnered much interest throughout the

City.

City Solicitor Kimberly Scanlon spoke of the drafted framework. There needs to establish terms of an open meeting law. City Solicitor spoke of Salem, MA, Beautification Commission which is made up of volunteers and the Mayor.

The membership of the commission should be made up of no less than three volunteers but no more than seven or eight volunteers. Chairman Bears and City Solicitor Scanlon acknowledged the appointment process, qualifications and the involvement the City Councillors. It should be noted that the volunteers would be from each of the following sections of Medford: North, South, West and the Wellington areas. Chief of Staff Nazarian spoke of the staff resources restraints.

Chairman Bears brought up the need of an election of officers. The beautification commission would meet once a month and it would be an open meeting. Also, an Annual report to the Mayor and the City Council. The question of compensation came up, Councillor Collins thought there should be. Chief of Staff Nazarian noted that not all boards or commissions are compensated, and budgetary constraints.

Chairman Bears suggested a six-day survey for the public to comment. The comments of the survey would be emailed to City Clerk Adam Hurtubise. A few of the suggested questions would be:

- a). The purpose or function of the beautification commission.
- b). How many members or volunteers for the beautification commission?
- c). How many meetings per month?

Chairman Bears moved to adjourn at 6:41 P.M. (Councillor Collins second)—approved.

Chairman Bears adjourned the meeting at 6:41 P.M.

#### 20-006 SUBCOMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES & RULES MEETING REPORT TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82609562575

Meeting ID: 826 0956 2575

One tap mobile

- +19292056099,,82609562575# US (New York)
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- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 826 0956 2575

Find your local number: https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kc8XTl6PHg

Attendees: Council Vice President Isaac "Zac" Bears, Subcommittee Chair; Councillor Kit Collins; Councillor Adam Knight; City Clerk Adam Hurtubise; Chief of Staff Nina Nazarian.

Chairman Bears called the meeting to order on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber. The purpose of the meeting on Paper **20-006** was to discuss the draft beautification ordinance. The Subcommittee has invited Chief of Staff Nina Nazarian and City Solicitor Kimberly Scanlon to attend.

Chairman Bears thanked participants for attending. He said that the City Solicitor was unable to attend but that the Subcommittee could submit draft language. He highlighted discussions from last week's meeting. He said Councillor Knight is the sponsor of this ordinance.

Councillor Knight said he missed last week's meeting because he got a flat tire just before the meeting. He thanked Chairman Bears for getting the Subcommittee to this point. He said that a beautification committee could be eyes and ears for the community.

The purpose of the Beautification Committee is to act as an advisory Committee to the City and to make recommendations on projects designed to maintain and improve the appearance of public areas within the City. The Committee would also work to recognize the beautification efforts of residents and businesses.

The proposed committee would have five members appointed by the Mayor. Terms would be for two years. Councillor Knight suggested making appointments confirmable by the Council. He suggested some changes in composition such as DPW staff, business representatives, and other items. He suggested a representative from the business community and one from the recreation community. He said that Walk Medford would also be a good source. Chairman Bears said that draft would have one member from each of the four distinct geographic areas of the City.

Councillor Collins said she liked the idea of geographic distribution. She said she didn't want to get too far into the weeds. Chairman Bears suggested various business types. He suggested increasing membership above five members. He also suggested ensuring that all areas of the City are represented. He suggested seven members. Councillor Collins suggested having a youth representative on the Committee.

Chairman Bears updated a draft to include business and recreation representatives, and mobility access advocates. Chairman Bears updated the language to include a DPW representative and one from the Office of Planning, Development and Sustainability. Chairman Bears updated the language to require Council confirmation of Mayoral appointments. Chairman Bears said he would not be opposed to suggesting six meetings per year given the work of the committee.

The Committee would be required to submit an annual report to the Mayor and the City Council. Members would not receive compensation. Councillor Collins suggested a representative from the Arts community.

Chief of Staff Nazarian said that increasing membership creates more more positions to fill and Council confirmation adds additional administrative steps. She said she would propose just having the Mayor be the appointing authority for simplicity purposes. She said that requiring Council confirmation would require a number of additional steps. She also said that requiring department heads to staff the committee would add to the workload. She said that the only DPW member who is non-union is the Commissioner.

Councillor Collins said that every department needs and deserves more capacity for staff. She said she thinks it's important that the Council collaborate with the Mayor on appointments to the Committee.

Chairman Bears said he understands the Chief of Staff's concerns. He said that he believes that the Council wants to be an active partner with the Administration. He said we do not have the level of revenue needed to support the level of services that people in this community need. He said he is sure that the Council could sit down with the Office of the Mayor to develop a streamlined confirmation process.

Councillor Knight moved to report the paper out to Committee of the Whole and to forward the amended language to the City Solicitor for review (Councillor Collins second—approved on a roll call vote of three in favor and zero opposed.

Councillor Knight moved to adjourn at 6:38 p.m. (Councillor Collins second)—approved on a roll call vote of three in favor and zero opposed.

Chairman Bears adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.



**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

23-053 - Request Report on Social Justice Roadmap Updates

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

#### 23-053-Offered by Councillor Tseng

Be it Resolved that the City Administration provide a report updating the City Council on its progress on the Social Justice Roadmap.

Be it Further Resolved that the City Administration update the Roadmap, where deemed appropriate.

Councillor Tseng moved for approval (Councillor Scarpelli second)—approved on a roll call vote of seven in favor and zero opposed.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

23-054 - Resolution to Conduct Updated Racial Equity Study

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

#### 23-054-Offered by Councillor Tseng

Be it Resolved that the City Council ask the City Administration to conduct an updated racial equity study.

Councillor Tseng moved for approval (Vice President Bears second)—approved on a roll call vote of seven in favor and zero opposed.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

23-055 - Resolution to Consider Welcoming City Ordinance

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

#### 23-055-Offered by Councilor Tseng

Be it Resolved that the Subcommittee on Racial Justice, Disabilities, and Elder Affairs consider a Welcoming City ordinance.

Councillor Tseng moved for approval (Councillor Collins second)—approved on a roll call vote of six in favor, zero opposed, and Councillor Knight briefly absent from the Chamber.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

<u>23-297</u> - Request Administration Identify Issues that Affect Political Participation by Immigrant Communities

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

#### 23-297-Offered by Councillor Tseng

Be it so Resolved that the City Council ask the City Administration, Elections Department, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Department to identify, analyze, and address the issues that may affect civic and political participation by immigrant communities in Medford.

Councillor Tseng moved for approval (Vice President Bears second)—approved.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



**MEETING DATE** 

**SPONSORED BY** 

February 13, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

24-016 - Discuss Updating the City Website

#### **FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

#### 24-016 - Offered by Councillor Tseng

Be it Resolved that the Committee on Resident Services and Public Engagement meet to discuss recommendation for updating the City Website.

Councillor Tseng moved to refer the paper to the Committee on Resident Services and Public Engagement (Councillor Lazzaro second)—referred to the Committee on Resident Services and Public Engagement.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **ATTACHMENTS**