



Medford City Council
Medford, Massachusetts

Resident Services and Public Engagement Committee, November 19, 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, 2nd Floor, Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford, MA and via Zoom.

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82488085478>

Call-in Number: +16469313860,,82488085478# US

Live: Channel 22 (Comcast), Channel 43 (Verizon), [YouTube](#), and medfordtv.org.

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

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

24-073 - Offered by Anna Callahan, City Councilor, Justin Tseng, City Councilor, Emily Lazzaro, City Councilor

Resolution to Establish City Council Listening Sessions

24-351 - Offered by Matt Leming, City Councilor

Resolution to Allow the Director of Veterans' Services to Offer Housing Incentives to Veteran Renters

24-354 - Offered by Matt Leming, City Councilor, Isaac Bears, Council President

Resolution to Publish City Council Newsletter

PAPERS IN COMMITTEE

To view Papers in Committee, please email ahurtubise@medford-ma.gov.

Adjournment



Medford City Council
Medford, Massachusetts

MEETING DATE

November 19, 2024

SPONSORED BY

Anna Callahan, City Councilor,
Justin Tseng, City Councilor, Emily
Lazzaro, City Councilor

AGENDA ITEM

24-073 - Resolution to Establish City Council Listening Sessions

FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION

Whereas many studies have shown that local governments primarily hear from a small proportion of their residents in addition to corporate interests, and those residents who do reach out tend to be more affluent than the average resident,

Be it Resolved, that the Committee on Resident Services and Public Engagement reach out to city staff, residents, and community groups to develop and implement a series of listening sessions where councilors listen to residents to extend Council outreach to residents, particularly of various underrepresented or under-served neighborhoods and backgrounds.

RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL IMPACT

ATTACHMENTS

None



Medford City Council
Medford, Massachusetts

MEETING DATE

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SPONSORED BY

Matt Leming, City Councilor

AGENDA ITEM

24-351 - Resolution to Allow the Director of Veterans' Services to Offer Housing Incentives to Veteran Renters

FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION

Whereas, veterans in the City of Medford need a place to live and are often discriminated against when searching for housing; now, therefore:

Be It Resolved that the Veterans' Services Director shall have the authority to offer available funds to entities that choose to rent to qualified veterans.

Be It Further Resolved that this be discussed with the Veterans' Services Director and the city's legal representation in committee.

RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL IMPACT

ATTACHMENTS

- I. DIVISION_7.___DIRECTOR_OF_VETERANS__SERVICES

PART II - REVISED ORDINANCES
Chapter 2 - ADMINISTRATION
ARTICLE IV. - OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES
DIVISION 7. DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES

DIVISION 7. DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES¹

Sec. 2-761. Director; appointment.

There shall be a director of veterans' services who shall also be the graves officer. The director of veterans' services shall be appointed by the mayor. His appointment shall not be subject to M.G.L.A. c. 31.

(Rev. Ords. 1974, ch. 22, § 1; Ord. No. 535, § 1, 11-22-1988)

Sec. 2-762. Successor to agent for state military aid and soldiers' relief.

The director of veterans' services shall succeed to all the rights, powers and duties heretofore discharged by the veterans' agent in the city, and, for all purposes, he shall be deemed to be the successor of such agent. He shall disburse out of the amount appropriated by the city council such sums to the various applicants as he shall deem just, and shall perform the duties pertaining to such office in accordance with the provisions of general laws and subject to the supervision of the commissioner of veterans' services.

(Rev. Ords. 1974, ch. 22, § 2)

Sec. 2-763. Military historian.

The director of veterans' services shall be the military historian for the city and shall establish and maintain an accurate military record and history of all persons who are residents of the city serving in the armed forces during such periods of time as would entitle them to be classified as a "veteran" as defined in the general laws. He is authorized to obtain for and in the name of the city from all federal and state departments such information as may be necessary to compile the military records of citizens of the city required in this section.

(Rev. Ords. 1974, ch. 22, § 3)

Sec. 2-764. Veterans' graves officer.

The director of veterans' services shall also serve as the veterans' graves officer, and it shall be his duty to cause every veteran's grave within the city to be suitably kept and cared for and to otherwise perform the duties prescribed in M.G.L.A. c. 115, § 9.

(Rev. Ords. 1974, ch. 22, § 4)

Sec. 2-765. Housing incentives.

The director of veterans' services shall, at their discretion and as funds are available, have the authority to offer cash incentives of up to \$750 annually to landlords who offer rental housing to qualified veterans.

Secs. 2-76~~5~~—2-790. Reserved.

¹State law reference(s)—Appointment of veteran's benefits agent, M.G.L.A. c. 115, § 3.



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SPONSORED BY

Matt Leming, City Councilor, Isaac
Bears, Council President

AGENDA ITEM

24-354 - Resolution to Publish City Council Newsletter

FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION

Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that the Resident Services and Public Engagement Committee shall have the authority to draft and approve a regular newsletter summarizing the activities of the City Council and can vote to publish the newsletter by whatever mechanisms available without referring the draft newsletter to a regular Council meeting for a vote.

Be it Further Resolved that this paper be referred to the Resident Services and Public Engagement Committee as a standing agenda item

RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL IMPACT

ATTACHMENTS

None