

Atlantic City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Garrett presiding. Council members present were Kennedy (Ward 1), Behrens (Ward 2), McDermott (Ward 3), Sarsfield (Ward 4), Halder (Ward 5), Brink (At-Large), and Otte (At-Large). Absent: None.  
Also present: City Administrator Lund, City Attorney Wiederstein.

Motion by Brink; second by Otte to approve agenda. All ayes: motion passed. Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Behrens; second by Sarsfield to approve consent agenda as follows:

Minutes of March 26, 2025, Proposed Maximum Property Tax Levy Hearing Special Council Meeting.

Minutes of April 2, 2025, regular City Council Meeting.

Bills: \$397,387.86.

All ayes: motion passed.

Public Forum. There were no speakers.

Motion by McDermott; second by Behrens to approve RESOLUTION #28-25 "A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF SALES TAX REVENUES TO VARIOUS FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES."

Otte noted that in real dollars, the impact of this redistribution of LOST income will be as follows: LOST Progress will be reduced by \$67,907 in FY2026 and by \$1,378,000 in total over the next 17 years. The Recreation Improvement Reserve Fund will be reduced by \$23,394/\$936,833; the Street Improvements Fund by \$40,744/\$826,832. The lifetime interest on this \$2,500,000 loan is \$1,260,710.99.

Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Swearing in of Atlantic Police School Resource Officer Ben Sandy.

Presentation by Dolly Bergmann on Tree City USA Presentation & Signing of the Arbor Day Proclamation by the Mayor.

Atlantic is one of just 73 cities in Iowa to receive Tree City USA designation. Trees Forever will be planting trees with 4<sup>th</sup> graders in honor of Arbor Day and planting evergreens and some deciduous trees near the new tennis courts at the High School.

Motion by Brink; second by Halder to reappoint Judd Meneely to the Utility Board of Trustees. All ayes: motion passed.

Public Hearing on the Adoption of the Final Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the City of Atlantic.

There were no speakers and no comments were received. Motion by Behrens; second by McDermott to close the hearing at 5:44 pm. All ayes: motion passed.

Motion by Otte; second by Sarsfield to approve RESOLUTION #29-25 "ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ATLANTIC."

Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Public Hearing on the Adoption of the FY 2026 Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

There were no speakers and no comments were received. Motion by Kennedy; second by McDermott to close the hearing at 5:45 pm. All ayes: motion passed.

Motion by Behrens; second by Sarsfield to approve RESOLUTION #30-25 "ADOPTING THE PROPOSED FY 2026 TEN-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP)."

Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Motion by McDermott; second by Kennedy to approve RESOLUTION #31-25 "ADOPTING WAGES FOR SEASONAL/PART-TIME PARKS & RECREATION AND AIRPORT EMPLOYEES FOR THE 2025 SEASON."

Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Motion by Brink; second by Otte to APPROVE RESOLUTION #32-25 "SETTING SALARIES FOR APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ATLANTIC, IOWA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026."

Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Discussion and Questions for the City Attorney, as Well as Expectations Outlined in Their Contract.

In response to questions from councilmembers, Wiederstein explained that he attends Council meetings a few times per year; he drafts and reviews City Ordinances; most often his work is to answer legal questions for Code Enforcement, the Police, or the City Administrator; he has occasionally been consulted by the Mayor or Council members when referred by Lund; and he is paid by retainer, which covers all normal consulting attorney services except when he appears in court.

Wiederstein commented that he has worked for the City since at least 2008 and believes that communication with City staff has been good, but that his appointment is at the pleasure of the Council and conditions can be adjusted.

Discussion and Questions Regarding Council Procedures.

Council and Wiederstein held a brief discussion about the validity of Resolution #05-02 to govern Council procedural rules for motions and amendments. Lund said that city resolutions don't supersede state law and the City could review and update its procedures with reference to state legislative changes.

Otte added that she learned from the Iowa Freedom of Information Council that agendas can be changed, but discussion and action should only be undertaken without prior notice if the matter cannot be postponed.

Motion by Kennedy; second by McDermott to approve RESOLUTION #33-25 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ENHANCE IOWA BOARD AND THE CITY OF ATLANTIC, IOWA FOR THE COMMUNITY ATTRACTION AND TOURISM (CAT) GRANT PROGRAMING GRANT AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT." Kennedy clarified that this is for the Splashpad project. Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Motion by Otte; second by Sarsfield to approve RESOLUTION #34-25 "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARAMETERS FOR THE SALE OF BONDS AND APPROVING A BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT."

Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Administrator's Report.

- Lund reported that the FY 2026 Budget and the Capital Improvement Plan are both finished.
- He informed the Council that the public works union members submitted a letter dissolving their union in Atlantic: they stated they believe the City will treat them fairly without labor negotiations.
- Following a periodic review, Standard and Poor's rating agency reaffirmed the City's A+ rating.

Review of Contracts and Bond for the 2025 Downtown Street Improvements Project.

Mason Goergen of Snyder & Associates said that everything is on schedule.

Motion by Brink; second by Halder to approve RESOLUTION #35-25 "RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT AND BONDS FOR THE 2025 DOWNTOWN STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT."

Motion unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Mayor's Report.

- On May 7, the ISU Bull Creek consulting group will present their findings at the Community Center, including a 25' model of Bull Creek. State and federal elected officials have been invited. The next step is to explore external funding to remediate and update the watershed.
- She and three council members attended a state rural summit last week.
- The ISU art project students are currently identifying locations for public art in the City.
- She wishes to thank Vision Atlantic for providing needed clarifications about the YMCA improvement project.
- She would like the Council to tour City Hall in preparation for planning needed repairs.

City Council Reports.

Brink: No meetings.

Halder: Community Protection will bring suggestions for speed control issues in the city.

Sarsfield: Chamber of Commerce.

McDermott: CPC.

Behrens: Attended the Rural Economic Development Summit. Airport. CPC.

Kennedy: Attended two meetings with ISU student consultants. Rural Summit.

Otte: Attended Rural Summit. Planning & Zoning will suggest a housing inspection program.

The next City Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Motion by Sarsfield; second by Halder to adjourn at 6:11 pm. All ayes.

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Grace N. Garrett, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Laura McLean, City Clerk