

City Council  
February 29, 2024  
3:00 pm

The Atlantic City Council met in special session in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Garrett presiding. Upon roll call, the following were present: Mayor Garrett, Ward 1 Council Kennedy, Ward 2 Council Behrens, Ward 3 Council McDermott, Ward 4 Council Sarsfield, Ward 5 Council Halder, At Large Council Brink, At Large Council Otte, City Administrator Lund, City Clerk Barrick. Absent: None.

Motion by McDermott; second by Halder to approve agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Sarsfield spoke about the Iowa Homes Program; a program in which homes are stick built by the Prisons and then moved via truck to the site; homes can now be owned by cities. Motion by Brink, second by McDermott to approve Homes for Iowa program and housing development fund budgets for the FY 2024 revised estimate and FY2025 budget. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kennedy; second by Sarsfield to enter exempt session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 201.17(3) Providing for the Strategy Meetings of Public Employees for Collective Bargaining. All ayes. Motion carried. Council entered exempt session at 3:19 p.m.

Motion by Sarsfield; second by Kennedy to end exempt session at 4:19 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Behrens; second by Halder to re-enter open session. All ayes. Motion carried. Council re-entered open session at 4:20 p.m.

City Coordinator Martin was present to outline an alternative to the city's proposed Drug & Alcohol Testing Policy. She proposed that testing only be conducted upon pre-employment, post-accident, and reasonable suspicion and eliminate the random testing. Consensus of council was that this was a good idea.

City Administrator Lund gave a review of the Personnel and Finance meeting held on Tuesday stating that he believes Personnel & Finance values public services over physical austerity. Lunds projections show the city using more debt service dollars instead of general fund dollars. He added that next year will be focused on the EMS referendum and whether or not it passes. Lund stated that Personnel & Finance felt that \$17.25 was a reasonable number for the city levy in order to fund the necessary expenditures. Council Member Brink added that he felt that it wasn't in the city's best interest to go higher than \$17.25.

Motion by McDermott; second by Halder to approve Resolution #09-24 "SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 TO BE HELD ON APRIL 3, 2024 AT 5:00 P.M." Ayes: McDermott, Sarsfield, Halder, Brink, Otte, Kennedy, Behrens. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Brink; second by Otte to approve Resolution #10-24 "AAPROVING THE PROPOSED MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR FY 2025" Ayes: Brink, Otte, Kennedy, Behrens, McDermott, Sarsfield, Halder. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Other Business discussed included the feasibility of a special census, funding for the police department as well as staffing the department, and the city's potential partnership with the YMCA regarding Sunnyside Pool.

Motion by Behrens; second by Halder to adjourn at 5:59 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

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Grace N. Garrett, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barb Barrick, City Clerk