

Atlantic City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Grace Garrett presiding. Council members present were Emily Kennedy (Ward 1), Jim Behrens (Ward 2), Mike McDermott (Ward 3), Jeremy Butler (At-Large), and Elaine Otte (At-Large). Shawn Sarsfield (Ward 4) attended via telephone. Dana Halder (Ward 5) arrived at 4:48 pm. Also present: City Administrator John Lund, City Engineer David Sturm.

Motion by McDermott; second by Butler to approve agenda. All ayes. Motion passed.

Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

- Minutes of November 19, 2025, City Council Meeting.
- Class C Retail Alcohol License - Rancho Grande.
- Class C Retail Alcohol License - Touchdown Beer & Grill.
- Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service and New Ownership - Fireside Lounge.
- Bills: \$409,011.20.

Public Forum & Requested Hearings. There were no speakers.

Motion by Kennedy; second by McDermott to approve [RESOLUTION #72-25](#) "APPROVAL OF THE CY 2026 BUDGET FOR ATLANTIC MUNICIPAL UTILITIES." Roll call vote: unanimous.

Motion by Butler; second by Kennedy to Reappoint Dolly Bergmann to the Parks & Recreation Commission. All ayes: motion passed.

Motion by McDermott; second by Kennedy to Reappoint Kevin Ferguson to the Parks & Recreation Commission. All ayes: motion passed.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing on the Proposal to Enter into an Essential Purpose Loan Agreement at 4:34 pm. There were no speakers. Motion by Behrens; second by Butler to close the hearing at 4:34 pm. All ayes: motion passed.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing on the Proposal to Enter into a General Purpose Loan Agreement at 4:35 pm. There were no speakers. Motion by Otte; second by Kennedy to close the hearing at 4:35 pm. All ayes: motion passed.

Motion by McDermott; second by Behrens to approve [RESOLUTION #73-25](#) "TAKING ADDITIONAL ACTION ON PROPOSALS TO ENTER INTO GENERAL OBLIGATION LOAN AGREEMENTS AND COMBINING LOAN AGREEMENTS." Roll call vote: unanimous.

Motion by Butler; second by Otte to approve Change Order #3 for the Downtown Street Project, Reflecting As-Built Quantities for the Project. Sturm explained the purpose is to balance out quantities as the project draws to a close, resulting in a deduction of \$9500. All ayes: motion passed.

Motion by Otte; second by McDermott to approve Pay Application #5 For \$241,576.04 to Omni Construction for the Downtown Street Improvements Project. All ayes: motion passed.

Motion by Behrens; second by Otte to approve Pay Application #4 for \$486,909.62 to Bluffs Paving & Utility for the Concrete Street Improvements Project. Sturm said this project covering work on Commerce, State, Chestnut, Laurel, and Hickory Streets is 99% done and will be finished in the next two weeks. There will be a punch list in the spring.

Motion by McDermott; second by Butler to approve Pay Application #5 for \$401,735.69 to TK Concrete for the West 22nd Street Improvements Project. 22" Street has been closed for nearly three months. This pay app is for finished paving between Sunnyside and Palm The remainder won't be done this year, though the old road surface remains and will not be open this winter. Sturm said the contractors are liable for a \$1000 deduction for every working day (above 35 degrees) that extend the project beyond its original deadline. The original contract was for a 60-day project and it's now been 74 days since the beginning. Damages will be negotiated at the end of the project before final payment is released. All ayes: motion passed.

Administrator's Report.

- All annual reports and certifications have been filed.
- P&Z will meet 12/9 to review comprehensive plan and to work on FY27 budget.
- Council will hold a budget workshop session at 5:00 pm on January 14, 2026.
- Lund will take vacation from December 19-29.

Mayor's Report.

- This weekend will see the Festival of Trees and the Lighted Parade downtown.
- Reminder that according to City Ordinance, streets must be kept clear of vehicles whenever snowplows might be out, and residents have 24 hours after the snow ends to clean it off their sidewalks.

City Council Reports.

- Sarsfield: Cass County Public Safety.
- Kennedy: Parks & Rec
- Behrens: Public Safety: State wants counties to merge for EMA to reduce costs. Fire: Closure of 22nd St is a challenge. A new grass-fire unit was purchased; they are hoping to get a 50% grant from DNR.
- McDermott: Parks & Rec.
- Halder: YMCA. Landfill: new director is tackling many problems and trying to expand recycling profitability. They collect copper now. Leachate problem is ongoing.
- Otte: Personnel & Finance Committee.
- Butler: Landfill.

The next City Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 17th, 2025.

Motion by Behrens; second by Kennedy to adjourn at 5:02 pm. All ayes. Motion passed.

Grace N. Garrett, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Laura McLean, City Clerk

Click one of the links below to access full PDF versions:

- [Resolution 72-25](#)
- [Resolution 73-25](#)