

City Council
May 20, 2026
5:30 pm

The Atlantic City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Robert Clausen presiding. Council members were present: Emily Kennedy, Mike McDermott, Jim Behrens, Dana Halder, Elaine Otte, and Jeremy Butler. Absent: Shawn Sarsfield.

Motion by McDermott; second by Kennedy to approve agenda as posted. All ayes. Motion carried.
Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Butler; second by Behrens to approve consent agenda as follows: Minutes of May 6, 2026, City Council meeting; Special Class C Retail Alcohol License with outdoor services – Winetime LLC. Special Event, 5-Day, 10 West 7th Street; Special Event, 5-Day, 6th and Chestnut; Special Class C Retail Alcohol License – Downtowner. Fireworks Permits: Bellino Fireworks, Inc., Papillion NE and Ka-Boomers Inc. Wahoo, NE. Tobacco Permits: Atlantic Liquor, Dollar General, Greenleaf Tobacco, Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits, Hy-Vee Food Store, Murphy USA #7164, Fareway #940, Casey's #2610 (East), Casey's #2365 (West), Casey's #3035 Central, Basement, Olsen's BP, Olive Street Station, Tobacco Device Retailer Permits: Greenleaf Tobacco and Atlantic Liquor. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public forum: No Speakers

McDermott moved to approve Resolution #31-26 "Support for the YMCA Community Development Project and Authorizing Participation in the Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Grant Program Application." Halder seconded. All ayes; motion carried. The Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Grant Program is administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) to support the development of recreational, cultural, entertainment, and educational attractions that enhance tourism and community vitality throughout Iowa. The program provides competitive grant funding for primarily "vertical infrastructure" projects, including land acquisition, new construction, major renovations, trails, and related public facilities.

Eligible applicants include cities, counties, and nonprofit organizations. Projects are required to demonstrate broad community support and significant local financial commitment prior to application. CAT grants are intended to leverage local and private investment, stimulate economic development, and create transformational public amenities that improve quality of life and attract visitors to Iowa communities.

This resolution expresses the City Council's support for our partnership with Vision Atlantic in their YMCA initiative and authorizes the City of Atlantic to serve as the applicant for funding through the Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Grant Program. The proposed YMCA project is part of a broader community investment effort. This part of the project has a cost exceeding \$20 million and is intended to strengthen Atlantic's long-term economic vitality, quality of life, and workforce competitiveness.

The resolution outlines the City's anticipated financial participation in the project, currently estimated at approximately \$4,685,442. Vision Atlantic and community partners continue to lead fundraising and project development efforts, while the City's role is primarily related to grant application support and financial participation.

The Council discussed the CAT grant and the financial support for the project during their May 13, 2026, City Council work session. The proposed project funding utilizes restricted special revenue and proprietary funds that are not available for general operating expenses such as police, fire, library, or recreation operations.

The Council discussed the dates for Fourth of July fireworks. Otte moved to approve Resolution #32-26 setting the dates for 2026 Fourth of July fireworks use on July 2-3-4.” seconded. Roll Call: YES-Behrens, McDermott, Halder, Otte, Butler; NO-Kennedy; majority approved; motion carried.

At 5:44 Mayor Clausen asked for a motion to open the public hearing regarding the sale of city owned real estate. Otte moved to open and Behrens, seconded; all ayes motion carried. With no comments written or verbal, Behrens moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Halder; all ayes motion carried.

Butler moved to approve Resolution #33-26 “Approving the Sale of City Owned Real Estate.” Otte seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Kennedy moved to approve order to approve street closure on 6th Street between Poplar Street and the alley on Monday, June 1, 2026, from 3:00 P.M.to 6:00 P.M. for the Atlantic Public Library’s Summer Kick-Off event. Halder seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

McDermott moved to approve order to accept Cass County held tax sale certificates: 2022-115, 2022-116, 2022-112. Behrens seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Bulter moved to approve order to reappoint Dana Halder to the Airport Tall Structure Zoning Board of Adjustment. seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Behrens; second by Halder to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Robert Clausen

ATTEST: _____
Jackie Carl, City Clerk