

APPROVED MINUTES
BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL YEAR END MEETING
December 30, 2024, 6:00 PM BALTIMORE CITY HALL
130 ST. OLAF AVENUE BALTIMORE, SOUTH DAKOTA

Mayor Deborah Mclsaac called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM in the Baltimore City Hall, 130 St. Olaf Avenue. Answering roll call were City Attorney John Hughes, Alderman Brian McGreevy, Mayor Deborah Mclsaac, Alderman Steve Boeve, and Nikki Oien. Missing was Alderman Ryan Sinding. Also, in attendance were Public Works Supervisor Ryan Fods and Finance Officer Lacey Harrington.

Mayor Mclsaac led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Mclsaac requested the Council's approval for Steve Bott to speak on an issue, which was granted. Bott expressed an issue with the current speed limit on Lovely Ave, advocating for an increase to 30-35 mph. The Mayor noted that many residents oppose raising the limit due to safety concerns for children near the school and businesses in the area. He also informed Bott of the steps required to formally present a case for the Council's review.

The council reviewed the December 18, 2024 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Attorney Hughes pointed out that the minutes incorrectly stated Parker Hamann from ISG was present, when it was Justin Heim representing ISG. Finance Officer Harrington confirmed she would correct the error. Brian McGreevy made a motion to approve the December 18th minutes, Boeve seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Council reviewed the Claims Payable. Ryan Sinding made a motion to approve the Claims Payable, Nikki Oien seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

MANAGED SERVICES CONTRACT & HARDWARE UPDATE

Mayor Mclsaac informed the Council about ongoing evaluations of the managed services contract and plans to migrate on-premise servers to the cloud. Mclsaac requested permission to reconfigure hardware as needed under existing agreements. Nikki Oien suggested tabling the discussion until January for more information, and the Mayor agreed.

TAX ABATEMENT

Mayor Mclsaac presented the Council with a tax abatement from Minnehaha County. This abatement is confidential. Brian McGreevy made a motion to recommend approval of the abatement, seconded by Boeve, all ayes, motion carried.

McGreevy motioned to go into executive session at 6:14 pm. Seconded by Boeve. All ayes.

Oien motioned to return from executive session at 6:27 pm. Seconded by Boeve. All ayes.

YEAR END REVIEW

The purpose of the meeting was to address year-end budget appropriations, reviewing overages and shortfalls to ensure proper allocation of funds. Lacey presented a comprehensive year-end budget review, noting that the total budget was \$917,000, and the City came in under budget by \$156,000. However, \$67,000 in supplemental appropriations is required. Unused funds are earmarked for streets, parks, and special assessments, with part of the parks fund already allocated for a project next year.

ORDINANCE 319 – SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE

Finance Officer Harrington presented the first reading of Ordinance 319, Supplemental Budget Appropriations. The second reading is scheduled for the January meeting.

LATE FEES

Mayor Mclsaac presented a proposal to increase water late fees at the request of Alderman Nikki Oien. Attorney Hughes is reviewing the legality and ordinance compliance. Oien moved to raise the late fee from \$10.00 to \$25.00, pending Attorney Hughes' approval, Boeve seconded, all ayes, motion passes.

WATER, GARBAGE & SEWER RATES

Mayor Mclsaac presented a proposal, prompted by Alderman Brian McGreevy, to consider a 5% increase in water, sewer, and potentially garbage fees for the coming year. The increase is intended to prepare for costly upcoming projects, including sewer improvements and a future water tower. McGreevy noted that the City currently has the lowest water and sewer rates in Minnehaha County and emphasized the importance of incremental increases to reduce the financial burden of larger future surcharges. The Council discussed the need to communicate the purpose of the increases, ensuring residents understand the funding is necessary for critical infrastructure projects. No motion was made, but the Council agreed to keep the matter under consideration and to provide public notices and information inserts with water bills.

PERSONNEL SALARY & PAYROLL RESOLUTION

Mayor Mclsaac recommended a 5% annual salary increase for Ryan Fods, Lacey Harrington, and all elected officials. McGreevy made a motion to approve, Oien seconded, all ayes, motion passes. McGreevy added the need for incremental increases for these elected officials to make the role more appealing for individuals willing to dedicate their personal time to this work.

With no further business to discuss, Boeve made a motion to adjourn at 6:41 pm. Seconded by McGreevy, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacey Harrington
Municipal Finance Officer

Deborah Mclsaac
Mayor