



City of Malden

Malden City Hall
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Meeting Minutes - Final Rules & Ordinance Committee

*Councillor Winslow, Chair
Councillor Linehan, Vice-Chair
Councillor Crowe
Councillor O'Malley
Councillor Taylor*

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

5:30 PM

215 Pleasant Street
Room 105
Malden, MA 02148

Watch the meeting with Teams: <https://tinyurl.com/2r5j5uu9>

Roll Call

Also in attendance was Maria Luise, Dan Grover, Chuck Ranaghan, Chris Mooney, and Councillors Condon and McDonald.

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 PM. The Teams link experienced technical difficulties and did not reconnect until 5:41 PM. Chair Winslow chose to continue the meeting while the Teams connection was corrected.

Councillor O'Malley was in attendance via video. All votes taken while he was online were taken by roll call vote.

Present: 5 - Councillor Stephen Winslow, Councillor Amanda Linehan, Peg Crowe, Ryan O'Malley and Ari Taylor

Minutes to be Approved

378-25 Minutes for the meeting of October 14, 2025

A motion was made by Councillor Linehan, seconded by Councillor Taylor, that the Committee Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Tabled Papers

275-25 Be it ordained by the Malden City Council that the Code of the City of Malden (MCC) 1.04.070 PROCEDURE FOR SELLING TAX TITLE PROPERTY is hereby amended by striking it in its entirety and inserting the following:

Sponsors: Stephen Winslow

Attachments: [Current 1.04.070 Procedure for Selling Tax Title Property](#)
[City Council Final Paper 271-13](#)

A motion was made by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Crowe, that the Ordinance be taken from the table. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

This paper had been tabled pending a request to the Legal Department to research if there is standard language recommended by the Municipal Solicitor's Association or KP Law for such updates to the tax title process.

Assistant City Solicitor Christopher Mooney reported there is no model language utilized

across the Commonwealth by other cities but what Treasurer Grover has proposed with this ordinance amendment is legally sound. Attorney Mooney's recommendation is to move forward with the enroll/ordain process.

There was no further discussion on the paper. The committee was unanimous in recommending this item out favorably to the Full Council.

A motion was made by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Crowe, that the Ordinance be recommended favorably to the City Council. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

361-25

Be it ordained by the Malden City Council that the Code of the City of Malden (MCC) 2.24.015 DEPARTMENT HEAD SALARY SCHEDULE is hereby amended by adding the updated salary schedule chart effective July 1, 2025

Sponsors: Stephen Winslow

Attachments: [Dept Head Salary Schedule FY2026-2029](#)

[Current 2.24.015 Department Head Salary Schedule](#)

A motion was made by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Crowe, that the Ordinance be taken from the table. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

This paper had been tabled pending further discussion in the Finance Committee regarding possible cuts in the next fiscal year. The administration had been in negotiations with this bargaining unit prior to the realization of a proposition 2 1/2 override ballot question. Funding required for this COLA are already accounted for in the current year's fiscal budget. Chair Winslow inquired if the committee could approve this year only instead of the full three years that was negotiated in the union contract.

Assistant City Solicitor Christopher Mooney explained the city would be required to go back to the bargaining table with Teamsters Local 25 if they wished to approve only a one year deal instead of three. He views the MOA as a legal contract that may not be modified without all parties agreeing to renegotiate, advises approval of all three years as reflected in the salary schedule submitted.

Maria Luise explained that even a three year contract really is still approved one year at a time because next year's salary doesn't get approved until the budget is voted in June for the following fiscal year. This paper is reflective of so few employees, the amended salary schedule does not require an accompanying appropriation paper. The only ask is to update the ordinance. CFO Charles Ranaghan's recommendation is to avoid going back into negotiations with the union, which could take months, and instead approve the salary schedule for FY 2026 since the funds are already available in salary reserve. Next fiscal year may be reconsidered in May when the FY 2027 budget is submitted to the Council. He further stated all union negotiating teams have been told that it is the desire of the Council not to entertain any agreements that reflect more than just the current fiscal year.

Councillor O'Malley is in agreement with the opinion as stated by Attorney Mooney. If the city signs a three year contract and then votes against funding future salary schedules, he believes that would be considered breach of contract. The city may not just change employee salaries by defunding them. Councillor O'Malley does not see how the city may approve a three year salary schedule only to cut it in next year's budget. Nor does he feel satisfied with the outlook of the proposition 2 1/2 ballot question, which should be considered prior to approving any COLA. The conversation to approve this ordinance is premature.

Councillor McDonald opined the city cannot responsibly approve a three year contract at

this point, not knowing what future funding will look like. They also do not think it fair to ask employees to work without valid contracts. Rather than disapprove anything, they explored the idea of splitting the paper between this year and the next two years to be considered after the override vote. There is no attempt by Council to disapprove other parts of the contract.

Upon discussion, it was decided from a procedural prospective instead of splitting the paper, an amendment is more appropriate. The three year salary schedule as attached to the paper will be amended so the vote will be taken on the current fiscal year only.

A motion was made by Councillor Linehan, seconded by Councillor Taylor, that the Ordinance be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 4 - Winslow, Councillor Linehan, Councillor Crowe and Councillor Taylor

Nay: 1 - Councillor O'Malley

A motion was made by Councillor Linehan, seconded by Councillor Taylor, that the Ordinance be recommended favorably as amended to the City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 4 - Winslow, Councillor Linehan, Councillor Crowe and Councillor Taylor

Nay: 1 - Councillor O'Malley

Adjournment

**A motion was made by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Crowe, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:
Meeting was adjourned at 6:04 PM.**

Yea: 5 - Winslow, Councillor Linehan, Councillor Crowe, Councillor O'Malley and Councillor Taylor

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www.cityofmalden.org/captions