



City of Malden

Malden City Hall
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Meeting Minutes - Final Community Engagement & Inclusion Committee

Councillor Colon Hayes, Chair
Councillor McDonald, Vice-Chair
Councillor O'Malley

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

6:00 PM

City Hall, Room 105
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Watch the meeting with Teams: <https://tinyurl.com/46s6kz5p>

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Karen Colon Hayes, Carey McDonald and Ryan O'Malley

Also Present: Council President Linehan, Councillors Winslow, Crowe, Condon, Simonelli
Christopher Mooney-Assistant City Solicitor
Zaheer Samee-Assistant City Solicitor
Carol Ann Desiderio-City Clerk

Councillor Colon Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.
There will be audio and video of this meeting via TEAMS,

Minutes to be Approved

[37-26](#)

Minutes of August 12, 2025 to be approved.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor Colon Hayes, that the Committee Minutes of August 12, 2025 be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Business

The CEIC will meet for an update on what has been done the past year and Malden Youth Council organization for 2026.

Councillor Colon Hayes explained the CEIC met with the MYC and decided they wanted to go in a different route. The fear was having the youth be opened to OML violations against them. We have asked the City Solicitors office to look into what would be helpful whether being an advisory committee was a better way to go. She referred to Christopher Mooney, Assistant City Solicitor to read what the findings were.

Chris does not have a full report but if you got the authority to create a sub-committee you also have the right to disband it. If you want to create an advisory committee you have the right to do that. Basically they would perform the same type of roles without the pressures of being a public body.

Councillor Colon Hayes said that is fantastic news. We would love to go down that

road. The youth are anxious to do some work. They could follow the OML to have practice in it however, not being put in a position to have an OML filed against them. She said she spoke to different cities and they function as an advisory committee not a public body.

Chris read the proposed order from Zaheer: ORDER: That the Malden Youth Council, established by paper 13-22 as an ad hoc subcommittee of the Community Engagement and Inclusion Committee (CEIC), is hereby discharged pursuant to Malden City Council Rule 8.01 (2023) and Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised §36:9 (12th ed. 2020). The CEIC is authorized to establish an advisory youth council, which shall not be a public body within the meaning of the Open Meeting Law. The CEIC may specify in its discretion the purpose and function of the advisory youth council, and may establish and amend from time to time guidelines and rules for the advisory youth council's membership, operation, and participation in the work of the CEIC. (Please note it was brought to the Clerk of Committees attention there was a typo with Paper # 13-22 mentioned in the proposed order above which should read Paper #138-22 when the MYC was established. It which has been corrected.)

Councillor O'Malley explained if he remembers correctly is that originally you wanted to do an advisory committee and it became an AdHoc Committee the advise we received from Legal at the was that it was a public body. He reached out to the AG's office asking if we change it to an advisory committee would not be a public body. At that time the AG's office said it would still be a public body and he contacted the Legal Department and they said it would still be a public body also. He would like to see the law cited and/or an opinion from the AG's Office in writing that says if we make it an advisory committee it would not be subject to the OML. As much as he trusts the consistency of legal advise we get he would like to make sure we know what is going on. He feels we are getting opposite feedback that if we characterize it as an advisory committee now and is looking for a determination from the AG's Office so that we do not go through this whole process again thinking they are not a public body. We've been down this road before and he doesn't want to go down it again.

Councillor Colon Hayes said she agrees nobody wants to put the youth or the City Council in a position that is doing something we are not able to. When she read the information from the state it is a public body because they are a sub committee off a committee but if we do what you are suggesting we would be safe like that. We have had advisory committees before.

Councillor O'Malley said when he reached out to the AG office the materials obtained from the website was that the Malden Youth Council would be subject to OML.

Councillor Colon Hayes said when she and Councillor Winslow set this up it was a sub committee and that is the AG was making their report for us. She feels if we disband what we have restart again that's how it would be different with the same mission but not being their own public body. We could get in writing she would like that also.

Councillor Winslow said we wanted to be clear that this committee was under the City Council not the Mayor. It was explained that the purpose of this committee was to advise the City Council. He as Council President set this committee up so he feels that question would be can the City Council set up an advisory committee.

Councillor McDonald said that we have advisory committees throughout the City but the question is does the function of the MYC qualify as an advisory group and is that an appropriate form of that. Councillor McDonald noted Reading through the April 9, 2025 minutes Zaheer asked if this committee was advisory or are they able to make decisions and Councillor Colon Hayes said it is just advisory no votes. We were not

told by legal to have to make it a public body it was an intentionally choice to make it a public body for a number of reasons. The question is that they do not want to be in a situation like this and the MYC is to isolated to the City Council and only one of this committee could come to their meetings. The concern is making an advisory group so that they can advise the Council with information and we can be present.

Councillor O'Malley asked Zaheer, Assist. City Solicitor why he thinks calling it an advisory committee it is not a public body

Zaheer said if all the committee or youth group only has discussions and doesn't take any votes that binds the City Council it is not a public body. One of the definitions of a public body is that it has decision making authority under state law or local law but this body doesn't have authority other than recommendations. He suggests saying the MYC is a advisory committee to the City Council and then you would not be violating the OML where a discussion would take place at their meetings if Councillors attended their meetings.

Guillianah, member of the MYC asked if we can't be an advisory group what can we be.

Councillor Colon Hayes does not want to give her thoughts on that but suggested the MYC think about ideas they have on that. She said we will not stop here but asked them to be thinking about that also.

Councillor Simonelli asked if legal could answer that question if they are still interested in this group

Zaheer said we are not talking about labels here you could come up with dozens of names the question is what is their function or purpose are they going to serve.

Councillor Simonelli said maybe it could be a committee helping with community events and the community can they do that.

The committee discussed the possibility of setting flexible, non-binding guidelines for the Youth Council, allowing the group to operate independently and adjust its rules as needed, with the City Council providing support and oversight.

307-25

Be it ordained by the Malden City Council that the Code of the City of Malden (MCC) 12.12 USE REGULATIONS is hereby amended to add 12.32.030.E CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION FOR SHORT TERM RENTALS

Sponsors: Karen Colon Hayes

Attachments: [PROPOSED SHORT TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE CITY OF MALDEN.pdf](#)
[STR Info Nelson Miller Bldg Dir](#)

Councillor Colon Hayes mentioned plans to schedule public meetings to gather feedback on short-term rentals, noting that the issue was not urgent and could be addressed at a later date.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor Colon Hayes, that the Ordinance be tabled. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Other Business

Tabled Papers

[331-25](#)

Minutes of June 17, 2025 to be approved.

Motion was made to take Paper 331-25 off the table by Councillor O'Malley and seconded by Councillor McDonald. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Committee Minutes of June 17, 2025 be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[277-24](#)

Minutes of April 9, 2024 to be approved.

Motion to take Paper 277-24 off the table was made by Councillor O'Malley and seconded by Councillor McDonald. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Committee Minutes of April 9, 2024 be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[279-24](#)

Minutes of June 12, 2024 to be approved.

Motion was made to take Paper 279-24 off the table by Councillor O'Malley and seconded by Councillor McDonald. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Committee Minutes of June 12, 2024 be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[306-24](#)

Minutes of June 18, 2024 to be approved.

Motion to take Paper 306-24 off the table was made by Councillor O'Malley seconded by Councillor McDonald. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Committee Minutes of June 18, 2024 be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[485-24](#)

Minutes of December 11, 2024 to be approved.

Motion to take Paper #485-24 off the table by Councillor O'Malley and seconded by Councillor McDonald. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Committee Minutes of October 16, 2024 be approved as amended to redact personal information. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[398-24](#)

Minutes of October 16, 2024 to be approved.

Motion to take Paper 398-24 off the table was made by Councillor O'Malley and seconded by Councillor McDonald. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Committee Minutes of October 16, 2024 be approved as amended to redact personal information. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that this meeting be adjourned at 6:39 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

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