



City of Annapolis

160 Duke Of Gloucester
Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Regular Meeting Minutes - Draft

City Council

Monday, December 9, 2024

7:00 PM

Mayor John T. Chambers, Jr.
City Council Chambers

Regular Meeting

Call To Order

Mayor Buckley called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Invocation

Given by Alderman Schandelmeier.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Mayor Buckley.

Roll Call

Tonight's roll call began with Alderwoman O'Neill.

Present: 9 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Approval of Agenda

Alderman Arnett moved to approve the agenda to **ADD: City of Annapolis Award for Outstanding Contributions to a Resilient and Sustainable Future to Matthew Earl and Patrick Denker, and to REMOVE: O-11-24 Tenant Displacement Fund on second reader from tonight's agenda. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.**

Ceremonial Items

[ID-174-24](#)

Annapolis Boat Shows presentation

Representitive from the Annapolis Boat Shows presented the Mayor with a check.

[ID-177-24](#)

Citation for Jerry Lincoln

This Ceremonial Item was presented.

[ID-186-24](#)

City of Annapolis Awards for Outstanding Contributions to a Resilient and Sustainable Future to Matthew Earl and Patrick Denker

This Informational Item was presented.

PETITIONS, REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Update from Mayor

Good evening! This is our last council session of 2024! It's been a big year for Annapolis and I want to thank everyone who worked so hard - here at the City and across our community, to make things better.

We've made progress on Choice Neighborhoods and the redevelopment of Eastport Terrace and Harbour House.

We saw the site plan for the new City Dock Park and flood prevention approved earlier in the year, and, just last Thursday, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the Major Site Design for the Maritime Welcome Center and Harbormaster Headquarters. We published a new Public Water Access Plan, Comprehensive Plan, and a new-style Annual Report.

We've moved the needle on Robert Eades Park and Hawkins Cove.

We launched Go Time on-demand transit and ordered two all electric buses - which are about to arrive! We sent out an RFP for the e-ferry, and continued our successful 10-minute E-trolleys in both Eastport and state circle.

We got the leaf blower and plastic bag reduction acts over the line.

We installed new EV chargers, including the supercharger on Inner West Street in partnership with BGE and Visit Annapolis.

We acquired the Dr. Parlett Moore property next to Carrs/Elktonia Beach and worked with the Resilience Authority to select vendors for shoreline restoration and park design.

We rolled out our GPS tracking for snowplows and took a comprehensive survey of residents, benchmarking our progress alongside hundreds of communities nationwide.

We've held two successful gun turn-in events. Chief Jackson reports that at the last event just before Thanksgiving, APD collected 23 firearms and 6,000 rounds of ammunition.

We hosted another successful songwriters festival and studied resilience in Sweden.

And... we said goodbye to Alderwoman Tierney and hello to Alderman Huntley.

Let's hope 2025 brings us as much success and I think after all that, everyone deserves a happy, and hopefully relaxing, holiday season!

==

Holiday festivities are now well underway, and I want to thank everyone who came to our City Hall Holiday Open House last week. This is the last one for me to host as Mayor and it was one of the best attended and celebratory open houses we've held.

My thanks to our Town Crier, Squire Fred, our poet laureate Jeff Holland, our sponsor Mills Liquor and all those who helped make it a fun and festive evening.

I also want to thank my team who organize the open house each year, especially Hilary Raftovich and her holiday elves who set up the room, get the food, and make sure that the event is festive and delicious. Thank you Hilary!

We've got lots more holiday events and activities continuing through to New Year, including:

Two more nights of midnight madness, on Thursdays - Dec 12 and 19

The holiday market at City Dock, which runs this Thursday through Sunday Shop with a cop this Saturday with Annapolis police

The Army-Navy football game is returning to Maryland this year; the game will be played at Commander Field in Lanham and air on CBS this Saturday. Go Navy - beat Army!

The Eastport Yacht Club Lights Parade is this Saturday

The following weekend, we've got the Naptown Half Marathon on the 21st

The Military Bowl parade and game will be at Navy Stadium in the week between Christmas and New Years

On December 29, we will light the City Dock Menorah and finally

On December 31, New Year's Eve, the City will host fireworks over Spa Creek at the family-friendly time of 9 p.m.

Perhaps all this is why Travel + Leisure magazine has once again named Annapolis as a top Christmas town! It's our second year in a row on this list!

==

It only remains to wish you all the best for the season. On behalf of the City Council: Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza and a very Happy New Year to you and yours!

We look forward to seeing you all in 2025 and continuing our work on behalf of the people of Annapolis.

Reports by Committees

Standing Committee Dates:

Finance Committee Special Meeting

December 11, 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Transportation Meeting Regular Meeting

December 11, 2024, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Public Safety Committee Special Meeting

December 11, 2024, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Environmental Matters Committee Regular Meeting

December 12, 2024, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Housing and Human Welfare Committee Regular Meeting

December 16, 2024, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Finance Committee Regular Meeting

December 18, 2024, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Economic Matters Committee regular Meeting

December 18, 2024, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Comments by the General Public

Mayor Buckley declared comments from the general public closed.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of Journal Proceedings

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Alderman Gay moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED

[CCM
11.12.24](#)

Special Meeting Minutes

Alderman Gay moved to approve CCM 11.12.24. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

[CCM
11.25.24](#)

Special Meeting Minutes

Alderman Gay moved to approve CCM 11.25.24. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

End of Consent Calendar

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Charter Amendment

[CA-2-24](#)

FY 2025 City of Annapolis Departmental Reorganization - For the purpose of recreating the Department of Human Resources; creating the Department of Integrated Technology Solutions; reassigning certain duties; and all matters generally related to such departmental reorganization.

Sponsors: Buckley

Speaker:
Jared Littmann, 5 Cambridge Court, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Mayor Buckley declared the public hearing on CA-2-24 closed.

Ordinances

[O-34-24](#)

FY 2025 Changes in Exempt Service Job Classifications - For the purpose of updating the classification grades for City employees in exempt service positions; and generally related to City employee salaries for exempt service positions.

Sponsors: Buckley

Speaker:
Jared Littmann, 5 Cambridge Court, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Mayor Buckley declared the public hearing on O-34-24 closed

[O-35-24](#)

Fair Cannabis Employment Practices- For the purpose of updating the City of Annapolis employment policy as a result of the State legalizing cannabis use and possession on July 1, 2023, and generally related to city employment policy.

Sponsors: Savidge, Gay, Huntley, O'Neill and Arnett

Speaker:
Jack Gallagher, 5 Park Place, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Mayor Buckley declared the public hearing on O-35-24 closed.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

FIRST READERS

Ordinances

[O-33-24](#)

Appeals Process for Property Development in Annapolis - For the purpose of eliminating the temporary stop on development, construction or other project work, called a "stay," while a Department of Planning and Zoning or Department of Public Works decision regarding building and construction developments is being challenged in Circuit Court; and generally dealing with the appeals process in Titles 17 and 21 of the City Code.

Sponsors: Finlayson, Buckley, Schandelmeier and Gay

Alderman Gay moved to adopt O-33-24 on first reader. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Alderman Gay - Cosponsor Added.

Mayor Buckley referred O-33-24 to the Housing and Human Welfare Committee.

Mayor Buckley referred O-33-24 to the Economic Matters Committee.

Mayor Buckley referred O-33-24 to the Rules & City Government Committee.

Alderman Arnett requested that Mayor Buckley refer O-33-24 to Board of Appeals.

Mayor Buckley referred O-33-24 to the Planning Commission..

Resolutions

[R-57-24](#)

Annual Meeting and Tourism Industry Reception Fee Wavier - For the purpose of identifying the Annual Meeting and Tourism Industry Reception that will be held on January 28, 2025, as a Special Event and waiving certain City of Annapolis fees for services related to that event.

Sponsors: Buckley, Gay, Pindell Charles and Huntley

Alderwoman O'Neill moved to adopt R-57-24 on first reader. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Mayor Buckley referred R-57-24 to the Finance Committee.

Alderman Huntley - Cosponsor Added.

Alderwoman Pindell Charles - Cosponsor Added.

Alderman Gay - Cosponsor Added.

SECOND READERS

Ordinances

[O-6-24](#)

City-wide Prohibition on New Drive-through Windows - For the purpose of prohibiting new drive-through window facilities that allow people to remain in vehicles while receiving products or services; eliminating City Code references to drive-through windows and facilities; and generally related to drive-through facilities in Annapolis.

Sponsors: Savidge, Schandelmeier, Buckley and Gay

Alderman Schandelmeier moved to adopt O-6-24 on second reader. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Alderman Schandelmeier moved to adopt O-6-24 on third reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Nay: 3 - Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles and Alderwoman Finlayson

[O-12-24](#)

Maritime Industry Economic Development Fund - For the purpose of establishing a Maritime Industry Economic Development Fund is to promote, stabilize, and protect the maritime industry in the City of Annapolis; and generally dealing with maritime development in the City.

Sponsors: Buckley

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt O-12-24 on second reader. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Alderman Schandelmeier moved to adopt O-12-24 on third reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Alderman Arnett - Cosponsor Added.

Alderman Savidge - Cosponsor Added.

Resolutions

[R-51-24](#)

2024 Go Bowling Military Bowl Parade and Football Game - For the purpose of identifying the Go Bowling Military Bowl Parade and Football Game that will be held on December 28, 2024, as a Major Special Event; and waiving charges for specific City of Annapolis costs related to city

Sponsors: Buckley

Alderman Huntley moved to adopt R-51-24 on second reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

[R-55-24](#)

Budget Process Timeline for Fiscal Year 2026 - For the purpose of approving a timeline for the Fiscal Year 2026 budget development and approval process.

Sponsors: Buckley and Huntley

Alderwoman O'Neill moved to adopt R-55-24 on second reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

[R-56-24](#)

2025 Salary Review Commission Members Updated - For the purpose of adding a member to the Salary Review Commission established by Resolution 42-24 on September 27, 2024.

Sponsors: Finlayson

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt R-56-24 on second reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

[R-58-24](#)

Postponing Enforcement of the Ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

- For the purpose of directing the City Manager to postpone enforcement of the ban on gas-powered leaf blowers in the City of Annapolis pursuant to O-28-23 until June 1, 2025, due to the need for residents and businesses to transition to electric leaf blowers and the time required to establish a voucher program; and generally related to the City's noise prohibitions.

Sponsors: Savidge and Arnett

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt on second reader.

Alderman Arnett moved to amend R-58-24 as follows:

On page 2, in line 5, after the word "until" strike "June 1, 2025" and insert "March 1, 2025". Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Mayor Buckley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Gay and Alderman Savidge

Nay: 4 - Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson and Alderman Arnett

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt R-58-24 as amended on second reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Mayor Buckley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Nay: 4 - Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson and Alderman Gay

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and adopted, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.

**Regina C. Watkins-Eldridge, MMC
City Clerk**