



City of Melrose City Council

Regular Meeting, Public Hearing

Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 7:45 PM
City Council Chamber, 1st Floor
562 Main Street, Melrose, MA 02176

AGENDA

NOTE:

To watch this meeting live visit mmtv3.org or local cable station MMTV (Channels 3, 15, 22 on Comcast or Channels 37, 38, 39 on Verizon)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jason Chen
Cal Finocchiaro
Maya Jamaledine
Manjula Karamcheti
Elizabeth Kowal
John Obremski
Christopher Park
Devin Romanul
Kimberly Vandiver
Ryan Williams
Brad Freeman, President

Pledge of Allegiance

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

A. City Council Organizational/Regular Meeting January 12, 2026 7:45 PM

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

When: Jan 20, 2026 07:45 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: City Council Meeting, Public Hearing National Grid 8:00 pm

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://cityofmelrose-org.zoom.us/j/95331852026?pwd=v0tkdTjEGOes0s0AF67eHG0agls8B4.1>

Passcode:828534

Webinar ID: 953 3185 2026

IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HONORABLE MAYOR & OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Filings by the Honorable Mayor

- i. Appointments/Reappointments
 - 1. **(ID # 2026-178):** Reappointment of Helena Wittfeldt, 44 Briggs Street, Melrose MA to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, for a two year term, said term to expire on the last day of January, 2029.
- B. Filings by members of the Honorable City Council
 - i. Requests
 - 1. **(ID # 2026-175):** Set a Public Hearing to discuss the Motor Vehicle Class I and II license for Cesar Cars Auto Sales Corp d/b/a Melrose Auto Gallery
- C. Orders
 - i. **(ID # 2026-174):** Reappointment of Linda Reed, as Assistant City Clerk for a one year term, ending on the first Monday in February 2027.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING-NATIONAL GRID PETITIONS

- A. Petitions
 - i. **(ID # 2026-52):** WR# 31196090 164 Essex Street National Grid to install Joint Owned Pole - Public Hearing request
 - ii. **(ID # 2026-73):** WR # 31135450 4 Glendale Ave - Joint Pole Installation

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Appointments/Reappointments
 - i. **(ID # 2026-1):** Appointment of Diane Casey, 60 Cochrane Street, to the Liquor Licensing Commission to complete the six-year term of Kevin Cronin who has resigned; said term to expire on the first Monday in June 2029.
 - ii. **(ID # 2026-8):** Appointment of Rob Kirsh, 12 Garland Street, to the Melrose Parks Commission, to fulfill a five-year term of Brad Freeman who has resigned, set to expire on the First Monday of May 2028.
 - iii. **(ID # 2026-9):** Appointment of Michael Tarmey, 5 Trenton Street, to the Melrose Council on Aging to complete the two year term of Margaret Ivins who has resigned; said term to expire on the last day of February 2027.
- B. Grants
 - i. **(ID # 2025-867):** Acceptance of Fiscal 2026 Local Cultural Council Allocation
 - ii. **(ID # 2025-868):** Acceptance of Municipal ADA Improvement Grant
 - iii. **(ID # 2026-3):** Acceptance of EOHLC FY2026 Community Planning Grant in the amount of \$100,250
- C. Licenses

- i. **(ID # 2025-840):** New Common Victualler License for "Table Four"
- ii. **(ID # 2025-842):** Motor Vehicle Class I and II Renewals for 2026 (Second Round)
- iii. **(ID # 2025-843):** Common Victualler Renewals for 2026 (Second Round)
- D. Ordinances
 - i. **(ID # 2025-613):** Revise the existing Animal Leash Law to REMOVE this language :
The Animal Control Officer may, at his/her discretion, waive the provisions of Subsection A if a determination is made that the owner or keeper has a valid reason to have the dog unleashed or untethered for training, exhibition or show purposes.
[Amended 8-21-2017 by Ord. No. 2018-4]
 - ii. **(ID # 2026-10):** Amending Chapter A, Article II, Section 210 of the Administrative Code of the City of Melrose to expand the authority of the Historical Commission to include regulatory authority as necessary for demolition review.

VIII. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

IX. EXPIRIES

X. RULE 36 REPORTS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The City of Melrose does not discriminate based on disability and is committed to hosting accessible meetings and events. Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Melrose or to attend meetings, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator, Polina Latta platta@cityofmelrose.org.