



# Finance Committee

Monday, February 2, 2026, 7:30 PM  
 City Council Chamber, 1st Floor  
 562 Main Street, Melrose, MA 02176

## MINUTES

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Christopher Park	Vice Chair
Jason Chen	
Maya Jamaledine	
John Obremski	
William Bradley Freeman	President, Ex Officio Member
Manjula Karamcheti	Chair

Meeting was called to order by Chair Karamcheti at 7:30 PM

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Christopher Park	Vice Chair	Present	
Jason Chen	At-Large	Present	
Maya Jamaledine	At-Large	Present	
John Obremski	Ward 2	Present	
William Bradley Freeman	President, Ex Officio Member	Absent	
Manjula Karamcheti	Chair	Present	

Also in attendance were non-voting counselors:

Elizabeth Kowal  
 Kimberly Vandiver  
 Ryan Williams

### II. MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion to Approve the minutes by unanimous consent without reading made by Chair Karamcheti

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>AYES:</b>	Jason Chen, Maya Jamaledine, Manjula Karamcheti, John Obremski, Christopher Park
<b>NAYS:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Bradley Freeman

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

When: Feb 2, 2026 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Topic: Finance Committee Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:  
<https://cityofmelrose-org.zoom.us/j/93811800155?pwd=vSIQZQbqpoAsGUdSl9bcXcMTXz25a.1>  
Passcode:982686  
Webinar ID: 938 1180 0155

Motion to Open public comment made by Chair Karamcheti at 7:31 PM  
There were no comments on the floor or via Zoom  
Motion to Close public comment made by Chair Karamcheti at 7:31 PM

**IV. ORDERS**

- A. **(ID # 2026-174):** Reappointment of Linda Reed, as Assistant City Clerk for a one year term, ending on the first Monday in February 2027.

Motion to Recommend to full council made by Councilor Jamaledine  
Seconded by Councilor Obremski  
All were in favor and motion passed

<b>RESULTS:</b>	<b>ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>TO:</b>	City Council
<b>AYES:</b>	Jason Chen, Maya Jamaledine, Manjula Karamcheti, John Obremski, Christopher Park
<b>NAYS:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Bradley Freeman

City Clerk Tanji Cifuni could not be in attendance and here are her comments regarding reappointment candidate Linda Reed. Chair Karamcheti read this to the committee:  
I'm sorry, I could not be in attendance this evening... I wanted to make sure I shared my experience working with Linda Reed over the last year and a half.  
Last February, Linda Reed was appointed as an assistant city clerk for the City of Melrose... Each year the assistant city clerk has to be reappointed... A year has gone by so fast and Linda continues to be a strong asset to our team...  
Over this past year, our department hired an elections administrator, as well as a senior clerk for our office... She was very instrumental in helping me get both of these individuals up to speed in their new roles...  
She brings so much knowledge and experience to the front office of the city clerk... She manages all of our business licenses and all of the permits that we give out on behalf of the City Of Melrose... This year, we are managing the dog database, and we make sure that we have it posted up on our website for all residents to view...  
She manages all of our vital records with ease and expertise.  
She continues to keep up with all of our training manuals... Making sure that each time we roll out a new procedure, it's all documented..  
Linda is always willing to provide a helping hand to anyone within the department or outside our department... A complete team leader...  
Her attendance is impeccable... I think she practically opens up the building every day of the week... I cannot ask for a better partner to work with, and I look forward to working with her for many years to come.

I truly hope my endorsement for Linda can help all of you decide to extend her contract for another year...

Thank you all for taking the time to read this

Comments on Discussion:

-Councilor Jamaledine wanted to learn what is the plan going forward next year.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to Adjourn by unanimous consent made by Chair Karamcheti at 7:36 PM

Meeting was adjourned

## Linda Reed's accomplishments for 2025

Assisted the City Clerk with various daily tasks

Trained our new Senior Account Clerk, Kathy Maihack

Extensive research to implement all our new fees for Vital Records and City Licenses

Attended two City Clerk Association conferences

Trained on the new vital records platform MAVRIC

Trained on the new Civic Plus and assisted other departments in this process

Learned how to do all amendments for vital records

Assisted the Elections Administrator with all aspects of our November 2025 local election

Created new database for our dog registration

**§ 56-10. Assistant City Clerk.**

- A. The City Clerk shall, on or before the first Monday in February in each year, appoint an Assistant City Clerk, subject to confirmation by the City Council.
- B. The Assistant City Clerk may be removed by the vote of a majority of all the members of the City Council taken by roll call.
- C. In the absence of the City Clerk, the Assistant City Clerk shall perform all the duties of the office and shall perform such other duties as he/she may be called upon to perform by the City Clerk.

**State law reference** — Authority to appoint assistant city clerk, MGL c. 41, § 18.

## Comments from City Clerk Tanji Cufuni regarding the reappointment of Linda Reed:

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