



Medford City Council  
Medford, Massachusetts

**MEETING DATE**

February 14, 2024

**SPONSORED BY**

**AGENDA ITEM**

**24-024** - Study of Pro-Democracy Reforms

**FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

**24-024**—Offered by Councillor Callahan

Be it Resolved that the Medford City Council refer the following pro-democracy reforms to study in the Governance Committee:

- Salaries for elected officials
- Public financing of elections
- Ranked choice voting for single elected offices
- Allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote
- Allowing non-citizen residents to vote

We request that the Governance Committee prioritize the salary discussion and come to a recommendation on this issue before Dec 31, 2024, so the City Council can vote on whether to implement those salaries starting Jan, 2026 (the beginning of next electoral cycle). We also request the Governance Committee consider the following factors in their salary recommendations (in addition to any other factors they deem important):

- getting enough people to run so the elections are competitive
- enabling less wealthy people to hold elected office
- gender pay parity

Addressing the Council:

Patrick Clerkin, 50 Princeton Street  
Former Councillor Robert Penta, Zero Summit Road  
Matthew Paige-Liberman, 15 Canal Street

Ricky Cormio, 115 Middlesex Avenue  
William Navarre, 108 Medford Street #1B

Councillor Callahan moved to refer Paper **24-024** to the Governance Committee (Councillor Leming second)—referred to the Governance Committee with Councillor Scarpelli opposed.

## RECOMMENDATION

## FISCAL IMPACT

## ATTACHMENTS

None