



Medford City Council
Medford, Massachusetts

MEETING DATE

February 14, 2024

SPONSORED BY

AGENDA ITEM

23-474 - 2023 Municipal Election Process Errors & Accountability Report

FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION

23-474- Offered by Vice President Bears

Whereas the Election Commission voted 3-1 to postpone discussion of the Council's request for a report on 2023 election issues to the Commission's January 2024 meeting; now, therefore:

Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that a report be placed on the "Reports Due/Deadlines" section of the Council agenda titled "2023 Municipal Election Process Errors & Accountability Report" with a deadline of the January 23, 2024 Regular Meeting for a presentation by Elections Manager Ripley and Election Commission Chairperson Milorin.

Be it Further Resolved that the Council adds the following requests to the report: (1) any issues with the process for filing for recount and why it took so long for candidates and the public to be notified, (2) any process issues in preparation for the recount, and (3) what systems will be put in place to ensure prompt and timely notification of any issues or errors to the public to ensure trust is maintained when errors are made.

1. Councillor Scarpelli offered an amendment requesting the attendance records for all the members of the Election Commission.
2. Councillor Caraviello offered an amendment requesting an answer to the question of why it took until almost one o'clock in the morning to shut off the central tabulator.

Vice President Bears moved for approval as amended (Councillor Scarpelli second)—approved as amended.

[End of Paper **23-474**, with actions taken on December 19, 2023. Additional discussion occurred under Papers **23-450** and **23-451** on November 14, 2023.]

23-474 - 2023 Municipal Election Process Errors & Accountability Report (Due January 23, 2024)

Addressing the Council:

Elections Manager Melissa Ripley

Election Commission Chair Henry Milorin, 8 Temple Street

Election Commission Member Erin DiBenedetto, 21 Dearborn Street

- 1. Councillor Scarpelli offered an amendment requesting that the the Governance Committee meet with the Election Commission and Elections staff to review the reforms in the report, and for progress updates and additional discussion of any needs, and of how the Council can be supportive, to make sure that these issues are addressed, and that resources are provided to the Election Commission.**
- 2. Councillor Scarpelli renewed his request (amendment a from December 13, 2023) for the attendance records for all the members of the Election Commission.**

Councillor Scarpelli moved to refer the paper, as amended, to the Governance Committee (Councillor Lazzaro second)—referred to the Governance Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL IMPACT

ATTACHMENTS

None