

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL**

(Published January 13, 2024, in *Finance and Commerce*)

**INDUCTION OF OFFICERS
JANUARY 8, 2024**

In accordance with the Laws of the State of Minnesota and pursuant to the Minneapolis City Charter, the newly elected and re-elected officials of the Minneapolis City Government, as certified by the board of canvassers on November 13, 2023, assembled at the Public Service Building at 505 4th Avenue South on January 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. The duly elected Members of the City Council each subscribed to their oaths of office on January 1, 2024, administered by and filed with the City Clerk.

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
CALL TO ORDER**

Pursuant to Minneapolis City Charter, Section 4.3(c), this being the day fixed for the organization of the City Council, the City Clerk, Casey Joe Carl, convened the duly elected Members at 10:00 a.m. The roll being called, it was found there were present and participating at that time the following Members; to-wit:

Ward 1	Elliott Payne
Ward 2	Robin Wonsley
Ward 3	Michael Rainville
Ward 4	LaTrisha Vetaw
Ward 5	Jeremiah Ellison
Ward 6	Jamal Osman
Ward 7	Katie Cashman
Ward 8	Andrea Jenkins
Ward 9	Jason Chavez
Ward 10	Aisha Chughtai
Ward 11	Emily Koski
Ward 12	Aurin Chowdhury
Ward 13	Linea Palmisano

Whereupon the Clerk declared a quorum was present.

Mayor Jacob Frey delivered an address to the City Council, which was ordered spread upon the journal; to-wit:

**Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey
Address to City Council
January 8, 2024**

Good morning, Council Members Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, and Palmisano; and welcome to our new Council Members Cashman and Chowdhury. We've had no shortage of moments in the last several years. Today, I'm glad to come together with you to mark another one in our city's history. You have foundational work to do at today's meeting. That's not lost on me. And I'm keenly aware of how unusual today is; after all, this is the first time I can recall a mayor delivering inaugural remarks without actually being inaugurated. So, this will be brief. Maybe a bit untraditional, just like this moment. Short on policy successes from the past year; trust me, I will tout those unapologetically during the State of the City and Budget addresses, but a bit longer on reflection.

We are in a pivotal time of renewal. That is true of every New Year: an all-but guaranteed time of reflection, of transition and change, and yes, of commitment. At the start of a new year, slates aren't wiped clean. We all carry with us our histories. But you can start fresh. I'm pretty sure we all have our fair share of frustrations with others from past terms, and with each other from past terms. I'm sure there are acknowledgements or apologies we would all like to receive, me included. Let's let the past be what it is. Because our constituents don't care about that; they just want us to work together.

So, let's start afresh assuming good intentions of one another. Let's start afresh assuming each of us walk through the doors of City Hall with an intention to work in good faith around shared priorities. In this new year, that's my commitment to you: that I will believe you all have those good intentions.

I will believe that you care deeply about your constituents—just as I do—and that we will work together to achieve the top level of service they deserve. There is plenty of time for argument about best strategies or best policies, but having best intentions is somewhere where we can all align. And, as I've reflected on what I've heard across Minneapolis throughout the last year, I decided to take that to heart today and talk about this renewed commitment. A renewed commitment to having the best intentions, to our common humanity, and, finally, to our common cause: making Minneapolis the city people are proud to call home.

What will that demand of us this term?

A recognition that we are all here to help people and make our city a better place. That signing up to serve is to say "yes" to being an instrument for positive change. We are all here to build a city—a great city—that will outlast the borrowed time during which we will occupy these seats. I'm asking you to join me in relentlessly promoting that common cause. I ask you to believe that your Council colleagues, City staff, my cabinet, and yes, me, all have good intentions. And that we will work together. Let's govern with integrity; debate with honesty; and relentlessly pursue what is just, inclusive, and equitable in our policymaking.

If that hits you as too simplistic or unbridled optimism—fair. So, let's touch on where we might stumble.

I agree with every single one of you on, conservatively, ninety percent of your policy positions. But wow: that ten percent of daylight between us can shine bright some days, can't it? Why?

Well, for starters, the press and followers on social media love it. But we're here to pass policy, not sell newspapers or get likes on a post. Tension sells, I get it. And I've been guilty of buying into, benefiting from, that ecosystem. So, let's bore people. Let's bore people by delivering the highest level of public service this City has ever seen, by focusing on areas of agreement, and assuming the best of each other. Here, I'll throw out a few starting points.

Who here believes that climate changes poses an existential threat to our species and that local governments have a play in combating it? Great. Our Administration's climate sub-cabinet is already convening and we'll be working with you to take the Climate Legacy Initiative even further.

Who here thinks Minneapolis should lead the state forward in effectively, equitably regulating the new Cannabis industry? Okay, terrific. We'll see you at this year's inaugural Cannabis Conference in quarter two.

Does anyone disagree that we should continue building affordable housing at record pace in Minneapolis? Wonderful. Let's collaborate and continue leading the nation on that front.

Again, getting back to what the new year can bring: new commitments, opportunities, and intentions. The sum of our efforts ought to be greater than our individual contributions. That's no profound insight, but it's proven elusive across all levels of government. Let's be an exception to that rule this term. Let's govern with purpose. Let's lead with integrity. Let's guard against the practical becoming personal. And let us never forget that we are here to build a brighter future for the people who call this great city home. The only people standing in the way of that are standing here, at this podium, and there on this dais.

With that, we are going to bring up a very special and new person connected to the City, our first Poet Laureate, Heid E. Erdrich. It is with enormous enthusiasm and pride that I now introduce City Council, City Staff, and the residents of Minneapolis to our first-ever, inaugural Minneapolis Poet Laureate. The City has selected Heid E. Erdrich as our inaugural poet laureate. Using poetry and words, Heid Erdrich represents how language and story can be the symbol all of that is true and powerful about our city, its people, our diverse neighborhoods, our shared histories and ambitions, our collective well-being, both past and future. We honor Heid E. Erdrich and her family, the Ojibwe nation, and the Turtle Mountain Clan and all of those that informed and inspired her to achieve this recognition upon this momentous occasion.

We also thank the Council Members involved in envisioning this award. Plus one of the great cultural treasures of our city, The Loft Literary Center, for administrating the selection process, with the involvement of the Minneapolis Arts Commission and the Arts & Cultural Affairs Department, and we thank them for their commitment to stewarding this program. Over the next year, we will be witness to Ms. Erdrich's work of bringing the power of

words and poetry to our community, by seeking to inspire young people, inspiring togetherness within our diverse collective, and sparking the imagination of every citizen.

And in the words of our inaugural Poet Laureate, I am going to ask Council Member Jenkins—who was a huge help in the selection process of Heid—to offer this brief poem:

[The following read aloud by Council Member Jenkins]

Red Language (2020) by Heid E. Erdrich

If I heard the words you once used
in our wild place rough with scrub roses
in sand—if your words came back
gray and kind as mild winter
believe me I'd still understand
offer my own red language
my tongue to your tongue
so we recall what we once said
that made us live
made us choose to live

Mayor Frey presented a proclamation honoring the Poet Laureate, Heid E. Erdrich, a copy of which follows:

WHEREAS, The literary arts encompass the core of our community's identity and vitality, and express the soul of our people, making it an essential component in celebrating our city's culture; and

WHEREAS, Poetic expression is an honored literary tradition that engages the community with feelings, thoughts and perspectives through artistic narratives, embracing our joys, celebrations, pains, fears, and hopes; and

WHEREAS, A poet laureate is the symbol of how artistic and literary expression are at the heart of our community and shared experiences, and represents the collective voices of our writers, poets and greater citizenry; and

WHEREAS, A robust literary community remains vital to understanding the stories of our past and present with visions for our future; and

WHEREAS, Capturing our stories, our experiences and our identities through poetry enables us to document our community's history; and

WHEREAS, A literary city empowers all its citizens to embrace poetic expression in how we connect with one another and, by doing so, fostering a dynamic, thriving city that is by, about, and for the people; and

WHEREAS, The inaugural poet laureate for the City of Minneapolis was selected through a partnership between The Loft Literary Center, Minneapolis Arts Commission, and the Arts & Cultural Affairs Department; and

WHEREAS, On December 19, the City of Minneapolis announced the appointment of Heid E. Erdrich as the first-ever poet laureate, in recognition of her immense and influential contributions to the community through her work and life experiences; and

WHEREAS, Heid E. Erdrich brings forth a unique and noteworthy background as a poet and individual, having authored numerous collections including *Little Big Bully*, *Curator of Ephemera* at the New Museum for Archaic Media, and the forthcoming *Verb Animate*; shared her expertise in a multitude of educational settings; and led efforts in Native arts advocacy, collaboration, and curation; and

WHEREAS, The City of Minneapolis congratulates Heid E. Erdrich on her appointment to this historic new role and is honored to have her presence and perspective in efforts to further advance the art and cultural footprint of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JACOB FREY, Mayor of the City of Minneapolis, do hereby proclaim January 8, 2024, as

Heid E. Erdrich Day in the City of Minneapolis

For the benefit of the City of Minneapolis and encourage residents of Minneapolis to embrace this opportunity to celebrate the poetry and literary arts locally.

Thereupon, Mayor Frey presented the Poet Laureate, Heid E. Erdrich, who read aloud her original poem, as follows:

Part I -- Winter

This is the city dreaming
in its original language
Dakota home mapped
on astronomical planes
so streets still chart the stars
tell us where to be in each season
river at spring equinox sun up
lake at fall equinox sun down

This is the city dreaming in winter
into the silence of frozen spaces
in this bare year
the quiet broken by wishes
calling down the snow
calling for a home

The City makes its own way home
makes its many ways home

This is the City dreaming
under cold and deep skies
on icy streets moving with care
Winter swallows background noise
makes the perfect place to listen to hear one another

Snow just another sign for home
We can laugh at it together
whether we park on the odd side
or the other side
or find our street restricted
We plow on through
We are in it together

When the City dreams in winter
what does it learn?

Listen to the city dreaming
calling us home
in many languages
Listen to the city dreaming
moving toward a chorus
learning its multiple and singular voice.

Thank you – Meegwetch

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On motion by Chughtai, the agenda was amended to include under the Order of New Business a resolution supporting a permanent ceasefire and Palestinian human rights.

On motion by Payne, the agenda, as amended, was adopted.

ELECTION

COUNCIL ACTION 2024A-0001

Cashman nominated Elliott Payne, Council Member representing Ward 1, for President of the City Council.

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury (10)

Noes: Vetaw, Jenkins, Palmisano (3)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

(Pursuant to City Charter, Article IV, Section 4.4, this act was not presented to the Mayor)

Whereupon the Clerk declared that Council Member Payne had been elected President of the City Council for its 2024-2025 Term.

COUNCIL ACTION 2024A-0002

Palmisano nominated LaTrisha Vetaw, Council Member representing Ward 4, for Vice-President of the City Council.

Chowdhury nominated Aisha Chughtai, Council Member representing Ward 10, for Vice-President of the City Council.

On roll call, the result of Palmisano’s motion to elect Council Member Vetaw to the office of Vice-President was:

Ayes: Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Jenkins, Koski, Palmisano (6)

Noes: Payne, Wonsley, Osman, Cashman, Chavez, Chughtai, Chowdhury (7)

Absent: (0)

Failed.

On roll call, the result of Chowdhury’s motion to elect Council Member Chughtai to the office of Vice-President was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Chavez, Chughtai, Chowdhury (8)

Noes: Rainville, Vetaw, Jenkins, Koski, Palmisano (5)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

(Pursuant to City Charter, Article IV, Section 4.4, this act was not presented to the Mayor)

Whereupon the Clerk declared that Council Member Chughtai had been elected Vice-President of the City Council for its 2024-2025 Term.

NEW BUSINESS

The President offered Resolution 2024R-001 establishing lines of succession to the offices of Mayor and Council President for the 2024-2025 Term.

The following is the complete text of the unpublished summarized resolution.

RESOLUTION 2024R-001

By Payne

Establishing lines of succession to the offices of Mayor and Council President for the 2024-2025 Term.

Whereas, pursuant to Minneapolis City Charter § 7.1(f)(2), the City Council is required to adopt a plan that establishes lines of succession to the offices of Mayor and Council President, and such plan is to be adopted at the first meeting of the City Council in January of each year following a municipal general election; and

Whereas, the last municipal general election was held on November 7, 2023;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City Council hereby establishes the following line of succession to the offices of Mayor and Council President:

1. The Council President, Chair of the Settlement Agreement & Consent Decree Subcommittee, and Chair of the Audit Committee (Payne);
2. The Council Vice-President and Chair of the Budget Committee (Chughtai);
3. The Vice-Chair of the Business, Housing & Zoning Committee (Ellison);
4. The Chair of the Committee of the Whole and the Public Health & Safety Committee (Chavez);
5. The Chair of the Administration & Enterprise Oversight Committee and Vice-Chair of the Public Health & Safety Committee (Wonsley);
6. The Vice-Chair of the Administration & Enterprise Oversight Committee (Palmisano);
7. The Vice-Chair of the Climate & Infrastructure Committee and Budget Committee (Koski);
8. The Chair of the Business, Housing & Zoning Committee (Osman);
9. The Vice-Chair of the Settlement Agreement & Consent Decree Subcommittee (Jenkins);
10. The Vice-Chair of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee (Rainville);
11. The Council Member of the Fourth Ward (Vetaw);
12. The Chair of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee and the Vice-Chair of the Committee of the Whole (Chowdhury); and
13. The Chair of the Climate & Infrastructure Committee (Cashman).

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury, Palmisano (13)

Noes: (0)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

(Pursuant to City Charter, Article IV, Section 4.4, this act was not presented to the Mayor)

The President offered Resolution 2024R-002 designating the standing and special Committees, including committee membership, leadership, quorums, and dates and times for regular meetings.

The following is the complete text of the unpublished summarized resolution.

RESOLUTION 2024R-002
By Payne

Designating standing and special committees of the City Council.

Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That pursuant to Rule II, Section 1B of the Minneapolis City Council Rules, the following standing committees are hereby established and shall consist of the number of Council Members indicated below, with the quorum for each committee specified, as set forth in the following table:

STANDING COMMITTEES	MEMBERS	QUORUM
Administration & Enterprise Oversight	6	4
Budget	13	7
Business, Housing & Zoning	6	4
Climate & Infrastructure	6	4
Committee of the Whole	13	7
Public Health & Safety	6	4
SPECIAL COMMITTEES	MEMBERS	QUORUM
Intergovernmental Relations	13	7

Be It Further Resolved that the standing and special committees hereby established shall consist of the following members, with chairs and vice-chairs as designated, to meet as indicated in the regular two-week cycle of the City Council:

Membership of Standing Committees

ADMINISTRATION & ENTERPRISE OVERSIGHT: Wonsley (chair); Palmisano (vice-chair); Vetaw; Ellison; Cashman; Chughtai
 Meets: Mondays at 1:30 p.m. in the first week of a regular cycle

BUDGET: Chughtai (chair); Koski (vice-chair); Payne; Wonsley; Rainville; Vetaw; Ellison; Osman; Cashman; Jenkins; Chavez; Chowdhury; Palmisano
 Meets: Mondays at 1:30 p.m. in the second week of a regular cycle

BUSINESS, HOUSING & ZONING: Osman (chair); Ellison (vice-chair); Rainville; Cashman; Jenkins; Chowdhury
 Meets: Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the first week of a regular cycle

CLIMATE & INFRASTRUCTURE: Cashman (chair); Koski (vice-chair); Vetaw; Osman; Chavez; Chowdhury
 Meets: Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. in the first week of a regular cycle

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: Chavez (chair); Chowdhury (vice-chair); Payne; Wonsley; Rainville; Vetaw; Ellison; Osman; Cashman; Jenkins; Chughtai; Koski; Palmisano
 Meets: Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in the second week of a regular cycle

Under the purview of the Committee of the Whole, there is hereby established a Settlement Agreement and Consent Decree Subcommittee that shall consist of all Council Members with Payne as chair and Jenkins as vice-chair, which shall meet at the call of the chair.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Chavez (chair); Wonsley (vice-chair); Payne; Rainville; Ellison; Palmisano
Meets: Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the first week of a regular cycle

Membership of Special Committees

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS: Chowdhury (chair); Rainville (vice-chair); Payne; Wonsley; Vetaw; Ellison; Osman; Cashman; Jenkins; Chavez; Chughtai; Koski; Palmisano
Meets: As determined by chair

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury, Palmisano (13)

Noes: (0)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

(Pursuant to City Charter, Article IV, Section 4.4, this act was not presented to the Mayor)

The President offered Resolution 2024R-003 adopting a calendar of regular meetings of the City Council and its Committees for the 2024-2025 Term.

The following is the complete text of the unpublished summarized resolution.

RESOLUTION 2024R-003

By Payne

Adopting a calendar of regular meetings.

Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That pursuant to Rule II, Section 1B of the Minneapolis City Council Rules, and in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Open Meetings Law, Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.04, subdivision 1, a calendar of the regular meetings of the City Council and of its standing and special committees is hereby adopted for its 2024-2025 Term, as set forth in Legislative File No. 2024-00002 on file in the Office of City Clerk.

That the City Clerk is hereby directed to post the 2024-2025 Calendar as notice of all such regular meetings as required by law, and that the City Clerk be further authorized to incorporate updates, corrections, and changes to said calendars, as necessary, to accommodate the City Council and its Committees.

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury, Palmisano (13)

Noes: (0)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

(Pursuant to City Charter, Article IV, Section 4.4, this act was not presented to the Mayor)

The President offered Resolution 2024R-004 adopting the 2024 Council Rules as the definitive Minneapolis City Council *Rules of Order*.

The following is the complete text of the unpublished summarized resolution.

RESOLUTION 2024R-004

By Payne

Adopting the 2024 Council Rules as the definitive Minneapolis City Council *Rules of Order*.

Whereas, pursuant to Article IV of the Minneapolis City Charter, the legislative and policymaking authority of the municipal government is vested in the City Council, except as otherwise provided by law, and such authority is to be exercised in the common interests, safety, health, and general welfare of the City of Minneapolis; and

Whereas, the City Council is empowered to regulate its own procedures and the conduct of business, as provided in Minneapolis City Charter § 4.4(a)(1), and to that end has adopted Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, as its parliamentary authority, in addition to a number of special rules which collectively define and govern its legislative process with respect to the consideration and transaction of municipal business;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the 2024 Rules is hereby adopted and declared to be the definitive *Rules of Order* of the City Council of the City of Minneapolis, which shall regulate the proceedings of the City Council and its committees.

Be It Further Resolved that the City Clerk is directed to update, as appropriate, and produce sufficient copies of the *Rules of Order* and to maintain the same for ready reference and use by the City Council, its committees, staff, and the public.

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury, Palmisano (13)

Noes: (0)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

(Pursuant to City Charter, Article IV, Section 4.4, this act was not presented to the Mayor)

Pursuant to Minneapolis Code of Ordinances § 17.140, the President appointed Council Members Payne (chair) and Chughtai to serve as the two City Council Members on the Minneapolis Audit Committee.

The President indicated appointments of Council Members to various external agencies, organizations, boards and commissions would be postponed to the next regular meeting of the City Council. No further action on that matter was taken.

Chowdhury moved to refer the resolution supporting a ceasefire and the prevention of further loss of life in the Middle East to the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 23, 2024.

Osman moved the previous question on the motion to refer to committee.

On roll call, the result of Osman's motion was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury (12)

Noes: Palmisano (1)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

On roll call, the result of Chowdhury's motion was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Chowdhury (10)

Noes: Vetaw, Palmisano (2)

Abstain: Koski (1)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

INTRODUCTION & REFERRAL CALENDAR

The President moved to introduce the subject matter of an ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 20 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Administration: Personnel, which was given its first reading and referred to the Budget Committee, regarding wages and salaries of employees.

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury, Palmisano (13)

Noes: (0)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

The President moved to introduce the subject matter of an ordinance amending Title 18, Chapter 478 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Traffic Code: Parking, Stopping & Standing, which was given its first reading and referred to the Climate & Infrastructure Committee, regarding traffic zones.

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury, Palmisano (13)

Noes: (0)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

The President moved to introduce the subject matter of an ordinance amending Title 20, Chapter 530 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Zoning Code: Zoning Districts, which was given its first reading and referred to the Business, Housing & Zoning Committee, regarding zoning maps.

On roll call, the result was:

Ayes: Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Ellison, Osman, Cashman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, Chowdhury, Palmisano (13)

Noes: (0)

Absent: (0)

Adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Casey Joe Carl,
City Clerk