

Looks like we will have an operating budget before 3 p.m. CDT (after a lengthy discussion that ~~streamed online during their recess~~). The regular scheduled meeting of the Birmingham City Council ended at approximately 3 p.m. today with the approval of the 2009 general fund budget. The capital budget is the next item to be approved - it will be dealt with at next week's meeting.

~~It appears that~~ The final vote ~~will be~~ was 7-0 for most items with one abstention. Councilor Montgomery was absent due to surgery and Councilor Royal is abstaining from most of the earlier items involving the budget on the agenda - though he did vote with the majority for the items pertaining to employee raises.

The council also delayed voting on a proposal that would have started the process of being considered for the 2020 Olympics, [as The Birmingham News reported earlier today](#).