



## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES SPECIAL HYBRID MEETING SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

---

### CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Salim Nice called the Special Hybrid Meeting to order at 5:02 pm from a remote location.

Mayor Salim Nice Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum (5:07 pm) and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl (5:13 pm), Jake Jacobson, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg participated remotely using Zoom.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

### AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Approve the agenda.**

PASSED: 5-0

FOR: 5 (Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Weiker, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 2 (Anderl and Rosenbaum)

### SPECIAL BUSINESS

#### **AB 6315: 2021 Financial and Accountability Audit Exit Conference**

Deputy Finance Director LaJuan Tuttle introduced the staff from the Washington State Auditor's Office (SAO).

Assistant Director of Local Audits Wendy Choy spoke about the importance of audits and how audits increase trust in government, are independent, transparent examinations, and improve efficiency and effectiveness of government.

Audit Manager Haji Adams presented the purpose of an accountability audit, discussed the City's compliance in all material respects, with applicable state laws, regulations, the City's own policies, and provide adequate controls over safeguarding of public resources. Mr. Adams spoke about the areas that were reviewed during the accountability audit including accounts payable, Public Works procurement, payroll, open public meetings minutes and Executive Sessions, and review for indications of financial distress.

Mr. Adams presented the financial statement audit results for 2021 and noted that there were no significant deficiencies in internal control, identified no deficiencies that the SAO consider to be material weaknesses, and noted no instances of noncompliance that were material to the financial statements of the City.

City Council asked questions of staff and the audit team.

### CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:** Update on City Hall closure – pursuing technology upgrades to the Slater room at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center (MICEC) to accommodate hybrid meetings, looking at securing functional space for all work teams displaced by the City Hall closure, continuing work on long-term planning discussions related to the replacement of City Hall. Upcoming City Council hybrid meeting on September 19. Upcoming hybrid board and

commission meetings – Parks & Recreation Commission on September 7 and Utility Board on September 12.

- **City Services Updates:** Luther Burbank South Shoreline improvements, reservoir improvement project is underway, Town Center Parking Study draft report Public Hearing on September 19, ROW and Utility Team updates, I-90 Wayfinding Signs have been replaced.
- **Upcoming Events:** Blue Fridays at MICEC, Seahawks watch party at MICEC on September 10, YFS Fentanyl Awareness Presentation on October 4 at MICEC presented by YFS in coordination with the Drug Enforcement Administration.
- **News:** New aid car has arrived and will be put in service at Station 91, Battalion Chief Shawn Matheson and Lieutenant Steve McCoy have returned from Maui, Hawaii after serving with Search and Rescue Operations teams for 14 days, Utility Team found an injured hawk and were able to take the hawk to PAWS Animal Rescue.

## APPEARANCES

Kelly Farnsworth, Seattle, spoke about the August 18 fireworks show and apologized to the community for the disturbance.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### AB 6316: July 14, 2023 Payroll Certification

**Recommended Action:** Approve the July 14, 2023 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$1,047,264.89 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### AB 6317: July 28, 2023 Payroll Certification

**Recommended Action:** Approve the July 28, 2023 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$969,809.36 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### AB 6318: August 11, 2023 Payroll Certification

**Recommended Action:** Approve the August 11, 2023 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$1,005,482.95 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### AB 6319: August 25, 2023 Payroll Certification

**Recommended Action:** Approve the August 25, 2023 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$1,411,238.53 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### Certification of Claims:

- A. Check Register | 216450-216560 | 7/13/2023 | \$624,802.04
- B. Check Register | 216561-216608 | 7/21/2023 | \$550,479.44
- C. Check Register | 216616-216709 | 7/28/2023 | \$894,015.34
- D. Check Register | 216710-216786 | 8/04/2023 | \$602,236.24
- E. Check Register | 216860-216966 | 8/18/2023 | \$1,678,111.99
- F. Check Register | 216967-217039 | 8/25/2023 | \$676,212.34
- G. EFT Payments | June 2023 | \$2,827,174.90
- H. EFT Payments | July 2023 | \$2,862,123.73

**Recommended Action:** Certify that the City Council has reviewed the documentation supporting claims paid and approved all checks or warrants issued in payment of claims.

### City Council Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2023 Special Hybrid Meeting and of the July 28, 2023 Special Hybrid Meeting.

**Recommended Action:** Approve the minutes of the July 18, 2023 Special Hybrid Meeting and of the July 28, 2023 Special Hybrid Meeting.

**AB 6320: National Preparedness Month Proclamation, No. 313**

**Recommended Action:** Approve Proclamation No. 313 proclaiming September 2023 National Preparedness Month in Mercer Island.

**AB 6321: National Recovery Month Proclamation No. 314**

**Recommended Action:** Approve Proclamation No. 314 proclaiming September 2023 as National Recovery Month on Mercer Island.

**AB 6322: Peace Day on Mercer Island, Proclamation No. 315**

**Recommended Action:** Approve Proclamation No. 315 proclaiming September 21, 2023 as Peace Day on Mercer Island.

**AB 6323: No Islander Goes Hungry Day, Proclamation No. 316**

**Recommended Action:** Approve Proclamation No. 316 proclaiming September 23, 2023, as No Islander Goes Hungry Day on Mercer Island.

**AB 6324: Second Reading of Ordinance No. 23C-11 (renews Ordinance No. 21C-23) on Interim Regulations in MICC 19.16.010 Related to Emergency Shelters and Housing, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing in Response to E2SHB 1220**

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Ordinance No. 23C-11 extending the interim regulations for emergency, transitional and permanent supportive housing.

**AB 6338: Letter of Support for Department of Commerce Grant Funding for HB 1110 and HB1337 Implementation**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the Letter of Support for the Department of Commerce Middle Housing Grant and authorize the Mayor to sign.

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Weiker to:

**Approve the Consent Agenda, as presented and the recommended actions contained therein.**

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**AB 6329: City Manager Annual Performance Review**

Mayor Nice thanked the Council for their support in drafting and preparing City Manager Bon's annual review.

Councilmembers individually thanked City Manager Bon for her work over the past year.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Jacobson to:

**Accept City Manager Jessi Bon's performance review and award \$5,000 through the Employee Recognition Program for her work from June 2022 through May 2023**

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

**AB 6326: Board & Commission Vacancy Appointment (Resolution No. 1647)**

Mayor Nice reviewed the process for board and commission appointments noting that the applicant that receives the most votes, provided they received a minimum of four votes, would be appointed to the vacant position on the Arts Council. The name of the applicant will then be added to Resolution No. 1647 with final

approval by a vote of the City Council.

**Arts Council** – One vacant position; three applications received.

**Position 3 - Term 2026** - City Clerk Larson emailed the ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants: Junmanee Franklin, JB Gibson, and Leslie Mattson.

The ballots were tallied, and JB Gibson received five votes to be appointed to the Arts Council, Position 3, expiring May 31, 2026.

**Position 3 Ballot Results:**

Anderl - Gibson  
Jacobson - Gibson  
Nice - Gibson  
Reynolds - Franklin  
Rosenbaum - Gibson  
Weiker - Gibson  
Weinberg - Mattson

City Clerk Larson read the appointments section of Resolution No. 1647.

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Approve Resolution No. 1647, appointing a new member to the Arts Council.**

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

**AB 6328: Change of City Council Meeting Location (Ord. No. 23C-13)**

City Clerk Andrea Larson presented Ordinance No. 23C-13 to establish the Regular Meeting place of the City Council as the Mercer Island Community and Event Center.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Adopt Ordinance No. 23C-13 amending MICC 2.06.020 to establish the regular meeting place of the City Council as the Mercer Island Community and Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, Washington, or at such other place as the City Council may designate and direct at a previous meeting.**

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

**AB 6327: Financial Status Update for Second Quarter 2023 and Budget Amending Ordinance**

Finance Director Matt Mornick presented the financial status update for the first six months of 2023. Finance Director Morning discussed the budget versus actuals for revenues and expenditures in the General Fund and Utility Funds through June 2023, presented the interest earnings for the first six months of 2023 and how the interest earnings are proportionally allocated to City funds each quarter. He discussed General Fund expenditures and REET Revenues for the first two quarters of 2023.

City Council asked questions about the financial status update.

Finance Director Mornick presented Budget Amending Ordinance No. 23-12, provided an overview of the appropriated funds within the ordinance, and discussed the funding sources for these appropriations. He discussed the Mid-Biennial budget schedule this fall for the City Council.

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Weinberg to:

**Adopt Ordinance No. 23-12, amending the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget.**

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

## OTHER BUSINESS

### Planning Schedule

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the September 19, October 3, and November 7 meetings.

### Councilmember Absences and Reports

Councilmember Weiker there is an SCA Networking Event on September 7.

Councilmember Weinberg Save the date for October 26 Sister City Reception at the MICEC.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:28 pm, Mayor Nice convened an Executive Session via Microsoft Teams. The Executive Session was to discuss with legal counsel (1) for planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b), and (2) to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

Mayor Salim Nice Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg participated via Microsoft Teams.

Mayor Nice adjourned the Executive Session at 7:29 pm.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Special Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

  
Salim Nice, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea Larson, City Clerk