



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING JUNE 4, 2024

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Salim Nice called the Regular Hybrid Meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the Slater Room Council Chambers at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg attended in person. Councilmember Jake Jacobson (arrived 5:05 pm) and Craig Reynolds attended via Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Nice, Rosenbaum, Reynolds, Weiker, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Jacobson)

STUDY SESSION

AB 6484 2024 Community Survey Results

Chief of Administration Ali Spietz provided background on the biennial community survey and introduced Ryan Murray from ETC Institute who presented the results of the 2024 Community Survey. Mr. Murray discussed the survey methodology including how the survey was distributed, how many completed surveys were returned and the margin of error. He discussed the trends that were seen comparing 2024 results versus 2022, reviewed benchmarks of survey results compared to the U.S. average and to other cities with populations under 30,000 people, and the importance of the 2024 satisfaction rating.

City Council asked questions and reviewed the survey.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:** Next City Council Meeting – June 18 at 5:00 pm, Planning Commission – June 5 and 12 at 6:00 pm, Parks & Recreation Commission – June 6 at 5:00 pm, Utility Board – June 11 at 5:00 pm, and Arts Council – June 17 at 5:30 pm.
- **Update on Comprehensive Plan:** The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on May 29. The Planning Commission will hold two meetings in June to prepare the recommendation to the City Council. City Council will receive the recommendation in July.
- **City Services Updates:** Luther Burbank Boiler building phase 1 construction is progressing including seismic retrofits, chimney reinforcement, and renovation of the restrooms. The Luther Burbank Park Sports Courts and under renovation for resurfacing and reconfiguring to eight pickleball courts. Construction continues on the Metro Sewer Interceptor; project equipment has been removed from the Boat Launch and it will reopen in June.

- **Upcoming Events:** PRIDE in the Park on June 15, and Juneteenth on June 19, both at Mercedale Park. There are restoration events throughout June on Saturdays. Friends of Mercer Island Library book sale through June 10.
- **News:** Mercer Island was selected for federal funding to support the planning Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Update. Thrift Shop had a fantastic day on Memorial Day bringing in over \$17,000 net revenue. Thank you to Chief Ed Holmes for his over 30 years of service to the Mercer Island community. Enjoy retirement Chief!

City Council thanked Chief Holmes for his service and wished him well in retirement.

APPEARANCES

Tracy Drinkwater (Mercer Island) spoke about fireworks on Mercer Island.

Dan Thompson (Mercer Island) spoke about the results of the 2024 Community Survey.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6485: May 17, 2024 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the May 17, 2024 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$855,430.10 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

Certification of Claims:

A. Check Register | 219731-219805 | 5/17/2024 | \$774,573.42

B. Check Register | 219806-219877 | 5/24/2024 | \$1,532,584.96

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 Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2024

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2024.

AB 6486: Pride Month, Proclamation No. 334

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 334 proclaiming the month of June Pride Month on Mercer Island.

AB 6487: Juneteenth, Proclamation No. 335

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 335 proclaiming June 19, 2024 as Juneteenth on Mercer Island.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Anderl to:

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

PASSED: 7-0

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6490: AWC Business Meeting Voting Delegate

Mayor Nice asked for volunteers to be the voting delegate at the AWC Annual Business Meeting in June.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Weiker to:

Appoint Councilmembers Weiker and Weinberg, and Mayor Nice as the voting delegates at the AWC 2024 Business Meeting in June.

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Weiker, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Rosenbaum)

AB 6488: Ordinance to Adopt Interim Regulations for Temporary Uses and Structures Including Outdoor Dining

Mayor Nice opened the Public Hearing at 6:03 pm. There were no public comments and Mayor Nice closed the Public Hearing at 6:03 pm.

CPD Director Jeff Thomas provided background information on the proposed interim regulations. Senior Planner Molly McGuire presented the proposed regulations for temporary uses and structures, time limitations, and exemptions.

City Council discussed the proposed ordinance.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Reynolds to:

Suspend the City Council Rules of Procedure requiring a second reading of an ordinance.

PASSED: 6-0-1

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Rosenbaum, Reynolds, and Weiker)

ABSTAIN: 1 (Weinberg)

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Jacobson to:

Adopt Ordinance 24C-07 adopting interim regulations related to outdoor seating for eating and drinking establishments and temporary uses and structures.

PASSED: 6-0-1

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Rosenbaum, Reynolds, and Weiker)

ABSTAIN: 1 (Weinberg)

AB 6489: Emergency Ordinance to Adopt Interim Residential Parking Regulations Responsive to SB 6015

Mayor Nice opened the Public Hearing at 6:13 pm. There were no public comments and Mayor Nice closed the Public Hearing at 6:13 pm.

CPD Director Jeff Thomas spoke about background on the proposed emergency ordinance. Planning Manager Ryan Harriman presented the proposed amendments to the residential parking regulations that are in response to SB 6015. He discussed the requirements and impacts of SB 6015 and noted that the Mercer Island City Code would be largely inconsistent with the regulatory mandates without adoption of the emergency ordinance.

City Council discussed the emergency ordinance.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weiker to:

Adopt emergency Ordinance No. 24C-08 establishing interim zoning measures for residential parking, and a Work Plan in response to SB 6015.

PASSED: 7-0

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

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weiker to:

Amend 19.11.130.A to add the word “which” in front of “shall utilize the residential development” in the new language being proposed.

MOTION TO AMEND PASSED: 7-0

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

MAIN MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED: 7-0

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

AB 6468: 2025-2030 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program Review and Public Hearing

Mayor Nice opened the Public Hearing at 6:25 pm.

Heather Ring (Mercer Island) spoke about improving pedestrian and bike facilities on Mercerwood Drive by expanding the sidewalk.

Jason Chen (Mercer Island) spoke about traffic safety on 71st Ave SE.

Warren Appleton (Mercer Island) spoke about traffic safety 71st Ave SE.

Diane Edmonds (Mercer Island) spoke about traffic safety 71st Ave SE.

Rowen Lumpkin (Mercer Island) spoke about traffic safety at the intersection at 72nd Ave SE and 29th Street.

Jay Greer (Mercer Island) spoke about improving bicycle infrastructure on Mercer Island.

Mark Clausen (Mercer Island) spoke about the results of the Community Survey related to bicycle infrastructure.

At 6:46 pm, Mayor Nice continued the Public Hearing to June 18, 2024.

Mayor Nice explained that the City Council would be reviewing and discussing the TIP in two parts. He recused himself from the discussion on the Island Crest Way Corridor Project due to a potential conflict of interest

Mayor Nice left the meeting at 6:47 pm.

Public Works Deputy Director Patrick Yamashita presented the Island Crest Way Corridor Project and answered questions from the City Council.

Following the conclusion of the Island Crest Way Corridor Project, Mayor Nice returned to the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Public Works Deputy Director Yamashita discussed the annual update of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) by July 1, and an provided an update on 2024 construction projects.

Traffic Engineer Rebecca O'Sullivan spoke about the public comment period, the public outreach, and the schedule for TIP review and adoption. She discussed the program elements and priorities and how projects are selected and prioritized.

Finance Director Matt Mornick presented information about TIP project funding from the Street Fund and that project needs have outpaced resources in the Street Fund. He spoke about closely tracking resources monitoring REET revenue activities.

Street Engineer Ian Powell presented an overview of the 83.5 miles of City maintained roads and discussed how the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) is used to help manage the pavement network. He spoke about the ADA Transition Plan implementation projects, the Mercer Ways Shoulder Improvement Program, and projects that were modified from the last TIP. Street Engineer Powell presented the new projects that have been included in the 2025-2030 TIP including: 76th Ave SE and North Mercer Way overlay, 76th Ave SE .mid-block crossing, SE 27th Street sidewalk improvements, Mercerwood Drive pedestrian improvements, and Island Crest Way crosswalk enhancements.

Public Works Deputy Director Yamashita discussed the next steps for TIP review and adoption.

City Council discussed the 2025-2026 TIP and asked staff to review the following:

- Accelerating the timeline and increasing the scope of work to the 2029-2030 Mercerwood Drive Pedestrian Improvements (90.25.0030) ahead of Gallagher Hill Sidewalk Improvements (90.25.0009);
- Converting 71st Avenue SE on First Hill into a one-way street; and

- The feasibility of installing a rectangular rapid-flashing beacon (RRFB) at the intersection of 72nd Avenue SE and SE 29th Street.

AB 6492: Water Shortage Consumption Reduction Actions

Chief of Operations Jason Kintner spoke about how water is received on Mercer Island from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) via a primary supply line and a backup supply line. He provided a timeline of the events from early April that have led to the Island receiving water from a smaller backup supply line.

Chief of Operations Kintner spoke about actions that have been taken since the leak was discovered and the repair challenges due to the site including a steep slope and no adjacent roadway. He provided information about the proposed repair of the main supply line and the timeline for the work..

He explained that during the summer months water demand from Mercer Island customers regularly exceeds the amount of water that can be reliably received on the back-up supply line. He noted that when daily water use exceeds the amount of water coming into the City's reservoirs, conservation measures are needed to ensure that fire hydrants have adequate pressure for use during emergencies.

Sustainability Program Analyst Alanna DeRogatis presented the City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan, including the four water shortage response stages (advisory, voluntary, mandatory, and emergency). She provided examples of water conservation efforts and actions and how it will be communicated to the community.

City Council asked questions of staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

Weiker and Jacobson will be absent on July 2.

Planning Schedule

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the June 18 and July 2 meeting.

Councilmember Absences and Reports

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum spoke about the first Farmers Market of the season.

Mayor Nice noted that he attended Friendship Circle last weekend.

Councilmember Weiker spoke about the AWC conference in June.

Councilmember Weinberg spoke about the PSRC General Assembly meeting.

Councilmember Reynolds noted that Moms Against Gun violence will be handing out gun safety locks at an upcoming Farmers Market

Councilmember Jacobson noted he attended a presentation about The Sophia Way shelters.

City Council was in recess from 8:22 pm to 8:29 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:29 pm, Mayor Nice convened an Executive Session in Room 104 at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, WA and via Microsoft Teams.


The Executive Session was to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and to review the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

Mayor Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg participated in person in the Slater Room Council Chambers. Councilmembers Jake Jacobson and Craig Reynolds attended via MS Teams.

Mayor Nice adjourned the Executive Session at 9:41 pm.


ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm.



Salim Nice, Mayor

Attest:



Andrea Larson, City Clerk