



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING JANUARY 7, 2025

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## 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 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Jake Jacobson, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg attended in person. Councilmembers Lisa Anderl and Craig Reynolds attended via Zoom.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Jacobson to:

**Approve the agenda as presented.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

## STUDY SESSION

### **AB 6595: YFS Community Needs Assessment and 2023 Washington Healthy Youth Survey**

YFS Administrator Derek Franklin presented the results of the 2024 Community Needs Assessment and the 2023 Washington Healthy Youth Survey. He spoke about community demographics, youth mental wellbeing, drugs and alcohol, parenting, community and connection, seniors and older adults, and basic needs. YFS Administrator Franklin discussed use of the data from the Assessment and Survey to consider opportunities related to YFS programming for youth, parents, seniors, and community wellbeing.

City Council discussed the presentation and asked questions of staff.

### **AB 6597: 2025-2026 Communications Goals**

Communications Manager Mason Luvera presented an overview of City communication channels use to keep the community informed about updates, operations, emergencies, and other key happenings. He spoke about how the standards of marking and communications have shifted and evolved with trends that include the ways that people are delivered and consume information. He also spoke about the increasing needs the City has for community messaging with the many major capital projects, infrastructure challenges, other community engagements, and limited staffing. Communications Manager Luvera presented the 2025-2026 Communications Goals aimed to address these needs, and the key outcomes of greater visibility, increased awareness, and more engagement.

City Council discussed the presentation and asked questions of staff.

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:** Next City Council Meeting – January 21 at 5:00 pm. Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting on January 9 at 5:00 pm, Utility Board Meeting on January 14 at 5:00

pm, Arts Council Meeting on January 15 and Open Space Conservancy Trust Meeting on January 16 at 5:00 pm.

- **City Services Updates:**

- Booster Pump Station Upgrades – Replacement of Pumps 2 and 3 was completed in December and replacement of Pumps 4 and 5 is currently underway. Pump 1 will be replaced in the coming months. These pumps are essential to providing adequate water pressure to meet the Island needs.
- Reservoir Stand-by Generator Replacement – Work is underway at the City’s Reservoir facility to replace the emergency generator and its electrical components that will provide emergency power to support the water system. This work is scheduled to be completed by January 17.
- MICEC Annual Maintenance – The Community Center was closed to the public December 16 through January 5 to address needed facility maintenance Work included replacement of all of the main floor carpeting, refinishing of the gym floor, replacement of the Dance Room floor with low-maintenance and resilient flooring, and painting and patching of walls throughout the facility.

- **Upcoming Events:**

- YFS Senior Support Group – January 8 from 10:30 – 12:00 pm at the Community Center.

- **News:**

- Festive Fun – On December 13, Family Movie Night and Holiday Party at the Community Center drew a crowd of 250 people. On December 15, more than 150 people gathered at Luther Burbank Park Beach for the Argosy Christmas Ship event. On December 29, the Mercer Island Chanukah event at Mercerdale Park added a magical touch to the season with the menorah lighting. Thank you to the many community partners who make these events possible!

## **APPEARANCES**

Tom Hildebrandt (Mercer Island) spoke about banning gas powered leaf blowers.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **AB 6592: November 27, 2024 Payroll Certification**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the November 27, 2024 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$827,953.22 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

#### **Certification of Claims:**

- A. Check Register | 00221639-00221690 | 11/27/2024 | \$1,048,774.97**
- B. Check Register | 00221692-00221748 | 12/06/2024 | \$1,015,837.89**
- C. Check Register | 00221749-00221849 | 12/13/2024 | \$1,344,286.74**
- D. Check Register | 00221850-00221934 | 12/20/2024 | \$2,613,861.57**
- E. Check Register | 00221935-00222006 | 12/27/2024 | \$587,651.16**

**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 December 3, 2024**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2024.

### **AB 6582: Lincoln Landing Shoreline and Stormwater Enhancement Project Closeout**

**Recommended Actions:** Accept the completed Lincoln Landing Shoreline and Stormwater Enhancement project and authorize staff to close out the construction contract.

### **AB 6598: 2024 Water System Improvements Construction Bid Award**

**Recommended Action:** Award the 2024 Water System Improvements project to Kar-Vel Construction, authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Kar-Vel Construction in an amount of \$4,074,552 and set the total project budget at \$5,119,034.

## **AB 6607: Ratification of Proclamation No. 352 Ending Local Emergency**

**Recommended Action:** Ratify Proclamation No. 352 ending the local emergency issued by the City Manager on November 21, 2025.

## **AB 6609: 2025 City Manager Employment Agreement**

**Recommended Action:** Authorize Mayor Nice to execute the 2025 City Manager Employment Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Jacobson 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 6596: 2025 Planning Session Agenda**

City Manager Jessi Bon presented the agenda for the 2025 Planning Session for review and discussion.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Jacobson to:

**Approve the 2025 City Council Planning Session agenda as presented.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

### **AB 6556: Middle Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units - HB 1110, HB 1337 and SB 5258 Compliance**

CPD Director Jeff Thomas spoke about the process for development of interim regulations related to HB 1110, HB 1337, and SB 5258 to get compliance with state mandates related to land use and housing and explained that staff will return on January 21 to get guidance from the Council on these topics.

CPD Deputy Director Alison Van Gorp presented the key concept of middle housing that includes different types of residential development, accessory dwelling units, unit density, and unit lot subdivision. She spoke about the approach to first develop interim regulations that will bring compliance for all three bills prior to June 30, 2025 how the second phase and development of permanent development regulations with additional community engagement will follow and discussed the scope of work for the interim regulations. Deputy Director Van Gorp provided an overview of the requirements in HB 1110, HB 1337, and SB 5258, and discussed the next steps.

City Council discussed the briefing and asked questions of staff.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Planning Schedule**

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the January 21 meeting and the February 4, 2025 Planning Session and Regular Meeting.

### **Councilmember Absences and Reports**

Councilmember Weinberg may possibly be absent on January 21.

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum noted there is a SCA PIC Meeting tomorrow evening and thanked Chief Sutter for MIDP's work on the recent vandalism at Islander Middle School.

Councilmember Weinberg noted that his next open lunch is on January 19 at L'Experience Paris at 10am.

City Council was in recess from 7:12 pm – 7:20 pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:20 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 addressed the following:

1. Real Estate Acquisition - Executive Session 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
2. Pending or Potential Litigation - Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

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

Mayor Nice adjourned the Executive Session at 8:20 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

  
Salim Nice, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Andrea Larsen, City Clerk