



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING JULY 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Salim Nice called the Regular Hybrid Meeting to order at 5:01 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 Jake Jacobson and Ted Weinberg attended in person. Councilmember Lisa Anderl and Craig Reynolds attended via Zoom. Councilmember Wendy Weiker was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

PASSED: 6-0

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

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Chief of Administration Ali Spietz reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:** Next City Council Meeting – July 16 at 5:00 pm, Design Commission – July 3 at 6:00 pm, and Parks & Recreation Commission – July 11 at 5:00 pm.
- **Welcome:** Welcome Police Chief Chris Sutter. He will begin as Mercer Island's Police Chief on July 8. Stay tuned for details on the next Coffee with a Cop to meet Chief Sutter
- **SPU Water Supply pipeline repair:** The SPU contracts have completed the excavation at both access pits and have pulled the new liner through the existing 24" pipe and are completing air testing. Next steps will include fitting and connections to be made next week, then work will transition to disinfection, flushing, and water sampling/testing.
- **Water Conservation:** The City is still receiving water through the back-up line water line and still needs the Communities help conserving water, with warmer weather on the horizon.
- **City Services Updates:** Xing Hua site is progressing with demolition scheduled for the week of July 8. First Hill Park Playground replacement concepts and equipment selection is accepting feedback on through July 8. The Luther Burbank Sports Court renovation is continuing and paving is scheduled for the week of July 8. Work continues on the Luther Burbank Boiler Building roof materials were delivered last week and are being installed. Island Crest Way Crosswalk Improvements are beginning this week and will continue through the end of August. Consumer Fireworks are prohibited this year following an emergency order issued by the City Manager and Fire Chief.
- **Upcoming Events:** Mostly Music in the Park kicks off on Thursday evening for the next seven weeks. Summer Celebration is only a week and a half away, thank you to our many sponsors!
- **News:** MI Farmers Market and YFS are partnering to offer "Market Bucks" to support food security efforts.

APPEARANCES

Addie Smith spoke about being a hate crime survivor.

Peter Struck (Mercer Island) spoke in support of AB 6502 and AB 6505.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6500: June 14, 2024 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the June 14, 2024 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$862,073.75 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

Certification of Claims:

A. Check Register | 00219994-00220076 | 6/14/2024 | \$1,169,766.09

B. Check Register | 00220077-00220163 | 6/21/2024 | \$697,724.39

C. EFT Payments | April 2024 | \$2,322,581.74

D. EFT Payments | May 2024 | \$3,776,030.08

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 June 18, 2024

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2024.

AB 6505: Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation No. 338

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 338 proclaiming July 2024 as Parks and Recreation Month on Mercer Island.

AB 6502: Resolution to Apply for Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office's Grant Funding Programs for Luther Burbank Park Access Improvements

Recommended Action:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 1662 authorizing the application for grant funds in the amount of \$2,200,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Washington State Wildlife and Recreation Program, subject to conditions described in Resolution No. 1662, for the Luther Burbank Park Access Improvements project.
2. Authorize the City Manager, and their designees, to execute all necessary documents to apply for the grant and accept the grant and conditions of the grant, if awarded.

AB 6507: Interlocal Agreement with MISD for Mental Health Counseling Services

Recommended Action: Authorize the City Manager to sign the interlocal agreement with the Mercer Island School District for mental health counseling services during the 2024-2025 school year substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1 to AB 6507.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Jacobson to:

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

PASSED: 6-0

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

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6498: Public Hearing and Renewal of Interim Regulations Related to Permit Processing in Chapters 19.15 and 19.16 MICC (Ord. No. 24C-12)

Mayor Nice opened the Public Hearing at 5:18 pm. There were no public comments and Mayor Nice closed the Public Hearing at 5:19 pm.

CPD Deputy Director Alison Van Gorp presented the proposed renewal of interim regulations related to permit processing in Mercer Island City Code (MICC) Chapters 19.15 and 19.16.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Weinberg to:

Adopt Ordinance No. 24C-12 renewing Interim Regulations Related to Permit Processing in Chapters 19.15 and 19.16 MICC

PASSED: 6-0

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

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

AB 6508: State of the Court Report

Judge Jeff Gregory gave a State of the Court Report. He introduced the Municipal Court team, spoke about how the emphasis of the Mercer Island Municipal Court is the administration of justice through accountability, transparency, and reliability. Judge Gregory discussed the transition of the Court to Fire Station 91 and then to the Kirkland Municipal Court after the closing of City Hall in April 2023. He spoke about the transition to the new temporary home of the Municipal Court to the third floor of the Newcastle City Hall in 2024 and the work that was completed to complete this transition.

Judge Gregory spoke about the impacts of the City Hall closure and how Court staff are managing these impacts including lack of Zoom options, security considerations, travel time for everyone to the Court, in-custody remote hearings, and jury trials/evidentiary hearings. He discussed technology options the Court has been exploring for electronic file conversion and repository, and about the new statewide Case Management System that the State of Washington is rolling out to all courts in Washington. Judge Gregory highlighted the many ways that the Court has been making community connections and discussed how the Court is working with MIPD to increase the services and support for domestic violence victims.

City Council thanked Judge Gregory and asked questions.

AB 6509: Emergency Assistance Program Update

YFS Administrator Derek Franklin presented an update on the Emergency Assistance Program. He discussed the pre-pandemic programming and how the demands on the program began to stabilize in 2023 through the pandemic recovery. He presented the adjustments that were made to the Emergency Assistance Program in 2024 including the transition away from food gift cards to contracting with Hopelink to bring a mobile fresh food market to the Island and partnering with the Mercer Island Farmers Market with "Market Bucks" for food security assistance.

City Council asked questions of staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Schedule

Chief of Administration Ali Spietz spoke about the July 16 meeting and the August recess.

Councilmember Absences and Reports

It was moved by Jacobson seconded by Weinberg to:

Cancel the City Council Regular Meetings of August 2 and 16.

PASSED: 6-0

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

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Weinberg to:

Excuse Councilmember Weiker's absence from tonight's meeting.

PASSED: 6-0


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

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)


Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum noted that there is a SCA PIC meeting next week.
Councilmember Weinberg noted that June 9 was national Wear Orange Day to unite against gun violence and noted that Mayor Nice and Councilmembers Weiker and Weinberg attended the AWC Annual Conference earlier in June. He also noted that he met with Jen Dean from the MI Chamber of Commerce.
Councilmember Reynolds thanked Parks & Recreation Commission and staff for all of the work they do for parks and recreation on the Island year around and especially during Parks & Recreation Month.
Councilmember Anderl noted she met with Jen Dean from the MI Chamber of Commerce.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.


Salim Nice, Mayor

Attest:


Andrea Larson, City Clerk