



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall

Call to Order.

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Liese called the meeting to order.

Invocation - Councilmember Harwood

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Anna Liese

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 3 Jessie Harwood

Ward 4 Austin Clark

ABSENT

Ward 2 Ricky Sheppard

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Mayor Liese to confirm the agenda.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation Agenda.

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday March 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.

City Manager's Report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

February 18, 2026

1. Canal Dredging – The pre-construction meeting was held this morning with MDEQ, the engineer, and the contractor. The notice to proceed was issued for February 26th. The contract is for 240 days with the current end date of October 24th.
2. Paving 2026 – The pre-construction meeting was held last Friday with a notice to proceed issued for today. The city is still waiting on a complete schedule from the contractor. The plan to mobilize today was moved back to Monday 23rd. The current schedule is to start on Cherryhill Drive.

3. Jourdan River Boardwalk – The notice of award has been issued. The city is currently waiting for the contractor to return the signed contracts and insurance. All documents will then be submitted to MDEQ for their review.
4. Montjoy Creek Nature Trail – Bids are due next Tuesday, February 24th. After review by the engineer, I expect to have the bids on the March 3rd agenda.
5. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – The engineer has presented the new preliminary design for this project. They will start the survey work to determine layout and the required permitting from the USACE. The funding is currently out for public comment. Once completed, a meeting with MDEQ will be scheduled to discuss the project and receive paperwork for the council to review and approve.
6. Dog Park – Public Works is working on the dog park area. They are nearing completion of the outside fencing. Keep watching as this project is completed.
7. Fitness Park – Public Works has finished clearing and prepping the area. Once we receive the exercise equipment, public works will get it installed.
8. Unit Price Contracts
 - Crooked Stick – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted on the next agenda for council approval.
 - Mauna Loa Drive – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted on the next agenda for council approval.
 - Ewa St @ Hilo Way – The engineer is surveying the area to determine the design needed. An OPC will be created to determine budget needs.
 - Koula Drive – A design has been created. An OPC has been issued for budget needs.
 - DH Drive North/Lily Pond – A design has been created. The city is waiting on USDA approval of the design. Once received, a work directive will be submitted.
9. East Aloha Drive – **No update this month.** The city will need to follow the MDOT right-of-way acquisition process, and the electrical engineering sub-contractor. The engineers are finalizing the design to have project out to advertise as soon as the MDOT requirements are completed.
10. West Aloha Drive – **No update this month.** The engineers are working on egress of the roadway to determine best access for vehicle flow. This project will also be ready to advertise in the first quarter of 2026.
11. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – **No update this month.** The appraiser has completed the reports on the property acquisition project. The reports have been submitted to Rostan for review and submittal to MEMA.
12. Pelican Cove – **No update this month.** The engineer is completing the final plans and expects to only need a National Wetlands permit to complete this project. The permission to advertise will be on the next council agenda.
13. Commercial District – **No Update this month.** The engineer is completing the final design. I am currently waiting for appraisers to get reports back to me for the additional piece of roadway needed.
14. Bank Stabilization – **No Update this month.** The next step for this project will be to work on easement acquisition. Once complete, the engineers can finalize the design.

15. MDOT Projects – **No Update this month.** The contractor installed the signage last week. Once the engineers update the drawings for the railing along the multimodal path, the contractor will be back out to install and complete the project.
16. Landscaping Project – **No update this month.** Keep Diamondhead Beautiful and their landscape architect company are working on the project scope. The city has expressed that the landscaping cannot obstruct driver’s view.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

1. Motion to approve February 3, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to approve February 3, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Tabled Matters:

2. **2026-020:** Motion to approve text amendment to the Article IX. Low Speed Vehicles and Golf Carts in the Code of Ordinances.

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Seconded by Mayor Liese to remove motion to approve text amendment to the Article IX. Low Speed Vehicles and Golf Carts in the Code of Ordinances from the table.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve text amendment to the Article IX. Low Speed Vehicles and Golf Carts in the Code of Ordinances.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **2026-021:** Request to have a public meeting to change the official motto of Diamondhead to “The Jewel of the Coast” With all the great things happening in Diamondhead, it is time to have a motto that reflects the wonderful city of Diamondhead. (Maher)

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to remove motion to request to have a public meeting to change the official motto of Diamondhead to “The Jewel of the Coast” With all the great things happening in Diamondhead, it is time to have a motto that reflects the wonderful city of Diamondhead from the table.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark motion to request to have a public meeting to change the official motto of Diamondhead to “The Jewel of the Coast” With all the great things happening in Diamondhead, it is time to have a motto that reflects the wonderful city of Diamondhead.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consent Agenda:

- 4. **2026-036:** Motion to declare surplus equipment and proceed with proper disposal.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to declare surplus equipment and proceed with proper disposal.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

- 5. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233523- DKT233556) in the amount of \$155,951.01.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233523- DKT233556) in the amount of \$155,951.01.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Department Reports

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Mayor Liese to approve department reports.

Court

Police

Code Enforcement

Building

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items - None

Council Closing Comments

Adjourn/Recess.

At 6:25 p.m. with no further business to come before the council, motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Mayor Liese to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anna Liese
Mayor

Jeannie Klein
City Clerk