



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 07, 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 Sheppard

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Anna Liese

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 2 Ricky Sheppard

Ward 3 Jessie Harwood

Ward 4 Austin Clark

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to adjust the agenda as follows:

Amend Item #4 - Motion to approve and enter into contract with Razzoo Band for music services in the amount of \$1000.00 for the Diamondhead Blessing of the Classics to be held on October 7, 2026.

Add Item #18a. - Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233921 and DKT233922) in the amount of \$1,915.00.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation Agenda.

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday July 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.
- b. Police Chief - Swearing in Ceremony
Chad Dorn

City Manager's Report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT
July 07, 2026

1. Canal Dredging – The contract is for 240 days with the current end date of October 24th. Due to the excessive clayey material, the engineers have started the discussion with the USACE to request

an extension to the dredging permit. The contractor is continuing to dredge the main channel. Due to recent rain events, the access to the BU site has become difficult for the contractor to access. DMR is determining what steps are required to fix this issue.

2. Paving 2026 – The contractor has completed the paving and striping the roadway. The engineer will schedule a walkthrough this month to finalize this project.
3. Jourdan River Boardwalk – The contract is for 180 days with the current end date of October 17th. The contractor has installed the decking and railing for the first section of the boardwalk. The installation of the crossmembers and support beams will start on the last section this month. I will again ask residents to use caution when driving down to the boat launch.
4. Montjoy Creek Nature Trail – The contract is 180 calendar days with a current end date of October 10th. The contractor has been working on the parking area and raised boardwalk area. The bridge will require some additional testing before it is installed. Residents need to remain off the trail until all work is completed.
5. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – The engineer is finishing the parking area and trailhead for this project and will be presenting the phase 1 layout to the council in the next month. The required permits have been submitted, and the engineer is currently waiting to see if additional information will be needed.
6. Bank Stabilization – The project is currently out for bid. The city is working on the additional easements needed for this project.
7. MDOT Projects – The contractor is working on the multimodal path and the expansion of the Interstate to six lanes. From July 6 – 9 from (7PM to 5AM) the I-10 East Bound & West Bound Diamondhead ON & OFF Ramps will experience temporary traffic control closures for Paving & Striping Operations.
8. Pelican Cove – The request to advertise for this project is on tonight agenda. This project will clean the detention pond to allow for more capacity and reconfigure the weir to allow better regulate the release of stormwater during a rain event.
9. Dog Park – Public Works has started the installation of the turf at the entrance to the dog park. The sand has been installed and will be packed down to create a solid base. Turf has been installed on one section of the entrance but has not been completely secured. Please use caution when entering and exiting the park.

No additional updates on remaining projects.

10. Fitness Park – The city received the exercise equipment. Public Works will start working on installing everything.
11. East Aloha Drive – The engineers are finishing the sidewalk designs and right-of-way acquisition process with MDOT. The electrical engineering sub-contractor is completing the design and layout for the streetlights. The engineers expect to be able to advertise as soon as the MDOT requirements are completed.
12. West Aloha Drive – I am working with American Towers to finalize the egress into the driveway access to North Bay Auto and AutoZone.
13. Commercial District – The engineer is completing the final design. Additional sewer realignment is needed to finish the project.

14. Landscaping Project – 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.

15. Unit Price Contracts

Crooked Stick – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.

Mauna Loa Drive – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.

Ewa St @ Hilo Way – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.

Koula Drive – A design has been created. An OPC has been issued for budget needs.

16. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – The kickoff meeting with FEMA was held two weeks ago for the Outdoor Emergency Siren System. The project is waiting on a period of performance extension from FEMA. The bid advertisement and specifications will be on the agenda at the next council meeting for your review and approval.

Public Comments on Agenda Items.

Ruven St. Pierre - Flooding

Marshall Douglas - Flooding

Ken Henry - Flooding

Susan Duffy - Ditch Clean Out

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

1. Motion to approve June 16, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve June 16, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ordinances:

2. **PUBLIC HEARING** - 2026-093 Utility Cut Ordinance

Mayor Liese opened the **Public Hearing** in the matter of the Utility Cut Ordinance and called for public comment on three (3) occasions and received none. The **Public Hearing** was closed.

Resolutions:

3. **2026-119:** Motion to ratify Proclamation of Existence of Local Emergency as of 10:00 a.m. on June 17, 2026 for flooding and severe weather related to potential Tropical Cyclone One (TS Arthur).

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to ratify Proclamation of Existence of Local Emergency as of 10:00 a.m. on June 17, 2026 for flooding and severe weather related to potential Tropical Cyclone One (TS Arthur).

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve the following consent items:

4. **2026-116:** Motion to approve and enter into contract with Razzoo Band for music services in the amount of \$800.00 for the Diamondhead Blessing of the Classics to be held on October 7, 2026.
5. **2026-117:** Motion to approve Pay Application 1 in the amount of \$186,197.15 to Holliday Construction, for the Montjoy Creek Nature Trail.
6. **2026-118:** Motion to approve Pay Application 2 in the amount of \$152,587.10 to Gill's Crane & Dozer Services, for the Jourdan River Boardwalk Project.
7. **2026-120:** Motion to accept audit engagement correspondence with Wright Ward Hatten Guel outlining FY25 audit services and objectives.
8. **2026-121:** Motion to approve Pay Application 1 in the amount of \$405,667.48 to JE Talley Construction, Inc. for the Canal Dredging Rebid Project.
9. **2026-122:** Motion to approve the Business Associate Agreement with Hub Gulf South for commitment of compliance with the Privacy, Security, Breach Notification and Enforcement Rules of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.
10. **2026-123:** Motion to approve Pay Application 4 in the amount of \$229,153.21 to Gulf Pride Paving, LLC., for the Diamondhead Paving Project 2026.
11. **2026-125:** Motion to approve payment to Covington Civil & Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$1,125.00 for On-Call Survey Services, in the amount of \$2,328.50 for Site Development Plan, and in the amount of \$3,100.00 for Diamondhead Paving 2026.
12. **2026-126:** Motion to advertise for bids for the Pond 6 Remediation at Pine Golf Course.
13. **2026-127:** Motion to ratify and enter into a new commercial lease agreement for the Vacant lot on Noma Drive between Tellus Boat Storage and City Parking Lot with Purcell Co., Inc. for three (3) days, commencing on July 3, 2026 and expiring at midnight on July 5, 2026 in the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00).
14. **2026-128:** Motion to ratify and enter into a new commercial lease agreement for the Vacant lot on Noma Drive with Tellus Diamondhead, LLC., for three (3) days, commencing on July 3, 2026 and expiring at midnight on July 5, 2026 in the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00).
15. **2016-130:** Motion to accept the proposed timeline for FY2027 Budget adoption.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Action Agenda.**

16. **2026-124:** Motion to approve a variance from the Zoning Ordinance Article 3.4.8 to allow a residence within 7.4' of a side property line. The property address is 7840 Maui Circle. The tax parcel number is 067R-2-36-187.000. The property is in a R-6 zoning district. The setback for a residence from the side property line is 10'. The variance requested is 2.6'. The Case File Number is 202600344.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to approve a variance from the Zoning Ordinance Article 3.4.8 to allow a residence within 7.4' of a side property line. The property address is 7840 Maui Circle. The tax parcel number is 067R-2-36-187.000. The property is in a R-6 zoning district. The setback for a residence from the side property line is 10'. The variance requested is 2.6'. The Case File Number is 202600344.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 17. 2026-129:** Motion to consider and adopt amendments to Article 7 of the Zoning Ordinance relating to land clearing, development permits, and building permit requirements. (Liese)

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to consider and adopt amendments to Article 7 of the Zoning Ordinance relating to land clearing, development permits, and building permit requirements. No action taken.

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to send this matter to the Planning and Zoning Commission for **Public Hearing** at the August 2026 meeting related to land clearing, development permits, and building permit requirements.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

18. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233881- DKT233920) in the amount of \$1,534,084.95.

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233881- DKT233920) in the amount of \$1,534,084.95.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 18a. Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233921 and DKT233922) in the amount of \$1,915.00.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

19. Motion to approve Payroll Payables DKT233781 in the amount of \$90.72, DKT233800 in the amount of \$90.72, DKT233861-DKT233870, PRCLAIM000272 in the amount of \$29,841.94, PRCLAIM000273 in the amount of \$33,689.86 and PRCLAIM000274 in the amount of \$3,030.37.

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve Payroll Payables DKT233781 in the amount of \$90.72, DKT233800 in the amount of \$90.72,

DKT233861-DKT233870, PRCLAIM000272 in the amount of \$29,841.94, PRCLAIM000273 In the amount of \$33,689.86 and PRCLAIM000274 in the amount of \$3,030.37.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Department Reports

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to approve the following department reports.

a. Court

Police

Code Enforcement

Building Department

b. May 2026 Financials

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items - None

Council Closing Comments

Adjourn/Recess.

At 6:48 p.m. with no further business to come before the council, motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anna Liese
Mayor

Jeannie Klein
City Clerk