



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR HYBRID MEETING

JANUARY 6, 2026

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

City Clerk Andrea Larson 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.

Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Daniel Becker, Julie Hsieh, Dave Rosenbaum, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg attended in person.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Anderl to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

SPECIAL BUSINESS

AB 6831: Councilmember Oath of Office and Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elections

City Clerk Andrea Larson welcomed the audience and explained the process for administering the official oaths of office for the elected Councilmembers Anderl, Becker, and Weinberg with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor elections to follow.

City Clerk Larson administered the Oaths of Office to elected Councilmembers Daniel Becker, Ted Weinberg, and Lisa Anderl.

City Clerk Larson explained how the nomination and voting process would work for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor elections. She noted that to be successful a nominee must receive at least four votes from the full Council to be declared the successful candidate.

She then called for nominations from the floor for the Office of Mayor for 2026-2027. Councilmember Anderl nominated Councilmember Rosenbaum. There were no further nominations.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Elect David Rosenbaum to serve as Mayor for 2026-2027.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

City Clerk Larson administered the Mayoral Oath of Office to Mayor Rosenbaum and turned the meeting over to Mayor Rosenbaum.

Mayor Rosenbaum then called for nominations from the floor for the office of Deputy Mayor for 2026-2027. Councilmember Anderl nominated Councilmember Becker, Councilmember Weinberg nominated Councilmember Reynolds. There were no further nominations.

City Clerk Larson conducted an open election via roll call vote for Nominees Becker and Reynolds.

The votes were tallied and Daniel Becker received four votes to be elected to serve as Deputy Mayor for 2026-2027.

Deputy Mayor Voting Results:

Anderl – Becker
Becker – Becker
Hsieh – Reynolds
Reynolds – Reynolds
Rosenbaum – Becker
Weiker – Becker
Weinberg – Reynolds

City Clerk Larson administered the Deputy Mayoral Oath of Office to Deputy Mayor Becker.

City Council was in recess from 5:14 – 5:21 pm.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:**
 - City Council Planning Session on Friday, January 16 at 9:30 am
 - City Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 20 at 5:00 pm
 - Parks & Recreation Commission and Open Space Conservancy Trust Joint Meeting on Thursday, January 8
 - Utility Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 13 at 5:00 pm
 - Parks & Recreation Commission on Tuesday, January 13 at 5:00pm
- **City Updates:**
 - MIPD Marine Patrol is working to remove trees and logs that were flushed into Lake Washington by recent flooding.
 - Utilities staff worked with MIPD Marine Patrol to get a needed replacement part to Pump Station 19. This station is completely inaccessible by vehicle so larger equipment and parts must be delivered via the lake.
 - First Hill Playground renovation has been completed and the park has reopened to the public. Some minor work remains that will be completed over the coming weeks.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Mercer Island Community & Event Center winter programming is starting the new year with new programs including expanded gym offerings and a new open dance room drop-ins.
- **News:**
 - Public Works staff worked with MIPD to help locate and rescue a dog that had been spotted running loose on East Mercer Way for several days. The lost pup was rescued and on its way to good care!

APPEARANCES

Addie Smith spoke about being a hate crime survivor.

Winky Lai, Mercer Island, spoke about the development at Herzl-Ner Tamid.

Merkys Gomez, Mercer Island, spoke about the development at Herzl-Her Tamid.

Jim Stanton, Mercer Island, spoke about bicycle and e-bike facilities on Mercer Island.

Jay Greer, Mercer Island, spoke about bicycle and e-bike facilities on Mercer Island.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6832: December 10, 2025 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the December 10, 2025 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$988,576.12 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

AB 6833: December 24, 2025 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the December 24, 2025 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$984,611.06 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2025.

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2025.

AB 6834: Certification for Claims Paid November 16, 2025 through November 30, 2025

Recommended Actions: Approve the November 16, 2025 through November 30, 2025 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$3,412,033.13 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

AB 6835: Certification for Claims Paid December 1, 2025 through December 15, 2025

Recommended Action: Approve the December 1, 2025 through December 15, 2025 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$1,626,756.35 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, and the recommendations contained therein.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6843: AWC Action Days Representatives

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about AWC Action Days and the staff and councilmember delegation attending on January 21.

City Council discussed who would attend AWC Actions Days.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Select Deputy Mayor Becker and Councilmembers Hsieh, Reynolds, and Weinberg to attend AWC Action Days on January 21 and 22, 2026

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

AB 6844: City Facilities Survey Appropriation Request

Senior Management Analyst Robbie Cunningham Adams spoke about the background of the failure of Proposition 1 related to the Public Safety and Maintenance Facility in November 2025 and one potential community engagement strategy that could be applied of a proposed city facilities survey. He discussed the recommendation to conduct a statistically valid survey to give the City the opportunity to have a data-informed approach to understanding the community's views of Proposition 1 and priorities for future facilities and capital projects in place of the biennial community survey. He spoke about the open survey that will also be offered in addition to the statistically valid survey, on the financial and budgetary impacts of the survey, and the recommended motions.

City Council discussed the survey and asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Reynolds to:

Authorize the City Manager to conduct a statistically valid survey to collect community input on the recent Public Safety and Maintenance Bond Measure to inform priorities for future City facility planning.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Reynolds to:

Re-allocate \$25,000 from the biennial Community Survey to the City Facilities survey and appropriate an additional \$12,000 of unassigned fund balance from the General Fund to fund this survey.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Reynolds to:

Appoint Deputy Mayor Becker and Councilmembers Reynolds and Weiker to serve on an Ad-Hoc Committee to work with the City Manager to finalize the polling questions.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Schedule

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the January 16 Planning Session.

Councilmember Absences and Reports

Councilmember Weiker will be absent on February 3.

Mayor Rosenbaum asked the Council to send him seating requests and interest requests for City Council Liaison assignments and thanked the staff for all of the work that they do to keep the City running.

Councilmember Weiker spoke about the learning opportunities that are offered by AWC, congratulated the Mercer Island High School Band for performing in London, England over New Year's.

Councilmember Weinberg noted he attended the SCA Annual Meeting, SCA Public Issue Committee meeting, and the Eastside Transportation Partnership meeting in December. He noted he will be making 14 trips to Olympia during the legislative session and that his next monthly open lunch is on January 18 at L'Experience Paris.

Councilmember Reynolds noted meeting with Representative Zhan with other councilmembers and staff, his reappointment to the King County LEOFF 1 Disability Retirement Board, and noted he attended the SCA North Caucus meeting in December.

Councilmember Anderl thanked the Public Works for the work on the lights in Town Center over the holidays, the Marine Patrol for the work cleaning up the lake, and Public Works and Right-of-Way crews for keeping the streets and storms clean.

Councilmember Hsieh noted she attended the Christmas Tree Lighting, the Hannukah Menorah lighting, the Holiday Party at the MICEC with a guided walk to Luther Burbank to watch the Argosy Christmas Ships, Gallagher Hill open space forest restoration, and noted her first community coffee was held in December. She also noted she took a tour of the Mercer Island Police Department and attended a ride along with Officer Marina Udodik. She noted her next community coffee is on January 15 at the Southend Starbucks.

City Council was in recess from 6:12 pm – 6:17 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:17 pm, Mayor Rosenbaum 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.

Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

Mayor David Rosenbaum, Deputy Mayor Daniel Becker, and Councilmember Lisa Anderl, Julie Hsieh, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg participated in person.

Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session at 7:47 pm for an additional 30 minutes to 8:17 pm.

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Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session at 9:47 pm for an additional 5 minutes to 9:52 pm.

Mayor Rosenbaum adjourned the Executive Session at 9:52 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 9:53 pm.

Attest:

Andrea Larson, City Clerk

David Rosenbaum, Mayor