



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING JULY 15, 2025

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 24th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Daniel Becker, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker (arrived 5:13 pm), and Ted Weinberg attended in person. Councilmember Lisa Anderl attended via Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

PASSED: 6-0

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

STUDY SESSION

AB 6731: Training on Use of Public Office or Agency Facilities in Campaigns (RCW 42.17A.555)

City Manager Jessi Bon introduced Ann Marie Soto from Madrona Law, who addressed the use of public offices or facilities during election season.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:** City Council Meeting on September 2 at 5:00 pm. No City Council meetings or Boards and Commissions meetings in August.
- **City Service Updates:**
 - Town Center Parking
 - King County Enatai Project Update
 - Pickleball Court Updates
 - Wet Well Restoration
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Native Plant ID Walk – July 17
 - National Night Out – Tuesday, August 5
- **Summer Celebration Recap:**
 - Parade – 37 entries plus City vehicles
 - Daytime Festivities - 70 booths, foam party, and live bands
 - Evening Festivities – Food, music, and fireworks at Luther Burbank Park
- **Good News:**
 - MIPD provided a “How to Spot Scammers” presentation at Island House Assisted Living

APPEARANCES

Sumedhaa Kothari (Mercer Island) spoke about civil liberties.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6733: Certification for Claims Paid June 1, 2025 through June 15, 2025

Recommended Action: Approve the June 1, 2025 through June 15, 2025 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$1,373,243.68 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2025

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2025.

AB 6728: Parks Zone Code Amendment (Ordinance No. 25C-16, Second Reading)

Recommended Actions: Adopt Ordinance No. 25C-16 to establish the Parks Zone with an effective date of December 31, 2025.

AB 6729: Parks Zone Comprehensive Plan Amendment (Ordinance No. 25-17 Second Reading)

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance No. 25-17 to amend the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element with an effective date of December 31, 2025.

AB 6734: Shopping Cart Regulations (Second Reading of Ordinance No. 25C-18)

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance No. 25C-18 related to shopping cart regulations as presented in Exhibit 1.

AB 6730: Renewal of Right-of-Way Use Agreements for Telecommunications Facilities with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC

Recommended Action: Authorize the City Manager to execute the renewal telecommunications agreements with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC substantially in the forms attached as Exhibits 2 and 3 to this Agenda Bill, including related documents and administrative amendments required to fulfill the parties' obligations thereunder.

AB 6739: Approval of Letter of Appreciation to 41st Legislative District Delegation for Support of State Funding for Mercer Island Water Supply Pipeline

Recommended Action: Authorize the Mayor to sign the letters of appreciation for the 41st Legislative District Delegation acknowledging their support of the funding request for the new Mercer Island Water Supply Pipeline.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Reynolds to:

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

PASSED: 7-0

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6732: Public Hearing on Interim Regulations in MICC 19.16.010 Related to Emergency Shelters and Housing, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing (First Reading, Ordinance No. 25-15)

Mayor Nice opened the public hearing at 5:43 pm. There being no public comment, Mayor Nice closed the public hearing.

Mayor Nice noted that the City Council would discuss the agenda item later that evening on the agenda.

AB 6738: Budget Appropriation for the Acquisition of Real Property by Eminent Domain

Finance Director Matt Mornick discussed the budget appropriation required to acquire 9655 SE 36th Street via

eminent domain and outlined the following in his presentation:

- Purchase Price and Estimate Closing costs (\$9,080,000)
- Resources for the Purchase:
 - General Fund (\$3,302,358)
 - Municipal Facility Replacement Fund (\$3,362,808)
 - Capital Improvement Fund (\$1,670,752)
 - Town Center Parking Facilities Fund (\$744,082)

He presented Ordinance No. 25-21 for first reading which is a budget appropriate for the acquisition. Director Mornick responded to Council questions.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

Schedule Ordinance No. 25-21 for second reading and adoption at the September 2, 2025 City Council meeting.

PASSED: 7-0

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

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

Appropriate the following available budget resources to the Municipal Facility Replacement Fund for the acquisition of real property by eminent domain:

- a. \$3,302,358 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.**
- b. \$1,670,752 from the Capital Improvement Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.**
- c. \$744,082 from the Town Center Parking Facilities Fund.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

AB 6736: Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 25-13 Related to the Public Safety and Maintenance Facility Bonds Ballot Measure

Senior Management Analyst Robbie Cunningham Adams, Finance Director Matt Mornick, and City Manager Jessi Bon reviewed Ordinance No. 25-13 regarding the Ballot Measure for the Public Safety and Maintenance (PSM) Facility. Staff shared a presentation, addressed the following topics, and responded to Council questions:

- City Council's July 1 meeting wherein the following was accomplished:
 - First reading of Ordinance No. 25-13
 - An ad-hoc working group (Nice, Rosenbaum, and Reynolds) was formed to work with staff and legal counsel
 - Council exempted the PSM Facility from 1% for Art contribution
 - Ordinance No. 25-13 was approved for a second reading on July 15
- PSM Bond Financial Impact
- The Ad-Hoc Working Group met and finalized the recommended Ballot proposition and Explanatory Statement
- Upon approval, Ordinance No. 25-13 and the Explanatory Statement would be submitted to the King County Elections by August 5 for inclusion on the November 4, 2025 General Election ballot.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Adopt Ordinance No. 25-13, providing for the submission on the November 4, 2025 election, a ballot measure for the Public Safety and Maintenance Facility Bonds.

PASSED: 7-0

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

AB 6737: Public Safety and Maintenance Facility Bond Measure Pro and Con Committee Appointments (Res. No. 1671)

Senior Management Analyst Robbie Cunningham Adams reviewed the process to solicit applications and appoint members to the Pro and Con Committees for the upcoming Public Safety and Maintenance Facility Bond scheduled for the November 4 General Election, noting that the applications were forwarded to City Council by close of business on July 11.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve Resolution No. 1671 and appoint Robert Sulkin, Benson Wong, and Russell Federman to the pro committee and Mike Cero to the con committee

PASSED: 7-0

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

AB 6732: Discussion on Interim Regulations in MICC 19.16.010 Related to Emergency Shelters and Housing, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing (First Reading, Ordinance No. 25-15)

CPD Director Jeff Thomas introduced Senior Planner Molly McGuire who explained the need for the public hearing held earlier in the meeting. She also discussed the renewal of interim regulations previously adopted to amend standards in Mercer Island City Code 19.16.010 related to emergency shelters and housing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing in response to HB 1220, which was passed by the State legislature in 2021. She went on to explain that the permanent regulations are expected to be adopted by the end of 2025

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Reynolds to:

Schedule Ordinance No. 25-15 for second reading on September 2, 2025.

PASSED: 7-0

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

AB 6735: Scope of Work for an Omnibus Ordinance Related to Permanent Regulations for Housing Production and Permit Streamlining

CPD Director Jeff Thomas introduced Principal Planner Adam Zack who explained that the omnibus ordinance was intended to streamline regulations for residential development and establish permanent regulations to address several interim ordinances previously adopted by City Council. He noted that an omnibus ordinance would allow for comprehensive review of the sum-total of amendments and address several topics at once, including:

- HB 1220 - Affordable and emergency housing
- HB 6015 - Residential parking requirements
- HB 1293 - Clear and objective design standards
- SB 5290 - Permit review timelines
- HB 1998 - Co-Living Housing
- Design Commission - Remove references to Design Commission review
- Comprehensive Plan Implementation - In 2024, the City Council updated the Comprehensive Plan and amended the Town Center development code.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve the scope of work and direct the Planning Commission to commence legislative review.

PASSED: 7-0

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Schedule

City Manager Bon reported that the August meetings were canceled and briefly outlined the September 2 City Council meeting.

It was moved by Becker; seconded by Reynolds to:

Cancel the August 5 and August 19 Regular City Council Meetings

PASSED: 7-0

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

Councilmember Absences and Reports

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum and Councilmembers Weiker, Weinberg, Anderl, and Becker thanked staff and acknowledged their work on Summer Celebration.

Councilmember Weinberg noted that his next open lunch would be at Homegrown on July 20.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Attest:

Salim Nice, Mayor

Andrea Larson, City Clerk