



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR VIDEO MEETING October 5, 2021

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Benson Wong called the Executive Session to order at 4:00 pm from a remote location to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(i) for approximately 90 minutes.

Mayor Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Salim Nice, Craig Reynolds, and David Rosenbaum participated remotely using the teleconferencing platform Microsoft Teams.

City Manager Jessi Bon and City Attorney Bio Park participated in the executive session from a remote location using Microsoft Teams.

At 5:30 pm, the Acting City Clerk extended the Executive Session to 5:45 pm. At 5:45 pm, the Acting City Clerk extended the Executive Session to 5:50 pm.

Mayor Wong adjourned the executive session at 5:42 pm

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Wong called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm from a remote location.

Mayor Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Salim Nice, Craig Reynolds, and David Rosenbaum (joined 5:53 pm) participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom.

Jessi Bon, City Manager, participated remotely from City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington. The City Attorney and Mercer Island City Leadership Team participated from remote locations.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Anderl delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve the agenda.

Passed 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

STUDY SESSION

AB 5948: 2021 Business Needs Assessment

Sarah Bluvus, Economic Development Coordinator introduced Joy Liechty, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce and Nancy Harwick, Hardwick Research.

Nancy Hardwick gave a presentation on the results of the 2021 Business Needs Assessment Report.

Hardwick and Bluvus answered questions regarding the 2021 Business Needs Assessment.

Council Discussed the assessment and provided feedback to staff.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Bon reported on the following items:

- Boards and Commission meetings and recruitment
- Well Balanced Student Workshop hosted by MI Parent Edge
- Fall Recycling Event
- Expanding drop-in sports at the MICEC
- MICEC health & safety requirements effective October 25
- Uptick in car prowls: Crime Prevention Tips from MIPD
- Halloween has arrived at the Thrift Shop
- Safety improvements coming to Sunset Highway & 77th Ave SE
- MIPD Wears pink to highlight breast cancer awareness month
- Update on fall events
- Statewide plastic bag ban
- 2021 Water system improvement projects complete
- MICEC Art Gallery reopening
- Thank you, Deb Estrada!

APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval Certification of Claims for the periods ending:

A) September 16, 2021, in the amount of \$749,944.50

B) September 23, 2021, in the amount of \$314,099.27

Recommended Actions: Certify that the City Council has reviewed the documentation supporting claims paid and approved all checks or warrants issued in payment of claims.

Approval of the Payroll Certification for the period ending:

AB 5949: September 24, 2021, Payroll Certification, in the amount of \$820,128.89

Recommended Actions: Approve the September 24, 2021, Payroll Certification and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

Approval of the Minutes of the August 31, 2021, Special Meeting.

AB 5950: Domestic Violence Action Month Proclamation No. 283

Recommended Action: Mayor proclaims October 2021 as Domestic Violence Action Month in Mercer Island.

AB 5947: Arbor Day Proclamation No. 282

Recommended Action: Mayor proclaims the third Saturday in October as Arbor Day in Mercer Island.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

Approve the Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5951: First Reading of Ordinance No. 21C-24 amending the Mercer Island City Code Section 2.08.020(A) to establish Juneteenth as a City holiday.

Bio Park, City Attorney, gave a brief overview of the proposed ordinance to establish Juneteenth as a City holiday. Council discussed the proposed amendment.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Nice to:

Set Ordinance No. 21C-24 for a second reading and adoption on the October 19, 2021, Consent Agenda or soon thereafter.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

AB 5939: Second Reading of Ordinance No. 21C-18 Amending Chapter 7.04 Mercer Island City Code – Animal Code.

Bio Park, City Attorney, and Eileen Keiffer gave an overview of the proposed ordinance amending Chapter 7.04 of the Mercer Island City Code – Animal Code.

Council discussed the proposed amendment.

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Weiker to:

Bring back Ordinance No. 21C-18 amending Chapter 7.04 of the Mercer Island City Code - Animal Code for a third reading on October 19, 2021 or soon thereafter for staff to provide more clarification on items 23 and 24 on the matrix.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences

There were no absences reported.

Planning Schedule

City Manager Bon reported that staff are working to confirm if the King County Clean Water Plan elected officials workshop is still on schedule October 19 meeting. There is a significant amount of time on the October 19 agenda for a follow up discussion on the ARPA funding. The November 1 meeting has been noticed as a special meeting due to rescheduling from November 2.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Reynolds:

- K4C is coming up

Councilmember Jacobson:

- Parks & Rec Commission updates – status of the restart plan and the following week a wrap up on the PROS Plan
- Disability board met and asked Lara Gerheim to bring back answer to the questions posed during the meeting.

Mayor Wong:

- City's Race to Zero. The Sustainability Committee has discussed this campaign.
- King County Elected Officials' workshop for clean water plans. Workshop No 5 is scheduled for 10/22.
- North end mayors meeting, Deanna Dawson, Executive Director of Sound Cities Association, encouraging everyone to send in applications to serve on the regional committee's.

Council took a break until 8pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed into Executive Session to 1) discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and 2) for planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the City Council during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or

reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) for approximately 60 minutes.

Mayor Wong adjourned the executive session at 9:02 pm

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Benson Wong, Mayor

Attest:

Andrea Larson, Acting City Clerk