



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING MAY 19, 2026

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## CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Dave Rosenbaum 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 Dave Rosenbaum, Deputy Mayor Daniel Becker and Councilmember Julie Hsieh attended in person. Councilmembers Lisa Anderl (Arrived 6:25 pm), Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker (arrived at 5:06 pm), and Ted Weinberg attended via Zoom.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy Mayor Becker lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Becker; seconded by Weinberg to:

**Approve the agenda as presented.**

PASSED: 5-0

FOR: 5 (Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 2 (Anderl and Weiker)

## STUDY SESSION

### AB 6931: YFS Program Update and Youth Matters Report

YFS Administrator Derek Franklin presented a Youth and Family Services program update. He spoke about the different programs that YFS administers including:

- Community-based mental health counseling
- School-based mental health counseling
- Emergency family assistance
- Senior services
- Drug and alcohol prevention and mental health promotion

MIHS Sophomore Alice Liang spoke about the results of a survey she conducted of MIHS students related to how to access mental health services and her plans to start a peer to peer support group at MIHS.

MIHS Senior Kirin Lancaster discussed the importance of Youth Matters, how she has benefited from Youth Matters, and shared some of the concerns of the youth at MIHS.

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:**
  - City Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 2 at 5:00 pm
  - Planning Commission Special Meeting on Wednesday, May 27 at 6:00 pm
  - Planning Commission Special Meeting on Wednesday, June 3 at 6:00 pm
- **City Updates:**

- E-bike Outreach & Survey – Members of the Parks & Recreation Commission and Open Space Conservancy Trust hosted a pop-up at Gretta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery to celebrate Bike to Work Day and engage community members regarding e-bikes and e-bike regulations. Community members were directed to a Let’s Talk survey, that is open through the summer for public comments and feedback.
- Community Day of Inclusion – Last Saturday Recreation and YFS staff attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mercer Island PTA Special Services and Learning Differences Community Day of Inclusion at Northwood Elementary.
- 2026 Street Related Storm Drainage Improvements – Work has begun in stormwater infrastructure repairs and improvements in the Island Point neighborhood ahead of the 2026 Residential Street Overlay project later this summer.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Stop the Bleed Training, Mercer Island Community & Event Center, May 28, 6:30pm. Registration is required.
- **News:**
  - MIPD is proud to welcome Officer Jack Baker who graduated from the police academy on May 13.

## APPEARANCES

Addie Smith spoke about being a hate crime survivor.

Nancy Lee (Mercer Island) spoke in support of Proclamation No. 388.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Reynolds requested to remove AB 6933: National Gun Violence Awareness Day (Proclamation No. 388) from the Consent Agenda. Mayor Rosenbaum moved it to the first item of Regular Business.

### AB 6925: May 8, 2026 Payroll Certification

**Recommended Action:** Approve the May 8, 2026 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$1,007,933.27 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### AB 6926: Certification for Claims Paid April 16, 2026 through April 30, 2026

**Recommended Actions:** Approve the April 16, 2026 through April 30, 2026 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$2,420,652.75 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2026

**Recommended Action:** Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2026.

It was moved by Becker; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Approve the Consent Agenda as amended, and the recommendations contained therein.**

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Anderl)

## SPECIAL BUSINESS

### AB 6929: 2025 Community Member of the Year (Proclamation No. 387)

Mayor Rosenbaum read Proclamation No. 387 and presented Fan Yuan with the 2025 Community Member of the Year award. Fan has served as the President of the Mercer Island Chinese Association (MICA) since 2023. Through her leadership on the MICA and other local organizations, she has continually shown her

dedication to the Mercer Island community. Through thoughtful planning and strong community partnerships, Fan has helped foster a vibrant and inclusive environment that reflects Mercer Island's commitment to cultural diversity and community connection.

The City Council thanked Fan for her service to the community.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Becker to:

**Approve Proclamation No. 387 proclaiming Fan Yuan as the 2025 Community Member of the Year.**

PASSED: 5-0

FOR: 5 (Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 2 (Anderl and Weiker)

The City Council was in recess from 6:18 pm – 6:24 pm.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **AB 6933: National Gun Violence Awareness Day (Proclamation No. 388)**

Councilmember Reynolds spoke about the importance of Gun Violence Awareness day and Proclamation No. 388.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

**Approve Proclamation No. 388 proclaiming June 5, 2026 as Gun Violence Awareness Day on Mercer Island.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

### **AB 6928: 2026 Board and Commission Appointments (Resolution Nos. 1694 & 1695)**

Mayor Rosenbaum explained the process for appointment to the Open Space Conservancy Trust and his recommendation of Carol Berseth and Kipley Olson.

City Clerk Larson read the appointments section of Resolution No. 1695.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Becker to:

**Approve Resolution No. 1695 appointing members to the vacancies on the Open Space Conservancy Trust.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

Mayor Rosenbaum explained the process for the appointments to the Arts Council, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Utility Board noting that applicants that receive the most votes, provided they receive a minimum of four votes, would be appointed to the vacant positions on the board or commission. The names of the applicants would then be added to Resolution No. 1694 with final approval by a vote of the City Council.

**Utility Board** – Two open positions; five applications received.

**Position 6 – Term 2030** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants Debbie Bertlin, Robert Day, Meredith Lehr, Somayeh Moazeni, and Eric Shibley.

The ballots were tallied, and Meredith Lehr received four votes to be appointed to the Utility Board, Position 6, expiring May 31, 2030.

**Position 6 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Lehr

Becker – Lehr

Hsieh – Bertlin

Reynolds – Lehr

Rosenbaum – Lehr

Weiker – Bertlin  
Weinberg – Bertlin

**Position 7 – Term 2030** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants Debbie Bertlin, Robert Day, Somayeh Moazeni, and Eric Shibley.

The ballots were tallied, and Debbie Bertlin received seven votes to be appointed to the Utility Board, Position 7, expiring May 31, 2030.

**Position 6 Ballot Results:**

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

**Parks & Recreation Commission** – Two open positions; ten applications received.

**Position 3 – Term 2030** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants Melanie Baumgarten, Robert Day, Damon Jacobson, Andrea Kristof Somayeh Moazeni, Pam Rock, Jason Sanio, and Eric Shibley.

The ballots for Position 3 Round 1 were tallied, and no applicant received four votes.

**Position 3 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Sanio  
Becker – Sanio  
Hsieh – Sim  
Reynolds – Stanton  
Rosenbaum – Sanio  
Weiker – Jacobson  
Weinberg – Kristof

The ballots for Position 3 Round 2 were tallied, and Jason Sanio received six votes to be appointed to the Parks & Recreation Commission, Position 6, expiring May 31, 2030.

**Position 3 Ballot Results:**

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

**Position 4 – Term 2030** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants Melanie Baumgarten, Robert Day, Damon Jacobson, Andrea Kristof Somayeh Moazeni, Pam Rock, and Eric Shibley.

The ballots for Position 4 Round 1 were tallied, and no applicant received four votes.

**Position 4 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Jacobson  
Becker – Rock  
Hsieh – Sim  
Reynolds – Stanton  
Rosenbaum – Jacobson  
Weiker – Jacobson  
Weinberg – Kristof

The ballots for Position 4 Round 2 were tallied, and Damon Jacobson received five votes to be appointed to the Parks & Recreation Commission, Position 4, expiring May 31, 2030.

**Position 4 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Jacobson  
Becker – Jacobson  
Hsieh – Jacobson  
Reynolds – Stanton  
Rosenbaum – Jacobson  
Weiker – Jacobson  
Weinberg – Kristof

**Arts Council** – Three open positions; eight applications received.

**Position 3 – Term 2030** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants Deborah Banker, Jonathan Harrington, Kay Haung, Katie Kratzer, Yuxi de Neve, Eric Shibley, Sarah Stanley, and Mindy Stern.

The ballots for Position 3 Round 1 were tallied, and no applicant received four votes.

**Position 3 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Huang  
Becker – Kratzer  
Hsieh – Harrington  
Reynolds – Harrington  
Rosenbaum – Kratzer  
Weiker – Kratzer  
Weinberg – Harrington

The ballots for Position 3 Round 2 were tallied, and Katie Kratzer received four votes to be appointed to the Arts Council, Position 6, expiring May 31, 2030.

**Position 3 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Huang  
Becker – Kratzer  
Hsieh – Kratzer  
Reynolds – Harrington  
Rosenbaum – Kratzer  
Weiker – Kratzer  
Weinberg – Harrington

**Position 4 – Term 2030** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants Deborah Banker, Jonathan Harrington, Kay Haung, Yuxi de Neve, Eric Shibley, Sarah Stanley, and Mindy Stern.

The ballots were tallied, and Jonathan Harrington received four votes to be appointed to the Arts Council, Position 4, expiring May 31, 2030.

**Position 4 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Huang  
Becker – Harrington  
Hsieh – Harrington  
Reynolds – Harrington  
Rosenbaum – Stern  
Weiker – de Neve  
Weinberg – Harrington

**Position 2 – Term 2027** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants Deborah Banker, Kay Haung, Yuxi de Neve, Eric Shibley, Sarah Stanley, and Mindy Stern.

The ballots were tallied, and Kay Huang received four votes to be appointed to the Arts Council, Position 2, expiring May 31, 2027.

**Position 4 Ballot Results:**

Anderl – Huang  
Becker – Huang

Hsieh – Huang  
Reynolds – Stern  
Rosenbaum – Stern  
Weiker – de Neve  
Weinberg – Huang

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Approve Resolution No. 1694 appointing those voted on to fill the vacancies on the Arts Council, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Utility Board.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

### **AB 6930: City Planning for the 2026 FIFA World Cup**

Management Analyst Amelia Tjaden presented an overview of the six FIFA World Cup (FWC26) games that are being hosted by Seattle in June and July, noting projections of 400,00 – 750,000 visitors to the region to attend at least one of the Seattle matches or ancillary events. She discussed the footprint of FWC26 events across the state including base camps, fan zones, venue specific practice sites, fan celebration areas, and the competition venue at Lumen Field.

Management Analyst Tjaden spoke about the preparations City staff have been taking in preparation for the arrival of the FWC26 tournament including enhanced staffing on match days for MIPD, including deployment of two Marine Patrol vessels, and additional officers in the Town Center. She discussed the planning the Emergency Manager and Emergency Operations (EOC) Team have been doing since spring of 2025. She noted the EOC will be activated at an enhanced monitoring capacity and will be ready to expand and coordinate with regional partners as needed.

Management Analyst Tjaden discussed pause of the regional traffic projects and the steps being taken to minimize road closures and traffic impacts due to active construction projects on the Island during the approximately two-week period when the matches will be played. She spoke about the parking in and around town center, at the Town Center Parking area, and at MICEC. She spoke about the communications campaign and key messaging that will go out to inform residents about the FWC26.

Councilmember Weiker left the meeting at 6:56 pm.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Councilmember Absences and Reports**

Councilmember Weinberg noted he attended the Eastside Transportation Partnership Meeting and that his next monthly open lunch is on June 20 at Haps.

Councilmember Hsieh noted she visited a Girl Scout Brownie Troup, attended the Puget Sound Regional Council Housing Mini Academy, took the light rail with community members, and noted the celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month and Asian Pacific Islanders Heritage Month. She noted there is a free Tai Chi practice at Mercerdale Park on May 30, an arts gathering on May 27 at MIVAL, the Farmers Market Opening Day on May 31, and her next community coffee on June 10 at Asa.

The City Council was in recess from 7:12 pm to 7:16 pm.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:16 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 for approximately 60 minutes until 8:20 pm.

Executive Session to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price pursuant to

RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and 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 Julie Hsieh participated in person. Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg attended via Microsoft Teams.

At 8:20 pm, Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session for 20 minutes to 8:40 pm.

At 8:40 pm, Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session for 15 minutes to 8:54 pm.

Mayor Rosenbaum adjourned the Executive Session at 8:54 pm.

City Council was in recess from 8:54 pm – 8:56 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Attest:

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Dave Rosenbaum, Mayor

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Andrea Larson, City Clerk