



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

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.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Hsieh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve the agenda as amended to move Appearances before the Executive Session.

PASSED: 7-0

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

APPEARANCES

Nicoline Cai (Sammamish) spoke about Lens of Youth, a youth lead non-profit that promotes understanding and inclusion for people with intellectual and or developmental disabilities.

Gautam Kumar (Mercer Island) spoke about the Childhood Cancer Awareness proclamation and thanked the City Council for recognizing the families affected by childhood cancer on Mercer Island.

City Council was in recess from 5:10pm - 5:15pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:15 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 30 minutes until 5:45 pm.

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

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

City Attorney Bio Park participated via MS Teams and other staff participated in person.

At 5:45 pm, Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session for 5 minutes to 5:50 pm.

At 5:50 pm, Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session for 5 minutes to 5:55 pm.

Mayor Rosenbaum adjourned the Executive Session at 5:55 pm.

The City Council was in recess from 5:55 pm to 5:59 pm.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:**
 - City Council Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 6 at 5:00 pm
 - Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, Thursday, October 1 at 5:00 pm
- **City Updates:**
 - Planning Commission Recruitment is open through October 9 to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission
 - Annual Docket Requests for amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Development Code is open through October 1
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Mid-Autumn Festival 2026 – Sunday, September 20 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
 - Emergency Preparedness Workshop – Wednesday, September 30 two sessions at 1:30 – 3:00 pm or 5:30 – 7:00 pm
- **News:**
 - New YFS School Counselor at Islander Middle School – The new school year brings a new YFS school-based Mental Health Counselor to Islander Middle School, Kayla Bocek, who recently completed her clinical internship with YFS. Welcome to the team Kayla!

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6992: Certification for Claims Paid August 16, 2026 through August 31, 2026

Recommended Action: Approve the August 16, 2026 through August 31, 2026 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$2,049,469.75 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of September 1, 2026

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of September 1, 2026.

AB 6993: Peace Day on Mercer Island, Proclamation No. 397

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 397 proclaiming September 21, 2026 as Peace Day on Mercer Island.

AB 6995: Fire Apparatus Acquisition and Financing (Ordinance No. 26-12, Second Reading)

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance No. 26-12 authorizing the purchase of one Pierce International Pumper and authorizing a purchase agreement between the City and Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. and Property Schedule 2 to the Master Tax-Exempt Installment Purchase Agreement with Municipal Asset Management, Inc., substantially in the form of the drafts attached as Exhibits A and B to Ordinance No. 26-12.

AB 6996: Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund – Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership program for the Deane's Children's Park Phase II Improvements (Resolution No. 1699)

Recommended Action:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 1699 authorizing the application for grant funds in the amount of \$1,046,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, subject to conditions described in Resolution No. 1699 for the Deane's Children's Park Phase II Improvements project.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to apply for the grant and accept the grant and conditions of the grant, if awarded.

AB 6986: West Mercer Way Culvert Replacements and Sub-Basin 18C Drainage Improvements Project Bid Award

Recommended Action: Award the West Mercer Way Culvert Replacements and Sub-Basin 18C Drainage Improvements Project to Kamins Construction Inc., a Washington-based corporation, and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Kamins Construction Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$473,414.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve the Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

PASSED: 7-0

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6991: Ezee Fiber Franchise Agreement (Ord. No. 26-14, First Reading)

Interim Assistant City Engineer Chris Marks introduced outside legal counsel Daniel Kenny from Ogden Murphy Wallace, who provided background on franchise agreements and the Ezee Fiber franchise agreement. Mr. Kenny noted that the Ezee Fiber agreement is identical to the recently approved agreement with Forged Fiber and addressed questions submitted regarding oversight after franchise agreement has been approved.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Wendy to:

Schedule Ordinance No. 26-14 for second reading and adoption at an upcoming City Council Meeting.

PASSED: 7-0

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

AB 6997: 2027-2028 Preliminary Biennial Budget Financial Forecast and Budget Amending Ordinance

Finance Director Matt Mornick presented the financial forecast for the 2027-2028 preliminary budget, noting the forecast establishes the spending limits in the Preliminary Budget. He described the broader economic landscape influencing the forecast, the projected operating deficit in 2027, and the near-term strategy to sustain operations through 2028 by using one-time funds. Finance Director Mornick outlined the origins of the available fund balances, explaining how they directly relate to the financial policies adopted by the City Council in 2021. He then reviewed the forecasts for the YFS Fund and General Fund and discussed the City's revenue projections for property tax, general sales tax, utility tax, Parks & Recreation revenues, Business & Occupation Tax, and interest earnings.

Finance Director Mornick also presented the forecasts for the Capital Improvement Fund and Real Estate Excise Tax. He reviewed the budget appropriations included in Ordinance No. 26-08, which outlines budget adjustments previously approved by the City Council, amending the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Reynolds to:

Adopt Ordinance No. 26-08, amending the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget.

PASSED: 7-0

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

AB 6990: 2028 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan Scope of Work

Interim Capital Division Manager Shelby Perrault presented the scope of work for the 2028 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan as a focused update to build on the comprehensive planning and analysis from 2022, evaluate what has changed, conduct targeted community engagement, and prioritization of capital investments to reflect current needs and a more constrained funding environment. She discussed making the Parks & Recreation Commission the lead commission for the update with input from the Arts Council and Open Space Conservancy Trust. She noted that the final recommendation and hand-off memo to the City Council will occur in Q1 2028.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Anderl to:

Move to designate the Parks and Recreation Commission as the lead commission for the 2028 PROS Plan update process; approve the proposed five-phase scope of work; direct the Parks and Recreation Commission to incorporate input from the Arts Council and Open Space Conservancy Trust throughout the planning process; and deliver its final recommendation and hand-off memo to the City Council by Q1 2028.

PASSED: 7-0

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

AB 6985: Updating the City's Animal Control Code

Senior Management Analyst Robbie Cunningham Adams explained that the City receives animal licensing and control services through an interlocal agreement (ILA) with the Regional Animal Services of King County (RASKC). He noted that, under the adopted ILA, the City is required to enact an ordinance containing licensing, fee, penalty, enforcement, appeal, impound/redemption, and sheltering provisions that are substantially consistent with Title 11 of the King County Code. He stated that amendments to the Mercer Island City Code are necessary to align with King County's 2023 updates to Title 11.

Senior Management Analyst Cunningham Adams also described the cost of animal control services to the City and outlined staff's recommendation to adopt the King County Code by reference, including transferring appeals for dangerous or potentially dangerous animals from the City Hearing Examiner to RASKC.

City Council asked questions and provided feedback.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences and Reports

Councilmember Weinberg noted his next monthly open lunch is on September 20 at Anise Thai at 12:00 pm.

Councilmember Reynolds encouraged everyone to get their fall vaccinees.

Councilmember Hsieh noted her next community coffee is at Asa on September 30 between 11:00 am – 12:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Attest:

Dave Rosenbaum, Mayor

Andrea Larson, City Clerk