



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING JANUARY 20, 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 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

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

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Weinberg to:

**Approve the agenda as presented.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

## SPECIAL BUSINESS

### AB 6845: Mercer Island Municipal Court

Judge Jeff Gregory gave a State of the Mercer Island Municipal Court Report. He introduced the Municipal Court team, spoke about how the emphasis of the Mercer Island Municipal Court is the administration of justice through accountability, transparency, and reliability. Judge Gregory spoke about the continued home of the Municipal Court on the third floor of the Newcastle City Hall since 2024 and Court is held in the Newcastle City Council Chambers.

Judge Gregory spoke about the impacts of the City Hall closure and how Court staff are managing these impacts including lack of Zoom options, security considerations, travel time for everyone to the Court, in-custody remote hearings, and jury trials/evidentiary hearings. He discussed technology options the Court has been exploring for electronic file conversion and repository, and about the new statewide Case Management System that the State of Washington is rolling out to all courts in Washington. Judge Gregory highlighted the many ways that the Court has been making community connections and discussed how the Court is working with MIPD to increase the services and support for domestic violence victims.

City Council thanked Judge Gregory and asked questions.

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:**
  - City Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 3 at 5:00 pm
  - City Council/ MISD School Board Joint Meeting on Thursday, February 5 at 6:00 pm.
  - Arts Council Meeting on Wednesday, January 21 at 5:30 pm
  - Planning Commission Meeting on Wednesday, January 28 at 6:00 pm
- **City Updates:**

- Board and Commission Recruitment – Open through February 20 with appointments scheduled for the March 3 City Council Meeting.
- Sewer Lift Station 11 Improvements – Station 11 was reconstructed by King County as part of their North Mercer Sewer Interceptor Project and is now operational after the completion of reliability testing. Permanent paving and landscaping restoration will occur later this year.
- City's E-moto Bill gets a Hearing – the 2026 State Legislative Session is underway and the City's e-moto bill (HB 2374 is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Committee on Transportation, Mayor Rosenbaum is scheduled to testify in committee in support of the bill.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - MICEC Art Reception on January 21 from 5:30–7:30 pm
  - YFS Healthy Youth Community Forum on February 2 at MICEC from 7–9:00 pm
- **News:**
  - MIPD Sergeant Chad Schumacher was honored with the 2025 Washington State Recreational Boating Safety Marine Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Congratulations Sgt. Schumacher!

## **APPEARANCES**

Addie Smith spoke about being a hate crime survivor.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Deputy Mayor Becker requested to remove AB 6850: Facilities Planning Appropriation Request from the Consent Agenda. Mayor Rosenbaum moved it to the first item of Regular Business.

### **AB 6846: January 9, 2026 Payroll Certification**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the January 9, 2026 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$1,014,146.81 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### **City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2025.**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2026.

### **AB 6847: Certification for Claims Paid December 16, 2025 through December 31, 2025**

**Recommended Actions:** Approve the December 16, 2025 through December 31, 2025 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$990,777.75 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the City Council.

### **AB 6837: Water Supply Pipeline – Phase 2 Design Contract Approval**

**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.

### **AB 6848: Approve Stormwater Capacity Grant Budget**

**Recommended Action:** Authorize the City Manager to accept the Department of Ecology 2025-2027 Biennial Stormwater Capacity Grant and appropriate \$120,000 to the stormwater maintenance operation budget.

It was moved by Becker; seconded by Weiker to:

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

PASSED: 7-0

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

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **AB 6850: Facilities Planning Appropriation Request**

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the next steps in facility planning through Spring 2026 and the funding needed to proceed with this work.

City Council asked staff questions.

It was moved by Becker; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Carryforward the funds remaining from the 2025 Public Safety & Maintenance Facility Project (approximately \$130,000) and appropriate the funds for completion of the site work and geotechnical assessment on the City Hall and Public Works Campus.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

It was moved by Becker; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Transfer \$587,594 from the Street Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund and appropriate \$150,000 to complete the space planning analysis at the 9655 Building and the Luther Burbank Admin Building; revisit the City Hall and Public Works Building renovation cost estimate; complete the PSM Project Review; and return to the City Council in March 2026 with findings and preliminary project alternatives.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

#### **AB 6849: 2026-2027 City Council Liaison Assignments**

Mayor Rosenbaum spoke about the City Council liaison assignments for 2026-2027.

#### **AB 6839: 2027-2028 Budget Planning Overview**

Finance Director Matt Mornick provided an overview of the adoption of the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget and the framework that is used by code cities in Washington state to develop a biennial budget. He spoke about the state law requirement that code cities use fund accounting to manage public funds, the ten different funds that are used by the City, and the difference between restricted and unrestricted funds. Finance Director Mornick discussed emerging needs at the halfway point of the 2025-2026 budget and the process and tentative timeline for the preparation of the 2027-2028 Biennial Budget.

City Council asked staff questions.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Planning Schedule**

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the February 3 and 17 meetings and the joint meeting with the MISD School Board on February 5.

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

Councilmember Weiker will be absent on February 3 and 5, 2026.

Deputy Mayor Becker noted he attended the King County Solid Waste Municipal Advisory Committee meeting and spoke about the Open Space Conservancy Trust joint meeting with the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Councilmember Weiker noted there was a Utility Board meeting and there is a new water meter dashboard available to all residents.

Councilmember Weinberg noted he has spent two days in Olympia this legislative session, he attended the Eastside transportation Partnership meeting, next open lunch on Feb 21 at Sushi Joa.

Councilmember Reynolds noted he attended the joint meeting with the Parks & Recreation Commission and Open Space Conservancy Trust, the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting, and the new website his wife is doing talkontherock.com.

Councilmember Anderl congratulated Councilmember Hsieh on her appointment to the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council.

Councilmember Hsieh thanked the Public Works department for the tour of public works facilities, noted she is looking forward to attending AWC Action Days, and her next monthly open coffee is on February 25 at

Asa.

City Council was in recess from 6:55 pm – 7:00 pm.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:00 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 30 minutes until 7:30 pm.

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 Julie Hsieh, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg participated in person. Councilmember Anderl participated via Microsoft Teams.

Mayor Rosenbaum adjourned the Executive Session at 7:30 pm.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Attest:

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Dave Rosenbaum, Mayor

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Andrea Larson, City Clerk