



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING APRIL 15, 2025

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Salim Nice called the Regular Hybrid Meeting to order at 5:07 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 Lisa Anderl, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg attended in person.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Anderl to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

PASSED: 6-0

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

SPECIAL BUSINESS

AB 6667: Acknowledgement and Commendation for City Councilmember Jake Jacobson's Service to the Mercer Island Community (Resolution No. 1673)

Mayor Nice read Resolution No. 1673 acknowledging and commending Councilmember Jake Jacobson's service to the Mercer Island community.

City Council shared memories and stories about Councilmember Jacobson.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Anderl to:

Approve Resolution No. 1673 acknowledging and commending City Councilmember Jake Jacobson's service to the Mercer Island Community.

PASSED: 6-0

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

A video in memoriam was played in remembrance of Councilmember Jacobson.

APPEARANCES

Addie Smith spoke about being a hate crime survivor.

Evan Greenberg, Mercer Island, spoke about issues at Groveland Beach Park.

Victory Raisys, Mercer Island, spoke about Town Center Parking.

Jim Stanton, Mercer Island, spoke about the Transportation Improvement Program.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Reynolds requested removal of AB 6663: Appropriation of 2023-2025 Ramp Litter Cleanup Grant from the Consent Agenda. Mayor Nice moved it to the first item of Regular Business.

AB 6651: March 25, 2025 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the March 25, 2025 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$971,538.41 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

AB 6652: Certification for Claims Paid February 16, 2025 through February 28, 2025

Recommended Action: Approve the February 16, 2025 through February 28, 2025 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$2,409,343.48 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

AB 6661: Certification for Claims Paid March 1, 2025 through March 15, 2025

Recommended Action: Approve the March 1, 2025 through March 15, 2025 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$2,780,589.67 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2025

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2025.

AB 6653: Autism Acceptance Month, Proclamation No. 354

Recommended Actions: Approve Proclamation No. 354 Proclaiming April 2025 as Autism Acceptance Month on Mercer Island.

AB 6654: Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month, Proclamation No. 355

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 355 Proclaiming April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month on Mercer Island.

AB 6658: Vietnam Veteran's Day, Proclamation No. 356

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 356 Proclaiming March 29, 2025 Vietnam Veterans Day on Mercer Island.

AB 6662: Earth Day, Proclamation No. 357

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 357 proclaiming April 22, 2025 as Earth Day on Mercer Island.

AB 6655: Booster Pump Station Upgrades Project Change Order & Appropriation Request

Recommended Action: Appropriate \$175,000 from the available balance within the Water Fund to complete construction of the Reservoir Booster Pump Station Upgrades Project (90.40.0034).

AB 6659: Reservoir Improvement Project Change Order and Appropriation Request

Recommended Action: Appropriate \$514,505 from the available balance within the Water Fund to complete construction of the Reservoir Improvement Project (90.40.0033).

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Reynolds to:

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

PASSED: 6-0

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6663: Appropriation of 2023-2025 Ramp Litter Cleanup Grant

Councilmember Reynolds asked a question about the grant expiration.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

appropriate \$60,000 from the Ramp Litter Cleanup Grant award from the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) to conduct sweeping on the I-90 on/off ramps on Mercer Island.

PASSED: 6-0

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

AB 6665: 2026-2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Public Hearing

Mayor Nice opened the Public Hearing at 5:50 pm.

Kian Bradley, Mercer Island, spoke about the Transportation Improvement Program in Town Center.

Mayor Nice continued the Public Hearing to the June 17, 2025 City Council Meeting at 5:54 pm.

Mayor Nice noted that City Council would return later in the evening for discussion on this item.

AB 6656: Public Safety and Maintenance Facility Sizing, Placement, and Zoning

Aaron Young, from Northwest Studio, provided a background on the design work that has been completed to date on the Public Safety and Maintenance Facility (PSM), spoke about the work sessions that were held with staff and the Design Team in March that helped shape the changes in design that are being presented. He discussed the proposal to shift the PSM building north on the site and the benefits of moving the building north. Mr. Young spoke about the area that would be reserved on the north end of the site for potential future expansion.

Mr. Young spoke about weather coverings, site vehicle circulation, the operational flows of the PSM and Operations Building, and areas that will provide space for future facility needs. He spoke about the upper and lower yards that house critical Public Works infrastructure

Management Analyst Robbie Cunningham Adams spoke about the proposed boundary line adjustment and corresponding potential rezone of the south City Hall parcel.

City Council discussed the PSM and asked questions of the Design Team.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve the revised PSM Facility site layout and direct the City Manager to continue project design work in anticipation of having a schematic design and revised cost estimate ready for City Council review and approval in June.

PASSED: 6-0

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

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

Direct the City Manager to (1) pursue a boundary line adjustment between the City Hall and Public Works parcels based on the final site layout; and to (2) prepare and submit an application for a re-zone of the south City Hall parcel to Public Institution (PI).

PASSED: 6-0

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

AB 6660: Parks & Recreation Commission Parks Zone Recommendation Briefing

Management Analyst Carson Hornsby presented the Parks & Recreation Commission recommendation on the Parks Zone. He spoke about the background of the development of the Parks Zone, the development of the

Parks Zone development regulations, the draft of the zoning map, the draft of land use map, and the next steps.

Parks & Recreation Commission (PRC) Chair Peter Struck and Vice Chair Paul Burstein spoke about the PRC recommendation on the Parks Zone.

City Council asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Weinberg to:

Direct the Planning Commission to complete the legislative review of the proposed Parks Zone by June 2025.

PASSED: 6-0

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

AB 6664: Discuss Interim Regulations Related to Compliance with Objective Design Review Standards in HB 1293 (2023) and the Impacts to MICC Title 19

CPD Director Jeff Thomas spoke about the background on this item related to compliance with HB 1293 from the 2023 State Legislative Session.

Principal Planner Adam Zack discussed the requirements in HB 1293 and the corresponding state requirements that relate to how cities may regulate building design, how the City's design standards may need to be changed to be in compliance with HB 1293 by June 30, 2025, and potential issues staff have identified.

City Council discussed and asked questions of staff.

AB 6666: First Reading of Ord. No. 25C-03, regarding Town Center Parking Regulations

Management Analyst Amelia Tjaden spoke about background on the Town Center parking regulations. She discussed the framework for parking that would be established in Ordinance No. 25C-03 including implementation of a mobile application to pay for parking.

Commander Mike Seifert discussed the current challenges for parking enforcement on Mercer Island and how parking enforcement would change with the use of a parking app.

Management Analyst Tjaden spoke about the next steps, parking signage, the staff recommendation on revenue generated from the parking program, and planned community outreach.

City Council asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Weinberg to:

Schedule Ordinance No. 25C-03 for second reading and adoption in May 2025 without the use of an app for on street parking in Town Center, except for in the Town Center Parking Area.

PASSED: 4-2

FOR: 4 (Anderl, Nice, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

AGAINST: 2 (Reynolds and Weiker)

City Council was in recess from 8:17 pm – 8:27 pm.

AB 6665: 2026-2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Preview – Presentation and Discussion

City Engineer Patrick Yamashita spoke about the annual update to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that is required in RCW 35.77 and the goals of the annual update.

Traffic Engineer Rebecca Corigliano highlighted Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects that are in progress or have been completed in the past year. She spoke about the TIP schedule for adoption and the program elements and priorities contained in the TIP.

Finance Director Matt Mornick discussed the TIP funding strategy and funding sources.

Street Engineer Ian Powell provided an overview of the street network on Mercer Island, how the City uses the Pavement Condition Index to manage the pavement network, and what projects have been modified in the 2025-2031 TIP.

Traffic Engineer Corigiliano spoke about the next steps for TIP adoption in June.

City Council discussed the TIP and asked questions of staff.

AB 6657: City Code Update regarding Utility Billing Policies (First Reading of Ordinance No. 25C-09)

Finance Director Matt Mornick spoke about the impetus for the update to the Utility Billing policies and procedures integrating lessons learned after the pandemic, to consolidate and improve the customer experience, and to prepare for the transition to the AMI system. He discussed the approach that was taken in the updates that included a technical review with a consultant and assessment of policies among, and an overview of the proposed changes.

City Council asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Weiker to:

Schedule Ordinance No. 25C-09 updating Section 15.12.010 of the Mercer Island City Code related to utility billing, and the updated Utility Billing Manual for second reading and adoption on May 6, 2025.

PASSED: 6-0

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Schedule

Chief of Operations Jason Kintner spoke about the Prospective City Council Candidate Workshop on April 24.

Councilmember Absences and Reports

Councilmember Weinberg noted that K4C met and that he was elected Chair of K4C, that Eastside Transportation Partnership (EPT) met, and that his next monthly open lunch is on Saturday at Valhalla Sandwiches.

Councilmember Reynolds noted that there was an EPT meeting.

Councilmember Anderl thanked the Council for the work they do.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Attest:

Salim Nice, Mayor

Andrea Larson, City Clerk