



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING APRIL 4, 2023

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1

At 5:02 pm, Mayor Nice convened an Executive Session in the Caucus Room at City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, WA and via Microsoft Teams. The Executive Session was to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

Mayor Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor David Rosenbaum and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker and Ted Weinberg participated in person in the Caucus Room at City Hall.

Mayor Nice adjourned the Executive Session at 5:27 pm.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Salim Nice called the regular meeting to order at 5:32 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor David Rosenbaum and Councilmember Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg participated in person in the Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve the agenda.

PASSED: 7-0

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

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings Updates:** Upcoming hybrid City Council meeting on April 18, and hybrid City Council Mid-year Planning Session on April 25. Upcoming board and commission meeting: Utility Board Hybrid Meeting on April 11. The annual boards and commission recruitment is open through May 5.
- **City Services Updates:** Call to artists for Summer Celebration tee-shirt design due April 15, MIFD joined agencies from Zone 1 for confined space training last week, intersection pavement makings project at busy intersections across the island, Right-of-Way teams preparing medians along 78th in Town Center for planting, and the P-Patch has been expanded to 65 plots.
- **Upcoming Events:** Coffee with a Cop on April 10.
- **News:** Thank you restoration volunteers for helping us care of our parks and open spaces. YFS received a \$5,500 grant from the Mercer Island Community Fund, thank you.

APPEARANCES

Gaurang Chandrakant, Mercer Island, spoke in support of sustainability and the importance of having tools to measure progress.

Will Orndorff, Mercer Island, spoke in support of the Country Club bringing back their temporary tennis bubble.

Kim Thunen, Mercer Island, spoke in support of year round pickleball opportunities on the island.

Dan Nordale, Mercer Island, spoke in support of the Country Club bringing back their temporary tennis bubble.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6239: March 24, 2023 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the March 24, 2023 Payroll Certification (Exhibit 1) in the amount of \$994,553.00 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

Certification of Claims:

A. Check Register | 215269-215330 | 3/17/2023 | \$440,333.64

B. Check Register | 215331-215388 | 3/24/2023 | \$450,026.60

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

City Council Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2023 Regular Hybrid Meeting.

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023 Regular Hybrid Meeting.

AB 6245: Autism Acceptance Month, Proclamation No. 303

Recommended Action: Proclaim April 2023 as Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Mercer Island.

AB 6246: Climate Action Plan Final Adoption

Recommended Action: Adopt the City of Mercer Island Climate Action Plan in substantially the form presented in Exhibit 1.

AB 6247: Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Proclamation No. 304

Recommended Action: Proclaim April 2023 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the City of Mercer Island.

AB 6248: Authorization from ARCH Member Cities for KCHA Acquisition and Assumption of Debt for Plum Court Apartments

Recommended Action: Authorize the City Manager to execute the Assignment, Assumption, and Consent Agreement by certain ARCH member cities, and any related agreements and documents, to enable King County Housing Authority to acquire the Plum Court Apartments and assume the debt associated with the project, including a loan from ARCH.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Weinberg to:

Approve the Consent Agenda and the recommended actions contained therein.

PASSED: 7-0

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6249: Seeking Proposals to Consider Adoption of a Regional Fire Services Model

City Manager Jessi Bon presented a summary of her proposal recommending that the City of Mercer Island formally explore adoption of a regional fire services model through issuance of a request for proposals. City

Manager Bon stated that the safety of the Mercer Island community remains the City's number one priority, and that with this model the City would continue to control service levels for fire and emergency medical services provided on the Island including the fire stations remaining open.

Management Analyst Robbie Cunningham-Adams spoke about current fire and emergency medical services, Fire Department budget for the 2023-2024 biennium, and staffing levels. He discussed the trend of regionalization of fire services and presented the regional fire services map. City Manager Bon spoke about why a regional collaboration often provides for enhanced fire and emergency medical services and how adopting a regional fire services model ensures the response to all these needs is cohesive, efficient, and cost effective.

City Manager Bon discussed what a regional fire services model would look like for Mercer Island and spoke about how Mercer Island Residents should expect very little change under a regional services model. City Manager Bon discussed how fire personnel would transition employment to the regional fire authority, and that the City has every intention to secure employment opportunities for all Fire Department personnel. She spoke about requesting proposals from the City of Bellevue and Eastside Fire and Rescue and discussed the evaluation criteria and timeline for review the proposals.

Council discussed the proposal and asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Jacobson to:

Authorize and direct the City Manager to seek proposals from the City of Bellevue and Eastside Fire & Rescue for a regional fire service model.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Reynolds to:

**Amend paragraph 2.a.i of the draft statement of work be amended to read:
One (1) on-island Battalion Chief in charge of Station 91 and 92.**

FAILED: 2-5

FOR: 2 (Reynolds, and Weinberg)

AGAINST (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Rosenbaum, and Weiker)

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

Direct the City Manager to amend the RFP to ask respondents to describe their department's commitment to sustainability and their tactics for reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The RFP should include these items on the list of evaluation criteria.

FAILED: 2-5

FOR: 2 (Reynolds, and Weinberg)

AGAINST (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Rosenbaum, and Weiker)

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

Direct the City Manager to amend the RFP to ask respondents to describe their department's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and to document relevant statistics for fire staff's diversity. The RFP should include these items on the list of evaluation criteria.

FAILED: 2-5

FOR: 2 (Reynolds, and Weinberg)

AGAINST (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Rosenbaum, and Weiker)

It was moved by Jacobson to:

Call the question.

FAILED: 4-3

FOR: (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, and Weiker)

AGAINST: (Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

MAIN MOTION AS MADE PASSED: 5-2

FOR: 5 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Rosenbaum, and Weiker)

AGAINST: 2 (Reynolds and Weinberg)

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Schedule

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the upcoming April 18 City Council Meeting and the mid-year Planning Session on April 25.

Councilmember Absences and Reports

Mayor Nice noted that the GMPC met on March 22 and voted on countywide planning policies. Councilmember Reynolds attended second public meeting at the Bike Skills Area focused on trail safety. Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum thanked staff for their work on the legislative session and wished a happy holidays to everyone celebrating Passover and Easter. Councilmember Weiker thanked staff and Council leadership for working with the Country Club. Councilmember Weinberg reminded all that Leap for Green is on April 22 at the MICEC.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Attest:

Salim Nice, Mayor

Andrea Larson, City Clerk