



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING MARCH 4, 2025

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## CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Salim Nice 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 Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, and Ted Weinberg attended in person. Councilmembers Craig Reynolds and Wendy Weiker attended via Zoom.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Weinberg to:

**Approve the agenda as presented.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:** City Council Meeting on March 18 at 5:00 pm, Design Commission Meeting on March 5 at 6:00 pm, Parks & Recreation Commission on March 6 at 5:00 pm, and Utility Board on March 11 at 5:00 pm.
- **City Services Updates:**
  - Town Center Parking Facility – Work has begun at the former Tully's site. Crews have installed construction fencing and have begun demolition of the old building on site.
  - Thrift Shop Construction – Construction continues at the Thrift Shop, but the Shop is open for shopping and donation drop-off.
  - Water System Improvements – This project will replace over 6,000 linear feet of undersized and aging cast iron water mains.
  - Repairs to Turf Damage – Repairs are underway on turf damage caused by European Chafer beetles, birds, and raccoons.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Spring Recycling Event on March 29 from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Mercer Island Boat Launch.
  - Mobile Blood Drive on March 10 at the Mercer Island Community Event Center.
- **News:**
  - Last Saturday, Island seniors and their families attended the second annual Senior Resource Fair. Thank you to our sponsors for putting on this great event!
  - Seasonal Job Fair Success – Human Resources partnered with hiring managers in Public Works to host a Seasonal Job Fair.

## APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **AB 6626: February 10, 2025, Payroll Certification**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the February 10, 2025, Payroll Certification in the amount of \$981,899.35 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

### **AB 6640: Certification for Claims Paid January 18, 2025 through January 31, 2025**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the Accounts Payable Certification for claims paid January 18, 2025 through January 31, 2025 in the amount of \$4,239,943.11.

### **City Council Meeting Minutes:**

- A. Regular Hybrid Meeting of February 4, 2025**
- B. Special Hybrid Planning Session of February 4, 2025**
- C. Special Joint Meeting with MISD Board of February 6, 2025**
- D. Special Hybrid Meeting of February 25, 2025**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the minutes of the Regular Hybrid Meeting of February 4, 2025, the Special Hybrid Planning Session of February 4, 2025, the Special Joint Meeting with MISD Board of February 6, 2025, and the Special Hybrid Meeting of February 25, 2025.

### **AB 6627: AB 6627: Interim Development Regulations Related to Middle Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units (Second Reading, Ordinance No. 25C-02)**

**Recommended Actions:** Adopt Ordinance No. 25C-02 establishing interim development regulations in Title 19 Mercer Island City Code related to Middle Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units, with an effective date of June 30, 2025.

### **AB 6628: Watershed (WRIA 8) Interlocal Agreement**

**Recommended Action:** Authorize the City Manager to sign the WRIA 8 Interlocal Agreement, substantially in the form included as Exhibit 1 to this AB, and future technical or non-substantive amendments thereto.

### **AB 6629: 2024 Open Space Conservancy Trust Annual Report and 2025 Work Plan**

**Recommended Action:** Accept the 2024 Open Space Conservancy Trust Annual Report and 2025 Work Plan.

### **AB 6630: Adoption of the City of Mercer Island 2025-2029 Commute Trip Reduction 4-Year Plan**

**Recommended Action:** Adopt the City of Mercer Island 2025-2029 Commute Trip Reduction 4-Year Plan.

### **AB 6636: Revised 2025 Fee Schedule Adoption**

**Recommended Action:** Approve Resolution No. 1671 adopting the Revised 2025 Fee Schedule, effective June 30, 2025.

### **AB 6637: 2025-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement with Police Support**

**Recommended Action:** Authorize the City Manager to sign the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Mercer Island Police Association for Support Positions for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

### **AB 6638: Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for Jail Services with the City of Issaquah**

**Recommended Action:** Authorize the City Manager to execute the amendment to the interlocal agreement with the City of Issaquah for jail services as substantially shown in Exhibit 1 to AB 6638.

**AB 6639: 2025-2029 Interlocal Agreement with the Eastside Transportation Partnership**

**Recommended Action:** Authorize the City Manager to execute the 2025-2029 Eastside Transportation Partnership Interlocal Agreement, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1 to this AB, and technical or non-substantive future amendments thereto.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

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

PASSED: 7-0

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

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**AB 6631: Board & Commission Vacancy Appointment (Resolution No. 1670)**

Mayor Nice reviewed the process for board and commission appointments noting that the applicant that receives the most votes, provided they receive a minimum of four votes, would be appointed to the vacant position on the Arts Council. The name of the applicant would then be added to Resolution No. 1670 with final approval by a vote of the City Council.

**Arts Council** – One open position; four applications received.

**Position 3 - Term 2026** - City Clerk Larson distributed ballots to each Councilmember with a list of the following applicants: Linda Gamroth, Severine Pathak, James Seeks, Katie Kratzer.

The ballots were tallied, and Katie Kratzer received five votes to be appointed to the Arts Council, Position 3, expiring May 31, 2026.

**Position 5 Ballot Results:**

- Anderl - Kratzer
- Jacobson - Kratzer
- Nice - Seeks
- Reynolds - Kratzer
- Rosenbaum - Kratzer
- Weiker - Kratzer
- Weinberg - Seeks

City Clerk Larson read Resolution No. 1670 into the record.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Jacobson to:

**Approve Resolution No. 1670, appointing those voted on to fill the vacancy on the Arts Council.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

Mayor Nice left the meeting at 5:21 pm.

**AB 6632: Public Hearing on Interim Regulations Related to Unit Lot Subdivisions (SB 5258) in Title 19 MICC (First Reading, Ordinance No. 25C-06)**

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum opened the public hearing at 5:22 pm.

Robert Thorpe, Mercer Island, spoke in support of the proposed amendments.

Reed Cahill, Mercer Island, spoke in support of the proposed amendments.

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum closed the public hearing at 5:28 pm.

CPD Director Jeff Thomas spoke about the process to develop the proposed interim development regulations.

CPD Deputy Director Alison Van Gorp spoke about the legislative requirements of SB 5258, about the scope of work for the interim regulations and development of permanent regulations, provided an overview of the proposed regulations in Ordinance No. 25C-06.

City Council discussed the proposal and asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Weinberg to:

**Set Ordinance No. 25.C-06 for second reading on March 18, 2025**

PASSED: 6-0

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

ABSENT: 1 (Nice)

**AB 6633: Public Hearing on Interim Regulations in MICC 19.16.010 Related to Emergency Shelters and Housing, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing (First Reading, Ordinance No. 25C-05)**

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum opened the public hearing at 5:39 pm. There being no public comments, Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum closed the public hearing at 5:40 pm.

CPD Director Jeff Thomas spoke about the process to develop the proposed interim development regulations.

Senior Planner Molly McGuire spoke about the background of the interim regulations related to emergency shelters and housing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing, the legislative requirements of HB 1220, and the guidance that was published by the Department of Commerce in 2024 that will be further evaluated for compliance with HB 1220.

City Council discussed the proposal and asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Anderl to:

**Set Ordinance No. 25-C-05 for second reading on March 18, 2025**

PASSED: 6-0

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

ABSENT: 1 (Nice)

City Council was in recess from 5:45 pm – 5:50 pm.

**AB 6634: Second Public Safety and Maintenance Building Design Workshop**

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the background on the schematic design of the Public Safety and Maintenance Building (PSM), and the process for City Council's review of the PSM schematic design and design topics that will be covered at future City Council Meetings.

Aaron Young, from Northwest Studio, spoke about the schematic design phase of the PSM building, site planning to reserve space for potential future needs, a comparison of existing and proposed building areas and covered storage areas, and how the comparisons show how existing uses and spaces in existing buildings are inadequate. He discussed the site plan and layout of the lower yard, the space needed for storage for vehicles and equipment, and how the space will be achieved on the site to accommodate the necessary space for the operations in the yard.

Mr. Young discussed the existing storage and work areas in the Public Works building, how these operations will be incorporated into the proposed Operations Building, and compared the existing and proposed storage and shop areas. Mr. Young spoke about options for different storage systems for use in the warehouse and in the lower yard, current storage challenges for large capital projects, and possible expansion options for the lower yard.

Chief of Operations Jason Kintner discussed the current uses and challenges of the vehicle and equipment

maintenance bays, how the wash bay is used, and what is role of the wash bay and decant facility.

Mr. Young spoke about the current staffing needs for Public Works, Customer Service, IT/GIS, and Emergency Operations Center and the proposed work areas for these groups in the PSM. He discussed the current staffing needs, the proposed work areas, and the needs for vehicles and equipment in the Police Department.

Mr. Young presented scenarios for potential future expansion of the PSM.

City Manager Bon spoke about alternative Public Works contracting methods, the benefits of using alternative delivery methods for the PSM, and the timeline for City Council feedback and questions on using alternative delivery methods for the PSM.

City Council discussed the design, asked questions of staff, and provided feedback.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Councilmember Absences and Reports**

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum noted he attended the Senior Resource Fair and that it was very well attended and organized. He noted that he attended the MIYFS Foundation's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Breakfast.

Councilmember Weiker noted AWC Action Days was last week.

Councilmember Weinberg noted that K4C and Eastside Transportation Partnership met in February, that he attended the MIYFS Foundation's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Breakfast, and that his next monthly open lunch is on March 16 at Vivianne's Bistro.

Councilmember Reynolds noted the Parks & Recreation Commission is working its way through the draft of the Parks Zone, that the new art exhibit at MICEC combines art and math, and that there is a gun buyback event coming later in March.

Councilmember Anderl noted she attended the Senior Resource Fair and that it was very well attended and organized, and that the new signage and path striping at Aubrey Davis Park seem to be working.

Councilmember Jacobson noted that he attended the MIYFS Foundation's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Breakfast.

City Council was in recess from 7:50 pm – 7:59 pm.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:59 pm, Deputy 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.

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

Deputy Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, and Ted Weinberg participated in person. Councilmember Craig Reynolds participated via Microsoft Teams. Mayor Salim Nice and Councilmember Wendy Weiker were absent.

Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum adjourned the Executive Session at 9:15 pm.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

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Salim Nice, Mayor

Attest:

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Andrea Larson, City Clerk