



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 1, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Barr at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers JC Tolle, John McDermott, Wade Elliott, Vice Mayor Alex Enriquez and Mayor Terrie Barr

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Justin Chaney, City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke, City Attorney Scott Drexel, Negotiation Attorney Greg Einhorn(via Zoom), Recreation Manager Olivia Esquivel, Finance Director Joanne Moore

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION - None

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:00 PM

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 PM

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - *City Council met in Closed Session with City staff and City Attorney Scott Drexel to discuss conference with real property negotiators, as posted on the agenda. Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.8, Mayor Barr reported that no reportable action was taken.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Orland resident Earl Megginson inquired whether the new water tank was operational. Interim City Manager Justin Chaney reported that all parts have been received and the City is awaiting the contractor to complete the remaining work.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for August 18, 2026
- C. Receive and File Recreation Commission Minutes from April 22, 2026
- D. Receive and File Economic Development Commission Minutes from February 10, 2026

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle to approve the Consent Calendar presented. The motion carried by a voice vote, 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Feline Population Reduction Program: History, Status of the \$25,000 Allocation, Reimbursement Demand, and Requested Direction

Interim City Manager Justin Chaney provided history to the Council regarding the City's prior consideration of funding and support for feral cat population reduction efforts and Hidden Treasures Cat Rescue & Sanctuary. The report reviewed the City's previous actions, including the November 7, 2023, designation of \$25,000 in ARPA funds toward a countywide spay/neuter voucher program, which was never implemented.

Mr. Drexel explained that the \$25,000 remains an internally designated General Fund amount and that no funds have been spent. He also reviewed a request from Hidden Treasures for approximately \$9,000 in reimbursement for self-prepared vouchers. Mr. Drexel advised that the previously approved voucher program was never implemented, no vouchers were authorized or issued, and no agreement was executed with Hidden Treasures; therefore, no payment was recommended at this time.

Hidden Treasures owner Valerie Johnson expressed her appreciation to the City and stated that she was grateful for the community's support. Ms. Johnson explained that she had implemented the voucher program independently. She acknowledged that the City has no obligation to reimburse Hidden Treasures but expressed her desire for the City to support the sanctuary's efforts to reduce the feline population. Ms. Johnson stated that she would consider the funds she requested from the City to be a donation to the community. She shared that she was proud of the community and believed that significant progress had been made in reducing the feline population through the efforts of Hidden Treasures and community support.

Council thanked staff for the detailed information provided in the staff report and discussed the need for a spay and neuter program available through all veterinary providers, with County participation and support. Council discussed the history of the voucher program and noted that the program had not been implemented while the City awaited County participation and support.

Council also discussed other sources of support for Hidden Treasures and the ongoing health and safety concerns related to the feline population.

Councilmember Tolle stated that he believed the program could move forward with assistance from the County and Animal Control, noting that the original program was intended to be a partnership. Vice Mayor Enriquez expressed support for continuing to pursue the voucher program due to the ongoing need in the community.

Mayor Barr clarified her understanding that Ms. Johnson was indicating that Hidden Treasures no longer needed financial support from the City. Ms. Johnson stated that she wanted Hidden Treasures to be a blessing to the City and not a burden. Mayor Barr suggested that staff explore public education efforts to encourage spay and neuter services within the community.

ACTION: Mayor Barr moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle to rescind the November 7, 2023 designation of \$25k and return the funds to unrestricted General Fund status. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

824 Fourth Street - Property History, Fiscal Analysis and Direction

Interim City Manager Justin Chaney presented a staff report providing a consolidated history and fiscal analysis of the City-owned property located at 824 Fourth Street. Mr. Chaney reviewed the property's acquisition in 2006, the original intent to develop the site for public-safety services, and the subsequent use of the property as a commercial rental. He also reviewed prior Council discussions regarding potential relocation of City Hall to the property and expansion of the Police Department at the existing City Hall site.

Mr. Chaney discussed the current condition of the building, including structural deterioration, water damage, potential hazardous materials, and other building deficiencies requiring substantial repairs before the property could be occupied or rented.

Council reviewed five potential options for the property: adaptive reuse as a civic campus, demolition and new construction, sale of the property, stabilization and holding the property, or commercial redevelopment/lease/partnership. Mr. Chaney reviewed the advantages, disadvantages, and fiscal considerations associated with each option.

Council discussed the potential future use of the property, the condition and rehabilitation costs of the existing building, the City's future City Hall and Police Department needs, and potential funding sources. Councilmembers expressed differing opinions regarding Option 2 – Demolish and Build New on 824 Site and Option 3 – Sell Property. Councilmembers Tolle, McDermott, and Elliott favored Option 2 while remaining open to Option 3. Vice Mayor Enriquez favored Option 2, noting the property's prime downtown location. Mayor Barr favored Option 3 but remained open to Option 2 and suggested that the property near the water tank on Sixth Street, where a public safety facility had previously been proposed, may be a better location for a future City Hall.

After discussion, Council directed staff to pursue Option 3 by exploring the sale of the property. Council requested that the matter return for further discussion regarding Option 2 if the property does not sell within the next few months. Council also directed staff to research potential grant funding for a new City Hall and requested that Mr. Chaney identify a qualified real estate agent to obtain a current appraisal of the property.

Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Public Employees of California, Local 792, General Unit, for the Period July 1, 2026 Through June 30, 2027

Interim City Manager Justin Chaney presented the Memorandum of Understanding with the United Public Employees of California, Local 792, General Unit, to Council. Council moved straight to a vote without discussion or public comment.

ACTION: Councilmember Elliott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to adopt Resolution No. 2026-15 approving the Memorandum of Understanding and authorizing its execution. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Public Employees of California, Local 792, Mid-Management Unit, for the Period July 1, 2026 Through June 30, 2027

Interim City Manager Justin Chaney presented the Memorandum of Understanding with the United Public Employees of California, Local 792, Mid-Management Unit to Council. Council moved straight to a vote without discussion or public comment.

ACTION: Councilmember Elliott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Enriquez, to adopt Resolution No. 2026-16 approving the Memorandum of Understanding and authorizing its execution. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

City Manager Verbal Report

Interim City Manager Justin Chaney reported that the City Manager recruitment flyer has been distributed and reminded Council that the application deadline is September 25, 2026. Mr. Chaney also reported that the Waste Management contract is scheduled to be presented at the September 15, 2026, City Council meeting.

Mr. Chaney provided an update on outstanding financial reporting, stating that Finance Director Joanne Moore is working to complete delinquent financial reports and City Treasurer Leticia Espinosa is working to close out delinquent housing reports.

City Council Communications and Reports

Councilmember Elliott reported that he attended the first ad hoc meeting with the City and County regarding the tax-sharing agreement and stated that the City and County are working together on the agreement.

Mayor Barr announced that an art gallery show will be held Friday, September 4, 2026.

Councilmember McDermott expressed his appreciation for Interim City Manager Chaney and City staff, stating that they are doing a wonderful job. He also agreed with Councilmember Tolle's comments regarding how good it feels to see the City getting back on track and moving forward.

Councilmember Tolle thanked Mr. Chaney and City staff for their efforts and stated that they are doing a great job helping the City move forward. He also reported that he attended a Waste Management meeting the previous week.

Vice Mayor Enriquez reported that he attended the Planning Commission meeting and reminded the community and Council of the many programs offered by the Recreation Department, including upcoming adult jiu-jitsu and youth soccer programs. He also suggested that the Finance Director consider attending an Economic Development Commission meeting to assist with a discussion regarding the city budget.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:25 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Terrie Barr, Mayor