



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, April 7, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmember JC Tolle, Vice Mayor Alex Enriquez and Mayor Terrie Barr

Councilmembers Absent: Councilmember John McDermott

Staff Present: Acting City Manager Janet Wackerman, City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke,
City Attorney Scott Drexel, Library Director Jody Meza

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION

County resident Susie Smith shared her perspective on the importance of filling all board and commission seats previously held by Councilmember Romano. She also emphasized the need for City representation at County meetings to ensure the City's interests and voice are consistently present.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:04 PM

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:31 PM

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - *Mayor Barr announced that the Council met with the City Staff and City Attorneys Scott Drexel in Closed Session to discuss public employment: City Manager, as noted on the Closed Session agenda, Mayor Barr shared that there was no reportable action.*

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Monica Rossman, a Glenn County Supervisor and Orland resident, spoke about the success of *The Wall That Heals* and expressed her appreciation to Councilmembers John McDermott and JC Tolle for their efforts in helping make the event a success.

PUBLIC HEARING

Douglas Johnson of National Demographics Corporation presented via Zoom an overview of the City's transition from at-large to by-district elections following the Council's adoption of a Resolution of Intent on December 2, 2025. This was the third of five required public hearings.

Mr. Johnson reviewed the requirements of California Elections Code Section 10010 and stated the purpose of the hearing was to receive input on communities of interest to inform draft district maps. He noted no public-submitted maps had been received and that the four maps presented were prepared by the City's demographer.

Mr. Johnson recommended the Council provide direction on a four-district system with a citywide mayor or a five-district system with a rotating mayor.

Mayor Barr opened the public hearing at 7:47 p.m.

Mayor Barr closed the public hearing with no comments at 7:47 p.m.

Vice Mayor Enriquez expressed support for a five-district system, stating it would be beneficial for both Councilmembers and residents. He also indicated he is open to a four-district system and supports a two-year mayoral term.

Councilmember Tolle stated his support for a five-district system and indicated a preference for Map 502. He also expressed support for an annually rotating mayor.

Mayor Barr asked questions regarding the maps presented and expressed concern that a new subdivision currently under construction was not reflected. Mr. Johnson explained that, by law, maps are based on 2020 census data and that new developments will be incorporated following the 2030 census.

Mayor Barr also inquired about how the transition would affect two Councilmembers currently residing in the same neighborhood, specifically Vice Mayor Enriquez and Councilmember Tolle. She asked how upcoming elections would be handled given their differing terms. Mr. Johnson explained that demographers do not consider the residences of current Councilmembers when drawing maps. Once a final map is selected, adjustments are made to ensure only one Councilmember is assigned per district. He further clarified that Vice Mayor Enriquez would run in an at-large special election this November to complete the remaining two years of former Councilmember Smith's term.

Mayor Barr also asked about district sequencing, which Mr. Johnson explained. Mayor Barr expressed concerns regarding fair mapping and stated her preference for a four-district system with a mayor elected at-large by the residents of Orland.

Mr. Johnson confirmed additional public hearings are scheduled for April 21 and May 5, 2026, and recommended adoption of a final map by the end of May to allow for implementation by the Glenn County Registrar of Voters.

Vice Mayor Enriquez asked whether National Demographics Corporation is separate from an independent redistricting commission. Mr. Johnson clarified that his firm serves only as a consultant to the City. Vice Mayor Enriquez then inquired about what would be required to establish an independent redistricting commission. Mr. Johnson responded that the City does not have sufficient time to pursue that option, given the process approved by the Council in December.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes from March 17, 2026

ACTION: Vice Mayor Enriquez moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 3-0.

PRESENTATION: Glenn County Youth and Family Wellness

Eloise Jones, Program Manager for Glenn County Health and Human Services, presented to the Council on the development of a new Youth and Family Behavioral Health Outpatient Center in Orland. Ms. Jones provided an overview of the project, including its funding sources, guiding principles, program goals, and the outpatient services to be offered.

Keith Banner of Banner Construction Management presented on the facility's design. He reviewed site plans and floor layouts, shared exterior and interior renderings, and provided details regarding the building's location and overall design features.

Orland business owner Josh Brownfield asked if there are plans to service residents outside the community because the facility was large and Ms. Jones stated that this facility takes Medi-Cal benefits from Glenn County residents only. The audience also asked if the County planned to allow residents outside of Glenn County to be seen or if there would be additional services beyond what she explained added in the future. Ms. Jones stated no, she could see different payer sources, but it would always be for Glenn beneficiaries. Ms. Jones stated the facility is not for people to come from far away or for the homeless. Mr. Brownfield shared his concerns that local businesses and neighbors were not notified or asked for comment on the current project.

Councilmembers asked questions regarding the number of patients anticipated to be served and the age groups that would utilize the facility, Ms. Jones provided the numbers to Council. Councilmembers also inquired whether the facility would ever operate as a 23-hour care facility; it was confirmed that it would not.

Councilmembers expressed concern that nearby residents and businesses may not have been adequately notified about the project and requested information on how public outreach could be improved for future developments. Eloise Jones invited interested individuals to participate in the Behavioral Health Advisory Board.

Councilmembers asked whether a project of this type would typically be reviewed by the Orland Planning Commission. Keith Banner responded that the project was reviewed by the Glenn County Planning Department, which has jurisdiction over the property and project.

Councilmembers thanked Ms. Jones for her presentation and expressed appreciation to the County for the services provided.

County resident Sarah Bosley expressed concerns regarding individuals relocating to the area to access facility services. She also raised concerns that the project could create long-term dependency on services and questioned whether minors could receive treatment or medication without parental notification. Eloise Jones stated that Ms. Bosley is welcome to contact her directly to discuss her concerns further.

County resident Joanie Woods inquired about how the facility would function as a good neighbor to surrounding residents and businesses and expressed concern regarding public notification.

County resident and Planning Commission Chairperson Stephen Nordbye stated that the County had previously presented the project to the Council approximately three to four years ago during the planning phase.

Mr. Brownfield expressed concern that nearby residents and businesses were not properly notified and stated that the process was not adequately planned. He also expressed concern regarding potential impacts to his business and employees due to the facility's proximity.

Orland resident Margaret Van Wammerdam requested consideration of the financial impacts of the property transfer on the City, noting concerns regarding property tax revenues. She also inquired about coordination between the City and contractors to ensure all businesses on site are properly licensed and reporting sales tax. She additionally expressed concerns regarding telehealth services.

An Orland veterinary employee, Karlee, asked questions regarding acute care needs versus Medi-Cal patients and expressed concern about potential future expansion to 24-hour services. She also stated concerns regarding notification requirements for nearby residents and businesses. Eloise Jones clarified that the facility is not a 24-hour or 23-hour facility and confirmed the project is currently in the pre-construction phase.

A veterinary employee, Shelley, expressed concerns regarding security for employees working late hours and weekends. She inquired about potential physical barriers and lighting between the veterinary office and the facility, as well as additional security measures. Ms. Jones stated that no fencing or wall is planned, but the facility will include an enhanced parking lot and exterior lighting.

County resident Susie Smith stated that she has heard concerns within the community but believes the facility will be a benefit to the community.

An Orland resident and Economic Development Commission chairperson, Ron Lane, reminded the public that the project was previously discussed during City meetings several years ago when first introduced.

County resident Valerie Johnson inquired about program success rates and encouraged the public to attend meetings or review agendas to stay informed. She also expressed concern regarding proximity to the veterinary office. Ms. Jones clarified that the facility is not an adult or homeless facility and will not include overnight stays.

Orland resident Andy Ramirez expressed support for the project and stated that the County already provides many of the services that will be offered at the new facility.

Vice Mayor Enriquez encouraged residents with concerns to contact County Supervisors to improve communication moving forward.

The Council requested that the County provide a project update within the next three months. Mayor Barr suggested that the nearby veterinary office explore the City's façade improvement program as a potential opportunity for fencing or visual buffering between the properties.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Declaration of Vacancy on the Orland City Council Resulting from the Resignation of Council Member Matt Romano, and Determination of Process for Filling the Vacancy

Scott Drexel provided an overview of the vacancy created by the resignation of Councilmember Matt Romano on March 18, 2026. Approximately nine months remain in the term, which expires in December 2026.

Mr. Drexel stated that pursuant to California Government Code Section 36512, the City Council must fill the vacancy within 60 days (by May 17, 2026) either by appointment or by calling a special election. He noted the deadline is mandatory; if no appointment is made, the Council must call a special election.

Mr. Drexel stated that staff recommends proceeding with the appointment process due to timing considerations. He reviewed the proposed process, including opening an application period, accepting applications, and conducting public interviews. He noted that the Council will need to determine interview dates.

Mr. Drexel also stated that the seat will transition to a district-based seat, as the term concludes in December.

Susie Smith referenced a prior interested applicant from a previous vacancy. Mayor Barr stated that the Council must first determine whether to proceed by appointment or special election.

Orland resident Sharon Lazorko emphasized the importance of ensuring applicants understand the role and suggested providing a job description, duties, time commitment, and qualifications.

Orland resident Dennis Hoffman asked whether the Council would follow the prior approach of considering top vote-getters from the last election or establish a new process. Mr. Drexel responded that the appointment process is at the Council's discretion and noted that the previous vacancy included an open application process. He added that Council may consider prior candidates if desired.

Vice Mayor Enriquez stated that he previously applied and participated in the full appointment process prior to his selection.

Mr. Ramirez asked whether the 60-day period begins on the date of Councilmember Romano's resignation on March 18. Mayor Barr confirmed that it does. Mr. Ramirez also asked why City staff were not notified until approximately two and a half weeks after the resignation. Mayor Barr stated she believed all Councilmembers were aware but was uncertain regarding notification procedures.

Ms. Bosley requested that applications be made available for public review as they are received, rather than waiting until the agenda is published prior to the meeting.

Councilmember Tolle expressed support for contacting candidates from the most recent election to determine their interest in filling the vacancy, proceeding down the list if necessary. Vice Mayor Enriquez indicated support for this approach. Mayor Barr expressed disagreement, stating that the process should remain open and transparent, allowing the community to review applications and participate in a public interview process, consistent with prior practice. Mayor Barr also stated she would like Council to review applications as they are received.

ACTION: Councilmember Tolle moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Enriquez, to declare a vacancy on the Orland City Council due to the resignation of Councilmember Matt Romano, effective March 18, 2026. Motion carried by voice vote, 3-0.

ACTION: Mayor Barr moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Enriquez, to direct staff to initiate the appointment process, including posting required notices, preparing an application, establishing an application deadline of April 29, 2026, and scheduling a public meeting on May 5, 2026.

3rd Quarter General Fund Budget Review and Future Outlook

Roberto Moreno, Strategic Services Consultant with Regional Government Services, presented a third-quarter budget update for Fiscal Year 2025–2026.

Mr. Moreno reported that the General Fund was adopted with an operating deficit of \$529,773 and, based on revenues and expenditures through 75% of the fiscal year, the deficit is expected to materialize by year-end.

Mr. Moreno explained that the Combined General Fund includes the General Fund, Measure A, and Measure J, which are reported together in audited financial statements. While the General Fund reflects a deficit, Measure A is projected to have a \$9,000 surplus and Measure J a \$623,500 surplus, resulting in a combined operating surplus of approximately \$102,727.

Mr. Moreno reported that expenditures are on track, with no significant savings anticipated. He noted the City continues to face a structural deficit and that future budgets will require adjustments to ensure long-term financial stability.

Mr. Moreno stated that a study session will be scheduled with Council and staff to review additional financial data. The meeting will be publicly noticed. He added that a May workshop will present budget options and provide guidance to the Council. Staff will then present the proposed budget in May, followed by a workshop and adoption in June. Efforts will focus on cost allocation review, contract evaluation, and identifying potential service impacts and funding options.

Mr. Lane asked about the impact of recent increases in gas prices on the budget. Mr. Moreno responded that there may be an effect on sales tax revenue, but noted he could only provide an estimate and that HdL, sales tax consultant, would be able to provide more precise projections.

Susie Smith asked about the completion of homes along Highway 32. Mayor Barr stated that would be a question for the Building Department and noted that while property taxes provide some benefit, sales tax has a greater impact on City revenues.

Sarah Bosley thanked Mr. Moreno and RGS for the presentation and suggested that, if the City Manager position is revisited, the City consider adjusting duties and compensation to strengthen financial expertise. She also expressed concern that while new facilities may increase sales tax, they could negatively impact property tax if residents relocate.

Vice Mayor Enriquez thanked Mr. Moreno for the report and stated that no decisions should be made until the Council receives the finalized budget.

Councilmember Tolle thanked Mr. Moreno and asked whether any areas of spending appeared unusually high. Mr. Moreno responded that deficits are increasingly common in the current economic climate and noted that expenditures have gradually increased over time. He stated that some departments may need to make difficult budget decisions, which will be presented at a future meeting. Councilmember Tolle also inquired about the City's investment in Tyler Technologies; Ms. Wackerman stated she would follow up with that information.

Mayor Barr discussed the deficits for fiscal years 2023–2024 and 2024–2025, noting that prior surpluses were due in part to the use of Measure A and Measure J funds for operational costs. She emphasized the need for fiscal adjustments, including potential departmental reductions, and asked staff to provide information on projected year-end reserves.

City Manager Verbal Report

Ms. Wackerman provided a brief update and asked whether Councilmembers would like to participate in the fair parade by riding on a City vehicle. Mayor Barr stated she would donate money for the application fee.

Ms. Wackerman noted that upcoming agenda items may include the hazmat report for the Carnegie and 824 Fourth Street buildings, as well as an item regarding the Westside annexation at the request of Mayor Barr.

City Council Communications and Reports

Vice Mayor Enriquez:

- Nothing to report.

Mayor Barr:

- Thanked former Councilmember Matt Romano for his service on the City Council and expressed appreciation for his support, noting his departure is a significant loss to the community.
- Read a passage titled "*Make a Difference.*"

Councilmember Tolle:

- Reported attending a Transportation meeting.
- Reported attending an Orland Chamber meeting.
- Announced the Senior Expo scheduled for June 25 at the Glenn County Fairgrounds.
- Noted that the Chamber is seeking volunteers for the fair parade.
- Reported volunteering 30 hours at the Wall That Heals event.

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:36 PM