



Mission Statement: To foster a safe, vibrant, and prosperous community that enhances the quality of life for all

**CITY OF SONORA
City Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, September 08, 2026
5:00 PM**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sonora City Council will have their regular meeting on September 8, 2026, at 5:00 PM in the City of Sonora Council Chambers located at 94 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370.

This meeting is physically open to the Public and citizens who wish to provide public comment during the meeting will be invited to do so by the Mayor.

Written comments can be submitted to be included as part of the administrative record; they will not be read during the meeting. All comments must be received by 3:00 pm on the day of the noticed meeting and can be submitted to the City Clerk at 94 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370, or via email to nmccutchen@sonoraca.com.

Public Access Audio and Video Live Streaming

The Public will not have access to give public comments via public access audio and video live streaming; they are available for audio and visual only; and can be accessed via our website at www.sonoraca.com.

Remote viewing of the meeting via live streaming is provided to members of the public as a courtesy. If the live streaming connection malfunctions for any reason and no Council Members are attending via teleconference, the City Council will continue the public meeting in Chambers without remote access.

CITY COUNCIL appreciates your interest and encourages participation. Regularly scheduled meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

The numerical order of the items on this agenda is for convenience of reference. Items may be taken out of order upon request of the Mayor or Council Members. All questions shall be directed to the Mayor who, at their discretion, will refer to Staff.

Mayor Ann Segerstrom

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill

Council Members Bess Levine, Stephen Opie, Mark Plummer

City Administrator Christopher Gorsky

City Attorney Douglas White

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OPEN SESSION - 5:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Bess Levine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Ann Segerstrom

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill

Councilmember Bess Levine

Councilmember Stephen Opie

Councilmember Mark Plummer

CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON AGENDA POSTING

The Agenda was posted on Friday, September 4, 2026, at 12:32 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Councilmember Mark Plummer, Seconded by Vice Mayor Andy Merrill. Voting Yea: Mayor Ann Segerstrom, Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Councilmember Bess Levine, Councilmember Stephen Opie, Councilmember Mark Plummer

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

The public may address the Council on any item of public interest not otherwise on the agenda that is within the jurisdiction of the City. No action may be taken. Matters to be addressed may be referred to City Staff or placed on a subsequent meeting Agenda. Speakers are limited to a three (3) minute presentation.

Mayor Ann Segerstrom made comments.

District 1 Supervisor Mike Holland addressed the Council.

Councilmembers made comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be voted on in one motion unless a Council member or member of the public has a question or wishes to discuss an item. In that case, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

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1. Consider Approval of the Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2026; Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk.
2. Consider Acceptance of an Informational Report for August 2026 Accounts Payable Payment Register and Void Report; Chris Gorsky, City Administrator
3. Consider Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Sonora and the Twain Harte Community Services District, the Mi-Wuk Sugar Pine Fire Protection District, the Tuolumne County Fire Department, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians Pertaining to Assistance Under the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System for the Dove Fire, and Authorize the City Administrator to Execute the Agreement; Brittan Gregory, Fire Chief.
4. Consider Authorization for the Mayor to Sign a Letter in Support of the Tuolumne County Veteran's Service Office Glory Garden project; Chris Gorsky, City Administrator.

A member of the public addressed the Council.

Brittan Gregory Fire Chief made comments and thanked the Fire Protection Districts.

Motion made by Councilmember Bess Levine, Seconded by Councilmember Stephen Opie. Voting Yea: Mayor Ann Segerstrom, Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Councilmember Bess Levine, Councilmember Stephen Opie, Councilmember Mark Plummer

NEW BUSINESS

5. Consider Acceptance of the Appeal Filed for the Planning Commission Decision on August 20, 2026, and Schedule the Appeal Hearing for October 19, 2026. Giving Staff Sufficient Time to Publish the Public Notice and Prepare the Appeal Hearing Documents; Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director.

Tyler Summersett Community Development Director reviewed the Appeal filed for the Planning Commission decision on August 20, 2026, and recommended scheduling the Appeal Hearing for October 19, 2026.

Councilmembers discussed and asked questions.

Intermittent Audio and Video disruptions occurred during public comment.

Motion made by Councilmember Stephen Opie, Seconded by Councilmember Mark Plummer. Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Councilmember Bess Levine, Councilmember Stephen Opie, Councilmember Mark Plummer
Voting Abstaining: Mayor Ann Segerstrom

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6. Consider Approval and Award the FY 25/26 Parking Lots Improvement Project Construction Contract to Taylor Backhoe Service, Inc. (TBS) Based on the Lowest Responsive Base Bid for Construction in the Amount of \$703,221.71; and

Consider Approval of Task Order 26-08 Contract Amendment #2 to Dewberry Engineers Inc. for Associated Construction Management, Engineering Support, and Inspection Costs in the Amount of \$149,344.76; and

Consider Approval of the Bid Alternative to Include Solar Street Lighting in the Project in the Amount of \$105,000; and

Consider Authorization for City Administrator to Approve Construction Change Orders up to a Combined Total of 15% of the Construction Contract.

Items 1-4 will be Presented by Carlye Buchholz, City Engineer.

Tyler Summersett Community Development Director addressed the Council on Item B, Items 1-4; **Carlye Buchholz City Engineer** was available, but due to intermittent Audio and Video disruptions she was unable address the Council.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Carlye Buchholz City Engineer was available to answer any additional questions.

No public comment.

Motion made by Councilmember Mark Plummer, Seconded by Vice Mayor Andy Merrill. Voting Yea: Mayor Ann Segerstrom, Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Councilmember Bess Levine, Councilmember Stephen Opie, Councilmember Mark Plummer

7. Consider Approval of a Contract with Bear Electric for Traffic Signal Maintenance within the City of Sonora; Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director.

Tyler Summersett Community Development Director reviewed the contract with Bear Electric for traffic signal maintenance. Intermittent Audio and Video disruptions occurred during his review.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Kevin Starks asked a question, Tyler Summersett Community Development Director responded.

A member of the public addressed the Council, Tyler Summersett Community Development Director responded.

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Motion made by Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Seconded by Councilmember Bess Levine. Voting Yea: Mayor Ann Segerstrom, Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Councilmember Bess Levine, Councilmember Stephen Opie, Councilmember Mark Plummer

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Stephen Opie attended the Integrated Regional Water Management JPA and and Water Advisory Committee (IRWM).

Councilmember Bess Levine had nothing to report.

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill attended the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Councilmember Mark Plummer had nothing to report.

Mayor Ann Segerstrom attended the Chamber Mixer; Central Sierra Economic Development District Board meeting; Camp Justice Fund Raiser; and the Remote Access Network (RAN) System Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:50 pm.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at City Hall (209) 532-4541, nmccutchen@sonoraca.com. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the City Council after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Administrator's Office at 94 N. Washington Street, Sonora, CA 95370 during normal business hours (8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays). The agenda and supporting public documents are also available on our City website www.sonoraca.com listed under the agenda/minutes link on the Government page.

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