



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 02, 2025
5:00 PM**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sonora City Council will have their regular meeting on September 2, 2025, 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 tskelly@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 Melissa Eads

City Attorney Douglas White

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OPEN SESSION - 5:00 PM

Called to order at 5:02 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Mark Plummer 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, August 29, 2025, at 12:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Ann Segerstrom stated, due to the critical fire situation, it has been recommended to move all of the Items except the Consent Calendar and New Business to the next meeting on September 15th.

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

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.

No public comment.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Receive a Presentation from the Sierra Nevada Energy Watch (SNEW) Program Staff Outlining Benchmarking Completed for the City of Sonora; Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director.

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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.

2. Consider Approval of the Meeting Minutes from August 4, 2025; Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk.
3. Waive Second Reading, Read by Title Only, and Adopt the Updated Defensible Space Ordinance No. 907, Modifying and Updating Chapter 8.12.010-8.12.090 of the Sonora Municipal Code; Gary Carlson, Interim Fire Chief.
4. Receive a Proclamation Recognizing National Suicide Prevention Week and National Suicide Prevention Month in Observance of 988 Day; Andy Merrill, Vice Mayor.
5. Consider Approval of Dewberry Engineers Inc. (Dewberry) Task Order No. 26-04 Mobile LiDAR Database and Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Reporting in the Amount of \$62,892.88 for Engineering and Surveying Services to Generate a Mobile LiDAR Database of All City-Owned Streets within the City of Sonora and to Prepare a PCI Assessment for Each Street; Melissa Eads, City Administrator, Mike Pugh, City Engineer.
6. Consider Approval of Dewberry Engineers Inc. team (Dewberry) Task Order No. 26-05 Church Street Slope Stabilization Engineering Services in the Amount of \$40,900 for Engineering, Geotechnical, and Surveying Services to Stabilize the Failing Slope Near 85 E. Church Street; Melissa Eads, City Administrator, Mike Pugh, City Engineer.

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

NEW BUSINESS

7. Consider Approval of a New Two-Year Memorandum of Agreement with Columbia College to use Dragoon Gulch as an Extension of the Campus Learning Environment for the Sierra Forestry Corp Program to Learn and Practice Forestry Management Skills; Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director.

Tyler Summersett Community Development Director presented the new Two-Year Memorandum Agreement with Columbia College to use Dragoon Gulch as an Extension of the Campus Learning Environment for the Sierra Forestry Corp Program to Learn and Practice Forestry Management Skills.

Councilmembers made comments.

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

8. Consider Approval of the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement to California Waste Recovery Systems, LLC (Cal-Waste) for Subscription-Based Solid Waste, Recycling, and Green Waste Collection and Management Services; Carlye Buchholz, P.E, P.L.S, City Engineer.

Carlye Buchholz, City Engineer reviewed with the Council the proposals that were received, the two that qualified, and the scoring; the residential rates; commercial rates garbage; commercial rates, recycling and recycling revenue sharing; proposed franchise fee to the City; value added services; quality of service; efficiency; exceptions to the RFP (Request For Proposals); and addressed concerns from the public.

Representatives from Waste Management, a local business owner, and the Tuolumne County Solid Waste Director offered comments. Members of the public also addressed the Council.

Councilmembers discussed the proposals and requested clarifications from staff and Waste Management. The City Attorney advised on protocol for public comment and provided legal guidance. The City Administrator and Mayor offered additional remarks.

Following further discussion and clarifications by the City Engineer, City Administrator, and Waste Management representatives, the Council deliberated on the franchise agreement.

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 Voting Nay: Councilmember Mark Plummer

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

9. Receive a Letter to All Councilmembers from Waste Management: Request for Proposals for Solid Waste, Recycling, and Green Waste Collection and Management Services.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:35 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, tskelly@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).

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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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