



MINUTES
DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
City Council Chambers
21630 11th Avenue S, Suite C
Des Moines, Washington
Thursday, January 22, 2026 - 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Yoshiko Grace Matsui called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The flag salute was led by Deputy Mayor Gene Achziger.

ROLL CALL

Council Present:

Mayor Yoshiko Grace Matsui, Deputy Mayor Gene Achziger, Councilmember Pierre Blossé, Councilmember Robyn Desimone, Councilmember JC Harris, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember Harry Steinmetz

Staff Present:

City Manager Katherine Caffrey; City Attorney Tim George; Police Chief Ted Boe; Assistant Police Chief Kevin Penny; Assistant Police Chief Cory Stanton; Director of Administrative Services Bonnie Wilkins; Harbormaster Scott Wilkins; Finance Director Jeff Friend; Assistant City Attorney Matthew Hutchins; City Prosecutor Tara Vaughn; Community Development Director Rebecca Deming; Planning & Development Services Manager Laura Techico; Public Works Director Mike Slevin; City Engineer Tommy Owen; Surface Water and Environmental Engineering Manager Tyler Beekley; Civil Engineer I Alex Johnson; Director of Court Administration Melissa Patrick; IT Manager Chris Pauk; Sergeant Eddie Ochart; Sergeant Shay Lamarsh; Sergeant Nate Chevallier; Sergeant Courtney Duncan; Sergeant Eric Morris; Corporal Austin Arneberg; Community Engagement Officer Tonya Seaberry; Crisis Response Specialist Monica Lara; Police Officer Abram English; Police Officer Make Hake; Police Officer Chase Ochart; Patrol Officer Jen Eshom; Police Officer David Stanton; Patrol Officer Tuan Huynh; Trainee Officer Omar Rivas-Cortez; and Deputy City Clerk Sara Lee.

CORRESPONDENCE NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

There was no additional correspondence beyond the emails already received by Council.

Correspondence

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Rus Higley, Sixgill Shark Way
- Victoris Andrews, Flock Cameras
- Chris DeLaRosa, Flock
- Judy Grand, Flock
- Check Coleman, Sixgill Shark
- Traci Buxton, Des Moines Chamber

January 22, 2026 Public Comment Sign-Up Sheet

REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

- Councilmember JC Harris gave Council an update on the Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) meeting held on January 16, 2026.

CITY MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATIONS/BRIEFINGS

- Item 1. **Police Promotions**
 Sergeant Eric Morris
 Sergeant Shay LaMarsh

Staff Presentation:
Ted Boe, Police Chief

- Police Chief Ted Boe promoted Eric Morris and Shay LaMarsh to the rank of Sergeant.

- Item 2. **Recognition of Rotary of Des Moines and Normandy Park's**
 Burning Boat Event

- Jeff Gross with the Rotary Club of Des Moines and Normandy Park gave Council an update on the Burning Boat Event and presented a check of \$15,000 to the City of Des Moines for youth scholarships.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 1. **Approval of Vouchers**

Motion:"I move to approve the payment vouchers through January 08, 2026 and payroll transfers through January 09, 2026 in the attached list and further described as follows:"

EFT Vendor Payments #12945 - 13052		\$ 920,216.49
Wires #3203 - 3219		\$ 329,074.79
Accounts Payable #167255 - 167276		\$ 84,612.21
Checks		
Payroll Checks #20041 - 20044		\$ 5,740.06
Payroll Advice #16104 - 16266		\$ 485,021.64
Payroll Checks #20045		\$ 4,722.94
Payroll Advice #16267 - 16295		\$ 107,119.01

Total Checks and Wires for A/P & Payroll: \$ 1,936,507.14

Item 2. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: "I move to approve the minutes from the City Council Regular Meeting held on January 08, 2026."

Item 3. **Business License Model Ordinance Update - 2nd Reading**

Motion: "I move to enact Draft Ordinance No. 25-124, updating the City of Des Moines Business License Code."

Item 4. **North Hill Walkway Improvements Project– Right-of-Way Acquisitions**

Motion 1: "I move to approve and accept a fee simple acquisition of 2,438 SF and a temporary construction easement of 1,218 SF on Tax Parcel #294600-0285, owned by Katherine Orizotti, as well as provide compensation to the owner in the amount of \$52,400.00 for said right-of-way acquisition, as well as damages in the amount of \$57,100.00, for a total of \$109,500.00 (rounded), and further authorize the City Manager to sign the fee simple acquisition, the temporary construction easement and Real Property Voucher Agreement substantially in the form as submitted."

Motion 2: "I move to approve and accept a fee simple acquisition of 1,289 SF and a temporary construction easement of 1,687 SF on Tax Parcel #294600-0191, owned by Daniel Keto, as well as provide compensation to the owner in the amount of \$33,800 for said right-of-way acquisition, as well as damages in the amount of \$25,620.00 for a total of \$59,420.00 (rounded), and further authorize the City Manager to sign the fee simple acquisition, the temporary construction easement and Real Property Voucher Agreement

substantially in the form as submitted.

- Item 5. **State of Washington Department of Ecology 2025-2027 Water Quality Stormwater Capacity Grant Award**
Motion: "I move to accept the State of Washington Department of Ecology 2025-2027 Water Quality Stormwater Capacity Grant Award for the City of Des Moines and authorize the City Manager to sign the Grant Agreement substantially in the form as submitted."
- Item 6. **2026-2027 Recycling Program Professional Services Contract**
Motion: "I move to approve the Agreement with Olympic Environmental Resources in an amount not to exceed \$100,222.00, and authorize the City Manager to sign the Agreement substantially in the form as submitted."
- Item 7. **Approval of Amendments to the Conservation Futures Interlocal Cooperation**
Motion 1: "I move to approve the Amendment #2 to the Conservation Futures Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Des Moines and King County for Open Space Acquisition Projects, and further authorize the City Manager to sign said Interlocal Agreement Amendment substantially in the form as submitted."

Motion 2: "I move to approve the Amendment #3 to the Conservation Futures Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Des Moines and King County for Open Space Acquisition Projects, and further authorize the City Manager to sign said Interlocal Agreement Amendment substantially in the form as submitted."
- Item 8. **Unit Lot Subdivision, Lot Splitting, and Substandard or Nonconforming Lot Regulations Update - 2nd Reading**
Motion: "I move to adopt Draft Ordinance 25-117 adopting the Unit Lot Subdivision, Lot Splitting, and Substandard or Nonconforming Lot Ordinance."
- Item 9. **6th and 287th Storm Project Task Assignment Amendment**
Motion: "I move to approve the amendment to the 2024-2025 On-Call General Civil Engineering Services Task Assignment 2024-05 with Parametrix to complete design and permitting services for the 6th and 287th Storm Project in the amount of \$86,000.00, and authorize the City Manager to sign said amendment in the form as submitted."
- Item 10. **Des Moines Creek Estuary Project, On-Call General Engineering Services Task Assignment with Parametrix and Grant Awards**
Motion 1: "I move to accept the King County Flood Control District's Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Award in the amount of \$210,000 for the Des Moines Creek Estuary Project and authorize the

City Manager to sign the Grant Agreements substantially in the form as submitted."

Motion 2: "I move to accept the King County Flood Control District's Flood Reduction Grant Award in the amount of \$150,000 for the Des Moines Creek Estuary Project and authorize the City Manager to sign the Grant Agreements substantially in the form as submitted."

Motion 3: "I move to approve the 2026-2027 On-Call General Civil Engineering Services Task Assignment 2026-01 with Parametrix to provide continued design and permitting services on the Des Moines Creek Estuary Project in the amount of \$360,000.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign said Task Assignment substantially in the form as submitted."

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting to approve the Consent Agenda as read, seconded by Councilmember Pierre Blosse.

Motion 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 1. **Creation of Ad Hoc Franchise Committee**

Staff Presentation:

Tim George, City Attorney

Motion: "I move to re-establish the Ad Hoc Franchise Committee to assist with negotiations of utility franchise agreements expiring in June 2026."

- City Attorney Tim George gave Council a PowerPoint Presentation on the Creation of an Ad Hoc Franchise Committee.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting to re-establish the Ad Hoc Franchise Committee to assist with negotiations of utility franchise agreements expiring in June 2026, seconded by Councilmember Robyn Desimone.

Motion 6-1.

For: Councilmember Gene Achziger, Councilmember Pierre Blosse, Councilmember Robyn Desimone, Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember Harry Steinmetz

Against: Councilmember JC Harris

NEW BUSINESS

- Item 1. **Airport Advisory Committee 2026 Workplan**
Staff Presentation:
Rebecca Deming, Community Development Director

Motion: "I move to approve the Airport Advisory Committee 2026 Workplan as presented"

- Airport Advisory Committee Chair Joe Dusenbury gave Council a PowerPoint Presentation on the Airport Advisory Committee 2026 Workplan.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting to approve the Airport Advisory Committee 2026 Workplan as presented, seconded by Councilmember Harry Steinmetz.

Motion 6-1.

For: Councilmember Gene Achziger, Councilmember Pierre Blossé, Councilmember Robyn Desimone, Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember Harry Steinmetz

Against: Councilmember JC Harris

- Item 2. **Public Defender Contract Update**
Staff Presentation:
Jeff Friend, Finance Director

Motion: "I move to approve the contract with Stewart MacNichols Harmell, Inc. P.S. for indigent public defense services for the period February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2028."

- Finance Director Jeff Friend gave Council a PowerPoint Presentation update on the Public Defender Contract.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Harry Steinmetz to approve the contract with Stewart NacNichols Harmell, Inc. P.S. for indigent public defense services for the period February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2028, seconded by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting.

Motion 7-0.

- Item 3. **New Agenda Items for Consideration**

- Councilmember Harry Steinmetz proposed an agenda item regarding the commemorative renaming of either Redondo Way S or 6th Ave to Sixgill. Council Supported.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS - (4 minutes per Councilmember) - 30 minutes

COUNCILMEMBER HARRY STEINMETZ

- Pete von Reichbauer's "Good Eggs" Breakfast

COUNCILMEMBER JC HARRIS

- Korean American Day
- Martin Luther King Celebration

COUNCILMEMBER ROBYN DESIMONE

- Association of Washington Cities

COUNCILMEMBER JEREMY NUTTING

- No Report

COUNCILMEMBER PIERRE BLOSSE

- Planning Commission Application

DEPUTY MAYOR GENE ACHZIGER

- Association of Washington Cities Action Days

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

- Congratulated the Sergeants
- Thanked Legacy and Rotary of Des Moines and Normandy Park
- Strategic Planning
- Spring Events - Soccer, Eggstraveganza
- Chamber of Des Moines

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pending Litigation Under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) - 15 Minutes

The Special Meeting was called to order by Mayor Yoshiko Grace Matsui at 7:22 p.m.

Roll Call**Council Present:**

Councilmember Gene Achziger, Councilmember Pierre Blossé, Councilmember Robyn Desimone, Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui, Councilmember JC Harris, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember Harry Steinmetz

Staff Present:

City Manager Katherine Caffrey, City Attorney Tim George, and Public Works Director Mike Slevin

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to hold an Executive Session to discuss the Pending Litigation under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

The Executive Session was expected to last until 7:37 p.m.

The Special Meeting lasted 15 minutes and adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

No formal action was taken.

NEXT MEETING DATE

February 05, 2026 City Council Study Session

ADJOURNMENT**Direction/Action**

Motion made by Councilmember Gene Achziger to Adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting.

Motion 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.