



Des Moines

WATERLAND CITY
MINUTES

DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

City Council Chambers
21630 11th Avenue S, Suite C
Des Moines, Washington
Thursday, October 9, 2025 - 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Traci Buxton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Matt Mahoney.

ROLL CALL

Council Present:

Mayor Traci Buxton; Councilmember Gene Achziger; Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui; Councilmember JC Harris; and Councilmember Matt Mahoney

Council via Zoom:

Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz and Councilmember Jeremy Nutting

Staff Present:

City Manager Katherine Caffrey; City Attorney Tim George; Assistant City Manager Adrienne Johnson-Newton; Finance Director Jeff Friend; Public Works Director Michael Slevin; City Prosecutor Tara Vaughn; Assistant Harbormaster Katy Bevegni; Surface Water and Environmental Engineering Manager Tyler Beekley; GIS Analyst/Addressing Max Mousseau; and City Clerk Taria Keane

CORRESPONDENCE NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

- No additional correspondence outside of the emails already received by Council.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Rhoda Green, Friends of Saltwater State Park

REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

- Councilmember Matt Mahoney gave an update on the Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Policy Board Meeting held on October 9, 2025.

SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION PUBLIC ISSUES COMMITTEE

- Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz gave an update on the Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee Meeting held on October 8, 2025.

CITY MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATIONS/BRIEFINGS

Item 1: SIXGILL SHARK CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

- Rus Higley, Director of the MaST Center Aquarium, gave a PowerPoint Presentation on Des Moines as the Sixgill Shark Capital of the World.

Item 2: 2025/2026 MID-BIENNIUM BUDGET REVIEW

- Finance Director Jeff Friend gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the 2025/2026 Mid-Biennium Budget Review.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 1: APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Motion: To approve the payment vouchers through September 25, 2025 and payroll transfers through September 20, 2025 in the attached list and further described as follows:

EFT Vendor Payments	#12479-12526	\$392,808.18
Wires	#3092-3096	\$112,161.87
Accounts Payable Checks	#167047-167072	\$192,728.41
Payroll Checks	#20021-20021	\$ 637.46
Payroll Advice	#14962-14962	\$ 2,000.20
Payroll Advice	#14963-15127	\$481,264.79
Payroll Advice	#15128-15128	\$ 2,000.20

Total Checks and Wires for A/P & Payroll: \$1,183,601.11

Item 2: HEMSTAD CONSULTING CONTRACT

Motion: To approve the Agreement with Hemstad Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$93,500, and authorize the City Manager to sign the Agreement substantially in the form as submitted.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to approve the Consent Agenda as read; seconded by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting.

Councilmember JC Harris pulled Consent Agenda Item #2.

The remainder of the Consent Agenda passed 7-0.

Council discussed Consent Agenda Item #2.

Motion made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to approve Consent Agenda Item #2 as read; seconded by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting. Motion passed 6-1.

For: Mayor Traci Buxton, Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz, Councilmember Matt Mahoney, Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember Gene Achziger.

Against: Councilmember JC Harris.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 1: MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AND LICENSE BETWEEN CITY OF DES MOINES AND NWS HOLDINGS (PERFECT GAME) FOR STEVEN J. UNDERWOOD FIELDS

- Public Works Director Mike Slevin gave a PowerPoint Presentation on Perfect Game and Steven J. Underwood Sports Complex and the Management Agreement and License between City of Des Moines and NWS Holdings (Perfect Game) for Steven J. Underwood Fields.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember JC Harris to amend the termination schedule percentage.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Councilmember JC Harris to amend language for section Section F.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to approve the Management Agreement with NWS Holdings for the management, improvement and operation of the Steven J. Underwood baseball fields and authorize the City Manager to sign the contract substantially in the form as submitted; seconded by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting. Motion passed 6-1.

For: Mayor Traci Buxton, Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz, Councilmember Matt Mahoney, Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember Gene Achziger.

Against: Councilmember JC Harris.

Item 2: PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX

- Finance Director Jeff Friend gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Public Safety Sales Tax.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting to approve Draft Ordinance 25-053, imposing a public safety sales and use tax; seconded by Councilmember Matt Mahoney. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1: OPENGOV ASSET MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE PURCHASE

- Surface Water/Environmental Engineering Manager Tyler Beekley, Asset Management Specialist at OpenGov Tim Schmidt, and GIS Administrator Max Mousseau gave a PowerPoint Presentation on OpenGov Asset Management Software.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to approve the purchase of the OpenGov asset management software identified in attachment 1 for a total amount of \$177,217.94, authorize a management reserve of \$15,000, and further authorize the City Manager to sign said Contract substantially in the form as submitted; seconded by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting. Motion passed 7-0.

- Item 2: TELECOMMUNICATIONS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH FORGED FIBER 37, LLC – 1st Reading
- City Prosecutor Tara Vaughn gave Council a PowerPoint Presentation on the Telecommunication Franchise Agreement with Forged Fiber 37, LLC.

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to pass Draft Ordinance No. 25-085 regarding a telecommunications Franchise Agreement with Forged Fiber 37 to a second reading on October 23, 2025; seconded by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz. Motion passed 7-0.

- Item 3: NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION – 10 Minutes
- Mayor Traci Buxton suggested a new agenda item to propose an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Plan to add a desired ferry route. Council supported.

At 7:53 p.m. Council took a 7 minute break.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Special Meeting was called to order by Mayor Traci Buxton at 8:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present:

Mayor Traci Buxton; Councilmember Gene Achziger; Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui; Councilmember JC Harris; and Councilmember Matt Mahoney

Council via Zoom:

Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz and Councilmember Jeremy Nutting

Others Present:

Assistant City Manager Adrienne Johnson-Newton

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to hold an Executive Session to discuss the Performance of a Public Employee under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

The Executive Session was expected to last 20 minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Councilmember Jeremy Nutting left the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

(4 minutes per Councilmember) - 30 minutes

COUNCILMEMBER MATT MAHONEY

- Volunteer opportunity saving sea life at the Marina

COUNCILMEMBER YOSHIKO GRACE MATSUI

- Community activities in October: Halloween event downtown, Boo Bash, Drag Bingo
- Volunteer opportunities

COUNCILMEMBER JC HARRIS

- Rhoda Green and Friends of Saltwater State Park
- Sustainable Airport Master Plan Webinar

COUNCILMEMBER GENE ACHZIGER

- No Report

DEPUTY MAYOR HARRY STEINMETZ

- End of Farmers Market
- Downtown events
- Lighthouse NW Gala
- Boo Bash
- Candidate Forums

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

- Sound Cities Association
- Birthday Party for Ezra Nehemiah Taylor
- St. Philomena's 2nd Grade Field Trip
- Snohomish County Executive and President of Puget Sound Regional Council Dave Somers

NEXT MEETING DATE

October 23, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Direction/Action

Motion: made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui.

Motion passed 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.