



Des Moines

WATERLAND CITY

MINUTES

DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

City Council Chambers

21630 11th Avenue S, Suite C

Des Moines, Washington

Thursday, December 4, 2025 - 5:00 PM

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

5:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Traci Buxton called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present:

Mayor Traci Buxton; Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz; Councilmember Gene Achziger; Councilmember JC Harris; and Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui

Council Via Zoom:

Councilmember Matt Mahoney; and Councilmember Jeremy Nutting

Staff Present:

City Manager Katherine Caffrey; City Attorney Tim George; Assistant City Attorney Matt Hutchins; Director of Administrative Services Bonnie Wilkins; Finance Director Jeff Friend; Public Works Director Michael Slevin; Community Development Director Rebecca Deming; Senior Planner Jason Woycke; Administrative Coordinator Laura Hopp; and City Clerk Taria Keane

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ITEMS

- Item 1: WESLEY MASTER PLAN INTRODUCTION
Staff Presentation by Senior Planner Jason Woycke
- Senior Planner Jason Woycke gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the Wesley Master Plan.
- Item 2: CITY CURRENTS DISCUSSION
Staff Presentation by Director of Administrative Services Bonnie Wilkins
- Director of Administrative Services Bonnie Wilkins gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the City Currents Discussion.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The flag salute was led by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz.

ROLL CALL

Council Present:

Mayor Traci Buxton; Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz; Councilmember Gene Achziger; Councilmember JC Harris; and Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui

Council Via Zoom:

Councilmember Matt Mahoney and Councilmember Jeremy Nutting

Staff Present:

City Manager Katherine Caffrey; Assistant City Manager Adrienne Johnson-Newton; City Attorney Tim George; Police Chief Ted Boe; Assistant City Attorney Matt Hutchins; Director of Administrative Services Bonnie Wilkins; Harbormaster Scott Wilkins; Finance Director Jeff Friend; Public Works Director Michael Slevin; City Engineer Tommy Owen; Community Development Director Rebecca Deming; Administrative Coordinator Laura Hopp; 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

- Chris DeLaRosa, FLOCK Cameras

REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

- Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz gave an update on the Sound Cities Association Meeting held on December 3, 2025.

CITY MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATIONS/BRIEFINGS

City Manager Katherine Caffrey shared about the upcoming Tree Lighting at the Marina Saturday, December 6, 2025 and the Town Hall Strategic Plan Meeting Tuesday, December 9, 2025.

- Item 1: 2025 3RD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT
Staff Presentation by Finance Director Jeff Friend
- Finance Director Jeff Friend gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the 2025 3rd Quarter Financial Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Item 1: APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS
Motion: To approve the payment vouchers through November 20, 2025 and payroll transfers through November 20, 2025 in the attached list and further described as follows:

EFT Vendor Payments	#12701-12811	\$2,266,010.04
Wires	#3147-3165	\$478,601.24
Accounts Payable Checks	#167134-167201	\$1,914,403.33
Payroll Checks	#20031-20033	\$4,533.94
Payroll Advice	#15463-15628	\$499,195.09
Payroll Check	#20034-20034	\$4,458.73
Payroll Checks	#15629-15784	\$477,516.56

Total Checks and Wires for A/P & Payroll: \$5,644,718.93

- Item 2: APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion: To approve the minutes for the October 23, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting.

- Item 3: LAND USE APPLICATION ABANDONMENT - 2nd READING
Motion: To adopt draft Ordinance ~~25-090~~ 25-072 adopting the Land Use Application Abandonment Ordinance.

Regular Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2025

- Item 4: CO-LIVING HOUSING ORDINANCE - 2nd READING
Motion: To adopt draft Ordinance 25-090 adopting the Co-living Housing Ordinance.
- Item 5: ADOPTION OF 2026 CITY COUNCIL STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
Motion: To adopt the 2026 City of Des Moines State Legislative Priorities.
- Item 6: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT - POLICE GUILD
Motion: To approve the attached Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Des Moines and the Police Guild and to authorize the City Manager to sign the Agreement substantially in the form as attached.
- Item 7: BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT WITH NORMANDY PARK
Motion: To enact Draft Resolution 25-075 approving an adjustment of the City's common boundary with the City of Normandy Park and authorize the City Manager to sign the Interlocal Agreement substantially in the form as attached.

Direction/Action

Motion: made by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting to approve the Consent Agenda as read; seconded by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz. Motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC HEARING/CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING

- Item 1: PLANNING COMMISSION ORDINANCE - 1st READING

At 6:30 p.m. Mayor Traci Buxton opened the Public Hearing.

Staff Presentation by Community Development Director Rebecca Deming.

Public Comment

- William Kennedy, Proponent

Mayor Traci Buxton asked 3 times if anyone wished to speak.

Mayor Traci Buxton asked Council if they had any questions.

At 6:45 p.m. Mayor Traci Buxton closed the Public Hearing.

Direction/Action

Regular Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2025

Main Motion: made by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz to pass draft Ordinance 25-108 to a second reading on December 11, 2025; seconded by Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui.

Amended Motion 1: made by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz to amend draft Ordinance 25-108 to include review and recommendation by the Planning Commission on the Comprehensive Plan Adoption and Amendments; seconded by Councilmember JC Harris.
Motion failed 3-4.

For: Mayor Traci Buxton, Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz, and Councilmember JC Harris.

Against: Councilmember Matt Mahoney, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember Gene Achziger, and Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui.

Amended Motion 2: made by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz to amend draft Ordinance 25-108 to include review and recommendation by the Planning Commission to include Business Park Institutional Campus in the Master Plans; seconded by Councilmember JC Harris.
Motion passed 4-3.

For: Mayor Traci Buxton, Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz, Councilmember JC Harris, and Councilmember Gene Achziger.

Against: Councilmember Matt Mahoney, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, and Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui.

Amended Motion 3: made by Councilmember Gene Achziger to amend draft Ordinance 25-108 to include in Section 2 add a part 7 stating there should be no term limits in regard to appointments to the Planning Commission; seconded by Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui.
Motion failed 3-4.

For: Mayor Traci Buxton, Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz, and Councilmember Gene Achziger.

Against: Councilmember Matt Mahoney, Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, Councilmember JC Harris, and Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui.

Amended Motion 4: made by Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui to amend draft Ordinance 25-108 to Section 2 (a) stating consists of members qualified who show an interest.
Motion died for lack of a second.

Amended Motion 5: made by Councilmember Gene Achziger to amend draft Ordinance 25-108 to include a reference to the term limits for all appointive committees per DMMC 4.24.040(2); seconded by Councilmember JC Harris.
Motion passed 7-0.

Main motion as amended passed 7-0.

Item 2: AMENDED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (2026-2045)

Staff Presentation by City Engineer Tommy Owen

At 7:09 p.m. Mayor Traci Buxton opened the Public Hearing.

Staff Presentation by City Engineer Tommy Owen.

Mayor Traci Buxton asked 3 times if anyone wished to speak.

Mayor Traci Buxton asked Council if they had any questions.

At 7:23 p.m. Mayor Traci Buxton closed the Public Hearing.

Direction/Action

Motion: made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to move to approve Draft Resolution No. 25-114 amending the 2026-2045 Transportation Improvement Plan for the City of Des Moines; seconded by Councilmember Jeremy Nutting.
Motion passed 6-1.

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

Against: Councilmember JC Harris

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 1: CITY COUNCIL COMPENSATION FRAMEWORK AND SURVEY DISCUSSION
Staff Presentation by Assistant City Manager Adrienne Johnson-Newton

- Assistant City Manager Adrienne Johnson-Newton gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the City Council Compensation Framework and Survey Discussion.

Following the presentation, the Council had staff recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1: ANIMAL CONTROL DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL CONTRACT WITH BURIEN CARES
Staff Presentation by Police Chief Ted Boe

- Police Chief Ted Boe gave a PowerPoint Presentation on Animal Control Discussion regarding Potential Contract with Burien Cares.

Following the presentation, the Council had staff recommendations.

Item 2: CREATING A PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX FUND – 1st READING
Staff Presentation by Finance Director Jeff Friend

- Finance Director Jeff Friend gave a PowerPoint Presentation on Creating a Public Safety Sales Tax Fund.

Direction/Action

Motion: made by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz to forward Draft Ordinance No. 25-105, amending DMMC 3.51.103 to repurpose the Public Safety Levy Fund as the Public Safety Sales Tax Fund, to the second reading; seconded by Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui. Motion passed 7-0.

Item 3: NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION – 10 Minutes

- Councilmember Gene Achziger proposed a new agenda item to consider amending the Transportation Improvement Plan to include the Last Mile exploration and implementation. Council consensus supported the recommendation.

- Councilmember Gene Achziger proposed a new agenda item to consider exploring joint regional animal control with our neighboring cities.
Council consensus supported the recommendation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Special Meeting was called to order by Mayor Traci Buxton at 8:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present:

Mayor Traci Buxton; Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz; Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui; Councilmember Gene Achziger; and Councilmember JC Harris

Council via Zoom:

Councilmember Matt Mahoney and Councilmember Jeremy Nutting

Others Present:

City Manager Katherine Caffrey; City Attorney Tim George; and Community Development Director Rebecca Deming.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to hold an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

No formal action was taken.

The Executive Session lasted 10 minutes.

The special meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The City Council regular meeting was reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

(4 minutes per Councilmember) - 30 minutes

COUNCILMEMBER MATT MAHONEY

- Tree Lighting at the Marina

COUNCILMEMBER YOSHIKO GRACE MATSUI

- Tree Lighting at the Marina

Regular Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2025

- Town Hall Meeting
- Burning Boat
- New Light Rail Station

COUNCILMEMBER JEREMY NUTTING

- No Report

COUNCILMEMBER JC HARRIS

- Regional Transit Committee
- New Light Rail Station
- Des Moines Historical Society

COUNCILMEMBER GENE ACHZIGER

- New Light Rail Station
- Tree Lighting at the Marina

DEPUTY MAYOR HARRY STEINMETZ

- Sound Cities Association Meeting
- Tree Lighting at the Marina
- New Light Rail Station

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

- Sound Cities Association Meeting
- Squid-A-Rama
- Puget Sound Region Council Executive Board Meeting and the Regional Transportation Plan
- Historical Society Open House

NEXT MEETING DATE

December 11, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Direction/Action

Motion: made by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz to adjourn; seconded by Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui
Motion passed 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.