



MOUNTLAKE TERRACE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 6, 2025
7:00 p.m.

Mountlake Terrace City Hall and
via Telephone and Teleconference

Councilmembers Present

Councilmember Paige
Councilmember Ryan
Councilmember Sonmore
Councilmember Woodard
Mayor Pro Tem Wahl
Mayor Matsumoto Wright

Councilmembers Absent

Councilmember Murray

Staff Members Present

City Attorney Hillary Evans (via Teleconference)
City Clerk Jennifer Joki
City Manager Jeff Niten
Deputy City Manager Carolyn Hope
Public Works Director Gary Schimek (via Teleconference)
Recreation and Parks Director Jeff Betz (via Teleconference)

Guests

Kenyon Disend Attorney Lisa Marshall (via Teleconference)
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission Vice-Chair Teresa Courtney
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commissioner Kermet Apio

1. Call to Order – Flag Salute – Roll Call

Mayor Matsumoto Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

City Clerk Jennifer Joki called roll.

A motion to excuse Councilmember Murray was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wahl and seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

2. Late Changes to Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

No one signed up to provide public comment, either online or in person. All public comments submitted in writing were provided to Council.

4. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, items a-e, was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wahl and seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

- a. Payment for 2025 claims
- b. Meeting Minutes for 10/16/2025 and 10/23/2025
- c. Professional Services Agreement with Kenyon Disend for City Attorney Services
- d. Interlocal Agreement with Snohomish County Regional Narcotics Task Force
- e. Ordinance 2896 Correction for Property Annexation

5. Review and Public Hearing on Ordinances Adopting Franchise Agreement with Puget Sound Energy

Public Works Director Gary Schimek and Kenyon Disend Attorney Lisa Marshall

Schimek introduced Kenyon Disend Attorney Lisa Marshall then presented on this item to include the background, new agreement term, new standards and best practices, costs, and relocation of facilities.

Schimek and Marshall heard and responded to questions and comments regarding initiation of additional years, high-level issues to be aware of, and updates in laws.

A motion to open the public hearing was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wahl and seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** The public hearing was declared open.

Public Hearing Testimony: None.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wahl and seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** The public hearing was declared closed.

This item will be on the agenda as a review and vote for the November 20, 2025 council meeting.

6. Review Draft Final Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Plan

Deputy City Manager Carolyn Hope, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission Vice-Chair Teresa Courtney, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commissioner Kernet Apio

Hope, Courtney, and Apio presented on this item to include the council goals, legislative history, acknowledgments, purpose of the plan, public comments, action plan with changes, recommendation, financial impacts, and next steps.

Hope, Courtney, and Apio heard and responded to questions and comments regarding accommodating people with trauma, data on term limits, translation costs, access to job opportunities, working with tribes, diversity in community conversations, celebrate diversity, budget amount, pieces of the plan to be fine-tuned, appreciation for work done on this plan, preparing by reading the materials ahead of time, presenting a high-level overview of the changes after presentation at last meeting, and action plan and recommendations written well.

The mayor called for a 5-minute recess.

7. Review and Vote on Allocation of Funds for Transit Connection Corridor Project
Recreation and Parks Director Jeff Betz

Betz presented on this item to include the legislative history, project details and requirements, additional needs, funding, and ask of council.

Betz heard and responded to questions and comments from council regarding the changes, additional tree removal, and project price overrun.

The motion to authorize the City Manager to sign change orders not to exceed an additional \$283,758 with Granite Construction for the Transit Connection Corridor Project was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wahl and seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

8. City Manager's Report
City Manager Jeff Niten

Niten's report included:

- Contractor will be out on Monday to restart work on the Transit Connection Corridor Project
- Appreciation for Public Works crews and residents, no major flooding on roadways
- City has the first draft of an AI (Artificial Intelligence) policy

Niten heard and responded to a question regarding adding the traffic camera discussion to an upcoming agenda.

9. Council Liaison Reports

Mayor Matsumoto Wright's report included:

- October 22 Water/Sewer Comprehensive Plan Public Forum
- October 24 Economic Alliance Snohomish County meeting with the City Manager
- October 28-29 Cascadia Conference
- November 3 Branding Consultant meeting
- November 5 South Snohomish County Mayors luncheon
- November 6 Dawson Place luncheon
- November 8 at 2pm at MLT Library Randal Gravelle will be discussing his book, Mountlake Terrace: Four Square Miles

Councilmember Paige's report included:

- October Chamber of Commerce gathering at the Getaway
- City Manager meeting
- November 6 City Manager Evaluation consultant meeting

Councilmember Ryan's report included:

- October 21 Arts Advisory Commission meeting
- November 5 City Manager meeting

- November 6 City Manager Evaluation consultant meeting

Councilmember Sonmore's report included:

- Fiscal Sustainability Task Force meeting last week

Mayor Pro Tem Wahl's report included:

- October 22 Snohomish County Tomorrow Steering Committee meeting
- October 23 Puget Sound Regional Council Operations Committee meeting
- October 23 Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Board meeting
- October 23 Council Finance Subcommittee meeting
- October 23 Council Work Session
- November 4 South Snohomish County Cities Mayors, Mayors Pro Tem, and Council Presidents meeting
- November 5 Snohomish County Tomorrow Executive Committee meeting
- November 6 City Manager meeting with the Mayor

Councilmember Woodard's report included:

- October 22 Water/Sewer Comprehensive Plan Public Forum
- October 23 Clothes for Kids breakfast fundraiser
- October 23 Council Finance Subcommittee meeting
- October 28 Branding Consultant meeting
- October 28 Chamber of Commerce meeting
- October 29 Cocoon House interview
- Appreciation for Best in Governance Award and to the City Manager
- City Manager Evaluation consultant meeting is tomorrow

10. New Business

- Councilmember Ryan recommended sending only a few council representatives to the AWC City Action Days in Olympia due to budget concerns. He also recommended sending only a few to the AWC summer session.
- Councilmember Sonmore agreed with sending a few representatives versus all attending.
- Mayor Matsumoto Wright commented that some cities require a Certificate of Municipal Leadership (CML) for Mayors and Mayors Pro Tem.
- Mayor Matsumoto Wright commented on the AWC Bothell Elected Officials Workshop and recommended attending.

11. Adjournment

Mayor Matsumoto Wright adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.


Kyoko Matsumoto Wright, Mayor



Jennifer Joki, City Clerk