



MOUNTLAKE TERRACE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 5, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Mountlake Terrace City Hall and
via Telephone and Teleconference

Councilmembers Present

Councilmember Doyle
Councilmember Matsumoto Wright
Councilmember Murray
Councilmember Paige
Councilmember Sonmore
Mayor Woodard

Councilmembers Absent

Mayor Pro Tem Wahl

Staff Members Present

City Attorney Hillary Evans (via Teleconference)
City Clerk Jennifer Joki
City Manager Jeff Niten
Communications and Community Engagement Manager Sienna Spencer-Markles
Deputy City Manager Carolyn Hope
Human Resource Manager Loren Hagstrom
Public Works Administrative Assistant Bernadette Taylor-Moses
Stormwater Program Manager Patrick Hutchins

Guests

League of Women Voters of Snohomish County Outreach Committee Member Nadine Shanti
(via Teleconference)
Mountlake Terrace High School Black Student Union Leader Tribecca Brazil
Leadership of Masjid Umar Al-Farooq – Muslim Association of Northwest
Mountlake Terrace Residents the Abdurashidova Family
Multicultural Association of Edmonds President Karin Mei Butler and Board Members

1. Call to Order – Flag Salute – Roll Call

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

City Clerk Jennifer Joki called roll.

A motion to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Wahl was made by Councilmember Matsumoto Wright
and seconded.

Motion carried 6-0.

2. Late Changes to Agenda

None

3. Public Comment

- MLT resident Audrey Meyer spoke in support of the Resolution Affirming Support for Immigrants.
- MLT resident Sandra Junkin-Clark spoke in support of the Resolution Affirming Support for Immigrants.
- MLT resident Susan Kuhn spoke in support of the Resolution Affirming Support for Immigrants.

4. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, items a-e, was made by Councilmember Murray and seconded.

Motion carried 6-0.

- a. Payment for 2026 claims
- b. Meeting Minutes for 12/18/2025, 1/08/2026, 1/22/2026
- c. Ordinance Adopting Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan with Snohomish County
- d. Agreement Supplement 1 with Consor for Wastewater Comprehensive Plan RH2 Engineering
- e. Agreement Supplement 1 with RH2 for Water Comprehensive Plan

5. Proclamation for Lunar New Year

Councilmember Matsumoto Wright read the proclamation aloud and presented it to Multicultural Association of Edmonds President Karin Mei Butler and Board Members who spoke a few words.

6. Proclamation for Ramadan

Councilmember Paige read the proclamation aloud and presented it to Leadership of Masjid Umar Al-Farooq – Muslim Association of Northwest and the Abdurashidova Family who spoke a few words.

7. Proclamation for Black History Month

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Matsuda and Commissioner Francisco read the proclamation aloud and presented it to Tribecca Brazil and Nadine Shanti (via Teleconference) who spoke a few words.

8. Review and Vote on Resolution Affirming Support for Immigrants

Deputy City Manager Carolyn Hope

Hope presented on this item to include reading the resolution.

Hope heard and responded to questions and comments from council regarding appreciation for the community support for this resolution and the meaningfulness of it.

The Resolution Affirming Support for Immigrants was approved by vote.

Motion carried 6-0.

9. Review and Vote on Resolution Accepting Stormwater Capacity Grant from Department of Ecology for Permit Compliance

Stormwater Program Manager Patrick Hutchins

Hutchins presented on this item to include environmental programs and services, the purpose, stormwater capacity grant, benefits and obligations, general positives, specific examples of benefits, financial and budget impacts, and impacts if funds are not accepted.

Hutchins heard and responded to questions and comments from council regarding other ideas to help with the stormwater capacity issues, community outreach events, basin location, and appreciation for thoughtfulness.

A motion to adopt the Resolution Accepting Stormwater Capacity Grant from the Department of Ecology for Permit Compliance was made by Councilmember Murray and seconded.

Motion carried 6-0.

10. Review and Vote on Resolution Adopting New Employee Handbook

Human Resources Manager Loren Hagstrom

Hagstrom presented on this item to include the purpose, summary, council goals, goals for the handbook, key changes, new policies, impact to organization, and maintenance.

Hagstrom heard and responded to questions and comments from council regarding a second day of choice for full-time employees, exit interviews, staff turnover, leadership philosophy, lactation room accommodation, consequences of a second day of choice, flexibility of holidays, anti-nepotism, reducing some positions to $\frac{3}{4}$ time, furloughs, retirement funds, domestic violence leave, appreciation for all the work on this, the variety of input from staff team and useability with linkable table of contents, Washington Cities Insurance Authority legal review with Summit Law, request of report of hired and separated staff quarterly, and previous updates in 2011 and 2000, report on turnover trends, handbook shows how the city cares about employees, include council feedback earlier, and inclement weather policy.

A motion to adopt the Resolution Adopting the New Employee Handbook was made by Councilmember Murray and seconded.

Motion carried 6-0.

11. City Manager's Report

City Manager Jeff Niten

Niten's report included:

- Registration for MLT Community Academy still open.
- Ivey League appreciation for work at tennis courts last week.
- Exit Conference with the State Auditor's Office, 2023-2024 financial reports are accurate and can be relied on for decision-making, and finances back on track after six years.

12. Council Liaison Reports

Councilmember Doyles's report included:

- December 17 Council orientation with City Manager Jeff Niten, Deputy City Manager Carolyn Hope
- January 8 Representative Cindy Ryu meeting to review legislative priorities in 2026
- January 8 Council meeting, sworn in
- January 9 Volunteers of America, Western WA (VOAWW) Lynnwood Neighborhood Center ribbon cutting ceremony
- January 13 Fiscal Town Hall via Zoom (attended part of it)
- January 15 City Manager meeting
- January 15 Meeting with Sienna Spencer-Markles
- January 15 Snohomish County Cities & Towns dinner
- January 16- Meeting with Economic Development Manager Ryan Doss
- January 19 MLK Day, Jr event by "Lift Every Voice Legacy"
- January 21 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion meeting
- January 22 Council meeting
- January 30 Representative Suzan DelBene meeting
- February 2 Meeting with Una McAlinden, council retreat facilitator
- February 3 Meetings with Christy Osborn (Community and Economic Development Director) and Gary Schimek (Public Works Director)
- February 5 Council meeting.
- February 6 Scheduled Meeting with Sirke Salminen (Finance Director)

Councilmember Matsumoto Wright's report included:

- January 7 South Snohomish County Mayors luncheon
- January 7 Community transit board meeting at alternate
- January 8 Online meeting with State Representative Cindy Ryu
- January 8 City Manager meeting with Bryan Wahl
- January Online meeting with State Representative Lauren Davis
- January 9 Ribbon cutting for Lynnwood Neighborhood Center
- January 12 New Year celebration at Japanese Consulate's Residence
- January 13 Volunteered with MLT elementary school and taught 6th graders how to make origami cranes
- January 13 MLT online Fiscal Townhall
- January 14 Ribbon cutting for MLT Licensing
- January 14 MLT in-person Fiscal Townhall
- January 15 Community Transit Board Selection meeting
- January 15 Snohomish County Cities and Towns dinner meeting
- January 20-22 Association of WA Cities City Action Days in Olympia
- February 2 Meeting with Una McAlinden, council retreat facilitator
- February 4 Alliance for Affordable Housing (AHA) meeting
- February 5 Community Transit meeting as a board member, elected vice-chair

Councilmember Murray's report included:

- January 21-22 Association of WA Cities City Action Days in Olympia
- January 23 Supported new group of MLT High School students, along with

Councilmember Paige, on the unhoused

Councilmember Paige's report included:

- January 13 MLT online Fiscal Townhall
- January 14 City Manager meeting
- January 14 Ribbon cutting for MLT Licensing
- January 14 MLT in-person Fiscal Townhall
- January 15 Snohomish County Cities and Towns dinner meeting
- January 20 Arts Advisory Commission meeting
- January 20-22 Association of WA Cities City Action Days in Olympia
- January 23 Supported new group of MLT High School students, along with Councilmember Murray, on the unhoused
- January 31 Washington West African Center event 2nd annual gala
- February 4 Meeting with Una McAlinden, council retreat facilitator

Councilmember Sonmore's report included:

- Monthly Recreation and Park Advisory Commission meeting
- Financial Committee meeting
- Disability Board meeting
- Facilities Supervisor Floyd Garrigues retired

Mayor Woodard's report included:

- December 20 Volunteered with Stuff-a-Bus for flood victims in Snohomish County
- December 23 Volunteered with Foundation for Edmonds School District loaded 400 boxes of food for the Holiday Feed
- December 25 Volunteered with Caravan Kabab Feed 150 meals
- January 8 Online meeting with State Representative Cindy Ryu
- January 9 Ribbon cutting for Lynnwood Neighborhood Center
- January 12 City Manager meeting
- January 13 Disability Board meeting
- January 13 MLT online Fiscal Townhall
- January 14 Ribbon cutting for MLT Licensing
- January 14 Lynnwood Times interview
- January 14 MLT News interview with City Manager
- January 15 Snohomish County Tomorrow meeting
- January 18 Trinity Lutheran Church and Schools blessing for Lynnwood Neighborhood Center
- January 19 March and rally for Martin Luther King, Jr. recognition
- January 21-22 Association of WA Cities City Action Days in Olympia
- January 24 Community celebration for Lynnwood Neighborhood Center
- January 26 Snohomish County Mayors meeting
- January 26 Received City of Lynnwood Black History Month proclamation
- January 27 Meeting with Una McAlinden, council retreat facilitator
- January 27 South County Fire Change of Command ceremony
- January 28 MLT city staff meeting

- January 28 Congresswoman Del Bene and team meeting
- January 28 Snohomish County Tomorrow Steering Committee meeting
- January 29 City Manager meeting
- January 31 Washington West African Center 2nd annual gala
- February 2 MLT city staff Seahawks photo
- February 2 African American Leaders and Professionals Network meeting
- February 4 South County Mayors meeting
- February 4 Exit Conference with the State Auditor's Office
- February 5 Black History Month Proclamation reception at MLT City Hall

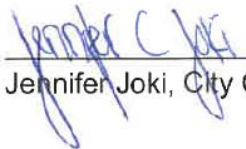
13 New Business

- Councilmember Matsumoto Wright commented on the clean street drains due to street sweeper.

14 Adjournment

Mayor Woodard adjourned the meeting at 9:57 p.m.



Steve Woodard, Mayor

Jennifer Joki, City Clerk