

City Council



**501 Delta Ave
Marysville, WA 98270**

**Work Session
October 7, 2024**

Call to Order

Mayor Nehring called the Work Session to order at 6 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Nehring led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Chief Scairpon called the roll.

Present:

Mayor: Jon Nehring

Council: Councilmember Condyles, Councilmember James, Councilmember King, Council President Stevens, Councilmember Richards, Councilmember Muller, Councilmember Norton

Staff: City Administrator Jennifer Stapleton, Deputy City Attorney Burton Eggertsen, Chief Scairpon, Asst. Chief Lawless, Public Works Director Jeff Laycock, IT Director Stephen Doherty, Parks & Rec. Director Tara Mizell, Courts Administrator Suzanne Elsner, Community Development Director Haylie Miller, Network Systems Administrator Chris Brown, Human Resources Director Megan Hodgson

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda moved by Councilmember Richards seconded by Councilmember Condyles.

AYES: ALL

Executive Session

Deputy City Attorney Eggertsen stated the need to hold an Executive Session. Council recesses into Executive Session at 6:03 for 10 minutes to review the performance a public employee, with no action expected. Council recessed into Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. for 10 minutes.

- A. Litigation
- B. Personnel – one item, RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)
- C. Real Estate

Executive Session was extended 10 minutes

Council reconvened following the Executive Session at 6:23 p.m. with no action taken.

Presentations

A. Presentation of the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget

Mayor Nehring introduced the Mayor's Budget for the 2025-2026 Biennium. He thanked numerous members of staff for their work on this and the City Council for their commitment to excellence. He gave a high level overview of the budget and explained this was a conservative and responsible plan with a balanced, maintenance budget.

City Administrative Stapleton highlighted supplemental documents including the 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program and memos regarding Rightsizing and Supplemental Requests. She discussed the restructuring of Public Works into two departments - Engineering Services and Utilities and Maintenance Services. She commented on personnel changes; Deputy Director Eggertsen explained the need for additional personnel to address the increased legal workload. City Administrator Stapleton reviewed supplemental items: fleet replacement, facility and system capital improvements (jail railing extension and water and wastewater system improvements); budget/financial transparency and project tracking software; software; Interfor/Riverwalk site fill and land analysis; purchase of Marysville School District Building/sale of former City Hall. Other budget highlights include parks security cameras and additional FLOCK public safety cameras. Chief Scairpon and Asst. Chief Lawless reviewed this program including grant funding and responded to clarification questions.

Finance Director Ferrer-Santa Ines presented the biennial budget. She shared the economic outlook, budget guiding principles, budget summaries, revenues, and expenditures, property taxes, and retail sales and use tax, TBD retail sales and use tax, other retail sales and use tax, utility and other taxes. She reviewed the Mayor's proposed increase to the city-owned utility tax rate from 8.5% to 13% to help balance the budget. Mayor Nehring clarified that this is an internal increase only and will not impact customer bills.

Director Ferrer-Santa Ines reviewed licenses and permits, intergovernmental revenue, charges for goods and services, and other revenue. She explained that the Mayor's proposed budget includes a 5% increase on utility rates in order to keep up with costs and mitigate any big spikes in rates. She gave a General Fund overview and reviewed long-term debt and capital investments. She expressed appreciation to all staff members for their assistance with the preparation of the budget. She discussed the General Fund forecast noting that they are operating favorably and meeting all policies and expectations up to 2027. Beyond 2027 they will need to have discussions about how to ensure there are sufficient revenue sources to keep up with the growing population and expenditure and also to maintain the current service levels in serving the community. She reviewed upcoming public hearings and the budget timeline.

Mayor Nehring commented that Council will be asked to take action on the budget on November 25. The November 4 meeting will be a Regular meeting because the meeting on November 12 will be cancelled. If an extra meeting is needed, it would be the third meeting in December. Mayor Nehring made final comments on challenges and opportunities with the City's budget.

Questions:

Councilmember Richards requested a pie chart showing which portion of taxes come from the different school districts.

Councilmember Muller questioned if the reserve fund levels are sufficient to handle worst-case scenarios like a dramatic drop in sales tax levels. Director Ferrer-Santa Ines reviewed the recommendation to increase the reserve fund balance to make sure they are planning for any unforeseen circumstances.

Councilmember King asked who will monitor the Parks security cameras. Mizell explained it would be between Parks and Police. Information Services will be assisting also.

Councilmember King asked if the WWTP Operator is a new one. Director Laycock confirmed it would be an additional position.

Councilmember Richards asked for a breakdown on the source of sales tax revenues. Director Ferrer-Santa Ines indicated she would provide that.

Mayor Nehring again thanked everyone for their hard work.

[Memo-Supplemental and Rightsizing Requests.pdf](#)

[Prelim Budget Book 2025-26.pdf](#)

[CIP Preliminary Document.pdf](#)

[Discussion Items](#)

Approval of Minutes

Consent

1. September 18, 2024, Claims in the Amount of \$2,835,074.65 Paid by EFT Transactions and Check Numbers 172505 through 172662 with Check Numbers 162029, 171138 and 172288 Voided

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2. September 25, 2024 Payroll in the Amount of \$2,476,067.26 Paid by EFT Transactions and Check Numbers 35457 through 35472
3. September 25, 2024 Claims in the Amount of \$1,426,258.40 Paid by EFT Transactions and Check Numbers 172663 through 172788 with Check Numbers 169119, 170380, 172394 and 172436 Voided

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Review Bids

Public Hearings

New Business

4. An Ordinance Eliminating the Prohibition on Social Card Games as a Commercial Stimulant.

Social Card Game Ordinance.pdf

Deputy City Attorney Eggertsen reviewed the proposed ordinance and answered clarification questions regarding the definition of social card games, the reason for the original prohibition, and whether additional clarification is needed in the ordinance about what this does and does not allow.

Legal

Mayor's Business

Mayor Nehring thanked everyone for their work on the budget.

Staff Business

Call on Councilmembers and Committee Reports

Councilmember Condyles gave committee reports on meetings of Snohomish County Tomorrow and the Alliance for Housing Affordability.

Councilmember James:

- He asked about the pavement on the trail. Director Laycock gave an update (inaudible).
- He attended the Boot Barn ribbon cutting and was impressed.

Councilmember King commented on a meeting with Dr. Jarvis from OSPI. He and Councilmember Condyles went to a Marysville School Board meeting. He commented on Strawberry float activities.

Council President Stevens expressed appreciation for the work on the budget.

Councilmember Richards also thanked the budget team and all the directors for their leadership. Happy belated birthday to Councilmember Muller.

Councilmember Muller commented that the trail looks great but expressed concern about the intersection with Sunnyside. Director Laycock indicated they could look into signage.

Council President Norton also expressed appreciation to staff and the Mayor for the great work on the budget and their efforts to be responsible with tax dollars.

Adjournment/Recess

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. moved by Councilmember Muller seconded by Councilmember Richards.

AYES: ALL

Approved by City Council this 28th day of October, 2024