

NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

September 16, 2025

City Hall, 920 SE Cedar Falls Way, North Bend, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL:

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

Councilmembers Present: Elwood, Gothelf, Joselyn, Koellen, Rustik, Torguson and Tremolada.

Mayor Miller announced the Executive Session scheduled for the end of tonight's meeting would be moved up on the agenda and take place right after Item #13 – AB25-096, Public Hearing, Ordinance Increasing Stormwater Rates.

Mayor Miller presented outgoing Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos with a plaque in recognition of his eleven years of service with the City. Mayor Miller and Council thanked him for his exceptional service and dedication to the citizens of North Bend and wished him the best in his future endeavors.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes – Special City Council Workstudy of August 26, 2025 & City Council Meeting of September 2, 2025

Payroll – **September 5, 2025 – 77761** through **77766**, in the amount of **\$393,869.96**

Checks – **September 16, 2025 – 77767** through **77822**, in the amount of **\$982,403.08**

AB25-091 – Ordinance 1837 Amending 2025-2026 Biennial Budget

AB25-092 – Resolution 2161 Authorizing Cancellation of Outdated Checks

AB25-093 – Motion Authorizing Microsoft Software Licenses Renewal

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Debra Landers, North Bend Art & Industry, provided an update on North Bend Art & Industry activities and noted a Community Art Supply Swap would take place on September 27th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1533 Bendigo Boulevard.

Kaleb Hopes, unincorporated North Bend, discussed speeds, laws and statistics of e-motorcycles, e-scooters, and e-mountain bikes as they relate to the proposed e-motorcycle ordinance under consideration by the City Council.

Tyler Litzenberger, Vector Development, spoke in support of AB25-097 – Resolution Authorizing Easement & Quit Claim Deed regarding Alm Way Right-of-Way Vacation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS:

Proclamation – Week Without Driving

Audio: 29:35

Mayor Miller read a proclamation declaring the week of September 29 – October 5, 2025 as Week without Driving in the City of North Bend. Lyn McCarthy, Hopelink Snoqualmie Valley Mobility Coordinator, was on hand to accept the proclamation.

AB25-094 – Appointment to Planning Commission

Audio: 33:53

Mayor Miller recommended the appointment of Chris Coulon to Position No. 4 on the Planning Commission.

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB25-094, confirming the appointment of Chris Coulon to Planning Commission Position No. 4, term expiring May 18, 2026. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

Presentation – King County Library

Audio: 41:27

King County Library Regional Manager Mary Comstock and Librarian & Information Services Manager Jeong Kim provided a presentation on their “Curiosity Isn’t Quiet” campaign, “Curious Creatures” summer reading program, regular programming, and statistics on regional and North Bend Library patronage, material check outs and cardholder information.

Presentation – Best Starts for Kids

Audio: 49:43

Jamalia Jones and Jessica Tollenaar-Cafferty from Best Starts for Kids provided a presentation on the Best Starts for Kids program which serves youth ages 24 and under. They reviewed areas of investment, County demographics, funding opportunities, online data dashboard, and 2024 investments/assistance for organizations in North Bend.

Presentation – Salary Commission Report

Audio: 1:04:23

City Attorney Rosenberg and Administrative Services Director Escobar provided the staff report.

Ms. Escobar introduced Salary Commissioners Haas, Pottmeyer and Sill. The Salary Commission provided a presentation on the Salary Commission’s August 13, 2025 Report which contained the following:

The Commission unanimously approved the following changes to the Mayor and City Council compensation, effective January 1, 2026:

Mayor's Base Salary shall be increased to \$6,000 per month from \$4,000 per month. Meeting reimbursement for a maximum of 10 meetings per month at \$100 per meeting is included in the base salary.

Councilmembers Base Salary shall be increased by 3%, averaging the CPI from 2022-2025, to \$570 per month from \$550 per month. In addition to the base salary, Councilmembers will be paid:

Regional Meetings:	\$100 each
Non-regional Meetings:	\$75 each

Meeting reimbursement amounts will remain the same. Meeting expense reimbursements to be capped at a maximum of 6 meetings per month.

Base salary includes regularly scheduled council meetings, special council meetings, public hearings, and council workshops.

Regional meetings include, but are not limited to:

- Sound Cities Association (SCA)
- Association of Washington Cities (AWC)
- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)
- Snoqualmie Valley Governments Association (SVGA)
- Eastside Fire & Rescue (EFR)
- King County Affordable Housing Task Force
- King County Flood Control Advisory Committee
- King County Regional Law, Safety, and Justice Committee
- SCA Public Issues Committee
- SCA Joint Recommendations Committee
- Land Conservation Advisory Group
- Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Forum (WRIA)
- Eastside Transportation Partnership (ETP)
- Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association
- National League of Cities (NLC)
- Meetings in Olympia (that address City of North Bend issues with legislature, governor, state departments or boards)
- Meetings not enumerated in this list where the Mayor or Councilmember is appointed or elected to attend by the Mayor, City Council, King County Executive, SVGA or SCA, King County Council, the Governor, or State Legislature, if the reason for the appointment was because of the individual's status as an elected official and the meeting purpose will advance the City of North Bend's interests either regionally or locally.
- Meetings with King County (personnel or elected officials)

Non-regional meetings include committee meetings and other city related task force or associations that the Councilmember has been appointed to or requested to attend.

Attendance at political functions, fundraising and/or social events, regularly scheduled community events, ribbon cuttings, and State of the City presentations to other organizations are excluded.

For reimbursement purposes, meetings lasting less than 4 hours will be counted as one meeting and meetings lasting over 4 hours will be counted as two meetings. Travel time to and from meetings is not included in meeting time. The Mayor and Council will continue to be reimbursed for mileage to and from meetings per NBMC 3.36.

COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community & Economic Development Committee – Councilmember Elwood, Chair
A report of the September 16th meeting was provided.

Finance & Administration Committee – Councilmember Gothelf, Chair
A report of the September 9th meeting was provided.

Eastside Fire & Rescue Board Meeting – Councilmember Gothelf
A report of the September 11th meeting was provided.

Public Health & Safety Committee – Councilmember Rustik, Chair
A report of the September 2nd meeting was provided.

Transportation & Public Works Committee – Councilmember Koellen, Chair
A report of the August 26th meeting was provided.

Council Workstudy – Mayor Pro Tem Joselyn
A report of the August 26th Special Workstudy was provided.

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee – Councilmember Tremolada
A report of the September 10th meeting was provided.

Snoqualmie Valley Aquatic Collaborative – Councilmember Tremolada
A report of recent discussions was provided.

Regional Law, Safety, and Justice Committee – Councilmember Torguson
A report of the July 31st meeting was provided.

Planning Commission
A report of the August 6th and August 20th meetings was provided.

Parks Commission

A report of the July 23rd meeting was provided.

Economic Development Commission

A report of the August 28th meeting was provided.

INTRODUCTIONS:

AB25-095 – Public Hearing, Ordinance 1838 Amending Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule RE School Impact Fees **Audio: 1:48:54**

Planning Manager McCarty provided the staff report. Ryan Stokes, Snoqualmie Valley School District Assistant Superintendent, was on hand to answer questions.

Mayor Miller opened the Public Hearing on an Ordinance Amending the Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule Regarding School Impact Fees at 8:51 p.m.

There was no public comment and Mayor Miller closed the Public Hearing at 8:51 p.m.

Councilmember Elwood **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf to approve AB25-095, an ordinance updating the amount of school impact fees, amending the Taxes, Rates, & Fees Schedule relating to School Impact Fees, and amending Ordinance No. 1260, as a first and final reading. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AB25-096 – Public Hearing, Ordinance 1839 Increasing Stormwater Rates **Audio: 1:56:35** & Amending Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos provided the staff report.

Mayor Miller opened the Public Hearing on an Ordinance Increasing Stormwater Rates and Amending the Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule at 9:00 p.m.

There was no public comment and Mayor Miller closed the Public Hearing at 9:01 p.m.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Joselyn to approve AB25-096, an ordinance increasing Stormwater Rates and amending the Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule, as a first and final reading. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

Mayor Miller announced a five-minute break at 9:05 p.m. Mayor Miller resumed the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Miller recessed the meeting for an Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or

to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency, pursuant to RCW42.30.110(1)(i). Action was anticipated as a result of the Executive Session, which was expected to last fifteen minutes and videotaping of the meeting was paused.

City Attorneys Evans and Rosenberg were present for the Executive Session.

At 9:25 p.m. it was announced to audience members outside the adjournment room that the Executive Session was expected to last an additional five minutes.

The regular meeting was reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Rustik to authorize the Mayor to execute and administer the “Interlocal Agreement Between the City of North Bend and the City of Snoqualmie for Police Services. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AB25-097 – Resolution 2162 Authorizing Easement & Quit Claim Deed **Audio: 2:09:47**
Regarding Alm Way Right-of-Way Vacation

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos provided the staff report.

Councilmember Koellen **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Tremolada to approve AB25-097, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Access and Utility Easement Agreement and Quit Claim Deed related to the Alm Way Street Vacation, and accepting payment from 90 NB Investments LLC for \$337,858. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AB25-098 – Resolution 2163 Adopting Shoreline Public Access & Trail Plan **Audio: 2:14:20**

Planning Manager McCarty provided the staff report.

Councilmember Elwood **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Joselyn to approve AB25-098, a resolution acknowledging completion of the Shoreline Public Access and Trail Plan and adopting the Plan to guide future City planning and projects. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AB25-099 – Resolution 2164 Setting Public Hearing Date Regarding **Audio: 2:22:01**
Right-of-Way Vacation Along NW 8th Street

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos provided the staff report.

Councilmember Koellen **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf to approve AB25-099, a resolution initiating vacation process for a portion of City right-of-way located along NW 8th Street and setting a Public Hearing date of October 21, 2025.

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Torguson to change the Public Hearing date to October 7, 2025. The motion **FAILED** 6-1 (Elwood, Gothelf, Joselyn, Koellen, Rustik & Tremolada).

The main motion then **PASSED** 7-0.

AB25-100 – Motion Authorizing Public Works Director Employment Contract

Audio: 2:37:49

City Administrator Emery provided the staff report.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB25-100, authorizing the Mayor to execute and administer an Employment Agreement for the Director of Public Works, in a form and content approved by the City Attorney. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AB25-101 – Ordinance Adopting NBMC 6.12.035 Regarding Cleanup of Horses

Audio: 2:41:51

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos provided the staff report.

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf to postpone AB25-101, an ordinance adopting NBMC Section 6.12.035 relating to clean-up of horses, ponies, burros, mules, and other beasts of burden in City right-of-way and parks to the November 4, 2025 City Council meeting. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNS AND INITIATIVES:

Councilmember Elwood thanked those that provided presentations at tonight's meeting and members of the public for providing comments. Additionally, he acknowledged passage of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the City of Snoqualmie for police services.

Councilmember Torguson echoed Councilmember Elwood's comments regarding the ILA for police services and noted the North Bend Railway Museum would be hosting a Halloween Train on the last three weekends in October and the Snoqualmie Wine Train on Friday, October 31st.

Councilmember Tremolada encouraged all to register to vote for the upcoming November 4th General Election.

Councilmember Joselyn acknowledged the efforts of outgoing Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos and extended his appreciation to all other staff members for their efforts on behalf of the City.

Councilmember Rustik encouraged all to donate food items to the “Apple Cup Food Drive” and noted donations boxes were available at City Hall until September 20th.

Councilmember Gothelf echoed fellow Councilmembers comments regarding the ILA for police services and Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos. Additionally, he congratulated Mr. Mohr on his promotion to Public Works Director.

City Administrator Emery noted City Engineer DeBerg would be promoted to Deputy Public Works Director.

Mayor Miller spoke regarding the following items:

- Meet Up with the Mayor – September 17th 9 – 10 a.m. @ Arete Coffee
- Valley Volunteer Day – October 4th 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- North Bend Blues Walk – October 4th 6 p.m. – Midnight @ Downtown
- September 23, 2025 Special Council Workstudy

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED** to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Elwood. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mary Miller, Mayor

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk