

NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 18, 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 AB25-129 – Motion Authorizing Lease with DFW for CED Annex Building was pulled from tonight's agenda.

Mayor Miller announced tonight's agenda was modified to add a presentation on the Mid-Biennial Budget Review and Modification directly after Audience Participation on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes – City Council Meeting of November 4, 2025

Payroll – **November 5, 2025** – **78053** through **78058**, in the amount of **\$416,675.37**

Checks – **November 18, 2025** – **78059** through **78110**, in the amount of **\$1,343,341.04**

AB25-123 – Resolution 2173 Designating 2026 Paper of Record

AB25-124 – Resolution 2174 Authorizing Cancellation of Outdated Checks

AB25-125 – Motion Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to Terracon On-Call Contract

AB25-126 – Motion Appointing Municipal Court Judge

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Robyn Balcom, North Bend resident, reported her property tax increased recently and requested Council consider cuts to lower the tax burden and expressed concern about the unaffordability of the area.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS:

Presentation – Mid-Biennial Budget Review and Modification

Audio: 6:14

Finance Director Chaw provided a presentation on the Mid-Biennial Budget Review and Modification that included requirements for Mid-Biennial Budget review, when a Mid-

Biennial Budget Modification was required and a memorandum related to the process.

Councilmember Elwood **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Tremolada to postpone a motion to direct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance with staff to recall \$600k from the 2026 appropriations within the general fund and re-direct to the spending authority for police services to the December 2, 2025 City Council meeting. The motion **PASSED** 5-2 (Joselyn, Koellen).

COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community & Economic Development Committee – Councilmember Elwood, Chair
A report of the November 18th meeting was provided.

Finance & Administration Committee – Councilmember Gothelf, Chair
A report of the November 12th meeting was provided.

Eastside Fire & Rescue Board Meeting – Councilmember Gothelf
A report of the November 13th meeting was provided.

Public Health & Safety Committee – Councilmember Rustik, Chair
A report of the November 4th meeting was provided.

Transportation & Public Works Committee – Councilmember Koellen, Chair
A report of the October 28th meeting was provided.

Council Workstudy – Mayor Pro Tem Joselyn
A report of the October 28th Workstudy was provided.

Planning Commission
A report of the November 5th meeting was provided.

Parks Commission
A report of the September 24th meeting was provided.

Economic Development Commission
A report of the November 13th meeting was provided.

Regional Utilities Rate Summit – Councilmember Elwood
A report of the November 14th meeting was provided.

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee – Councilmember Tremolada
A report of the November 12th meeting was provided.

MAIN AGENDA:

AB25-127 – Public Hearing Cont., Ordinance 1845 Setting 2026 Property **Audio: 1:32:29**
Tax Levy

Finance Director Chaw provided the staff report.

Mayor Miller announced the Public Hearing on an Ordinance Setting the 2026 Property Tax Levy was opened at the November 4, 2025 City Council meeting and continued to tonight's meeting.

There was no public comment and Mayor Miller closed the Public Hearing at 8:53 p.m.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Joselyn to approve AB25-127, an ordinance adopting the 2026 Regular Property Tax Levy with a 1.0% increase (as set forth in option number 1), as a final reading.

Councilmember Rustik **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf, to earmark the 1.0% increase for the police contract. The motion **PASSED** 5-2 (Joselyn, Koellen).

The main motion **PASSED AS AMENDED** 7-0.

AB25-128 – Ordinance 1846 Amending Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule **Audio: 2:04:10**
RE Solid Waste & Recycling Rates

Public Works Director Mohr provided the staff report.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Torguson to approve AB25-128, an ordinance increasing the Solid Waste & Recycling Rates, effective January 1, 2026, and amending the Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule, as a first and final reading. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNS AND INITIATIVES:

Councilmember Elwood suggested those walking at night carry flashlights or wear reflective clothing to increase visibility to those driving in the area and encouraged all to exercise caution in light of the reported high wind advisory.

Councilmember Koellen commented on the recently completed sidewalk near Dahlgren Family Park.

Councilmember Tremolada congratulated Councilmember Joselyn on his re-election to City Council Position No. 6 and noted he looked forward to working with him for another four years.

Councilmember Rustik reported the City hosted interviews for the new Police Chief earlier in the day and thanked the public that attended the November 17th Open House and interview process. Additionally, she displayed the patches provided by the King County Sheriff's Office for the new police department.

Councilmember Gothelf congratulated Councilmember Tremolada on his election to City Council Position No. 4 and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Additionally, he elaborated on earlier comments regarding staff, budget and fiscal prudence.

Councilmember Joselyn addressed Councilmember Gothelf's comments and discussed Council's fiduciary responsibility related to budgetary matters and the need to be mindful and respectful during the process. Additionally, he acknowledged the recent improvements to Thrasher Avenue near the Ranger's Station and reiterated Councilmember Rustik's comments regarding the Police Chief interviews.

City Administrator Emery thanked Reclaim Executive Director Jennifer Kirk for the tour of their facility last week and encouraged those that may need assistance to reach out to Reclaim at 425-389-7114. Additionally, she commented on and thanked City Staff for all of their efforts and thanked Human Resources Manager Erin DeBerg for organizing the Police Chief interviews.

Mayor Miller spoke regarding the following items:

- Meet-up with the Mayor – November 19th 9 a.m. @ Hartwood Café
- Donations to Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank
- Friends of the North Bend Library Holiday Bazaar – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. @ North Bend Library
- City Offices Closed November 27th & 28th for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Cancellation of November 25th City Council Workstudy

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED** to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Koellen. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mary Miller, Mayor

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk