



## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING\***

### **January 6, 2026 – Agenda**

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

**7:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE**

### **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 6, 2026 AGENDA**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

	Pg.#
<b>1) Minutes</b> City Council Meeting of December 2, 2025	<b>1</b>
<b>2) Payroll</b> December 5, 2025 – 78171 through 78176, in the amount of \$377,195.29	
December 19, 2025 – 78237 through 78240, in the amount of \$334,549.59	
December 31, 2025 – 78244 through 78250, in the amount of \$528,047.27	
<b>3) Checks</b> December 16, 2025 – 78177 through 78236, in the amount of \$1,419,483.10	
December 26, 2025 – 78241 through 78243, in the amount of \$65,113.65	
December 30, 2025 – 78251 through 78299, in the amount of \$1,513,538.57	
January 6, 2026 – 78300 through 78302, in the amount of \$19,145.15	

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** (Please restrict comments to 3 minutes)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS:**

<b>4) Proclamation</b> National Mentoring Month	Mayor Miller	<b>5</b>
<b>5) AB26-001</b> 2026 Council Standing Committee Appointments	Mayor Pro Tem Tremolada	<b>7</b>

#### **INTRODUCTIONS:**

<b>6) AB26-002</b> Resolution – Ratifying Proclamation of Emergency	Ms. Emery	<b>9</b>
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**MAYOR, COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNS AND INITIATIVES:** (Business and general information presented that may be deliberated upon by the Council. Formal action may be deferred until a subsequent meeting; immediate action may be taken upon a vote of a majority of all members of the Council.)

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**



**\*PLEASE NOTE:** Members of the public may choose to attend the meeting in person or by teleconference. Members of the public attending the meeting in-person will have an opportunity to provide public comment and if attending the meeting by teleconference may submit written comments via in-person drop off, mail, fax, or e-mail to [Clerks@northbendwa.gov](mailto:Clerks@northbendwa.gov). All written comments must be received by 5 p.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting and may not exceed 350 words. If an individual requires accommodation to allow for remote oral comment because of a difficulty attending a meeting of the governing body, the City requests notice of the need for accommodation by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting. Participants can request accommodation to be able to provide a remote oral comment by contacting the City Clerk's Office in person, by phone (425) 888-1211 or by email: [Clerks@northbendwa.gov](mailto:Clerks@northbendwa.gov). No other remote public comment will be permitted.

Those wishing to access the meeting by teleconference will be required to have a registered Zoom account and display your full name to be admitted to the online meeting.

Zoom Meeting Information:

To Sign Up for a Zoom Account: <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 409 007 2718

Call In Phone Number: 1-253-215-8782

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**NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**December 2, 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 December 16, 2025 City Council Meeting and the December 23, 2025 City Council Workstudy were cancelled.

**SWEARING IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

Mayor Miller administered the oath of office to Councilmembers Mark Joselyn and Errol Tremolada.

Mayor Miller recessed the meeting at 7:06 p.m. for a ten-minute break. The meeting was called back to order at 7:15 p.m.

Councilmember Torguson requested AB25-136 – Motion Regarding 2026 General Fund Appropriations be moved up on the agenda to be discussed before AB25-135 – Ordinance Adopting 2026 Salary Schedule.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Minutes** – Special City Council Workstudy of October 14, 2025, City Council Workstudy of October 28, 2025 & City Council Meeting of November 18, 2025

**Payroll – November 20, 2025 – 78111 through 78113**, in the amount of **\$287,504.32**

**Checks – December 2, 2025 – 78114 through 78170**, in the amount of **\$2,681,414.17**

**AB25-130** – Motion Authorizing Contract with Eastside Transportation Partnership

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

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

**Debra Landers**, North Bend Art & Industry, reported on recent events and noted the organization had a ribbon cutting event scheduled for Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. at their new facility located at 1533 Bendigo Blvd N.

**Robyn Balcom**, North Bend resident, expressed a desire to learn more about City finances,

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the budgeting process, costs associated with the new police services contract with the King County Sheriff's Office, and where the City could cut spending to reduce the tax burden on citizens.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS:**

##### **AB25-131 – Appointments to Parks Commission**

**Audio: 13:28**

Mayor Miller recommended the reappointments of Matt Miller to Position No. 1, Kyle Braun to Position No. 2, Eric Thompson to Position No. 3 and Tim Talevich to Position No. 4 on the Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission.

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Tremolada to approve AB25-131, confirming the reappointments of Matt Miller to Position No. 1, Kyle Braun to Position No. 2, Eric Thompson to Position No. 3 and Tim Talevich to Position No. 4, on the Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission, terms expiring December 31, 2029. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

##### **AB25-132 – Selection of 2026 Mayor Pro Tem**

**Audio: 19:38**

##### **Mayor Miller called for nominations for 2026 Mayor Pro Tem.**

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED** to nominate Councilmember Tremolada to serve as the 2026 Mayor Pro-Tem, seconded by Councilmember Rustik.

There were no further nominations. The motion **PASSED** 7-0, and Councilmember Tremolada was selected as the 2026 Mayor Pro-Tem.

Councilmember Torguson **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf to move AB25-136 – Motion Regarding 2026 General Fund Appropriations before AB25-135 – Ordinance Adopting 2026 Salary Schedule on tonight's agenda. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

#### **MAIN AGENDA:**

##### **AB25-133 – Motion Authorizing Lease with DFW for CED Annex Building**

**Audio: 27:42**

Administrative Services Director Escobar provided the staff report.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB25-133, authorizing the Mayor to execute and administer a Lease Agreement with Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife for use of the City's former CED Annex Building, in a form and content approved by the City Attorney. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

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**AB25-134 – Public Hearing Only, 2025-2026 Mid-Biennial Budget****Audio: 34:24**

Finance Director Chaw provided the staff report.

**Mayor Miller opened the Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Mid-Biennial Budget at 7:44 p.m.**

**There was no public comment and Mayor Miller closed the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m.**

**AB25-136 – Motion Regarding 2026 General Fund Appropriations****Audio: 36:26**

Councilmember Torguson discussed the agenda item.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Torguson to approve AB25-136, directing 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.

Councilmember Torguson **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Joselyn to amend the pending motion and direct City staff to earmark \$685,000 of the 2025 General Funding ending fund balance for public safety services in 2027 as part of Budget Amendment No. 1 in 2026. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

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

**AB25-135 – Ordinance Adopting 2026 Salary Schedule****Audio: 57:40**

Finance Director Chaw provided the staff report.

Councilmember Joselyn **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to postpone AB25-135, an ordinance adopting the 2026 Salary Schedule, to the next City Council Workstudy of January 27, 2026. The motion **PASSED** 5-2 (Gothelf, Torguson).

**MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNS AND INITIATIVES:**

Councilmember Gothelf noted it was his last night on the City Council and thanked past and present City Councilmember and staff he worked with during the last nineteen years for their efforts. He expressed his concern regarding stewardship of the City finances, funding deficits and staff salary schedules and concluded by thanking everyone for allowing him to serve as a Councilmember.

City Councilmembers thanked Councilmember Gothelf for his dedication and service to the community, his fellow Councilmembers and Eastside Fire & Rescue. Additionally, they acknowledged the service of outgoing Mayor Pro Tem Joselyn and noted they looked forward to working with incoming Mayor Pro Tem Tremolada in 2026.

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Councilmember Rustik congratulated Councilmember Joselyn and Tremolada on their recent re-election to the City Council and thanked staff for their efforts this past year. She concluded by wishing everyone a “Happy Holidays”.

Councilmember Joselyn echoed Councilmember Rustik’s comments by acknowledging the efforts of City staff.

Councilmember Tremolada thanked fellow Councilmembers for their trust in nominating him as 2026 Mayor Pro Tem and thanked and acknowledged the efforts of City Directors and staff during 2025. Additionally, he reminded everyone of the December 6<sup>th</sup> Holly Days event from 5 – 8 p.m. in Downtown North Bend.

Councilmember Torguson commented on earlier agenda items related to the City’s finances, the efforts of City staff during the year, and concluded by extending holiday wishes to everyone.

Councilmember Elwood echoed fellow Councilmember’s thoughts regarding City staff and Councilmembers accomplishments and noted Valley Center Stage’s production of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” would be running December 5<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> at Sallal Grange.

City Administrator Emery thanked outgoing Councilmember Gothelf for his service and dedication to the citizens of North Bend and acknowledged the efforts of Mayor Pro Tem Joselyn in 2025.

Mayor Miller spoke regarding the following items:

- Outgoing Councilmember Gothelf and Mayor Pro Tem Joselyn
- Light Up North Bend Holiday Lighting Registration Deadline on December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Holiday Events in the City including the Holly Days Festival – Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 5 – 8 p.m. @ Downtown
- Meet up with the Mayor – December 10<sup>th</sup> 11 a.m. to Noon @ Bread & Bone

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

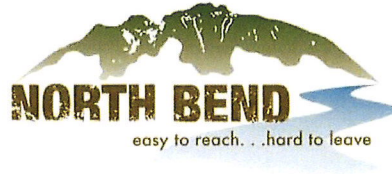
ATTEST:

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Mary Miller, Mayor

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Susie Oppedal, City Clerk



## Office of Mayor

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, January 2026 will mark the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Mentoring Month, highlighting the need for mentors and the power of mentoring to ensure positive outcomes for young people; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Bend honors volunteer mentors who strengthen our communities through programs like Youth Success Mentoring, a program of Empower Youth Network, building relationships that increase social capital and support networks; and

**WHEREAS**, mentoring fosters career exploration, workplace skills, healthy relationships, positive self-esteem, and emotional well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, students with mentors are more likely to attend school, enroll in college, and avoid risky behaviors; and

**WHEREAS**, National Mentoring Month is a time to celebrate, elevate, and encourage mentoring and recruit caring adults in the City of North Bend;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mary Miller, Mayor, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2026, as

### NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

in the City of North Bend and encourage those interested in becoming a youth mentor to contact Empower Youth Network and thank current youth mentors for devoting their time and effort to ensure the success of our youth.



Signed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Miller", is written over a horizontal line.

**Mary Miller**  
**Mayor**







## City Council Agenda Bill

<b>SUBJECT:</b>		<b>Agenda Date: January 6, 2026</b>		<b>AB26-001</b>																	
<b>Motion Confirming 2026 Council Standing Committee Appointments</b>		Department/Committee/Individual																			
		Mayor Mary Miller																			
		City Administrator – Amber Emery																			
		City Attorney – Kendra Rosenberg																			
		City Clerk – Susie Oppedal																			
		Administrative Services – Lisa Escobar																			
		Comm. & Economic Development – James Henderson																			
Cost Impact: N/A		Finance – Martin Chaw																			
Fund Source: N/A		Public Works – Tom Mohr																			
Timeline: Immediate		Mayor Pro Tem Tremolada		X																	
<b>Attachments:</b>																					
<p><b>SUMMARY STATEMENT:</b></p> <p>In 2004, Council passed Resolution 1033 re-establishing Council Standing Committees and in 2010 passed Resolution 1437 further defining the appointment process and duties.</p> <p>As part of the process, the Mayor Pro Tem shall recommend, and the Council shall confirm by motion, the membership of each committee and the committee chair by the City Council's first regular meeting in January of each year. The Mayor Pro Tem shall assign three Councilmembers to each committee, naming one as committee chair. The Committee appointments are for one-year terms, and any change of assignments as described must be approved by majority vote of the full Council.</p> <p>Mayor Pro Tem Tremolada is proposing the following 2026 Council Committee appointments for Council's consideration:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Community &amp; Economic Development Committee:</td> <td>Finance &amp; Administration Committee:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair – Councilmember Torguson</td> <td>Chair – Councilmember Rustik</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember Elwood</td> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember Joselyn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember Joselyn</td> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember McFarland</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Public Health &amp; Safety Committee:</td> <td>Transportation &amp; Public Works Committee:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair – Councilmember Elwood</td> <td>Chair – Councilmember Koellen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember Koellen</td> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember McFarland</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember Torguson</td> <td>Co-Chair – Councilmember Rustik</td> </tr> </table>						Community & Economic Development Committee:	Finance & Administration Committee:	Chair – Councilmember Torguson	Chair – Councilmember Rustik	Co-Chair – Councilmember Elwood	Co-Chair – Councilmember Joselyn	Co-Chair – Councilmember Joselyn	Co-Chair – Councilmember McFarland	Public Health & Safety Committee:	Transportation & Public Works Committee:	Chair – Councilmember Elwood	Chair – Councilmember Koellen	Co-Chair – Councilmember Koellen	Co-Chair – Councilmember McFarland	Co-Chair – Councilmember Torguson	Co-Chair – Councilmember Rustik
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Co-Chair – Councilmember Koellen	Co-Chair – Councilmember McFarland																				
Co-Chair – Councilmember Torguson	Co-Chair – Councilmember Rustik																				
COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION: n/a																					
RECOMMENDED ACTION: <b>MOTION to approve AB26-001, confirming the 2026 appointments to the Council's Standing Committees.</b>																					
<b>RECORD OF COUNCIL ACTION</b>																					
<i>Meeting Date</i>	<i>Action</i>		<i>Vote</i>																		
January 6, 2026																					





## City Council Agenda Bill

SUBJECT:		Agenda Date: January 6, 2026		AB26-002	
<b>Resolution Ratifying and Confirming December 10, 2025, Proclamation of Local Emergency</b>		Department/Committee/Individual			
		Mayor Mary Miller		X	
		City Administrator – Amber Emery		X	
		City Attorney – Kendra Rosenberg			
		City Clerk – Susie Oppedal			
		Administrative Services – Lisa Escobar			
		Comm. & Economic Development – James Henderson			
		Finance – Martin Chaw			
Cost Impact: TBD	Public Works – Tom Mohr, PE		X		
Fund Source:	Emergency Management & HR – Erin DeBerg		X		
Timeline: Immediate					
<b>Attachments:</b> Resolution, Exhibit A - Local Emergency Proclamation					
<b>SUMMARY STATEMENT:</b>					
<p>King County Executive Girmay Zahilay issued an emergency proclamation on December 8, 2025, in preparation for the impact of severe storms and flooding throughout King County.</p> <p>On December 9, 2025, City Administrator Amber Emery, Public Works Director Tom Mohr, and Emergency Manager Erin DeBerg briefed the Mayor on the deteriorating conditions around North Bend as a result of the December storm event and the need to declare a proclamation of local emergency.</p> <p>Emergency conditions are defined by the North Bend Emergency Management Plan and the necessity to utilize emergency powers are granted by RCW 38.52.070(2), RCW 39.04.280 and North Bend Municipal Code Chapter 2.68. Mayor Miller proclaimed, on December 10, 2025, that an emergency exists within North Bend as defined by RCW 39.04.280(3).</p> <p>The emergency may require purchases or authorizing contracts outside the public procurement process and the City’s procurement policy and procedures (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements). At this time, the City is only aware of a Fury Works on-call contract, which will be brought to Council for approval as a separate item.</p>					
<b>COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION:</b> Emergency declaration – North Bend Emergency Management Plan					
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION: MOTION to approve AB26-002, a resolution ratifying and confirming December 10, 2025, Proclamation of Local Emergency.</b>					
<b>RECORD OF COUNCIL ACTION</b>					
<i>Meeting Date</i>		<i>Action</i>		<i>Vote</i>	
January 6, 2026					



## RESOLUTION

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING THE MAYOR’S DECEMBER 10, 2025, PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, King County Executive Girmay Zahilay issued an emergency proclamation on December 8, 2025, in preparation for the impact of severe storms and flooding throughout King County; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 9, 2025, many local rivers reached or exceeded phase 4 flood gauge; and

**WHEREAS**, thereafter, an additional band of hazardous weather conditions added a significant amount of rainfall to the already impacted river ecosystems of the North, Middle, and South Forks of the Snoqualmie River; and

**WHEREAS**, the resulting flooding presented an additional threat to persons and property in the City of North Bend (the “City”) and the surrounding community; and

**WHEREAS**, the severe weather conditions constitute an emergency as defined by the North Bend Emergency Management Plan and necessitated the utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to chapter 2.68 of the North Bend Municipal Code (“NBMC”), RCW 38.52.070(2) and RCW 39.04.280; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 10, 2025, Mayor Miller proclaimed that an emergency existed within the City, pursuant to chapter 2.68 NBMC and the City’s approved Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and authorized the City departments and staff, in light of the extreme emergency situation, to authorize contracts and incur obligations to combat the emergency situations to protect the health and safety of person and properties without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements); and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Miller’s December 10, 2025, Proclamation of Emergency was officially entered of record with the City Clerk that same day; and

**WHEREAS**, also on December 10, 2025, Governor Bob Ferguson proclaimed “that a State of Emergency exist[ed] throughout the entire state of Washington,” due to the atmospheric and winter weather event; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council does hereby find that the above described conditions of extreme peril did warrant and necessitate the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency in the City of North Bend and surrounding communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The North Bend City Council hereby ratifies and confirms the Mayor's December 10, 2025, Proclamation of Emergency, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**Section 2.** As provided by RCW 38.52.070(2), the Mayor and City Department Directors are authorized to enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to provide emergency responses to the recent atmospheric and winter weather events without regard to time consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law, excepting mandatory constitutional rights, which includes without limitation existing budget limitations, competitive bidding requirements, rental, purchase, contracting, and expenditure policies.

**Section 3.** The Mayor's Proclamation of Emergency, as ratified and confirmed herein, shall remain in full force and effect until terminated by order of the Mayor or action of the City Council. Absent further action to extend the Mayor's Proclamation of Emergency, it shall expire thirty (30) calendar days after passage of this Resolution.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF, THIS 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2026.**

**CITY OF NORTH BEND:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mary Miller, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kendra Rosenberg, City Attorney**

**ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:**

Effective:

Posted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Susie Oppedal, City Clerk**

## PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY

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WHEREAS, King County Executive Girmay Zahilay issued an emergency proclamation on December 8, 2025 in preparation for the impact of severe storms and flooding throughout King County.

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2025, many of the local rivers reached or exceeded phase 4 flood gauges.

WHEREAS, as of December 9, 2025 an additional band of hazardous weather conditions is anticipated through December 11, 2025, likely adding significant amount of rainfall to an already impacted river ecosystem of the North, Middle and South Fork Snoqualmie River.

WHEREAS, this constitutes an emergency as defined by the North Bend Emergency Management Plan and necessitates the utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW 38.52.070(2), RCW 39.04.280, and North Bend Municipal Code Chapter 2.68.

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Mayor of the City of North Bend that an emergency exists as defined by RCW 39.04.280(3) and the City's Procurement Policy and Procedures; and

I hereby order that the City staff may authorize contracts and incur obligations to combat such emergency situations to protect health and safety of persons and property consistent with the City's Procurement Policy and Procedures Section 3.4; and

The emergency may require emergency purchases by the City of North Bend and the waiver of public procurement process. Each designated department in the City of North Bend is authorized to exercise the powers vested in this proclamation in light of the exigencies of an emergency situation without regard to time consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements).

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025



Mayor of North Bend



City Administrator



Director of Public Works



Emergency Management Coordinator