

**MINUTES - DRAFT**

**City of Orange**

**Orange City Council**

February 24, 2026

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The City Council of the City of Orange, California convened on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, California.

**5:00 PM CLOSED SESSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1 ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater

**Absent:** Bilodeau

Councilmember Gutierrez joined Closed Session at 5:03 p.m.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

None

**3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

The City Council recessed to Closed Session at 5:02 p.m. with all Members present, except Councilmember Gutierrez who joined Closed Session at 5:03 p.m. and Mayor pro tem Bilodeau who was absent, to discuss the following:

**a. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

City Negotiators: Jarad Hildenbrand, City Manager; Monica Espinoza, Human Resources Director; Cody Kleen, Assistant Human Resources Director

Employee Organizations: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 47 (Maintenance and Crafts and Water Division), Executive Management and Senior Management Employees, Orange City Firefighters, Orange City Fire Management Association, Orange Management Association, Orange Municipal Employees' Association, City of Orange Police Association, and City of Orange Police Management Association

**4. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

None

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Closed Session was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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**6:00 PM REGULAR SESSION****1. OPENING/CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Slater called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**1.1 INVOCATION**

Given by Reverend Nancy E. Brink, Executive Director of the Fish Interfaith Center at Chapman University.

**1.2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Councilmember John Gyllenhammer.

**1.3 ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater  
**Absent:** Bilodeau

**1.4 PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Proclamation honoring K-9 Nash for six years of service to the City of Orange**

**Orange High School Student Liaison Jacob Gonzalez provided Council with a brief update on school happenings.**

**1.5 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

None

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**Public Speakers:

Greg Arrowsmith spoke regarding statistics related to California correctional facilities.

Reggie Mundekis encouraged Council to support the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and all employee bargaining groups.

Marci Carey spoke regarding federal immigration issues.

Michael Ristig spoke regarding federal immigration issues.

Ryan Johnson spoke about the use of non-sworn Community Service Officers to supplement Police Department staffing.

Lynnette Gertz spoke regarding federal immigration issues.

Mel Vernon announced a "No Kings" event at Yorba Park on March 28.

Mary Oberschlake commented on federal immigration offices in Orange County.

Chip O'Neal encouraged Council to adopt a resolution stating the City would not assist federal immigration officers.

Carole Walters inquired about parking meter funds.

David Casselman expressed support for Ukraine and commented on his First Amendment rights.

Lisa Baldwin spoke about the notice mailed to residents regarding a proposed development at the former Best Buy site.

Shawn Donnelly, City of Orange Water Division employee, talked about labor negotiations and the retention of Water Division employees.

Josh Borden, City of Orange Water Division employee, stated the City of Orange is the lowest paid City in the area and discussed retention concerns, noting employees are trained by the City and subsequently leave for other jurisdictions.

Steven Borden spoke regarding the automation of street sweeping parking citations.

Paul (no last name given) suggested adding 15-minute parking spaces in Old Towne.

#### Written Public Comments

Janice Brownfield emailed about the dangers of air pollution.

Matin Sharifinejad submitted an eComment concerning the impact that the ban on tobacco sales from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. has had on his business.

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

All items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and are enacted by one motion approving the recommended action listed on the Agenda. Any member of the City Council, staff, or the public may request an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion or separate action. Unless otherwise specified in the request to remove an item from the Consent Calendar, all items removed shall be considered immediately following action on the remaining items on the Consent Calendar.

#### **3.1. Waive reading in full of all ordinances on the Agenda.**

ACTION: Approved.

#### **3.2. Approval of minutes of the City of Orange City Council Special Meeting held on February 5, 2026, and Regular Meeting held on February 10, 2026.**

ACTION: Approved minutes as presented.

#### **3.3. Agreement with Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP for annual financial audit services for the City and the Successor Agency of the former Orange Redevelopment Agency for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 and an Agreed-Upon Procedures for Payroll.**

ACTION: Approved the agreement with Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP in the amount of \$185,240 for audit services and Agreed-Upon Procedures for Payroll; and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute on behalf of the City.

#### **3.4. Agreement with Officer Logan Shryock for the transfer of ownership of police service dog, Nash, assigned to the Police Department's canine team.**

A speaker card was submitted for Item 3.4; therefore, the item was removed from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration.

#### Public Speaker:

David Casselman spoke in support.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilmember Dumitru, seconded by Councilmember Barrios, to approve the agreement with Logan Shryock to transfer ownership of canine Nash; and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute on behalf of the City. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** Bilodeau

**3.5. First Amendment to Agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc. for additional design services for Well 29 Equipping.**

ACTION: Approved the First Amendment with Tetra Tech, Inc. in the amount of \$191,200; and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute on behalf of the City.

**3.6. Appropriation of \$10,689 in designated grant funding received from California Library Association and California State Library.**

ACTION: 1) Accepted into the City's General Fund (100) revenue budget \$10,689 in grant funds from California Library Association and California State Library to:

100-2101-43201-262110-48 Lunch at the Library Grant FY26

2) Authorized the appropriation of \$10,689 to General Fund (100):

100-2316-53101-262110-20 Operating Materials & Supplies

**3.7. Appropriation of \$55,000 from the County of Orange for the 2025 Proposition 69 funding award and approval of purchase of a forensic imaging and evidence detection device from Foster & Freeman USA Inc.**

ACTION: 1) Accepted into the City's Reimbursable Capital Projects (550) revenue budget \$55,000 in 2025 Proposition 69 funding from the County of Orange to:

550-4134-43299-264067 State - Other

2) Authorized the appropriation of \$55,000 into Reimbursable Capital Projects (550):

550-4134-80101-264067 Equipment - Prop 69 2025

3) Approved the sole source purchase of the Crime-Lite AUTO device from Foster & Freeman USA Inc. for \$54,831.94.

**3.8. Authorize an increase to two purchase orders for medical supplies and essential equipment repairs for the Emergency Medical Transport Program.**

ACTION: 1) Approved an increase to a blanket purchase order for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$375,000 with Life Assist, Inc. for medical supplies; and 2) Approved an increase to a blanket purchase order for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$85,000 with Stryker Medical Supplies for medical supplies and other professional services.

**3.9. Authorize purchase of replacement public use desktop computers and laptops from CPAC, Inc.**

ACTION: Approved the purchase order for replacement public use desktop computers and laptops from CPAC, Inc. for \$80,000.

**3.10. Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and related financial reports for the Fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.**

ACTION: Receive and file the following documents for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025:

1) Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

2) Audit Communication Letter

3) Independent Accountants' Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures Applied to the Appropriations Limit Worksheets

4) Independent Accountants' Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures Applied to the Investment Portfolio

5) Air Pollution Reduction Fund Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report

- 6) Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
- 7) Housing Successor Fund Financial Statements

**Approval of the Consent Calendar**

Item 3.4 was removed from the Consent Calendar and heard separately. All other items were approved as recommended.

A motion was made by Councilmember Tavoularis, seconded by Councilmember Dumitru, to approve the Consent Calendar as recommended. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** Bilodeau

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

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**4. REPORTS FROM MAYOR SLATER**

**4.1. Discuss reinstating sidewalk steam cleaning services for the Plaza in Old Towne.**

Mayor Slater proposed reinstating sidewalk steam cleaning services in Old Towne. Council discussed the cost associated with restoring weekly and monthly cleanings, the possibility of adding the Lemon Street parking structure to the cleaning schedule, and the addition of security cameras in the parking structure stairwells.

Public Speakers:

The following spoke in support of reinstating the cleaning services: AJ Ricci, Brandy Romero, Lisa Baldwin, Steve Molina, and Tim Mabshi.

With Council concurrence, staff was directed to restore cleaning efforts within the City Manager's signing authority.

RECESS: The City Council recessed at 7:32 p.m. and reconvened at 7:47 p.m. with all Members present, except Mayor pro tem Bilodeau who was absent.

**4.2. Discuss updating the standards for paving, driveway widths, and parking in setback areas.**

Mayor Slater noted an increase in the amount of vehicles parked in single driveways and requested consensus to direct staff to revise standards related to paving, driveway widths, and parking within setback areas.

Public Speaker:

Douglas Newall spoke about the need for updated standards, noting that accessory dwelling units (ADUs) have contributed to an increase in the number of vehicles per household.

With Council concurrence, staff was directed to return with a report on driveway parking standards and the boarding house ordinance.

**4.3. Additional Reports from Mayor Slater**

Mayor Slater made a brief announcement about the current vacancies on various Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

**5. REPORTS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

Councilmember Barrios requested that the Tobacco Ordinance be brought back to Council for further updates.

Councilmember Gutierrez thanked Orange Police Department for keeping students safe during the recent walkouts while allowing them to exercise their constitutional rights.

Councilmember Tavoularis thanked the community for organizing a cleanup on Canal Street and announced an Open House for the Heim & Meats specific plan on February 26, 2026.

**6. AB 1234 REPORTS**

None

**7. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER**

None

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS****8.1. Lottery selection for permits to sell safe and sane fireworks.**

Staff provided a brief report noting that the three high schools identified in Resolution No. 11648 (Orange High School, El Modena High School, and Richland High School) have indicated their intent to move forward with the permitting process. Staff then conducted the random lottery. The results were as follows:

- 1) Greater Orange Community Arts Theater Foundation (GOCAT)
- 2) Orange Plaza Rotary Club
- 3) Cedar Tree Music and Performance
- 4) Young Life
- 5) Santiago Canyon College Foundation
- 6) Orange Lutheran High School
- 7) McPherson Educational Foundation
- 8) Journey to Hope Ministries
- 9) Orange Antlers #1475/Orange Elks Lodge #1475

The following alternate organizations were selected:

- 1) Rest Ezzz Foundation
- 2) The Church of God of Prophecy Orange
- 3) Homeless Intervention Services of Orange County
- 4) Father JJ Juba Council 4922 Knights of Columbus
- 5) Love Orange

6) House of Mercy

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**8.2. Review of the Santiago Creek Commission Strategic Plan.**

Deputy City Manager Jack Morgan presented the Santiago Creek Commission Strategic Plan. Council expressed strong support for the plan and discussed options for implementation.

Public Speakers:

Pamela Galera, Santiago Creek Commission Vice Chair, spoke in support of adoption and expressed interest in collaborating with grant writers to advance the plan. Adrienne Gladson spoke in support of adoption and implementation of the plan. Theresa Sears spoke in support of adoption and implementation of the plan.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dumitru, seconded by Councilmember Barrios, to adopt the Santiago Creek Strategic Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** Bilodeau

A motion was made by Mayor Slater, seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez, to direct the Santiago Creek Commission to collaborate with Townsend Public Affairs to identify potential grant opportunities and engage community groups to implement the recommendations detailed in the plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** Bilodeau

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m. in Memory of former City employee Viviano Cortez.

The next Regular City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, with Closed Session beginning at 5:00 p.m., if necessary.

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PAMELA COLEMAN  
CITY CLERK

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DANIEL R. SLATER  
MAYOR