

MINUTES - DRAFT

City of Orange

Orange City Council

March 24, 2026

The City Council of the City of Orange, California convened on Tuesday, March 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

Mayor Slater called Closed Session to order at 5:01 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

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

Councilmember Dumitru joined Closed Session at 5:05 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 Dumitru who joined Closed Session at 5:05 p.m. and Mayor Pro Tem Bilodeau who was absent, to discuss the following:

a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) & (d)(1) - One case
Name of Case: J.C. v. City of Orange et al.
Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2026-01553378

4. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

None

5. ADJOURNMENT

Closed Session was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

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

Mayor Slater called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1.1 INVOCATION

Given by Pastor Orlando Barela from Household of Faith Family Church.

1.2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Councilmember Arianna Barrios.

1.3 ROLL CALL

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

1.4 PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Proclamation recognizing March 2026 as Women's History Month and celebrating the exceptional female student athletes of Orange High School

Added Presentation:

Brief Update from the Orange County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

1.5 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

None

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Speakers:

Carole Walters expressed concerns regarding a neighborhood party and parking control issues over the weekend.

Greg Arrowsmith commented on an alleged Brown Act violation at the February 24, 2026, Council meeting.

Curt Peterson addressed Mayor Slater's State of the City remarks related to the City's budget.

Doug Redding thanked Council and staff for their ongoing work.

Scott Kramer thanked those who supported City staff during the strike and expressed appreciation to the Council for their negotiation efforts.

Kari Clow expressed concerns regarding consistency in Code Enforcement related to to ADUs.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**3.1. Mid-Year Status Update of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget**

Councilmember Gyllenhammer left the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Assistant Finance Director Michelle Kresan provided the mid-year status update of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget.

Written Public Comment

The Allegro Coalition submitted an eComment in opposition of approval.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dumitru, seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez, to:

- 1) Receive and file the report.
- 2) Authorize the appropriation of \$1,804,700 to the following accounts:

210-6001-55105- Subscription Services	\$5,000
210-6001-80201- Software Capitalization	\$40,000
210-6001-55999- Other Prof/Technical Svcs	\$50,000
210-6102-55999- Other Prof/Technical Svcs	\$417,000
310-6411-59999- Other/Misc Services	\$58,694
317-6431-87102-266028-20- CHDO	\$117,943
317-6431-87102-266002-20- HOME Developer	\$803,243
317-6431-87102- Capital Improvements - TRBA	\$312,820

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: Bilodeau, and Gyllenhammer

3.2. First Budget Study Session for the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget

Finance Director Trang Nguyen and Assistant Finance Director Michelle Kresan provided an overview of the proposed General Fund revenues and expenditures.

Public Speaker:

Brandy Romero expressed concerns regarding expenditures approved at the March 10, 2026, Council meeting.

Deputy City Manager Jack Morgan presented information on potential revenue measures, estimated annual revenues, and the projected ongoing operational deficit should no revenue measures be pursued.

Council discussed offering voters additional options to enhance revenue, including a City Charter measure, a Transient Occupancy Tax, utility tax, vacant property tax, cannabis tax, parking lot tax, residential caps, and the potential sale of the Water Division.

During further discussion, Fire Chief Alan Velasco presented a report on a proposed Ambulance Operator (AO) Program Enhancement. Transitioning to an all AO-staffed transport model would provide fiscal and community benefits.

Staff was directed to include the AO program enhancement model in the FY 2026-2027 proposed budget and to return with projections for a sales tax measure along with the other potential revenue options discussed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

The next Regular City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, with Closed Session beginning at 5:00 p.m., if necessary.

PAMELA COLEMAN
CITY CLERK

DANIEL R. SLATER
MAYOR

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