



**CITY OF ARCATA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

**March 4, 2026, 6:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber  
736 F Street, Arcata**

Present: Mayor White, Councilmember Matthews, Councilmember Schaefer, Councilmember Stillman

Absent: Vice Mayor Atkins-Salazar

Staff Present: Assistant City Manager Miller, Deputy City Attorney Goldstein (via teleconference), Director of Community Development Loya, Deputy Director of Environmental Services—Community Services Benvie, IT and Digital Media Specialist Carrillo, City Clerk Varley, Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Redfern

**A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Arcata was held on the above date at 6:01 p.m. as a hybrid meeting, via teleconference utilizing Zoom Video Communications and in person, with Mayor White presiding. Notice of this meeting was posted on February 27, 2026.**

---

**1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Mayor White read a statement acknowledging that Arcata sat on ancestral Wiyot land.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor White led the pledge of allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Varley called roll.

**4. CEREMONIAL MATTERS**

**a. Certificate of Appreciation for Scott Davies for His Five Years of Service to the City of Arcata.**

Councilmember Matthews read the certificate of appreciation and presented it to Scott Davies.

**b. Proclamation Recognizing March 8, 2026, as International Women's Day.**

Mayor White read the proclamation and presented it to Carilyn Hammer.

**c. Proclamation in Recognition of Girl Scout Week March 8–14, 2026.**

Councilmember Schaefer read the proclamation and presented it to Redwood Service Unit director of Girl Scouts of Northern California, Cheryl Kingham.

**d. Proclamation in Recognition of March for Meals Month, March 2026.**

Councilmember Stillman read the proclamation and presented it to Humboldt Senior Resource Center Director of Nutrition and Activities, Tasha Romo.

**5. REPORT BY COMMISSION/COMMITTEE**

There was none.

**6. STAFF REPORTS**

**a. Receive a Presentation on the Public Partnership Collaboration for the Arcata Community Center Solar and Energy Efficiency Project from City of Arcata Deputy Director of Environmental Services Emily Benvie and Roku Fukui, Program Manager with**

Deputy Director of Environmental Services–Community Services Benvie and Redwood Coast Energy Authority Program Manager Fukui gave a presentation regarding the Arcata Community Center Solar and Energy Efficiency Project.

**7. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS [EARLY - TIME LIMITED]**

Mayor White invited public comment.

**Public Comment:** Elisa and Jacob, Elissa, Shawn Leon, Raudi, Dave Meserve, Dan Shahin, and an unidentified member of the audience.

Mayor White closed the oral and written communications [early - time limited] period.

**8. N/A**

None.

**9. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**STILLMAN MOVED, AND SCHAEFER SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE CONSENT CALENDAR [AS PRESENTED, FOR MARCH 4, 2026, ITEMS A THROUGH G].**

Mayor White invited public comment.

**Public comment:** Joanne McGarry.

Mayor White closed the public comment period.

**THE MOTION PASSED ON A FOUR-TO-ZERO VOICE VOTE WITH ONE ABSENCE. AYES: WHITE, MATTHEWS, SCHAEFER, STILLMAN. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: ATKINS-SALAZAR. ABSTENTIONS: NONE.**

- a. **Approval to Waive Reading of the Text and Consent to Read by Title Only for Any Ordinance on this Agenda.**
- b. **Approve the Minutes of the City Council Meeting of February 18, 2026.**
- c. **Bi-Weekly Report on Disbursements.**
- d. **Adopt Resolution No. 256-41 Adopting a List of Projects for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 to be Funded by Senate Bill 1: The Road Repair and Accountability Act.**
- e. **Adopt Resolution No. 256-45 Approving the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement of the Redwood Region Economic Development Commission (RREDC) and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Agreement.**
- f. **Approve an Amendment to the Bike Share Program Memorandum of Agreement with Cal Poly Humboldt to Extend the Term for Three More Years and Increase Their Contribution to \$43,000 Per Program Year; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Documents.**
- g. **Approve a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 1708 Regarding Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program; and Authorize the Mayor to Execute All Applicable Documents.**

**10. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **Initiate Adoption of the Comprehensive Update to the City’s Local Coastal Program - Statutorily Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Guidelines Section 15265).**

Director of Community Development Loya presented.

Director Loya responded to inquiries and comments from the Council.

Mayor White opened the public hearing.

**Public Comment:** Gregory Daggett, Joanne McGarry, Dan Shahin, and Sylvia van Royen.

Mayor White closed the public hearing.

Director Loya and the City's consultant responded to inquiries and comments from the Council.

**ON MOTION BY SCHAEFER, SECONDED BY STILLMAN, AND WITH A FOUR-TO-ZERO VOICE VOTE WITH ONE ABSENCE, THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE AMENDMENTS TO THE OUTDOOR LIGHTING STANDARDS IN SECTION 2.14.080(B) OUTDOOR LIGHTING OF THE PROPOSED COASTAL ZONING ORDINANCE SHOWN IN TRACK CHANGES ON OUR PRESENTATION; THEN INTRODUCED ORDINANCE NO. 1581, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCATA ADOPTING A**

**COMPREHENSIVE UPDATE TO THE COASTAL ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, WAIVED READING THE TEXT AND CONSENTED TO READ BY TITLE ONLY. ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 256-02, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCATA ADOPTING THE LOCAL COASTAL ELEMENT AND MODIFYING FIGURE C-8-2 AS PRESENTED THAT EVENING; AND DIRECTED STAFF TO PLACE ORDINANCE 1581 ON THE MARCH 18, 2026, CONSENT CALENDAR. AYES: WHITE, MATTHEWS, SCHAEFER, STILLMAN. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: ATKINS-SALAZAR. ABSTENTIONS: NONE.**

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

There was none.

**12. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS [CONTINUED]**

Mayor White opened the public comment period.

**Public comment:** Gregory Daggett, Joanne McGarry, and Tamar Krigel.

Mayor White closed the oral and written communications [continued] period.

**13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

There was none.

**14. COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Presenters:** Stillman, Schaefer, Matthews, and White.

**15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. **Confirm Three Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget Study Sessions for April 6, 8, and 29, 2026—Each at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.**

**BY GENERAL CONSENSUS, THE COUNCIL CONFIRMED THREE FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 BUDGET STUDY SESSIONS FOR APRIL 6, 8, AND 29, 2026—EACH AT 3:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.**

**16. CLOSED SESSION**

There was none.

**17. CLOSED SESSION REPORTS**

There were none.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Rhea Varley

City Clerk