



**CITY OF ARCATA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

**May 20, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber
736 F Street, Arcata**

Present: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Atkins-Salazar, Councilmember Matthews, Councilmember Schaefer

Absent: Councilmember Stillman

Staff Present: Assistant City Manager Miller, City Engineer Khatri, Director of Community Development Loya, Deputy Director of Environmental Services—Streets and Utilities Culbert, Building Official Bishop, Code Compliance/Permit Technician Garcia, IT and Digital Media Specialist Carrillo, City Clerk Varley

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 May 14, 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. Proclamation in Honor of Kinetic Sculpture Racing, May 23, 2026.

Goosetoph Waddlesworth, Rudabega Queen for the 2026 Kinetic Racing Championship, accepted the proclamation. The proclamation was read by Councilmember Schaefer.

5. REPORT BY COMMISSION/COMMITTEE

There was none.

6. STAFF REPORTS

a. Receive an Annual Report from the Arcata Chamber of Commerce.

Meredith Maier, Executive Director of the Arcata Chamber of Commerce, presented the Chamber's annual report.

Arcata Chamber of Commerce Operations & Event Manager, Gloria Baker, and Media Director, Zach Lathouris, presented a Visit Arcata website draft to the Council.

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

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public Comment: Pat Kanzler, 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

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public Comment: Joanne McGarry.

Mayor White closed the public comment period.

ON MOTION BY MATTHEWS, SECONDED BY SCHAEFER, AND WITH A FOUR-TO-ZERO VOICE VOTE WITH ONE ABSENCE, THE COUNCIL ADOPTED THE CONSENT CALENDAR [FOR MAY 20, 2026, AS PRESENTED, ITEMS A THROUGH G]. AYES: WHITE, ATKINS-SALAZAR, MATTHEWS, SCHAEFER. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: STILLMAN. 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 Special Meeting of May 6, 2026.**
- c. Approve the Minutes of the City Council Meeting of May 6, 2026.**
- d. Bi-Weekly Report on Disbursements.**
- e. Make a Finding that it is Necessary to Continue Emergency Procurement to Repair Failed Culverts at 4700 West End Road; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Applicable Documents.**
- f. Approve a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 1821, California Public Records Act: Agency Response Time; and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Letter.**

- g. Adopt Resolution No. 256-64 Proclaiming June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer + Pride Month in the City of Arcata and Authorizing the Two-Spirit Pride Flag to be Flown on the Flagpole at Arcata City Hall During the Month of June.**

10. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Hold a Hearing to Consider Abatement for the Properties Located at 4600 West End Road, Arcata, CA 95521, Assessor's Parcel No. 507-081-055; and Adopt Resolution No. 256-55 Authorizing the City to Abate Nuisance Conditions and Recover Costs.**

Mayor White opened the hearing.

Deputy Director of Environmental Services—Streets & Utilities Culbert provided a report.

Property Owner, Bob Figas, provided testimony.

MATTHEWS MOVED AND SCHAEFER SECONDED TO CONTINUE THE HEARING TO THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING ON JUNE 3 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

Mayor White invited public comment.

There being none, Mayor White closed the public comment period.

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

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Receive an Update on the Current Status of the City's Residential Rental Inspection Program and Next Steps.**

Building Official Bishop provided an update regarding the City's Residential Rental Inspection Program (RRIP) and proposed changes to the program.

Building Official Bishop discussed proposed changes to the RRIP fee structure and responded to inquiries and comments from the Council.

The Council deliberated regarding the proposed fee structure options.

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public Comment: Joanne McGarry.

Mayor White closed the public comment period.

Acting City Manager Loya, Building Official Bishop, and Code Compliance/Permit Technician Garcia responded to inquiries and comments from the Council.

BY GENERAL CONSENSUS, THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT STAFF SHOULD COME BACK AT A FUTURE MEETING WITH A DRAFT ORDINANCE REFLECTING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE RRIP PROGRAM.

Certain direction was given, but no Council action was taken. There was a presentation and discussion only for this item.

12. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS [CONTINUED]

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public Comment: An unidentified member of the audience who provided a written communication to the Council, and Joanne McGarry.

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

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

There was none.

14. COUNCIL REPORTS

Presenters: Matthews, Schaefer, Atkins-Salazar, and White.

15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Cancel the July 1, 2026, City Council Meeting.

BY GENERAL CONSENSUS, THE COUNCIL CANCELLED THE JULY 1, 2026, CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

b. Confirm a Special Meeting Study Session with the Planning Commission Regarding a Land Use Code Update for June 8, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

BY GENERAL CONSENSUS, THE COUNCIL CONFIRMED A SPECIAL MEETING STUDY SESSION WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION REGARDING A LAND USE CODE UPDATE FOR JUNE 8, 2026, AT 5:00 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 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhea Varley

City Clerk