CITY OF ARCATA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

October 21, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber
736 F Street, Arcata

Present:	Mayor White, Vice Mayor Atkins-Salazar, Councilmember Matthews, Councilmember Schaefer, Councilmember Stillman
Staff Present:	City Manager Perry, Assistant City Manager Miller, City Attorney Goldstein (via teleconference), Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Vink, Building Official Bishop, 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 6:00 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 October 16, 2026.

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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 Designating October 18–December 31, 2026, as the Season of Wonder and Light in Arcata.

Councilmember Matthews read the proclamation and presented it to the Arcata Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Meredith Maier, and Arcata Chamber of Commerce Media Director, Zach Lethores.

Councilmember Stillman read a Certificate of Recognition for Steven Brown.

5. REPORT BY COMMISSION/COMMITTEE

There was none.

6. STAFF REPORTS

a. Receive an Update from Staff on the City's Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Building Official Bishop provided an update.

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

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public comment: An unidentified member of the audience, 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 UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE, THE COUNCIL ADOPTED THE CONSENT CALENDAR [AS PRESENTED FOR OCTOBER 21, 2026, ITEMS A THROUGH G]. AYES: WHITE, ATKINS-SALAZAR, MATTHEWS, SCHAEFER, STILLMAN. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: NONE. 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 October 7, 2026.

c. Approve the Minutes of the City Council Meeting of October 7, 2026.

d. Bi-Weekly Report on Disbursements.

e. Adopt Resolution No. 267-24 Amending the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget to Provide Funding of $100,000 for Reconfiguring Certain Offices and Workspace in City Hall.

f. Adopt Resolution No. 267-23 Revising the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget to Provide an Appropriation of $36,000 in Funding for Economic Development Consulting with Civic* Possible During the First Year of Implementing the 2026-2031 Economic Strategic Plan.

g. Approve the Written Report Issued Pursuant to Government Code Section 65858(d) on Measures Taken to Alleviate the Condition that Led to Adoption of Interim Ordinance No. 1594 Imposing a 45-Day Moratorium on Processing Data Center Land Use Applications.

10. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Appoint One New Member to the Energy Committee for a Term Expiring September 30, 2027.

STILLMAN MOVED AND SCHAEFER SECONDED TO APPOINT BEN NARWOLD TO THE ENERGY COMMITTEE [FOR A TERM] WHERE THE EXPIRATION WOULD BE SEPTEMBER 30, 2027.

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public Comment: Joanne McGarry.

Mayor White closed the public comment period.

THE MOTION PASSED ON A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE. AYES: WHITE, ATKINS-SALAZAR, MATTHEWS, SCHAEFER, STILLMAN. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: NONE. ABSTENTIONS: NONE.

b. Adopt Resolution No. 267-22 Amending the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget to Appropriate $75,000 for the Purchase of Private Property East of B Street and just North of 11th Street, to Facilitate Slope Repairs and Ongoing Maintenance of the Slope and Roadway.

Assistant City Manager Miller provided a staff report for Agenda Items 11-b and 11-c.

STILLMAN MOVED AND ATKINS-SALAZAR SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 267-22 AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE $75,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OF B AND JUST NORTH OF 11TH STREET, TO FACILITATE SLOPE REPAIRS AND ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF THE SLOPE.

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public Comment: Joanne McGarry.

Mayor White closed the public comment period.

THE MOTION PASSED ON A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE. AYES: WHITE, ATKINS-SALAZAR, MATTHEWS, SCHAEFER, STILLMAN. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: NONE. ABSTENTIONS: NONE.

c. Adopt Resolution No. 267-26 Ratifying the Executed Purchase and Sales Agreement and Adopting Associated Findings for the Property at 11th and B Street.

STILLMAN MOVED AND MATTHEWS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 267-26 RATIFYING THE EXECUTED PURCHASE

AND SALES AGREEMENT AND ADOPTING ASSOCIATED FINDINGS FOR THE PROPERTY AT 11TH AND B STREET.

Mayor White invited public comment.

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

THE MOTION PASSED ON A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE. AYES: WHITE, ATKINS-SALAZAR, MATTHEWS, SCHAEFER, STILLMAN. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: NONE. ABSTENTIONS: NONE.

12. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS [CONTINUED]

Mayor White invited public comment.

Public Comment: Joanne McGarry.

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

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Perry provided a report.

14. COUNCIL REPORTS

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

15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Cancel the Regular Meeting Originally Scheduled for December 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

BY GENERAL CONSENSUS, THE COUNCIL CANCELED THE REGULAR MEETING ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 2, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M.

b. Confirm a Special Meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, in the Council Chamber to Consider the Adoption of an Urgency Ordinance to Extend the Data Center Moratorium.

BY GENERAL CONSENSUS, THE COUNCIL CONFIRMED A SPECIAL MEETING AT 4:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF AN URGENCY ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE DATA CENTER MORATORIUM.

c. Confirm a Joint Study Session with the Planning Commission for October 28, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the D Street Neighborhood Center for the Purpose of Discussing the Housing Element Update and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

BY GENERAL CONSENSUS, THE COUNCIL CONFIRMED A JOINT STUDY SESSION WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR OCTOBER 28, 2026, AT 5:30 P.M. AT THE D STREET NEIGHBORHOOD

CENTER FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE AND AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING.

16. CLOSED SESSION

There was none.

17. CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

There were none.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rhea Varley

City Clerk