



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, May 17, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Barr at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers JC Tolle, John McDermott, Wade Elliott, Vice Mayor Alex Enriquez and Mayor Terrie Barr

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: Acting City Manager Janet Wackerman, City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke, City Attorney Scott Drexel, Public Works Director Zach Barber, Library Director Jody Meza and City Engineer Paul Rabo

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION - None

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:01 PM

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 PM

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - *Mayor Barr announced that the Council met with the City Staff and City Attorney Scott Drexel in Closed Session to discuss public employment: City Manager, Mayor Barr reported under Government Code § 54957.1 that Council has approved a Separation Agreement and General Release with Joseph Goodman by a vote of 5-0, and that a copy of the executed Agreement is available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

County resident Valerie Johnson thanked the Mayor for attending the Hidden Sanctuary Gala and shared that the sanctuary raised \$10,000 to assist with future facility upgrades. Ms. Johnson stated that the organization is moving forward independently with the voucher program, but requested that Council consider placing the item on a future agenda to discuss finalizing a voucher program partnership with the City of Orland.

Waste Management representative Joantha Guthrie introduced herself to the Council as the new area representative and stated that she looks forward to working with the City of Orland.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for May 5, 2026
- C. Receive and File Arts Commission Minutes from February 18, 2026
- D. Consider the Introduction Ordinance 2026-XX An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Orland Adding Chapter 1.10.01, 1.10.02, 1.10.03 and 1.10.04 to Title 1.10 of the Orland Municipal Code to Establish By-District Elections for Five Council Members, Define District Boundaries, and Schedule the Order of Elections for Each District.
- E. Adoption of Disability Retirement Designation Resolution 2026-09
- F. Adoption of Annual Solid Waste Parcel Fee Resolution 2026-08
- G. Consider MOU with OUSD - Student Success (Library Cards)
- H. Receive April 2026 Budget Reports
- I. Receive Treasurer's Report May 2026

City Attorney pulled item D to be brought back at a future meeting date.

Councilmember Elliott asked to pull item I and Councilmember McDermott asked to pull item H for further discussion.

ACTION: Councilmember Elliott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Enriquez, to approve the consent calendar with items D, H and I removed. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

Councilmember McDermott expressed concerns regarding a 243% increase in parks maintenance costs. Acting City Manager Janet Wackerman introduced Regional Government Services consultant Roberto Moreno, who was available online to answer questions. Mr. Moreno explained that the parks maintenance budget was not actually over budget and that he was working with staff to correct account allocations within the City's new financial system. He noted that the May financial report should reflect more accurate information once the adjustments were completed.

Councilmember McDermott questioned discrepancies between Measure A and Measure J revenues, noting that both measures should generate similar amounts. Mr. Moreno explained that the measures are tracked separately for budgeting purposes because they serve different intended uses. He also clarified that Measure J generated less revenue during the fiscal year because it only took effect after voter approval in November, while Measure A was active for the full fiscal year. Mr. Moreno added that Measure J revenues are now exceeding original projections for the new fiscal year.

Councilmember Elliott introduced himself to Mr. Moreno and clarified that both Measure A and Measure J were voter-approved sales taxes, which Mr. Moreno confirmed. Councilmember Elliott asked whether the funds generated by the measures were legally restricted to their stated purposes. Mr. Moreno explained that technically they were not legally restricted because they are considered general taxes and therefore remain subject to City Council discretion. However, he confirmed that expenditures had historically remained consistent with the purposes described in the ordinances approved by voters.

Councilmember McDermott emphasized the importance of honoring the promises made to voters regarding the use of the funds, stating that the community would strongly object if the City failed to uphold the intent presented to residents.

Mayor Barr asked questions regarding Arts Commission funding associated with impact fees and expressed concern about how those figures do not appear in the report. Mr. Moreno explained that the funds were not currently budgeted but were being tracked and reported separately.

Regarding item I, Councilmember Elliott asked who served on the Treasurer's Committee and what responsibilities the committee held. After receiving no response, Councilmember Elliott requested that Treasurer's Report items H and I be continued until the questions could be answered.

Vice Mayor Enriquez requested consideration of an independent redistricting commission, and Mr. Drexel responded that the matter could be discussed at a future meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Council Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mayor Barr asked newly appointed Councilmember Elliott if he would be interested in assuming any commission or board assignments previously held by former Councilmember Matt Romano. Councilmember Elliott stated he was not yet ready to take on additional assignments, explaining that he has been focused on meeting with department heads and becoming oriented to his new role on the Council.

Proposed SB 1 Funded Projects: The Road Repair and Accountability Act

City Engineer Paul Rabo presented a staff report regarding Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), which provides transportation funding for roadway maintenance and infrastructure improvements. Mr. Rabo explained that SB 1 includes accountability requirements to keep residents informed about funded projects and noted that the City has previously used SB 1 funds for projects including the reconstruction of Tehama Street, downtown alleys, and the design of the M ½ reconstruction project.

Proposed Street Maintenance Projects:

- Gracelyn Street — crack sealing and slurry seal, Hambright Avenue to Jacob Street
- Jacob Street — crack sealing and slurry seal, Gracelyn Street to Coby Lane
- Coby Lane — crack sealing and slurry seal, Hambright Avenue to Jacob Street
- Linwood Drive — crack sealing and slurry seal, Walker Street to Paigewood Drive
- Suisun Street — rubberized cape seal, Sixth Street to Third Street
- Stanton Way — crack sealing and slurry seal, Bryant Street to Stony Creek Drive
- Tehama Street — crack sealing and slurry seal, Sixth Street to Third Street
- Seventh Street — mill and overlay, Walker Street to Tehama Street

Mr. Rabo reported that staff reviewed the 2021 Pavement Management Program to identify recommended street maintenance and rehabilitation projects for the 2026/2027 funding cycle. He explained that the proposed projects were selected under a funding scenario utilizing both the City's existing budget and SB 1 funds to maintain and improve City streets. Mr. Rabo added that the various treatments proposed would improve or preserve street conditions, and the City anticipates receiving approximately \$244,221 in SB 1 funding during the next funding cycle.

Vice Mayor Enriquez asked questions regarding funding and materials. Councilmember McDermott inquired about the condition of the bridges on Bryant and M ½, and Mayor Barr asked about potential

City cost obligations. Mr. Rabo responded that he would return to Council before specific projects begin and that funding sources and material selections would be brought back for further discussion.

ACTION: Councilmember Elliott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to Adopt Resolution 2026-07 and authorize the City Manager or his designee to submit to the California Transportation Commission the City's 2026/2027 SB 1 project list. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

Arts Commission Finances

Acting City Manager Janet Wackerman presented a staff report on the Arts Commission, noting it is funded by one-quarter of one percent of revenue from qualified building permits under the Municipal Code. She explained that these funds are tracked in the City's financial system and reported monthly to the Commission.

Ms. Wackerman reported that an audit identified a discrepancy between reported and recorded revenues, resulting in an adjusted available balance of approximately \$5,000 and prompting a review of current and future expenditures. She also noted that significant revenue growth is not expected based on projected development activity.

At its May 6, 2026 meeting, the Arts Commission reviewed and reduced planned expenses and discussed potential supplemental funding options, including the creation of a GoFundMe page.

Orland resident and Arts Commissioner Jill Elliott expressed her feelings with the Arts Commission feeling blindsided by the recent financial updates.

Orland resident Janet Jonte emphasized the value of the art center to the community and expressed hope that the community would come together in support.

Orland resident and Arts Commissioner Steve Elliott shared concerns that, had the Arts Center been made aware of the situation earlier, it could have been better prepared. He also noted uncertainty about whether the center would be able to proceed with scheduled shows in June and July.

Orland resident Earl Megginson inquired about the cost of the electrical bill for the Art Gallery

Orland resident and EDC Chairperson Ron Lane suggested exploring the installation of solar panels to help reduce electricity costs.

Ms. Johnson expressed interest in assisting the Arts Commission with organizing a fundraising effort.

Councilmembers expressed appreciation for the work of the Arts Commission and its contributions to the community. Councilmember Elliott indicated he may have contacts to share with the Commission. Mayor Barr suggested exploring the use of ARPA funds previously allocated for economic development and suggested the EDC discuss at their next meeting the possibility or redirecting those funds to support the Arts Commission.

Mr. Lane noted that, due to the absence of a City Manager, the Economic Development Commission had not recently met. Ms. Wackerman agreed to convene a meeting on June 9 to allow the EDC to discuss potential funding options.

Hazardous Material Survey Report for 824 Fourth Street & 912 Third Street

Acting City Manager Janet Wackerman reported on a completed hazardous materials survey authorized by City Council and conducted by G1 Construction with Vista Environmental Consulting at the Carnegie Center and former Purity building in January 2026. The survey identified potential hazardous materials and provided recommendations for abatement and selective demolition at both sites.

Ms. Wackerman presented options allowing the City to complete the work separately or combine projects to improve efficiency and potentially reduce costs, including a full concurrent option. She noted that all work would be performed by certified abatement professionals with required safety procedures and documentation.

Councilmembers discussed concerns regarding safety for individuals working in and occupying the two buildings. It was noted that both buildings are safe for current occupancy as long as hazardous materials are not disturbed. Following discussion, Council agreed to continue the item to a future meeting for further consideration of options for both properties.

Mayor Barr expressed concern about the appearance of the torn black plastic covering on the front of the 824 Fourth Street building. Public Works Director Zach Barber explained that the building's framing is leaning and that adding additional weight to secure the covering was not recommended. He indicated that the plastic covering would be removed.

City Manager Verbal Report

Interim City Manager Janet Wackerman reported that City Planner Lisa Lozier will be leaving in June and that SHN will not be renewing its contract due to staffing shortages of their firm. Ms. Wackerman stated that staff has contacted another planner previously interviewed during the SHN selection process, who will be stepping into the planning role.

Ms. Wackerman also shared that the previously scheduled ambulance study meeting had been canceled and would be rescheduled in the near future.

Mayor Barr asked about the process for moving forward with recruitment of a new City Manager. Mr. Drexel responded that the matter could be placed on a future Council agenda for discussion. Councilmember McDermott expressed interest in having staff contact Charles Anderson with the California League of Cities for assistance with the recruitment process.

City Council Communications and Reports

Councilmember Elliott:

- Thanked community members for attending the meeting.

Vice Mayor Enriquez:

- Had nothing to report.

Mayor Barr:

- Attended the Hidden Treasures Gala.
- Attended the Arts Commission special meeting.
- Shared she is looking forward to the upcoming LAFCo meeting regarding the Westside Annexation.
- Attended the Library Commission meeting and announced that the library's "Wild Things" event will be held on June 15. She also shared that the Music Garden project had been approved and is awaiting delivery for installation.
- Served as a judge alongside Councilmember McDermott and Councilmember Tolle for the Chamber's Fair parade.
- Assisted with judging floriculture exhibits at the Glenn County Fair.
- Reported that Keller Williams Realty volunteered to complete upgrades at Library Park.
- Attended the Orland High School Civic Engagement event.
- Attended the Orland Woman's Club luncheon on May 20, 2026.

Councilmember McDermott:

- Reported that the Fire Department responded to 12 calls on Saturday due to high winds.

Councilmember Tolle:

- Had nothing to report.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:55 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Terrie Barr, Mayor