CITY OF BELLEVUE
COMMON COUNCIL
July 20, 2026
Minutes

The Common Council of the City of Bellevue, Idaho met at a Special Meeting on Monday, July 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the City of Bellevue Offices, located at 115 E. Pine Street, Bellevue, ID 83313.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Giordani called the Special Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. (00:00:10 in video)

ROLL CALL:

Christina Giordani, Mayor – Present
Diane Shay, Council President – Present
Tammy E. Davis, Council Member – Present
Suzanne Wrede, Council Member – Present
Anders Ard, Council Member – Absent
Tom Bergin, Council Member – Present
Genoa Beiser, Council Member – Absent

STAFF PRESENT:
Amy Phelps, City Clerk
Chloe Sullivan, Interim City Clerk
Shelly Shoemaker, Treasurer
Chris Johnson, Public Works Director
Brian Parker, Community Development Director

1. **NOTICE OF AGENDA COMPLIANCE:** *(00:01:15 in video)*
The posting of this regular meeting agenda complied with Idaho Code §74-204. The Regular meeting agenda was posted within forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting at the Bellevue City Hall, Post Office, and on the City website on *July 17, 2026.*

Motion: Council Member Shay moved that the agenda notice was in compliance with Idaho Code §74-204. **Council Member Bergin** seconded, and **the motion passed unanimously.**

2. **CALL FOR CONFLICT** (AS OUTLINED IN IDAHO CODE **§74-404**): **ACTION ITEM**
No conflict was noted at this time.

3. **TASK ORDER FOR MBR STARTUP SUPPORT FROM KELLER ENGINEERING:** Chris Johnson, Public Works Director | **ACTION ITEM**

Public Works Director Chris Johnson presented a brief report on the progress of the membrane installation and stated that the Public Works department is short-staffed. As such, he said, he has been working with Keller Engineering to plan for some of their operators to assist Bellevue with the documentation, testing, and completion of startup procedures. Johnson asked the Council for approval of this task order in an amount not to exceed twenty thousand dollars ($20,000).

Responding to Council Member Wrede's inquiry about why these tasks have not yet been completed, Johnson stated that the project is ahead of schedule, and that he is trying to accommodate its rapid progression. Council Member Shay expressed concerns with Keller's performance during past projects, and Johnson stated that Keller has made relevant improvements, including personnel changes.

Motion: **Council Member Davis** moved to approve the task order. **Council Member Bergin** seconded. Council members voting yes: Council Member Wrede, Council Member Davis, Council Member Bergin, Council President Shay. Council Members voting no: none. **The motion passed unanimously.**

4. **FY27 BUDGET WORK SESSION #3**

The purpose of this budget work session was to discuss water and wastewater revenues and expenses. The Council began discussing wastewater revenues by contrasting three types of wastewater billing systems. Mayor Giordani and Council Member Wrede, specifically, contrasted the current flat billing rate with metering and tiered billing systems. Chris Johnson, the Public Works Director, clarified the proposed bond charges and user rates, as well as the calculations done to reach the numbers provided in the spreadsheets.

Council Member Davis raised the concern of depreciation of water treatment assets. Johnson stated that the City is not currently aware of the rate or cost of depreciation due to a shortage of the staff needed to accurately assess it. ~~Davis then discussed the possible need to put this issue on the ballot, due to the possibility of raising water treatment costs.~~

The Council then discussed wastewater expenses. Chris Johnson stated that the City has many fewer employees than they need to keep the treatment plant functional. The Council discussed the possibility of working with contractors versus hiring new employees, but determined that because City employees would likely feel a greater sense of ownership than contractors would, the City would likely benefit from hiring employees directly and using contractors as a fallback option. Johnson also expressed the need for more safety equipment and stated that most Public Works projects will not be completed next year due to time constraints.

The Council's discussion of water revenue and expenses was similar to their discussion of wastewater. They went over the proposed tiered system of water billing and the fact that some residents' bills would likely go down due to the change.

The Council also discussed the possible ways to use a water grant from the EPA, acknowledging that because the main road damage is due to operations on water lines, the grant may cover some road repair. They additionally discussed new equipment for the Public Works department that would increase efficiency and minimize injury to employees. Council Member Wrede highlighted the need for the City to be transparent with residents and tell them what to expect.

The Council then determined that another meeting was necessary. Shelly Shoemaker, the city Treasurer, stated that the budget must be proposed by August 4th; the meeting date was not finalized at this session.

Motion: **Council Member Shay** moved that the Council enter an Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(A). **Council Member Wrede** seconded, and **the motion passed unanimously.**

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO IDAHO CODE § 74-206(A)** *(03:02:56 in video)*

Motion: Council Member Davis moved that the Council exit the Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(A). **Council Member Wrede** seconded, and **the motion passed unanimously.**

6. ADJOURNMENT: ACTION ITEM

With no further business coming before the Common Council at this time, Council Member Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Wrede seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:47.

Christina Giordani, Mayor

Attest:

Clerk