

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FOR THE CITY OF HAYDEN, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO**

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Regular Meeting: 5:00 PM

Hayden City Hall Council Chambers, 8930 N. Government Way, Hayden, ID 83835

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Present: Ed DePriest, David Erickson, Matthew Roetter, Tom Shafer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Davis asked David Erickson to lead the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS

None

1. CONSENT CALENDAR *All items on the Consent Calendar are Action Items*

- A. Approval of July 14, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of July 28, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes
- C. Approval of PZE-26-0035 Monaghan Estates Subdivision Master Development Agreement
- D. Approval of Clearwater Financial, LLC Consulting Services Agreement
- E. Approval of Welch Comer & Associates Engineering Services Agreement for construction staking for the Ramsey Road & Hayden Avenue Temporary Signal Project
- F. Approval of LaRiviere, Inc Change Order No. 2 for the Honeysuckle Avenue and Ramsey Road Roundabout Project
- G. Acceptance of the Grant of Easement, Dedication of Right-of-Way, and Associated Infrastructure from 5HCAC Investments, LLC
- H. Acceptance of the Grant of Easement and Dedication of Right-of-Way from Michael Wendland
- I. Approval to Award Bid to and Contract with Thorco, Inc. for the Ramsey Rd - Hayden Ave Temporary Traffic Signal Project
- J. Ratification of the July 2026 Payroll
- K. Ratification of Bills Paid
- L. Bills for Payment

MOTION: Council Member Roetter moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Council President DePriest provided the second.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Erickson	Yes
Council Member Shafer	Yes
Council President DePriest	Yes
Council Member Roetter	Yes

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote in favor.

2. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minutes maximum)

Mayor Davis opened public comment by addressing misunderstandings spreading on social media about two agenda items.

He clarified that nuisance abatement is far more complex than just “weeds,” and encouraged citizens to ask city staff or council members for accurate information. He emphasized the council’s effort to balance property rights with community safety.

Regarding ALPRs [Automatic License Plate Reader], he stated that Hayden has no government ALPRs, none are planned, and the council is not debating installing them. Tonight’s discussion simply acknowledges their existence. While people are welcome to comment, the issue online is not the issue before the council.

Todd Herman, non-Hayden resident, thanked the council for discussing surveillance concerns and warned that Flock’s ALPR system is part of a larger data-monetization model. He cited high volumes of third-party data requests and said some cities are effectively selling residents’ behavioral data. He cautioned that such systems could enable future fees or expanded surveillance.

He urged the council to either avoid ALPRs entirely, use only city-controlled cameras with strict access limits, or, if ever considering Flock, demand tightly restricted, license-plate-only data access. He predicted Flock would reject those limits. He closed by noting widespread public concern and thanking the council for the conversation.

Michelle Davis, Hayden resident, expressed concerns about ALPRs as a nationwide Fourth Amendment issue. She argued that although Hayden has no government ALPRs, private companies collecting this data still track and profile people, bypassing constitutional protections. She warned that such surveillance threatens freedom of movement and could enable future harassment by countywide law enforcement. Ms. Davis asked what policies will be put in place to protect residents long-term, noting that the mayor’s current stance won’t apply once his term ends. She thanked the council and concluded her remarks.

Deborah Rose, non-Hayden resident, noted that while the city isn’t considering ALPRs right now, such cameras can sometimes help prove innocence or identify suspects. She shared a personal experience where footage could have cleared her of an accusation. She emphasized that ALPRs read license plates, not faces, and urged the council to remember both the benefits and risks if they ever revisit the idea. She highlighted the importance of limiting data access, citing issues in other cities where outside agencies sought ALPR data for unintended purposes. She concluded by encouraging a balanced approach.

Eric Seely, Hayden resident, spoke about privacy and government surveillance. He referenced biblical ideas of respecting privacy and connected them to Fourth Amendment protections. He noted that security practices since 9/11 show how privacy can be reduced over time and emphasized the need to balance safety with personal freedom. Mr. Seely suggested the city consider adopting a resolution to guide future councils if Hayden intends to avoid ALPRs or similar surveillance systems. He stated his general opposition to expanded government monitoring and encouraged maintaining Hayden’s current level of privacy.

Amy McCamly, Hayden resident, explained that she had previously raised the topic of

ALPRs after seeing other cities address surveillance concerns, including Post Falls adopting a no-camera policy. She said her Facebook post simply invited residents to attend the council meeting and share their views, not to claim Hayden was planning ALPRs. Ms. McCamly referenced the mayor's online comments, clarifying the city has no ALPRs and no plans for them, and reiterated her belief that policy should be created to ensure that remains true in the future.

She also addressed comments made by council members on Facebook, saying she felt her name had been misrepresented and that she had been characterized negatively. She described blocking one commenter due to personal interactions and expressed concern that some posts from council members contributed to division within the community. She concluded by urging greater unity and clarity.

Suzanne Knutson spoke as a board member of Specialized Needs Recreation (SNR), thanking the City of Hayden for its ongoing support. She introduced Kade Johnson, a Hayden resident and active SNR participant, noting he attends programs five days a week and participates in evening groups, sports, and special events.

Suzanne shared that Kade hosted a gathering of SNR participants at his home and highlighted several upcoming SNR activities, including the annual Gems and Jeans fundraiser, a pickleball tournament benefiting SNR, and a community kickball event. She invited the council and public to participate and provided the organization's website for more information.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEM Mended paragraph in Hayden City Code 4-1-3 [Nuisance] Violation; Penalty

The council reviewed an amendment to the nuisance ordinance removing misdemeanor penalties, including jail time. Staff explained that remaining penalties are civil fines: up to \$1,000 for an initial court-determined violation and up to \$2,000 for repeat violations within two years. Fines are discretionary and determined by a judge.

Staff described the enforcement process: a complaint is filed, staff investigates, and the property owner receives notice and time to comply. Staff works with owners over several weeks or months, offering agreements to achieve compliance. If an owner fails to comply, the city may remedy the issue and bill the owner as agreed. As a last step, a citation may be issued and the matter referred to the prosecutor.

Council members asked whether fire hazards, such as un-mowed fields during high-risk fire seasons, should be addressed within the nuisance ordinance or through a separate policy. Staff noted existing language already covers dangerous conditions generally, but broader wildfire-related issues involve larger land-use and safety considerations. Council continued discussing whether additional fire-related policy development may be needed but agreed it was outside the scope of the specific action item.

MOTION: Council Member Erickson move to approve the mended paragraph. Council President DePriest provided the second.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Shafer	Yes
Council Member Roetter	Yes

Council President DePriest Yes
Council Member Erickson Yes

The motion was approved with a unanimous vote in favor.

B. **ACTION ITEM** Ordinance Adopting Amendments to Hayden City Code Titles 2, 4, 7, 8 and 9

MOTION: Council President DePriest moved to read the ordinance by title only, suspend the rule of reading it in full on three separate dates, and to approve the first reading. Council Member Erickson provided the second.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Council Member Shafer Yes
Council Member Roetter Yes
Council Member Erickson Yes
Council President DePriest Yes

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote in favor.

Mayor Davis read ordinance by title only.

MOTION: Council Member Roetter moved to adopt the ordinance on having passed its first reading by title only and that it be published by summary, incorporating the title as the core of the summary upon passage. Council President DePriest provided the second.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Council Member Erickson Yes
Council Member Shafer Yes
Council President DePriest Yes
Council Member Roetter Yes

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote in favor.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. **ACTION ITEM** Special Needs Recreation Presentation

City Administrator Lisa Ailport introduced the presentation, noting that Hayden partnered with Specialized Needs Recreation (SNR) in 2007 to support recreation programs for residents with special needs. Lindsay Patterson, SNR's executive director, described SNR's mission to provide year-round recreational, social, and life-skills programs for individuals ages eight and up, emphasizing values of belonging, confidence, independence, and connection.

She outlined SNR's four program areas, including adult life groups, Camp Allstars for youth, evening groups, sports programs, and a new after-school pilot launching in the fall. Participation has continued to grow, exceeding previous years, leading SNR to expand its facility and rely heavily on transportation resources for community outings.

Lindsay reviewed SNR's funding model, including grants, program fees, donations, fundraising, and municipal support. She noted that Hayden residents represent

about 16% of participants but the city provides about 8% of municipal funding, presenting this as an opportunity for future consideration rather than criticism.

She then shared SNR's "Building Belonging" campaign, a plan to construct a purpose-built recreation center at Cherry Hill in Coeur d'Alene, designed to meet growing demand with expanded activity spaces, sensory rooms, a teaching kitchen, and improved accessibility. Lindsay explained that community support and donations have already helped advance the project.

She concluded by emphasizing the long-term value of a dedicated facility for individuals with disabilities and thanked the council for their continued partnership. Council members offered brief comments and appreciation.

B. **ACTION ITEM** Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board Fiscal Year 2027 Draft Budget Ken Windram, Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board Wastewater Treatment Plant Administrator, presented the Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board Fiscal Year 2027 draft budget. He opened with a brief overview of the plant's role in treating wastewater before it is discharged to the Spokane River or applied at the reuse farm, emphasizing the importance of keeping non-flushable items out of the system due to frequent pump blockages and their associated costs.

Mr. Windram outlined the proposed budget, which increases by roughly \$300,000 from the previous year. He explained the main drivers of the increase: a 4% cost-of-living adjustment for employees, rising insurance costs, necessary roof repairs at the facility, higher laboratory costs due to tariffs, and permit-related expenses for the reuse farm. Some costs have decreased, including sludge removal (due to improved dryer performance) and farm labor (thanks to new equipment).

The largest increase is in engineering, tied to the development of a required facility plan to support long-term system needs in a growing community. Mr. Windram also noted reduced entity-related testing requirements under a new discharge permit, resulting in lower testing expenses for this permit cycle.

Council asked clarifying questions about testing changes and expressed appreciation for his team's work. Mr. Windram affirmed that compliance testing continues under updated permit requirements.

Council member Roetter, Hayden's representative on the Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board (HARSB), read a memorandum explaining the city's position on the Fiscal Year 2027 HARSB budget. He stated that Hayden, Kootenai County, and the Hayden Lake Sewer District each vote on the budget. The Hayden Lake Sewer District required an addendum as a condition of approval, and Hayden disagrees with the district's budgeting approach.

The memorandum asserted that the district's positions are shortsighted, increase long-term risk to the treatment facility, and do not align with the joint powers agreement requiring all members to fund adequate maintenance and capacity. Mr. Roetter noted ongoing concerns about limited remaining plant capacity and emphasized that a critical upgrade of the H-3 lift station has funding for design but not for construction, despite its importance.

The memo also criticized the district for using budget negotiations to bypass established decision-making processes, contributing to project delays. Despite these

issues, Mr. Roetter explained the city must approve the budget because rejecting it could prevent HARSB from paying staff and operating, creating severe consequences for all members. Hayden therefore supports the flawed budget to avoid a shutdown.

Mr. Roetter requested the council's support to adopt the FY 2027 HARSB budget, including the district's addendum, and asked for direction to forward the memorandum to the HARSB board for its records.

MOTION: Council Member Roetter moved to approve the resolution adopting HARSB fiscal year 27 budget including the addendum by the Hayden Lake Sewer District provided the city of Hayden's position statement is included to HARSB board members for recording keeping purposes. Council President DePriest provided the second.

DISCUSSION: The council sought clarification about the addendum's contents. It was explained that the addendum outlines how certain funds must be allocated and restricts spending in specific areas, including the absence of funding for construction of the H-3 lift station, an upgrade considered important for achieving full treatment-plant capacity.

The council noted that agreeing to the addendum is necessary for the budget to move forward but signing it does not signal agreement with the reasoning behind it. The memorandum accompanying the motion is intended to document the city's differing position and prevent future interpretation that acceptance of the addendum equals endorsement.

Members commented that the situation effectively leaves the board with limited options, as failing to pass the budget could disrupt HARSB operations, including paying staff and maintaining service. It was noted that the required addendum places the other HARSB partners in a difficult position, but approving the budget remains necessary to avoid operational harm.

The council concluded discussion with no further comments and prepared to proceed with the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Shafer	Yes
Council Member Erickson	Yes
Council President DePriest	Yes
Council Member Roetter	Yes

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote in favor.

C. ACTION ITEM Review and Discuss Artificial Intelligence Policy

The council reviewed a proposed policy for the use of artificial intelligence (AI) within city operations. Staff explained that the policy was developed internally to ensure city records remain accurate, particularly regarding images or content that could be mistaken for real events if generated by AI. The policy is intended as an initial framework that will be updated as technology evolves.

It was clarified that only the city's in-house AI tools, specifically Microsoft 365 Copilot, would be permitted, and that externally accessible AI systems that draw from the open internet would not be allowed. The policy emphasizes proper training,

safeguarding sensitive and confidential information, and preventing data from being shared outside the city's secure environment.

Council members discussed the benefits of AI when used appropriately, noting its potential to improve efficiency and reduce staff workload. They supported establishing guardrails to ensure safe, responsible use within the city.

MOTION: Council Member Erickson moved to direct staff to submit the proposed artificial intelligence policy for approval as a resolution, to be brought back to the council for formal adoption. Council President DePriest provided the second.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Roetter	Yes
Council Member Shafer	Yes
Council President DePriest	Yes
Council Member Erickson	Yes

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote in favor.

D. Recognition and Consideration of Community Concerns Regarding Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) Cameras

The council held a discussion to acknowledge public concerns about ALPRs, with the understanding that Hayden does not use this technology, has no plans to implement it, and is not considering its adoption. The purpose was to hear perspectives, clarify the city's stance, and consider whether future policy or safeguards are needed.

Council members expressed general agreement that the technology raises privacy concerns, including potential tracking of residents' movements, data collection by private companies, and misuse in other jurisdictions. Examples from other cities and law-enforcement agencies were discussed, including both benefits to public safety and documented problems such as misidentification and external access to collected data. Several members emphasized the importance of maintaining public trust and avoiding surveillance practices that could erode it.

Some comments addressed the tone of public discourse online, noting that extreme or threatening language surrounding the topic was concerning and underscored the need for responsible communication.

The council discussed whether Hayden should formalize its position through a policy statement or code provisions to prevent future implementation of ALPRs. Members agreed that the next step is to consult with legal counsel to determine what options are available and what authority the city has. The council will revisit the issue after receiving that guidance.

5. REPORTS

A. City Administrator Report and Calendar Review

City Administrator Lisa Ailport reported that much of the evening's council discussion reflected ongoing staff work. As the city approaches adoption of the FY 2027 budget, staff also needs to review proposed fee increases for the upcoming fiscal year. To support this, staff requested that the council hold a workshop on September 1 to review fees before they are published for the required public hearing. The goal is to complete this process before the start of the fiscal year so anticipated revenues can be collected immediately upon adoption. Other than this update, there were no additional items to report.

B. Mayor/Council

Mayor Davis highlighted upcoming community events, encouraging residents to attend the city's ongoing summer concert series and a movie night in the park scheduled for August 21. These activities were promoted as opportunities to enjoy Hayden and connect with the community.

Councilmembers were asked if they had updates from their various boards or commissions. No additional reports were provided.

6. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Davis noted that no new future agenda items had been requested. A council member asked whether the Public Safety Commission should be formally tasked with reviewing the Matrix Consulting Group's final report once it is released at the end of the month. It was clarified that this review was already planned, either through a special meeting or at the commission's next regularly scheduled meeting, depending on timing. Because the review will occur automatically, no additional future agenda request was needed.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Before adjournment, a council member noted they would be out of town for the August 25 meeting and asked whether a quorum would still be present. Remaining members confirmed they planned to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Abbi Sanchez, City Clerk

Alan Davis, Mayor