

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO,
HELD AT THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

August 18, 2026

The Mayor and Council of the City of Coeur d'Alene met in a regular session of said Council at the Coeur d'Alene City Library Community Room on August 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., there being present the following members:

Dan Gookin, Mayor

Amy Evans	) Members of Council Present
Dan English	)
Kenny Gabriel	)
Dan Sheckler	)
Christie Wood	)

Kiki Miller	) Member of Council Absent
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CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Gookin called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Councilmember English provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Wood led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Casey Dolan, Hayden, shared the completion of a lending library project located near the park, downtown, and North Idaho College, created in partnership with the Human Rights Education Institute (HREI), the City, and his family.

Jeanette Laster, Coeur d'Alene, noted that the lending library's design matches HREI's historic building's exterior, is already stocked with books, and is intended for park visitors to borrow or exchange books anytime. She highlighted that this is now the third Eagle Scout project on the HREI premises. Ms. Laster also reported that the "From Idaho With Love" drive, run with the City and human rights partners, collected thousands of donated items including bedding, pillows, luggage, winter coats, school supplies, toiletries, and small household goods for Spokane fire relief families. Over 500 volunteer hours were logged, many from walk-in volunteers, and cash donations were converted into gas, grocery, and home-improvement gift cards. Councilmember Wood thanked Ms. Laster for stepping up and organizing the donation drive and giving a lot of her personal time.

Tracy Mack expressed concern about "Flock" Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) cameras after seeing 11 listed locally on DeFlock.org and asked whether the City had contracted for them or if they were privately owned. She warned about risks of mass surveillance, false arrests, misuse of data, and citizens' movements being stored in unknown databases, and urged

that the public has a right to know who operates these cameras and how their data is used. Coeur d'Alene Police Chief Yeager explained that the City does not use the name brand Flock cameras, therefore any Flock devices in town would be privately owned. The City's ALPR system, from a different vendor, is only used in connection with specific criminal cases entered from the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) or an officer, logs license plates only (not the occupants or owners), and requires officers to independently establish reasonable suspicion or probable cause before taking action. Access is limited to authorized sworn employees and the crime analysts of the Coeur d'Alene Police Department, all queries are logged upon entry and audited monthly, and misuse can trigger criminal and administrative penalties.

Councilmember Sheckler asked Chief Yeager to describe the security protocols for storing ALPR data. Chief Yeager explained that the City's vendor, Motorola, uses Azure cloud servers that must meet FBI Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) standards for criminal justice data, with strong logical (electronic) and physical access controls, and that both police department staff and vendor personnel with access are background-checked. He emphasized that the system stores only plate images, not registration/owner data, so officers still have to run plates through normal law-enforcement databases and establish reasonable suspicion or probable cause before any stop, and that secure channels protect data moving between servers and police vehicles.

Councilmember Wood thanked Chief Yeager for clearly explaining ALPRs. She noted that when ALPR data is used as evidence in a case, detectives still have to go through the courts and obtain search warrants for certain types of evidence. Chief Yeager reiterated that the City's cameras only photograph license plates and do not use facial recognition and reiterated that the City does not use Flock brand cameras. He also explained the SOC2 and SOC3 audits used by the vendor that extend beyond the internal audits conducted by CDAPD personnel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember English noted that some Councilmembers had received a thank you card from young people for opposing the data centers.

Mayor Gookin also announced that the City is seeking high school students ages 14–18 to serve as student representatives on several committees: Parks & Recreation, Ped/Bike, Urban Forestry, and CDA TV, with applications due by Friday, September 18, 2026. Applications can be found at the City's website www.cdavid.org/volunteer/student-representative. He also announced the upcoming vacancy in the Library Board and applications are due by September 4, 2026. Other Committee vacancies for the general public include the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, Urban Forestry Committee, and Personnel Appeals Board. Applications can be found on the Volunteer Opportunities page of the city website www.cdavid.org/government/departments/municipal-services/volunteer-opportunities.

Mayor Gookin expressed condolences on the passing of Peter Erbland, a longtime attorney who represented the City on numerous matters. The City Council recognized his years of service, professionalism, and integrity, and extended their sympathies to his family, friends, and colleagues.

Mayor Gookin requested the appointment of Jon Ingalls and Brian Smith to the Design Review Commission.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Gabriel, to confirm the appointment of Jon Ingalls and Brian Smith to the Design Review Commission. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approval of Council Minutes for the August 4, and August 5, 2026, Council Meetings.
2. Approval of General Services Meeting Minutes for August 10, 2026.
3. Setting of a Public Works Committee Meeting on August 24, 2026.
4. Approval of Bills as Submitted.
5. Approval of Financial Report.
6. **Resolution No. 26-068** – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D’ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT, ACCEPTING IMPROVEMENTS, APPROVING A MAINTENANCE/WARRANTY AGREEMENT, AND APPROVING SECURITY FOR THE TRAILS 8TH ADDITION; APPROVING UPDATED AND NEW STANDARD DRAWINGS FOR PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION; APPROVING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE SECURED PARKING AREA OF THE 3RD STREET PARKING GARAGE; AND APPROVING THE REPLACEMENT OF THREE (3) BUILDING BOILERS AT THE POLICE STATION.
7. **Resolution No. 26-069** - Approval of an ITD State and Local Agreement for the construction of the Ramsey Road traffic signal upgrades, with matching funds in the amount of \$116,626.00.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Wood, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented, including **Resolution Nos. 26-068** and **26-069**.

ROLL CALL: English Aye; Wood Aye; Evans Aye; Sheckler Aye; Gabriel Aye. **Motion carried.**

APPOINTMENT OF RENATA MCLEOD TO THE COEUR D’ALENE EMPLOYEE
BENEFITS TRUST BOARD

STAFF REPORT: Following the resignation of Trustee Bill Dodd in May 2026, the Coeur d’Alene Employees Benefit Trust solicited applications from City employees to fill the vacant Trustee position. After reviewing two applications, the remaining Trustees unanimously recommended Renata McLeod, the City Clerk and Municipal Services Director, as successor Trustee. Pursuant to Paragraph 5.4 of the Trust Agreement, successor Trustees are appointed by written notice from the City of Coeur d’Alene, the Plan Sponsor, and notification to the Director. The appointment will have no financial impact on the City. Ms. McLeod brings more than 38 years of service to the City, including experience in the Legal Department and 14 years as Municipal Services Director, where she has worked closely with City leadership and departments. She holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Idaho and has extensive experience with employee health insurance transitions, as well as community leadership roles. The Trustees concluded that her neutrality, institutional knowledge, and broad

experience make her especially well-suited for the role and recommend that the City Council approve her appointment and provide the required written notice to the Idaho Department of Insurance.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by English, to confirm the appointment of Renata McLeod to the Coeur d'Alene Employee Benefits Trust Board. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-070

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, ACCEPTING THE BID OF, AND AWARDING A CONTRACT TO, CENTRAL WASHINGTON ASPHALT, INC., FOR THE 2026 MILL AND INLAY PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-NINE DOLLARS (\$244,849.00).

STAFF REPORT: Streets and Engineering Director Todd Feusier noted that the asphalt surfaces on portions of Howard Street, Bosanko Avenue, and Dalton Avenue have deteriorated and require extensive repairs. To address the issue, the Streets & Engineering Department developed the 2026 Mill & Inlay Project, which will mill the existing pavement and install a new asphalt surface to extend the life of the roadways and improve ride quality. Following a two-week bidding period, four bids were received and opened on August 10, 2026, with Central Washington Asphalt submitting the lowest responsive bid at \$244,849.00. The project will be funded through the current overlay/chipseal budget.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Wood asked about the area by the old UPS building, and if a new owner would now be required to pave the parking lot. Mr. Feusier replied that the Coeur d'Alene Tribe now owns the building and field, and that upcoming ITD widening projects on the highway are expected to bring additional lanes and improvements north toward the transfer station, potentially addressing that area. Mayor Gookin noted that a change of use, not just ownership, typically triggers paving requirements. Planning Director Hilary Patterson explained that a change of use generally triggers compliance and said both the Tribe and UPS had already been notified they would need to bring the site up to code because parking is severely lacking.

MOTION: Motion by Wood, seconded by Gabriel, to approve **Resolution No. 26-070** – Accepting the bid of, and approving a Contract with, Central Washington Asphalt, Inc., for the 2026 Mill & Inlay Project in an amount not to exceed \$244,849.00.

ROLL CALL: Wood Aye; Evans Aye; Sheckler Aye; Gabriel Aye; English Aye. **Motion carried.**

COUNCIL DISCUSSION REGARDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 26-27

DISCUSSION: Mayor Gookin explained that pursuant to the previous meeting on August 4, 2026, Council wanted to review the list of proposed budget cuts and that any agreed items would be forwarded to the City Administrator as recommendations before the upcoming budget hearing. Councilmember Wood commented that she supports the City Administrator's approach

of giving close scrutiny to all future positions, not a hiring freeze, but careful, responsible monitoring of positions.

The discussion then focused on the proposed cut to defer hiring of one additional Building Inspector. Mayor Gookin noted that permit review times are already four weeks for residential and six weeks for commercial, the builders at NIBCA supported fee increases in exchange for faster service, and without another inspector the City would need to contract out reviews. Councilmember Gabriel asked whether third-party reviews would cause revenue loss, and Building Official Ted Lantzy explained that full third-party plan reviews could forfeit 50–60% of revenue per project, whereas his department currently generates about \$3 Million on a \$1.2 Million budget and expects \$2.1–2.2 Million plus at least 15% more from new fees, enough to cover the position and new permitting software. Councilmember Sheckler raised concerns about delays if the hire isn't made, and Mr. Lantzy explained that with three inspectors likely to retire next year and no overlap, plan reviews and inspections would further slow or need outsourcing.

Mayor Gookin noted a proposed \$250,000 reduction of Streets and Engineering Department overlay program and requested clarification on its impact. Mr. Feusier explained that the overlay/chip seal budget had previously grown from \$750,000.00 to \$1.5 Million, with earlier years temporarily boosted to about \$3 Million using state user-fee revenues, but FY26 is the first year operating solely at \$1.5 Million, forcing a choice between either chip seal or paving in any given year. Using pavement condition software, it is estimated that the City should be spending about \$5 Million per year just to hold current street conditions, so his requested increase to \$1.75 Million was an incremental step to allow both paving and chip seal, including earlier chip seals within three years of paving to stretch street life from roughly 15 to 20 years. He cited Wilbur Avenue as an example where a second chip layer avoided full reconstruction. Mayor Gookin added that highway use tax revenues are projected to drop from \$4.7 Million to \$3.5 Million next year, a \$1.2 Million hit, constraining what can be allocated to streets. Councilmember Wood argued that streets are central to residents' quality of life and that once the City falls behind, it becomes very costly to catch up, so she favored restoring funding from Fund Balance. Councilmember Gabriel echoed the quality-of-life concern and asked if the cut could be reduced to half (\$125,000.00) instead of the full \$250,000.00. Councilmember English proposed a compromise of partially restoring street funds while also keeping the building inspector position, framing both as quality-of-life issues. Councilmember Evans supported Councilmember Wood and Gabriel's comment that the City is in a tough position. She added that she is comfortable moving forward with the proposed \$125,000.00 increase in the overlay budget.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Wood, to accept the proposed changes to the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Appropriations with the removal of the 1.0 FTE Building Inspector position and amending the special overlay program increase to reflect \$125,000.00.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Gookin summarized the budget action, clarifying that the Council voted to accept the proposed cuts as listed, except they removed the cut to the new Building Inspector position, keeping that position funded, and reduced the planned street overlay increase from \$250,000.00 to \$125,000.00. He noted this still amounts close to \$1 Million in

total savings across all cuts and emphasized the difficulty of trimming requests that are all justifiable but necessary.

All in favor. **Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-071

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING A NOTICE OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 - 2026, AND INCLUDING PROPOSED EXPENDITURES BY FUND AND/OR DEPARTMENT, AND A STATEMENT OF THE AMENDED ESTIMATED REVENUE FROM PROPERTY TAXES AND THE AMENDED TOTAL AMOUNT FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN PROPERTY TAXES OF THE CITY FOR THE ENSUING FISCAL YEAR, AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF THE SAME.

STAFF REPORT: Mayor Gookin presented Resolution 26-071 setting a public hearing for September 15, 2026 to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget to account for unanticipated expenditures and revenues in accordance with Idaho law. The proposed amendment increases expenditures by \$2,956,342 and revenues by \$3,058,772. Significant expenditure adjustments include funding for Fire Department constant staffing, street maintenance and engineering improvements, Police Department equipment and facility needs, voluntary separation incentive payouts, unspent citywide automation budget, HVAC repairs, cemetery operations, and various personnel, grant, and carryover project costs. Revenue increases are primarily attributed to additional building permit and inspection fee revenue, additional Highway User revenues from the Idaho Transportation Department, and the use of Fund Balance to support approved expenditures.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by English, to approve **Resolution No. 26-071** – Setting a public hearing for September 15, 2026, for amendments to the Year 2025-26 Financial Plan.

ROLL CALL: Evans Aye; Sheckler Aye; Gabriel Aye; English Aye; Wood Aye. **Motion carried.**

RECESS: Motion by Evans, seconded by Gabriel, to recess to August 31, 2026, for a Special Call Council Meeting for the Appeal of S-2-26: Coeur Terre 2 Subdivision in the Library Community Room at 5:00 P.M. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

The meeting ended at 6:52 p.m.