

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

July 21, 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 July 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., there being present the following members:

Dan Gookin, Mayor

Amy Evans, Council President	) Members of Council Present
Dan English	)
Kenny Gabriel	)
Kiki Miller	)
Christie Wood	)
Dan Sheckler	) Member of Council Absent

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Gookin called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Matt Dean of the Berean Missionary Baptist Church provided the invocation.

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

NORTH IDAHO SAUSA: Shoshone County Prosecutor Benjamin Allen introduced the first North Idaho Special Assistant United States Attorney (SAUSA), Julia Zimny. He noted that the SAUSA position was years in the making, built on community collaboration, with Coeur d'Alene as an original local partner.

Ms. Zimny introduced herself as the first North Idaho SAUSA focused specifically on prosecuting federal drug crimes affecting Coeur d'Alene and the I-90 corridor. She described starting in late April, already working on about 20 narcotics-related cases with local prosecutors and law enforcement, and emphasized that adopting appropriate state cases federally can save significant state tax dollars and improve accountability for traffickers. She mentioned her Gonzaga University education and prior prosecutorial experience in Spokane and King County, and noted upcoming specialized narcotics training. She expressed gratitude for the opportunity and hopes to return with concrete statistics on reduced trafficking of drugs and cost savings to demonstrate the position's impact.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Matt Macniak, Coeur d'Alene, noted that he lives on Roosevelt Avenue next to Capones. He thanked Mayor Gookin for meeting with him and his neighbor about parking and traffic situation that now funnel off the I-90 exit onto their street since resident parking signs were removed. He said this creates hardship for residents and undermines the city's goal of protecting

neighborhoods near commercial areas. He urged a permanent residents parking solution, noting that neighbors are committed to working cooperatively with the city to restore safety and access on their block.

Scott Ferguson, Coeur d'Alene, CEO of St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho, thanked the Mayor and Council for considering the use of Community Development Block Grant funds to renovate the kitchen at their Women and Children's Emergency Transitional Shelter. He explained that the facility serves about 310 women and children per year as they move from emergency shelter to transitional shelter to permanent supportive housing, and that the upgraded kitchen will improve safety, accessibility, and functionality. He emphasized that this investment creates a welcoming environment where families can focus on healing, gaining self-sufficiency, and securing employment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Gabriel and Mayor Gookin welcomed new City Administrator Michael Dominguez to his first City Council meeting.

Mayor Gookin responded to Mr. Macniak's public comment stating that it will be a challenging discussion because the restricted parking area was originally implemented as a pilot program. While the need for the parking restrictions is understood, the Council must decide whether to make the program permanent and consider how similar requests for restricted parking might affect other areas of the city.

Mayor Gookin requested the appointment of Daniel Roop to the Urban Forestry Committee.

MOTION: Motion by Wood, seconded by Miller, to confirm the appointment of Daniel Roop to the Urban Forestry Committee. **Motion carried.**

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approval of Council Minutes for the July 7, 2026, Council Meeting.
2. Setting of a Public Hearing for **August 4, 2026** - Proposed fee increases for the Building Department – the appeal fee; valuation table; hourly inspection/plan review rates; permits and fees and the addition of a reinstatement of expired permit fee and refund of permit fees clarification; Library – establishment of a 3D Printing fee; Planning Department –In-Lieu of Parking fees and Water Department – user fees/rates including call out fees and delinquent charges.
3. Approval of Bills as Submitted.
4. Approval of Financial Report.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Gabriel, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 26-058

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING FUNDING FOR AND AUTHORIZING STAFF TO EXECUTE A PLAN YEAR 2025 CDBG AGREEMENT WITH ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NORTH IDAHO, UTILIZING PY22 AND PY24 GRANT FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,799.89, FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS AT ITS WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY TRANSITIONAL SHELTER.

STAFF REPORT: CDBG Specialist Sherrie Badertscher presented a request for Council approval to award Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho to improve the kitchen at its Women and Children's Emergency Transitional Shelter. She briefly reviewed eligible CDBG activities and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements, noted that this project qualifies as a public facility improvement benefiting low and moderate-income residents, and showed how it fits within the City's five-year consolidated plan goals. She outlined the 2025 CDBG budget, listing prior council-approved allocations to Heritage Place Apartments LLC, Coeur d'Alene School District 271, and Lake City Center "Meals on Wheels." She explained that the \$3,799.89 for this project comes from reallocated under-utilized funds from prior plan years. Ms. Badertscher asked Council to approve the award and authorize staff to execute the grant agreement.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Wood thanked CDA Press reporter, Ray Erku, for the article published today about the proposed CDBG funding for St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho. She added that the grant is desperately needed to help the Women and Children's Emergency Transitional Shelter.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Miller, to approve **Resolution No. 26-058** – Approving CDBG Plan Year 2025 grant funding for, and authorization for staff to enter into a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award agreement with St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho in the amount of \$3,799.89 for public facilities improvement at its Women and Children's Emergency Transitional Shelter.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 26-059

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF FIFTEEN (15) TASERS FROM AXON ENTERPRISE INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$19,037.94, AND SIX (6) BALLISTIC HELMETS FROM LCEO, LLC, DBA OWN THE NIGHT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,497.70, FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

STAFF REPORT: Police Chief Greg Yeager requested approval to purchase 15 Axon Taser devices and six ballistic helmets to replace aging and unsupported equipment. The department's

current Taser model has been in service for 17 years, is no longer supported by the manufacturer, and has a documented fault rate that could pose risks during critical incidents. The new Taser 10 model offers improved technology to resolve dangerous situations quickly and reduce the need for higher levels of force. Additionally, six ballistic helmets will be purchased for the SWAT Team to replace equipment that expires every five years and to establish a staggered replacement schedule. The cost consists of \$19,037.94 for the 15 tasers and \$9,497.70 for the six ballistic helmets, funded through existing Police Department personnel budget savings within the General Fund appropriation.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Miller asked Chief Yeager to clarify whether the requested Tasers represented an expansion of the department's inventory or simply a replacement of existing devices. Chief Yeager explained that the 15 Taser units are strictly replacements for older models that have reached the end of their service life, not an increase in the overall number of Tasers in use by the department.

MOTION: Motion by Wood, seconded by English, to approve **Resolution No. 26-059** - Approving the purchase of fifteen (15) taser devices in an amount not to exceed \$19,037.94 and six (6) ballistic helmets in an amount not to exceed \$9,497.70 for the Police Department, utilizing remaining personnel budget authority in the Department's existing General Fund appropriation.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember English asked Chief Yeager whether there was any way to repurpose or recover costs from the old Tasers, similar to how some used police vehicles can be repurposed or sold. Chief Yeager explained that there is no aftermarket or cost recovery option for these devices; once they reach end of life, they are sent back to the manufacturer for safe decommissioning, and no parts are serviceable.

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

RECESS: Motion by Miller, seconded by Evans, to recess to July 27, 2026 for a budget workshop in the Library Community Room at 12:00 noon. **Motion carried.**

The meeting ended at 6:26p.m.