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

October 20, 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 October 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., there being present the following members:

Dan Gookin, Mayor

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

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

INVOCATION: Leslie Watson provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Kiki Miller led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Lauren McCroskey, Coeur d'Alene, shared she represents group of concerned citizens advocating for fair and equal treatment of all Idahoans called Idaho for All. She voiced concern about actions of our Federal Government and has no place in Coeur d'Alene. She spoke about Immigration and Customs Enforcement and its concerning ways of treatment. She noted it was alarming that the City of Post Falls went into agreement with ICE and asked the City not to do the same.

Burt Rotter, Coeur d'Alene, noted that he is also with Idaho for All and wanted to know that there is increasing fear that events could come to Coeur d'Alene with ICE being involved and noted they are not welcomed in the City.

Kilen Keon, Coeur d'Alene, expressed his concern regarding ICE and spoke on a potential resolution to restrict ICE activities in the City. He noted the issues that have arisen in other communities. He asked Council to help Coeur d'Alene youth feel safe and to investigate the resolution.

Terry Montanye, Coeur d'Alene, noted his support for local law change that enhanced law enforcement in prohibiting use of illegal fireworks. He expressed his concerns within his HOA due to a neighbor having large firework displays every fourth of July and has raised safety concerns.

Vince Weibert, Coeur d'Alene, stated he was here tonight to speak about the garbage collection issues affecting his neighborhood. Mr. Weibert expressed his support for the City's developing efforts to address this issue. He noted that he understands safety issues regarding the garbage company are important but would like to figure out a resolution going forward.

Max El-Kacemi, Coeur d'Alene, noted his frustrations with the City.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Wood noted that Park and Recreation Commission approved an Ad Hoc working group that will focus on the promenade in the City Park. Ms. Wood hopes to bring forward a plan early spring for renovations in a park. The approval location of the memorial for fallen fire fighters was also approved at last night's Park and Recreation meeting.

Councilmember Gabriel clarified that the memorial is specifically for Battalion Chief Morrison. There is a landscape architect assisting with this project and it will be brought forward to Council.

Councilmember Evans announced the City Arts Awards is tomorrow, and doors open at five and encouraged the public to join them.

Mayor Gookin noted that public comment is not required for a public meeting and not the time for Council to interact with individuals. People do have rights and I do not want to interrupt them due to that is a violation of their free speech. He thanked the individuals who came in support of an ICE resolution. Additionally, he

noted that if fireworks that aren't used for commercial use; law enforcement can be called upon and confiscate the fireworks and that the garbage issue is being investigated and an ordinance is being created to help alleviate this issue.

Mayor Gookin announced the City is seeking applicants for 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.cdaid.org/government/departments/municipal-services/volunteer-opportunities.

Mayor Gookin requested the appointment of Katherine Naomi Baker and Etta Corkill to the Library Board of Trustees; Mason Christopher Terdoest to the Parks & Recreation Commission; Nora Crabtree and Alysyn Amaya to the Arts Commission; Zachary Taylor Garrido to the Pedestrian & Bicycle Committee; and David Dance and Lucas Davison to the Urban Forestry Committee.

MOTION: Motion by Wood, seconded by Miller, to confirm the appointments of Katherine Naomi Baker and Etta Corkill to the Library Board of Trustees; Mason Christopher Terdoest to the Parks & Recreation Commission; Nora Crabtree and Alysyn Amaya to the Arts Commission; Zachary Taylor Garrido to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee; and David Dance and Lucas Davison to the Urban Forestry Committee. **Motion carried**

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approval of Council Minutes for the October 6, 2026, Council Meetings.
2. Setting up a Public Works Committee Meeting on October 26, 2026.
3. Setting off a public hearing:
   a. **November 3, 2026**: To consider fee increase for Administration, Fire, Municipal Services, Parks, Police, and Wastewater Departments.
4. Approval of Bills as Submitted.
5. Approval of Financial Report.
6. **Resolution No. 26-081** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING AGREEMENTS FOR CDBG GRANT FUNDS WITH THE LAKE CITY CENTER, CDAIDE, COEUR D'ALENE SCHOOL DISTRICT 271, AND ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, USING GRANTS IN THE CDBG PLAN YEAR 2026 AND PRIOR PLAN YEAR REMAINING FUNDS

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Gabriel, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented, including **Resolution No. 26-081**.

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

Council Bill No. 26-1018

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING THE AMENDMENT OF THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THE COEUR D'ALENE MUNICIPAL CODE: 2.28.110, 2.28.120, and 2.28.130; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF A SUMMARY OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF.

STAFF REPORT: Fire Chief Jon Fuggit noted that in early 2026 the Fire Chief restructured the Departments administrative chief positions. Certain positions were reclassified as Division Chiefs and two positions were created Fire Marshal and Assistant Fire Chief. Municipal Code 2.28.110 has not been updated to reflect this restructuring. This ordinance explained that the Fire Chief took the duties of the Fire Marshal and no compensation is given for doing these duties, without distinguishing whether a separate, dedicated Fire Marshal position exists. Due to the position being filled an amendment to the ordinance is needed to clarify that the Fire Chief serves as Fire Marshal only when the position is unassigned or vacant. This ordinance will also update the right of entry provision in Section 2.28.130 to add a citation to further amend Sections 2.28.120 to designate as the City's Fire Code Official, consistent with Departments current structure. Overall, there is no financial impact due to the Fire Marshal and Assistant Fire Chief positions were previously approved and funded through the Departments restructuring. Overall, this a clerical amendment and does not expand authority or change compensation. It brings Municipal Code Chapter 2.28 into alignment with the Fire Departments approved positions and ensures the Code cites current Idaho Law.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Miller, to dispense with the rule and read **Council Bill No. 26-1018** once by title only.

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

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Miller, to adopt **Council Bill 26-1018.**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 26-082

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH J-U-B ENGINEERS, INC. FOR DESIGN OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT PRAIRIE AVENUE AND COURCELLES PARKWAY, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $49,600.00.

STAFF REPORT: City Engineer Chris Bosley asked for the award of a Contract with JUB Engineers for design of a traffic signal at Prairie Avenue and Courcelles Parkway. Due to crash history and traffic congestion at the Courcelles Parkway intersection with Prairie Avenue, a traffic signal is desired. This intersection is shared by three jurisdictions: the City of Coeur d'Alene, the City of Hayden, and the Post Falls Highway District. Funding has been secured by each agency to design and construct a traffic signal to improve safety. This intersection is half a mile from traffic signals at Ramsey Road and Atlas Road, which meets the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization half mile spacing requirement for Critical Arterial Corridors. Five-year crash data shows that there is a need to address these intersections and in those five years we had fourteen crashes and that safety issues need to be fixed.

MOTION: Motion by Wood, seconded by Sheckler, to approve **Resolution No. 26-082** - approving a Contract with JUB Engineers, Inc. for design of a traffic signal at Prairie Avenue and Courcelles Parkway, in the amount of $49,600.00.

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

(QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARING) APPEAL OF THE DENIAL OF A STREET TREE REMOVAL BY SCOTT AND LEE WAYMEN, 801 E. St. Maries Avenue

The City Clerk swore in all those who provided testimony.

STAFF REPORT: Urban Forester Monte McCully noted that the Lee Wayman owner of 801 E. St. Maries Avenue, requested the removal of a Douglas fir tree within the 8th Street right-of-way located in the 16-foot-wide planting strip on the west side of the property. Mr. Lee Wayman previously made a removal request for the same tree in the past, with the main reason being

concerned that the tree would fall on his house. At that time the committee inspected the tree and found the tree to be in good condition and denied the request for removal. In February of this year the Mayor and Urban Forester went to meet with Mr. Wayman and hear his concerns. The City hired Bartlett Tree experts to assess the tree, and they found the tree to be in good condition. This entity recommended to do selective pruning to reduce loading. This assessment was sent to the Urban Forestry Committee and several members went out to inspect the tree and met with Lee to discuss his concerns. Urban Forestry Chairman John Schwandt did an increment bore test to determine if the tree had hidden interior rot and found the heartwood to be solid. The Urban Forestry Committee discussed this tree at their July meeting and found the tree to be healthy and structurally sound with no significant decay, defects, or safety concerns. Removal was denied and pruning was recommended to mitigate concerns regarding safety by reducing wind sail.

The Urban Forestry Ordinance requires members of the Committee to inspect tree removal permit requests and make recommendations regarding removal of public trees. The City's tree inspections are intended to evaluate tree health, condition, site, and nuisance factors. Tree benefits are also considered, such as wildlife values, environmental benefits, and contributions to the streetscape, neighborhood and overall urban forest. Six members of the Committee inspected this tree and all recommended retention. If the decision is reversed tree removal and the required planting of a replacement tree is the responsibility of the abutting property owner.

Committee members did not feel that there is sufficient reason to remove an otherwise healthy tree from the public right-of-way. The Committee and the Urban Forester did approve the removal of an adjacent maple tree to the north that has caused significant sidewalk upheaval and is blocking his ability to widen his driveway to accommodate two vehicles, if the douglas fir and the maple are both removed, it would vastly change the canopy on that block and create a wide open spot in an otherwise heavily canopied neighborhood. So, decision point recommendation: the City Council affirms or reverses the Urban Forestry Committee's denial of a tree removal permit for douglas fir within the Eighth Street right-of-way abutting 801 East St. Maries Avenue.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Wood noted that the tree looks healthy and currently lives in a forested area where healthy trees have been knocked over in windstorms after a tremendous amount of rain and asked if that was considered when dealing with this tree and does the Committee give the applicant the ability to remove it and put a little tree if we want to continue to be Tree City USA. Mr. McCully noted they do consider that trees at anytime can fall due to their simple nature. Though a healthy tree is less likely to fall. A lot of the trees that have fallen in previous windstorms have had underlying problems. To answer the second question, it is required that if the owner removes the tree they will have to replace it with a different tree. He prefers to have a medium or large tree replaced in an area due to it being a 16-foot-wide planting space; however, the owner can choose anything from small to large tree.

Councilmember Sheckler asked if the douglas fir tree is on the City's approved tree list, with Mr. McCully responding that it is not and it is no longer encouraged to be planted within the rights-of-ways. It is not a prohibited tree, but these trees were planted before this list, and it changes all the time. Mr. McCully noted he checked with Avista today and they said if the tree stays and the appeal request is not reversed then the owner can call and install at their own cost a meter that can shut off if it detects gas leaking out.

Councilmember Sheckler asked if any roots are causing any uplift of the tree. Mr. McCully says that for this tree it is minor and a little uplift. When this happens, the City ordinance says that where you can put a sidewalk up and over, or strictane around a tree root system. Also, there are certain guidelines that must be followed when you are root pruning to prevent damaging the health of the tree.

Councilmember Sheckler asked if root shaving could affect the tree in saturated conditions, with Mr. McCully noting that it does not significantly affect the health of the tree. Though he recommends a certified arborist to trim the roots if needed. Councilmember Sheckler asked about the age of tree and if it would affect the sidewalk as it grows. Mr. McCully noted that it is a younger tree, and it could . potentially affect the sidewalk.

Councilmember Gabriel asked who approves the tree list, with Mr. McCully stating that the Urban Forestry Committee must approve the tree that is on the list.

Councilmember Gabriel asked when you look at conifers versus deciduous, does one tend to be worse when it comes to buckling sidewalks with Mr. McCully replying that it does not necessarily make a difference, unless it is spruce maples. Certain kinds of maples can be damaging to sidewalks.

APPELLANT: Scott Wayman thanked the Urban Forester and Urban Forestry Committee for their professionalism and work on the request, noting that the appeal was not a criticism of them. He explained that his brother, who lives at the property, was concerned that the douglas fir tree could fall onto the house, damage the chimney or gas line, and create a fire hazard. Mr. Scott Wayman said the family had owned the home since their mother's passing and that he lives in Wallace. Mr. Scott Wayman presented photographs showing the tree and sidewalk. He argued that the tree's roots had lifted the sidewalk, creating a potential tripping hazard on a well-used route near a park. He proposed removing the douglas fir, repairing or replacing the sidewalk, adding accessible corner ramps, and planting a more appropriately sized tree from the City's approved list. He said he and his brother were willing to cover the sidewalk work and plant a replacement tree.

In response to council questions, Mr. Scott Wayman confirmed that they would take on the sidewalk expense and would plant a medium-sized tree from the approved list. He emphasized that he and his brother value trees and were not seeking to eliminate them.

DISCUSSION:

Councilmember Wood asked about repairing the sidewalk where the tree is and if they were going to incur that cost. Mr. Scott Wayman confirmed that they would take responsibility to repair the sidewalk.

Councilmember Sheckler asked if they would be willing to plant a medium sized tree on the city's approved list. Mr. Wayman confirmed that him and his brother love trees and they will plant one.

Urban Forestry Report: John Schwandt, representing the Urban Forestry Committee, explained that the Committee reviews requests to remove public trees, considering the tree's health and the broader value of maintaining the urban forest. The Committee found the douglas fir to be in good condition, with typical growth for a tree of its age. It values native conifers including douglas fir as part of Coeur d'Alene's urban forest and recommended retaining the tree.

Mr. Schwandt said the Committee also considers the risk of setting a precedent that could lead to removal of healthy trees for reasons such as leaf cleanup or other minor concerns. He described the Committee's role in maintaining the urban forest and monitoring for invasive insects and diseases. While healthy trees can still fall during severe windstorms, he said the Committee can only assess relative risk; it cannot guarantee that a tree will not fall. He added that the soil near the property was not likely to have standing water, even during heavy rain.

Councilmember Sheckler asked why the douglas fire is not on the approved list. Mr. Schwandt did not realize it was absent until tonight but believed the douglas fir should be on the approved list.

Councilmember Wood appreciated Mr. Scott Wayman's comment upon the staff and the Council will take each case one by one seriously.

REBUTTAL: Mr. Scott Wayman cautioned against adding douglas fir to the City's approved tree list, suggesting its roots and mature size may make it unsuitable for a narrow parkway near sidewalks. He noted that replacement trees after storm damage are often more manageable species. He argued that the City can make more informed planting choices now than when the existing trees were planted decades ago and said replacing the tree with a more manageable species would still support the City's Tree City status.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Wood sympathizes with Mr. Wayman's brother due to living in similar areas and seeing larger trees being uprooted just from their roots or breaking off. Councilmember Sheckler agreed with Councilmember Wood that not all trees need to be next to sidewalks and if they want to put in an approved tree on the list, he thinks it is the right way to go. Councilmember English noted that the Appellants have a good plan on repairing the sidewalk. It is appreciated that they are willing to take cost of sidewalk being a corner lot. Councilmember Miller noted that previous tree issues have created questions and asked City Attorney Randy Adams if this reversal of the denial be conditioned to the sidewalk being repaired as a part of the approval. Mr. Adams replied that he believes that the Council can do what they think is best.

Councilmember Sheckler noted that the testimony said they were going to replace the sidewalk and put ADA accessible ramps and asked to put it in condition that as well plant at least a medium sized tree that is on the City's approved list within a reasonable time after removal.

MOTION: Motion by Sheckler, seconded by Wood to approve the appeal of the Urban Forestry Committee denial of a tree removal request at 801 East St. Maries Avenue by Scott and Lee Wayman, and direct staff to prepare the findings in order and condition such removal on the

replacement of the sidewalks and installation of ADA accessible rampway on that corner, and replacement with at least a medium-sized tree within a reasonable time after removal.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Evans, seconded by Miller that there being no other business this meeting be adjourned. **Motion carried.**

The meeting ended at 7:15 p.m.

Daniel K. Gookin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Konner Petticolas
Executive Assistant

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND DECISION ON APPEAL FROM A DENIAL BY THE URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE OF A REQUEST FOR TREE REMOVAL AT 801 E. ST. MARIES AVENUE

SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

These Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision are made with regard to an appeal from the Urban Forestry Committee's denial of a request by Lee and Scott Wayman for a permit to remove a Douglas Fir within the 8th Street public right-of-way and abutting their property. The Waymans timely appealed the denial.

SECTION II: HEARING

A public hearing on the appeal was held during a regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

A. Testimony

1. Monte McCully, Urban Forester

Monte McCully presented a Staff Report. The decision point is whether Council should affirm or reverse the decision of the Urban Forestry Commission denying a tree removal permit for a Douglas Fir tree within the 8th Street right-of-way. Brothers Lee and Scott Wayman are the owners of property with an address of 801 E. St. Maries Avenue and which abuts 8th Street. They requested permission to remove the tree located within a 16-foot wide planting strip directly west of the Wayman property. The Mayor and Mr. McCully met with Lee Wayman at the property. Mr. Wayman expressed that the reason for his request concern was that, if the tree should fall, it would hit his gas line and cause a fire. The gas meter is on the side of the house closest to the tree. The City then hired an expert, Barlett Tree Experts, to assess the tree. The expert found the tree to be in good condition. It has a slight eastward lean with self-correcting growth going westward, away from the Wayman house. Bartlett recommended removal of deadwood and selective pruning of 15% of the crown to reduce loading. Pruning would reduce the effect of wind on the tree and reduce the chances of it falling. This assessment was then sent to the Urban Forestry Committee.

The Municipal Code requires Urban Forestry Committee members to inspect tree removal permit requests and make recommendations regarding removal of public trees. The Committee's tree inspections are intended to evaluate tree health, condition, site, and nuisance factors. The ability to mitigate concerns is considered. The benefits provided by the tree, such as environmental, wildlife, and contributions to the streetscape, neighborhood, and overall urban forest, are also taken into account. Six members of the Committee inspected the subject tree and met with Mr. Wayman to discuss his concerns. Committee Chair John Schwandt did an increment bore test to determine if the tree had hidden interior rot and found the heartwood to be solid. The Committee discussed this tree at its July meeting. Although the Committee members were sympathetic to Mr. Wayman's concerns, they unanimously found the tree to be healthy and structurally sound with no significant

list of trees, but recently the Committee has been encouraged to list hardwood trees. The list is updated frequently. Douglas Fir is a native tree and should be on the list.

B. Physical Evidence

1. Submitted by Urban Forester

a. One (1) photograph of tree and sidewalk
b. Basic Tree Risk Assessment Form, dated 2/19/26
c. Letter from Bartlett Tree Experts, dated 2/19/26

2. Submitted by Lee Wayman and Scott Wayman

a. Notice of Appeal
b. Three (3) photographs of tree and sidewalk

SECTION III: FINDINGS OF FACT

A. Lee Wayman lives at 801 E. St. Maries Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.
B. Lee Wayman and his brother, Scott Wayman, own the property at that address.
C. Lee Wayman filed a complete application for a permit to remove a street tree pursuant to Municipal Code § 12.36.305.
D. The subject tree is a Douglas Fir. It is 14-16 inches in diameter, fairly young, with good growth each year. It will likely get a good deal larger. An alteration in watering patterns can help prevent shallow roots.
E. Douglas Fir is not on the City's approved tree list, but it is not prohibited. The City is trying to keep as many existing Ponderosa Pines and Douglas Fir as possible because they contribute to the visual aspects of the urban forest.
F. The tree is located within the 8th Street right-of-way, adjacent to the Wayman property and, therefore, is a public tree.
G. The tree is in good condition. It has a slight eastward lean with self-correcting growth going westward, away from the Wayman house.
H. Bartlett Tree Experts recommended removal of deadwood and selective pruning of 15% of the crown to reduce loading. Pruning would reduce the effect of wind on the tree and reduce the chances of it falling.
I. The roots the tree have lifted a portion of the sidewalk, but it is fairly minor. In such cases, the Urban Forestry Committee recommends grinding the raised portion, and performing root pruning or rerouting the sidewalk rather than removing the tree. Proper root pruning does not affect the stability of the tree.
J. The Committee denied the permit because the tree is generally healthy and provides many benefits such as environmental, wildlife habitat, and contributions to the streetscape, neighborhood, and overall urban forest.
K. The Committee found that pruning to reduce the windsail and clean the crown would meet the concerns brought by the Waymans.
L. Mr. Wayman filed a timely appeal from the denial of the removal permit pursuant to Municipal Code §§ 12.36.305(B) and 12.36.245(B).

D. Nothing herein shall preclude the Waymans from requesting available financial assistance from the City regarding replacement of the tree and sidewalk.

DATED this 20 day of October, 2026.

Daniel K. Gookin, Mayor