

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

August 19, 2025

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 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., there being present the following members:

Woody McEvers, Mayor

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

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

INVOCATION: Seth Owens of Heart of the City Church led the invocation.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

John Deus, Coeur d'Alene, speaking on behalf of the 153 residents and owners of Coeur d'Alene North Condominium, expressed serious concerns about traffic, speed, and excessive vehicle noise along Northwest Boulevard. He felt that the situation will worsen with upcoming developments like the Coeur d'Alene resort expansion and the opening of Thomas George condominium. Residents are forced to keep windows and doors closed to cope with the noise, and even soundproofing efforts have proven ineffective. Mr. Deus requested the Council install a radar-activated electronic speed limit sign near their condo. He noted that similar signs have already been successfully deployed elsewhere in the City.

Michael Williams, Coeur d'Alene, asked for the installation of a speed indicator sign at the Northwest Boulevard location. He highlighted a recent incident where a speeding driver lost control and caused \$36,000 in property damage, emphasizing that while signs can be replaced, lives cannot. He noted that the Federal Highway Administration data shows that speed feedback signs can reduce average speeds by 2-4 mph and in higher violation areas reduced 6-8 mph, significantly lowering pedestrian fatalities. He also referenced studies showing these signs reduce noise annoyance and improve quality of life. Mr. Williams urged the Council to support the initiative as an investment in safety and community well-being.

Janice Dailey, Coeur d'Alene, shared an audio recording of the street noise and recounted her ongoing struggle with excessive noise near her condominium. She recalled that she first raised the issue two years ago and asked Council to address the nightly disturbances caused by loud motorcycles, trucks, and modified cars. However, despite a new City ordinance increasing fines for noise violations, she says enforcement has been nonexistent. She expressed frustration with the police's lack of response, despite visible patrol presence nearby. Citing Idaho law, she argued the repeated, intentional noise constitutes harassment and disturbing the peace which are both misdemeanors. Ms. Dailey urged the Council and Police Chief to take meaningful action emphasizing the impact on residents' quality of life.

Aileen Koler, Coeur d'Alene, noted her strong support for the downtown noise control petition. She echoed the concerns raised by others, emphasizing the disruptive impact of modified cars and motorcycles that repeatedly circle the area, creating excessive noise. While she appreciates and respects the local police, she stressed that the existing noise ordinance is not being enforced and that this lack of action undermines respect for the law. Ms. Koler stated that the issue is not just noise but also a safety concern due to speeding. She asked Council to take stronger enforcement measures, including the use of noise-activated cameras, to restore peace and uphold community standards.

Jim Riley, Coeur d'Alene, shared his concerns about the escalating noise and safety issues downtown. He described witnessing intentional and reckless behavior by young drivers creating loud, disruptive noise near Sweet Lous while he was dining. He emphasized that this is deliberate and dangerous activity, including drivers leaning out of windows and attempting high-fives while moving. He proposed investing in noise and speed-detecting cameras to enforce the ordinance more effectively.

Councilmember Miller thanked the attendees for their respectful and organized approach to speaking at the meeting. Councilmember English commented that the use of noise and speed-detecting cameras remains a divisive issue among residents, with strong opinions on both sides. He asked about the cost of these devices and implied that further discussion and consideration would be needed before moving forward.

Police Chief Lee White commented that the Police Department does take the noise ordinance seriously and has made considerable enforcement efforts with 230 vehicle noise-related contacts through July 31 this year with majority in the downtown area. However, he explained that enforcement is limited by staffing with only three traffic officers are currently assigned, with one soon transitioning to a School Resource Officer role. While officers conducted targeted patrols and monitored noise levels, they witnessed routine traffic noise and found no violations during those times. Chief White acknowledged the potential of noise and speed-detecting cameras but noted their high cost, with the cheapest around \$25,000 each, and the political sensitivity around surveillance and data use in North Idaho. He reiterated that while the Police Department is committed to addressing noise, limited resources and competing priorities, such as preventing traffic crashes, making consistent enforcement challenging.

Councilmember Wood acknowledged the seriousness of downtown noise complaints and thanked Chief White for the police efforts. She emphasized the challenge of addressing the issue due to

budget constraints and staffing shortages, noting that the City hasn't discussed increasing police staffing in recent budget meetings. While she expressed interest in having a discussion on possibly funding more overtime for targeted patrols at night, she cautioned that even that would be difficult given current budget and demands on police resources. Councilmember Gookin asked Chief White about current police activity. Chief White responded that, at the time he left for the Council meeting, no officers were available due to high-priority calls, including a domestic violence incident involving a firearm and another call about someone waving a firearm around. He highlighted the ongoing strain on police resources and the difficulty of prioritizing noise complaints amid more urgent public safety concerns. Councilmember Gookin inquired about the police vehicle parked at Independence Point that was mentioned during public comment with Chief White explaining that it belongs to the downtown patrol unit, which uses it for visibility while officers walk the area and monitor beaches and city parks. Councilmember Gookin also referenced a Wall Street Journal article about noise-detecting cameras and asked whether implementing such technology would require changes to local ordinances. Chief White confirmed that it would, noting that recent legislative changes restrict the use of automated license plate reader (ALPR) data for infractions. To use such data for noise enforcement, the City would need to elevate noise violations to misdemeanors and possibly navigate legal and privacy concerns regarding third-party access to driver information.

Councilmember Miller suggested forming a dedicated working group to sit down with entities and come up with real solutions to address the ongoing downtown noise issue and should come forward as an agenda item, rather than discussion during public comment. Councilmember Wood agreed, noting that any formal action would require bringing the issue back as an agenda item. She inquired about the prosecution side of the issue. City Attorney Randy Adams explained that while the prosecutor's office prioritizes serious cases like domestic violence and DUIs, they would process excessive noise citations if issued. However, he confirmed that under Idaho law, using automated license plate reader (ALPR) data for infractions is illegal unless the offense is a misdemeanor or felony, meaning the Council would need to elevate noise violations to misdemeanors to use such technology. Councilmember Gabriel expressed desire to continue the conversation and explore solutions like speed limit signs and enforcement tools. Councilmember English supported forming a group to explore solutions thoroughly and ensure the issue doesn't get lost among other city matters, advocating for thoughtful planning before bringing it back as an official action item.

Councilmember Gookin brought up the idea of installing speed signs, as suggested during public comments, but noted their high cost and the absence of funding in the current budget. He referenced a precedent where a group purchased its own speed sign and asked if a similar approach could be considered. City Administrator Troy Tymesen responded that the City has been using mobile speed signs, which are rotated through different areas to maintain their effectiveness and avoid driver desensitization. Councilmember Gookin then noted that if a group is interested in pursuing this option, they are welcome to approach the City about it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Gookin announced that the City had a successful bond sale, with interest rates coming in lower. City Administrator Troy Tymesen noted that \$16.4 Million in bonds were sold

quickly and will officially close on September 3. He emphasized that the strong market demand helped lower the costs for the City's constituents.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approval of Council Minutes from August 5 and 13, 2025, Council Meetings.
2. Setting of General Service/Public Works meeting for August 25, 2025.
3. Approval of Bills as Submitted.
4. Approval of Financial Report.
5. Approval of a Cemetery lot repurchase: Ronnie and Judith Duvall, Block V, Lots 48, 49, 50, 51; Forest Cemetery Annex. (Riverview) (\$4,200.00).
6. Approval of Final Plats:
 - a. SS-25-02c -Grand Mill Condominiums
 - b. SS-25-09 -Skye Oak Estates
 - c. SS-25-11c -Vista Meadows Condominiums
 - d. SS-24-07 -Pondy Flats
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 25-043** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING THE ART PIECES FOR THE 2025 ARTCURRENTS PROGRAM; A REQUEST TO SURPLUS THREE (3) POLICE VEHICLES; A REQUEST TO SURPLUS AND AUCTION ELEVEN (11) POLICE VEHICLES; RATIFICATION OF THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) POLICE VEHICLES; AND AN INCREASE IN UPFITTING COSTS FOR NINE (9) POLICE VEHICLES.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Gabriel to approve the Consent Calendar as presented, including **Resolution No. 25-043**.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Wood asked about the large number of old police vehicles listed for surplus and auction, asking where the proceeds go. Mr. Tymesen clarified that revenue from the sale of general fund assets, like police vehicles, goes back into the general fund revenue line item for miscellaneous income. Councilmember Gookin asked whether there is a policy on selling vehicles and where the funds go. Mr. Tymesen explained that the City follows guidance from the Government Finance Officers Association, which stipulates that general fund assets should return proceeds to the general fund. Finance Director Katie Ebner added that surplus asset sales are recorded as general fund revenue and not allocated by department, as doing so would complicate budgeting and auditing. She further explained that when equipment unexpectedly fails mid-year, the revenue from scrapping it is often considered partial funding toward its replacement. If replacements are already budgeted, those proceeds help offset costs. However, Ms. Ebner noted that to track such revenues by department could complicate the budgeting process and financial reporting.

Councilmember Gookin commented on the consent calendar item regarding the selected art pieces for the 2025 ArtCurrents Program. He noted that while the art pieces are included in the council packet, a resident had reached out asking where they could view the images. He proposed for the presentation of pictures of the artworks in the future so residents can better appreciate what will be displayed around town. He emphasized that this would be an opportunity to showcase the committee's work and engage the community.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 25-044

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A FORD F-250 TRUCK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000.00 FROM MIKE WHITE FORD.

STAFF REPORT: Fire Deputy Chief Lucas Pichette requested Council to approve the purchase of a F-250 truck from Mike White Ford for use as a Battalion Chief (BC) command vehicle. He explained that the immediate replacement of the BC command vehicle is essential to effectively and safely carry out their mission. The truck they are currently using is the back country truck and, thus, the back country response package is out of service until the BC truck is replaced. Furthermore, the back country truck does not have the equipment needed for a command vehicle. The proposed truck would serve as the primary BC vehicle, with future plans to purchase an additional BC truck within 1–3 years. The total cost, not to exceed \$125,000, will be funded through G.O. Bond funds and includes approximately \$79,939 for the truck and upfitting, plus up to \$40,000 for mobile radios, installation, and miscellaneous organizational items.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by Miller to approve **Resolution No. 25-044** approving the purchase of a Ford F-250 truck and associated upfitting costs in the amount not to exceed \$125,000 for the Fire Department.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Gookin asked for clarification on the cost breakdown for upfitting a new response vehicle. Mr. Pichette explained that the base truck is purchased from Mike White Ford, and an additional \$18,000 is needed for upfitting such as pull-out trays and sirens. Another \$40,000 is allocated for radios and other accessories. Councilmember Gabriel asked if ordering two vehicles might result in a better deal, to which Mr. Pichette responded that he is exploring that possibility with the vendor, though nothing is confirmed. Councilmember Gabriel expressed appreciation for having local resources like Mike White Ford to handle the vehicle upfitting, avoiding the need to send it elsewhere.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 25-045

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO ESTABLISHING A NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PROPOSED AMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, AND INCLUDING PROPOSED EXPENDITURES BY FUND AND/OR DEPARTMENT, AND 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.

WHEREAS, it is necessary, pursuant to Idaho Code 50-1003, for the City Council of the City of Coeur d'Alene, prior to passing an Amended Annual Appropriation Ordinance, to prepare a proposed amended Budget, tentatively approve the same, and enter such proposed amended Budget at length in the journal of the proceedings; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Coeur d'Alene that the following be and the same is hereby adopted as an Amended Estimate of Expenditures and Anticipated Revenue of the City of Coeur d'Alene for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024:

	FY 2024-25 BUDGET	FY 2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:		
Mayor and Council	\$288,967	\$294,167
Administration	252,276	252,276
Finance Department	1,774,867	1,800,083
Municipal Services	2,890,358	3,208,177
Human Resources	487,244	487,244
Legal Department	1,398,512	1,398,512
Planning Department	820,717	823,217
Building Maintenance	764,779	764,779
Police Department	25,790,292	26,897,977
Opioid Grant		294,669
Police Department Grants	247,275	289,980
Fire Department	14,490,604	15,583,996
General Government	38,800	38,800
Streets/Garage	6,679,213	6,805,405
Parks Department	3,035,131	3,094,407
Recreation Department	785,636	804,337
Building Inspection	1,088,306	1,098,806
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:	<u>\$60,832,977</u>	<u>\$63,936,832</u>

	FY 2024-25 BUDGET	FY 2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND EXPENDITURES:		
Library Fund	\$2,109,366	\$2,109,366
Community Development Block Grant	359,060	296,411
Impact Fee Fund	1,093,000	1,093,000
Parks Capital Improvements	751,100	751,100
Annexation Fee Fund	580,000	580,000
Cemetery Fund	358,098	365,098
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	19,500	19,500
Jewett House	31,120	31,120
Reforestation/Street Trees/Community Canopy	134,500	134,500
Public Art Funds	244,500	244,500
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS:	<u>\$5,680,244</u>	<u>\$5,624,595</u>
ENTERPRISE FUND EXPENDITURES:		
Street Lighting Fund	\$801,000	\$801,000
Water Fund	13,187,728	13,187,728
Wastewater Fund	29,661,316	29,661,316
Water Cap Fee Fund	2,260,000	2,260,000
WWTP Cap Fees Fund	7,143,549	7,143,549
Sanitation Fund	5,469,062	5,469,062
City Parking Fund	1,788,091	1,788,091
Drainage	2,074,668	2,487,668
	0	0
TOTAL ENTERPRISE EXPENDITURES:	<u>\$62,385,414</u>	<u>\$62,798,414</u>
FIDUCIARY FUNDS:	\$3,737,200	\$3,799,200
STREET CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS:	5,866,000	5,866,000
DEBT SERVICE FUNDS:	877,308	877,308
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL EXPENDITURES:	<u><u>\$139,379,143</u></u>	<u><u>\$142,902,349</u></u>

	FY 2024-25 BUDGET	FY 2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET
ESTIMATED REVENUES:		
Property Taxes:		
General Levy	\$25,846,295	\$25,846,295
Library Levy	1,994,434	1,994,434
Fireman's Retirement Fund Levy	250,000	250,000
Policemen's Retirement Fund Levy	146,000	146,000
2015 G.O. Bond Levy	877,308	877,308
TOTAL REVENUE FROM PROPERTY TAXES:	<u>\$29,114,037</u>	<u>\$29,114,037</u>

	FY 2024-25 BUDGET	FY 2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET
ESTIMATED OTHER REVENUES:		
Interfund Transfers	\$14,608,476	\$14,608,476
Beginning Balance	28,216,291	30,757,570
Other Revenue:		
General Fund	26,559,336	27,121,912
Library Fund	24,650	24,650
Community Development Block Grant	359,060	296,411
Parks Capital Improvement Fund	348,000	348,000
Cemetery	260,098	267,098
Annexation Fee Fund		-
Impact Fee Fund	875,000	875,000
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	25,000	25,000
Jewett House	60,000	60,000
Street Trees / Reforestation	54,500	54,500
Public Art Funds	87,500	87,500
Street Lighting Fund	766,000	766,000
Water Fund	7,799,852	7,799,852
Wastewater Fund	16,475,000	16,475,000
Water Capitalization Fees	900,000	900,000
WWTP Capitalization Fees	1,350,000	1,350,000
Sanitation Fund	4,969,062	4,969,062
City Parking Fund	1,084,000	1,084,000
Drainage	1,129,018	1,542,018
Fiduciary Funds	3,424,000	3,486,000
Capital Projects Fund	4,826,000	4,826,000
Debt Service Fund		
TOTAL REVENUE OTHER THAN PROPERTY TAXES:	\$114,200,843	\$117,724,049
 SUMMARY:		
	FY 2024-25 BUDGET	FY 2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET
PROPERTY TAXES	\$29,114,037	\$29,114,037
OTHER THAN PROPERTY TAXES	114,200,843	117,724,049
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	\$143,314,880	\$146,838,086

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the same be spread upon the Minutes of this meeting and published in two (2) issues of the Coeur d'Alene Press, seven (7) days apart, to be published on August 27, 2025 and September 3, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Public Hearing on the Budget be held on the 16th day of September, 2025 at the hour of 6:00 o'clock p.m. on said day, at which time any interested person may appear and show cause, if any he has, why the proposed amended Budget should or should not be adopted.

STAFF REPORT: Finance Director Katie Ebner provided an update on the City's budget amendment process, highlighting a successful bond sale that reflected strong investor confidence and a solid bond rating. She explained that the annual budget amendment is part of the City's annual process to amend the original appropriations ordinance for unanticipated expenditures, as permitted under Idaho Code. Revenue projections have been adjusted upward by \$3,523,206, incorporating both unanticipated income and the use of Fund Balance from carryovers or one-time costs previously approved by Council. Ms. Ebner projected the City would draw approximately \$3.1 Million from fund balance, partly due to planned projects and unexpected costs, such as increased Fire Department staffing expenses from injuries and a fire-damaged police storage facility. Key adjustments to revenues include higher-than-expected income from fees, licenses, and court-related revenues, offset by reductions in intergovernmental and miscellaneous revenues. Expenditures have increased by \$3,523,213, with significant changes across departments including Finance, Fire, Police, Streets, Parks and Recreation, and Municipal Services, largely due to adjustments for insurance, carryover items from supply chain delays, and minor changes across departments.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Wood asked about a previously shared sample ordinance regarding easement fees for city property and whether it would be brought back for Council review. Ms. Ebner confirmed it would require collaboration with the Legal Department and had been delayed due to budget preparation but would be revisited. Councilmember Gookin asked for clarification on the term "beginning balance" in the ordinance, noting it showed an increase from \$28 Million to \$30 Million. Ms. Ebner explained that the term is interchangeable with "fund balance" and includes all funds, such as utilities. She noted the increase reflects built-in capacity for large projects and unexpected expenses, and that actual spending will likely come in under that amount. Mr. Tymesen explained that the City forecasts year-end expenses well in advance and builds in financial flexibility to handle unknowns like overtime or emergencies. He emphasized that while the process may seem outdated, it ensures the City is prepared and financially responsible.

MOTION: Motion by Gookin, seconded by English to approve **Resolution No. 25-045** - Approving the setting of a public hearing for September 16, 2025, for amendments to the Year 2024-25 Financial Plan.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: MOTION: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Miller to enter into Executive Session Pursuant to Idaho Code §§ 74-206(1)(j) and 74-206A(1)(a), to deliberate on a labor contract offer or to formulate a counteroffer.

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

The Council entered into Executive Session at 7:11 p.m. Those present were the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, City Attorney, and Finance Director.

Council exited Executive Session at 7:53 p.m.

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

The meeting ended at 7:53 p.m.