



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
City Hall—Council Chambers, 3989 Central Ave NE
Monday, February 09, 2026
6:00 PM

Mayor
Amáda Márquez Simula
Councilmembers
Connie Buesgens
Rachel James
Justice Spriggs
Laurel Deneen
City Manager
Aaron Chirpich

AMENDED AGENDA
AGENDA AMENDED ON 2/6/26 TO ADD ITEM 3 AND 17

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

*Members of the public who wish to attend may do so in-person, or by using Microsoft Teams Meeting at ID **280 136 504 322 9**, Passcode **Sf6p5VF2**. Additionally, members of the public may view the meeting live at columbiaheightsmn.gov/watch. For questions, please contact Administration at 763-706-3610.*

Auxiliary aids or other accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available upon request when the request is made at least 72 hours in advance. Please contact Administration at 763-706-3610 to make arrangements.

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

MISSION STATEMENT

Columbia Heights is a vibrant, healthy and connected City. We are here to actively support the community, deliver equitable services, build and strengthen connections, improve upon our past, and uphold our successes. We strive to be better and ensure Columbia Heights is a great place for everyone, today and in the future.

Columbia Heights City Council and Staff Norms.

While we are accountable to each other for these norms, the Mayor and City Manager will help us adhere to them with respectful reminders and reinforcement as needed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(The Council, upon majority vote of its members, may make additions and deletions to the agenda. These may be items submitted after the agenda preparation deadline.)

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITION, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GUESTS

A. Racial Covenant Awareness and Action Day.

Accepting Proclamation:

CITY COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Report of the City Council

Report of the City Manager

COMMUNITY FORUM

The Community Forum is an opportunity to address the City Council about items not scheduled for a public hearing.

All speakers must provide their name and connection to Columbia Heights. In-person speakers should complete a form for the City Clerk and introduce themselves at the podium. Virtual speakers should send their information to the moderator via chat and turn on their camera when called.

Comments are limited to five minutes. Disrespectful language is not allowed. The Council may ask questions or refer items for follow-up but typically does not take action during the forum.

CONSENT AGENDA

These items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted as part of the Consent Agenda by one motion. Items removed from consent agenda approval will be taken up as the next order of business. (The City Council will make motion to approve the Consent Agenda following the statement of all items.)

- 1. Approve January 26, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to approve the January 26, 2026, City Council Work Session meeting minutes.
- 2. Approve February 2, 2026, City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to approve the February 2, 2026, City Council Work Session meeting minutes.
- 3. Approve February 6, 2026, Emergency City Council Meeting Minutes.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to approve the February 6, 2026, Emergency City Council meeting minutes.
- 4. Accept January 5, 2026 Regular EDA Meeting Minutes.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to accept the January 5, 2026, EDA meeting minutes.
- 5. Accept January 12, 2026 Special EDA Meeting Minutes.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to accept the January 12, 2026, EDA meeting minutes.
- 6. Accept January 7, 2026, Library Board Minutes.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to accept the January 7, 2026, Library Board meeting minutes.

- 7. Accept February 3, 2025 Special HRA Meeting Minutes.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to accept the February 3, 2025, HRA meeting minutes.
- 8. Approval of Resolution 2026-09, Amending the Administration Budget.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to waive the reading of Resolution 2026-09, there being ample copies available to the public.
MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution 2026-09 amending the General Fund to reclassify the Multicultural Liaison from a temporary position to a permanent position with a budget impact of \$20,000.
- 9. Adopt Resolution 2026-011, Calling on Governor Walz to Issue an Eviction Moratorium.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to waive the reading of Resolution 2026-011, there being ample copies available to the public.
MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution 2026-011, Calling on Governor Walz to Issue an Eviction Moratorium.
- 10. Approval of Granicus Termination and Mutual Release Agreement.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to authorize the City Manager to sign the mutual release agreement with Granicus and issue a payment of \$32,457.92.
- 11. Authorize an Updated JPA with the MN BCA for the Violent Crime Reduction Unit (VCRU).**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich – City Manager
MOTION: Move to authorize the City Manager and the Chief of Police to enter into the attached updated agreement with the MN BCA for participation in the VCRU.
- 12. Approval of Contract for HKGI for the 2050 City of Columbia Heights Comprehensive Plan Process.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with HKGI to provide planning and professional services to complete the 2050 Comprehensive Plan.
- 13. License Agenda.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to approve the items as listed on the business license agenda for February 9, 2026, as presented.
- 14. Rental Occupancy Licenses for Approval.**
Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager
MOTION: Move to approve the items listed for rental housing license applications for February 9, 2026, in that they have met the requirements of the Property Maintenance Code.

15. Review of Bills.

Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager

MOTION: Move that in accordance with Minnesota Statute 412.271, subd. 8 the City Council has reviewed the enclosed list to claims paid by check and by electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$1,473,249.68.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

This is the public's opportunity to speak regarding this matter. Speakers that are in-person are asked to complete a Speaker Form and submit it to the City Clerk. Speakers attending virtually should send a request to speak with this information to the moderator using the chat function and wait to be called on to speak. When speaking, virtual attendees should turn their camera on. Speakers should limit their comments to five (5) minutes. Any comments made after the public hearing is closed will not be considered by the City Council and will not be included as part of the formal record for this matter as the item will have been voted on and the item formally closed by the Council.

16. First Reading of Ordinance 1723, Amending the Columbia Heights City Charter Regarding Recall Petitions.

Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager

MOTION: Move to close the public hearing and waive the reading of Ordinance 1723, there being ample copies available to the public.

MOTION: Move to set the second reading of Ordinance No. 1723, being an ordinance amending the City Charter of Columbia Heights, for February 23, 2026 at approximately 6:00p.m.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Ordinances and Resolutions

17. Consideration of Resolution 2026-12, Being a Resolution Calling for an End to Lawless Ice and CPB Surges Across the Country and Calling on Congress to Withhold Any Finding for the Department of Homeland Security Without Meaningful and Significant Guardrails.

Presenting Item: Mayor Márquez Simula, Mayor

MOTION: Move to waive the reading of Resolution 2026-012, there being ample copies available to the public.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 2026-12 Calling for an End to Lawless Ice and CPB Surges Across the Country and Calling on Congress to Withhold Any Funding for the Department of Homeland Security Without Meaningful and Significant Guardrails.

Bid Considerations

No Bid Considerations

New Business and Reports

No New Business and Reports.

ADJOURNMENT

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