



**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF WESTMORLAND  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026**  
City Council Chambers  
355 South Center Street  
Westmorland, CA 92281

*Mayor's Message*

This is a public meeting. You may be heard on an agenda item before the Council takes action on the item upon being recognized by the mayor. During the oral communications portion of the agenda, you may address the Council on items that do not appear on the agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. Personal attacks on individuals, slanderous comments, or comments, which may invade an individual's privacy, are prohibited. The mayor reserves the right to limit the speaker's time. Individuals wishing accessibility accommodations at this meeting, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), may request such accommodations to aid hearing, visual, or mobility impairment by contacting City Hall at (760) 344-3411. Please note that 48 hours advance notice will be necessary to honor your request.

***Brown Act AB 361:***

**Location:** Westmorland City Hall Council Chambers 355 S Center Street

Justina Cruz - Mayor

Ray Gutierrez- Mayor Pro- Tem

Ana Beltran- Council Member

Xavier Mendez - Council Member

Judith Rivera - Council Member

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**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Cruz

**Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Cruz.

**Roll Call:**

**Council Present**

Justina Cruz, Mayor- Present

Ray Gutierrez, Mayor Pro-Tem- Present

Judith Rivera, Member - Present

Xavier Mendez, Member- Present

Anna Beltran, Member – Absent

**Staff Present**

Laura Bryant, Manager- Present

Ramiro Barajas, PW director - Present

Sergio Cruz, Fire Chief - Present

Anthony Lyn Mara, Police Chief- Present

Christine Pisch- City Clerk - Present

Mitchel Driskill- City Attorney - Absent

**Oral Communication-Public Comment:** Now is the time for any member of the public to speak to the Council. Please step to the podium and state your name and address for the record. Three (3) minute maximum time.

**Reports from Council Members Non-Action Items:**

**Staff Reports Non-Action Items:**

**Fire Department** – Mr. Cruz reported that he was notified that the city's Hazardous Mitigation Plan expired. The city had prepared and adopted an updated and he submitted the plan with the state for approval.

Police Department – Mr. Mara has nothing to report.

City Manager- Ms. Bryant provided a written report and updated the council about ICTC's communication, which stated that the alternate for ICTC must be a city-appointed individual. During the last meeting, Mr. Barajas was appointed as the alternate. The city council then proceeded to appoint Ms. Rivera as the new alternate for ICTC.

Public Works Director – Mr. Barajas provided the council with an update on the EDWG grant, working with The Holt Group include the additional items that will be funded by the EDWG grant, such as the addition of water ponds, a generator, and meters.

**Consent Agenda:** Approve the Consent Agenda Items 1-2.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2026
2. Approval of City Warrant List.

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2025, and Warrant List. With a motion approved 4/0 with 1 absence.

AYES: (1) Rivera, (2) Gutierrez, Mendez, and Cruz

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 1 Beltran

**Regular Business:**

**Closed Session:** Council did not have any items to be discussed in closed session.

- Public Service Employees Job descriptions and salary scales, as well as Appointment, Employment, or evaluation (Gov't. Code §54957(b)(1).) Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(b): (1 case)

The council adjourned at 7:11 pm. No Closed Session was held. Adjourned with a motion approved 4/0 with 1 absent.

**Adjournment:** Next regular scheduled meeting February 4, 2026.

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[cityclerk@cityofwestmorland.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityofwestmorland.net)

