



CITY OF MARCO ISLAND

To: City Council
From: Casey Lucius, Ph.D., City Manager
Date: July 6, 2026
Re: City Council Meeting Times

Background:

At the June 15, 2026, City Council meeting during Councilor Communication, Councilor Dohm asked if the Council would consider having future City Council meetings on Mondays at 9:00am. The majority of Council agreed to place this on an agenda for further discussion and a vote.

The City Charter states that the Council shall schedule a minimum of twelve regular meetings each year. The Charter does not dictate the days or times of the meetings. The Rules of Procedure of the City Council Section 3 states that meetings shall commence at 5:30pm on the first and third Monday in each month unless changed by a majority vote of the Councilors. Each December, the City Clerk presents an annual calendar of Council meeting dates including budget workshops. The calendar must be approved by a majority of Councilors (some meetings are held on Tuesday due to Monday holidays). The Rules of Procedure note that a regular meeting shall be limited to four hours in duration unless extended by majority vote.

For additional reference, City Ordinance 99-12 Sec. 2 refers to the City Council Rules of Procedure for scheduling the time of monthly meetings. State Statute 200.065 requires that budget hearings take place after 5:00pm. The City's budget hearings take place annually in September. State Statute 166.041 requires that land use changes or rezone of more than 10 acres requires a hearing after 5:00pm. Additionally, comprehensive plans or plan amendments require a public hearing after 5:00pm.

Proposals for Consideration:

1. As proposed by Councilor Dohm, hold City Council meetings from 9:00am – 1:00pm on the first and third Monday of the month. For public hearings identified in State Statute, separate noticed meetings would be scheduled for after 5:00pm.

2. Alternatively, in order to allow for public comment from residents who may work during the day, hold City Council meetings from 1:30-5:30pm, allowing for public comment at the end of the meeting after 5:00pm. In the event of a land use, zoning, or comprehensive plan amendment, that agenda item could be scheduled for 5:00pm. Additionally, when there are workshops, a workshop could begin at 9:00am, and continue with the regular meeting at 1:30pm, allowing for a break for lunch.

Implementation:

The City Council has an operating budget workshop scheduled on July 20, 2026 at 1:00pm and a regular City Council meeting at 5:30pm. In September, our budget hearings will occur after 5:00pm based on the regular City Council meeting time beginning at 5:30pm. Therefore, a new start time for regular City Council meetings could begin on October 5, 2026, giving the public plenty of notice of the new start times.

Recommendation:

If City Council chooses to begin meetings at 9:00am or 1:30pm, staff recommends amending Section 3 of the Council Rules of Procedure to reflect such changes.