

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF STEVENSON COUNCIL MEETING**  
**June 18, 2025**  
**6:00 PM, City Hall and Remote**

Items with an asterisk (\*) have been added or modified after the initial draft publication of the Agenda.

Attending:

**Elected Officials: Mayor Scott Anderson; Councilmembers Chuck Oldfield, Lucy Lauser, Michael Johnson, Dave Cox.**

**Staff: Wesley Wootten, City Administrator; Public Works Director Cody Rosander; Ben Shumaker, Community Development Director; City Attorney Robert Muth, Ray Broughton, Stevenson Fire Chief.**

Guests: Kelly O'Malley-McKee, Executive Director of the Stevenson Downtown Association; Skamania County Undersheriff Tracy Wyckoff.

Public attendees: Anne Keesee, Rick May

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PRESENTATION TO THE FLAG:** **Mayor Anderson** called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., led the group in reciting the pledge of allegiance, and conducted roll call.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** See below

**3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

**Mayor Anderson** advised Ben Shumaker, Cody Rosander, Wesley Wooten, and Carolyn Sourek would be present at the meeting. He noted the CIP/TIP plan would be presented as information, with no vote expected.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA:** The following items were presented for Council approval.

a) Minutes from Stevenson City Council meeting held on 5/15/2025.

**MOTION** to approve consent agenda item a) was made by **Councilmember Cox**, seconded by **Councilmember Oldfield**.

Voting aye: **Councilmember Lauser, Cox, Rice, Johnson, Oldfield**

**5. SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT:**

a) Sheriff's Report - The Skamania County Sheriff's report for activity within Stevenson city limits for May 2025 was presented for council review by Skamania County Undersheriff Tracy Wyckoff. **Councilmember Cox** requested information on the volume of warnings being issued by deputies. Undersheriff Wyckoff praised the work of local fire fighters in controlling recent fires.

**Councilmember Rice** called a point of order, as public comment had not been received as scheduled on the agenda.

**Public comments were then received.**

Ann Keesee spoke about initiating a code of conduct for the City Council.

Rick May suggested developing program to help prevent wildfires.

**6. PRESENTATIONS FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES:**

6:13

a) Stevenson Downtown Association - Kelly O'Malley-McKee, Executive Director of the Stevenson Downtown Association shared information about the benefits they've provided to the community over the past year. She shared an overview of the Main Street Program, new programs, past accomplishments and volunteer participation. She explained some of the guidelines that pertain to the Main Street program.

**7. COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

Mayor Anderson briefly revisited the purpose of the proposed bond as explained at the May 2025 City Council meeting.

a) Removed from agenda due to **Public Works Director Cody Rosander** being unable to attend: *Ordinance 2025-1227 Authorizing USDA Bond Issuance - approval of Ordinance 2025-1227 to issue a bond to pay costs of improvements to the City's water and sewer system.*

6:40

**MOTION** to approve **Ordinance 2025-1227** to issue a bond to pay costs of improvements to the City's water and sewer system was made by **Councilmember Rice**, seconded by **Councilmember Johnson**.

Voting aye: **Councilmember Lauser, Cox, Rice, Johnson, Oldfield**

b) Capital and Transportation Improvement Program Update - **Mayor Anderson** requested Councilmember's input on any priorities they had regarding the plans, with further discussion to take place at a later meeting. **Councilmember Cox** and **Oldfield** suggested public input. **Councilmember Rice** asked to have the City Planning Department and Public Works provide and explain their top 2 priorities. He recommended the focus be on completing fewer projects.

**NO MOTION** to approve the Capital and Transportation Improvement Program was made.

c) Removed from agenda due to **Community Development Director Ben Shumaker** being unable to attend: *Sewer Ordinance- presented updates to the draft sewer ordinance.*

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

a) Contracts Awarded Administratively - The report on contracts, purchases, and change orders over \$10,000 approved administratively over the past month was attached.

- b) Chamber of Commerce Report - The report presented described some of the activities conducted by Skamania County Chamber of Commerce in the prior month.
- c) Financial Report - The Treasurer's Report and year-to-date revenues and expenses through the prior month are presented for council review.
- d) Housing Programs Report - The report for the prior month on housing services provided by Washington Gorge Action Programs in Skamania County was enclosed for council information.
- e) Planning Commission Minutes - Minutes were attached from the Stevenson Planning Commission meeting held on May 12, 2025.

#### **9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS:**

**Ray Broughton, Stevenson Fire Chief** presented information and updates on a number of topics, including purchase and procurement of a new pumper engine and equipment upgrades; homeowner focused fire prevention programs through the Department of Natural Resources, and upcoming grant opportunities. He highlighted the quick response by local fire agencies at several recent fires.

**Councilmember Rice** asked about implementing Rick May's idea for focus groups.

**Councilmember Cox** had questions about possible re-evaluation of the current Critical Areas Ordinance as it pertains to fire wise protection. **Chief Broughton** suggested getting Charlie Landsman with DNR involved, and using the Firewise Program guidelines.

**Chief Broughton** advised the WSRB (Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau) recommendations and ratings will be available this fall.

He clarified the options the local fire marshal has regarding the deployment of fireworks during times of high fire risk.

**STAFF REPORTS.** Staff was unavailable to provide reports and updates due to a meeting conflict.

**a) Ben Shumaker, Community Development Director**

**b) Cody Rosander, Public Works Director**

**c) Wesley Wootten, City Administrator.**

**Mayor Anderson** provided a statement regarding **City Administrator Wootten's** recent medical emergency and his recovery progress.

**10. VOUCHER APPROVAL:** Vouchers will be presented prior to the meeting for council review.

**MOTION** to approve vouchers as presented was made by **Councilmember Johnson**, seconded by **Councilmember Oldfield**.

Voting aye: **Councilmember Lauser, Cox, Rice, Johnson, Oldfield**

#### **11. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Mayor Anderson** commended the Council and staff for the cooperation shown at a recent meeting.

**Councilmember Lauser** read from emails she had recently received. **Councilmember Cox** motioned to adjourn the meeting.

**12. ISSUES FOR THE NEXT MEETING:**

None presented

**13. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None presented

**14. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Anderson** adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.