

MINUTES
CITY OF STEVENSON COUNCIL MEETING
September 18, 2025

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

Attending:

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

Councilmember Michael Johnson's absence was excused unanimously following a motion by **Councilmember Cox**, seconded by **Councilmember Lauser**.

City Staff: **Wesley Wootten, City Administrator; Jayne Borden, City Finance Director; Cody Rosander; Stevenson Public Works Director.**

Guests: None

Public participants: Mary Repar, Sam Kinestead, Michael Leckie (water billing issue)

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:

Mary Repar spoke about the need for policies that encourage affordable housing and a new group called Save the Grange.

Sam Kinestead thanked the City's Road Department for the Iman Loop clean up and other work performed.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

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

a) Water Leak Adjustment - The Council was asked to authorize an adjustment for Account No. 22290. The excess usage was a result of a malfunctioning faucet left on in the homeowner's garden which has been addressed. Council is asked to authorize waiving \$211.02 from the customer's bill due to the error.

b) Minutes of August 21st, 2025 Stevenson City Council meeting.

MOTION to approve consent agenda items a-b was made by **Councilmember Oldfield**, seconded by **Councilmember Lauser**.

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

Mayor Anderson introduced Jayne Borden, the new City Finance Director.

5. SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT:

a) Sheriff's Report - Councilmembers were directed to the report contained in the meeting packet by **Mayor Anderson**.

6. COUNCIL BUSINESS:

a) Budget Planning Calendar Presentation - **City Administrator Wootten** presented the proposed calendar and timeline for planning the 2026 Stevenson Budget, and invited feedback on the scheduled dates for council and public participation.

It was determined a special Council meeting for budgeting will be held on October 14th at 6:00 p.m.

b) Ord. 2025-1231 - City Engineering Standards - **Public Works Director Cody Rosander** presented and explained Ordinance 2025-1231 setting the engineering standards for the City of Stevenson public works construction projects.

MOTION to approve Ordinance 2025-1231 setting the engineering standards for the city Public Works Department was made by **Councilmember Pat Rice**, seconded by **Councilmember Dave Cox**.

Prior to the vote **Councilmember Oldfield** expressed appreciation of the work.

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

c) Special Water Leak Adjustment - City Council was asked to consider an excess water leak adjustment for Account #12910 in the amount of \$11,787.62 due to a line break at the customer's residence. This amount exceeds the maximum reimbursement limit of \$1,000.

Cody Rosander, Public Works Director provided a timeline of events and responses beginning February 1st, 2025 regarding the water usage in question. An additional complication was the water meter reading uploaded for the month of February was not detected for excessive water usage, so a full month passed before the high usage was noticed.

Further information was provided by the resident (Michael Leckie), including the residence has a 2,000-gallon holding tank on the system that also slowed detection of the water loss. Leckie also stated the amount they are requesting to be waived is reportedly higher than what is currently noted on the agenda.

MOTION to approve waiving the excess water usage bills and make the customer whole was made by **Councilmember Rice**, seconded by **Councilmember Oldfield**.

Prior to the vote it was noted the precise cost to be waived would be determined following a review to determine the exact amount.

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

7. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a) Chamber of Commerce Report - The report presented described some of the activities conducted by Skamania County Chamber of Commerce in the prior month.

b) Financial Report - The Treasurer's Report and year-to-date revenues and expenses through the prior month were presented for council review.

8. CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS:

Councilmembers were directed to review the reports from the City Administrator and staff contained in the meeting packets

9. VOUCHER APPROVAL:

MOTION to approve vouchers in the amount of _____ was made by **Councilmember Lucy Lauser**, seconded by **Councilmember Oldfield**.

Voting aye: **Councilmember Oldfield, Lauser, Cox.**

Voting nay: **Councilmember Rice.**

10. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

The City Council received an invitation from One Prevention Alliance in Stevenson.

11. ISSUES FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

Housing will be discussed during the budget planning meetings.

12. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Leckie commented on the arrangement the Council agreed to regarding the water billing amount in question to be waived, and who to contact if any potential disputes arise.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION - NONE.

14. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.