

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF STEVENSON COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**2026 BUDGET PRESENTATION**  
**October 14, 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 Dave Cox, Michael Johnson, Lucy Lauser, Chuck Oldfield, Pat Rice.**

City Staff: **City Administrator Wesley Wootten; Jayne Borden, Finance Director**

Guests: None

Public participants: None

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PRESENTATION TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

**4. COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

a) **2026 Budget Discussion** - Staff presented the 2026 budget proposal for council review and discussion.

[2026 Budget Draft \(10.14.25\).pdf](#) (1.41 MB)

**City Administrator Wootten** explained the budget focused on four main priorities: financial stability, infrastructure resilience, community development, and transparency in how we use public resources. He highlighted projects within the budget, and showed a breakdown of where revenue is derived from.

**Mayor Anderson** observed with so many new employees in key city positions that the next year would be considered more of a rebuilding time.

Questions were raised regarding the .03% sales tax and how to allocate the revenue generated to ratepayers. The revenue decline in 2026 was noted to be due to fewer grant funds being received by the city.

Other considerations included reducing personnel costs, using different software, and providing a more detailed breakdown of expenses with budget and project narratives prior to the next budget meeting.

The next budget meeting was set for October 28th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

**Mayor Anderson** provided information on a Washington State Department of Commerce program known as CHIP (Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program.) The program helps local governments encourage the creation of affordable housing by reducing or covering the cost of infrastructure associated with development. A CHIP applicant must be a city, county or public utility district in partnership with an affordable housing developer. Projects must meet specific criteria.

**5. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None provided.

**6. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Anderson** adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.