

#2175 Regular City Council Meeting - Hybrid (In-Person & Online) (Tuesday, January 27, 2026)

Generated by City Clerk Carolyn Holm on Monday, January 26, 2026

1. Opening Items.

1.01 Call To Order

Mayor Hernández called the #2175 regular City Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1.02 Roll Call

PRESENT:

Mayor - Norma L. Hernández

Council Members – Loren Peterson - Mayor Pro Tem; Heather Schermann; Michael Cleveland; Monica Boyle; Nadine Stecklein; Jordan Green

Council Members via Zoom- Melodie Williams

Staff- City Administrator Troy Rayburn; City Attorney Eric Ferguson; City Clerk Carolyn Holm; Community Development Director Jon Rickard; Fire Chief David Winter; Human Resources Manager Shawn Doering; Public Works Director, Robert McAndrew

Staff present via Zoom- Finance Director, Brian Carleton

Also Present - Heather Lee, EMS Director

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

1.04 Public Comment -

There were no public comments submitted.

2. Consent Agenda.

Action (Consent): 2.01 AB 25009 - Approve Agenda January 27, 2026

Action (Consent): 2.02 AB 25010 - Approve Council Minutes from January 13, 2026

Action (Consent): 2.03 AB 26011 April 2025 Financials

Action (Consent): 2.04 AB 26012 Ordinance 26-001 2026 Salary Ordinance & Employee Contract Updates

Action (Consent): 2.05 AB 26016 Resolution 26-003 David Evans and Associates professional services contract for Safe Routes to School

Action(Consent): 2.06 AB 26017 Resolution 26-004 Washington State Department of Health Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan for the planning and design

Action (Consent): 2.05 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Council by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either during the budget process, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Council Members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Council Member.

Council Member Schermann made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Second by Council Member Boyle and the motion passed 7-0.

3. Presentations.

3.01 2026 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy Presentation-EMS Director Heather Lee and David Winter

Heather Lee, EMS Director presented information on the EMS levy that is up for renewal this February. She informed the EMS levy is a designated fund that is used to help support Emergency Medical Services throughout Walla Walla County. Information about the levy is provided in the meeting packet for review.

4. Action Items.

4.01 AB 26013 Resolution 26-002 Accepting Construction Funding for the Stormwater Decant Facility- Mr. McAndrews

Mr. McAndrews presented to Council information about the grant funding awarded by Washington State Department of Ecology for construction of the new stormwater decant facility. This project will yield a new Decant Facility to increase capacity in the City's stormwater maintenance program for management, treatment, and disposal of street waste. The grant is in the amount of \$1,947,500.00 with a required local match of \$102,500.00.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-002 to authorize Public Works Director or designee to sign agreement with Washington State Department of Ecology, accepting \$1,947,500.00 in grant funding with a required local match of \$102,500.00 for the construction of a new Stormwater Decant Facility. Second by Council Member Green and the motion passed 7-0.

4.02 AB 26014 Res 26-001 Acceptance of State Department of Ecology Capacity Grant-Mr. McAndrews

Mr. McAndrews presented the Washington State Department of Ecology grant which will help to administer and implement the municipal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements. The grant is for \$120,000.00 and will cover eligible expenses from 7/1/2025 - 3/31/2027.

Council Member Boyle made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-001 to authorize the Public Works Director or designee to sign agreement accepting \$120,000.00 for the 2025-2027 biennial stormwater capacity grant. Second by Council Member Peterson and the motion passed 7-0.

4.03 AB 26015 Ordinance 26-002 - Ordinance to authorize transfer of franchise agreement from Ziply Fiber to BCE Holding Corporation – Mr. Ferguson

Mr. Ferguson presented the ordinance drafted to authorize the transfer of Ziply Fiber Pacific, LLC (Ziply) telecommunications services franchise to BCE Holding Corporation. He communicated there were many items to coordinate and ensure were addressed prior to presenting the draft revision to Council.

Council Member Green made a motion to approve Ordinance 26-002 authorizing the transfer of franchise agreement from Ziply Fiber to BCE Holding Corporation. Second by Council Member Schermann and the motion passed 7-0.

5. Informational Reports.

5.01 Police Department Monthly Report-Police Chief Tomaras

5.02 Community Development Department Monthly Report-Mr. Rickard

6. New and Unfinished Business

6.01 Good of the Order?

7. Closing Items.

7.01 Conclusion - Motion to Conclude the Meeting.

Mayor asked for a motion. Council Member Boyle made a motion to conclude the meeting at 7:33 PM. Second by Council Member Peterson and with no objection, the meeting concluded.

Approved:

Signed by:

Norma L. Hernández

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Norma L. Hernández – Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Carolyn Holm

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Carolyn Holm – City Clerk

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the City Council meeting that occurred January 27, 2026. Further detail may be obtained by reviewing the actual audio recording made during this session.