



City of Longview

1525 Broadway
Longview, WA 98632
www.ci.longview.wa.us

Minutes

City Council

*Mayor Erik Halvorson
Mayor Pro Tem Keith Young
Council Member Chris Bryant
Council Member Mike Claxton
Council Member Ruth Kendall
Council Member Kalei LaFave
Council Member Wayne Nichols*

Thursday, March 26,
2026

6:00 PM

2nd Floor, City Hall

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Webinar ID: 823 9413 2374

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Halvorson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. **INVOCATION*/FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was recited.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Halvorson, Mayor Pro Tem Young, Councilmember Bryant, Councilmember Claxton, Councilmember Kendall, Councilmember LaFave, Councilmember Nichols

Staff Present: City Manager Jennifer Wills, Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer, Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins, Community & Economic Development Director Nick Little, Parks & Recreation Director Justin Brown, Police Captain Brandon McNew, Human Resources Director Sabrina Fraidenburg, Fire Chief Brad Hannig, Information Technology Director Mike Sullivan, City Clerk Tiffany Ostreim

4. **WORKSHOP**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Bryant, seconded by Councilmember LaFave, to approve the March 12, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes and March 13-14, 2026 Council Summit Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

26-0058 MARCH 12, 2026 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

26-00260 MARCH 13-14, 2026 COUNCIL SUMMIT

6. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Halvorson stated Agenda Item #12 - Executive Session was struck from the agenda.

7. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS**8. CONSTITUENTS' COMMENTS - NON-AGENDA ITEMS (Thirty Minutes)**

Derek Fine provided public comment.

Jason Still provided public comment.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

26-00263 ORDINANCE NO. 3575 – AMENDING SECTION 5.05.040 AND SECTION 5.05.107 OF THE LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX AND FEES LEVIED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PUBLICATION; PROVIDING FOR REFERENDUM; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

CONDUCT THE PUBLIC HEARING AND MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3575 AMENDING LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE (LMC) CHAPTER 5.05, BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX, FOR COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW

Mayor Halvorson opened the public hearing at 6:14 p.m.

Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer explained the amendments.

Mayor Halvorson opened and closed the public comment portion and the hearing at 6:19 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Young, seconded by Councilmember Bryant, to adopt Ordinance No. 3575. The motion carried unanimously.

26-00264 ORDINANCE NO. 3574 - AMENDING CHAPTER 5.06 OF THE LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE TO APPLY UTILITY TAX UNIFORMLY TO ALL CITY UTILITY CUSTOMERS

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

CONDUCT THE PUBLIC HEARING AND MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3574 AMENDING LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE (LMC) CHAPTER 5.06 TO APPLY UTILITY TAX UNIFORMLY TO ALL CITY UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Mayor Halvorson opened the public hearing at 6:21 p.m.

Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins explained the amendment and revenue.

Mayor Halvorson opened the public comment portion of the hearing.

Jason Still provided public comment.

Mayor Halvorson closed the public comment portion and the hearing at 6:26 p.m.
 Council discussed the amendment.
 Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Collins provided clarification.
 Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer explained in-city class versus out-of-city class.

A motion was made by Councilmember LaFave, seconded by Councilmember Kendall, to adopt Ordinance No. 3574. The motion carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Councilmember LaFave, Councilmember Kendall, Councilmember Claxton, Councilmember Nichols, Mayor Halvorson
Nays: Councilmember Young, Councilmember Bryant

26-00266 ORDINANCE NO. 3576 – AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 19.12 OF THE LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO APPEAL BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

CONDUCT THE PUBLIC HEARING AND MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3576 AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE (LMC) CHAPTER 19.12, APPEAL BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Mayor Halvorson opened the public hearing at 6:35 p.m.

Community Development Director Nick Little explained the amendment.

Mayor Halvorson opened and closed the public comment portion and the the hearing at 6:37 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kendall, seconded by Councilmember Bryant, to adopt Ordinance No. 3576. The motion carried unanimously.

26-00272 RESOLUTION NO. 2612 - AMENDMENT TO THE 2026 – 2031 SIX YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (TIP) AND RIVERCITIES TRANSIT PROGRAM OF PROJECTS (POP)

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

CONDUCT THE PUBLIC HEARING AND MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2612.

Mayor Halvorson opened the public hearing at 6:38 p.m.

Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins presented.

Mayor Halvorson opened and closed the public comment portion and the hearing at 6:42 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kendall, seconded by Councilmember Nichols, to adopt Resolution No. 2612.

Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Collins provided information about round-about and bike lanes.

The motion carried unanimously.

10. CONSTITUENTS' COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS (Thirty Minutes)

Marlene Johanson provided public comment.

Pat Martin provided public comment.

Cindy Nordstrom provided public comment.

Eric Olmsted provided public comment.

Jennifer Rylander provided public comment.

Jason Still provided public comment.

11. BOARD & COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

- 26-00270 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ON UPGRADING ALL FOUR CURB RAMPS AT 21TH AVENUE AND MAPLE STREET IN ORDER TO ADD A NEW RIVERCITIES TRANSIT BUS STOP

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ALLOCATION OF \$20,000 WITH MATCHING FUNDING FROM RIVERCITIES TRANSIT FOR UPGRADE AND A BUS STOP TO THE AREAS OF 12TH AND MAPLE

Human Resources Director Sabrina Fraidenburg explained the Accessibility Advisory Committee's recommendations.

Council discussed the request.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bryant, seconded by Councilmember Nichols, to authorize the allocation of \$20,000 with matching funding from Rivercities Transit for upgrade and a bus stop to the areas of 12th and Maple. The motion carried unanimously.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- 26-00275 POTENTIAL LITIGATION PER RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

Struck from Agenda.

13. **ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

- 26-00265 RESOLUTION NO. 2610 –ADOPTING THE WATER UTILITY LEAK ADJUSTMENT POLICY

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2610 ADOPTING THE CITY OF LONGVIEW WATER UTILITY LEAK ADJUSTMENT POLICY.

Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins explained the proposed policy.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bryant, seconded by Councilmember Nichols, to adopt Resolution No. 2610.

Council discussed.

An amendment was made by Mayor Halvorson, seconded by Commissioner Young, to modify the retroactive date to January 1, 2025.

Council discussed.

The amendment failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Halvorson, Councilmember Young

Nays: Councilmember LaFave, Councilmember Kendall, Councilmember Claxton,

Councilmember Bryant, Councilmember Nichols

The main motion carried unanimously.

- 26-00276 RESOLUTION NO. 2611 - INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL SHELTERING SERVICES AND ANIMAL SHELTERING CONTRACT 2026

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2611 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL SHELTERING SERVICES AMONG THE PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL SHELTERING SERVICES WITH THE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins reviewed the animal sheltering interlocal and contract.

Council discussed.

Police Captain Brandon McNew explained the police department's responsibility and enforcement. Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer explained that under state law we are required to manage dangerous dog designations and incidents.

Cowlitz County Commissioner Steve Ferrell provided public comment.

Council continued to discuss.

A motion was made by Councilmember Nichols, seconded by Councilmember Kendall, to adopt Resolution No. 2611.

Council discussed.

An amendment was made by Councilmember Young to amend the terms of the agreement for six months.

Council continued to discuss.

Police Captain McNew offered a reflection on police response.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kendall, seconded by Councilmember Young, to table the topic until April 9, 2026.

Executive Session - Legal Risk of a Proposed Action per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

The City Council, City Manager Jennifer Wills, Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer, Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins, Police Captain Brandon McNew entered Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. for a period of 10 minutes, until 8:00 p.m. At 8:00 p.m. all parties came out of Executive Session. No action was taken.

Councilmember Kendall rescinded her motion to table.

Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins gave an update on the county's progress on an animal shelter.

Police Captain Brandon McNew commented on the police department's ability to respond.

Council discussed.

The main motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Nichols, Councilmember Kendall, Councilmember Bryant, Councilmember Claxton, Councilmember Young

Nays: Councilmember LaFave, Mayor Halvorson

26-00274 RESOLUTION NO. 2613 - 2026 COUNCIL GOALS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2613

City Manager Jennifer Wills presented.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bryant, seconded by Councilmember Young, to adopt Resolution No. 2613.

Council discussed.

The motion carried unanimously.

14. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Halvorson provided a verbal report.

A motion was made by Mayor Halvorson, seconded by Councilmember Young, directing staff to collaborate with Cowlitz County on their plan for Animal Sheltering and provide monthly updates to the council. The motion carried unanimously.

Formation of Ad Hoc Committee - Council concurred on forming a committee consisting of Mayor Halvorson, Councilmember Kendall and Councilmember Bryant.

15. COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

*Councilmember Young provided a verbal report.
Councilmember LaFave provided a verbal report.
Councilmember Kendall provided a verbal report.
Councilmember Bryant provided a verbal report.
Councilmember Nichols provided a verbal report.*

16. CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Councilmember Kendall seconded by Councilmember Young, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

26-00251 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

26-00273 PROJECT COMPLETION – MT SOLO RESERVOIR FILL LINE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO ACCEPT AS COMPLETE THE MT SOLO RESERVOIR FILL LINE PROJECT

17. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Jennifer Wills requested to be excused April 23, 2026.

Manager Wills has been for, and selected as the recipient of, the Impact and Influence Award from the Washington Park and Recreation Association. This is the highest recognition awarded by the state association to an individual and reflects long-term dedication and meaningful contributions to the parks and recreation profession.

26-00271 COUNCIL CHAMBERS A/V UPGRADE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AUDIO/VISUAL UPGRADE PROJECT AND APPROVE USE OF DESCO AV FOR PROCUREMENT AND INSTALLATION

Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Chris Collins presented.

Council discussed.

Information Director Mike Sullivan provided information.

A motion was made by Councilmember Nichols, seconded by Councilmember Kendall, to authorize the Council Chambers Audio/Visual Upgrade Project and approve use of Desco AV for procurement and installation. The motion carried unanimously.

18. MISCELLANEOUS

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION

26-00261 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PER RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)

The City Council, (Councilmember Nichols recused himself), City Manager Jennifer Wills, Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer, Human Resources Director Sabrina Fraidenburg and Fire Chief Brad Hannig entered Closed Session at 8:54 p.m. pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a) Collective Bargaining for a period of 15 minutes, until 9:10 p.m. At 9:10 p.m. Executive Session was continued for 10 minutes, until 9:20 p.m.. At 9:20 p.m. all parties came out of Executive Session. No action was taken.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Tiffany Ostreim

City Clerk

Approved: _____
Mayor

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS:

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.