



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, April 9, 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 6:01 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 (on-line), Councilmember Nichols
Absent/Excused: Councilmember LaFave

Staff Present: City Manager Jennifer Wills, Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer, Community & Economic Development Director Nick Little, Recreation Manager Erin Cranston, Police Chief Robert Huhta, Fire Chief Brad Hannig, Library Director Jacob Cole, City Clerk Tiffany Ostreim

4. **WORKSHOP**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**26-00297 MARCH 26, 2026 REGULAR MEETING**

A motion was made by Councilmember Claxton, seconded by Councilmember Young, to approve the March 26, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

6. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Halvorson stated the Update from Uncommon Bridges on Fire/EMS Levies would be moved from the City Manager's Report to Presentations & Awards after the Legislative Post Session Report.

7. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS**26-00278 PROCLAMATION - APRIL 22, 2026 AS ARBOR DAY; RECIPIENTS AMY NORQUIST, LONGVIEW ROTARY PRESIDENT & ERIN CRANSTON, PARKS & RECREATION MANAGER**

Mayor Halvorson presented the proclamation to Amy Norquist and Erin Cranston, who accepted on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department.

26-00279 PROCLAMATION - APRIL 19-25, 2026 AS NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK; RECIPIENT JACOB COLE, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Mayor Halvorson presented the proclamation to Library Director Jacob Cole, who accepted on behalf of the Longview Public Library.

26-00299 PROCLAMATION - APRIL - FAIR HOUSING MONTH; RECIPIENT SHAY HOWSMON

Mayor Halvorson presented the proclamation to Shay Howsmon, who accepted on behalf of the Lower Columbia Association of Realtors.

26-00300 LEGISLATIVE POST SESSION REPORT BY GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL

Emily Shay, State Lobbyist with Gordon Thomas Honeywell, presented the Legislative Post Session Report.

26-00298 UPDATE FROM UNCOMMON BRIDGES ON FIRE/EMS LEVIES

*Andres Mantilla, Uncommon Bridges Partner (on-line), presented.
Fire Chief Brad Hannig provided information.
Council discussed.*

8. CONSTITUENTS' COMMENTS - NON-AGENDA ITEMS (Thirty Minutes)

*Jason Still provided public comment.
Derek Fine provided public comment.*

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS**26-00307 SPECIAL PROPERTY USE TO ESTABLISH A DRIVING SCHOOL AT 1338 COMMERCE AVENUE****RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING AND MOTION TO APPROVE SPECIAL PROPERTY USE TO ESTABLISH A DRIVING SCHOOL AT 1338 COMMERCE AVE

Mayor Halvorson opened the quasi-judicial public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

*Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer read the disclosures of the quasi-judicial hearing.
Mayor Halvorson acknowledged ex-parte contact. Ex-parte contact was not challenged.*

All councilmembers participated.

*Community Development Planner Irene Rutikanga presented.
Council discussed.
Applicants Mark and Valerie Bash were present and commented.*

Mayor Halvorson opened and closed the public comment portion and the hearing at 7:21 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bryant, seconded by Councilmember Nichols, to approve Special Property Use to establish a Driving School at 1338 Commerce Avenue. The motion carried unanimously.

26-00308 ORDINANCE NO. 3577 – RESCINDING CHAPTER 16.24 ELECTRICAL CODE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING AND MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3577

Mayor Halvorson opened the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

*Community Development Director Nick Little explained the update to the electrical code.
Council discussed.*

Mayor Halvorson opened and closed the public comment portion and the hearing at 7:27 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Young, seconded by Councilmember Bryant, to adopt Ordinance No. 3577. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Jason Still provided public comment.

11. BOARD & COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

12. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

13. MAYOR'S REPORT

26-00312 PROTECTING INFANTS FROM FENTANYL - PROPOSED ORDINANCE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY TO DRAFT AN ORDINANCE FOR COUNCIL ADOPTION, ESTABLISHING THE CRIME OF "ENDANGERMENT OF A MINOR WITH A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE" TO ADDRESS THE LETHAL THREAT OF FENTANYL AND OTHER SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS

Mayor Halvorson explained the proposed ordinance.

A motion was made by Mayor Halvorson, seconded by Councilmember Bryant, to direct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance for council adoption, establishing the crime of "Endangerment of a minor with a controlled substance" to address the lethal threat of Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids.

Council discussed.

Interim City Attorney Charlotte Archer explained she had discussed it with Senior Assistant City Attorney Angela Knowles, and they are supportive. Would like to workshop and could bring back to council in June.

Police Chief Robert Huhta stated they are supportive of moving forward.

Council was in agreement with a June timeline.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Halvorson provided a verbal report.

14. COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

Councilmember Claxton provided a verbal report.

Councilmember Kendall provided a verbal report.

15. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

26-00182 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

26-00301 2026 EXTENSION AND RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT FOR COWLITZ COUNTY MINI-RURAL PARTIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT SERVICES

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE 2026 EXTENSION AND RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

26-00304 PROJECT COMPLETION – CLONEY PARK STORM PIPE REPLACEMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO ACCEPT AS COMPLETE THE CLONEY PARK STORM PIPE REPLACEMENT

26-00305 SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 14TH FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ALLOCATIONS

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THURSDAY MAY 14TH FOR CDBG FUNDING ALLOCATIONS.

26-00306 SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 14TH FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THURSDAY, MAY 14TH FOR HOME FUNDING ALLOCATIONS.

16. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Jennifer Willis stated the city has met the statutory requirements for the CJTC (Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission) grant.

Police Chief Robert Huhta provided information.

City Manager Willis provided a verbal report on many upcoming meetings and projects.

17. MISCELLANEOUS

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

19. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

*Tiffany Ostreim
City Clerk*

*Approved: _____
Mayor*

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS:

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

NEXT SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOPS:

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026 – 6:00 P.M. – FIRE/EMS LEVIES