



MEETING MINUTES FOR BUDGET WORKSHOP AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Fire Hall - 111 D Street
December 3rd, 2025 at 7:00 PM

FLAG SALUTE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

Mayor Springer calls the meeting to order and takes Roll Call.

PRESENT: Councilmember Kim Skinner, Councilmember Jeremy Winn *via Zoom*, Councilmember Justin Spargo, Councilmember Mark Collett, Councilmember Sue Darcy

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Springer states a New Business item and Action item need to be added to the agenda tonight. The Periodic Update Grant under New Business, and then a vote to approve the submission of the final Periodic Update Grant under New Business - Council Action.

Councilmember Skinner motioned to approve the amended agenda; Councilmember Darcy seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Skinner motioned to approve the consent agenda; Councilmember Collett seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – No comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing – Councilmember Darcy reports vouchers were looked at.

Finance – No report.

Parks – Councilmember Spargo stated they will do their report at the second meeting of the month.

Public Safety – Councilmember Skinner stated they will also do their report at the second meeting.

Public Works – Councilmember Darcy reports Donnie with PW has completed the lead pipe inventory report, 12 were identified as galvanized and letters were sent to the affected citizens with

further action that needs to be taken. Problem sidewalk areas are being assessed as well as problem trees to plan for repairs when the weather is a little better. Snowflakes have gone up on the light poles and flags were taken down, special thanks to Scott Schoch for helping with this. Thank you to Five Star and Damon for lending their lift truck for use. The Annual Dam Report will be completed by the end of this month. Public Works are gearing up to be fully prepared for Icy Streets; Grays Harbor College is almost finished with the second truck they were repairing for us. We are partnering with Rural Water of Washington, and they will be assessing our storm drains within the city.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

Clerk– Clerk Grove states Tara will go over the Final Budget tonight.

Police Chief Report – Chief Layman reports there’s been 23 calls in the last two weeks, he addresses the vehicle accident he’s had a lot of questions about stating everyone was okay. Commander Timmons updates that Aberdeen responded to 16 calls in the month of November, 15% rise in the last year.

Fire Chief Report – Chief Coker reports 331 calls for the year so far, with 24 calls in the month of November. Four or five new members will be added within the next month, and he will have an updated number at the next Council meeting. Gives an update of members going through EMT classes at the beginning of next year.

Building Inspector – Bill Sidor reports he’s been working on updating the water and sewer connection rates as they have not been updated since 1999, he has checked with 5 other cities in proximity. He plans to bring a resolution to the next Council meeting for vote, to update these fees.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Springer reported on the Holiday events happening this month in the city. Saturday, December 6th Santa will be traveling the streets starting at 4:30PM then by 6:00PM families can gather at the Community Center for cookies and cocoa then enjoy the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Cosmopolis Fire Department. Sunday, December 7th at the Cosmopolis Lions Club from 1:00-3:00PM go enjoy Santa, cookies, and cocoa. They will also have a Santa Letter Drop for kids to send off to Santa. Saturday, December 13th at Oak & Stone Realty they will be having their 3rd annual photos with Santa from 3:00-5:00PM with a visit from the Cosmopolis Fire Department as well. December 15th-23rd at 1221 Dundee Drive, they are continuing their Rooftop Santa Tradition. Every evening from 7:30-9:30PM (weather permitting) Santa will be on his rooftop sending gifts and treats down his magic elf tube. All these events are free for citizens.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- 1. Public Hearing on Final Budget** – Mayor Springer opens to Public Hearing on the Final Budget at 7:12 PM, with no comments. Public Hearing closed at 7:12 PM.
- 2. Periodic Update Grant for Comprehensive Planning** – Mayor Springer reports the city has applied for this Grant through the Washington State Department of Commerce. She gives further information on what this grant would be used for as we begin planning to update the Comprehensive Plan for the city.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments.

NEW BUSINESS – Council Action

1. **Vote to approve the adoption of Budget Ordinance 1402** – Councilmember Darcy moves to approve the adoption of Budget Ordinance 1402, Councilmember Skinner seconded. No discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Vote to approve the City of Aberdeen Police Services Contract** – Councilmember Collet moves to approve the City of Aberdeen Police Services Contract, Councilmember Skinner seconded.

Discussion – Councilmember Darcy wanted to know if we are still going to have reserves, and what will happen to the police vehicles we have. Chief Layman states the reserves program will leave with the Police Department, as for the vehicles the City of Aberdeen is interested in 3 of them and plans to get them inspected before they decide. Councilmember Darcy also asks about the possibility of the yearly 4% increase to the contracted price; Commander Timmons states this is their increased cost to be negotiated for their police officers.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Vote to approve the final submission of the Periodic Update Grant** – Councilmember Collett moves to approve the final submission of the Periodic Update Grant, Councilmember Darcy seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Citizen commented about line items in the 2026 Budget regarding Police Department Personnel, with Council approving the contract with Aberdeen tonight, wondering if there will still be personnel on in the coming year. Another citizen commented about the flag outside the Fire Department, wondering if there are plans to get this fixed. Councilmember Darcy added she planned to address this in her meeting and forgot but stated this will be fixed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilmember Skinner comments that the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority is holding a Public Meeting in Aberdeen at the Log Pavillion to analyze the Chehalis River Dam project that was proposed in November on Tuesday January 13th, 2026, starting at 5:30PM. Encourages anyone interested to join that meeting should do so. Councilmember Skinner adds that Vickie Raines, Chair of the Grays Harbor Flood Authority, announced she will not be seeking nominations to continue being Chairperson. He states he will give updates as this progresses on who will become the new Chairperson.

Councilmember Spargo asks Tara Dunford, CPA, to address the citizen comment regarding line items on the 2026 Budget. Tara Dunford explains how no budget amendment will need to be made as we will be saving money contracting with Aberdeen, and the contracted amount will be paid out of the same fund. She adds Mayor Springer would be the person to answer the question of Police Personnel continuing in the coming year. Mayor Springer says there will be a short transition time, and discussions are still happening regarding this. Councilmember Spargo gives reminder of Santa being out and about Saturday traveling the streets and encourages everyone to head down to the Community Center for cookies and cocoa.

Councilmember Collett motioned to Adjourn the meeting; Councilmember Skinner seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:26PM.