



McCleary Regular City Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 – 6:30 PM
McCleary Community Building & Zoom Meeting

Minutes

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7878553789?omn=89474522440>

Meeting ID: 787 855 3789

(253) 215-8782

Call to Order/Flag Salute/Roll Call

Councilmember Jacob Simmons

Councilmember Brycen Huff, Mayor Pro Tem

Councilmember Brent Schiller

Councilmember Andrea Dahl

Councilmember Keith Klimek

Call to Order/Flag Salute/Roll Call

PRESENT

Councilmember Jacob Simmons (joined by phone at 6:39pm)

Councilmember Brycen Huff, Mayor Pro Tem

Councilmember Brent Schiller

Councilmember Andrea Dahl

Councilmember Keith Klimek

ABSENT

Mayor Chris Miller

Councilmember Jacob Simmons

Motion made by Councilmember Schiller to excuse Councilmember Simmons from the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Klimek.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Huff; Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmember Schiller, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek.

Motion approved.

Motion made by Councilmember Schiller for Councilmember Jacob Simmons to join the meeting at 6:39pm, seconded by Councilmember Dahl.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Huff; Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmember Schiller, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek.

Motion approved.

Agenda Modifications/Acceptance

Motion made by Councilmember Dahl to accept the Agenda as presented, seconded by Councilmember Schiller.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Huff; Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmember Schiller, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek.

Motion approved.

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Public Hearing

1. Public Hearing for 2026 Budget Revenue

The Public Hearing began at 6:32pm, no one signed up to speak for the public hearing.

Online, Teri Franklin asked if she could ask questions or if it was comments only, to which it was responded that it is comments only.

Teri Franklin asked about the proposed budget, specifically the Mayor's A and B proposals.

Councilmember Huff; Mayor Pro Tem, clarified that it this public hearing is for the revenue portion of the 2026 Budget only.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:34 pm.

Public Comment - Agenda Items Only

2. Public comment is limited to a maximum of three minutes per person.

Please refrain from interrupting the speaker. Your comments should be respectful and courteous.

NOTICE: Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

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There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem, read the Consent Agenda.

3. Claims Agenda

The following items are distributed to Councilmembers in advance for study and review, and the recommended action will be accepted in a single motion.

Any item may be removed for further discussion if requested by a Councilmember.

i. Approval of checks/vouchers/disbursements numbers 55069 to 55110 including EFT's dated 10/03/25-10/17/25 in the amount of \$133,128.09

Motion made by Councilmember Schiller to accept the Claims Agenda, seconded by Councilmember Klimek.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Huff; Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmember Schiller, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

Motion approved.

Updates

4. Change of Government Modification, a discussion item presented; by Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem.

Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem, discussed the option to either have the public vote to change the form of government in February 2026 or should the Council change the charter regarding the functions of the Mayor or others in the city government.

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Councilmember Schiller requested a copy of the City charter, to which City Attorney Madison Pleasant said that she would distribute it to the Council prior to the next council meeting in November.

5. Development Conversations; presented by Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem.

Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem discussed Rognlin's, Summit Pacific, and Dan Baskins interest in having a workshop meeting with the Council regarding development. They proposed meeting sometime in January 2026. He requested that the Council send dates that they could be available to City Clerk Treasurer Jamie Vinyard.

Someone in the audience asked where the property that was located that was being discussed.

Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem, described the general area that the property is located.

New Business

6. Preliminary 2026 Budget; presented by City Administrator Jon Martin.

City Administrator Jon Martin discussed that they Mayor's budget message does not match the budget put together by the staff and that he would review the differences. He said once the review was complete, the budget would then be considered as the Council's budget.

He said the only rate increase being sought is the CPI rate increase of 2.9% to power which would generate an increase of \$110K. That a 3% increase is being factored in for expenses and a 4% increase for wages.

City Administrator Martin reviewed the Mayor's budget which is recommending a 0% rate increase and to reduce Light & Power's budget by \$205K, add solar with potential increase of \$43K, add a transportation district with a potential increase of \$40K - \$80K, and to review business licensing and city fees with a potential increase of \$10K - \$25K. The options proposed by the Mayor could result in an overall surplus of \$188K - \$243K.

He reviewed the possibility of needing to use Reserve Funds, but felt that this was not a concern as the funds would be used matched in cost against the use of the City's labor. He also reviewed some of the detailed line items of the budget overall.

City Administrator Martin then reviewed the change in the cost allocations and how that affects the changes that are shown within the individual departments. He mentioned possible ordinances next year that would allow for the consolidating of smaller funds. He also reviewed the upcoming expenditures for 2026 and said that there were no big asks or changes withing the proposed 2026 Budget.

Next, he reviewed questions from the previous night's Budget Workshop; the cost comparisons between the City of McCleary and Grays Harbor PUD, determining that power is cheaper through the City of McCleary. He also reviewed the City's water rate, confirming that the City does have a variable rate based on consumption and the City's rate structure for water results in water being cheaper that comparable cities. He closed with comparing senior garbage rates for comparable cities and asked if the Council had any quesions.

Councilmember Klimek ask what the options were to reduce the \$205K from Light & Power.

City Administrator Martin said that, off-hand, either reducing capital projects or reducing staff.

Councilmember Klimek replied that there is a requirement for a minimum number of staff required by the state for certain work. City Administrator Martin said that he is not recommending that, any change in staff would take into consideration state laws.

Councilmember Dahl requested the cost comparisons covered by City Administrator Martin be sent to the Councilmembers, it was confirmed that they would be sent.

Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem asked about water pipes in certain areas being too small for water flow needed for fire protections, and if those pipes would need to be upgraded. City

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Administrator Martin said there has been general talk regarding water pipes but nothing specific. He felt that in the upcoming year it would be possible to discuss plans.

Ordinances and Resolutions

7. Grays Harbor District Court-Interlocal Agreement, for review and action; presented by City Attorney Madison Pleasant.

City Attorney Pleasant reviewed the Blake Decision, a court case that legalized a certain amount of possession allowed. As a result, there are court cases still on the books that need to be vacated and the County has proposed an agreement to handle these cases. There should not be a requirement for the City to pay for these services according to the agreement.

Motion made by Councilmember Schiller to approve the interlocal agreement, seconded by Councilmember Dahl.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Schiller, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

Motion approved.

Council Comments

Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem announced the Merchant Trick or Treat this upcoming Friday. Partnering with the school and Police Dept for the Fill the Cruiser event.

City Administrator Comments

City Administrator Martin had no additional comments.

City Clerk Treasurer Vinyard reminded everyone about the shift in dates for the Council meetings due to the holiday schedule. For November and December, the meetings would be on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Public Comment - City Business Only

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Lucas (no last name provided) addressed the issue of the City not having a cat policy as it affects his property greatly due to neighbor feeding cats resulting in his yard being used by the cats as a restroom. He has brought this issue to the police and filed numerous nuisance reports.

Joe Pittman (City of McCleary employee), stated that he thought the supplies for changing out the water lines were already purchased the previous year.

Unknown commenter asked with budget would be used, the Mayor's budget or the Council's budget?

Council replied that it would be discussed further in the future.

Executive Session

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9. **Per RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)** Collective bargaining sessions with employee organizations, including contract negotiations, grievance meetings, and discussions relating to the interpretation or application of a labor agreement; or (b) that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations.

Councilmember Huff, Mayor Pro Tem, read the executive session RCW.

The session was estimated at 30 minutes at began at 7:15pm.

The executive session ended at 7:45pm with no action taken.

Adjourn

The Council meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm

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