

MEETING MINUTES

TUMWATER CITY COUNCIL
October 21, 2025



CONVENE: 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Debbie Sullivan and Councilmembers Peter Agabi, Michael Althausen, Joan Cathey, Leatta Dahlhoff and Eileen Swarthout.

Excused: Councilmembers Angela Jefferson & Kelly Von Hotlz.

Staff: City Administrator Lisa Parks, Assistant City Administrator Kelly Adams, City Attorney Karen Kirkpatrick, Fire Chief Brian Hurley, Assistant Fire Chief Shawn Crimmins, Finance Director Troy Niemeyer, Information Technology Director Lance Inman, Police Chief Jay Mason, Transportation and Engineering Director Brandon Hicks, Water Resources and Sustainability Director Dan Smith, Communication Director Jason Wettstein, and City Clerk Melody Valiant.

Others: Outreach Coordinator Hanna Klimek with Hope and Healing Clinic, Vice President of Finance and Administration Kelly Campbell and Director of Marketing and Community Engagement Emily Brooks with Experience Olympia and Beyond.

SPECIAL ITEMS:

HOPE AND HEALING CLINIC PRESENTATION:

Outreach Coordinator Hanna Klimek with Hope and Healing Clinic talked about their clinic which is based in Tumwater and primarily serves Thurston and the surrounding counties. They are predominantly an opioid treatment program, but they are broadening their services to support many forms of addiction.

Coordinator Klimek shared how the Clinic operates including a lot of the tools they use to make their clinic more successful such as a harm reduction program, onsite safety team, transportation program for going to and from the clinic, a mobile unit and more.

**UPDATE FROM
EXPERIENCE OLYMPIA
& BEYOND:**

Vice President Kelly Campbell introduced herself and Director of Marketing and Community Engagement Emily Brooks with Experience Olympia and Beyond. They are the official destination marketing organization for Thurston County promoting tourism facing business and attractions across all municipalities including Tumwater.

Vice President Campbell gave an organizational update. Director Brooks gave a marketing update including:

- Thurston County visitor spending by sector.
- Snapshot of a Tumwater Visitor.
- Most effective travel inspiration for potential visitors and their travel priorities.
- Top Thurston County attractions including the Tumwater featured attractions in their marketing materials.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Approval of Minutes: City Council, October 07, 2025
- b. Approval of Minutes: City Council Work Session, October 14, 2025
- c. Payment of Vouchers
- d. Resolution No. R2025-019, Surplus Property
- e. Award of Bid for the 2nd Avenue Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvements Project
- f. Lodging Tax Advisory Committee 2026 Funding Recommendations
- g. Right-of-Way Procedures
- h. Reappointment of Elizabeth Robbins to the Planning Commission

MOTION:

Councilmember Agabi, moved, seconded by Councilmember Swarthout, to approve the Consent Calendar as published. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

**COUNCIL
CONSIDERATIONS:**

ORDINANCE O2025-017, ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EQUITY COMMISSION:

Assistant Administrator Adams thanked Mayor Sullivan, Administrator Parks and the many staff and others over the last two years that helped in the creation of Ordinance O2025-017, establishment of an equity commission. She did an overview of our current Boards and Commissions including how they were established and the guidelines for them which are outlined in the Tumwater Municipal Code.

The purpose of the equity commission is to identify and promote activities related to city services and facilities that foster a more welcoming community; enhance participation from underrepresented community members; address existing gaps/barriers and provide recommendations to the City Council.

MOTION:

Councilmember Agabi, moved, seconded by Councilmember Dahlhoff, to adopt Ordinance O2025-017, Establishment of the Equity Commission. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE FOR ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT FUNDING:

Chief Hurley presented a renewal of the agreement with Thurston County Medic One for advanced life support funding. The funding supports paramedic services in Thurston County with three of the eight medic units in Tumwater which will be fully staffed by January 1, 2026.

The renewal is for three years with the current agreement expiring at the end of 2025. The agreement which helps fund most of the salary and benefits and the medic units will have an increased payment in the renewal to support more training, another position and space used in the Fire stations.

MOTION:

Councilmember Agabi, moved, seconded by Councilmember Swarthout, to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Intergovernmental Agreement with Thurston County Medic One for Advanced Life Support Funding. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY:

Peter Agabi

The committee met on October 14, 2025, and it included the Thurston County Medic One for Advanced Life support funding agreement that was on considerations as well as a presentation on the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's data dashboard and an update on the Body Worn Camera project.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Michael Althausen

The committee will next meet on November 12, 2025.

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Debbie Sullivan

The next meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2025, and they will be discussing the following item:

- Monthly Financial Update

PUBLIC WORKS:

Eileen Swarthout

The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2025, and they will be discussing the following items:

- Interlocal Agreement with the Thurston, Cities of Olympia, and Lacey for the Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative
- R2025-016, Small Works Roster
- Interlocal Agreement with the LOTT Clean Water Alliance for the Class A+ Reclaimed Water Demonstration Pilot

MAYOR/CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Parks shared kudos about Water Resources and Sustainability staff including Dave Kangiser, Steve Craig and Mike Erickson. She highlighted the hard work Transportation and Engineering staff are doing to get projects completed and under the estimated cost. She also provided an update on the efforts related to continuing food production options at Isabella Bush Park. Lastly, she updated the Council on Ordinance O2025-008, which will amend the Tumwater Municipal Code section 12.32 on Public Parks. The ordinance will be on considerations at the November 18, 2025, council meeting.

Mayor Sullivan shared recent events she attended including the very popular senior picnic and chili cook off at the Old Town Center which was won by Recreation Manager Todd Anderson. She also attended a fun Bucoda pie eating contest, Tumwater chamber meeting and reminded everyone that the next regular Council meeting is on Monday, November 3rd due to the election.

**COUNCILMEMBER
REPORTS:**

Councilmember Agabi, Althausen, Dahlhoff and Swarthout gave reports.

Councilmember Cathey had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business, Mayor Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Prepared by Melody Valiant, City Clerk