MEETING MINUTES

TUMWATER CITY COUNCIL
November 17, 2026

CONVENE: 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Leatta Dahlhoff and Councilmembers Peter Agabi, Joan Cathey, Angela Jefferson, Meghan Sullivan, Eileen Swarthout, Kelly Von Holtz and Brandon Weedon.

Staff: City Administrator Paul Simmons, City Attorney Karen Kirkpatrick, Police Chief Carlos Quiles, Jr., Finance Director Troy Niemeyer, Fire Chief Brian Hurley, Assistant Fire Chief Shawn Crimmins, Information Technology Director Lance Inman, Communications Director Jason Wettstein, Parks & Recreation Director Chuck Denney, Transportation & Engineering Director Brandon Hicks, Water Resources & Sustainability Director Dan Smith, Water Resources & Sustainability Deputy Director Tyle Zuchowski, Community Development Director Brad Medrud, Firefighter Travis Levya, Deputy Police Chief Ken Driver, Police Sergeant Tyler Boling, GIS Intern Tessa Beecher, GIS Manager Jennifer Radcliff and City Clerk Melody Valiant.

SPECIAL ITEMS:

PROCLAMATION: GIS DAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

Councilmember Swarthout read a proclamation declaring November 18, 2026, as Geographic Information System (GIS) Day. The proclamation recognizes that an understanding, use, and application of geospatial technology is crucial to operating the City's infrastructure, sustaining our natural resources, and stimulating economic growth, thus, benefitting the welfare of the general public throughout the South Puget Sound region.

Mayor Dahlhoff presented the proclamation to GIS Intern Tessa Beecher.

Councilmember Joan Cathey joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

PROMOTION OF LIEUTENANT KEN DRIVER TO DEPUTY CHIEF; PROMOTION OF OFFICER TYLER BOLING TO SERGEANT:

Chief Quiles led a badge-pinning ceremony recognizing the recent Tumwater Police Department promotions of Tyler Bolling to Sergeant and Ken Driver to Deputy Chief. He highlighted Sergeant Bolling's 19 years with the department and his lasting impact on local students during his eight years as a school resource officer. Chief Quiles also praised Deputy Chief Driver's 20 years of law enforcement experience and trusted leadership after serving eight months as acting deputy chief. Following the remarks, both officers were pinned with their new badges by their family members.

CHIEF'S AWARD: TRAVIS LEYVA:

Chief Hurley presented Firefighter Travis Leyva with the Fire Chief's Award and Chief's Coin, recognizing him as the first recipient under the Tumwater Fire Department's new commendations policy. Deputy Chief Crimmins highlighted Leyva's dedication to the department and community, noting that he was named Outstanding Instructor of the Year for two consecutive years at the South Sound Recruit Academy. Following the presentation, Firefighter Leyva expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to mentor new recruits.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public comment was given by residents and community members Reynolds and Ferguson.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

a. Approval of Minutes: City Council Meeting, October 20, 2026
b. Approval of Minutes: City Council Work Session, October 27, 2026
c. Payment of Vouchers
d. Ordinance No. O2026-021, Ad Valorem for Regular Property Taxes for the Fiscal Year 2027
e. Ordinance No. O2026-007, Tumwater Municipal Code – Sewer Service Regulations
f. Resolution No. R2026-023, Surplus Property
g. Supplemental Agreement No. 4 with Tierra Right of Way Services (ROW) for the X Street Roundabout project
h. Service Provider Agreement with Artisans Group for On-Call Architectural Services Amendment No. 1
i. Final Acceptance of Work with Lakeside Industries for the 2025 Pavement Maintenance Project

j. Schedule 74 Underground Conversion Project Construction Agreement with Puget Sound Energy for Israel Road SW & Linderson Way SW Project Amendment No. 1
k. Appointment of Renee Radcliff Sinclair to Historical Preservation Commission and David Iyall to Planning Commission

MOTION: **Councilmember Von Holtz moved, seconded by Councilmember Jefferson, to approve the Consent Calendar as published. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. O2026-019, 2025-2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 2:

Mayor Dahlhoff opened the public hearing to discuss Ordinance No. O2026-019, 2025-2026 Budget Amendment No. 2. Director Niemeyer said that unlike a typical year-end cleanup amendment, this update incorporates major capital projects such as the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) properties and 310 Israel Road alongside routine interfund transfers, grant adjustments, and smaller allocations for the Garry oak tree and the lodge. Across all funds, the amendment accounts for newly received bond proceeds and up to $42 million in expenditures, including $150,000 in revenue and $533,000 in expenditures within the general fund.

Mayor Dahlhoff opened the testimony for the public hearing at 7:41 p.m.

Mayor Dahlhoff closed the public hearing at 7:41 p.m. with no one giving public comment.

MOTION: **Councilmember Weedon moved, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan, to adopt Ordinance No. O2026-019, 2025-2026 Budget Amendment No. 2. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.**

ORDINANCE NO. O2026-020, 2027-2028 PROPOSED BUDGET:

Mayor Dahlhoff opened the public hearing to discuss Ordinance No. O2026-020, 2027-2028 Proposed Budget. Director Niemeyer said this is the second of two public hearings on the budget. He outlined major general fund revenue streams and expenditures noting that public safety and personnel represent the largest costs and explained recent updates, including a $3.3 million net increase in expenses and a $1 million revenue reduction. Despite

higher costs for courts, jails, code enforcement, and City Hall remodeling, Director Niemeyer noted that projected current-year budget savings and existing reserves will keep the ending fund balance stable.

Mayor Dahlhoff opened the testimony for the public hearing at 7:49 p.m.

Mayor Dahlhoff closed the public hearing at 7:49 p.m. with no one giving public comment.

MOTION: **Councilmember Sullivan moved, seconded by Councilmember Weedon, to place Ordinance No. O2026-020, 2027-2028 Proposed Budget on the December 1, 2026, Council Consent Calendar for adoption. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.**

MAYOR/CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Mayor Dahlhoff had no report.

Administrator Simmons reported that Councilmembers Jefferson and Von Holtz nominated Mayor Dahlhoff for the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Boss of the Year award. Because the city operates under a strong-mayor form of government, this marks the first time a mayor has been nominated for the honor through AWC. Mayor Dahlhoff thanked everyone for the nomination.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS: Councilmembers Agabi, Cathey, Jefferson, Sullivan, Swarthout Von Holtz, and Weedon gave reports.

ADJOURNMENT: **With there being no further business, Mayor Dahlhoff adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.**

Prepared by Melody Valiant, City Clerk