



White Salmon City Council Meeting A G E N D A

May 06, 2026 – 6:00 PM
119 NE Church Ave and Zoom Teleconference
Zoom Meeting ID: [843 0251 7610](#)
Call In: 1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

I. Call to Order

- A. Land Acknowledgement Statement
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call

III. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

IV. Public Comment

Any member of the public attending the meeting, either in person or via Zoom, will have an opportunity to provide general public comment. No registration is required, and each speaker will be allowed up to three minutes. Written comments may also be submitted by emailing them to erikac@whitesalmonwa.gov by Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. All submitted comments will be included in the Council packet and the official record.

V. Presentations

- A. Heritage Month Presentation
- B. City Highlights with the Mayor

VI. Consent Agenda

- [A.](#) Approval of Adult Probation Interlocal Agreement with Klickitat County
- [B.](#) Resolution 2026-05-644 - Declaring Surplus Property
- C. Approval of Vouchers

VII. Public Hearing

- [A.](#) Ordinance 2026-05-1187 – Amending WSMC 2.20.010 - Committees
Proposed updates to City Council committee rules to improve clarity and consistency. Changes include allowing the public to observe committee meetings, clarifying that committees are advisory only, and directing public comment to City Council meetings and public hearings where decisions are made.

- 1. Staff Presentation
- 2. Public Testimony



3. Council Discussion
4. Council Action

VIII. Reports and Communications

- A. Klickitat County Commissioner Todd Andrews
- B. Department Head Reports
- C. Council Member/Committee Reports

IX. Executive Session (Executive Session – Potential Litigation with Legal Counsel ([RCW 42.30.110\(1\)\(i\)](#)))

X. Adjournment

File Attachments for Item:

A. Approval of Adult Probation Interlocal Agreement with Klickitat County



COUNCIL REPORT

Business Item

Consent Agenda

Needs Legal Review: Yes, complete
 Meeting Date: May 6, 2026
 Agenda Item: Adult Probation Interlocal Agreement
 Presented By: Jennifer Neil, Director of Finance & Operations

Action Required: This item is included on the Consent Agenda for Council consideration.

Motion for Business Item / Proposed Motion for Consent Agenda: Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Background of Issue:

Klickitat County provides probation services for cases adjudicated through the Municipal Department of the District Court. While these services have historically been absorbed within broader County and court operations, there has not previously been a formalized interlocal agreement (ILA) establishing a direct cost-sharing structure specific to probation services.

In 2024–2025, Klickitat County Adult Probation and the elected District Court judges identified a sustained increase in caseload and corresponding workload pressures. Based on these trends, the County determined that an additional probation case manager position was necessary to maintain service levels, ensure compliance monitoring, and support public safety outcomes.

At the policy level, participating cities—through their mayors at the time—expressed support for expanding probation services provided that the County also contributed to the funding solution. In response, the Board of County Commissioners enacted a Criminal Justice Sales Tax (0.1%) to help offset the cost of criminal justice services across the County, including probation.

To operationalize the remaining funding need, the County initiated the development of a new interlocal agreement to:

- Formalize probation service delivery to participating cities
- Establish a cost-sharing framework for the additional staffing resource
- Align funding responsibility with jurisdictions generating probation cases

Initial proposals introduced a variable cost allocation model tied to staffing costs and historical case volume. Through the negotiation process, the City of White Salmon worked with County leadership to refine the agreement into a more predictable and transparent structure.

Explanation of Issue:

The proposed agreement formalizes probation services and establishes a defined and predictable cost structure for the City of White Salmon, while aligning with the broader funding framework established at the County level.

As identified by Klickitat County Adult Probation and the elected District Court judges, increased caseloads necessitated the addition of a probation case manager to maintain service levels and support public safety outcomes. Consistent with prior discussions among jurisdictions, this expanded service model was structured with the understanding that both the County and cities would share in the associated costs.

To support the County’s share of these costs, the Board of County Commissioners enacted a 0.1% Criminal Justice Sales Tax, which provides an ongoing revenue source to fund criminal justice services countywide, including probation. The remaining cost responsibility is allocated to participating cities through this agreement.

Key Components of the Agreement

1. Predictable Cost Structure

The agreement establishes a fixed base cost for 2026, with a capped 3% annual increase for 2027 and 2028. This replaces earlier proposals that tied costs directly to actual personnel expenses, which introduced variability and financial uncertainty.

2. Alignment with Negotiated Funding Framework

The final structure reflects the original policy understanding that:

- The County contributes funding support (partially through Criminal Justice Sales Tax revenue)
- Cities contribute a defined share tied to service delivery

This ensures the City is not solely responsible for funding expanded probation capacity.

3. Clarified Scope of Services

Services are limited to:

- Cases originating from the Municipal Department of the District Court
- Court-ordered probation supervision only

4. Reporting and Oversight

The agreement requires monthly reporting from the County, including:

- Case-level data and status updates
- Caseload tracking
- Notification of probation violations requiring coordination with law enforcement

This provides the City with the ability to:

- Verify case attribution
- Monitor service utilization trends
- Ensure accountability in cost allocation

This agreement represents a balanced approach to addressing increased demand for probation services by supporting public safety and court operations, ensuring shared financial responsibility between the County and cities, providing the City with cost certainty and transparency for budgeting purposes.

Council Options:

City Council has the following options available currently:

1. Accept the Staff Recommendation and approve the contract.



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2. Revise the Staff Recommendation.
 3. Other action as may be desired by the City Council.
 4. Refer this issue back to staff for further work.
 5. Take no action on this matter.

Fiscal Analysis:

Financial Impact

- 2026: \$10,158
- 2027: \$10,462.74
- 2028: \$10,776.62
- Total 3-Year Cost: \$31,397.36

Funding Context

The County’s implementation of the 0.1% Criminal Justice Sales Tax provides a dedicated funding source to support criminal justice services, including probation. This revenue allows the County to absorb a portion of the overall system cost, reducing the financial burden that would otherwise fall entirely on participating cities.

Budget Considerations

- Costs are predictable and can be incorporated into ongoing operating expenditures
- Annual increases are capped at 3%, supporting long-term financial planning
- Structure avoids exposure to fluctuating personnel costs or benefit assumptions

Risk Mitigation

This agreement reduces financial and operational risk by:

- Eliminating variable cost allocation tied to actual County staffing decisions
- Establishing clear cost expectations over a defined term
- Requiring reporting to support verification and oversight
- Maintaining a termination provision with one-year notice

Recommendation of Staff/Committee: Staff recommends approval of the Interlocal Agreement. The negotiated structure provides cost certainty and transparency, ensures continued access to required probation services, and represents a favorable outcome to earlier draft proposals.

Follow Up Action:

- Execute agreement upon Council approval (*Clerk*)
- Coordinate with County Clerk to execute agreement with BOCC (*Clerk*)
- Acquire and record fully executed agreement (*Clerk*)
- Coordinate with County on reporting implementation (*Police*)
- Monitor caseload trends and cost alignment annually (*Police/Finance & Operations*)
- Reassess structure prior to expiration in 2028 (*Finance & Operations*)

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON AND KLICKITAT COUNTY FOR THE PROVISION OF PROBATION SERVICES WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT OF THE DISTRICT COURT

THIS AGREEMENT made by and between KLICKITAT COUNTY, duly organized and operating under and by virtue of the Constitution and the laws of the State of Washington, hereinafter referenced to as the "COUNTY" and the CITY OF WHITE SALMON, a municipal corporation of the State of Washington, hereinafter referred to as the "CITY", for the provision of probation services to the City's Municipal Department of the Klickitat County West District Court, hereinafter referred to as the "Court."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the CITY desires to utilize the services of the COUNTY's probation department to monitor cases on violations of the CITY's ordinances, and other matters as conferred by statute; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to enter into an agreement defining their rights, duties and liabilities relating to the utilization of the COUNTY's probation department; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Agreement is to provide the CITY with probation services for cases arising out of the Municipal Department of the Klickitat County West District Court in which probation supervision has been ordered by the court; and

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration on the mutual covenants, agreements, and stipulations contained herein, the CITY and the COUNTY hereby agree as follows:

1. SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL.

Pursuant to RCW 39.34.180(6), the parties have agreed herein that the COUNTY will provide probation services for cases in which probation supervision has been ordered by the Court.

2. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

This agreement shall not be construed as or deemed to be a contract for the benefit of any third party or parties and no third party or parties shall have any right to action hereunder for any cause whatsoever.

No agent, employee, servant or representative of the CITY shall be deemed to be an employee of COUNTY for any purpose and no employee of COUNTY or of the Court shall be deemed an employee of the CITY.

Each party to this Agreement shall act in good faith and shall aid and assist the other in accomplishing the objective of this Agreement.

This Agreement, upon execution by all parties, supersedes all prior contracts and agreements (oral or written) for the Court's assumption of probation services between the CITY and the COUNTY. This contract does not affect existing contracts relating to prosecution, law enforcement and jail costs.

3. COMPENSATION.

A.

The CITY agrees to pay COUNTY the following compensation for the services outlined in this agreement. CITY shall remit payment to COUNTY within 30 days of the agreement being executed for 2026, and by January 31st of the following years.

Year	Previous Year Base Fee	Cost of Living 3%	Total for Year
2026	\$10,158.00	N/A	\$10,158.00
2027	\$10,158.00	\$304.74	\$10,462.74
2028	\$10,462.74	\$313.88	\$10,776.62

4. REPORTING AND CASE INFORMATION.

In addition to the annual caseload accounting described in Section 3, the COUNTY shall provide the CITY with monthly written reports regarding probation services provided for cases originating from the CITY. Such reports shall include, at minimum:

- A. The defendant’s name, case number, start date, and anticipated end date (if applicable).
- B. The probation status of each active case (e.g., active supervision, bench probation, warrant status, closed/completed).

The purpose of this reporting requirement is to allow the CITY to verify case attribution, monitor caseload trends, confirm accuracy of cost allocation under this Agreement, and coordinate with law enforcement personnel regarding monitoring, warrant service, and public safety matters involving defendants placed on probation for CITY cases.

Reports shall be provided no later than the 15th day of each month for the preceding month.

The COUNTY shall promptly correct any case attribution discrepancies identified by the CITY and adjust cost allocation calculations accordingly.

The COUNTY shall provide timely notification to the Chief of White Salmon Police Department or designee when, probation violation is filed for a probationer attributable to the CITY or when enforcement assistance may be required.

All information shared pursuant to this section shall remain subject to applicable state and federal confidentiality laws and shall be used solely for contract administration, financial oversight, and public safety purposes.

5. MODIFICATION.

No change or additions to this Agreement shall be valid or binding upon either party unless such change or addition is approved in writing by the legislative bodies of the CITY and the COUNTY

6. TERM.

This Agreement shall be effective upon execution by the parties and recording with the Klickitat County Auditor and shall remain in effect through the 31st day of December, 2028. This Agreement shall expire December 31, 2028 unless extended by written amendment.

7. NOTICE.

Any notice required to be given by either party to the other shall be deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the COUNTY at:

Klickitat County Adult Probation
Chief Probation Officer
205 S. Columbus Ave, Room 110
Goldendale, WA 98620

Or to the CITY, at:

City of White Salmon
PO Box 2139
White Salmon, WA 98672

Or at such other address as either party may designate to the other in writing from time to time.

All notices to be given with respect to this Agreement shall be in writing. Every notice shall be deemed to have been given at the time it shall be deposited in the United States mail in the manner prescribed herein. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to preclude personal service of any notice in the manner prescribed for personal service of a summons or other legal process.

8. TERMINATION.

CITY: The CITY may terminate this Agreement by providing the Chief Probation Officer with written notice of its intent no less than one (1) year prior to date of intended termination.

COUNTY: The COUNTY may terminate this Agreement by providing council for the CITY written notice at least one (1) year prior to the date of the intended termination.

Termination of this Agreement shall not affect any case, proceeding, appeal or other matter pending in the Court, or in any way modify any right or liability, civil or criminal, which may be in existence on the effective date of termination by either the CITY or the COUNTY.

9. APPLICABLE LAW.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington.

10. INDEMNIFICATION.

Each party shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless, each other, its officers, agents and employees, from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, demands for money damages, losses or liability, or any portion

thereof, including attorney's fees and costs, arising from the negligent acts or omissions of the parties, its employees, or representatives. The terms of this section shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

11. INVALIDITY.

Any provision of this Agreement which shall prove to be invalid, void or illegal shall in no way affect, impair or invalidate any of the other provisions hereof and such other provisions shall remain in full force and effect despite such invalidity or illegality.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties here to have signed this agreement this ____ day of _____, 2026.

City of White Salmon
White Salmon, Washington

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Klickitat County, Washington

Marla Keethler, Mayor

Ron Ihrig, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Todd Andrews, Commissioner

Shawn MacPherson,
White Salmon City Attorney

Lori Zoller, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

In and for the County of Klickitat,
State of Washington

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Klickitat County Prosecuting Attorney

File Attachments for Item:

B. Resolution 2026-05-644 - Declaring Surplus Property



COUNCIL REPORT

Business Item

Consent Agenda

Needs Legal Review:

No, Not necessary

Meeting Date:

5/6/2026

Agenda Item:

Resolution 2026-05-644

Presented By:

Chris True, Public Works Director

Action Required:

Review and approve Resolution 2026-05-644 Declaring Surplus Property.

Motion for Business Item / Proposed Motion for Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve Resolution 2026-05-644 Declaring Surplus Property.

Background of Issue:

Public Works has identified and listed surplus property that is no longer needed for city use. Surplus property sold will generate revenue to the department that is surplused from.

Explanation of Issue:

Staff have identified equipment that is no longer needed or cost-effective to maintain. Declaring these items as surplus allows the City to sell them through a competitive or commercially reasonable process and recover value. Items not sold may be donated or disposed of as appropriate.

This action supports efficient asset management and reduces unnecessary storage and maintenance costs.

Council Options:

City Council has the following options available currently:

1. Accept the Staff Recommendation .
2. Revise the Staff Recommendation.
3. Other action as may be desired by the City Council.
4. Refer this issue back to staff for further work.
5. Take no action on this matter.

Fiscal Analysis:

Will generate revenue for the respective departments.

Recommendation of Staff/Committee:

Staff recommends approval Resolution 2026-05-644 Declaring Surplus Property.

Follow Up Action:

If approved, staff will proceed with declaring the item(s) surplus and coordinate posting the property for sale in accordance with City procedures.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05-644

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON REGARDING
DECLARING SURPLUS PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON,
WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, the City of White Salmon is the owner of certain property described below; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest of the City of White Salmon if said property could be sold; and

WHEREAS, the City of White Salmon desires to sell those items designated to be surplused through a bidding process or any other commercially reasonable method; and

WHEREAS, the City of White Salmon desires to designate any items not sold in surplus to have no value and to be donated to an appropriate recipient or otherwise to Washington Gorge Action Programs.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON,
WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES:**

Section 1. The following items are to be surplused:

Item Description	Quantity	Total Value	Dept.
2007 ELGIN SWEEPER	1	\$20,000	Street
2001 CASE CX100 MOWER	1	\$15,000	Street

Section 2. The City of White Salmon authorizes those useable items to be surplused and sold through a bidding process or any other commercially reasonable method.

Section 3. The City of White Salmon authorizes the Public Works Director to donate all surplused equipment and materials not sold to an appropriate recipient or otherwise to Washington Gorge Action Programs or disposed of as necessary.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington and approved by its Mayor at regularly scheduled open public meeting thereof this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Marla Keethler, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Erika Castro Guzman, Clerk

Shawn MacPherson, City Attorney

File Attachments for Item:

A. Ordinance 2026-05-1187 – Amending WSMC 2.20.010 - Committees

Proposed updates to City Council committee rules to improve clarity and consistency. Changes include allowing the public to observe committee meetings, clarifying that committees are advisory only, and directing public comment to City Council meetings and public hearings where decisions are made.

1. Staff Presentation
2. Public Testimony
3. Council Discussion
4. Council Action



COUNCIL REPORT

Business Item

Public Hearing

Needs Legal Review:

Yes, Complete

Meeting Date:

5/6/2026

Agenda Item:

Ordinance 2026-05-1187 – Amending WSMC 2.20.010 (Committees)

Presented By:

Mayor Marla Keethler and City Attorney Shawn MacPherson

Action Required:

Review, conduct public hearing, and consider adoption of Ordinance 2026-05-1187 amending WSMC 2.20.010 related to City Council committees.

Motion for Business Item / Proposed Motion for Consent Agenda:

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-05-1187 amending WSMC 2.20.010 related to City Council committees.

Background of Issue:

Over the past several months, there have been ongoing discussions regarding committee operations and whether they should function under the same requirements as full City Council meetings, including compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).

It is important to clarify that the City’s current committee structure (advisory in nature and not subject to OPMA) is not only permissible under Washington law, but reflects the standard approach used by most cities across the state, particularly smaller jurisdictions. Under state law, advisory committees are not required to comply with OPMA unless they are acting on behalf of the governing body or conducting hearings, taking testimony, or otherwise exercising decision-making authority. For that reason, most cities structure committees as working groups that support, rather than replicate, the formal public processes required at the Council level.

Requiring full OPMA compliance at the committee level is not the norm and carries meaningful implications. It effectively transforms committees into additional public meeting bodies, increasing administrative burden on staff, duplicating Council-level processes, and limiting the candid, iterative discussions that committees are designed to facilitate. If the intent is to expand public participation, this approach does not necessarily achieve that outcome; it simply relocates it into a less efficient forum.

At the same time, concerns have been raised about public visibility into committee discussions. That concern is valid, and it is one we can address directly without fundamentally altering the role of committees.

The proposed revisions are grounded in the discussion and direction provided by Council at the recent workshop. Council identified a need for increased transparency, more consistent expectations across committees, and a practical middle ground that does not create undue administrative burden. These revisions directly respond to those priorities by opening committee meetings for public observation, clarifying their advisory function, and establishing a clear and consistent framework for how public input is incorporated. While not every individual concept

raised in the workshop is included, the proposal reflects a deliberate effort to address the substance of Council’s feedback and advance a workable, balanced approach aligned with those objectives.

The proposed code revisions are designed to strike that balance. They:

- Explicitly allow members of the public and media to attend committee meetings for observation;
- Maintain committees as advisory bodies that do not take public comment or testimony, preserving their intended function and avoiding unintended OPMA implications; and
- Clearly direct public input to established forums, including City Council meetings, public hearings, and other engagement opportunities where decisions are ultimately made.

This approach achieves the council state objective of improving transparency and access while maintaining an efficient and legally sound committee structure. It also aligns with common practice across similarly sized jurisdictions.

If Council’s goal is to ensure the public can observe and stay informed, these revisions accomplish that. If the goal is to expand opportunities for public input, that is most appropriately done at the Council level, where decisions are made and where OPMA already applies.

The proposed revisions provide clarity, consistency, and balance, without creating unnecessary administrative burden or altering the fundamental purpose of committees.

Explanation of Issue:

The proposed ordinance updates WSMC 2.20.010 to clarify committee composition, scheduling, workload expectations, and public observation practices. The amendments reinforce that committee meetings are advisory in nature, do not include public comment or hearings unless required by law, and are distinct from formal City Council meetings.

These changes reflect prior City Council direction and are intended to improve consistency, transparency, and efficiency in committee operations.

Council Options:

City Council has the following options available currently:

1. Adopt Ordinance as presented.
2. Adopt Ordinance with modifications.
3. Continue the public hearing to a date certain for further consideration.
4. Refer the ordinance back to staff for additional review or revision.
5. Decline to adopt the ordinance.

Fiscal Analysis:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with this ordinance. The proposed changes are administrative in nature and are intended to improve operational efficiency.

Recommendation of Staff/Committee:

Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance 2026-05-1187 amending WSMC 2.20.010 to clarify City Council committee structure and operations.

Follow Up Action:

If approved, staff will update the White Salmon Municipal Code and implement the revised committee structure and procedures. Committee schedules and practices will be aligned with the updated code provisions.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05-1187

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON, AMENDING WSMC 2.20.010 RELATED TO CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of White Salmon has established standing committees pursuant to WSMC 2.20.010 to support the efficient operation of City government; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the current structure, function, and operation of its committees and has identified a need to clarify committee membership, scheduling, workload, and public observation practices; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to ensure that committee meetings are conducted in a manner that is consistent, transparent, and clearly advisory in nature; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further desires to distinguish committee meetings from City Council meetings and public hearings, including clarifying that committees do not take public comment or testimony unless otherwise required by law; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments reflect prior City Council direction regarding committee operations and are intended to improve efficiency, clarity, and public understanding of the City’s committee process;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of White Salmon do ordain as follows:

That the following amendments be made to White Salmon Municipal Code Title 2, Chapter 2.20.010 - Committees:

Key: ~~Bold and Strike through~~ means repealed.

Bold and underline means new.

SECTION 1. White Salmon Municipal Code 2.20.010, is hereby amended as follows:

CHAPTER 2.20.010 - COMMITTEES

- A. *Appointment by Mayor.* At the first regular meeting of the City Council in January of each year, the mayor shall, with the advice and consent of the City Council, appoint the following standing committees:
1. Personnel and finance committee which shall consist of three ~~to four~~ members, two of whom shall be members of the City Council and ~~one up to two~~ members at large who shall be representative of the public and ~~is~~ a resident of the city of White Salmon and are of legal voting age. The mayor and ~~clerk~~-treasurer, or their designees, shall serve as non-voting ex officio members.

- 2. City operations committee (parks, health and sanitation, street systems, transportation benefit district, water and wastewater facilities, fire, and police) ~~which~~ shall consist of two council members and one White Salmon resident.
- 3. Community development committee (public property, tourism, business development, arts, culture, and community engagement) ~~which~~ shall consist of ~~three up to five~~ members, two of which shall be members of the City Council, and ~~one of up to three~~ which shall be ~~a member of the White Salmon Arts Council residents of the City of White Salmon.~~
- 4. Lodging tax advisory committee shall consist of five members, two representatives of a business required to collect the lodging tax (hotel/motel tax), two representatives of an activity whose activities are authorized to be funded by the lodging tax (hotel/motel tax); and one representative of the City Council who shall be the Chairperson of the lodging tax advisory committee.

B. Creation of committees.

- 1. The mayor may create other committees with the consent of the council.
- 2. If a committee is created that is intended to be a standing committee, this code shall be amended to reflect such committee.
- 3. If a committee is created for which the duration is intended to be no longer than a five-year period, a resolution identifying the makeup of the committee and its purpose, powers and duties shall be adopted.

C. Committees—Powers and duties.

1. General. Requests for staff support, analysis, or work products initiated by a committee shall be subject to prioritization by the Mayor and/or appropriate department head and aligned with the City’s adopted budget, work plan, and operational priorities. Committee requests shall not supersede or delay previously authorized work unless directed by the Mayor or City Council.

12. Personnel and finance committee.

- a. It is the responsibility of the committee to ~~consider~~ **review** and ~~approve~~ **recommend** draft budget proposals prepared and submitted by city staff, and as may be revised or amended by a majority vote of the committee, and to make recommendations to the City Council for the adoption.
- b. The committee shall advise the City Council on matters pertaining to financial affairs of the city.
- c. The committee shall advise the City Council on personnel issues as they relate to the budget.
- d. The committee is kept apprised by city staff as to the status of union negotiations and union grievances. The representative from the public shall not participate in discussions regarding union negotiations and union grievances.
- e. The committee shall perform such other duties as may be imposed by ordinances or the order of the mayor or City Council.

23. City operations committee (parks, health and sanitation, street system, Transportation Benefit District, water and wastewater utilities, fire and police).

- a. The committee is kept apprised by city staff on matters pertaining to parks; police and fire; refuse collection; sanitary conditions and health of the city; the conditions of roads, streets, alleyways, and parking facilities; and water and wastewater utility services and infrastructure.
- b. The committee may recommend measures to the City Council they deem proper for the betterment of the city.
- c. The committee reports on matters referred to them by the mayor or the City Council.
- d. The committee is designated as the utilities comprehensive plan committee and shall represent the city on the multi-jurisdictional water and wastewater committee comprised of the jurisdictions of the city of White Salmon, City of Bingen and the Port of Klickitat which addresses water and wastewater utility services, including capital improvements, and utility service interlocal agreements existing or deemed necessary between the parties.
- e. The committee will act as the advisory committee to the Transportation Benefit District.

34. Community development committee (public property, tourism, business development, arts, culture and community engagement).

- a. The committee is kept apprised by city staff on matters pertaining to tourism and business development, including opportunities for enhancing tourism and business and its overall impact to the city.
- b. The committee is kept apprised of the city's real properties within and adjacent to city limits and within the White Salmon urban growth area including existing and proposed use of such properties.
- c. The committee may recommend measures to the City Council and/or the planning commission they deem proper for the betterment of the city.
- d. The committee reports on matters referred to them by the mayor or the City Council.

45. Lodging tax advisory committee.

- a. The lodging tax committee shall review proposals for changes in the hotel/motel tax authorized in Chapter 3.50, including increases or decreases in the rate of tax, the repeal of an exemption to the hotel/motel tax, or a change in the use of the monies accumulated in the hotel/motel tax fund, as required in RCW 67.28.1817.
- b. The lodging tax committee may establish programs and procedures whereby parties may apply for grants from the hotel/motel tax fund for tourism promotion, acquisition of tourism-related facilities, or operation of tourism-related facilities. Any grants under such programs must be approved by the City Council.
- c. Pursuant to RCW 67.28.1817, the lodging tax advisory committee shall review any proposal described in that section, and shall submit comments on the proposal, which comments shall include an analysis of the extent to which the proposal will accommodate activities for tourists or increase tourism, and the extent to which the proposal will affect the long-term stability of the hotel/motel tax fund.

D. Committees—Meetings. All committees will ~~meet on an as-needed basis~~ **set a regular meeting schedule annually, which will be available on the city’s public meeting calendar.**

Committee meetings are advisory in nature. Committees may receive information from city staff, discuss matters within their assigned subject areas, and make recommendations to the City Council; however, no legislative or quasi-judicial decision making shall take place at any committee meeting.

~~No official public comment will be taken at committee meeting and no legislative or quasi-judicial decision making will take place at any committee meeting.~~

Committee meetings may be attended by members of the public and representatives of the media for purposes of observation, subject to reasonable space, safety, and decorum limitations established by the city.

Committees do not conduct public hearings or receive formal testimony. The chair may, at their discretion, allow limited public input for the purpose of informing committee discussion. Any such input shall be informal, subject to reasonable time, manner, and relevance limitations, and shall not constitute official public comment or testimony for purposes of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide input through City Council meetings, public hearings, written comments submitted to city staff or council, or other public engagement opportunities established by the city.

Attendance by the public shall not be interpreted to convert a committee meeting into a meeting subject to the Open Public Meetings Act.

SECTION 2: Severability / Validity. The provisions of this ordinance are declared separate and severable. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or phrase of this Chapter is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, or phrase of this Chapter.

SECTION 3: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force five (5) days after its publication according to law.

Passed by the council and approved by the Mayor on this ____ day of _____ 2026.

Marla Keethler, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Erika Castro Guzman, City Clerk

Shawn MacPherson, City Attorney