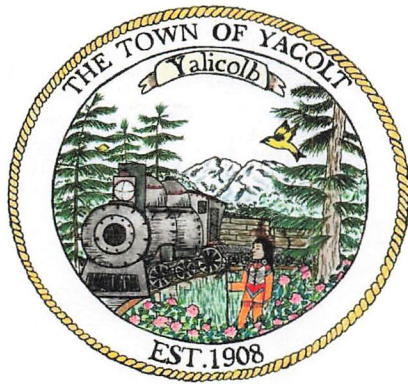




Town of Yacolt

Town Council Special Meeting

Minutes

Thursday August 17, 2026
6:00 PM
Town Hall

Call to Order

6:00 PM

Flag Salute

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Jeff Carothers, Brandon Russell, Marina Viray

Also present: Mayor Ian Shealy, Public Works Director Terry Gardner, and Clerk Fields

A motion was made to excuse the absences of Councilmembers Glassett and Carroll.

Motion: Viray

2nd: Russell

Aye: Carothers, Russell, Viray

Nay: 0

Absent: Glassett, Carroll

Motion Carried

Unfinished Business

Executive Session

An executive session was held to discuss employee performance and litigation or claims. Mayor Shealy closed the regular meeting and convened the executive session at 6:15pm, to run until 6:25pm. He extended it at 6:25pm to 6:40pm. At 6:40pm, he closed the executive session and re-opened the regular meeting.

Lift Rental

Public Works Director Terry Gardner reported on costs he researched to rent a lift for the purpose of improvements to the ring at the top of the Town's 125-foot Christmas Tree. The best price he found was for a lift through United Rentals which is already here in Town, so there would be no charge to the Town for delivery or pickup. That lift rents for \$8,000/month, which is thousands less than the other quotes Gardner got. United did ask that the Town hang a banner advertising their company during the Tree Lighting Event. A motion was made to have Gardner secure that lift for the month of September, for a maximum of \$8,800 including tax.

Motion: Carothers

2nd: Russell

Aye: Carothers, Russell, Viray

Nay: 0

Absent: Glassett, Carroll

Motion Carried

Ordinance #609 re Stormwater Service Fee Increase

The Council, Mayor, Public Works, and Clerk discussed the need and community impacts of raising the fee vs. keeping it the same. Public Works indicate that they really need to replace the Town's street sweeper and backhoe, both of which are on their last leg, and half of that expense should be appropriated out of the Stormwater fund. Current revenue from Stormwater service fees is approximately \$50,000/year, at a rate of \$6/month per household. This doesn't cover much more than payroll. Doubling the fee to \$12/month would increase annual revenue to roughly \$100,000, netting the Town about \$50,000/year to begin saving for the two large pieces of equipment it needs to continue maintaining the Stormwater system. Since this fee has not been increased since 2014, and the Town's costs have significantly increased since then, Council decided this fee increase was necessary. A motion was made to adopt Ordinance #609, thereby increasing the Stormwater service fees to the new rate of \$12/month beginning October 1st. Council also decided they need to address this more often, so that future increases (if any) won't be as drastic.

Motion: Russell

2nd: Carothers

Aye: Carothers, Russell, Viray

Nay: 0

Absent: Glassett, Carroll

Motion Carried

Update re: Community Center

Clerk Fields reported on complications with the Dept. of Commerce re: EO 21-02's requirement to notify Tribes regarding the use of the grant to purchase the Community Center. She was advised by Council to reach out to the Tribes individually to have them confirm in writing that they received the letters she sent to them on July 13th.

Mayor Shealy reported that he has possible leads for painting, re-roofing, and installing flooring as needed in the building. He asked Council to pursue leads for companies which may want to donate their services for improvements such as HVAC, electrical, window replacement, addition of a backup generator, and kitchen updates. He said he wants to be sure to have a "wall of fame" honoring those people and companies who stepped forward to help out with the Community Center.

Update on Interlocal Agreement with LaCenter re: Building Inspector Services

The Mayor and Clerk reported on previous partnership options which did not work out, and it appears that the option to use LaCenter's inspectors is now off the table. So the Clerk suggested she reach out to Kalama and Woodland to see who they're using now, since they had also been using Townzen up to now as well. If this is not productive, she can put an ad out on a website such as Indeed or LinkedIn, and perhaps an RFP.

New Business

Budget Workshop

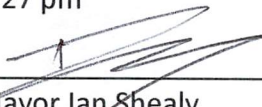
Mayor Shealy asked the Public Works Director and staff what their priorities were for the upcoming year and a half or so. Their list included:

- Repair or replacement of the street sweeper
- Replacement of the backhoe
- Another (commercial) riding lawnmower
- Possibly buy a boom truck from a local municipality
- Replacement of hand tools and hand power tools
- Community Center electrical, plumbing, and siding repairs

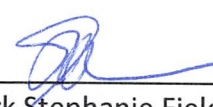
- Upgrade the PW employee clothing allowance
- Certification costs for heavy equipment
- Procuring and installing exercise equipment at the Rec Park
- Replacing fencing around the dog parks
- Bricks around holes in the splash pad at the Town Park
- Terracing alongside the embankment slide

Adjourn

8:27 pm



Mayor Ian Shealy



Clerk Stephanie Fields

Approved by Council vote on Sept. 14, 2026