Battle Ground City Council Study Session
Monday, August 17, 2026

The study session of the Battle Ground City Council was called to order in the Battle Ground Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Overholser. The meeting was live-streamed on YouTube and recorded via Zoom.

The following were present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Eric Overholser, Deputy Mayor Aimee Vaile, and Council Members Troy McCoy, Shane Bowman (arrived at 6:12 p.m.), Jeanie Kuypers, Victoria Ferrer, and Brian Munson.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Acting Interim City Manager Robert Ferrier, Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery, Public Works Director Mark Herceg, Community Development Director Kristin Lehto, Communications Manager/Public Information Officer Alisha Smith, Police Lieutenant Jim Keller (arrived at 6:05 p.m.), Human Resources Manager Tamara Gunter (arriving at 6:55 p.m. via Zoom), Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans (via Zoom), and City Clerk Elizabeth Halili

TOPIC: Discovery Clean Water Alliance General Sewer Plan – Battle Ground Transmission System Evaluation

Presented By: *Public Works Director Mark Herceg and John Peterson of Clark Regional Wastewater District.*

Summary: *The City Council was presented with an update on the Discovery Clean Water Alliance (DCWA) General Sewer Plan (GSP), specifically related to Battle Ground's transmission system. Water bottles were distributed to each Council Member as part of the September 2025 Phase 5 Celebration in which the City was a funding partner.*

Public Works Director Mark Herceg provided a brief statement and introduced Clark Regional Wastewater District General Manager John Peterson, P.E.

Mr. Peterson introduced Clark Regional Wastewater District Board Commissioner Denny Kiggins to the Council and provided a presentation, including the following four transmission system expansion alternatives:

A. *Build a Baseline – Parallel Force Main*
B. *Existing System Optimization*
C. *West Battle Ground Diversion – SR 502 to NE 72nd*

D. West Battle Ground Diversion – SR 502 to Neil Kimsey PS

Discussion was held by Council.

Director Herceg, Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery, and Mr. Peterson responded to questions from the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Eric Overholser (Sep 16, 2026 11:03:20 PDT)

Eric Overholser
Mayor

Elizabeth Halili

Elizabeth Halili
City Clerk

Date of approval by the City Council: September 8, 2026

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Battle Ground City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 17, 2026

The regular meeting of the Battle Ground City Council was called to order in the Battle Ground Council Chambers at 7:02 p.m. by Mayor Eric Overholser. The meeting was recorded via Zoom and live-streamed on YouTube.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

City Clerk Elizabeth Halili called the roll. The following were present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Eric Overholser, Deputy Mayor Aimee Vaile, and Councilmembers Troy McCoy, Shane Bowman, Victoria Ferrer, Jeanie Kuypers, and Brian Munson

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Acting Interim City Manager Robert Ferrier, Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery, Public Works Director Mark Herceg, Community Development Director Kristin Lehto, Police Lieutenant Jim Keller, District 3 Fire Chief Chris Drone, Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans (via Zoom), Communications Manager/Public Information Officer Alisha Smith, Human Resources Manager Tamara Gunter (via Zoom), and City Clerk Elizabeth Halili.

SUMMARY REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS **7:03 p.m.**

Councilmember Reports:

- *Councilmember Ferrer reported the Clark County Mosquito Control District Board Meeting will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, to discuss applicants for the position of president.*

- *Councilmember Kuypers:*
  - *Provided a report regarding the Regional Parks Task Force meeting schedule and its work developing a revenue sharing framework. Additionally, Councilmember Kuypers noted that MRSC will publish an article on Tuesday, August 25 about the work done by the Regional Parks Task Force over the past year.*
  - *Governance Manual Review Committee Report: Next meeting is September 10. The committee has drafted a review and approval process for Governance Manual updates, which will be presented during upcoming bi-weekly Council meetings. Target dates for Council recommendations and final approval are being prepared.*

Councilmember Munson noted that the Governance Manual Committee will complete a debriefing process after the revisions to the Manual have been completed.

Mayor's Report:

- *None*

Presentations:

- *None.*

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA **7:08 p.m.**

Councilmember Munson requested legal guidance from Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans.
Deputy Mayor Ferrier introduced Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans of Kenyon Disend to the Council.
Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans responded to questions from the Council

MOTION: Councilmember Bowman moved to amend the agenda to put the Interim City Manager's Contract on the agenda tonight under "Business."
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers
VOTE: Motion Failed 3-4
AYES: Councilmember McCoy, Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Kuypers
NAYS: Mayor Overholser, Deputy Mayor Vaile, Councilmember Ferrer, Councilmember Munson

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to approve the agenda as presented.
SECOND: Deputy Mayor Vaile
VOTE: Motion Carried 4-3
AYES: Mayor Overholser, Deputy Mayor Vaile, Councilmember Ferrer, Councilmember Munson
NAYS: Councilmember McCoy, Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Kuypers

CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS **7:14 p.m.**

Mayor Overholser announced the duration of Citizen's Comments would be forty (40) minutes and that each speaker's time would be three (3) minutes.

- *Judy Blevens provided public comment*
- *Drew provided public comment*
- *Liz S. provided public comment*
- *Colleen Eubanks provided public comment*
- *Karen Scott provided public comment*
- *Sister Fia Marie provided public comment*
- *Hollen Martin provided public comment*
- *Wynn Grcich provided public comment*
- *Jessica Cole provided public comment*
- *David Terry provided public comment*
- *Amelia Palaki provided public comment and handouts to the Council*

CONSENT AGENDA **7:47 p.m.**

- **A.** City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2026
- **B.** City Council Special Meeting Minutes of August 5, 2026
- **C.** Claim Vouchers dated 07/31/2026 #100550-#100575, in the amount of $166,813.69
- **D.** Payroll dated 08/10/2026, vouchers #29359-#293635 in the amount of $7,411.64 and direct deposits of $347,533.89 for a total payroll of $354,945.33

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Vaile moved to remove Item B from the Consent Agenda for further consideration.
SECOND: Councilmember Ferrer

MOTION: Councilmember McCoy moved to approve A, C, & D of the Consent Agenda
SECOND: Deputy Mayor Vaile
VOTE: Motion Carried 7-0

The Council engaged in discussion regarding Items A and B. It was subsequently clarified that Deputy Mayor Vaile had inadvertently misspoken when moving to remove Item B; her actual intent had been to remove Item A from the Consent Agenda for additional consideration. Notwithstanding this clarification, Item A had already been approved pursuant to a prior motion.

MOTION: Councilmember Bowman moved to approve Item B as presented
SECOND: Councilmember Ferrer
VOTE: Motion Carried: 7-0

BUSINESS **7:55 p.m.**

Ordinance No. 2026-16 Storage of Trailers and Recreational Vehicles in Residential Areas: Presentation/Set Public Hearing

Presented By: *Community Development Director Kristin Lehto*

Summary: *The City Council reviewed Ordinance No. 2026-16, which proposes updates to BGMC 17.135.150 to clarify setback requirements and zoning-based allowances for storing trailers and recreational vehicles in residential areas. Council provided direction to staff and considered scheduling a Public Hearing for the September 21, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting to receive public testimony on the proposed ordinance.*

Community Development Director Kristin Lehto provided a brief presentation.
The Council discussed the presentation.
Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery, Director Lehto, and District 3 Fire Chief Chris Drone responded to questions from the Council.
Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans responded to questions from the Council.

City Clerk Elizabeth Halili read the title of Ordinance No 2026-16

Further discussion was held by the Council

MOTION (WITHDRAWN)*:* Councilmember McCoy moved to approve Ordinance No. 2026-16 with an amendment to the end of C that says unless adequate emergency access is available on any side. At least one side of the yard must have a setback (As revised by Councilmember McCoy).
SECOND*:* Councilmember Kuypers

Councilmember Bowman raised a Point of Clarification: Ordinance 2026- 16 must go before a Public Hearing before the Ordinance can be adopted by the Council.
Councilmember McCoy withdrew the motion.

MOTION: Councilmember McCoy moved to set a Public Hearing for the September 21, 2026, Regular City Council meeting to hear public testimony regarding Ordinance 2026-16 Storage of Trailers and Recreational Vehicles in Residential Areas.
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers
VOTE: Motion Carried 4-3
AYES: Mayor Overholser, Councilmember McCoy, Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Kuypers
NAYS: Deputy Mayor Vaile, Councilmember Ferrer, Councilmember Munson

Solid Waste: Presentation
Presented By: *Public Works Director Mark Herceg and Joelle Loescher from Clark County Solid Waste*
Summary: *The City Council received a presentation regarding annual updates on various solid waste related topics*

Public Works Director Mark Herceg provided a brief statement and introduced Clark County Solid Waste & Recycling Division Manager Joelle Loescher. Ms. Loescher introduced Project Manager Amanda Zodrow and Solid Waste & Education Outreach Manager Sarah Keims.
Ms. Loescher, Ms. Zodrow, and Ms. Keims presented the Clark County Solid Waste & Recycling Annual Update to the Council.

The Council discussed the presentation.
Ms. Loescher, Ms. Zodrow, and Ms. Keims responded to questions from the Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS **8:38 p.m.**

- *Acting Interim City Manager Robert Ferrier:*
  - *Thanked Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans from Kenyon Disend for attending tonight's City Council meeting*
  - *Noted that the National Night Out event has been rescheduled to August 25th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Chief Umtuch Middle School and expressed appreciation to the City Council and community volunteers for their support.*

- *Public Works Director Mark Herceg:*
  - *Provided a status report regarding the following city projects:*
    - *NE Grace Avenue Project:*
    - *NW 20th Avenue:*
    - *SW 20th Ave Pathway*
    - *SW 20th Avenue:*
    - *SW Scotton Way*
    - *Tukes Mountain Reservoir*
    - *Cherry Grove Pump Station*
    - *Other City Projects:*
      - *NE 1st Street Sidewalk Improvements*
      - *Parkway/Main Signal Improvements*
      - *NW 20th Ave/NW 9th Street Intersection Improvements*

        - *W 15th Ave/W Main Street Intersection Improvements*
    - *Village at Cherry Gove*
        - *Not a City project – being completed as part of a private development*

The Council discussed the report.
Director Herceg responded to questions from the Council.
Mayor Overholser thanked Communications Manager/Public Information Officer Alisha Smith for her work in providing project status updates to the public.
Further discussion was held by Council.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS **8:55 p.m.**

- *Councilmember Kuypers*
    - *Councilmember Kuypers proposed that the Council direct staff to explore hiring an external consulting firm to support and advise the Council in the recruitment process for a new City Manager. She emphasized that the City is not yet initiating recruitment, as the Council must first establish and agree upon their expectations for the position before posting the vacancy.*

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council to direct staff to research and compile options for engaging an external consulting firm to support and advise the Council in the recruitment and hiring of a new City Manager. Staff will bring these options before the Council for review and consideration at a future meeting.

Further discussion was held by Council

- *Councilmember McCoy:*
    - *Requested information on the process and asked whether the Council would be willing to lower the flag to half-staff on September 18, 2026, in remembrance of Trent Richardson, who was fatally shot on August 15, 2026, at Hockinson Meadows Community Park near Brush Prairie, and to subsequently deliver the flag to his family.*
    The Council discussed the request.
    Director Lowery & Deputy City Manager Ferrier responded to questions from the Council

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council directing staff to lower the flag to half-staff on September 18, 2026, in remembrance of Trent Richardson. Subsequently, Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier and Mayor Overholser will deliver the flag to the family.

- *Councilmember Bowman:*
    - *Congratulated Washington State Senator Adrian Cortes and his wife, Gahlya, on their marriage on August 16, 2026.*

- *Mayor Overholser:*
    - *Requested further information regarding Manufactured Home Park Zoning, specifically whether the matter will be brought before the Council for consideration.*
    Community Development Director Kristin Lehto responded.
    - *Requested further information regarding when the Council will be able to review and consider the options presented by John Peterson during the Study Session.*
    Discussion was held by Council
    Director Herceg and Director Lowery responded to questions from the Council

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 – No Study Session - Regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Eric Overholser (Sep 16, 2026 11:03:20 PDT)

Eric Overholser
Mayor

Elizabeth Halili
City Clerk

Date of approval by the City Council: September 8, 2026

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2026 08 17 City Council Study Session & Regular Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report 2026-09-16

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