Battle Ground City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 8, 2026

The regular meeting of the Battle Ground City Council was called to order in the Battle Ground Council Chambers at 7:00 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, Victoria Ferrer, Jeanie Kuypers, and Brian Munson
ABSENT:	Councilmembers Troy McCoy and Shane Bowman
STAFF:	Acting Interim City Manager Robert Ferrier, Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery, Public Works Director Mark Herceg, Police Chief Dennis Flynn, Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans (via Zoom), Communications Manager/Public Information Officer Alisha Smith, Human Resources Manager Tamara Gunter, and City Clerk Elizabeth Halili.

MOTION TO EXCUSE **7:01 p.m.**
MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to excuse Councilmember McCoy and Councilmember Bowman.
SECOND: Deputy Mayor Vaile
VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

SUMMARY REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS **7:02 p.m.**
Councilmember Reports:

- *Councilmember Munson*
  - *Provided a brief Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Report*
  - *Advised the Council that an Ethics Complaint had been submitted regarding a member of the City Council. Councilmember Munson stated the complaint would be reviewed in accordance with RCW 42.23, the City's Ethics Code, and all applicable policies and procedures. He requested that the Mayor schedule an Ethics Committee meeting to review the complaint.*

- *Councilmember Kuypers*
    - *Provided a brief Governance Manual Committee Meeting Report.*

Mayor's Report:

- *Mayor Overholser:*
    - *Stated he would schedule the Ethics Committee Meeting to review the complaint.*

Presentations:

- *None.*

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA **7:04 p.m.**

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Vaile moved to approve the meeting agenda as presented.
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers
VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS **7:05 p.m.**

Mayor Overholser announced the duration of Citizen's Comments would be thirty (30) minutes and that each speaker's time would be three (3) minutes.

Mayor Overholser opened the floor for public comment at 7:08 p.m.

- *Stephanie Adams provided public comment*
- *Colleen Eubanks provided public comment*
- *Jessica Cole provided public comment*
- *David Terry provided public comment*

CONSENT AGENDA **7:18 p.m.**

A. City Council Study Session Minutes of August 17, 2026
B. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2026
C. Claim Vouchers dated 08/07/2026 #100576-#100600, in the amount of $630,426.85
D. Claim Vouchers dated 08/14/2026 #100601-#100678, and Bank Drafts, in the amount of $866,903.70
E. Claim Vouchers dated 08/21/2026 #100679-#100728, and Bank Drafts, in the amount of $1,440,795.04
F. Claim Vouchers dated 08/28/2026 #100729-#100760, and Bank Drafts, in the amount of $1,314,613.67
G. Payroll dated 08/25/2026, vouchers #29366-#29373 in the amount of $5,984.98 and direct deposits of $344,239.86 for a total payroll of $350,224.84
H. SE Grace Avenue Phase 2 – Right of Way (ROW) Purchase Approval – Daniels
I. SE Grace Avenue Phase 2 – Right of Way (ROW) Purchase Approval – BG Main Property
J. SE Grace Avenue Phase 2 – Right of Way (ROW) Purchase Approval – BG Property 10
K. SE Grace Avenue Phase 2 – Right of Way (ROW) Purchase Approval – BG Property 13

L. SE Grace Avenue Phase 2 – Right of Way (ROW) Purchase Approval – Main Street Theatre Restoration
M. Interim City Manager Employment Agreement

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to remove Item M from the Consent Agenda.
SECOND: Councilmember Munson
VOTE: Motion Carried 4-1
AYES: Mayor Overholser, Deputy Mayor Vaile, Councilmember Vaile, Councilmember Munson
NAY: Councilmember Kuypers
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Vaile moved to remove Items I, J, K, and L from the Consent Agenda.
SECOND: Councilmember Ferrer
The Council discussed the motion.
Mayor Overholser stated he planned to recuse himself from the discussion and vote on these items.
VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Vaile moved to approve items A-H of the Consent Agenda as presented.
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers
VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

The Council discussed Item M.
Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans and Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier responded to questions from the Council.
Further discussion was held by the Council

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to table Item M until the next meeting.
Second Councilmember Munson
VOTE: Motion carried 3-1
AYES: Deputy Mayor Vaile, Councilmember Ferrer, Councilmember Munson
NAY: Councilmember Kuypers
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Overholser
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

The Council discussed Item I, J, K, and L
Acting City Attorney Hillary Evans responded to questions from the Council.

Mayor Overholser recused himself from the meeting

Further discussion was held by the Council

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to approve items I, J, K, and L of the Consent Agenda as presented.
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers
VOTE: Motion Carried 4-0
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman
RECUSED: Mayor Overholser

BUSINESS **7:41 p.m.**

City Manager Executive Search: Presentation

Presented By: *Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier*

Summary: *The City Council was presented with seven formal proposals from executive search firms for the City Manager recruitment and provided direction to staff.*

Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier provided a brief presentation.
The Council discussed the presentation.
Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier responded to questions from the Council.
Further discussion was held by the Council.

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council to direct staff to share the results of the Executive Search in the bi-weekly meetings with Council.
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

Sidewalk Maintenance: Presentation

Presented By*:* *Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier and Public Works Director Mark Herceg*

Summary: *The City Council received a presentation regarding sidewalk maintenance and current operational methodology and provided policy direction to staff*

Interim City Manager Robert Ferrier provided a brief presentation

The Council discussed the presentation.
Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier and Public Works Director Mark Herceg responded to questions from the Council.
Further discussion was held by the Council.
Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery responded to questions from the Council.

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council to direct staff to:

1. **Research potential external grant funding to assist homeowners with sidewalk replacements related to damage caused by a specific tree species that was required in sidewalk planting strips during the late 1990s and early 2000s**
2. **Evaluate the availability of City funds that could assist low-income property owners with the cost of sidewalk replacements.**

ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

Gordy Jolma Family Natural Area – Public Trail and Access Easement: Presentation

Presented By*:* *Public Works Director Mark Herceg*

Summary: *The City Council received a presentation about a requested public trail and access easement on city property, which is being requested by Clark County for the Gordy Jolma Family Natural Area (GJFNA).*

Public Works Director Mark Herceg provided a brief presentation

The Council discussed the presentation.
Director Herceg responded to questions from the Council.

Ordinance No. 2026-18 Municipal Code Amendments - Chapter 3.04 Funds: Presentation/Set Public Hearing
Presented By: *Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery*
Summary: *The City Council received a presentation and considered setting a Public Hearing for the October 5, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting to hear testimony regarding Ordinance No. 2026-18, which would eliminate the Economic Stabilization and Insurance Reserve funds and move the funds to the general fund.*

Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery provided a brief presentation
City Clerk Elizabeth Halili read the Title of Ordinance 2026-18.

The Council discussed the presentation.
Director Lowery responded to questions from the Council.

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to set a Public Hearing for the October 5, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting regarding Ordinance No. 2026-18.
SECOND: Councilmember Munson
VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

Ordinance No. 2026-19 Municipal Code Amendments - Chapter 13.05.100 Adjustment of Utility Bills: Presentation/Set Public Hearing
Presented By: *Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery*
Summary: *The City Council received a presentation and considered setting a Public Hearing for the October 5, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting to hear testimony regarding Ordinance No. 2026-19, which would clarify the procedures and authority over utility billing adjustments.*

Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery provided a brief presentation
City Clerk Halili read the Title of Ordinance 2026-19

The Council discussed the presentation.
Director Lowery responded to questions from the Council.

MOTION: Councilmember Kuypers moved to set the Public Hearing for October 5, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting to amend Ordinance No. 2026-19 Municipal Code Amendments.
SECOND: Deputy Mayor Vaile
VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0
ABSENT: Councilmembers McCoy and Bowman

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS **8:13 p.m.**

- *Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier:*
  - *Noted the first session of Battle Ground University was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, and provided further information regarding upcoming sessions.*

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS **8:15 p.m.**

- *Councilmember Munson*
  - *Congratulated Battle Ground resident Natalie Worthy, and her director Sheri, on their appearance at Miss America.*

- *Mayor Overholser:*
    - *Congratulated Battle Ground Police Department on their Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) reaccreditation.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION **8:17p.m.**

Mayor Overholser announced that pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), the City Council would enter an Executive Session to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price. Mayor Overholser stated the Executive Session would last ten (10) minutes, beginning at 8:20 pm and ending at 8:30 pm with no action to follow.

Mayor Overholser recessed the Regular Meeting at 8:18 p.m.
The Council entered Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

During the Executive Session, the Council combined the two executive sessions listed separately on the agenda under RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) into a single session. Both items involved the same statutory purpose and were discussed together. The Clerk was informed of this change upon conclusion of the session.

The Council re-entered the Chambers at 8:30 p.m.
Mayor Overholser reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:30 p.m.
Mayor Overholser announced that no action would be taken.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, September 21, 2026 – No Study Session - Regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Eric Overholser (Sep 23, 2026 08:56:41 PDT)

Eric Overholser
Mayor

Elizabeth Halili

Elizabeth Halili
City Clerk

Date of approval by the City Council: September 21, 2026

Regular Council meetings of the Battle Ground City Council are recorded digitally. These recordings are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six (6) years.

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Final Audit Report 2026-09-23

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