

# CITY OF LYNDEN

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING



October 6, 2025

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Korthuis called to order the October 6, 2025 regular session of the Lynden City Council at 7:00 p.m. in the city council chambers.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

### ROLL CALL

Members present: Councilors Gary Bode, Lee Beld, Gary Vis, Brent Lenssen, Nick Laninga, Kyle Strengholt, and Mark Wohlrab.

Absences: None.

Staff present: Community Development Director Heidi Gudde, Finance Director Laura Scholl, Fire Chief Mike Noonan, Human Resources Director Kari Heeringa, Interim Police Chief Randy Humphreys, Parks Director Brent DeRuyter, Public Works Director Jon Hutchings, City Clerk Pam Brown, and Administrator John Williams.

**OATH OF OFFICE - None.**

**SUMMARY REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS – None.**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

***Councilor Vis moved and Councilor Beld seconded, to approve the September 15, 2025 regular council minutes. Motion approved on 7-0 vote.***

### CITIZEN COMMENT

Marsha Belvo, Lynden

- Concerns about pedestrian safety due to scooters and electric bikes on sidewalks

Cynthia Ripke-Kutsagoitz, Lynden

- Tour of Lynden High School
- Local crime and Charlie Kirk death
- Initiatives- IL26-638 and IL26-001
- City Police Chief position

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### 2. CONSENT

Set Public Hearing for Preliminary Year 2026 Budget

Set Public Hearing for Ambulance Cost of Service and Rate Study

***Councilor Vis moved and Councilor Beld seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion approved on 7-0 vote.***

3. PUBLIC HEARING – None.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

### 5. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor's Message – Status of the 2025 Budget

Mayor Korthuis summarized the status of the 2025 Budget saying that revenues are down and costs continue to increase. The memorandum states the following:

*Similar to other cities and counties in Washington state, declining revenues that are being outpaced by increasing expenditures are eroding cash reserves and impacting operational budgets.*

*Expenditures, in total are projected to be higher than forecast at year end, despite ongoing efforts to reduce spending. The City continues to see increasing costs in goods and services as a result of the past few years' inflation and are starting to see some items with additional tariff line items on some routine purchases. Items such as insurance increases have impacted all departments.*

The complete memorandum is made a part of the October 6, 2025 official council file.

### 6. REPORTS

Councilor Bode, Public Works Committee reviewed the September 3, 2025 committee meeting minutes.

Councilor Lenssen, Community Development Committee reviewed the September 17, 2025 committee meeting minutes.

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### **7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council did not hold an executive session.

The October 6, 2025 regular session of the Lynden city council adjourned at 8:38 pm.

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Scott Korthuis, Mayor

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Pamela D. Brown, City Clerk