

**CITY OF STEVENSON
SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-__

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Stevenson, Washington, delegating to the Mayor authority to settle litigation related claims on behalf of the City up to \$20,000, and requiring City Council authorization—after an executive session—to approve any settlement exceeding this authorized amount.

RECITALS

1. The City of Stevenson operates under a Mayor–Council form of government in accordance with its Municipal Code and RCW, vesting executive authority in the Mayor and legislative authority in the City Council.
2. Under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), the City Council may meet in executive session to discuss pending or potential litigation.
3. The City Council desires to streamline the settlement of lower-value litigation disputes while preserving legislative oversight for higher-value settlements.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STEVENSON,
WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:***

Section 1. Definitions

- (a) “Settlement Agreement” means any agreement resolving past, pending, or threatened claims by or against the City as a municipal entity.
- (b) “Settlement Amount” means the total financial consideration payable by the City, including wages, benefits, or costs.

Section 2. Delegation of Authority

The Mayor is authorized to negotiate and execute Settlement Agreements up to \$20,000, provided that:

1. The City Attorney or designated legal counsel has reviewed the proposed agreement and provided written or oral advice that such settlement is appropriate and in the best interest of the City;
2. 2. Appropriate appropriation exists within the approved budget or contingency reserves;
3. 3. A summary of the executed agreement—including Settlement Amount, nature of claim, and legal counsel’s recommendation—is submitted at the next regular City Council meeting under the “Voucher Approval” agenda section.

Section 3. Require Council Authorization Above Delegated Limit

Any Settlement Agreement with a Settlement Amount exceeding \$20,000 must be:

- a) Discussed in an executive session of the City Council under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i); and
- b) Following the executive session, the City Council must vote in open session to authorize the Mayor to execute any Settlement Agreement as discussed.

Section 4. Reporting and Transparency

All settlement agreements—both under delegated authority and those requiring Council approval—shall be retained in the City’s legal files. The City Attorney shall include a summary of all Settlement Agreements in the annual financial report, redacting confidential or privileged information as allowed by law.

Section 5. Severability

If any section of this Resolution is found invalid, the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. Effective Date

This Resolution is effective immediately upon adoption and remains in effect until amended or repealed by the City Council.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Stevenson at its regular meeting on this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor

City Clerk

City Attorney