

DRAFT MINUTES
CITY OF STEVENSON SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
March 05, 2026
6:00 PM, City Hall and Remote

Attending:

Elected officials: **Mayor Jenny Taylor; Councilmembers Dave Cox, Erin Minnis, Tina Van Pelt, Lucy Lauser.**

City staff: **Jayne Borden, Finance Director, Cody Rosander, Stevenson Public Works Director, Daniel Pitariu, Permits and Records Manager, Robert Muth, City Attorney**

Guests: Jeff Breckel, Aaron D. Lana

Public participants: Sam Kinestead, Kathryn Fitzgerald, Karen Pettijohn, Mary Repar

1. CALL TO ORDER/PRESENTATION TO THE FLAG: **Mayor Taylor** called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., led the group in reciting the pledge of allegiance and conducted roll call.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Written comments received regarding agenda items were included in meeting packet.

- Sam Kinestead was not in favor of the resolution regarding the sanctuary city.
- Karen Pettijohn spoke against the sanctuary city proposal.
- Kathryn Fitzgerald thanked Mayor and CC members. She spoke in favor of removing recordings of meetings from YT. She also spoke against the sanctuary city proposal.
- Mary Repar commented in favor of retaining the meeting recordings on YouTube. She also supported the resolution for the sanctuary city.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

A need for further clarity regarding rules and responsibilities the appointed representative to the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) would be subject to resulted in the removal of the appointment resolution from the agenda. Jeff Breckel will check with the Assistant Attorney General for further information.

4. CONSENT AGENDA: The following items were presented for Council approval.

Item **a)** was removed.

5. COUNCIL BUSINESS:

a) Resolution 2026- - Declaring the City of Stevenson a Sanctuary City for Gender Diverse Peoples. **Mayor Taylor** introduced the resolution. **Councilmember Lauser** noted the purpose was in support of freedom of expression, and requested further discussion, with no vote needed at tonight's meeting.

MOTION to adopt Resolution 2026- Declaring the City of Stevenson a Sanctuary City for Gender Diverse Peoples was made by **Councilmember Lauser.**

The motion died due to lack of second.

b) Rock Creek water intake – Discussion on funding and path forward

Cody Rosander, Public Works Director provided additional information on the decline in Rock Creek water intake amounts. Divers will assess potential damage or blockage to the intake. **Rosander** noted the winter's low snow pack levels have increased the risk of the water supply not meeting need during the summer. The Hegewald Well has been tested only short term. A priority is developing a second source with enough capacity. Potential cost of the project is approximately \$500,000 for design, physical work, and final product. He is meeting with staff from the Economic Development Council to determine what funding is available to support project needs.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a) Financial Report - The Treasurer's Report and year-to-date revenues and expenses through the prior month were presented for council review. This report was an inadvertent agenda item and not addressed.

7. MAYOR AND STAFF REPORTS:

a) Jenny Taylor, Interim City Administrator

b) Cody Rosander, Public Works Director

These reports were inadvertent agenda items and were not addressed.

8. ISSUES FOR THE NEXT MEETING: None reported

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Interview Council Applicants - Council interviewed Jeff Breckel and Aaron D. Lana for the open City Council position #4.

After applicant interviews, council entered an executive session at 7:04 p.m. under RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. The executive session was announced to be for 10 minutes.

The Council reconvened in open session at 7:15 p.m.

MOTION to appoint Jeff Breckel to City Council position #4 for the remainder of the term was made by **Councilmember Lauser**, seconded by **Councilmember Minnis**.

A voice vote was called for:

Councilmember Cox voted aye

Councilmember Van Pelt voted aye

Councilmember Lauser voted aye

Councilmember Ennis voted aye

City Attorney Muth explained **Breckel**, the designated appointee, would not be sworn in that night as he was still a serving member of the Stevenson Planning Commission and will need to resign that position prior to serving on the City Council.

10. ADJOURNMENT - **Mayor Taylor** adjourned the special meeting at 7:18.