



## Special Emergency Meeting Sumas City Council Meeting

Sumas City Hall, 433 Cherry Street, Sumas, WA 98295

Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 12:30 PM

### Minutes

#### PRESENT

Mayor Bruce Bosch

Council Member Jesse Clawson

Council Member Josh Clawson

Council Member Richard Postma

Council Member Todd Daniels

Council Member Jessica Koehler

#### 1. Opening Meeting - Pledge of Allegiance

#### 2. Citizen Input

Kyle Christensen, Whatcom Long Term Recovery Group, updated the council on the current flood situation. The Long-Term Recovery Group is currently stationed at the Advent Church, organizing volunteers to help residents with the clean-up process.

#### 3. New Business

##### a. Resolution No. 850 - An Emergency Declaration of the Mayor

Jim Wright, City Attorney explained the Mayor has made a proclamation declaring an emergency. The resolution ratifies Mayor Bosch's declaration and is confirmed by the council members.

Councilmember Koehler made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 850 An Emergency Declaration of the Mayor - Request for Public Assistance due to December 2025 Flood Event, Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor and the motion carried.

##### b. Flood Damage from December 2025 Winter Storm

Sunny Aulakh, Public Work Director, updated the council on current flood matters. They are dealing with Hovel Road culvert as a high priority with all the debris. Sunny explained that all the other culverts around town are also plugged up and not draining very well. Currently the federal government has not declared public assistance. Sunny would like to remove the culverts and install new ones without the guarantee of public assistance from the government.

Ross Widener, Widener Associates, explained he has looked into getting replacement culverts, it would cost approximately a million dollars to fix all the culverts in town.

Sunny is looking for directions from the council on whether to wait until approved for public assistance or take a chance to remove the culverts and not being reimbursed.

Councilmember Jesse Clawson agrees with the assessment it is time act but is concerned about the liability and the financial responsibly to the city. Discussion on how the city would be able to pay for this expense of removing the culverts if not being reimbursed by the federal public assistance. Councilmember Koehler asked the finance director how this project would be paid for; Mollie Bost, Finance Director, stated this could be a challenge to put the funds together and would have to do more research to see what could be done. No motion was made and no action was taken.

**4. Executive Session**

Discussion with legal counsel about current or potential litigation RCW 42.30.110.1(i) back on the record at 1:25 pm. No Action was taken.

**5. Adjournment**

Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilmember Koehler seconded; all were in favor and the motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_, City Clerk