



Sumas City Council Meeting

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

Monday, February 23, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Minutes

PRESENT

Mayor Bruce Bosch
Council Member Jesse Clawson
Council Member Josh Clawson
Council Member Todd Daniels
Council Member Jessica Koehler

ABSENT

Council Member Richard Postma

1. **Opening Meeting - Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Review/Correct and/or Approve Minutes**

- a. February 09, 2026, Draft Minutes

Councilmember Daniels made a motion to approve February 09, 2026, Minutes, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor and the motion carried.

3. **Public Hearing**

- a. Arrow Reload Conditional Use Permit Application

Carson Cortez, City Planner, re-opened the public hearing for Arrow Reload Conditional Use Permit Application at 300 Bob Mitchell Avenue. Carson explained after reviewing with Arrow about proposed measures we are satisfied with the safety of this project. The public works committee met with the applicants, Councilmember Daniels stated they were satisfied with Arrow, and they were meeting all the city's requirements. Discussion on flood measures Arrow has a plan to mitigate if a flood does occur. There is a course of action to get the rail cars out of the area.

Samantha Doering, Lynden, expressed concern over the rail cars coupling and shaking the building and making sure that this is safe with BNSF before adding flammable materials.

Steve Grant, Calgary Alberta and Matt Cook, Edmonton Alberta, Arrow Reload, both spoke. This project should not cause any more switching of rail cars. They want to diversify their business due to the lumber industry not being strong currently. They stated they have an excellent history dealing with flammable materials, which are above basic industry standards. Councilmember Koehler asked about any odor that may happen, they stated there should not really be an odor in the air due to the closed loop system they use.

Jacob Williams, Lincoln Circle, works for the railroad and advised the rail cars are made to withstand the coupling of the rail cars holding flammable materials.

Rich VanDiest, W Second Street, stated the ground shaking from the rail cars has been happening for years.

Councilmember Daniels made a motion to close the public hearing, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor and motion carried.

Councilmember Daniels made a motion to approve the Arrow Reload Conditional Use Permit Application, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Carson will bring back to the next council meeting a report of decision for review by the council.

4. Citizen Input

a. Nicole Sandoval Postma

Nicole Sandoval-Postma wrote a request to have a zoom option for the council meetings. Mayor Bosch addressed the zoom request and will offer a zoom link for a couple of months.

5. Old Business

a. Oleo Energies Inc. / Freeland & Associates, Inc. Conditional Use Permit Application

Carson Cortez, City Planner, has brought back to the council a report of decision that reflects a denial due to not meeting the requirements.

Mark Ruiter, Martins Feed, addressed the council about the denial, and believes he has not been able to address the council's concerns. Mr. Ruiter does believe the product he is proposing does not meet the standards of hazardous material and the conditional use permit application does not apply to this project proposed.

Council members wanted to meet in a closed session for further deliberations to discuss these matters.

6. New Business

a. Resolution No. 854 Adopting the City's Travel & Expense Reimbursement Policy

Mollie Bost, Finance Director, explained this policy addresses our travel and expense reimbursement for employees. The policy establishes guidelines for travel and reimbursement expense.

Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 854 Adopting the City's Travel & Expense Reimbursement Policy, Councilmember Daniels seconded; all were in favor and the motion carried.

- b. Resolution No. 855 - Declaring Certain Property Surplus and Authorizing Its Sale or Exchange

Daniel DeBruin, Police Chief, stated this an old police spare car and is no longer needed. The sale of the car will be advertised on our Facebook page and City website calling for sealed bids to be opened at the first council meeting in April.

Councilmember Jesse Clawson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 855 Declaring Certain Property Surplus and Authoring Its Sale or Exchange 2014 Ford Explorer, Councilmember Daniels seconded; all were in favor and the motion carried.

7. Flood Committee

Councilmember Josh Clawson attended the SWID board meeting; his understanding at this time there is no immediate action to be taken by the SWID. Councilmember Koehler stated the question was asked if the SWID was responsible for the ditches and river/streams within the city limits, Sunny advised hopefully at their next board meeting they will be able to answer that question. The county council meeting is tomorrow night they may discuss flood issues. Mayor Bosch had met with the Abbotsford Mayor about keeping pressure on the county regarding the flooding situation since they are affected too. Discussion on getting out of study stage and getting to action stage to address the flooding situation.

8. Staff Reports

Public Works Director

Sunny Aulakh updated that Hovel Road is going to be paved by the end of the week or the beginning of next. Sunny stated the crew will be going through town to check the sidewalks for debris.

Finance Director

Mollie Bost advised the finance committee had met to go over the financial statements. Councilmember Daniels stated they had gone over December and January checkbook reconciliations and the fourth quarter capital projects for year end of 2025. Discussion on the property taxes and devaluing the properties due to flood, this will affect what the city receives in 2026. Mollie also said the City has spent on flood expenses \$610,000.00 and there will be another \$500,000.00 in bills in the future.

9. Voucher Approvals

The bills were presented for approval and payment. Check numbers 44954-44974 in the amount of \$141,283.59 and EFTs for \$120,190.62. Councilmember Daniels made a motion to pay the bills, Councilmember Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor and the motion carried.

10. Executive Session

Deliberation regarding a CUP Application for approximately 15 minutes to be back on record at 8:10 pm. Back in regular session no action was taken, the meeting was open to the public, which they were advised more time is needed for further deliberation; will be back on record at 8:35 pm. Council has directed a new draft report of decision will be brought back to the council for further review.

11. Adjournment

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

_____, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____, City Clerk