

MEETING MINUTES

TUMWATER CITY COUNCIL
August 19, 2025



CONVENE: 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Debbie Sullivan and Councilmembers Peter Agabi, Michael Althaus, Joan Cathey, Angela Jefferson, Eileen Swarthout, and Kelly Von Holtz.

Excused: Councilmember Leatta Dahlhoff

Staff: City Administrator Lisa Parks, City Attorney Karen Kirkpatrick, Acting Deputy Chief Carlos Quiles Jr., Community Development Director Brad Medrud, Transportation & Engineering Director Brandon Hicks, Parks & Recreation Director Chuck Denney, Finance Director Troy Niemeyer, Water Resources & Sustainability Director Dan Smith, Communication Manager Jason Wettstein, and Deputy City Clerk Tracie Core.

Others: Kara Krnacik, DHM Research

SPECIAL ITEMS:

**PROCLAMATION:
INTERNATIONAL
OVERDOSE
AWARENESS DAY,
AUGUST 31, 2025** Councilmember Agabi read a proclamation declaring August 31, 2025, as International Overdose Awareness Day. The proclamation seeks to create a better understanding of overdoses, reduce the stigma of drug related deaths and create change that reduces the harms associated with drug use.

Mayor Sullivan presented a copy of the proclamation to Katari Wimsett with the Thurston County Public Department

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was given by resident Holthaus.

**CONSENT
CALENDAR:**

- a. Approval of Minutes: City Council Strategic Planning Retreat Minutes, June 7, 2025
- b. Approval of Minutes: City Council Strategic Planning Retreat Minutes, June 28, 2025
- c. Approval of Minutes: City Council Work Session, July 8, 2025
- d. Approval of Minutes: City Council, July 15, 2025
- e. Approval of Minutes: City Council Work Session, July 22, 2025
- f. Payment of Vouchers
- g. Department of Enterprise Services (DES) Contract Usage Agreement

MOTION:

Councilmember Von Holtz, moved, seconded by Councilmember Althausser, to approve the Consent Calendar as published. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING:

**RESOLUTION NO.
R2025-011, 93rd
AVENUE SW & CASE
ROAD SW
ANNEXATION**

Director Medrud gave a presentation on the 93rd Avenue SW & Case Road SW Annexation to seek adoption of R2025-011.

The proposed annexation area consists of two parcels located northwest of the intersection of 93rd Avenue SW and Case Road SW that is 10.74 acres in size.

Mayor Sullivan opened the public hearing at 7:15 p.m. and closed the public hearing at 7:16 p.m. There was no public testimony.

MOTION:

Councilmember Agabi, moved, seconded by Councilmember Althausser, to adopt Resolution No. R2025-011. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

**COUNCIL
CONSIDERATIONS:**

**COMMUNITY SERVEY
RESULTS**

Kara Krnacik from DHM Research presented results from research done to assess community satisfaction with City services and to gather feedback on emerging priorities to inform the City's strategic plan. DHM's research established a baseline of city satisfaction and priorities to measure changes over time.

273 residents participated in the online survey that the city distributed and promoted using various outreach methods including email distribution lists, social media posts, external newsletters, physical handouts, word of mouth and more.

The following areas were covered in the survey:

- General mood
- Government performance and resident priorities
- Public Safety
- Homelessness
- Community growth and environmental perceptions

**REAL ESTATE
CONTRACT WITH
LOTT FOR PURCHASE
OF DESCHUTES
VALLEY PROPERTIES**

Director Smith presented a real estate contract with LOTT for purchase of the Deschutes Valley Properties. The following areas were covered in the presentation:

- How did we get here?
- What did we learn?
- What's in the contract?
- Where do we go from here?

The total cost for this project is \$3,433,158.66 with \$2,952,156.45 coming from the general fund and \$480,642.21 coming from Stormwater.

MOTION:

Councilmember Swarthout, moved, seconded by Councilmember Cathey, to approve the real estate contract with LOTT Clean Water Alliance for the purchase of Deschutes Valley properties. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

**PUBLIC HEALTH &
SAFETY:
*Peter Agabi***

Councilmember Agabi reported that the next Public Health & Safety Committee meeting is on September 9, 2025, and on that agenda there is an item for the School Resource Officer contract.

**GENERAL
GOVERNMENT:
*Michael Althausen***

Councilmember Althausen reported that the General Government Committee has not met and will not meet again until September 10, 2025.

**PUBLIC WORKS:
*Eileen Swarthout***

Councilmember Swarthout reported that the Public Works Committee has not met, but will be meeting this Thursday to receive a briefing on the 2025 Comprehensive Transportation

Plan and about getting authority to solicit bids for the 2nd Avenue and Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project.

BUDGET & FINANCE:
Debbie Sullivan

Mayor Sullivan reported that the Budget and Finance Committee will be meeting this Friday. They will be going over the Monthly Financial Update and the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement.

**MAYOR/CITY
ADMINISTRATOR'S
REPORT:**

Administrator Parks gave an update on the Crisis Response Program which is set to launch in October 2025. The 2025 Pavement Maintenance Program is continuing with some changes including delaying the repaving of the roundabouts on Littlerock until it can be done as a full project because of the costly traffic control. Administrator Parks also gave a shout out to our transportation crew, contractors and communications staff for working collaboratively to keep the public informed of all road projects. Administrator Parks reminded everyone that next week school starts and to be mindful while driving in Tumwater.

Mayor Sullivan reported that Council has been on their annual summer recess for the past three weeks. During the recess she attended a ribbon cutting for a business in the industrial area, attended a few meetings and several events including the Thurston County Fair, National Night Out and a memorial for Fire Captain Lyall Smith

**COUNCILMEMBER
REPORTS:**

Councilmembers Jefferson, Von Holtz, Agabi and Swarhout reported on meetings and events attended. Councilmembers Cathey and Althausser had no meetings to report on.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business, Mayor Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Prepared by Tracie Core, Deputy City Clerk