

**CITY OF OKANOGAN
COUNCIL MINUTES
August 19, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Okanogan City Council was called to order by Mayor Turner at 7:00 p.m. and those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were:

Present: Mayor Wayne L. Turner Councilmembers: Rob Gillespie (arrived at 7:02 pm), Eric Lind Sr., John Lyles, Greg Oyler, Steve Streeter, and Denise Varner.

Also Present: Clerk Treasurer Jessica Blake, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Susan Stewart, Public Works Director Shawn Davisson, and Fire Chief Brad Armstrong.

Excused: Lisa Bauer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Turner asked if there were any alterations to the Agenda or Consent Agenda. Oyler moved, seconded by Lind, Sr. to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Turner asked if there were any objections to the motion. Seeing no objection raised, the motion passed without objection.

EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Lisa Bauer was excused with passage of the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting and Public Hearing of August 05, 2025 were approved with passage of the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Claims Vouchers numbered 56403 through 56447 dated August 19, 2025 in the amount of \$130,388.75, and Debit Transactions dated June 02, 2025 through July 08, 2025 in the amount of \$23,443.59 were approved with the Consent Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Turner opened the floor for Public Comment. Seeing none raised, Public Comment was closed.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Director of Public Works Shawn Davisson submitted a written report. In addition, he announced the following:

- ❖ Performed monitoring the 3rd Avenue Project
- ❖ Addressed power loss issues which shut down Murray Street Booster station causing both motors to single phase and eventually lose a motor resulting in water not being pumped to residents
- ❖ Further investigation by both the City and the Okanogan Historical Society with regards to the Queen Street Vault resulted in the conclusion that it is an old cistern: it will be cleaned out, compacted, and filled in so the asphalt can be ground up and the street can be repaired

Building Official/Permit Administrator Bryan Forbus was excused from the meeting.

Fire Chief Brad Armstrong submitted a written report. In addition, he announced the following:

- ❖ Updated Department stats from 164 calls to 169 calls to date
- ❖ The Green Acres, Brooks Tracts, and Salmon Creek fires are still under investigation
- ❖ Continuing to test an 800 Mhz radio in preparation for the upcoming conversion from the VHS frequency currently used by Okanogan County, however since this is the only one currently in use it is difficult to explore all the aspects it may be capable of. In addition, Forest Service and DNR are not switching to the 800 Mhz from VHS so there is a need to have cards which would enable the use of VHS/800 Mhz to continue communication with them during wildland fires.
- ❖ The AFG grant that was applied for in December 2024 is currently on hold.

Code Enforcement/Assistant Permit Administrator Craig Caswell submitted a written report and was excused from the meeting.

Clerk Treasurer Blake submitted a written report. In addition, she announced the following:

- ❖ Working on 2026 Budget
- ❖ Submitted an Ecology Grant for a little over \$13,000.00 for future Clean-Up events

Sheriff's Office submitted a written report and was not present at the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports on the Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Gray & Osborne, Inc. Amendment 24 – WWTF Improvement Design

Public Works Director Davisson introduced the Gray & Osborne, Inc. Amendment 24.

Lyles moved, seconded by Gillespie to approve the Gray & Osborne, Inc. Amendment 24 and authorize Mayor Turner to sign the Amendment.

There was a brief discussion.

Ayes: Lyles, Oyler, Streeter, Varner, Gillespie, and Lind, Sr.

Noes: None

Motion carried: 6 Ayes: 0 Noes

Airport Liability Insurance Renewal

Clerk Treasurer Blake introduced the Airport Liability Insurance 2025 – 2026.

Varner moved, seconded by Streeter that the City approve the 2025 – 2026 liability premium of \$2,688.00.

There was no discussion.

Ayes: Oyler, Streeter, Gillespie, Lyles, Lind, Sr., and Varner

Noes: None

Motion carried: 6 Ayes: 0 Noes

Ordinance No. 1248 – Business Taxes, Licenses, and Regulations

Clerk Treasurer Blake introduced Ordinance No. 1248 – Business Taxes, Licenses, and Regulations.

Lind, Sr., moved, seconded by Lyles to adopt Ordinance No. 1248.

There was a brief discussion.

Ayes: Lind, Sr., Lyles, Varner, Gillespie, Oyler, and Streeter

Noes: None

Motion carried: 6 Ayes: 0 Noes

Okanogan Legion Airport Capital Improvement Plan

Public Works Director Davisson introduced the Okanogan Legion Airport Capital Improvement Plan.

Varner moved, seconded by Gillespie to approve the Okanogan Legion Airport Capital Improvement Plan.

There was no discussion.

Ayes: Gillespie, Lyles, Lind, Sr., Oyler, Streeter, and Varner

Noes: None

Motion carried: 6 Ayes: 0 Noes

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Turner opened the floor and invited Public Comment. Seeing none offered, Public Comment was closed.

COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENT

Varner announced the following:

- ❖ Harvest Fest is October 4th – Vendor registration will be done online at www.okchamber.com, There will not be a pig roast or fun run this year, there will be a pet parade and other activities
- ❖ Preparing for the upcoming America 250 Celebration
- ❖ Will not be in attendance at the October 7th Council meeting

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Turner announced that he will not be in attendance at the September 16th or October 7th Council meetings and requested that Councilmember Varner attend the Trango meeting in his place.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Deputy Clerk Treasurer Susan Stewart

APPROVED:

Wayne L. Turner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jessica Blake, Clerk Treasurer