CITY OF OKANOGAN
COUNCIL MINUTES
October 21, 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.

OPEN RECORD PUBLIC HEARING: Revenue Source Hearing
Ordinance No.1249 Ad Valorem 1% Property Tax Increase for 2026
Ordinance No.1250 2026 Fee Schedule

Mayor Turner opened the Revenue Source public hearing at 7:00 p.m. by stating the purpose of the hearing is to take relevant testimony on the City's proposed revenue sources for the 2026 budget year, including consideration of possible increases in property tax revenue and 2026 fee schedule.

Mayor Turner provided for any challenges to the Council's jurisdiction. There were none stated.

Mayor Turner provided the opportunity for the disclosure of any conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues or disclose any pertinent information. There was none stated.

Mayor Turner provided the opportunity for the disclosure of any ex-parte communication, such that everyone will have the benefit of the information. There were none stated.

Mayor Turner asked if there was anyone present who wished to challenge any of the Council, or himself as the Hearing Chairman, for conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues in conducting this hearing. There were none stated.

Mayor Turner opened the testimony portion of the hearing at 7:01 p.m. with the presentation of the Staff Report and then will provide for any Petitioners who desires to speak the opportunity, then those who signed in the opportunity to present testimony and then anyone present to present testimony, stating your name and address clearly please. No testimony given.

Mayor Turner asked for Staff to provide a Staff Report. Clerk-Treasurer Blake provided the Staff Report and reviewed the information provided to the council.

Mayor Turner provided an opportunity for the Council to ask direct questions.

Mayor Turner provided opportunity for Petitioners and Staff to rebut. There was no rebuttal offered.

Mayor Turner provided the opportunity for discussion amongst the Council. There was none.

Mayor Turner closed the hearing portion of the meeting at 7:03 p.m. and stated that during the business portion of the meeting the Council may discuss the ordinances.

The following were:

Present: Mayor Wayne L. Turner Councilmembers: Lisa Bauer, Greg Oyler, Eric Lind Sr., John Lyles, Robert Gillespie, Steve Streeter. Denise Varner was present through zoom.

Also Present: Clerk-Treasurer Jessica Blake, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Susan Stewart, Fire Chief Brad Armstrong, and Public Works Director Shawn Davisson. Present through Zoom Undersheriff Dave Yarnell of the Okanogan County Sheriff's Office.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Turner asked if there were any alterations to the Agenda or Consent Agenda. Oyler moved, seconded by Bauer 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

There were no pre-excused Councilmembers on the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting of October 7, 2025, and the minutes of the Budget Workshop Meeting of October 7, 2025 were approved with passage of the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Claims Vouchers numbered 56639 through 56668 dated October 21, 2025 in the amount of $174,983.91 were approved with the Consent Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

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

- Performed pouring sidewalk on Queen Street
- The Okanogan Kiwanis spent 67 hours on the completion of gazebo repairs at Legion Park
- Notice of Substantial completion was issued for the 3rd Avenue Project
- Attended the IACC Conference in Wenatchee
- Seasonal employees completed the season
- Michael Cannon's last day with the City was October 17th, 2025
- Will be conducting a Mechanic Interview on October 22nd, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Building Official/Permit Administrator Bryan Forbus did not submit a written report and was excused from the meeting.

Fire Chief Armstrong submitted a written report, and in addition announced the following:

- Updated call numbers for 2025 increased from 209 to 222
- Added another Wildland fire today which burned 20 acres

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

City Planner Chris Johnson did not submit a written report and was not present at the meeting.

Clerk's Office submitted a written report, and in addition announced the following:

- Scheduled 2nd Grade City Hall Tours on October 30th, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., three classes will participate
- Tourism Meeting on Thursday, October 23rd, 2025 at 3:15 p.m. at City Hall to discuss Hotel/Motel requests

Sheriff's Office submitted a written report and Undersheriff Yarnell reviewed the information in the report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports on the Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 1249 - Ad Valorem 1% Property Tax Increase for 2026 - 1st Reading

Clerk Treasurer Blake introduced Ordinance No. 1249: Ad Valorem 1% Property Tax Increase for 2026 for a 1st Reading.

Lyles moved, seconded by Varner to advance Ordinance No. 1249 to the November 4th, 2025 regular Council Meeting for a second reading.

There was no discussion.

Mayor Turner asked if there were any objections to the motion. Seeing none, the motion passed without objection.

Ordinance No. 1250 - 2026 Fee Schedule - 1st Reading

Clerk Treasurer Blake introduced Ordinance No. 1250: 2026 Fee Schedule – 1st Reading.

Lind, Sr. moved, seconded by Bauer to advance Ordinance No. 1250 to a second reading at the November 4th, 2025 regular Council Meeting.

There was a brief discussion.

Mayor Turner asked if there were any objections to the motion. Seeing none, the motion passed without objection.

City of Okanogan Reservoir Cleaning & Inspection Contract Award

Public Works Director Davisson introduced the City of Okanogan Reservoir Cleaning & Inspection Contract Award.

Gillespie moved, seconded by Streeter to approve Integrated Underwater Services estimate and award the contract in the amount of $21,832.20.

There was a brief discussion.

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

Noes: None

Motion carried: 7 Ayes: 0 Noes

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENT

Bauer reported she attended the 2nd Harvest Food Event at Omak's Eastside Park handing out food to individuals in need

Bauer announced DSHS could be laying off 130 staff members and SNAP benefits would not be provided to approximately 5,300 people in Okanogan County if the Federal Budget doesn't get passed

Varner announced Chamber Farm Lights Parade and festivities will be held on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025 and encouraged everyone to attend and participate.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Turner expressed his appreciation to Council and Staff for allowing him time for his travels to 4 Providences and Maine

Mayor Turner announced his intentions to attend the "Elected Officials Essentials" training on December 6th, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and encouraged the Councilmembers to get registered if they would like to attend also.

Mayor Turner reported he and Clerk-Treasurer Blake attended a Questions & Answers meeting with Okanogan County Sheriff's Office and North Central Washington Drug Task Force members this morning. He continued by saying he would like to have a Public Safety Committee meeting prior to the November 4th, 2025 Council Meeting to discuss the information that was shared at the Q & A meeting.

Mayor Turner reported he and Councilmember Bauer attended the last WA-CELI session prior to his vacation and established their priority is to focus on blight abatement; they would like to meet with Staff and Council sometime in January 2026 to discuss options regarding how to move forward.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Deput Clerk Treasurer Susan Stewart

APPROVED:

Wayne L. Turner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jessica Blake, Clerk Treasurer