CITY OF OKANOGAN
COUNCIL MINUTES

March 3, 2026

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: City of Okanogan 2026 Water System Plan and Water Use Efficiency Goal Setting

Mayor Turner opened the 2026 Water System Plan and Water Use Efficiency Goals public hearing at 7:00 p.m. by stating the purpose of the hearing is to take relevant testimony on the City's proposed water system plan and water use efficiency goals to be used in the management and operation of the City's water system.

Mayor Turner opened the testimony portion of the hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Turner provided for those who signed in the opportunity to present testimony and then anyone else present may also give testimony, please state your name and address. There were none stated.

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

Mayor Turner closed the hearing portion of the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

The following were:

Present: Mayor Turner Councilmembers: Greg Oyler, Rob Gillespie, Eric Lind, Denise Varner, Steve Streeter, Lisa Bauer and John Lyles.

Also Present: City Clerk-Treasurer Jessica Blake, Utilities Clerk Laura Divis, Public Works Director Shawn Davisson, Fire Chief Brad Armstrong, Building Official Bryan Forbus and Code Enforcement Craig Caswell.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Turner asked if there were any alterations to the Agenda or Consent Agenda. Varner 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 February 17, 2026 were approved with passage of the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Claims Vouchers numbered 57092 through 57133 dated March 3, 2026 in the amount of $91,714.75, a Debit Card Transaction dated February 2, 2026 in the amount of $137.50, and a Debit Card Transaction dated February 10, 2026 in the amount of $165.00 were approved with the Consent Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Director of Public Works Davisson submitted a written report and in addition announced:

- Water Manager Featherly performed submitting the annual water use efficiency report to DOH.
- Continuing to advertise for seasonal maintenance position, which closes Friday, March 6th at 3:30pm.
- Chad Patterson attended safety training at North Idaho Community College.

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

- Spring cleanup is April 11th, customers can get 20 paper yard bags from city hall starting March 23rd.
- City staff will be participating in Okanogan Days parade with a float. Councilmembers who would like to participate are welcome to join.

Fire Chief Brad Armstrong submitted a written report and updated department stats to 21.

Code Enforcement/Animal Control Officer Craig Caswell submitted a written report and reviewed his report to council.

Building Official/Permit Administrator Bryan Forbus did not submit a written report but announced:

- Issued permit for a new house on Parks Dr.
- Working with Okanogan School District on SEPA application and current development.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There was no Committee Reports on the Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance 1253
Mayor Turner introduced Ordinance 1253 - Parking.

Bauer moved, seconded by Lyles to adopt Ordinance 1253.

There was a brief discussion.

Vote on the motion.

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

Noes: None

Motion Carried: 7 Ayes: 0 Noes

NEW BUSINESS

Water Plan Update/ Water Use Efficiency Goals Adoption
Mayor Turner asked Dave Ellis of Gray & Osborne to present the Water Use Efficiency Goals and Water System Plan Updates to council.

Varner moved, seconded by Lyles to adopt the Water Use Efficiency Goals presented by Gray & Osborne and approve submission of the Water System Plan update to DOH for review.

There was a brief discussion.

Vote on the motion.

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

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

Councilmember Varner announced:

- Chamber meeting March 4th at 12pm at the Cariboo, if anyone would like to attend. Discussing America's 250 plans.
- April 25th is Food Truck Festival.

Councilmember Gillespie commented on removal of holiday lights and banners.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Turner announced:

- He has been selected as an AWC Scholarship Committee Member.

- Finlay Weston, the City's AWC Scholarship nominee, was awarded the University of Washington Presidential Scholarship.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Utilities Clerk Laura Divis

APPROVED:

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Wayne Turner, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

Jessica Blake, Clerk-Treasurer