Battle Ground City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 5, 2026

The regular meeting of the Battle Ground City Council was called to order in the Battle Ground Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. by Senior Councilmember Shane Bowman. The meeting was recorded via Zoom and live-streamed on YouTube.

Senior Councilmember Shane Bowman announced that per the rules of the Legislative Body, he would chair the meeting until the new Mayor has been selected.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

City Clerk Elizabeth Halili called the roll. The following were present:

COUNCIL:	Mayor Eric Overholser, Deputy Mayor Vaile, and Councilmembers Troy McCoy, Shane Bowman, Victoria Ferrer, Jeanie Kuypers, and Brian Munson
ABSENT:	None.
STAFF:	City Manager Kristina Swanson, Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier, Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery, Police Chief Dennis Flynn, Public Works Director Mark Herceg, Community Development Director Kristin Lehto, Communications Manager and Public Information Officer Alisha Smith, Acting City Attorney Aziza Foster, and City Clerk Elizabeth Halili.

OATH OF OFFICE **7:01 p.m.**

Councilmember Troy McCoy, Position No. 1; Councilmember Jeanie Kuypers, Position No. 4; Councilmember Aimee Vaile, Position No. 5; and Councilmember Brian Munson, Position No. 6.

City Clerk Elizabeth Halili administered the Oath of Office to Councilmembers McCoy, Kuypers, Vaile, and Munson.

MAYORAL SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT **7:10 p.m.**

Councilmember Bowman briefly outlined the Mayoral selection process.

City Clerk Halili called for nominations for the office of Mayor, term expiration December 31, 2027

Nominations:
Councilmember Ferrer nominated Councilmember Overholser
Councilmember Bowman nominated Councilmember McCoy

Council cast their votes for Mayor by concealed ballot.
Votes:
Councilmember McCoy for Councilmember McCoy
Councilmember Bowman for Councilmember McCoy
Councilmember Ferrer for Councilmember Overholser
Councilmember Kuypers for Councilmember McCoy
Councilmember Vaile for Councilmember Overholser
Councilmember Munson for Councilmember Overholser
Councilmember Overholser for Councilmember Overholser

City Clerk Halili announced the selection of Councilmember Overholser as Mayor.

Mayor Overholser took the Mayoral Oath of Office and was seated at the dais to Chair the remainder of the meeting.

DEPUTY MAYORAL SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT **7:20 p.m.**
Mayor Overholser briefly outlined the Deputy Mayoral selection process.

City Clerk Halili called for nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor, term expiration December 31, 2027

Nominations:
Councilmember Munson nominated Councilmember Vaile
Councilmember Bowman nominated Councilmember Ferrer. Councilmember Ferrer denied the nomination.
Councilmember Overholser nominated Councilmember McCoy. Councilmember McCoy denied the nomination.

No other nominations were made; therefore, City Clerk Halili announced the selection of Councilmember Aimee Vaile as Deputy Mayor.

Deputy Mayor Vaile took the Deputy Mayoral Oath of Office and was seated at the dais.

Mayor Overholser announced a brief recess at 7:27 p.m.
Mayor Overholser reconvened the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA **7:29 p.m.**
MOTION: Councilmember McCoy moved to approve the agenda as presented.
SECOND: Councilmember Ferrer
VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

SUMMARY REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS **7:30 p.m.**
Councilmember Reports:

- Councilmember Bowman – Discovery Clean Water Alliance Board meeting report.
  Public Works Director Mark Herceg responded to questions from the Council.

Mayor's Report:

- **Salary Commission Position No. 1 Re-appointment: Neil Butler, 3-Year Term January 1, 2026 –**

December 31, 2028
Mayor Overholser called for a motion to approve the re-appointment of Neil Butler to Salary Commission Position No. 1, 3-Year Term ending on December 31, 2028.

MOTION: Councilmember Bowman moved to approve the re-appointment of Neil Butler to Salary Commission Position No. 1, 3-Year Term ending on December 31, 2028.
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers
VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

- **Planning Commission Position No. 2 Appointment: Gary Obermeyer, 4-Year Term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029**
Mayor Overholser thanked outgoing Commissioner Janette Chumley for her service to the Battle Ground Community on the Planning Commission and called for a motion to approve the appointment of Gary Obermeyer to Planning Commission Position #2 for a 4-Year term ending on December 31, 2029

MOTION: Councilmember McCoy moved to approve the approve the appointment of Gary Obermeyer to Planning Commission Position #2, term ending December 31, 2029.
SECOND: Councilmember Bowman
VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

- **C-TRAN Board of Directors Council Liaison and Alternate Appointments**
Mayor Overholser called for volunteers from the Council to serve as Council Liaison delegate or alternate delegate on the C-TRAN Board of Directors.

MOTION: Councilmember Munson moved to appoint Mayor Overholser as Council Liaison Delegate to the CTRAN Board of Directors, term ending December 31, 2026.
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers
VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

MOTION: Councilmember Kuypers moved to appoint Councilmember McCoy as alternate Council Liaison to the CTRAN Board of Directors, term ending December 31, 2026.
Motion failed due to lack of a second.

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to appoint Councilmember Ferrer as alternate Council Liaison to the CTRAN Board of Directors, term ending December 31, 2026.
SECOND: Councilmember McCoy
VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

- **Columbia River Economic Development Council (CREDC) Council Liaison Appointment**
Mayor Overholser added the Columbia River Economic Development Council (CREDC) Council Liaison Appointment to the Agenda and called for a Councilmember to serve as Council Liaison to the CREDC.

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to appoint Councilmember Kuypers as Council Liaison to the CREDC Board.
SECOND: Councilmember Vaile
VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

MOTION: Councilmember McCoy moved that we include the nominations to the C-TRAN Board to

be our representatives on the Board Composition Committee as well.
SECOND: Ferrer
VOTE Motion carried 7-0

Presentations:

- **Serving Beyond the Badge: Thanksgiving Edition & Recognition**
  Police Chief Dennis Flynn delivered a brief statement and formally acknowledged Lori Lindberg, Max Boothe, Bev Jones, Devon and Jocelyn Owen, as well as local businesses, for their contributions and support of the Service Beyond the Badge Thanksgiving Event, presenting each with a Certificate of Appreciation.
- **Battle Ground Police Department New Badge Presentation**
  Police Chief Dennis Flynn presented the new Battle Ground Police Department badge design to the Council.
- **City of Battle Ground 75th Anniversary Celebration Planning**
  Communications Manager and Public Information Officer Alisha Smith presented current plans and ideas for the Battle Ground 75th Anniversary Celebration to the Council.

  The Council discussed the presentation and thanked Ms. Smith for her work on the project.

  Alisha Smith responded to questions from the Council.
  Director Lowery requested the Council email Alisha Smith with ideas.

CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS **8:14 p.m.**

- *Wynn Grcich provided public comment.*
- *Jessica Cole provided public comment*
- *Ed Staton provided public comment*
- *Richard Oliver provided public comment*
- *Brian Levesque provided public comment*
- *Jim Driehorst provided public comment*
- *Erik Young provided public comment*

CONSENT AGENDA **8:34 p.m.**

A. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2025
B. Claim Vouchers dated 12/09/2025 #98857-#98932, and Bank Drafts, in the amount of $1,771,381.84
C. Claim Vouchers dated 12/16/2025 #98933-#99003, and Bank Drafts, in the amount of $287,806.64
D. Claim Vouchers dated 12/23/2025 #99004-#99054, and Bank Drafts, in the amount of $1,146,982.41
E. Payroll dated 12/10/25, direct deposits of $301,956.80 for a total payroll of $301,956.80. No vouchers were issued in this payroll.
F. Payroll dated 12/23/2025, voucher #29295 in the amount of $2,616.44, and direct deposits of $311,485.20 for a total payroll of $314,101.64
G. 2026-2031 Intergovernmental Agreement for Grounds, Equipment, and Maintenance ("GEM") Services
H. SW Eaton Boulevard Improvements – ROW Purchase Approval - Schlecht
I. SW Eaton Boulevard Improvements – ROW Purchase Approval – WMR

MOTION: Councilmember Ferrer moved to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety as presented.
SECOND: Councilmember Kuypers

VOTE: Motion carried 7-0

PUBLIC HEARINGS **8:35 p.m.**

Ordinance No. 2026-01: KinderCare Utility Easement Vacation: Presentation/Public Hearing/Motion
Presented by Public Works Director Mark Herceg.
Summary: Council heard public testimony and considered the adoption of Ordinance 2026-01: KinderCare Utility Easement Vacation.

Director Herceg provided a brief presentation.

Mayor Overholser opened the public hearing at 8:36 p.m.

- *None provided public testimony*

Mayor Overholser closed the public hearing at 8:37 p.m.

City Clerk Halili read the title of Ordinance 2026-01

MOTION: Councilmember McCoy moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-01 vacating a portion of a utility easement as presented.
SECOND: Councilmember Ferrer
VOTE: Motion carried 7-0
AYES: Mayor Overholser, Deputy Mayor Vaile and Councilmembers McCoy, Bowman, Ferrer, Kuypers, Vaile, and Munson

BUSINESS **8:40 p.m.**

- None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS **8:40 p.m.**

- *City Manager Kris Swanson reminded Councilmembers of Bi-Weekly meetings and setting a date for the upcoming Council Retreat in March. Kris Swanson also reminded Council of the Council Liaison Positions that are open and requested interest by January 20, 2026. City Manager Swanson noted that a Public Hearing will be held on January 8, 2026 at 6:30 for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update. Each City will be offered up to 10 minutes each to provide testimony. Swanson strongly encouraged members of the Council to attend.*
- *Public Works Director Mark Herceg reported on the Parkway and Main Signal project and Right of Ways.*

CONSENSUS was reached by Council to allow staff to move forward with Right of Way offers for the Parkway and Main Signal Project.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS **8:44 p.m.**

- *Councilmember Ferrer:*
    - *Requested an update regarding the WSDOT decision on the Dollars Corner 35 mph Zone*
      Public Works Director Herceg responded to questions from Councilmember Ferrer.
    - *Informed Staff that she has received a concern from a citizen informing her that the skate park lights haven't been on since the storm. Councilmember Ferrer wanted to know if the lights were off due to the Christmas lighting.*
      Public Works Director Herceg responded.
- *Councilmember Ferrer and Councilmember Kuypers: Requested a review of the city's RV Parking Ordinance and communications process be placed on an upcoming Council Agenda.*

CONSENSUS was reached by Council to add the RV parking ordinance and communications process to a study session at the first meeting in February.

- *Councilmember Kuypers: Thanked prior Mayor McCoy & prior Deputy Mayor Bowman for their service to the Council and Battle Ground community.*
- *Councilmember McCoy: Recommended a fee holiday if the RV Parking Ordinance is planned to come before council.*
  Police Chief Flynn responded to questions from the Council

CONSENSUS was reached by Council to direct staff to place a moratorium on the fees for the past 2 months and revisit the code at an upcoming meeting.

- *Mayor Overholser thanked the prior Mayor and Deputy Mayor, McCoy and Bowman, for their service to the Council and the Community.*

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 – No Study Session – Regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Eric Overholser (Jan 28, 2026 17:07:06 PST)

Eric Overholser
Mayor

Elizabeth Halili
City Clerk

Date of approval by the City Council: January 20, 2026

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2026 01 05 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report 2026-01-29

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