

Mayor Anderson called the Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council to order. Stephanie, from the Reign Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Veryl Anderson led the flag salute. Councilmembers in attendance were Jim Hill, Lisa Alexander, Mike Karnofski, Brian Wood, Jackie Collins, and Veryl Anderson. Councilmember Harvey was absent.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Upon motion by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, 'Approve the agenda with the addition of item 4.1, Employee Recognition by Public Works.' Motion passed, all voting yes

MINUTES: Upon motion by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Collins, 'Approve the Minutes of the July 7, 2026 Regular Meeting.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

PRESENTATIONS:

Employee Recognitions: Public Works Manager Devin Mackin recognized Public Works employees Austin Tucker and Tommy Myrick for their actions in ensuring the safety of a child.

2026 HOME Funding Allocations: City of Longview Program Coordinator Specialist Kenny Robinson provided an overview of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. However, he was unable to complete the planned presentation because the program's only applicant withdrew their application. As a result, no funding recommendations were available for consideration. Robinson noted that \$50,124 remains available for allocation once an eligible project is identified. During the public hearing, he suggested that the council discuss potential options for the use of the available funds.

Bonnie Delaney-Mount St. Helens 50th Anniversary: Bonnie Delaney from the Chamber of Commerce presented a proposal for a regional tourism initiative centered around the 50th anniversary of Mount St. Helens in 2030, requesting the city's financial support.

CITIZENS BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING - 2026 HOME Program Allocations: City of Longview Program Coordinator Specialist Kenny Robinson reported that the sole applicant had withdrawn their application. As a result, \$50,124 remained available for allocation with no project currently eligible for funding. Mr. Robinson presented options for Council consideration regarding the available funds.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 6:48 PM. There being no comment from the public, Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 6:50 PM.

Finance Director/City Clerk Brian Butterfield: Announced that budget books had been sent to department heads to begin the preliminary stages of the 2027-2028 biennial budget process.

City Attorney Stewart Feil: No report

Community Development/City Engineer Mike Kardas: Provided an update on current projects.

Public Works Manager Devin Mackin: Provided an update on current and upcoming work being performed by staff.

Chief of Police Rich Fletcher: No report.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Jim Hill: No report.

Keenan Harvey: Absent.

Lisa Alexander: Reported on the park board meeting she attended.

Mike Karnofski: Reported on various meetings he attended and upcoming local events.

Brian Wood: Provided an update on the progress of ongoing airport projects.

Jackie Collins: No report.

Veryl Anderson: Reported on local events and various meetings she attended.

There being no further business, Mayor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:25 PM.


MAYOR


CITY CLERK