



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2026

6:00 PM

Civic Center

City Council	Mayor/Councilmember Matthew Hartman, Mayor Pro Tem/Councilmember David Griggs, Councilmember Steven Glenn, Councilmember Bruce Straughn
City Council Absent	Councilmember Tom FitzGerald
Planning Commission	Chair/Commissioner Frederick Cruger, Commissioner Scott Morrison
Planning Commission Absent	Commissioner Jude Anderson, Commissioner Laura Houk, Commissioner Loren Tonsgard
City Staff	City Clerk Darla Wilkins, City Manager Jeff Balentine, Deputy City Manager Brent Kirk, Public Works Director Charles White, Planning Director Amy Hess
Consultants	

1. CALL TO ORDER (VIA IN-PERSON)

Mayor Pro Tem David Griggs called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Pro Tem David Griggs led the Council, Staff and Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

3. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Wilkins verbally called out both the City Council and the Planning Commission members' names and took note of the meeting attendance.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.a. Public Records Training Questions & Answers (Joint Planning Commission & City Council Training)

Both City Council and Planning Commission members and staff received a training link on "*The Basics of Managing Records*."

Sean Reichard, Senior Records Consultant with the Washington State Archives Office, was present at the meeting to help answer questions on the training video, along with current legislation, and grants.

4.b. Discussion of 10317 Jordan Road Property Concern

Public Works Director Charles White discussed an ongoing Douglas-fir tree issue along the northern property line at 10317 Jordan Rd. This city-owned property is used by the Granite Falls Little League organization. Staff has collected bids for tree removal, had the trees assessed by a certified arborist and paid out a claim for fence damage resulting from a falling tree.

4.c. Discussion - Delegation of Purchasing and Contracting Authority

City Manager Jeff Balentine discussed the possibility of delegating purchasing authority to the City Manager and Department Heads.

This was a no-vote request seeking Council direction on whether and how to proceed.

4.d. Title 19 and 21 Amendments

Planning Director Amy Hess reviewed the proposed amendments to the GFMC Title 19, Unified Development Code. This review included discussion and input on the following items:

Summary: Amendments to Title 19 to ensure consistency with the recently adopted 2024 Comprehensive Plan, and to improve clarity and processes. Some amendments are due to a public comment letter received. Other amendments are based on integrating local requirements associated with the City's obligations under the Growth Management Act and recently enacted legislation by the Washington State Legislature regarding Title 21 (Impact fees).

Timeline:

- SEPA Determination issued, and one public comment was received.
- Proposed code amendments were sent to the Department of Commerce for a 60-day review period and one agency comment was received.

- Planning Commission held a study session and a public hearing with a recommendation to the City Council.
- City Council study session (tonight) with a public hearing scheduled on January 21.

Suggested Amendments:

- Please see Staff Report for all proposed amendments dated January 21, 2026.

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss on this work session agenda, the meeting wasd adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

City Clerk Darla Wilkins, MMC

Mayor Matthew Hartman