



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**July 1, 2026
7:00 PM
Civic Center**

City Council	Mayor/Council Member Matthew Hartman Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member David Griggs Council Member Steven Glenn Council Member Tom FitzGerald Council Member Bruce Straughn
City Staff	City Clerk Darla Wilkins City Manager Jeff Balentine Deputy City Clerk Carole Williams
Consultants	Consultant City Attorney Emily Guildner

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Matthew Hartman called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Matthew Hartman led the Council, Staff and Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

3. ROLL CALL

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

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION:	Motion to approve Consent Agenda.
MOVER:	City Council Member Steven Glenn
SECONDER:	City Council Member Bruce Straughn
AYES:	Mayor/City Council Member Matthew Hartman, City Council Member Tom FitzGerald, City Council Member Steven Glenn, Mayor Pro Tem/City Council Member David Griggs, City Council Member Bruce Straughn
NAYS:	None
RESULT:	Passed

4.a. **AB 102-2026 Approval of June 17, 2026 Minutes**

4.b. **AB 103-2026 Approval of June 18, 2026 through July 1, 2026 Claims Checks #416353 through 416390 totaling \$504,579.49**

4.c. **AB 104-2026 Approval of June 1, 2026 through June 15, 2026 Payroll Claims Checks consisting of Twenty-Two EFT's totaling \$99,440.15**

5. STAFF REPORTS

5.a. **Planning Staff Report**

Community Development Director Amy Hess was absent.

5.b. **City Manager Staff Report**

City Manager Jeff Balentine commented on the following:

- Upcoming 4th of July 5K Fun Run Event
- Union Street / Kentucky Avenue Improvements Project
- 84th Street Lane Repair

5.c. **DOA Claims Staff Report**

City Manager Jeff Balentine commented on the following:

- The DOA Report is the year-to-date report per the Resolution

5.d. Public Works

Public Works Director Charles White was absent.

5.e. City Clerk Staff Report

City Clerk Darla Wilkins had nothing additional to add.

5.f. Consultant Police Chief Report

Consultant Police Chief Thomas Dalton was absent.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS-NON-ACTION ITEMS

No one in the audience signed up or chose to comment when called upon.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.a. AB 105-2026 Yakima County Jail Services ILA

MOTION:	Motion to approve the 2026 Interlocal Agreement for Inmate Housing between the City of Granite Falls and Yakima County Department of Corrections, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement in substantially final form, subject to final City Attorney review and any non-substantive corrections.
MOVER:	City Council Member Tom FitzGerald
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tem/City Council Member David Griggs
AYES:	Mayor/City Council Member Matthew Hartman, City Council Member Tom FitzGerald, City Council Member Steven Glenn, Mayor Pro Tem/City Council Member David Griggs, City Council Member Bruce Straughn
NAYS:	None
RESULT:	Passed

7.b. AB 106-2026 GFMC Chapter 2.08 - City Council: Discussion of Potential Code Amendments

Issue Area	Keep	Clarify	Amend	Legal Review	Notes / Other
Public comment — agenda items			✓		B & D = Encourage public comment even if the agenda says discussion only. Remove the word "action"
Workshop public comment			✓		B = change to add oral and written with a time limit
Council-manager roles and order			✓		B = Move City Manager report up to Staff Reports, but still allow City Manager to comment at the end of the meeting. C = Leave as is E = Change to allow Mayor, 3 Council Members or City Manager able to call the special meetings
Vacancies and mayor pro tem references		✓		✓	No change, clean up wording
Time limits and comment categories			✓		Remove time limits
Meeting logistics: time, location, and lectern			✓		B = Keep both 6 PM and 6:30 PM start time for public hearing C = Change to meeting location D = Change to allow not having to stand at lectern
Presiding-officer rulings and meeting end time			✓		A = Defaults to the City Attorney B = Leave as is
Voting and how votes are recorded			✓	✓	A = Have the chair announce the vote. If not unanimous, have a roll-call vote.

					City Attorney clarification on quorum and voting (matrix)
Remote and telephonic attendance			✓	✓	D = Allow voting with hand raised as two-way participation Put "teeth" in verbiage to keep one from abusing the privilege of telephonic meeting attendance Remove annual cap Remove "does not count towards quorum" if attending remote
Expenses, form of address, eligibility and duties		✓	✓		A = City Attorney and City Manager to clean up language B = City Attorney and City Manager to clean up language C = Keep mayor pro tem identification D = City Attorney and City Manager to clean up language E = Agreed - update compensation language F = Keep norms of address

8. CURRENT BUSINESS

There were no Current Business items for this meeting.

9. MAYOR'S COMMENT (5 MINUTES)

Mayor Matthew Hartman commented on the following:

- July 4th Fun Run
- Fireworks (be safe and sane)

10. COUNCIL COMMENTS (15 MINUTES)

Mayor Pro Tem / Council Member David Griggs commented on the following:

- Show 'N Shine Car Show (help spread the word)

- Will be absent from the next council meeting (vacation)

Council Member Tom FitzGerald commented on the following:

- Attended AWC Conference
 - Enjoyed Doug Griffith (keynote speaker)
 - Mayor John Nehring was elected as the new AWC President
 - Attended an A/I Class - social media - Facebook for the city
- Attended Coffee with the Chief Meeting last Saturday
- Tuesday, July 7th - Capital Levy Committee Athletic Fields will meet on options (ball fields and tennis courts)
- 2015 City last updated it's Fireworks Ordinance
 - Fireworks only allowed on July 4th (9am-midnight) & December 31st (6pm until 1am)

Councilmember Steven Glenn had no comment.

Councilmember Bruce Straughnn commented on the following:

- Attended the AWC Conference
 - Had to return early due to family matters
 - A/I & public records
 - Enjoyed the conference - well run and attended

11. CITY MANAGER (5 MINUTES)

City Manager Jeff Balentine commented on the following:

- Working on an A/I Policy (bringing to Council Work Session)
- Looking into a Social Media Retention Mitigation Strategy (Social Media Service Agreement)
- Consultant Chief Thomas Dalton circulated guidance to his deputies regarding fireworks inside of city limits
- There is a current Burn Ban in effect
- Community center progress (Ziply)
- Legion Park Outdoor Plaza and Amphitheater
 - July 9th - RCO will be on site to look at concepts, walk the site and help prepare for the final presentation
- The governor signed off on our grant for the memorial
 - July 7th - Department of Commerce (follow-up)

- 5K Fun Run & signage (thanked everyone working on it)
- Farmer's Market (FSX Parking Lot)

Mayor Matthew Hartman reminded the council that the city manager's evaluations are due today.

12. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 PM.

City Clerk Darla Wilkins, MMC

Mayor Matthew Hartman