



THE DALLES CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

CITY HALL · COUNCIL CHAMBER · 313 COURT STREET

IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM

PRESIDING: Mayor Richard Mays

COUNCIL PRESENT: Timothy McGlothlin, Scott Randall, Ben Wring, Rod Runyon

COUNCIL ABSENT: Dan Richardson

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Matthew Klebes, City Attorney Jonathan Kara, City Clerk Amie Ell, Finance Director Brita Meyer, Public Works Director Dale McCabe, Deputy Public Works Director David Mills, Police Chief Tom Worthy

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mays at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

City Clerk Ell conducted roll call. Councilors McGlothlin, Randall, Runyon, and Wring present, Richardson absent, Mayor Mays present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mays invited the audience to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Mays noted the removal of executive session under ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations and removal of item #5A Recognition of The Dalles Robotics Team.

It was moved by Wring and seconded by Randall to approve the agenda as amended.

The motion carried 4 to 0, Wring, Randall, McGlothlin, and Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; Richardson absent.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Proclaiming July 4, 2026, as a Celebration of America's 250th Anniversary



Chelsea Perritt, Wasco County Veterans Service Officer, provided remarks regarding the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States and encouraged reflection on the principles of liberty, self-government, and the rule of law.

Mayor Mays read a proclamation declaring July 4, 2026, as a Celebration of America's 250th Anniversary in The Dalles.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Bob Kenyon, resident of The Dalles, recognized Jonathan Zilka and festival volunteers for their efforts organizing the second annual Grand Dalles Music Festival. He reported the event was well attended and said participation at the Granada Theater and City Park exceeded the previous year. Kenyon credited Zilka's relationships within the music community for helping attract talented musicians to The Dalles and expressed hope the festival would continue as an annual event.

Debbie Ferrer, on behalf of the Beautification and Tree Committee, provided an update regarding downtown beautification grants and the opening of the residential tree grant program. Ferrer reported ten downtown beautification grants had been awarded and applications were being accepted for the residential tree grant program through August 1.

Yvonne Pepin-Wakefield reported concerns regarding impacts from the Webber Street closure on business activity during the Gorge Artists Open Studio Tour. She also raised concerns regarding vegetation encroaching into the roadway near Columbia Street and Klindt Drive and blowing dust affecting users of the Riverfront Trail

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Rescheduling of the Wastewater Master Plan work session to July due to scheduling conflicts.
- The City hosted Governor Kotek's North Central Regional Solutions Team.
 - Discussions focused on regional water challenges and opportunities.
 - The visit included a tour of the Wicks Water Treatment Plant with State agency representatives and Regional Solutions staff.
- Upcoming meeting with incoming Chamber Chief Executive Officer Lynn Cox to discuss priorities and maintain coordination between the City and Chamber.
- Attended a meeting of the League of Oregon Cities Finance and Taxation Policy Committee. Developing policy recommendations and potential legislative priorities related to prevailing wage requirements, alcohol tax revenue sharing, and 9-1-1 revenue sharing for consideration during the next legislative cycle.
- Dog licensing requirements would become effective July 1.
 - The City's new DocuPet licensing platform launched the previous week.
 - As of the meeting date, 82 dog registrations had been completed.
 - Additional information would continue to be shared through utility bill inserts, the City website, and social media.
- The City officially launched its new branding and logo.
 - Council members would receive instructions for updating email signatures to reflect the new visual identity.



- He thanked staff members from multiple departments who participated in the branding process.
- Candidate filing packets for upcoming Council positions were available.
 - Election information and filing materials were available on the City's website.
- Klebes and Ell attended the graduation ceremony for Executive Assistant Abigail Jara, who completed the Northwest Women's Leadership Academy program.
- The City's partnership with The Dalles Art Center received a \$28,000 National Endowment for the Arts grant.
 - Additional project funding included approximately \$30,000 from the Oregon Cultural Trust and \$25,000 from Google.
 - The project will replace the faded roundabout murals through a partnership with Columbia Gorge Community College's welding and Skill Center programs..
- Construction activities continued on the Federal Street Plaza Project.
- The First Street Streetscaping Project change order approved by Council had been finalized.
 - Staff continued coordinating with archaeologists and evaluating potential sewer replacement work that could be completed as part of the project.
- The Westside Interceptor Project remained on schedule, with Weber Street anticipated to reopen June 26.
- East 10th Street resurfacing work was scheduled for June 17.
- Staff continued working with the contractor to complete remaining repair and closeout work associated with the Sixth Street project.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Runyon reported;

- Toured the Wicks Water Treatment Plant with McGlothlin. Was given an overview of how source water is collected, treated, stored, and distributed throughout the City. Said the tour provided a better understanding of the operation and complexity of the City's water system.

Councilor Randall reported;

- Attended the Local Public Safety Coordinating Committee (LPSCC) meeting.
 - Received a briefing from Wasco County District Attorney Cara Davis regarding current public safety and criminal justice matters.
- Participated in a meeting of the League of Oregon Cities Water and Wastewater Policy Advisory Committee.
 - Reviewed and finalized legislative policy priorities for the upcoming legislative cycle.
- Planned to attend the Household Hazardous Waste and Recycling Steering Committee meeting later in the week.

Councilor Wring reported;

- Did not attend meetings during the reporting period due to a death in the family.

Mayor Mays expressed condolences on behalf of the Council.



Councilor McGlothlin reported;

- Visited downtown to observe ongoing restoration and improvement efforts.
 - Recognized Shayna Newsome for volunteer work supporting downtown beautification and restoration projects, noting efforts to preserve historic features.
- Toured the Wicks Water Treatment Plant with Runyon.
 - Said he had been researching the City's water system and wanted a firsthand understanding of how water moves from mountain sources through treatment, storage, and distribution.

Mayor Mays reported;

- Presented updates regarding City projects and activities to the Rotary Club.
- Participated in a Chamber Community Affairs Committee meeting.
- Attended a Community Outreach Team meeting.
- Attended a Kiwanis Club meeting.
- Noted former Public Works Director Dave Anderson provided a presentation regarding the City's water system.
- Met with Katie Linkhouse, regional representative for Senator Jeff Merkley.
- Attended the Beautification and Tree Committee's Yard of the Month recognition.
 - Recognized Allison and Joel Lira for their property on Scenic Drive.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Randall and seconded by McGlothlin to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion carried 4 to 0, Randall, McGlothlin, Runyon, and Wring voting in favor; none opposed; Richardson absent.

Items approved on the consent agenda were:

- A) Approval of the May 26, 2026 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
- B) Authorization of Expenditures for Contract No. 2026-008: Electrical Improvements (Water System Emergency Generators)
- C) Approval of Master Lease Agreement with Columbia Gorge Community College for the Aviation Maintenance Training Hangar at Columbia Gorge Regional Airport

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution No. 26-020 Establishing the Service Continuity Reserve Fund under ORS 294.346 and Providing for its Purpose, Funding, Use, and Review

Finance Director Brita Meyer reviewed the staff report and explained the proposed reserve fund would provide financial stability during periods of revenue shortfall, unexpected expenditures, or changing economic conditions.

It was moved by Wring and seconded by McGlothlin to adopt Resolution No. 26-020 establishing the Service Continuity Reserve Fund under ORS 294.346 and providing for its



purpose, funding, use, and review.

The motion carried 4 to 0, Wring, McGlothlin, Randall, and Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; Richardson absent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Resolution No. 26-021 Declaring the City of The Dalles' Election to Receive State Revenues for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Mayor Mays announced the Public Hearing and read the rules.

The public hearing opened at 6:04 p.m.

Mayor Mays called for the staff report.

Finance Director Brita Meyer reviewed the staff report and explained State law requires local governments to adopt a resolution electing to receive State revenue sharing funds annually.

Mayor Mays asked if anyone in support of, in opposition to, or in any other way directly related to the proposed use of State shared revenues wished to testify.

There were none.

Mayor Mays closed the public hearing at 6:06 p.m.

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Randall to adopt Resolution No. 26-021 declaring the City of The Dalles' election to receive State revenues for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

The motion carried 4 to 0, McGlothlin, Randall, Runyon, and Wring voting in favor; none opposed; Richardson absent.

Resolution No. 26-022 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget for the City of The Dalles, Making Appropriations, Authorizing Expenditures, Levying Taxes, and Authorizing the City Manager to Take Such Action as Necessary to Carry Out the Adopted Budget

Mayor Mays announced the Public Hearing and read the rules.

The public hearing opened at 6:08 p.m.

Mayor Mays called for the staff report.

Finance Director Brita Meyer reviewed the staff report and explained the proposed budget remained substantially unchanged from the budget approved by the Budget Committee, with the exception of a grant adjustment increasing Water Capital Reserve Fund revenues and expenditures by \$146,187.

Mayor Mays asked if anyone in support of, in opposition to, or in any other way directly related to the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget wished to testify.



There were none.

Mayor Mays closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m.

It was moved by Wring and seconded by Randall to adopt Resolution No. 26-022 adopting the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget, making appropriations, authorizing expenditures, levying taxes, and authorizing the City Manager to take such action as necessary to carry out the adopted budget.

The motion carried 4 to 0, Wring, Randall, McGlothlin, and Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; Richardson absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(i) to review and evaluate the employment related performance of the chief executive officer, or contract employee who does not request an open hearing.

Mayor Mays recessed Open Session at 6:15 p.m.

Mayor Mays reconvened to Open Session at 8:45 p.m.

Council discussed salary adjustments for the City Manager and City Attorney. Mayor Mays recommended a 2.7% cost-of-living adjustment, a 3.0% step increase, and a 2.5% merit increase for a total adjustment of 8.2%.

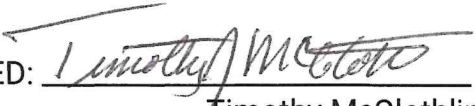
It was moved by Randall and seconded by Wring to award an 8.2% salary increase, inclusive of cost-of-living and merit adjustments, to the City Manager and City Attorney effective on their respective anniversary dates.

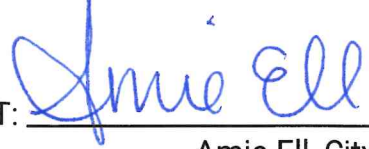
The motion carried 4 to 0, Randall, Wring, McGlothlin, and Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; Richardson absent.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Mayor Mays adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Prepared by/ Amie Ell, City Clerk

SIGNED: 
Timothy McGlothlin,
Council President

ATTEST: 
Amie Ell, City Clerk