



City Council Approved Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ryder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Council Present

Mayor Andy Ryder

Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller

Councilmember Lenny Greenstein

Councilmember Michael Steadman (remote and present until 7:40 p.m.)

Councilmember Carolyn Cox

Councilmember Robin Vazquez

Councilmember Nicolas Dunning

Staff Present

Rick Walk, City Manager

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Dave Schneider, City Attorney

Troy Woo, Finance Director

Veronica Hand, Equity and Inclusion Program Manager

Chelsea Yarwood, Accounting Manager

Nate Ensley, Utilities Engineer

Jason Kashani, Utility Engineer

Elissa Fontaine, City Clerk

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ryder led the flag salute.

4. Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Ryder presented the abbreviated Land Acknowledgement.

5. Approval of Amended Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

- A. Council minutes of May 20, 2025
- B. Informational Dinner minutes of June 3, 2025
- C. Council minutes of June 3, 2025
- D. Payment of claims, wages, and transfers for May 28 through June 6, 2025
- E. Council Appointments to the LEOFF 1 Disability Board

Mayor Ryder moved to approve the agenda as amended, which included the addition of agenda item 6.B. LGBTQIA+ Pride Month Proclamation, and the removal of agenda item 8.A., Resolution 1169: Parks and Open Space Interfund Loan, along with the consent agenda. Councilmember Greenstein seconded. The motion carried.

6. Proclamations

A. Juneteenth 2025

Larry Jefferson, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

Mayor Ryder and Council proclaimed June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth Day. Jefferson, NAACP representative, was present to accept the proclamation.

B. LGBTQIA+ Pride Month

Equity Commissioners Annie Clay and Jon Hegwood

Mayor Ryder and Council proclaimed June 2025, as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month. Equity Commissioners Clay and Hegwood were present to accept the proclamation.

7. Public Comment

Verbal Public Comment

Three (3) people signed up to speak at the meeting.

Meren Gadman, Lacey resident, commented on the upcoming Thurston County Fair.

Paul Longwell, Fair Board President, commented on inclusivity efforts within the Thurston County Fair and invited Council to attend.

Thomasina Cooper, Fair Grounds Manager, commented on the upcoming Thurston County Fair and highlighted events.

One (1) person registered to speak remotely.

Mike Ruth, Lacey resident, commented in opposition to the Log Cabin Road extension.

Written Public Comment

Two (2) written public comments were received.

9. Ordinances

A. Ordinance 1679: 2025 Budget Amendment

Chelsea Yarwood, Accounting Manager

Troy Woo, Finance Director, reported that Item 8.A., Resolution 1169: Parks and Open Space Interfund Loan, was removed from the agenda due to a project delay and the receipt of grant funds. As a result, the interfund loan was no longer required.

Yarwood presented Ordinance 1679, amending the 2025 Budget. The proposed amendment amounts to approximately \$8.8 million. Yarwood highlighted significant amendments within the following fund types:

- General Fund
- Special Funds
- Debt Funds
- Capital Funds
- Utility Funds
- Internal Service Funds

Councilmember Dunning moved to approve Ordinance 1679, amending the 2025 Budget, as presented. Councilmember Vazquez seconded. The motion carried.

B. Ordinance 1680: Sign Regulations

Rick Walk, City Manager

Dave Schneider, City Attorney

Schneider presented Ordinance 1680, amending Lacey Municipal Code Section 16.75.100 relating to sign regulations. The proposed amendment would allow the placement of political signs within the public right-of-way adjacent to private property, specifically within the space between the street and sidewalk, commonly referred to as the "parking strip" or "planter strip".

Under the current code, the placement of political signs is restricted to private property and expressly prohibited within the public right-of-way. Schneider explained that the amendment was prompted by concerns raised by community members regarding the constitutionality of the city's restriction on political signs within public rights-of-way, specifically in relation to the protections of free speech in public forums. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Greenstein moved to approve Ordinance 1680 relating to sign regulations. Councilmember Dunning seconded. The motion carried.

9. Mayor's Report

A. Human Services Reappointment - Tiffany Walker

Per LMC 2.35.030 (C), the Human Service Commission requires two professional representatives with experience in human services (direct service, management, or volunteer). These representatives may live outside of Lacey city or UGA limits. Walker was appointed on January 21, 2025, while living within the city limits. Due to a recent move outside Lacey city and UGA limits, it was recommended that Walker be reappointed as one of the two professionals with experience in human services. The reappointment does not alter the term expiration.

Mayor Ryder moved to reappoint Tiffany Walker to the Human Services Commission. Deputy Mayor Miller seconded. The motion carried.

10. City Manager's Report

A. Equity and Inclusion Program Updates

Veronica Hand, Equity and Inclusion Program Manager

Hand presented post-event highlights from the Thurston Forward DEI Summit. The free event was designed to bring community members together, collaborate, and share strategies for creating a more welcoming, equitable, and inclusive Thurston County. Equity Commissioner Hegwood provided additional comments about the Summit.

Hand presented an update on the first Annual City Employee Engagement Survey. Employees were invited to participate in the survey with the goal of shaping the future of the workplace, and foster a positive and supportive work environment for everyone.

Hand presented an update on the City's expansion into language interpretation services. The expansion includes an app that will allow staff to contact a live translator when communicating with customers who speak languages other than English.

B. Bid Award - Marvin Road Production Well

Jason Kashani, Utility Engineer

Kashani presented the bid award for Lacey Contract Number PW 2022-27, Marvin Road Production Well. The project is part of the City's planned improvements to undeveloped and pending water rights to account for new production wells to serve the demands of a growing population. The project was advertised for four (4) weeks and bids were opened May 15, 2025. The engineer's estimate is

\$1,977,781.30. Holt Services Inc., from Milton, Washington, was the low bidder in the amount of \$1,706,136.67. The project is anticipated to start in August 2025, with 145 working days allotted to complete the work.

Councilmember Steadman moved to award Lacey Contract PW 2022-27 to low bidder Holt Services Inc., from Milton Washington in the amount of \$1,706,136.67. Deputy Mayor Miller seconded. The motion carried.

C. Bid Award - Lakeview Meadows Utility Improvements

Nate Ensley, Utilities Engineer

Ensley presented the bid award for Lacey Contract Number PW 2023-22, Lakeview Meadows Utility Improvements. The project intends to replace the sewer main near College St SE and 32nd Ln SE, which has been compromised due to tree root growth, as well as removal of trees posing damage. The project was advertised for approximately three (3) weeks and bids were opened May 29, 2025. The engineer's estimate is \$538,385.66. The apparent low bidder was rejected due to improper bid package documents. ANC Facility Services, from Lacey, Washington, was the next low bidder in the amount of \$421,396.59. The project is anticipated to start in August 2025, with 40 working days allotted to complete the work.

Councilmember Vazquez moved to award Lacey Contract number PW 2023-22 to low bidder ANC Facility Services from Lacey, WA in the amount of \$421,396.59. Councilmember Dunning seconded. The motion carried.

D. Bid Award - Lift Station 3 Replacement

Nate Ensley, Utilities Engineer

Ensley presented the bid award for Lacey Contract number PW 2021-06, Lift Station 3 Replacement. This project replaces the facility onto an adjacent city-owned parcel. The new station's capacity takes into account future development demands within its service area. The project was advertised for approximately four (4) weeks and bids opened May 21, 2025. The engineer's estimate is \$3,747,988.25. The apparent low bidder was rejected due to not meeting the bidder qualification criteria laid out in the project specifications. Prospect Construction Inc., was the next low bidder in the amount of \$3,689,926.24. The project is anticipated to start in August 2025, with 260 working days allotted to complete the work.

Councilmember Dunning moved to award Lacey Contract number PW 2021-06 to low bidder Prospect Construction, Inc. from Puyallup, WA for the amount of \$3,689,926.24. Deputy Mayor Miller seconded. The motion carried.

11. Council Reports

A. Mayor Andy Ryder:

1. Mayors' Forum
2. Thurston Chamber Shared Legislative Committee
3. Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

Mayor Ryder provided a report from the Transportation Policy Board (TPB).

B. Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller:

1. Economic Development Council (EDC)
2. Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)
3. Thurston County Coalition Against Trafficking (TCCAT)
4. Joint Animal Services Commission (JASCOM)

Deputy Mayor Miller provided reports from JASCOM, and the EDC.

C. Councilmember Lenny Greenstein:

1. Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
2. TCOMM911
3. Opioid Abatement Council Independent Subcommittee

Councilmember Greenstein provided reports from TCOMM911 and Opioid Abatement Council Independent Subcommittee.

D. Councilmember Michael Steadman:

1. Nisqually River Council
2. Thurston County Law & Justice Council

Councilmember Steadman was excused, and no reports were provided.

E. Councilmember Carolyn Cox:

1. Lacey-Olympia-Tumwater-Thurston Clean Water Alliance (LOTT)
2. Regional Housing Council
3. Intercity Transit Authority

Councilmember Cox provided reports from the Intercity Transit and LOTT.

F. Councilmember Robin Vazquez:

1. Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative (TCMC)
2. Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC)

Councilmember Vazquez provided a report from the TRPC.

G. Councilmember Nicolas Dunning:

1. Thurston Thrives
2. Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
3. Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB)
4. Olympic Region Clean Air Agency (ORCAA)

Councilmember Dunning provided reports from ORCAA and the VCB.

13. Executive Session

A. City Manager Review RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)

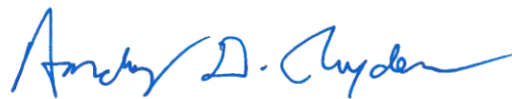
At 8:31 p.m., Council recessed to Executive Session, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss matters pertaining to the performance of a public employee. The Mayor announced that the executive session would start at 8:40 p.m. and last approximately 30 minutes, after which the City Council would reconvene the Council meeting, at or shortly after 9:10 p.m.

At 9:10 p.m. the Mayor announced that the executive session would be extended an additional 10 minutes to 9:20 p.m. The executive session lasted 40 minutes, and no final action was taken.

14. Adjourn

Mayor Ryder reconvened the Council meeting and immediately adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

MAYOR:



Andy Ryder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Elissa Fontaine, City Clerk

APPROVED: July 15, 2025