



City Council Regular Meeting Approved Minutes

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Council Present

Mayor Andy Ryder
Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller
Councilmember Carolyn Cox
Councilmember Nicolas Dunning
Councilmember Maren Turner
Councilmember Ryan Siu

Council Excused

Councilmember Lenny Greenstein

Staff Present

Rick Walk, City Manager
Dave Schneider, City Attorney
Scott Egger, Public Works Director
Vince McGowan, Water Resource Manager
Teri O'Neal, Utility Capital Program Manager
Shanelle Pierce, Special Projects Administrator
Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator
Ryan Jewell, Utility Engineer

Paul J. White, Deputy 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 Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of the Minutes of April 14, 2026
- B. Approval of the Minutes of April 28, 2026
- C. Approval of Payment of Claims, Wages, and Transfers for April 17 through May 8, 2026

Deputy Mayor Miller moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Councilmember Cox seconded. The motion carried.

6. Proclamations

A. Proclamation: Bicycle Month

Ali Fuller, Walk N Roll Program, Intercity Transit

Mayor Ryder and Council proclaimed May 2026 as Bicycle Month. Fuller was present to accept the proclamation.

B. Proclamation: Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Brian Lock, APIC South Puget Sound

Lynn Crowley, Co-Chair, Asian Pacific Islander Coalition of South Puget Sound

Mayor Ryder and Council proclaimed May 2026 as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Lock and Crowley were present to accept the proclamation.

C. Proclamation: Memorial Day

Meghan Barnes, Blue Star Families Puget Sound

Mayor Ryder and Council proclaimed May 25, 2026, as Memorial Day. Barnes was present to accept the proclamation.

7. Public Comment

Two (2) people signed up to speak at the meeting.

Mike Brown, Lacey resident, commented on construction contracts and the need for apprenticeship utilization requirements.

Mark Howard, Lacey resident, commented on construction contracts and opportunities in the trades for young people.

No one registered to speak remotely and no written comments were received.

8. Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 1181: Council Policies and Procedures

Paul J. White, Deputy City Clerk

White presented Resolution No. 1181, which updates the structure and format of Council worksession and regular meeting agendas, revises a handful of clerical errors, and removes outdated references. All previous business items remain available for future agendas, and the revisions provide more flexibility for the efficient ordering of agenda items.

Deputy Mayor Miller moved to approve Resolution 1181 amending Chapter 7.07 of the Council Policies and Procedures. Councilmember Turner seconded. The motion carried.

9. Mayor's Report

Mayor Ryder did not provide any reports.

10. City Manager's Report

A. Appointment of Poet Laureate Sonya Wohletz

Shanelle Pierce, Special Projects Administrator

Pierce described the City's poet laureate program, including information about current poet laureate Cynthia Pratt and the process used to find a new poet laureate for 2026-2028. Sonya Wohletz has been recommended for appointment to the role by a review panel with representation from the Commission on Equity, Parks, Culture, and Recreation Board, Library Board, educational institutions, the current poet laureate, and community members.

Deputy Mayor Miller moved to appoint applicant Sonya Wohletz as Lacey Poet Laureate for 2026-2028. Councilmember Cox seconded. The motion carried.

B. Lacey Museum Annual Report and May Is History Month

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Kevin Wyckoff, Historical Commission Chair

Quinn Valcho presented the Lacey Museum Annual Report, summarizing programs, new acquisitions, and donations, and noting the successful January opening of the museum's new location at 4160 Sixth Avenue Southeast, Suite 101. Quinn Valcho announced the 2026 Ken Balsley Lacey Historian of the Year, Window Seat Media, which emphasizes oral history and community storytelling. Wyckoff presented the award to Elaine Vradenburgh, Director and founder of Window Seat Media, who made brief remarks.

C. Nomination of the Jacob Smith House to the Lacey Register of Historic Places

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator

Quinn Valcho presented the proposal to nominate the Jacob Smith House to the Lacey Register of Historic Places. The historic house is located on Intelco Loop and was built in 1859. The nomination and listing process was summarized, and the historic significance of the Smith family and the house were described.

Mayor Ryder moved to approve the addition of the Jacob Smith House to the Lacey Register of Historic Places. Councilmember Dunning seconded. The motion carried.

D. Contract Award: Hawks Prairie Reservoir Rehabilitation (PW2021-19)

Ryan Jewell, Utility Engineer

Jewell described the Hawks Prairie Reservoir Rehabilitation project, provided a summary of bids, and identified the project location at Marvin Road and 41st Avenue Northeast.

Deputy Mayor Miller moved to award contract number PW 2021-19 to the qualified low bidder T-Bailey LLC in the amount of \$6,247,028.84. Councilmember Cox seconded. The motion carried.

E. Utility Capital Improvement Program Briefing

Scott Egger, Public Works Director

Vince McGowan, Water Resource Manager

Teri O'Neal, Utility Capital Program Manager

McGowan presented an update on the City's Utility Capital Improvement Program, covering wastewater infrastructure, drinking water projects, stormwater collection, and water reclamation. O'Neal compared actual funding to rate study projections for stormwater, water, and wastewater capital program funding over multiple years. Funding increases in 2026 correspond to adding or sustaining needed capital projects. A new process for prioritizing and delivering capital projects organizes them as recurring or individual projects and ranks them by need based on a scoring matrix. The system accounts for need and capacity and is meant to result in more accurate phasing of projects over time. McGowan provided examples of the project prioritization scoring matrix.

F. Public Works Recognition

Rick Walk, City Manager

Walk acknowledged Public Works Week, commended public works staff and Public Works Director Scott Egger, and highlighted the range of work they do in the service of the Lacey community. A video presentation was shared.

11. Council Reports

A. Mayor Andy Ryder

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

Mayor Ryder did not provide any reports.

B. Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller

1. Economic Development Council (EDC)
2. Joint Animal Services Commission (JASCOM)
3. Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)

Deputy Mayor Miller provided a report from the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) as an alternate.

C. Councilmember Lenny Greenstein

1. Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
2. TCOMM911
3. Opioid Abatement Council Independent Subcommittee
4. Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Plan 1 Disability Board (LEOFF-1)

Councilmember Greenstein was excused and no reports were provided.

D. Councilmember Carolyn Cox

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

Councilmember Cox provided a report from LOTT.

E. Councilmember Nicolas Dunning

1. Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB)
2. Regional Housing Council
3. Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Plan 1 Disability Board (LEOFF-1)

Councilmember Dunning provided a report from the VCB.

F. Councilmember Maren Turner

1. Nisqually River Council
2. Thurston County Law & Justice Council
3. Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC)

Councilmember Turner commented on the Nisqually River Council retreat,

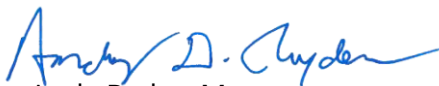
participating in the Spring FunFair City information booth, and visiting the Lacey MakerSpace.

- G. Councilmember Ryan Siu
1. Olympic Region Clean Air Agency (ORCAA)
 2. Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
 3. Thurston Climate Mitigation Collaborative (TCMC)

Councilmember Siu provided reports from SWAC, ORCAA, and TCMC.

12. Adjourn

Mayor Ryder adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

MAYOR: 
Andy Ryder, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Elissa Fontaine, City Clerk

APPROVED: June 2, 2026