

CITY OF GEORGE
STATE OF WASHINGTON
August 19, 2025

COUNCIL MEETING: Regular Meeting

PLACE: George Community Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Julia Schooler, Council Member Kate Schooler, Council Member Debby Kooy, Council Member Patty Neff,

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: City Clerk Amy Grace, Deputy Clerk Ana Rodriguez, Public Works Superintendent Aaron Harwood, City Engineer Mike Meskimen and Jamin Ankney; City Planner Alex Kovach; City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman.

Guests in attendance: Curt Morris, Gerene Nelson, Patric Connelly, Drew Scott, Evan Mann.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Julia Schooler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

ROLL CALL: Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to excuse Mayor Villalpando and Council Member Maldonado. Council Member Patty Neff seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

ABSENT: Mayor Juan Villalpando, Council Member Melissa Maldonado

Mayor Pro Tem Julia Schooler opened the Public Hearing to receive comment on the proposed George Town Center Phase 2 Major Plat along the undeveloped portion of Republican Ave. at 7:02 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Julia Schooler asked the public and Council if there was any questions or comments. Gerene Nelson stated that the lighting on E. Montmorency for phase 1 should be completed before phase 2 should begin. City Planner Alex Kovach confirmed that the service request to the PUD has been submitted to the PUD for the lighting. Curt Morris stated that he supports the phase 2 development. The developer expressed whether there was a “nexus” between the development and certain off-site improvements set forth in the draft conditions of approval pertaining to E. Montmorency Blvd. The City planner and Engineers will review this draft condition with the developer. There was no other public comment. Mayor Pro Tem Schooler closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m.

City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman requested to add Executive Session 11.5 potential litigation – No action and City Clerk Amy Grace requested to add 9G - Accounts Payable dispute with Basin Septic to the consent Agenda.

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Council Member Patty Neff seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Citizens wishing to speak under items 8 or 9 identified themselves as follows: None

Public comment: None

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and approval of vouchers #19266 - 19269 in the amount of \$688.93; vouchers #19271-19309 in the amount of \$114,481.84 and electronic checks in the amount of \$34,844.86. Council Member Patty Neff

seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Engineer Jamin Ankney updated Council on the Well 3 test well project. He said they have found a driller that will drill the test well and are waiting to hear back from them.

City Planner Alex Kovach updated Council on the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Amendment and let them know that he was ready to send the Intent to Adopt to Department of Commerce for the 60-day comment period.

Council Member Patty Neff made a motion to direct City Planning Consultant Alex Kovach to submit the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Amendment to the Department of Commerce for a 60-day comment period. Council Member Kate Schooler seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Planner Alex Kovach presented to Council the 2027 Periodic Update Grant Application from the Department of Commerce. The Grant funding request will be for \$50,000 for FY-2026 and \$50,000 for FY-2027.

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to direct City Planning Consultant Alex Kovach to submit the 2027 Periodic Update Grant Application to the Department of Commerce. Council Member Patty Neff seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Planner Alex Kovach presented to Council an Amendment (G-001) to Contract for City Planning Services. He explained that this amendment will modify his current contract with the City to include additional services related to updating the City's Comprehensive Plan, more specifically

Climate Planning Element Required by GMA HB 1181

2027 Periodic Update to the City's Comprehensive Plan Required by the GMA

City Planner Alex Kovach is requesting an amendment to the Kovach Architect contract not to exceed the \$100,000 Grant funds.

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to accept the Amendment (G-001) to contract for City Planning Services, and authorize the Mayor to sign. Council Member Patty Neff seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Engineer Michael Woodkey presented to Council the Review of bids for the West Montmorency Blvd Multi-Use Pathway project. He mentioned that 9 bids were submitted. The Engineers estimate of the project is \$192,075 and the lowest bid of \$145,075 came in from Odyssey Contractors. Mr. Woodkey recommended the City award the contract contingent upon TIB approval and direct the Mayor to sign.

Council member Kate Schooler made a motion to award the Bid from Odyssey Contractors in the amount of \$145,075 and direct the Mayor to sign contingent upon TIB approval. Council Member Patty Neff seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman presented Ordinance 2025-03. An Ordinance amending Ordinance 201807 and Chapter 5.10 of the GMC to increase the business license exemption threshold from \$2000 to \$4000 effective 01/01/2026.

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-03. Council Member Patty Neff seconded. Motion passed 4-0

City Deputy Clerk Ana Rodriguez updated the Council on a dispute between the City and Basin Septic. Basin Septic contacted the City on 7/8/2025 proposing to sell us the (2) porta pottys we have at the

park due to increased graffiti and lack of care to them. They said they could still empty them for us in our lagoon, but will no longer care for them. Cost: \$1,100/ea. with shipping waived. Per Mayor Juan post discussion of the phone conversation, he said to have Basin Septic pick up the porta potty's and call other local providers to get quotes. When the City received the monthly invoice Basin Septic had added the cost of \$1,000 for each porta potty's and claimed that one was unrentable and that the other was missing. Public works department witnessed both units being picked up. Council discussion took place. City staff will pay Basin Septic only for the monthly services.

The Mayor Pro Tem announced an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) that would last 10 minutes. Council went into Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. The Council came back into the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Debby Kooy seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Approved by the City Council at
an Open Public Meeting the
16th of September, 2025.

Juan Villalpando, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy Grace, City Clerk-Treasurer