

CITY OF GEORGE
STATE OF WASHINGTON
September 16, 2025

COUNCIL MEETING: Regular Meeting

PLACE: George Community Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Juan Villalpando (remote), Council Member Melissa Maldonado, Council Member Kate Schooler, Council Member Debby Kooy, Council Member Julia Schooler.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: City Clerk Amy Grace, City Engineer Mike Meskimen, Jamin Ankney; City Planner Alex Kovach; City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman.

Guests in attendance: Tim Kovach, Meghan St. John, David Durfee, Kevin Child, Angel Diaz.

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

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

ABSENT: Council Member Patty Neff

City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman requested to remove Item 8H from the agenda.

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

Citizens wishing to speak under items 8 or 9 identified themselves as follows: Fire Chief, David Durfee request to speak on item 8I.

Public comment: None

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and approval of vouchers #19270 in the amount of \$137.47; vouchers #19310-19311 in the amount of \$366.59; vouchers #19313-19350 in the amount of \$533,273.19 and electronic checks in the amount of \$29,987.71. Council Member Melissa Maldonado 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. The driller is not responding to calls and messages at this time.

City Engineer presented the Water System Plan Amendment to Council and the public. Mr. Ankney explained the importance of adding Well 3 to the Water System Plan.

City Engineer Jamin Ankney asked for any public comment for the Water System Plan Amendment: No comment received.

City Engineer Jamin Ankney presented to Council Resolution 2025-339 a Resolution Adopting the 2025 Water System Plan Amendment and recommended Council authorize the mayor to sign.

Council Member Melissa Maldonado made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign Resolution

2025-339, A Resolution Adopting the 2025 Water System Plan Amendment. Council Member Kate Schooler seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Engineer Jamin Ankney updated Council on the close out for the Well 4 project and recommended the Council set a Public Hearing date for Well 4 CDBG closeout.

Council Member Julia Schooler made a motion to set a Public Hearing Date for the Well 4 CDBG project closeout. Council Member Kate Schooler seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Engineer Michael Woodkey updated Council on the 2025 Seal Coat project. He said the project is almost complete. Mr. Woodkey presented Council with Progress Estimate No.1 in the amount of \$423,611.07 and recommended Council approve.

Council Member Julia Schooler made a motion to approve 2025 Seal Coat project Progress Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$423.611.07. Council Member Kate Schooler seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Engineer Michael Woodkey presented to Council a Consultant Supplemental Agreement for Construction Engineering Services for the West Montmorency Blvd. Multi-Use Pathway project not to exceed the amount of \$21,760 that will be covered by TIB. Mr. Woodkey recommended Council authorize the Mayor to sign.

Council Member Julia Schooler made a motion to approve the Consultant Supplement Agreement for Construction Engineering Services for the West Montmorency Blvd. Multi-Use Pathway project that will be funded by TIB in the amount of \$21,760. Council Member Melissa Maldonado seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

City Planner Alex Kovach presented to Council the GMA Periodic Update Grant-FY2026. Mr. Kovach explained that this Grant will be in 2 phases. The first phase will have a \$50,000 budget for the first year with deliverables that include periodic update work plan, public participation plan, critical areas checklist, periodic update checklist for Fully-planning, population allocation and housing allocation, to include HAP spreadsheet, and land capacity analysis. Mr. Kovach recommended the Council authorize the Mayor to sign.

Council member Kate Schooler made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the GMA Periodic Update Grant-FY2026 first phase in the amount of \$50,000. Council Member Debby Kooy seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Fire Chief David Durfee with Grant County Fire District 3 presented to Council a Public Improvement Deferral Agreement for street improvements. Chief Durfee spoke about many reasons why the district is asking for a 15-year deferral and waiver of bond requirements. Council discussion took place.

Council Member Kate Schooler made a motion to approve a Public Improvement Deferral Agreement for street improvements with a 5-year deferment and no bond requirement. Council Member Kate Schooler seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Council Member Kate Schooler moved and Council Member Julia Schooler seconded to approve the 2026 Agreement with Grant County Health District for \$3.00/resident. Motion passed 4-0.

City Clerk briefly discussed the 2026 Budget and timelines for the public hearings on both the budget and the revenue sources for the setting of the property tax levy. She explained the need to set the date for the hearings.

Council Member Julia Schooler moved and Council Member Kate Schooler seconded to set the public hearings for the 2026 Budget and the proposed 2026 Ad Valorem tax for the October 21, 2025 regular City Council Meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

Council comments and questions: Council Member Debby Kooy suggested the city form a land acquisition committee. Council discussion took place. The land acquisition committee will include Council members Debby Kooy, Kate Schooler and Mayor Juan Villalpando.

Council asked City Planner Alex Kovach for an update on the installation of the PUD light poles from phase 1 George Town Center. Mr. Kovach told Council that he will check in with the PUD for an update.

Meetings: None

The City Attorney 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 7:55 p.m. The Council came back into the regular meeting at 8:05 p.m.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Approved by the City Council at
an Open Public Meeting the
21st of October, 2025.

Juan Villalpando, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy Grace, City Clerk-Treasurer

