



**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 8, 2025**

Regular Meeting - 6:30 PM

I. GENERAL SESSION CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

- 1. Flag Salute**
- 2. Roll Call**

Present:

Mayor Matt Cole
Mayor Pro Tem Judy Chipman
Council Member Lee Wells
Council Member Clyde Burkle
Council Member Katie Favela
Council Member Rian Davis
Council Member Meghan Hamilton

- 3. Late changes to the agenda**

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone requesting to speak to the Council regarding all items not subject to a specific Public Hearing may come forward at this time. Please state your name and limit comments to three minutes. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Comments received during public testimony can be heard on the City's website under [City Council Meeting Audio Files | Ridgefield, WA \(ridgefieldwa.us\)](https://www.ridgefieldwa.us/City-Council-Meeting-Audio-Files).

III. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED.

RESULT:	(UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Council Member Clyde Burkle
SECONDER:	Council Member Lee Wells
AYES:	Mayor Cole, Council Member Wells, Mayor Pro Tem Chipman, Council Member Burkle, Council Member Favela, Council Member Davis, Council Member Hamilton

- 1. Approval of Claims And/Or Payroll**

2. Approval of Minutes from the April 24, 2025 and May 1, 2025 Meeting

3. Confirmation of Preferred GMA Land Use Alternative

IV. PRESENTATION

1. Fourth Quarter 2024 Budget to Actual Presentation - Kirk Johnson, Finance Director

V. BUSINESS

1. Motion - Approval of Water Conservation Strategy - Ryan Thamert, Utilities & Operations Director

Water Conservation Plan was developed to manage water demand during outages, emergencies, and peak seasonal usage that currently strain the system. Despite infrastructure improvements over the past 15 years, the system is approaching capacity—especially during summer months. While new projects are planned to expand capacity, they are more than a year from completion. The proposed plan includes a five-phase approach with escalating conservation measures triggered by system conditions to help reduce peak demand. Staff will present this item for Council approval at the next meeting.

2. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1451 - Marx Petition to Annex - Claire Lust, Community Development Director

Council reviewed a Petition to Annex two residentially-zoned parcels accessed via NE 259th Street. The parcels include a 10.59-acre developable parcel and a 0.61-acre flagpole parcel, located south of Greely Farms Phase 3 and east of Urban Downs II, both RLD-6 planned unit developments. These parcels are in the Ridgefield Urban Growth Area (UGA) and contiguous with the city limits, making them eligible for annexation. Council adopted Resolution No. 659 on February 27, 2025, approving the intent to annex the Marx property. The annexation petition was signed by Robert and Denise Marx, who own 100% of the land value, exceeding the 60% threshold required for the direct petition method of annexation.

MOTION: MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1451 AS PRESENTED.

RESULT: (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Council Member Katie Favela

SECONDER: Mayor Pro Tem Judy Chipman

AYES: Mayor Cole, Council Member Wells, Mayor Pro Tem Chipman, Council Member Burkle, Council Member Favela, Council Member Davis, Council Member Hamilton

VI. PUBLIC HEARING/BUSINESS

1. Public Hearing and First Reading of Ordinance No. 1452 - Establishing a 20 mph Speed Limit for Gee Creek Loop - Chuck Green, Public Works Director

Gee Creek Meadows, originally built as a private HOA community in 1993, was annexed into the City at that time. In 2017, the HOA dissolved and ownership of Gee Creek Loop was transferred to the City, making it a public road. Public Works is currently working on stormwater, pavement, and crosswalk improvements in the area, funded in part by CDBG funds. At a recent neighborhood meeting, residents raised concerns about speeding. Staff found that no official speed limit had ever been established, making the existing 15 mph sign unenforceable. Based on an engineering review, the City Traffic Engineer recommends establishing a 20 mph speed limit for Gee Creek Loop—the lowest enforceable limit allowed under state law for public roads.

Mayor Cole Opened the Public Hearing: 7:30PM

No testimony received.

Mayor Cole Closed the Public Hearing: 7:30PM

MOTION: MOVED TO WAIVE THE SECOND READING AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1452 AS PRESENTED.

RESULT:	(UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Council Member Katie Favela
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tem Judy Chipman
AYES:	Mayor Cole, Council Member Wells, Mayor Pro Tem Chipman, Council Member Burkle, Council Member Favela, Council Member Davis, Council Member Hamilton

2. Public hearing and First Reading of Ordinance No. 1453 - Amendment to RMC 10.12 Parking, New Section to Prohibit Parking in Front Of or Within 10 Feet of U.S. Mailboxes - Chuck Green, Public Works Director

As new neighborhoods develop, the U.S. Postal Service now requires community (grouped) mailboxes, which often compete with limited on-street parking. City staff have received increasing complaints about vehicles blocking access to these mailboxes, especially in Quail Run and Taverner Ridge. Similar concerns have been raised in the downtown area. To address this, staff are proposing a new city code modeled after Clark County's 2019 provision, which prohibits parking within 10 feet of mailboxes, except for brief mail pickup or delivery. If adopted, the change would effectively reserve 1–2 parking spaces near each mailbox for mail access only.

Mayor Cole Opened the Public Hearing: 7:43PM

No testimony received.

Mayor Cole Closed the Public Hearing: 7:44PM

MOTION: MOVED TO WAIVE THE SECOND READING AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1453 AS PRESENTED.

RESULT:	(UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tem Judy Chipman
SECONDER:	Council Member Katie Favela
AYES:	Mayor Cole, Council Member Wells, Mayor Pro Tem Chipman, Council Member Burkle, Council Member Favela, Council Member Davis, Council Member Hamilton

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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VIII. COUNCIL/PRESIDING OFFICER/STAFF REPORTS

1. Council

Council Member Favela attended the Battle Ground Town Hall meeting, the First Saturday event, the City Council retreat, the City Manager briefing, and the CAAB meeting.

Council Member Davis attended the YMCA Healthy Kids Day, the First Saturday event, and the City Council retreat.

Council Member Hamilton attended the City Council retreat, the First Saturday event, and the Ridgefield Chamber monthly meeting, and gave a shout-out to the Pink Lemonade project.

Council Member Burkle attended many of the same meetings and gave a shout-out to the Ridgefield High School Knowledge Bowl team.

Council Member Wells attended the Battle Ground Town Hall meeting, the First Saturday event, City Manager briefings, and the City Council retreat.

Mayor Pro Tem Chipman attended the City Council retreat and the First Saturday event, and provided an update on the 100 Women Who Care event. A reminder that the Legislative Review meeting and the Clark County Family YMCA event are scheduled for Friday.

2. Mayor

Provided an update and acknowledgment regarding the overpass artwork. Shared an update on the Clark County Comprehensive Plan.

3. City Manager

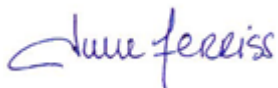
City Manager Steve Stuart followed up on the Mayor's comments about the Clark County Comprehensive Plan, provided grant updates, and shared highlights from the Eugene YMCA tour with the Mayor.

Capital & Engineering Director Chuck Green provided updates on the overpass artwork and the HAWK signal project.

Utilities & Operations Director Ryan Thamert gave an update on the temporary gravel parking lot and provided the latest details on the "Best Tasting Water" competition.

IX. ADJOURN

8:10PM



Julie Ferriss, City Clerk



Matt Cole, Mayor