



**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 25, 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 Katie Favela
Council Member Rian Davis
Council Member Meghan Hamilton

Absent:

Council Member Clyde Burkle

COUNCIL MEMBER WELLS MOVED TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER BURKLE FROM THE MEETING.
SECOND: COUNCIL MEMBER FAVELA.
MOTION PASSED.

- 3. Late changes to the agenda**

II. PROCLAMATION

- 1. National Service Dog Month**

III. 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).

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED.

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

1. **Approval of Claims And/Or Payroll**
2. **Approval of Minutes from the September 11, 2025 Meeting**
3. **Approval to Submit DOT Bridge Planning Grant Application**

V. **BUSINESS**

1. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 1458 - Establishing a Youth Commission - Lee Knottnerus, Deputy City Manager**

City Council has previously included youth perspectives in community decision-making, such as input on the downtown skate park and the creation of a youth position on the Ridgefield Parks Board. At the May 2025 annual retreat, Council discussed creating the first Ridgefield Youth Commission and directed staff to research options for a youth advisory board. At the September 11, 2025 meeting, Council reviewed the proposed mission, structure, and work of the Commission. The Youth Commission would serve as an advisory board to provide youth perspectives on community issues. Commissioners would serve October 1–September 30. The proposed topic for the 2025–2026 year is electric bikes, scooters, and mini-motorcycles. City Council reviewed the proposed code prior to making a final decision.

MOTION: MAYOR PRO TEM CHIPMAN MADE A MOTION TO WAIVE SECOND READY AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1458 WITH CREATION OF RIDGEFIELD YOUTH COMMISSION, AND WITH AN AMENDMENT TO SAY MEMBERS MUST BE ENROLLED IN RIDGEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT OR LIVE WITHIN RIDGEFIELD CITY LIMITS.

SECOND: COUNCIL MEMBER WELLS.

COUNCIL CONDUCTED A DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED MOTION AND AMENDMENT.

COUNCIL MEMBER DAVIS MADE AN AMENDMENT: UPDATE TO SAY RIDGEFIELD URBAN GROWTH AREA.

SECOND: COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON.

AMENDMENT PASSED.

MOTION TO APPROVE AS AMENDED.

RESULT:	(UNANIMOUS)
AYES:	Mayor Cole, Council Member Wells, Mayor Pro Tem Chipman, Council Member Favela, Council Member Davis, Council Member Hamilton

2. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 1459 — Adoption of a Public Safety Sales Tax - Kirk Johnson, Finance Director**

The Washington State Legislature adopted HB 2015, effective July 27, 2025, creating two new public safety funding options: a grant program to hire and train officers, and a councilmanic option for a 0.1% sales and use tax to fund criminal justice initiatives. Staff provided an informational study session on September 18, 2025. Council directed staff to return with an ordinance to consider adopting the 0.1%

sales and use tax, which would be retained entirely by Ridgefield (minus a small DOR administration fee). The sales tax requires majority council approval and must be adopted by June 30, 2028. To implement by January 1, 2026, DOR notification must occur by October 18, 2025. Staff will return for authorization to submit a grant application once the program opens later in 2025. Council conducted a discussion and held the first reading of the ordinance.

3. Motion for Approval of the Quail Ridge Final Plat - Claire Lust, Community Development Director

The Hearing Examiner approved the preliminary plat for Quail Ridge PUD on April 18, 2024, for 41 single-family residential lots. The proposal subdivides Assessor’s Parcels #215811000 and #215867000 into lots ranging from 7,549 to 14,348 sq. ft., with an average lot size of approximately 9,398 sq. ft. Lot 17 (6.5 acres) will be retained by the original owner and includes Gee Creek and its riparian buffer. The project is located immediately west of Cloverhill Phase 4. Staff recommended that City Council approve the Quail Ridge Final Plat subject to conditions of approval.

MOTION: MOVED TO APPROVE QUAIL RIDGE FINAL PLAT AS PRESENTED.

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

4. Motion – Removing Construction Speed Limit for S. Royle Road - Steve Stuart, City Manager

During construction on S. Royle Road a temporary 30 MPH speed limit was established for the safety of the road workers and drivers. Now that work is complete, City staff recommends removing the temporary speed limit and re-establishing the 35 MPH speed limit for the corridor that is included in the City’s Speed Limit Code.

MOTION: APPROVAL OF REMOVING CONSTRUCTION SPEED LIMIT FOR S. ROYLE ROAD AS PRESENTED.

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

VI. PUBLIC HEARING/BUSINESS

1. Public Hearing and First Reading of Ordinance No. 1460 - 2025 Commercial Development Code Amendments - Claire Lust, Community Development Director

Staff annually compiles proposed municipal code amendments based on experience and community feedback. On July 24, 2025, Council reviewed proposed topics and directed staff to draft text amendments, including several related to commercial development. The draft amendments were presented to Planning Commission at a public hearing on September 3, 2025; no public testimony was received. Planning Commission recommended approval with modificationsCity Council subsequently reviewed the proposed amendments and provided feedback to staff.

Mayor Cole Opened the Public Hearing: 8:13PM

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

Mayor Cole Closed the Public Hearing: 8:17PM

The first reading of the Ordinance was conducted.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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VIII. COUNCIL/PRESIDING OFFICER/STAFF REPORTS

1. Council

Council Member Davis recognized staff for facilitating the Envision Ridgefield 2045 Open House.

Council Member Favela attended the Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice and provided an update CARES program.

Council Member Wells attended nine meetings, including a CRWWD meeting.

Council Member Hamilton met with multiple business owners and expressed enthusiasm about starting work on the Youth Commission.

Mayor Pro Tem Chipman attended a CREDC meeting and provided an update.

2. Mayor

Spoke at the Cloth + Foster fundraising luncheon, and shared personal experience with foster care.

3. City Manager

City Manager Steve Stuart will speak at next week's Chamber meeting and provided an update on the Pioneer Widening project.

Community Development Director Claire Lust provided an update on the Envision Ridgefield 2045 Open House.

Deputy City Manager Lee Knottnerus provided an update on Birdfest and activities taking place around town.

City Attorney Janean Parker provided an update on the CTRAN Board.

IX. ADJOURN

8:31PM



Julie Ferriss, City Clerk



Judy Chipman, Mayor Pro Tem