



**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 4, 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. APPOINTMENTS

- 1. Appointment of Planning Commission Members: Positions No. 2, No. 3, and No. 6**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF STEVEN MOYLAN, JUSTIN RACZAK AND HEATHER GORDON TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

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

- 2. Appointment of Parks Board Member: Position No. 6**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF SANDY SCHILL TO THE PARKS BOARD.

RESULT: (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Council Member Davis
SECONDER: Council Member Wells

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

3. Appointment of Salary Commission Members: Position No. 3, and No. 4

MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF DOUG MICHEL AND SHIRLY CUMMINGS TO THE SALARY COMMISSION.

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

4. Appointment of Roundabout Committee Members: Position No. 1, and No. 2

MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JOEL FAHNDRICH AND KATE'LYN WILLS TO THE ROUNDABOUT COMMITTEE.

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

5. Appointment of Mosquito Control Board Representative

MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MARIANA AVALOS TO THE CLARK COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD.

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

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 \(ridgefieldwa.us\)](#).

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED.

RESULT: (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Council Member Burkle
SECONDER: Council Member Wells

AYES: Mayor Cole, Council Member Wells, Mayor Pro Tem Chipman , Council Member Burkle, Council Member Favela, Council Member Davis, Council Member Hamilton
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1. **Approval of Claims And/Or Payroll**
2. **Approval of Minutes from the November 13, 2025 and November 20, 2025 Meeting**

V. PRESENTATION

1. **Washington State Legislative Update - Mike Burgess**

Washington State Legislative Update was presented by Mike Burgess, the City's lobbyist.

2. **Ridgefield Art Association Update - Merrilee Lee**

Ridgefield Art Association update was presented by Merrilee Lee.

3. **Recreation and Community Center Update - Steve Stuart, City Manager**

The Recreation and Community Center update was presented to the City Council by Steve Stuart and project consultants.

VI. BUSINESS

1. **Second Reading of Ordinance 1464 - Ridgefield Municipal Code Amendments Part 2 - Claire Lust, Community Development Director**

Community Development staff presented proposed amendments to the Ridgefield Municipal Code for consideration by the Planning Commission and City Council. The amendments, which are compiled annually, address topics from staff, officials, the development community, and residents, with the goal of improving project outcomes under the code. Staff presented the topics to Planning Commission in June 2025 and to City Council in July 2025, and were directed to draft text amendments. This batch focuses on housekeeping items and amendments related to housing, trails, critical areas, landscaping, and water conservation. Planning Commission held a public hearing on October 1, 2025, with no testimony received, and voted 5-0 to advance the amendments to Council. Council held a public hearing on October 23, 2025, also receiving no testimony. Following Council discussion, staff made adjustments including:

- Removing certain RMD-16 zone amendments in favor of addressing through a development agreement for the Nye PUD.
- Deferring steep-lot terracing standards and native/drought-resistant landscaping incentives to a future amendment batch.
- Clarifying language allowing staff review of certain CC&R changes.
- Updating ADU code amendments to comply with RCW requirements.
- Making two additional housekeeping edits regarding an outdated school capital facilities reference and a duplicate subdivision requirement.

MOTION: MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1464 AS PRESENTED.

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

VII. PUBLIC HEARING/BUSINESS

1. Public Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1469 - 2026 Proposed Budget - Kirk Johnson, Finance Director

The proposed 2026 budget includes total revenues of \$80.1 million and expenses of \$81 million, with a net decrease in fund balance of \$898,969. The budget allocates \$27.9 million for operations, \$43.4 million for capital projects, \$1.6 million for special revenues, \$4.6 million for capital service, and \$3.4 million for debt service, for a total of \$80,988,399. Funding sources include new operating and capital grants, debt issuance, and transfers between funds totaling \$7.84 million. The budget proposes funding for four new full-time positions (city attorney, two police officers, and an engineering technician) and two seasonal positions, bringing the total FTE count to 90.75. Total revenues and use of reserves are projected to support the proposed budget.

Mayor Cole opened the public hearing at 8:49PM. No testimony was received. The public hearing was closed by Mayor Cole at 8:50PM.

MOTION: MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1469 AS PRESENTED.

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

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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IX. COUNCIL/PRESIDING OFFICER/STAFF REPORTS

1. Council

Councilmember Favela expressed appreciation for the community coming together during the season and supporting one another.

Mayor Pro Tem Chipman provided updates on Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Christmas gift tags.

Councilmember Burkle shared updates on Compassion 360 and Lions Club activities, attended the Lemondrop Aesthetics ribbon cutting, and noted the Lions Club Christmas tree sale.

Councilmember Wells attended the Lemondrop Aesthetics ribbon cutting.

Councilmember Hamilton provided updates on the School District Strategic Planning Session, Ridgefield Main Street Board of Directors meeting, BIA Land Use Luncheon, and Turkey Trot.

Councilmember Davis participated in the Turkey Trot and attended the Clark County Parks Task Force meeting.

2. Mayor

Attended the Turkey Trot, the Ridgefield Raptors holiday party, and provided an update on CTRAN Policy Board composition.

3. City Manager

City Manager Steve Stuart thanked Mr. Johnson and team for completing the 2026 budget and acknowledged staff efforts in organizing the Hometown Celebration. Noted upcoming ribbon cutting ceremonies for Works Real Estate and McDonald's on December 6.

Community Development Director Claire Lust congratulated the new Planning Commission members.

Deputy City Manager Lee Knottnerus reminded attendees that the Hometown Celebration will be held on Saturday, December 6.

X. ADJOURN

9:11PM



Julie Ferriss, City Clerk



Matt Cole, Mayor