



**CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2026**

Regular Meeting - 6:30 PM

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

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

Present:

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

Absent:

Council Member Clyde Burkle

MOTION: COUNCIL MEMBER DAVIS MOVED TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER BURKLE FROM THE MEETING.
SECOND: MAYOR PRO TEM CHIPMAN.
MOTION PASSED.

3. Late changes to the agenda

Sanderling Park Phase 4 Final Plat was removed from the agenda and will be presented to the Council for consideration at a future date.

II. PROCLAMATION

- 1. Lights Out for Birds Migration**
- 2. Mental Health Awareness 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 \(ridgefieldwa.us\)](#).

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 April 9, 2026 Meeting**

V. PRESENTATION

1. **Comprehensive Plan Amendment Updates - Claire Lust, Community Development Director**

David Toyer, Toyer Strategic Advisors, provided an update on the City’s preferred land use alternative for the Envision Ridgefield 2045 Comprehensive Plan. The update included proposed UGA expansions to support future jobs and housing, and the joint advocacy effort with La Center and Camas for Clark County to adopt a Transfer of Development Rights program. This work is in preparation for the Clark County Council’s April 27–28 public hearing on comprehensive plan land use alternatives.

VI. BUSINESS

1. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 1480 - 2026 Budget Amendment 2 - Kirk Johnson, Finance Director**

Council received an overview of the proposed 2026 budget amendment, which includes new and reappropriated expenditures, recognition of new revenue, and use of remaining 2024 LTGO Bond funds. Key elements include project reappropriations, funding for the Ridgefield Community and Recreation Center partnership, water infrastructure design work, and several general government requests. The total fund balance impact across all funds is \$4,311,100. Council discussed the amendment and provided feedback to staff.

2. **Motion to Approve the Sanderling Park Phase 4 Final Plat - Claire Lust, Community Development Director**

Sanderling Park Phase 4 Final Plat was removed from the agenda and will be presented to the Council for consideration at a future date.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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VIII. COUNCIL/PRESIDING OFFICER/STAFF REPORTS

1. **Council**

Mayor Pro Tem Chipman requested clarification on the Council’s authority related to the Port of

Ridgefield Waterfront Project. City Manager Steve Stuart outlined the process. Attended the Civics Bee event held at the Middle School.

Council Member Hamilton acknowledged all who attended the meeting and provided testimony regarding the Port of Ridgefield Waterfront Project proposal. Congratulated Chief Doriot on her retirement announcement, and participated in the Spring Clean-Up event.

Council Member Wells acknowledged all who attended the meeting and provided testimony regarding the Port of Ridgefield Waterfront Project proposal. Attended the County Council work session and the Spring Clean Up event.

Council Member Davis recognized attendees and those who testified on the Port of Ridgefield Waterfront Project proposal. Attended the Civics Bee at the Middle School, the C-Tran meeting, the Spring Clean-Up event, and co-hosted an office hour with Jake Bredstrand from RSD.

Council Member Favela congratulated Chief Doriot on her retirement announcement, traveled to Washington, D.C., with City Manager Steve Stuart and Mayor Cole for lobbying efforts. Attended and participated in the Spring Clean-Up event.

2. Mayor

Mayor Cole acknowledged all who attended the meeting and provided testimony regarding the Port of Ridgefield Waterfront Project proposal, noting alignment with the remarks of other Council members. Participated in Take Your Kids to Work Day, traveled to Washington, D.C., for lobbying efforts, attended the Spring Clean-Up event, and congratulated Chief Doriot on her retirement announcement.

3. City Manager

City Manager Steve Stuart reported Spring Clean-Up vehicle participation, County Council's April 27–28 hearings on the Preferred Land Use Alternative, and the May 3 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Community Nature Center at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge.

Public Works Director Ryan Thamert reported that the Public Works Department received an APWA Project of the Year award for the Pioneer Widening project.

Finance Director Kirk Johnson reminded the City Council of the entrance audit meeting scheduled for the upcoming week.

Deputy City Manager Lee Knottnerus reminded Council of the upcoming May First Saturday event and the planned activities, including the opening of the splash pad.

Police Chief Cathy Doriot thanked everyone for their kind words regarding the announcement of her retirement. Also, a reminder that the Police Department will be participating in the multi-agency emergency preparedness exercise at Ridgefield High School.

IX. ADJOURN

9:15PM

Handwritten signature of Julie Ferriss in blue ink.

Julie Ferriss, City Clerk

Handwritten signature of Matt Cole in blue ink.

Matt Cole, Mayor