



**CITY OF WASHOUGAL
CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
Tuesday, May 26, 2026
5:00 PM**

MEETING INFORMATION

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82302786162>

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Fritz called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem David Fritz, Councilmembers Tia Robertson (ZOOM), Ernie Suggs (ZOOM @ 5:03PM), Marty Swofford & David Szyplinski.

Absent: Mayor David Stuebe & Councilmember Michelle Wagner

Absent Student Representative Jake Larzalere

Staff:

David Scott, City Manager

Daniel Layer, Finance Director/City Clerk (ZOOM)

Mitch Kneipp, Community Development Director

Amanda Goulding, Assistant City Clerk & Accounting Specialist

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Richard Duncan-Verdier, president of the Gibbons Creek tenant organization, stated that residents received notice on April 17 that the mobile home park is being offered for sale. He discussed opportunities for tenant or nonprofit ownership and suggested exploring tax incentives to support such purchases and help preserve affordable housing.

Port Commissioner Larry Keister reported that the Port is developing the *Grove Field Airport Master Plan* through community workshops and listening sessions. The process is intended to engage the public, gather input on community needs and experiences, and help establish community-driven goals for the airport's future development.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Community Development: Code Updates Group 4 — Mitch Kneipp

Mitch Kneipp & Jessica Herceg with *DOWL* presented the **Code Updates Group 4:**

- Countywide Process Update
- Siting Essential Public Facilities
- Transportation Concurrency Updates
- Miscellaneous Revisions
- Impact Fee Exemptions
- Next Steps

Discussion ensued with Council, Mitch Kneipp, Jessica Herceg & David Scott.

V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. CITY MANAGER

David Scott reported that two councilmember voting delegates have been registered for the upcoming Association of Washington Cities (AWC) annual business meeting, with one additional delegate position still available. Delegates will participate virtually and primarily vote on board member elections and any bylaw amendments.

He noted that delegate information will be distributed to participating councilmembers and encouraged anyone interested in serving as a voting delegate to contact staff before the registration deadline.

He reminded Council that the June 8 workshop will be shortened to accommodate the Citizens Academy graduation ceremony before the regular Council meeting. Mr. Scott also announced the launch of the Community Market beginning June 5, featuring 31 vendors, arts and crafts, live music, and weekly activities.

B. MAYOR

Mayor Pro Tem Fritz provided the introduction at the Citizens Academy on May 14. He also reported that he will be unable to attend the June 8 Council meeting due to travel.

Mayor Pro Tem Fritz attended the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) convention in Las Vegas, noting the unique perspective gained from both the development and local government sides of economic development discussions.

He also highlighted meetings with representatives from several communities, including those in Grant County, Washington, and observed the county's

coordinated and effective approach to promoting development opportunities.

His upcoming activities include the Community Development meeting on June 3, participation in a meeting with the State Auditor on June 10, and attendance at the Hamlik Park Basketball Court Improvements Ribbon Cutting on June 11, where he will provide welcoming remarks.

C. CITY COUNCIL

Councilmembers Robertson & Suggs deferred.

Councilmember Szyplinski attended a Community Chest planning meeting for next year's gala, participating in discussions and brainstorming efforts aimed at increasing fundraising and achieving an ambitious goal of doubling donation revenue.

Councilmember Swofford reported he will be attending a Columbia River Economic Development Council (CREDC) meeting in Vancouver May 28, and provided an update on discussions with East County Little League representatives. League officials expressed appreciation for Joe Walsh's volunteer efforts to clean up the baseball field and conveyed thanks to the City Council for considering field improvements.

He noted that East County Little League remains interested in discussing future opportunities and partnerships related to the facility.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Fritz adjourned the meeting at 6:08 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Monday, June 8, 2026 — Workshop at 5:00 PM & Council at 7:00 PM.

Michelle Wagner

Mayor Councilmember Michelle Wagner

Daniel Loyer

City Clerk