

City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session
City Council Chambers
November 10, 2025 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND CALL TO ORDER

0:05 Mayor Fletcher led the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

0:31 **ROLL CALL**

Council members present: Patel, Wood, Soha, Gingell, Coleman, and Mayor Fletcher. Staff present: DePew, Clerk/Treasurer, Fleck, Attorney/Planner, Rowley, Police Chief, and Hampton, Public Works Director.

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

0:48 **Motion** to approve the agenda as presented by Wood, second Patel, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1:06 Heather Cantua of the Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition introduced herself and the organization's application for lodging tax funds for the 2026 Fish n' Brew.

6:38 Ryan Walsh said he was present to invite assistance with environmental contamination.

7:36 Lissy Andros, Director Forks Chamber of Commerce, said she was the recipient of the Washington Festival and Events Association's Small Market Event Organizer of the Year Award.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting held October 27, 2025

8:17 **Motion** to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held October 27, 2025 by Wood, second Gingell, motion carried.

2. Expenditures

8:39 **Motion** to approve manual check 45006 in the amount of \$9,884.12, manual checks 45007 through 45008 in the amount of \$49,283.49, payroll checks 45009 through 45027 in the amount of \$150,203.93, claim checks 45028 through 45055 and EFTs as included in the total amount of \$125,331.18, and travel checks 3763 through 3764 in the amount of \$263.00 by Patel, second Wood, motion carried.

3. 2026 Budget Hearing

9:50 Mayor Fletcher opened the budget hearing at 7:39 p.m.

10:01 Lissy Andros said she would like the City to try to find a way to include repairs to the ICN Building in the 2026 budget.

10:30 Mayor Fletcher closed the budget hearing at 7:40 p.m.

4. Revenue Sources/Property Taxes

A. Public Hearing

11:01 Mayor Fletcher opened the public hearing at 7:41 p.m.

There was no public comment.

11:21 Mayor Fletcher closed the public hearing at 7:41 p.m.

B. Resolution No. 531: 2026 Property Tax Levy

11:46 **Motion** to reject any increase in the regular property tax levy collected in 2026 by Gingell, second Coleman, motion carried.

5. Lexipol Jail Agreement

12:20 Police Chief Rowley introduced and explained the jail's agreement with Lexipol.

13:10 **Motion** to approve the Lexipol jail agreement by Soha, second Gingell, motion carried.

6. Hoh Tribe Easement

13:32 Attorney/Planner Fleck explained discussions he had with those involved in the Hoh Tribe's installation of a charging station and conduit extension across a City right of way, and asked for approval to establish a government-to-government easement for the life of the activity or until the property is developed. Discussion ensued with Soha strongly voicing his concern over a number of issues.

19:40 **Motion** to table action on this item until more information is available by Coleman, second Wood, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Opportunity Fund Update

20:54 Attorney/Planner Fleck said County Commissioners approved the City's application for \$260,000 from the Opportunity Fund as an interest-bearing five-year loan. Also approved was the \$675,000 grant for electrical upgrades at the Industrial Park, contingent upon an executed lease with Riverside Forest Products USA.

2. Agricultural Tax Status

23:15 Attorney/Planner Fleck introduced and explained an Application for Classification—Open Space Land submitted by Pete and Chad Dahlgren. He then asked Council if they are inclined to approve the application with a resolution, and if there are any questions anyone would like answered as part of the process. A brief Q & A between Council, staff, and Attorney/Planner Fleck followed.

3. Council Member Reports

30:26 **Council Member Patel** asked Lissy Andros if the Chamber of Commerce had considered restoring the trucks outside the Visitor Information Center. She said they would love to if they could find someone to do it.

31:46 **Council Member Gingell** reported on a stray dog that killed eight of his chickens, and thanked Friends of Forks Animals and Chief Rowley for their assistance with the matter. He also said he'll be participating in Council meetings via Zoom for three months beginning in December as he transitions to travel work.

33:26 **Council Member Coleman** reported the swift water rescue team was called out to search for a missing boater.

4. Staff Reports

35:04 **Clerk/Treasurer DePew** reported the two-year State audit has begun, and that they will focus on utility billing and adjustments, the Police Department, procurement, tracking and monitoring of fuel use, open public meetings, and financial condition. She also introduced a letter to the Council that was received from abroad, as well as a proposed return letter for them to sign and return.

36:00 **Public Works Director Hampton** said Public Works is busy on E St, and that the work is going well.

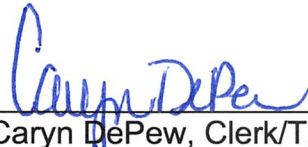
36:30 **Attorney/Planner Fleck** reported preparing to issue RFQs for various projects and attending a meeting with other RECOMPETE grant recipients regarding the government closure. He specifically noted Nick Dias has been doing a lot of ground work while he's been busy with a lease agreement, and also said he participated in RainCon.

4. Mayor's Report

Mayor Fletcher said he is very proud of the volunteerism in the community.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Soha, second Patel, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.


Caryn DePew, Clerk/Treasurer


Tim Fletcher, Mayor