

City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session
City Council Chambers
July 27, 2026

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND CALL TO ORDER

0:00 Mayor Fletcher led the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: Patel, Kimball, Soha, Gingell [arrived at 7:45 p.m.], Pearson, and Mayor Fletcher. Staff present: DePew, Clerk/Treasurer, Fleck, Attorney/Planner, and Hampton, Public Works Director. Absent: Rowley, Police Chief.

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

0:53 **Motion** to approve the agenda as presented by Soha, second Patel, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1:41 Mary Howell complained about the noise and smell from a large number of farm animals kept on a neighboring property, and suggested the Forks Municipal Code be amended to limit the numbers of some farm animals that can be kept in City limits and completely ban others.
- 6:19 Katherine Jackson read from a prepared statement regarding an e-mail voicing concerns about a member of the Planning Commission she had sent to the Mayor and City Attorney, but to which she has had no response. She then read the e-mail aloud.
- 9:34 Andrew Hoschar said he thinks the responsible operation of golf carts on city streets should be permitted.
- 11:10 Deborah Gaydeski said she is concerned about the safety of children crossing streets on their way to school and those coming from the north on Clallam Transit buses and dropped off near Tillicum Park, and said she would like to see more crosswalks. She also suggested the traffic signal at Forks Ave and Calawah Way be activated again, and said the signs showing local clubs and organizations at both ends of town look terrible.
- 14:47 Lissy Andros, Director Forks Chamber of Commerce, agreed the signs look terrible, and then thanked the Public Works crew for making the Ben Dome available for Movies in the Park the previous weekend. She said the next movie, Jurassic Park, will be shown on August 22.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Council Meeting Minutes

- 16:16 **Motion** to approve minutes from the July 13, 2026 Regular Meeting by Soha, second Patel, motion carried.

2. Expenditures

- 16:38 **Motion** to approve payroll checks 45962 through 45978 in the amount of \$111,474.14, and claim checks 45979 through 46018 and EFTs as included in the total amount of \$212,658.79 by Patel, second Soha, motion carried.

3. Ordinance No. 694 Small Works Contracting

- 17:26 Attorney/Planner Fleck introduced the ordinance and explained that one detail had yet to be determined.

- 18:05 **Motion** to authorize the mayor to award public works contracts without city council approval when the amount for a specific project is less than \$75,000 by Soha, second Pearson, motion carried.

- 18:26 **Motion** to approve Ordinance No. 694 amending the City's procurement processes utilizing a small works roster by Soha, second Patel, motion carried.

4. TIB Application for Calawah Way Approval

- 19:05 **Motion** to authorize the Mayor and staff to apply for a grant from the Transportation Improvement Board for Calawah Way roadway improvements by Soha, second Patel, motion carried.

5. Acceptance of Patel's Donation

- 19:31 Mayor Fletcher reminded Council of Patel's donation, through his businesses, to the City for a radar feedback sign.

- 19:57 **Motion** to accept the donation of \$4,500.00 from Samanvay Hospitality & Management Inc., Shivaadya Inc., and Karunanidhi LLC by Soha, second Gingell, motion carried 4-0 with Patel abstaining.

- 20:14 A photo of Lissy Andros, Director Forks Chamber of Commerce, which will also be donating to the purchase of a sign, and Patel with one of the new signs was taken.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 2nd Quarter 2026 Reports

Council reviewed Sales & Lodging Tax, Building Permits, Jail Statistics, and Visitor Information Center Statistics reports.

2. Ordinance No. 695 Livestock at Large Amendment

- 25:26 Attorney/Planner Fleck explained the changes to the Forks Municipal Code, as well as the practical effects of the changes. Some discussion ensued.

3. Forks Complete Streets Ordinance

29:48 **Attorney/Planner Fleck** introduced a sample ordinance establishing a Complete Streets Program to provide safe access and accommodations to all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, and public transportation users, as well as the process involved and its possible results/consequences.

32:08 **Public Works Director Hampton** added to the discussion. A brief discussion ensued.

4. 2027 Lodging Tax Process

35:40 **Clerk/Treasurer DePew** explained changes regarding lodging tax request review and allocation to the budget calendar and asked for suggestions on the Application for Lodging Tax Funds.

36:44 **Pearson** asked if a community event providing information regarding the application for and use of lodging tax would be held. **Clerk/Treasurer DePew** pointed out information provided on the application, and said she didn't think such an event would be helpful. Discussion ensued.

5. Reports

• Council Member Reports

39:23 **Council Member Patel** thanked Council for accepting his donation for the radar feedback sign, and said he is looking forward to the next Movie in the Park.

40:08 **Council Member Soha** commented on the traffic "mess" on Forks Ave.

42:12 **Council Member Pearson** said some business owners had asked her to write a letter to WSDOT regarding repairs to the Hoh Bridge. She then reported she is helping with a traffic petition, which will begin with a community survey.

• Staff Reports

44:50 **Clerk/Treasurer DePew** asked that Council remain after the meeting for a photo for the City website.

45:14 **Public Works Director Hampton** said suggestions regarding the intersection at Forks Ave and Calawah Way are good, but may be difficult to add to the currently planned Calawah Way Roadway Improvements Project. He then provided an update on the E Street project, and said he spoke to WSDOT about the many complaints regarding the need for crosswalks and e-mailed WSDOT regarding flashing signs at crosswalks.

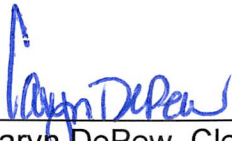
46:44 **Attorney/Planner Fleck** directed Council to the Reports section of their notebooks where notices of several upcoming public hearings could be found. He then said he has been working on a number of land-use matters, the America's Rural Future event to be held on August 12, and the Quillayute Airport project.

49:13 • Mayor's Report

Mayor Fletcher said the City listens to requests from the community, and while legal counsel must be sought on some, he and City staff are moving forward on issues that can be addressed.

6. ADJOURNMENT

49:43 **Motion** to adjourn by Soha, second Gingell, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Caryn DePew, Clerk/Treasurer



Tim Fletcher, Mayor