



Falls City Oregon City Council Meeting

Monday, October 5, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Location

320 N Main St • Falls City, OR 97344

How to Attend and/or Participate

1. In Person: 320 N Main St. Falls City, OR 97344
2. Call-in: a. 1-253-215-8782 b. Meeting ID: 878 7406 4319 You will be muted but may “raise your hand” to indicate you wish to comment.
3. Web Application: Zoom Webinar <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87874064319> You will be muted but may “raise your hand” to indicate you wish to comment during Public Comments.
4. Write-In: Using regular mail or email. a. info@fallscityoregon.gov; 299 Mill St. Falls City, OR 97344

The City of Falls City does not discriminate in providing access to its programs, services, and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, or any other inappropriate reason prohibited by law or policy of the state or federal government. Should a person need special accommodations or interpretation services, contact the City at 503.787.3631 at least one working day prior to the need for services and every reasonable effort to accommodate the need will be made.

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor TJ Bailey, Council President Houghtaling, Councilor Nick Backus, Councilor Tony Meier, Councilor Tia Scruton, Councilor Dennis Sickles, Councilor Lori Jean Sickles

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS, APPRECIATIONS, & PROCLAMATIONS

a. LDS Project Recognition

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS & LETTER COMMUNICATIONS

In order to encourage an environment of openness, courtesy and respect for differing points of view, please refrain from behavior that is disruptive to the meeting such as making loud noises, clapping, shouting, booing, or any other activity that disrupts the orderly conduct of the meeting. Abusive language will not be tolerated.

Please limit your commentary to 3 minutes or less.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

a. September 8, 2026 Minutes

Attachments:

- **Minutes** (2026.09.08_0_Council_Minutes.pdf)

6. REPORTS OR COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

a. Mayor's Report

b. Councilor Comments

c. Public Works Committee Report

Attachments:

- **Minutes** (PW_Minutes.pdf)

7. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER & STAFF

a. City Manager's Report

Attachments:

- **Report** (2026.10.5_Monthly_Manager's_Report.pdf)

8. GOOD OF THE ORDER

9. ADJOURN

Posted for Public at the City Hall Bulletin Board, Community Center, Falls City Website, Falls City Market, and City Facebook page

Contact: Jeremy Teal, City Recorder (jteal@fallscityoregon.gov 503.787.3631) | Agenda published on 10/01/2026 at 12:59 PM

FALLS CITY CITY COUNCIL		MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026	
Mayor Bailey called the Falls City City Council into regular session on Monday, September 8, 2026 at 6:01 p.m. in the Community Center located at 320 N. Main Street.			
Council Members Present: Councilor Nick Backus, Councilor Tony Meier, Councilor Tia Scruton, and Councilor Lori Jean Sickles. Councilor Dennis Sickles and Council President Amy Houghtaling were absent.			
Staff Present: City Manager AJ Foscoli and City Recorder Jeremy Teal			
AGENDA		ACTION	
Announcements, Appointments, Appreciations & Proclamations		Mayor Bailey	
Public Comment		Mayor Bailey opened the public comments at 6:02 p.m. Tracy Young asked who was responsible for the no names on the ballot. Mayor Bailey stated the confusion was with the system and the SEL forms having the wrong dates on them. Mr. Foscoli noted the candidates who were running would run a write-in campaign and there would be space on the ballot for the names. He stated the final count was purely majority. Ms. Young stated Wood Street was looking better but needed a lot of work. She noted the baseball field also needed work. Tina Thompson asked if the pothole on South Main needs some pavement. Chris Martin asked if the city had considered SDC fees for new homes. He noted the City could receive \$12-\$13,000 per house. Mr. Foscoli stated the discussion with the COG planner to enact SDC fees had taken place. He noted the process was 6-9 and a consultant would need to be hired to analyze the potential growth and set rates for each aspect. Mr. Martin asked if future developments would include sidewalks and curbs. Mr. Foscoli stated all those as well as rain gardens. Tina Thompson stated that she owned the sewer pond and no one was going on the system while we are paying for it. Mr. Foscoli advised that the full capacity of the ponds was	

	engineered for 179 accounts and after 1 year of calibrations the full capacity will be identified and possibly more people will be able to be added and charged for the connection. Ms. Thompson asked if the City would reimburse the citizens that have been paying. Mr. Foscoli noted that as people move into town, depending on where they live, they may or may not be on system, but if they connect, they will pay. Mayor Bailey stated the City would check in with COG planner and see what legal course the City needed to take. Mr. Martin stated the City needed to make some money with water and sewer and get some money back. Mayor Bailey closed the public comments at 6:19 p.m.
Consent Agenda a) August 17, 2026 Minutes	It was moved by Councilor Backus to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Meier and CARRIED with a vote of 4-0 with Councilors Backus, Meier, Scruton, and LJ Sickles voting YES.
Reports or Comments from Mayor and Council Members a) Mayor's Report b) Councilor Comments c) Park & Rec Committee Report d) Public Works Committee Report	Mayor Bailey stated the Veterans Day BBQ meeting was coming soon. Councilor Backus stated he was concerned about license plates cameras and them selling the info to people. He noted that data centers look for places like Falls City and come close and seize water. There were no comments Councilor Meier stated the committee asked that 8th street be purchased.
Reports from City Manager & Staff a) Fire Report b) Code Report	There were no comments. Mr. Foscoli noted that citations were sent to S Main.

c) City Manager's Report	Mr. Foscoli reported on the wastewater treatment plant, code enforcement, grant writing, the town hall meeting, the LDS Service Project, and the waterline project
d) Street Vacation	Mr. Foscoli noted he had been approached by the new owners off of 8th Street and they had asked for a vacation. He stated there was a slim chance of the city doing anything with it. The vacation would allow the new owners to have better access to their property. He mentioned the owner had voiced agreement with purchasing the land and would come to an agreement with all 3 parties. He stated he wouldn't preclude the city from using it in the future for any possible infrastructure easements. It was moved by Councilor Backus to instruct city staff to explore the vacation of 8th Street. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Meier and CARRIED with a vote of 4-0 with Councilors Backus, Meier, Scruton, and LJ Sickles, voting YES.
Good of the Order	There were no comments
Regular Session Adjourn	There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.
Read and approved this ____ day of _____ 2026. Mayor: _____ ATTEST: City Recorder: _____	

**City of Falls City
Public Works Committee Meeting**

Thursday September 24, 2026 6:00PM
Meeting Location: 320 N. Main Street

Committee Members Present

Mike McConnell, Tony Meier, Marty Haviland, Cliff Lauder, Guy Mack. (6:07)

1) Call to Order

Chair McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM, took roll call.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

Chair McConnell led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Motion to Adopt the entire Agenda

Member Meier moved and member Lauder seconded: **that we approve the entire agenda.** Motion carried 5-0-0. Ayes: Mike McConnell, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Marty Haviland, Guy Mack.

4) Consent Agenda: Motion Action Approving Consent Agenda Items

Member Meier moved and member Haviland seconded: **that we approve Consent Agenda Items, PWC Minutes August 20, 2026.** Motion carried. 5-0-0. Ayes: Mike McConnell, Tony Meier, Marty Haviland, Cliff Lauder, Guy Mack.

5) Public Comments

6) New Business

a. Water & Sewer Installation Price Increase

PWC discussed Section 1, Connection Fees, the various proposed rate increases and Chair McConnell said that City Manager Foscolli told him that the City is losing money at the current rates. Since the rates haven't been raised since 2017 and inflation has increased approximately 3.53% per year the PWC considered the rates reasonable and **recommends the City Council approve the rates as proposed.**

b. Capital Improvement Fee

PWC discussed that rate increase with general approval, but many members asked what the funds are actually used for and requested the City provide a list of approved uses of this fund before giving final approval.

7) Old Business – Project Updates

a. Water Mainline Replacement Project - FYI

b. Dayton Street Pedestrian/Infrastructure Bridge - FYI

c. Parking Citations/Code Enforcement

Chair McConnell related a conversation with the Code Enforcement Officer and was told the City needed to revise Ordinances to make them more specific legally before more citations can be issued.

d. Water Management and Conversation Plan – No new updates

e. Public Works Committee Vacancy

No action taken.

f. City Hall Sale

PWC discussed what to do with the Pink Pokey and Chair McConnell iterated he was not sure where to move it and the cost of moving it.

8) Correspondence, Comments and Ex-Officio Reports

General consensus of PWC is that the City should revise our current Ordinances regarding parking and zoning to make enforcement more functional.

9) Committee Announcements - Tentative next meeting October 15, 2026 at Community Center.

10) Adjourn

Member Mack moved and Chair McConnell seconded: **that we adjourn.** Motion carried 5-0-0. Mike McConnell, Tony Meier, Marty Haviland, Cliff Lauder, Guy Mack. Meeting adjourned at 7:14.

_____ Public Works Committee Chair McConnell

Attested: _____ Public Works Committee Member



City of Falls City
299 Mill Street
Falls City, OR 97344
Ph 503.787.3631

City Manager's Report October 5, 2026

Introduction

Though we had a rough start to the summer water consumption, with some residences using as much as in previous years, we eventually saw a declining usage of the city's limited water supply. The summer weather cooperating with relatively low temperatures, heled the city avoid implementing water curtailment for this year. We hope that residents will continue to use good judgement in future years, especially when the temperatures increase and precipitation is low. The early September rain that we received definitely helped, so our focus will now turn to preparation for fall and winter condition in the next few weeks and months.

Wastewater Project – The city is continuing to work with the funding agencies to administratively close out the project. In less than a month, the city will begin discharging treated effluent to the Little Luckiamute, which is a major milestone in our new wastewater facility.

Grazing Proposal (Land adjacent Lagoons)– The city has been approached with a proposal to allow cattle to graze on the vacant land next to the Wastewater Treatment Facility's lagoons. As maintenance of the grassland on this vacant land is both time-consuming and resource intensive, we are weighing the pros and cons of this proposal. In consulting with DEQ and Polk County, there are no objections to moving forward with this proposal if the City Council is in favor. A full staff report with information will be submitted for the November City Council meeting.

Fee Increases for Water and Wastewater Connections– The city has been reviewing connection fees for the water and wastewater systems as part of due diligence to maintain adequate funding support for our services. The last time those fees were increased was in 2017 and the inflation costs have been increasing at an average of 3.53%. A full staff report with information on the proposed increases will be submitted for the November City Council meeting.

Code Enforcement – Our Code Enforcement Officer continues to coordinate with the Polk County Sheriff's Office Deputy to address several code compliance instances. Thanks to the City of Dallas for municipal court services, the Code Enforcement Officer has issued citations to adjudicate in their court. Other non-compliance cases will be adjudicated in future court proceedings

Note: If you have questions/concerns, please respond to me individually by email, phone, or in person. This way we avoid violating any public meetings laws with a "reply all" response, or multiple councilors discussing on the same thread.

Town Hall Meeting – Next Town Hall Meeting is planned for Monday, Oct. 19 at 6:00pm. The possible topics include continuing discussion on how current Federal & State funding cuts affect city services, funding for the Dayton Street Bridge repair/reconstruction, funding for Code Enforcement/Compliance, and continued funding for Falls City Fire Department. With the upcoming election, we may also try to have the candidates drop by and talk to the community.

8th Street Vacation – Staff has been working with property owners in order to delineate a utility agreement to be in place as part of the street vacation process. Staff will notify the community in October to bring comment at the November council meeting.

LDS Large-scale Service Project – The city saw 150 volunteers descend upon Falls City to help with clean-up projects throughout town. Several crews worked in cleaning up right-of-ways of yard debris, the City Hall garden area, painting the pedestrian island, and speed bumps in town. The community owes a great debt of gratitude to the Church of Latter Day Saints for choosing to spend their service volunteer time in Falls City.

Parking Penalty Updates – The city has gaps in its penalties with parking ordinances, which means that there are certain parking offences that do not have specific monetary penalties attached to them. In order to prosecute illegal parking within city limits Resolutions need to be updated with penalties and implemented. A full staff report with information on the proposed increases will be submitted for the November City Council meeting.

2025/2026 Infrastructure Construction Projects –

Water Mainline Replacement Project:

- Business Oregon & OHA have approved additional water lines for replacement, therefore work will occur between July and October at the following locations: Cameron, Parry Road, Fairview & Terrace Street, Mill Street, Pine Street and 1st/2nd Street connection

Sincerely,

