



Public Works Committee

Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Notice of Meeting

320 N Main St. Falls City, OR 97344

Committee Members

Mike McConnell - Tony Meier - Jeff Propp - Guy Mack - Cliff Lauder - Marty Haviland

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Motion to Adopt the Entire Agenda
4. Consent Agenda - Motion Action Approving Consent Agenda Items
 - a. August 20, 2026 Minutes

Attachments:

- Minutes (UAB08-20-26.pdf)

5. Public Comments
6. New Business
 - a. Water & Sewer Installation Price Increase

Attachments:

- Staff Report (2026.09.24_SR_Water_Sewer_Connection_Fee_Increase.pdf)
- Exhibit 1 (Exhibit_1_Water_Sewer_Connection_Fees_Increase.pdf)

7. Old Business
 - a. Project Updates

Attachments:

- Update (2026.09.24_SR_Committee_Update.pdf)

8. Correspondence, Comments and Ex-Officio Reports
9. Committee Announcements
10. Adjourn

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

Thursday August 20, 2026 6:00PM
Meeting Location: 320 N. Main Street

Committee Members Present

Mike McConnell (via phone), Tony Meier, Marty Haviland, Cliff Lauder, Jeff Propp, Guy Mack.

1) Call to Order

Vice-Chair Meier called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM, took roll call.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chair Meier led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Motion to Adopt the entire Agenda

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

4) Consent Agenda: Motion Action Approving Consent Agenda Items

Member Haviland moved and member Mack seconded: **that we approve Consent Agenda Items, PWC Minutes June 18, 2026.** Motion carried. 5-0-0. Ayes: Tony Meier, Marty Haviland, Cliff Lauder, Guy Mack.

5) Public Comments

Member Lauder informed the Committee that speeding is a problem on Prospect Street west of the Elementary School and the City **should install speed bumps from the Elementary School to 5th Street to slow vehicular traffic**, especially with the new school year about to begin and that Prospect Street is part of the Safe Routes to School Project. PWC concurred.

Member Propp mention that the speed bump on Mitchell Street is difficult to see and he moved and member Meier seconded: **that the speed bump should be brightly painted and appropriate signage be installed.** Motion passed 5-0-0. Ayes: Tony Meier, Jeff Propp, Marty Haviland, Cliff Lauder, Guy Mack.

6) New Business

a. 8th Street Vacation

Property owner, Don Schaecher is requesting the City vacate 8th Street so he can acquire the property or portion thereof with adjacent property owner Rick Babbitt which would allow the property owners on either side of vacated street additional land to make the properties easier to develop. Mr. Schaecher is willing to pay for surveying said parcel if given the property.

Chair McConnell mentioned that when Kirby Frink was mayor that the Council determined that the City should not vacate any City properties but that times change and with the physical nature of this property that the City should sell the vacated street to adjacent owners. Mr. Schaecher said he would attempt to talk with Mr. Babbitt to determine if he is interested and if not he would be willing to acquire the entire parcel.

PWC recommends **that the City vacate 8th Street and negotiate with adjacent property owners a reasonable price (including surveying) and dispose of this property.**

7) Old Business – Project Updates

a. Safe Routes to School Pedestrian Island and ADA Sidewalk Project

Member Lauder mentioned that the new sidewalk up 5th Street has briars, limbs and other debris hindering easy use. He also mentioned that the Stairs are also being encroached by vegetation and that: **both 5th Street and the Stairs require regular maintenance to ensure safe passage.**

b. Water Mainline Replacement Project - FYI

c. Dayton Street Pedestrian/Infrastructure Bridge - FYI

d. Parking Citations/Code Enforcement – FYI

e. Water Capacity - FYI

f. Water Management and Conservation Plan - FYI

g. Public Works Committee Vacancy

No action taken.

h. LDS Service Area Project

PWC iterates its suggestions to add Lagoon vegetation screening and possible trail clearing to Berry Creek so future Water Rights projects can be researched. If possible to add to the list PWC suggests the clearing of briars, brush, debris from 5th Street and the Stairs.

i. City Hall Sale

PWC discussed what to do with the Pink Pokey. Chair McConnell said he was not sure where to move it and the cost of moving it. Suggested the City could approach prospective buyers about giving the property to the City as a tax write-off. Historic Landmark Commission suggested that if it is not feasible to relocate the Pink Pokey that the door and some windows be salvaged for future determination as to how memorialize the former jail if it is determined that demolition is the best option. Vice-Chair Meier informed PWC that the City's plan for the Pink Pokey was to let it go with the sale.

Vice-Chair Meier brought up the Electric Charging Stations at the Old City Hall. PWC wondered if they could be moved to a more convenient location on Main Street.

Resident Don Schaecher said he thought the best option was to remove/demolish the Pink Pokey and remove/relocate charging stations to facilitate a quicker sale.

8) Correspondence, Comments and Ex-Officio Reports

Member Haviland and PWC agreed that because of excessive speeding the City should install a solar powered Speed Sign at the east end of Sheldon Avenue. Speed bumps should also be considered. Member Lauder reminded PWC and the City that the old restored siren from the old Fire Station is located at Corky Wagner's house.

9) Committee Announcements - Tentative next meeting September 17 2026 at Community Center.

10) Adjourn

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

_____ Public Works Committee Chair McConnell

Attested: _____ Public Works Committee Member

STAFF REPORT

TO: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
FROM: CITY MANAGER, AJ FOSCOLI
SUBJECT: WATER AND WASTEWATER CONNECTION FEE INCREASE
DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

BACKGROUND

The city's water and wastewater connection fees have not been increased since 2017. In that time, the average inflation rate has been 3.53% per year. The fees that the city currently charges for water connections and wastewater connections do not cover the cost of those physical connections.

As was brought up at a recent council meeting by a local resident, those connection costs should be revisited to ensure that new connections pay their fair share of adding impact to the existing water and wastewater systems.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on an average inflation rate increase of 3.53% per year for the past decade, bringing up the connection fees for both water and wastewater accounts will enable the organization to keep up with Public Works systems maintenance. Staff recommends the fee increases that are outlined in Exhibit A from the upcoming Resolution to City Council at the November meeting. No decision needs to be made at this time, but the Committee's input is greatly appreciated.

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A – Resolution 10-2026 Water & Wastewater Connection Fee Increase

Exhibit A

Section 1. the following utility connection fees are hereby established:

- (a) Sewer Connection fee:
Facility rate of \$4,500.00 plus customer will be responsible for all costs to connect to the system (Municipal Code 50.06 (A)).

(current rate \$3,250)
- (b) Water Connection Fee Simple:
Facility rate of \$2,500.00 plus customer will be responsible for over twenty (20) feet at \$40.00 per foot and/or cost plus.

(current rate \$1,250)
- (c) Water Connection Fee Complex:
Facility rate of \$3,500.00 plus customer will be responsible for over twenty (20) feet at \$40.00 per foot and/or cost plus.

(current rate \$1,800)
- (d) Additional Water Connection fees where the length of service exceeds 100 feet:
The applicant shall pay the extra cost of the line on the basis of actual cost to the Water department for labor, materials and equipment plus 15% (Municipal Code 51.07.F)

Section 2. In addition to the monthly fees established herein, the Capital Improvement Fee assessed of any service with a water meter or wastewater connection, active or inactive, will increase in amount to \$15.00 (current rate \$10). When both a residence and a commercial operation or development exist on a property zoned Commercial Residential, the Capital Improvement Fee will continue to be assessed separately for both the residence and the commercial operation or development.

Exhibit 1

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Facility rate of \$2,500.00 plus customer will be responsible for over twenty (20) feet at \$40.00 per foot and/or cost plus.
- (c) Water Connection Fee Complex:
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- (d) Additional Water Connection fees where the length of service exceeds 100 feet:
The applicant shall pay the extra cost of the line on the basis of actual cost to the Water department for labor, materials and equipment plus 15% (Municipal Code 51.07.F)

Section 2. In addition to the monthly fees established herein, the Capital Improvement Fee assessed of any service with a water meter or sewer connection, active or inactive, will increase in amount to **\$15.00**. When both a residence and a commercial operation or development exist on a property zoned Commercial Residential, the Capital Improvement Fee will continue to be assessed separately for both the residence and the commercial operation or development.

STAFF REPORT

TO: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
FROM: CITY MANAGER, AJ FOSCOLI
SUBJECT: CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UPDATE REPORT
DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

Water Mainline Replacement Project:

- Trench Line Excavation Inc. has started work on Phase 2 including Parry Road, Fairview & Terrace Street, Mill Street, Pine Street and 1st/2nd Street connection (not quite sure of the exact order yet)
- 2-week Outlook is being shared with the community through Facebook
- Tentative end is for early October

Dayton Street Pedestrian/Infrastructure Bridge:

- Dowl, Westech Engineering subcontractor, has been conducting field surveying at the bridge
- A Total Project Cost Estimate should be prepared by late October or early November
- Staff is still looking at alternative funding options for the bridge to complement the already secured \$2.3 million
- Construction of the bridge will be the next major infrastructure project, tentatively scheduled for summer of 2027 or 2028 (depending on various environmental permitting)

Parking Citations/ Code Enforcement:

- One case was adjudicated in Dallas Municipal Court

Water Management and Conservation Plan:

- No update this month

Public Works Committee Vacancy:

- Fill vacant PWC board seat- Nominations – Voting postponed (?)

City Hall Sale:

- City Hall building and property is up for sale (26 days on market so far)
- City Council, after a Public Hearing determined the initial sale price of the property
- Proceeds from the sale can be used on a variety of city needs (i.e. equipment, facility upgrades, grant match etc.)
- Concerns arose at the City Council meeting regarding the fate of the Pink Pokey, but from initial purchase offers, negotiations for fate of the building seem to be going smoothly
- City Staff has been negotiating with various property owners on N. Main Street to relocate the Pink Pokey to a more visible location
- Relocating the Pink Pokey will still simplify the sale of the City Hall property, as it will eliminate the need for a lot-line adjustment or an easement, and will make the building more visible for residents and tourists

Water & Wastewater Connection Fee increase:

- See Staff Report