



City of Palouse
City Council Minutes
Special Meeting
December 16, 2025
Palouse City Hall
120 E Main Street
Palouse, WA 99161

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Sievers called the Special Meeting of the Palouse City Council to order at 7:00 PM

Councilmembers present: John Snyder, Leslie Sena, Molly Quigley, Rainy Anderson

Councilmembers absent: Danny Mullendore, Jacquelyn Huff, Katherine Keener

City Staff Present: City Administrator (CA) Misty La Follett, Deputy Clerk (DC) Stephanie Welch

Councilmember Anderson made a motion to excuse Councilmembers Mullendore, Huff, & Keener from the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sena and unanimously approved (Y-4 | N-0 | A-0).

OPEN FORUM

Paula Fealy reviewed the budgets and expressed concern regarding discrepancies in interfund transfer amounts, noting that totals between originating and receiving funds do not align, as well as large changes in reserve and beginning cash balances for several accounts.

Carmen Bolyard expressed concern over recent budget changes and discrepancies in transfers. She questioned reduced beginning fund balances, increased water reserve charges, and certain payroll and overtime expenditures, urging the council not to approve the budget as presented.

Bruce Pemberton commented on the city's Shady Lane Grant reported in the Lewiston Tribune. He questioned the project's cost, noting it could have been completed for significantly less, and expressed concern over site conditions. He referenced an editorial by Bob Hassoldt in the December 14 Lewiston Tribune.

Michael Echanove reviewed several budget line items, noting differences between beginning and ending balances in Current Expense, Street, Fire Reserve, Water, and Sewer Funds. He cited missing transfers between water-related funds and questioned declining fund balances, particularly in the Sewer and Water funds. He expressed concern about approving the budget with these discrepancies.

Discussion and clarification followed in regard to discrepancies brought up in the proposed budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Sievers read aloud Ordinance 1041 – 2025 Budget Amendment.

Ordinance 1041 – 2025 Budget Amendment:

Councilmember Sena made a motion to adopt and approve Ordinance 1041 – 2025 Budget Amendment in accordance with tonight’s revisions that were approved. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Anderson. The vote was (Y-3 | N-Quigley | A-0). An insufficient number of councilmembers voting in the affirmative, the motion failed.

Ordinance 1042 – Approving 2026 Budget:

Mayor Sievers read aloud Ordinance 1042 – 2026 Budget.

Councilmember Anderson made a motion to adopt and approve Ordinance 1042 – Approving 2026 Budget with the changes made in this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sena. The vote was (Y-3 | N-Quigley | A-0). An insufficient number of councilmembers voting in the affirmative, the motion failed.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Quigley moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Anderson and unanimously approved (Y-4 | N-0 | A-0). The meeting adjourned at 9:33 PM.

APPROVED: _____

ATTEST: _____

DATE: _____