

City of Stanwood
Regular Meeting of the City Council
June 25, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Sid Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Cowan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

City Clerk Lisa Sokolik called the roll with the following Councilmembers Present: Dani Gaumond, Earl Cowan, Darren Robb, Robert Hicks, Steve Shepro, Andreena Bergman, and Jeff Wheatley. The meeting was quorate.

Also present: City Administrator Shawn Smith, City Engineer Alan Lytton, Finance Manager Tim Niebruegge, Building Official Scott Black, Fire Chief Dave Kraski, Fire Assistant Chief of Operations Rick Jesus, Police Sgt. Kori Oyetuga, and City Clerk Lisa Sokolik. City Attorney Nikki Thompson attended via Zoom.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Roberts added item 4b, Introduction of Assistant Chief of Operations Rick Jesus, and moved Consent Item 8e, Second Reading of Ordinance 1566, Chapter 12 Utility Update, to Unfinished Business.

*Motion by Councilmember Robb, second by Councilmember Shepro to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion carried unanimously.***

4. Presentations

a. Sno-Isle Libraries Programs and Services Presentation

Executive Director Eric Howard and Library Manager Charles Pratt presented an update on library programs and services at the Stanwood Library and across Sno-Isle Libraries. The updates included:

- Sno-Isle Libraries operates 23 library locations, an extensive mobile library service, and online services.
- Sno-Isle Libraries is committed to early learning, workforce readiness, digital access, lifelong learning and community connection, and events and resources that spark curiosity and joy.
- Over the last few years, the Stanwood Library has had 79,000 individual visits, according to library door counts.
- Anyone who reads 10 hours can receive a free book tote.
- The library offers 19 different library cards designs, including a 250th commemorative card.
- The library is developing its strategic plan to better understand the community's needs.

Councilmembers asked questions and made comments:

- Councilmembers expressed appreciation for the variety of community services offered by the library.
- Question: Is Sno-Isle evolving into more of a community center? Howard responded that all 23 library locations are moving in that direction.
- Question: 91% of funding comes from levies, where does the remaining 9% come from? Howard responded that the library receives a small amount of state and federal funding, with the remainder coming from private donations.
- Councilmembers commended the library for its work expanding digital services.
- Question: What is Sno-Isle Libraries' policy regarding homeless individuals camping in the parking lot and using the restroom? Pratt responded that the public library is open to everyone; however, staff will intervene when behavioral issues arise.

b. Introduction of Assistant Chief of Operations Rick Jesus

Fire Chief Dave Kraski introduced Rick Jesus, the new Assistant Chief of Operations.

Rick graduated from Arlington High School and attended Skagit Valley College, where he played baseball and studied diesel mechanics. He earned an associate degree from Everett Community College before continuing his education and earning a bachelor's degree in human services from Western Washington University.

Rick began his fire service career with the Marysville Fire District, serving in a variety of roles, including driver/operator, paramedic, and captain. He was promoted to Battalion Chief in 2017 and, for the last two years, has overseen the Training Division. He recently completed Seattle Fire Department Executive Leadership Academy and is currently enrolled in the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program.

Rick and his wife have been married for 30 years and have two children.

5. Public Comments

No public comments.

6. Staff/Department Reports

7. Council Committee Reports

a. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes - May 11, 2026

b. Community Development Committee Meeting Minutes - June 4, 2026

8. Consent Agenda

- a. **Approve Vouchers and Payroll**
- b. **Approve City Council Meeting Minutes - June 11, 2026**
- c. **Approve City Council Workshop Minutes - June 11, 2026**
- d. **Approve Planning Commission Appointment - Josh Knabe**

*Motion by Councilmember Gaumond, second by Councilmember Robb to approve consent agenda items A. approve vouchers and payroll checks, B. approve June 11, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes, C. approve June 11, 2026, City Council Workshop Minutes, and D. approve Planning Commission appointment, Josh Knabe. **Motion carried unanimously.***

9. Unfinished Business

- a. **Approve Second Reading and Adopt Ordinance 1566 SMC Chapter 12 Utility Update**

City Administrator Smith discussed the changes made to the Ordinance following Council's comments and concerns during the first reading. The changes include:

- **Removal of the door hanger fee:**

Council had several concerns about this fee, so it has been removed.

- **Fire sprinkler meter sizing:**

When a water meter is increased in size solely to accommodate a required fire sprinkler system, the Public Works Director may determine the appropriate Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) assignment based upon the typical benefit the customer receives from the general facilities of the water and sewer system. This provision recognizes that fire sprinkler requirements do not necessarily increase routine water consumption or utility demand.

- **Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU):**

The ordinance lowers the water and sewer system development charges for ADUs at 50% of the charge applicable to a single-family residence.

Council discussed the proposed changes and asked questions.

*Motion by Councilmember Robb, second by Councilmember Shepro to approve second reading and adopt Ordinance 1566 SMC Chapter 12 Utility Update. **Motion carried unanimously.***

10. Public Hearing

No public hearing.

11. New Business

No new business.

12. Public Closing Comments

No closing comments.

13. Executive/Legislative Reports**a. Mayor's Report**

- Attended the memorial service for Elsie Chandler. Mayor Roberts noted that Elsie immigrated from Norway, lived in Stanwood for 90 years, and passed away on June 9, 2026, at the age of 97.
- Attended Stanfest at Church Creek Park and commented that it was a great venue for the concert.
- Will walk in the Fourth of July Parade and provide brief remarks at the conclusion of the parade.
- Announced that the Twin Cities Car Show will be on Sunday, June 28.

b. City Administrator's Report

- Announced that the Twin Cities Car Show cruise will be held on Saturday evening, June 27, followed by the car show on Sunday, June 28.
- Noted that the celebration of America's 250th anniversary is coming up on Fourth of July.
- Recognized Mayor Roberts' birthday.

c. Councilmember's Reports/Questions

- Councilmembers wished the Mayor a happy birthday.
- Councilmembers welcomed Assistant Chief of Operations Rick Jesus to Stanwood.
- Councilmember Robb said he had a great time at Stanfest and complimented the Stage Hogs band, they were incredible, and the beer garden was a close second.
- Councilmember Hicks said the planning of the Fourth of July 250th anniversary celebration has really come together. Hicks expressed his gratitude to Aaron Weinberg and Niki Strachila for all their help.

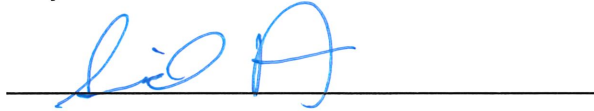
14. Recess to Executive Session

No executive session.

15. Adjourn

There being no further business before the Council, and hearing no objection to adjournment, Mayor Roberts adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

City of Stanwood



Sid Roberts, Mayor

Attest:



Lisa Sokolik, City Clerk