



Meeting Location:
216 Prospect Street
Port Orchard, WA 98366

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City Council Minutes Special Meeting - Council Retreat of Friday, April 17, 2026

Roll Call was taken by the City Clerk as follows:

Present: John Morrissey, Mayor Pro-tem, Position No. 2
Scott Diener, Councilmember, Position No. 3
Jay Rosapepe, Councilmember, Position At-Large
Shirah Dedman, Councilmember, Position No. 6
Mark Trenary, Councilmember, Position No. 1
Eric Worden, Councilmember, Position No. 4
Heidi Fenton, Councilmember, Position No. 5
Robert Putaansuu, Mayor

Staff present: Communications Specialist Hansen.

1. Call to Order

2. Discussion Items

(No Action to Be Taken.)

A. Discussion of City policies, plans, projects, and the Council's goals and vision.

Mayor Putaansuu discussed emergent issues facing current projects, including concerns with a contractor due to a trenching issue causing the road to settle and create a significant dip on Sidney Road and an issue with the aquifer dropping that has impacted pumping abilities for our downtown well. In addition, provided a briefing on other existing construction projects.

Councilmember Dedman arrived at the meeting at 10:00am.

Council discussed the creation of a Creative District and what the City's responsibility would be for that creation. Councilmember Worden brought up the idea of creating a 1% tax on commercial development that would go specifically to art projects. The council also discussed the idea of incorporating art features at City roundabouts.

At 10:40am, Mayor Putaansuu called for a 5-minute break.

Mayor Putaansuu presented a Department of Community Development improvement timeline. Councilmember Morrissey expressed frustration with the timeframe it will take to implement new software. Councilmembers Diener, Trenary and Worden, said it's standard and that they can refer to Bainbridge Island's experience implementing the same software.

Council discussed an ordinance regulating the displays of certain adult entertainment stores to protect the public from unwanted exposure.

The Mayor gave an update on communications, highlighting the addition of a communications specialist, an increase in public outreach, a weekly mayor's message, the start of a Department of Community Development newsletter, and additional outreach platforms. The council also saw a sneak peek of the design for the new website.

Council discussed the downtown subarea plan as well as to why the State won't let the City install bollards to close off downtown roads from traffic for events. Council would like to understand their reasoning so they can reach out to State Legislators.

Council continued discussions about the different forms of government and if the City should look at changing the form of governance to a City Administrator. They discussed logistics, cost, and some of the pros/cons of the different forms.

They discussed meeting navigation and reviewing Robert's Rules of Order. They agreed they need to be better about policing each other. Discussed proper procedures and agreed on how to facilitate discussions during meetings.

At 12:00pm Councilmember Dedman left the meeting.

Council discussed the addition of having tribal land acknowledgment in various ways, such as website or downtown signage.

Councilmember Fenton shared the idea of switching from guiding principles to a mission statement. Council reviewed the Vision, Mission, Values created by staff and they explored the idea of codifying them.

At 12:30pm, Mayor Putaansuu recessed for lunch. He resumed the meeting back at 1:00pm.

Council began reviewing future budget priorities, with projects that have majority support staying on the list. Some projects were moved to a mid-year review. Topics discussed included:

- Beatification funding – \$50 - \$100K?
- Downtown storefront grants – currently \$100K
- Interior remodel of 720 Prospect Street (DCD) Building - \$100K
- Street Paving - \$1M plus
- Update Parks Plan - \$150K
- Parks levy – Nov 2028 election? Need updated parks plan first. (Odd year election \$25K even year \$50K) Additional Parks
- Court software system - \$142K 1st year - \$35K annually for maintenance & licensing
- Sherman Stormwater Park Design & Plan for Construction – NPDES Requirement \$250K
- Update the Water System Plan – Capital & Rates -\$100K
- New FTE 2nd HR Specialist
- New FTE Training/Safety/Risk Manager
- Software system for performance evaluations and track training – HR \$27K
- AV in Council Chambers Upgrade - \$75K; Purpose: To modernize the audiovisual capabilities in the Council Chambers, ensuring reliable broadcasting and public/ADA accessibility.
- Staffing Request - IT Intern
- 2 Police officers - \$300K 1st year per officer - \$175 after
- Officer Wellness - \$12K/yr to continue 1st Watch programming that is currently grant funded (accreditation component)
- Police Staffing Study - \$6,500
- Police Professional Staff – Part-time FTE to Full-Time - \$75K
- New text messaging archiving system - \$30K (18K increase)
- Design for Bethel Phase 4 – Salmonberry to Lund – Traffic Impact Fees – Recommended for mid-year review in 2027 after we have construction costs for Bethel Phase I.
- McCormick East Sub Area Plan – Collaborate with property owner to create a mixed-use shopping center at McCormick Woods Drive & Glenwood Road. \$100K
- 80 X 40 Four-bay equipment storage building at the new PW facility - \$300K
- Parks mower with drop down decks and implements - \$120K
- Fireworks Vote

Council agreed upon priorities and individually ranked them in order of importance. Rankings were then tallied for overall group priorities. These priorities will now be used to help shape the Mayor's next biennium budget include:

- Street Paving - \$1.25M plus
- Downtown storefront grants – currently \$100K
- Beatification funding – \$50 - \$100K?
- Design for Bethel Phase 4 – Salmonberry to Lund – Traffic Impact Fees – Recommended for mid-year review in 2027 after we have construction costs for Bethel Phase I.
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- Upgrade Fuel Storage
- Court software system - \$142K 1st year - \$35K annually for maintenance & licensing
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- Staffing Request - IT Intern
- Fireworks Vote November 2027

Projects pushed out for mid-year review include:

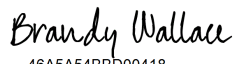
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3. Good of the Order

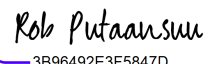
Nothing additional was discussed.

4. Adjournment

Mayor Putaansuu adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm.

Signed by:


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 Brandy Wallace, MMC, City Clerk

Signed by:


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 Robert Putaansuu, Mayor

