**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MONDAY OCTOBER 06, 2025**

Mayor McDonald called the regular meeting of the Walhalla City Council to order at 7:08 P.M., Monday October 06, 2025, at City Hall.

Council Present: Schill, Jackson, Carpenter, Kalis, Horgan

Council Absent: Dumas

Others Present: Christopher Trupe, Austin Dearinger, Justin Dearinger, Brett Schurman, Phil Longtin, Larry DuBois, Auditor Cook.

Motion by Jackson to approve the minutes of the September regular meeting as read. Second by Kalis. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Motion by Horgan to approve the minutes of the September 16th Special Meeting as read. Second by Carpenter. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Motion by Jackson to approve the minutes of the September 29th Special Meeting as read. Second by Horgan. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Motion by Kalis to approve the minutes from the September 29th Final Budget Hearing as read. Second by Jackson. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Motion by Carpenter to approve the minutes from the September 29th Financial Committee Meeting as read. Second by Kalis. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Motion by Horgan to approve the minutes from the September 29th Municipal Services Committee Meeting as read. Second by Carpenter. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Phil Longtin thanked the council for the city’s support of Pumpkin Fest.

Motion by Carpenter to approve the financial report. Second by Horgan. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**Communications:**

**Speed Sign:** A request was made for the city to look into the purchase of a speed radar sign. The DOT will need to be contacted learn what the permit process is before a decision can be made.

**Website**: The city’s website host will provide an estimate for updating the website prior to the next meeting.

**Tree Inventory:** The city was provided an inventory report of trees within city limits as well as recommendations for growing and maintaining the tree program. Discussion was held on needed expenditures to qualify for the Tree City USA program.

**Library Board:** The library board recommended a pay increase for Michelle Sehrt. Motion by Jackson to increase Michelle Sehrt’s hourly wage to $12.00/hr. Second by Horgan.Roll call: Carpenter, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes; Jackson, yes; Horgan, yes. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Municipal Services, Building Permits, Streets, and Alleys:**

Motion by Carpenter to amend the Valley Landfill contract to a one day a week schedule. Second by Jackson. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Jackson, yes; Kalis, yes. Motion passed.

Discussion held on lagoon engineering study proposals from Moore Engineering and Fischer Engineering. Motion by Carpenter to table a decision until more information is available. Second by Jackson. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Motion by Carpenter to approve the construction permit applications submitted by Wentworth Ag USA, Brett Schurman, Brian Benoit, and Tina Friesen. Second by Schill. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion was held on unpaid billings presented to the city as the result of sewer work on Oak Avenue. A phone call was made to Chad Thorlakson to discuss who authorized the work. It was decided that the work in question was authorized by the homeowner and therefore billings are not the responsibility of the city to pay.

Discussion was held on how to handle delinquent or nonpayment for electronics recycling.

**Police, Fire, and Traffic:**  The status of having any remaining city owned property issued to the terminated officer returned is ongoing. Discussion was held on increasing starting salary for the open police officer position.

**Financial & Economic Development Corp:**  Motion by Carpenter to transfer $50,000.00 from City Sales Tax to the Equipment Fund, as well as transferring $50,000.00 from City Sales Tax to the Swimming Pool Office/Bathhouse Fund. Second by Schill. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**Board of Health, City Buildings, and Recreation:** Discussion was held on the entry door at the library. No motion was made to pursue replacement at this time. Discussion was held on roof repairs at the legion, as well as disconnecting the landline telephone at the legion.

Motion by Kalis to approve all bills presented. Second by Schill. Roll call: Carpenter, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes but abstaining from his bill; Jackson, yes; Horgan, yes. Motion passed.

**Old Business:**

-**Masonic Emblem:** No Updates were available for this project.

-**Unsafe Buildings**: Mr. DuBois will provide a letter for submittal to the owners of these properties.

**-Scooter Ordinance**: Motion by Jackson to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-03. Second by Horgan. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

**Cost of Living Raise:** Motion by Jackson to approve a 3% cost of living raise for city employees based off their base salary. This raise will take effect on the November payroll. Second by Horgan.Roll call: Carpenter, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes; Jackson, yes; Horgan, yes. Motion passed.

**Harvest Fuel Deed**: Motion by Jackson to have the mayor and the auditor sign the deed to transfer ownership of the “food first” building to Harvest Fuel Inc. Second by Horgan. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**City Lot Deed:** Motion by Schill to have the mayor and the auditor sign the deed to transfer ownership of Lot 1 & W 1/2 Lot 2, BLK 57 City of Walhalla to Tina Friesen. Second by Jackson. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**DOT Easement:** Motion by Jackson to grant the DOT a temporary construction easement for sidewalk installation during the Hwy 32 project. Second by Kalis. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**Other Business:** None

Motion by Schill to adjourn. Second by Horgan. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 8:52 P.M.

John Rock McDonald\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Michael Cook \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Auditor

October 06, 2025