

Oak Harbor City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2026

This was both a physical meeting location and a virtual meeting. Meeting was viewable via YouTube at www.youtube.com/cityofaakharbor, on Facebook, and on Cable Channel 10/HD 1090 following the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Call To Order and Native Lands Acknowledgement - Mayor Wright called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He included the acknowledgement that the meeting was being held on the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish people and paid respect to those past and present.

Invocation – Led by Pastor Matthew Erikson – First Reformed Church

Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Mayor Wright

ROLL CALL

City Council Present:

Mayor Ronnie Wright
Mayor Pro Tem Tara Hizon
Councilmember Bryan Stucky
Councilmember Eric Marshall
Councilmember Christopher Wiegenstein
Councilmember Barbara Armes
Councilmember James P. Marrow
Councilmember Sandi Peterson

Staff Present/Videoconference

City Administrator Sabrina Combs
Deputy City Administrator David Goldman
Public Works Director Steve Schuller
Parks and Recreation Director Brian Smith
Police Chief Tony Slowik
Fire Chief Travis Anderson
Deputy Police Chief Kevin Barton
Fire Marshal Paul Schroer
Harbormaster Alyce Henry
Grants Administrator Wendy Horn
Communications Officer Magi Aguilar
Executive Services Coordinator Macalle Finkle
City Clerk Julie Nester

Also in attendance: City Attorney Hillary Evans
of Kenyon Disend, PLLC

Others in attendance included Senator Ron Muzall
and Island County Municipal Court Judge
Ron Costeck

EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Wright greeted all in attendance. He noted all members of the Council were present.

1. OATHS OF OFFICE

Mayor Wright introduced Island County Municipal Court Judge Ron Costeck to administer the Oaths

of Office to re-elected Councilmembers Armes, Marrow, and Stucky, and newly elected Councilmember Peterson. Judge Costeck noted it was his honor to administer the Oaths to those chosen by the citizens of Oak Harbor to lead. He quoted Alexander Hamilton and spoke to giving voice to all and providing not just words, but quantifiable results in divining the will of the people. Judge Costeck explained that the Councilmembers were the heart of democracy, connected to the daily lives of those they represent.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Wright announced the Council would move into executive session per Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 42.30.110 (1) (i) to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation. He noted the executive session was anticipated to last for fifteen minutes and that action might or might not be taken upon return to the open session. Executive sessions are not open to the public.

The Council moved into executive session at 5:38 p.m.

At 5:53 p.m. the Council came out of executive session and resumed the open session of the regular meeting. Mayor Wright announced no action would be taken by the Council at this time regarding the matter discussed.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Wright requested any changes to the regular agenda. Hearing none, he called for a motion for approval.

Motion: Councilmember Wiegenstein moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Marrow seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. PRESENTATIONS

a. Oak Harbor Main Street Association

Oak Harbor Main Street Association (OHMSA) Interim Executive Director Margaret Livermore provided an annual review of the Association's background, purpose, prior year activities, and funding sources. She noted this was Oak Harbor's tenth anniversary of being a Main Street community and introduced the Main Street Board of Directors..

OHMSA maintains a Professional Services Agreement with the City of Oak Harbor for downtown revitalization through the Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation. Funding from the City is used towards strengthening and further developing the OHMSA revitalization efforts. In 2005, legislation was passed to create the "Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program", through which businesses are eligible to take a Business and Occupation tax credit equal to seventy-five percent (75%) of the amount given to OHMSA, and essentially redirecting state dollars back to local communities with a Main Street Program designation.

The OHMSA has a four-point approach of Outreach, Design, Promotion, and Economic Vitality. Ms. Livermore reviewed the OHMSA sponsors, donors, 2025 events and upcoming events for 2026. She provided a five-year financial overview and 2026 goals. Ms. Livermore noted the City had provided for a Credit Incentive Program (CIP) amount up to \$95,000 for 2025. She requested the City consider increasing that CIP for an amount up to \$150,000 for 2026.

Mayor Wright thanked Ms. Livermore for her presentation. There were no questions or comments from the Council.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Wright noted members of the public could comment on Consent Agenda items or subjects of interest not listed on the agenda at this time and there would be an opportunity to comment on the remaining agenda items during the meeting as appropriate. He explained the public may also visit the City's website prior to meetings for methods to submit public comments, or contact the City Clerk, Julie Nester, by phone or email. When submitting comments, please include your name and address. Public comments sent anonymously or from a non-verifiable address will be shared with the Mayor and Council but will not be displayed. Comments on public hearing items will be taken during the public hearings portion of the meeting.

The City received no new public comments since the last regular meeting.

Mayor Wright asked if there were any members of the public present who wished to speak to any other items not listed on the agenda or on the consent agenda. He noted the Clerk would call on speakers in the order in which they signed in to speak and asked speakers to step forward to the microphone, state their name and address, and to limit comments to three minutes.

1. Monica Grant of Oak Harbor addressed the Council. She introduced herself as having been a public relations director for soccer for many years and noted she was here to start the idea of a turf field, stating it would make a huge difference for kids. She explained only the high school has a lighted field for evening use.

2. Sunnie Waldron of Oak Harbor addressed the Council to reiterate what Ms. Grant had said and that lighted fields were needed. She noted that sometimes the fields at Fort Nugent were under water. She noted there weren't many fields available, and groups paid a lot to use them. Ms. Waldron observed that soccer was played year-round and displayed a copy of the City's Score & Explore brochure.

Hearing no one else with a desire to address the Council, the public comment period was closed.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Items

- a. Approval of Minutes: City Council Special Meeting – Washington State Auditor's Office Stewardship Award Presentation of December 15, 2025 and City Council Regular Meeting of December 16, 2025
- b. Approval of Payroll and Accounts Payable Vouchers
- c. Resolution 25-29: Approval of the multi-year lodging tax award for the Marina debt service repayment
- d. Appointment: Marina Advisory Commission, Position 5 – Michael Bobeck
- e. Appointment: Marina Advisory Commission, Position 6 – Mark Hammer
- f. Appointment: Police Community Advisory Board, Position 4 – Rachel Paul
- g. 2026 Advisory Board Reappointments

Mayor Wright called for any changes to the consent agenda.

Councilmember Marshall requested to pull consent agenda item g. 2026 Advisory Board Reappointments for further discussion.

Mayor Wright called for approval of the remaining consent agenda items.

Motion: Councilmember Marshall moved to approve the remaining items on the consent agenda.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wiegenstein and passed unanimously.

Mayor Wright called for discussion of item g. which included reappointments to the Art Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Lodging Tax Advisory Commission, Marina Advisory Commission, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, Planning Commission, and Police Community Advisory Board for the individuals noted below for the term January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2027.

2026 Advisory Board Proposed Reappointments:

| Advisory Board | Position | Name | Term Start | Term End | Notes |
|--|------------|------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Arts Commission | Position 3 | Robert Sanders | 7/1/2025 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Arts Commission | Position 5 | Cynthia Mason | 1/1/2024 | 12/31/2025 | First Term |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | Second Term |
| Community Police Advisory Board | Position 1 | Melinda Buchanan | 4/2/2024 | 1/1/2026 | Unexpired |
| | | | 12/31/2025 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Police Community Advisory Board | Position 5 | Martin Malloy | 5/21/2024 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Historic Preservation Commission | Position 1 | Gideon Cauffman | 1/1/2024 | 12/31/2025 | First Term |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | Second Term |
| Historic Preservation Commission | Position 3 | Nick Hamden | 1/1/2024 | 12/31/2025 | First Term |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | Second Term |
| Lodging Tax Advisory Committee | Receiver 1 | Allenda Jenkins | 5/7/2024 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Marina Advisory Commission | Position 1 | Cathy Proses | 7/1/2025 | 12/31/2025 | First Term |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | Second Term |
| Marina Advisory Commission | Position 3 | J.J. Jones | 1/1/2024 | 12/31/2025 | First Term |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | Second Term |
| Marina Advisory Commission | Position 5 | Mike Bobeck | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| | | | | | |
| Marina Advisory Commission | Position 7 | Louie Foster | 4/2/2024 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission | Position 1 | Carrie Stucky | 12/1/2022 | 12/31/2023 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2024 | 12/31/2025 | First Term |
| | | | 1/01/2026 | 12/31/2027 | Second Term |
| Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission | Position 3 | Natalia Talo | 11/18/2025 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission | Position 5 | Tom Jones | 5/1/2023 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/01/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission | Position 7 | Vicki Biggs | 4/2/2024 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/01/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Planning Commission | Position 1 | Jeffrey Ward | 9/16/2025 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |
| Planning Commission | Position 3 | Cody Bakken | 12/2/2025 | 12/31/2025 | Unexpired |
| | | | 1/1/2026 | 12/31/2027 | First Term |

Councilmember Marshall noted his request for discussion was not about any person in particular but rather cited when the Council was reviewing and refining the Employee Policy Manual there was detailed discussion of a nepotism clause applying to elected officials. Councilmember Marshall stated he would like to discuss this as it applies to Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees at the Council's upcoming special meeting – Council retreat on Thursday and not approve the proposed re-appointments this evening.

Councilmember Stucky, Mayor Pro Tem Hizon, and Councilmember Marshall provided their re-

spective questions and comments.

Motion: Councilmember Wiegenstein moved to table the re-appointments, seconded by Councilmember Marrow.

Councilmember Peterson asked for clarification on whether discussion would continue at the Council Retreat.

Mayor Wright called for a vote on the motion to table, which passed unanimously.

7. MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Wright displayed slides and provided the following comments:

- Happy New Year. – We've made some updates to the look of Mayor's Comments, thank you to our Communications Officer Magi Aguilar.
- Highlighting some Proud Moments of 2025:
 - Thank you to our staff for their dedication in 2025. It was great to connect with staff at our staff meetings and events. I'm looking forward to more of these and to more one-on-one conversations with all of you.
- Speaking of our staff:
 - Our staff survey generated 147 responses!
 - When 147 people share their voice, we hear it! I want to thank the staff for taking the time to share their feedback and, more importantly, for trusting the process.
 - I appreciate the team working behind the scenes to support the survey responses.
- Marina B&O Tax – After many discussions, Council approved the Business & Occupation Tax to fund Marina repairs.
- Grants Received in 2025 –
 - In 2025, the City applied for over \$32 million in grants.
 - We secured over \$6 million dollars so far, \$6,055,652 to be exact.
 - Notably, \$1.8 million of the total will offset street improvement projects in the next 2-3 years with \$483,000 dedicated to public safety and public defense, and \$2 million will support a workforce housing project.
 - \$16 million in grant funding is still pending.
- Washington State Auditor's Stewardship Award: We received a visit from Washington State Auditor Pat McCarthy and her staff who presented the City of Oak Harbor with a Stewardship Award, recognizing the City's dedication to accountability and transparency in government. State Auditor McCarthy explained that this award is given to very few public entities, with only ten being awarded statewide out of 2,817 audits completed this year. Congratulations to our entire finance team and to others on our staff who assisted in providing information for the audit.
- The Wright Blend:
 - We are resuming these informal community get-togethers once a month in 2026.
 - Thank you to our residents for asking hard and well-thought-out questions.

- Thank you to staff, councilmembers, and representatives of our Police and Fire Departments for attending.
- Thank you to local businesses for having us.
- Community Catch Up Events:
 - These brought local partners together to provide transparency about local programs.
 - We had some great conversations regarding schools, emergency management, and homelessness to name a few.
 - These events provide another opportunity for residents to ask questions.
 - We will continue these in 2026.
- Stay Connected
 - These are just a few highlights from 2025. There were many more.
 - Come to a meeting, a Wright Blend, or send us a question via email or call us.
 - Follow us on social media to find out what is coming up.
 - Please remember that social media is not the best place to leave comments or ask questions. It is better to email the City directly for accurate and timely information.

a. Selection of Mayor Pro Tempore

Mayor Wright explained that traditionally, the City Council selects a Mayor Pro Tempore at the first regular Council meeting of even-numbered years. He noted that Councilmember Tara Hizon has served as Mayor Pro Tempore since August 5, 2022, having been selected by the Council to fill this role again in January of 2024.

Those serving as Mayor Pro Tempore serve as the presiding officer of Council meetings in the absence of the Mayor and participate on the Mayor's behalf as requested for local government and civic meetings and events. Mayor Wright thanked Councilmember Hizon for her unwavering support provided in the role of Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Wright requested nominations for Mayor Pro Tem.

Councilmember Marrow nominated Councilmember Hizon, noting her demonstrated knowledge, balance and wisdom. Councilmember Armes seconded the nomination.

Hearing no others Mayor Wright closed the nominations and called for a vote on the nomination of Councilmember Hizon which passed unanimously.

Mayor Wright congratulated Councilmember and once again Mayor Pro Tem Hizon for her selection by the Council as Mayor Pro Tempore.

b. Councilmembers

Mayor Wright called on the Council for their comments.

Councilmembers Armes and Marrow provided their respective comments.

Councilmember Armes reported that the City will hold a Marina Tenants meeting on January 16, 2026 from 6-7 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information and time for tenants to ask questions and voice their opinions. Councilmember Armes noted the Marina Advisory Commission and its two sub-committees and was making progress on a number of issues.

Councilmember Marrow reported on the Island Transit District and its Board's decision to expand service to include Naval Air Station Whidbey Island (NASWI) for regular bus service to the base.

8. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution 26-01: Declaring the need for Emergency Repairs to the Oak Harbor Marina

Parks and Recreation Director Smith and Harbormaster Henry reviewed the resolution, presented in accordance with Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 34.08.280 per which, the Council may, by resolution, waive competitive bidding requirements to adequately respond to emergencies.

During the night of the December 16, 2025 storm, the Marina sustained significant damage along the north side of the F Dock Breakwater as well as the failure of several structural components throughout the Marina.

Harbormaster Henry presented the Damage Report:

- Breakwater Patio 3: Panel 4 and 7 partially detached with the bottom edge facing the West, not the bottom
- Breakwater Patio 4: Panel 7 is gone, panel 1 moving towards the piling.
- Breakwater Patio 5: Broken rod from patio to boat side, panel 2 is gone, panel 4 partially detached on the south side, panel 7 mostly detached.
- Breakwater Patio 7: Panel 7 is already gone, panel 8 is loose and moving toward the pile (it might be grounding out on panel 7 during low tide events), panel 2 is partially detached on the West side.
- There is a broken rod at F-46/47 that has gotten worse, with the number 7 panel sinking more than from previous observations.
- Two boats along the main walkway had fenders that did not stay in place and caused varying degrees of damage to the boats.
- Two sails on F dock came unfurled and were severely damaged.
- The log boom running East to West along the Harbormaster's office broke free and allowed some debris to enter the Marina.
- South E dock sustained damage to the float cement and multiple through rods where the floats join.
- The South log boom had at least one break from the wind.
- The waterline broke on South F dock.
- The main water line broke out of its strapping under the main gangway.
- North E dock roofing began losing a section of trim. Staff have temporarily secured it.
- There are additional panels that are now moving on the south end of F dock during strong winds that are being monitored.

Harbormaster Henry explained that staff moved quickly to assess all damage and prioritize responses and immediate repairs as possible. The two boats sustaining damage along the main walkway were the first issue addressed. Fenders and lines were added to prevent future damage. The owners of the two boats with sail damage were notified, and the water was turned off to South F dock to prevent any further loss.

The log boom below the Harbormaster's office was able to be temporarily reconnected to prevent any future debris entering the Marina.

The South E dock float was addressed, and temporary pile hoops were placed to ensure that the docks did not fully separate. Staff were able to reposition the dock back into normal alignment.

Staff relocated vessels from the very south end to aid repairs and prevent additional damage, and Marina crews re-secured the water main under the main gangway, preventing loss of service to the docks.

Harbormaster Henry reported that divers came to the Marina on December 22, 2025 to locate the panels that fell off during the storm. The other four panels that are hanging on will need to be cut free to prevent additional damage. She provided a diagram of the location of all panels.

Harbormaster Henry explained the cement repairs will happen once the broken through-rods can be replaced and new whalers installed. Two new pile hoops will be added to decrease movement of the float as well. Staff limited access to the north end of F dock where most of the damage occurred and are monitoring the dock daily and ready to relocate vessels if the dock is deemed unsafe. The Oak Harbor Police Department is assisting with monitoring the Marina during the holiday closures.

The failed breakwater panels need to be replaced. Without these panels, the Marina does not have the correct wave attenuation, allowing larger swells into the Marina, which could possibly lead to additional damage to infrastructure and vessels and expose the city to liability if not repaired in a timely manner. American Construction is putting together initial estimates for the repairs and can begin work in February.

Director Smith explained the failure of the breakwater panels qualifies as an emergency per Section 1.13 (a) Declared Emergencies, of the City's Purchasing Policy, which defines such failures as an "unforeseen circumstance, beyond control of the City that presents a real, immediate threat to the proper performance of essential functions".

Harbormaster Henry reported that an agent from the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) inspected the Marina damage earlier today. The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife has extended the fish window in which the City may make repairs to March 3rd. Staff has requested permission for approval of expedited repairs from the Army Corps of Engineers. Approximately seventeen (17) vessels will be relocated during repairs.

Director Smith displayed diagrams of panel sections for patios 2 & 3., 4 & 5, and 6 & 7, showing the through-rods that need to be replaced. He explained that Marine engineering firm Moffat and Nichol, which is already under contract for the Marina Dredging and Breakwater projects, inspected the damage on December 19, 2025, and is working with American Construction on repair scope, cost estimates and probable project completion.

Deputy City Administrator and Finance Director Goldman explained that the City is exploring claim coverage with WCIA. The current property insurance claim deductible on the Marina is \$100,000. As discussed during the Local Business & Occupation (B&O) Tax discussions, the 2024 year-end Marina Operating and Capital Funds had an available balance of \$1,655,562, which was preliminary earmarked for Phase 1 of the Marina rejuvenation project (Dredging and Breakwater).

Mayor Wright thanked Director Smith and Harbormaster Henry for their report. He confirmed no public comments on the proposed resolution had been received. He requested public comment from those in attendance. Hearing none, he called on the Council for their questions and comments.

Councilmembers Armes and Wiegenstein provided their respective questions and comments.

Consultant Bill Gerkin of Moffat and Nichol provided additional information on the emergency repairs and the existing contract for rehabilitation of the breakwater to extend its useful life for 15-20 years.

Mayor Pro Tem Hizon and Councilmembers Armes, Marrow, Wiegenstein, and Marshall, provided their additional questions and comments.

Motion: Councilmember Marrow moved to approve Resolution 26-01 declaring that the failures to structural components at the Marina constitute an emergency, waving the public bidding requirements to facilitate as rapid a repair as possible, and authorizing the Mayor to execute contracts for necessary goods and services to expedite the repairs. Councilmember Wiegenstein seconded the motion.

Mayor Wright called for any further discussion.

Councilmember Marshall provided additional comments.

With discussion concluded, Mayor Wright called for a vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. CONTRACTS & AGREEMENTS

a. Interlocal Agreement with Whidbey Island Public Hospital District for EMS Services

Fire Chief Anderson participated remotely as he was out of town inspecting the Fire Department's new engine. He reviewed the Interlocal Agreement and explained that since 1999, Whidbey Public Hospital District (Whidbey Health) has provided funding to Whidbey Island fire departments to help offset the costs associated with pre-hospital medical response. The Oak Harbor Fire Department (OHFD) receives reimbursement solely for pre-hospital care services.

Whidbey Health is supported by an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) levy to provide emergency medical services to Oak Harbor as well as the rest of Island. The last Interlocal Agreement was for two years and expired on December 31, 2025.

For 2025, the Oak Harbor Fire Department was reimbursed \$138.37 per EMS call (excluding cardiac arrests, lift assists, and traffic accidents). The City averaged about \$50,000/year in reimbursement from this Interlocal Agreement.

Chief Anderson explained that in keeping with Mayor Wright's vision of improving EMS services, the proposed agreement would provide reimbursement for pre-hospital medical response services from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027, at a fixed annual rate of \$175,000 for responses to medical emergencies within the City of Oak Harbor, Washington.

OHFD will provide first response for all Charlie, Delta, and Echo level EMS calls (life-threatening calls). The District will pay the City a fixed amount of \$175,000 per year (invoiced semi-annually) an increase of \$125,000/year. The increased revenue will be reinvested to strengthen and enhance EMS delivery to our community.

Chief Anderson explained that the change to a flat rate eliminates per-call cost concerns, allowing both agencies and crews to focus on patient care. Prior to 2025, OHFD responded to EMS calls only when requested by Whidbey Health, with all reimbursement tied to individual calls. Having a flat rate reduces administrative time spent filtering calls and generating invoices and resolves State EMS documentation and compliance issues from the previous contract.

Mayor Wright thanked Fire Chief Anderson for his presentation. He confirmed no public comments had been received and called for comments from those in attendance. Hearing none, he called on the Council for their questions and comments.

Motion: Councilmember Marrow moved to authorize the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Oak Harbor and the Whidbey Island Public Hospital District to partially reimburse the City for providing pre-hospital emergency medical services within Oak Harbor, Washington. Councilmember Peterson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6-0 with Councilmember Wiegenstein abstaining as he is in the process of interviewing with the Hospital District.

b. Oak Harbor Main Street Association Professional Services Agreement

Grants Administrator Horn reviewed and provided background information regarding the 2026 Professional Services Agreement.

The City Council voted to participate in the Washington Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program on December 15, 2015 per Resolution 15-44 to pledge a contribution to the Oak Harbor Main Street Association (OHMSA). Following the resolution, upon appointment of a permanent Board of Directors and Executive Director, the City executed an annual Professional Services Agreement (PSA) as the means to pledge a contribution to the OHMSA.

In 2019, the City Council approved an increase to its contribution to a maximum of \$95,000. The City has received a tax credit of \$71,250 annually since 2019, resulting in a reduction in excise tax liability each following year.

In 2021, the State of Washington increased the allowable contribution to Main Street Associations to a maximum of \$213,333.33. In 2024, it increased the maximum contribution to \$333,333.33. The maximum tax credit any one business can claim was increased to \$250,000. Per the PSA, the City will reduce its contribution if other businesses contribute to the OHMSA at a level that exceeds the maximum contribution allowed.

OHMSA is requesting an increase to the 2026 City's pledge to a maximum contribution of \$150,000. The maximum tax credit for the City would be \$112,500 in 2027.

A contribution of \$95,000 is included in the 2025-2026 biennial budget. An increase to \$150,000 will require a budget amendment and the maximum tax credit of \$112,500 (75% of contribution) would be included in the 2027 budget.

Mayor Wright thanked Grants Administrator Horn for her presentation. He confirmed no public comments had been received and called for comments from those in attendance, hearing none, he called on the Council for their questions and comments.

Councilmembers Marshall, Wiegenstein, Peterson, and Stucky provided their respective questions and comments, as did Mayor Wright.

OHMSA Interim Executive Director Livermore and OHMSA President Greg Lanza responded to Council questions.

Motion: Councilmember Wiegenstein moved to approve the Professional Services Agreement with the Oak Harbor Main Street Association as part of the Washington State Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program with a maximum contribution of \$150,000. Councilmember Marrow seconded the motion.

Mayor Wright called for any additional discussion. With Councilmembers Peterson, Marrow, Stucky, and himself providing their additional comments,

Mayor Wright called for a vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.

10. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Oak Harbor Police Department Motorcycle Purchase

Police Chief Slowik reviewed the purchase request. The Oak Harbor Police Department (OHPD) has owned or leased police motorcycles for over 25 years. Currently, the department has one 2008 Honda ST1300 which is near the end of its service life and is due to be replaced in 2028 at a budgeted replacement cost of \$30,000. There is currently a \$20,000 fund balance in the 502-account designed for the P8 replacement.

Chief Slowik explained that since 2015, three (3) officers have attempted to complete the 80-hour Basic Motor Officer course. All were unsuccessful with the main problem being the Honda motorcycle limitations. Common complaints about the Honda ST1300 are:

- Heavy motorcycle: 743 pounds
- Instability at slow speeds and heavy to manipulate in parking lots
- Less nimble in tight, patrol scenarios
- Very low ground clearance, high centers over curbs.
- Riding position ergonomics: cause a rider to put too much weight forward reducing maneuverability

As OHPD onboards new officers in 2026, the intent is to fill the vacant Traffic Officer position. The Skagit County Sheriff's Office is hosting the 80-hour Police Motor Officer course on March 16-27, 2026 in Anacortes.

OHPD is asking for two items with this request.

- 1) Early Replacement of the 2008 Honda ST1300-P Motorcycle
- 2) Adding a new motorcycle to the current police fleet for a total of two police motorcycles.

The Nisqually Tribal Nation Police Department has two (2) 2022 BMW F850 GS-P police motorcycles for sale, both with low mileage.

The advantages of the BMW F850 GS-P include:

- Mid-Size Adventure Motorcycle: 504 pounds
- Lighter Chassis
- Agile and balanced weight distribution designed for slow maneuverability
- Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) and Traction control Technology
- Off-road capability

Kelley Blue Book value for each motorcycle is approximately \$10,521. The Nisqually Tribe will sell one motorcycle for \$9,165.64 and will sell both for \$16,000 plus tax and licensing. The current fund 502 account balance is sufficient to cover the entire purchase cost plus estimated sales tax and licensing fees.

Mayor Wright thanked Chief Slowik for his presentation. He confirmed no public comments had been received. Hearing no one from the public who wished to speak, he called on the Council for their comments.

Councilmember Marrow provided his respective questions and comments.

Motion: Councilmember Marrow moved to authorize City staff to purchase two (2) 2022 BMW F850 GS-P police motorcycles from the Nisqually Police Department, the early replacement of motorcycle

vehicle P8, and the addition of a new motorcycle to the City fleet. Councilmember Wiegenstein seconded the motion.

Councilmember Marrow and Mayor Pro Tem Hizon provided their additional comments and questions.

The vote on the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Councilmember Wiegenstein moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Marrow. The vote on the motion was unanimous; therefore the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Certified by Julie Nester, City Clerk