

TOWN OF WILSON CREEK
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 17, 2026 – remote/online meeting via Google Meet

Council Present: Mayor Rob Herron, Councilmember Karl Hinze, Councilmember Scott Mortimer, Councilmember Kellie Ribail, Councilmember HaLee Walter, Councilmember Shirley Billings

Staff Present: Kaci Anderson

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

- A. Open Meeting:** Mayor Herron called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. Mayor's Address and Maintenance/Public Works Report:** Mayor Herron shared that, unfortunately, Earl Justice resigned from the Town's maintenance position. Paul Bicondova has been hired as his replacement, effective 8/17/2026.
- C. Airport Discussion with Darrin Jackson, Port of Moses Lake:** Guest was not in attendance.
- D. Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by K. Ribail, seconded by K. Hinze, and carried to approve the minutes for the regular meeting on July 9, 2026, with the following correction: under New Business item H(1), the motion on the table was made by K. Hinze and seconded by S. Billings.
- E. Public Comment:**
1. Phyllis Brown shared concerns about cracks at Sprague and Third streets.
 2. Kathy Bohnet shared her views about the lease of airport building and closure of the airport. Gayle Price and Colton Hinen expressed her agreement with Kathy Bohnet regarding the airport building lease.
 3. Jessika Herreid supplied information regarding suggestions for community-based additions of a community garden at Veterans Park and a free little library for books and fresh produce sharing.
 4. Karen Kauffman inquired about Town policy regarding abandoned vehicles.
 5. Teresa Garay suggested the possibility of a fenced dog park.
- F. Council Concerns and Issues:**
1. H. Walter discussed her conversation with ABATE organizers for the Run to the Desert motorcycle event regarding cancelation of the event.
 2. Council discussed ongoing clean-up and work at the airport building in preparation for building repairs.
 3. Council discussed timeline of painting the train caboose. Still needed is project approval by Job Corps as well as research on correct color. Project may not be completed until spring.
 4. K. Hinze and K. Ribail shared details on school district borrowing the Town's lift and expenses related to repairs and maintenance on the equipment. After discussion, motion was made by K.

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Hinze, seconded by H. Walter, and carried to pay for half of the current maintenance bill paid by the school district of approximately \$1,300, to be paid to the school district.

5. S. Mortimer shared updates from ongoing correspondence regarding the levee with the Corps of Engineers and FEMA. The Town will need to address vegetation growth in the levee channel.
6. K. Hinze addressed concerns from the public regarding airport and building. Council discussed potential conflicts of interest with focus on if there are financial benefits to any councilmembers, as well as economic development and which agency is responsible for economic development – Town Council, Port District, Chamber of Commerce. Council discussed brief history and current operations of the Port District and potential invitation for a Port District commissioner to attend a Council meeting.

G. Clerk/Treasurer Report:

1. **Bills, Checks, Electronic Withdrawal & Bank Balances:** Motion made by K. Ribail, seconded by K. Hinze, and carried to approve the Town's current fiscal status, monthly bank reconciliations, and pay the bills as follows:

<u>Accounts Payable:</u>	CLAIMS: Check #11899 – 11915	\$ 7,712.44
	CLAIMS: Check #11916 – 11926	\$ 4,045.48
	EFT payments	\$ 2,603.64
	TOTAL	\$ 14,361.56
<u>Bank Account Balances:</u>	U.S. Bank (as of 7/31/26)	\$ 323,722.86
	Grant County Treasurer (as of 7/31/26)	\$ 126,183.01
	TOTAL	\$ 449,905.87

K. Anderson noted the Grant County Treasurer balance as of 6/30 was \$125,803.30.

H. Old Business:

1. **Airport Building Lease:** No further discussion and no action taken.

I. New Business:

1. **Street Water Valve Maintenance:** Council discussed potential need for water valves in city streets to be assessed to ensure they can be shut off in case of emergency. No action taken.
2. **Estimate for Sidewalk Removal & Prep for Replacement:** A rough estimate was provided from small works roster contractor for approximately \$7,000 plus cost of gravel. Council discussed approaching CDSI to pay for associated costs as damage was caused by garbage trucks per previous discussions with CDSI. No action taken.
3. **Estimate for Hydrant Gravel:** Council discussed need for gravel. No action taken.

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- 4. Event Permit Application Process:** K. Anderson asked for Council input on the application process of event permits. Council would like input from insurance before deciding which applications should be supplied to Council for approval.

- J. Executive Session – RCW 42.30.110 (1)(f) To receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee:** Council entered Executive Session at 7:12pm for approximately 15 minutes.
- K. Results of Executive Session, if any:** Council returned to regular session at 7:20pm. Mayor Pro-Tem S. Mortimer stated Council acknowledged the complaint and discussed the issue as brought forth. As the facility involved in the complaint is not under the Town’s purview, Council is not taking any official action. S. Mortimer thanked community members for their time and discussion.
- L. Adjournment:** Motion made by S. Billings, seconded by H. Walter, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm. The next regular council meeting is Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 6:00 pm. *This meeting was later rescheduled for Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:00 pm.*

_____ **Mayor** _____ **Clerk** September 14, 2026 **Date**