

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
June 15, 2026

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Retzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Golden, McRae, Schaefer and Guenther: Present. Mackleit, Sevedge and Huntwork: Absent.
A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Guenther to excuse Mackleit, Sevedge and Huntwork. Roll Call: All Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by McRae to approve the minutes from the June 1, 2026 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Golden, McRae and Schaefer: Yes. Guenther: Abstained.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

Congratulations to all the graduates.

Pool is open!!

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by McRae to approve all bills and claims as presented. Roll Call: All Yes.

CLAIMS
#11825-11826, 11840-11859
& EFT
\$22,105.58

PAYROLL
#11812-11824, 11827-11839 &
EFT
\$78,900.01

GRAND TOTAL: \$101,005.59

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 26-10- Swim Team Lodging Tax:

Colfax Swim Team Manager Darcy Cochran presented an application for Lodging Tax to cover the pool rental for the upcoming swim team season.

Cochran is currently contacting local hotels to secure group rates for the county event, which attracts numerous out-of-town participants. While the county meet was held in Palouse last year and the team practiced in Garfield, they have returned to Colfax this year. Cochran stated that participation numbers have increased since returning to town, with the team now back up to 35 kids.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by McRae to approve Resolution 26-10 Swim Team Lodging Tax Application. Roll Call: All Yes.

Resolution 26-11- Patrol Car Purchase

Chief Michael Melcher reported one of the patrol cars went down. The estimate for the transfer case and transmission replacement is \$8,000.

Mayor Retzer located two potential replacements: 2013 Dodge Durango with 42,000 miles from Department of Enterprise Services for \$8,800 and a 2018 Ford fully equipped with 72,000 miles from the Town of Garfield for \$9,000.

Currently, we have three cars in service, one with 33,000, 152,000 and 114,000 miles respectively. Chief Melcher stated the purchase of these two vehicles would give us four front line vehicles and should set the department up for the next decade.

Golden stated he is happy with the police car situation; he remembers when it was nearly every meeting there were patrol car issues.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by McRae to approve Resolution 26-11 Patrol Car Purchase. Roll Call: All Yes.

Resolution 26-12 Palouse Brewing Lodging Tax

Wheat City Music Festival proposal presented by Beth Carson and Jacob Hahn from Palouse Brewing Company and Taphouse, along with CDA Executive Director Whitney Bond.

The proposed end-of-summer event will feature six live music artists, an outdoor beer garden, various vendors and food trucks. Whitney Bond noted that the initial funding request is larger than usual because it includes the purchase of a stage. This stage will be maintained by the CDA for future use. The CDA will also manage advertising efforts specifically targeting visitors from over 50 mile away.

Hammer stated this is a good use for the lodging tax funds.

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A motion was entered by Guenthner, seconded by Schaefer to approve Resolution 26-12 Palouse Brewing Lodging Tax Application. Roll Call: All Yes.

Resolution 26-13- Renewal Authorizing Investment LGIP

Hammer stated this LGIP resolution is to update the previous resolution with the required language updates.

Golden noted that we haven't looked at this since 2014 and stated the approving body should review the prospectus.

This resolution will be tabled until further information can be distributed to the council.

Resolution 26-14- Interlocal Whitman County Solid Waste Management

Hammer stated we are required by law to have our own waste management plan or we can join with the county. This is a 5-year plan and meets all the stated regulations.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve Resolution 26-14 Interlocal Whitman County Solid Waste Management. Roll Call: All Yes.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police:

Chief Melcher reported stats:

24-calls for service

22-traffic stops

5-citations

4 criminal citations with 2 arrests

Public Works:

Hammer reported WSDOT has approved the city to run the water line underneath the bridge on the north end of town.

Construction crews are working towards getting the project completed before harvest begins.

Hammer stated our permit to clean out the concrete river channel has been renewed.

Administration:

Staff has been busy selling pool passes and swim lessons went live today and have been a big hit.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

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MAYORS REPORT:

Retzer stated Charlotte Deleon has finished her murals on the doors at the pool, they look great.

July 11th will be the Grand Re-opening of the pool following the Concrete River Festival Parade. There will be a free BBQ and prizes.

The Chamber will be holding a duck raffle and the winner will be drawn at 5:00 p.m. at the pool.

Concessions are also a big hit at the pool.

Retzer commented there has been a lot of work at the pool we will continue to build on what we have started.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.


Jim Retzer, Mayor


Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk