

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
October 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Mackleit to approve the minutes from the
October 6, 2025 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

Super Colfax will host a Safe Medication Disposal Event Saturday October 25th from 10 a.m. to
2 p.m. in the Roasuers parking lot.

Trick or Treat Main is this Friday from 3:30- 5:30.

Fall Crawl was last Saturday and had a nice turn out.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

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

CLAIMS

#11209, 11218-11238
\$125,559.67

PAYROLL

#11210-11217 & EFT
\$66,179.67

GRAND TOTAL: \$191,739.34

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ann Street Discussion:

City Administrator Matt Hammer was updated by the fire department that the International Fire Code (IFC) minimum road width requirement is 20 feet, with a required turning radius of 35-foot minimum inside and 55-foot minimum outside. This information has been provided to Solbrack.

Tom Stirling of SynTier Engineering, who has been working with the Solbracks, has made the turns onto Ann Street to accommodate a 43 ft. truck. Stirling stated that achieving a 20 ft street with a 20 ft right of way is nearly impossible given the slope of the hill, without impacting neighboring property owners. He noted that ideally, one side of the area would be over-dug to increase the street width, but neighboring properties do not permit this. With the necessary retaining walls to hold the hillsides, Stirling estimates that the "Old Orchard" portion will ultimately be 19 ft. wide for approximately 250 feet of the 1700 ft street. Stirling also informed the council that drainage from the new street will be directed into a basin to prevent runoff onto abutting properties.

Current city code for street build is 32 ft. When the resolution was approved, we were well below that. The resolution was to explore the feasibility of building a 20 ft road all the way through, not an approval to build.

The council has the following requests and concerns:

- What is the city's liability if we do not follow the IFC guidelines
- Escape routes from the Solbrack property.
- Width deviating from the previously passed resolution for a 20 ft non-conforming street.
- Narrower street could impede emergency response to this area.
- Fire department to meet with Tom Stirling regarding the width and code requirements.
- Written report from the fire department to determine the appropriate width for apparatus.

NEW BUSINESS:

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police:

Chief Michael Melcher will be sending Officers Perry Tate and Cody Johnson to Mukilteo for the CIT class that is required for the HB 2015 Public Safety funding for hiring and improving public safety.

Melcher set November 12th as the date for oral boards for entry level officers.

Melcher reported they will be helping with the drug take back scheduled this Saturday.

Melcher also reported over the weekend the county made a couple of theft arrests in the city.

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Public Works:

Hammer stated it has been business as usual.

The state will be doing a more permanent bridge repair the first week of December. This repair is necessary due to damage caused by a pickup truck impacting the bridge.

The roundabout project is set to go out to bid in April 2026.

Fire:

Officer in Charge John Lautenslager reported they are awaiting results from the WSRD Rating.

Fire and EMS will be at US Bank handing out candy for the Trick or Treat Main event.

Administration:

Finance Amanda Link reported business as usual as well and is currently working on the budget and the associated tasks.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.



Jim Retzer, Mayor



Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk