

**GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ashley Lara called the Committee-of-the-Whole (C.O.W.) meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

The meeting was held in person and was also available via teleconference.

2. ROLL CALL

Present in person: Councilmembers David Diaz, Laura Flores, Bill Moore (Mayor Pro Tem), Robert Ozuna, Javier Rodriguez and Joan Souders

Present via teleconference: Steve Barrientes

Absent: None

Staff present: City Administrator Shane Fisher, City Attorney Quinn Plant and City Clerk Anita Palacios

Also present were City Engineers Robert Scott with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying Inc.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Hanford Reach Solar System, Trevor Macduff with Silas Education

Trevor Macduff with Silas Education provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Hanford Reach Solar System project. He explained that the Solar System project has created a series of sculptures representing the planets in the solar system across various locations in the region including installments in Richland, Benton City and Prosser. These projects have involved collaboration between students, artists and municipalities. He proposed placing a Pluto sculpture in Grandview's Palacios Parkway. He emphasized the educational and community engagement aspects of the project, and discussed the need for interpretive signage in multiple languages.

Discussion took place regarding funding sources, including grants and sponsorships, and also the potential partnerships with schools and local organizations.

B. Resolution approving Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 2023-04 with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc., for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

City Engineer Scott explained that the City executed Task Order No. 2023-04 in May 2023 to begin design of improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, as recommended in the *Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan*.

Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 2023-04 modifies the original contract by identifying changes to the proposed project phasing as a result of funding availability and the changes to how the project was being approached. During the development of Task Order 2023-04, the Washington

State Department of Ecology (Ecology) promoted its Small Community Project Priority List (SCPPL) approach to project funding, wherein projects that had successfully applied for project design funding would be automatically placed on a subsequent funding list once the design was completed, thereby eliminating the need to apply for construction funding and avoiding the extended (18+ months) delay between submitting an application and execution of a funding agreement. The City's design funding application was submitted to Ecology in October 2023; therefore, it was expected that construction funding would be available in the spring or summer of 2025, thereby allowing for the project to be funded and ready for construction in the fall of 2025. During discussions with Ecology staff in January 2025, it became apparent that the SCPPL approach was not going to be a reliable funding option for completing this project, as Ecology reported that on an annual basis they receive funding requests that far surpass their available funding, and therefore would not be likely capable of earmarking the \$40+ million required to construct this project in its entirety. Ecology identified that if a construction funding application were to be submitted, it may be possible to secure funding in a competitive environment, rather than the earmark system that SCPPL relies upon.

The other likely funding partner for the project identified in the *Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan* was the USDA Rural Development (RD) direct loan program. Due to recent changes in how this program operates, the City would not be eligible due to its population above 10,000 people. HLA has contacted other funding agencies to develop a funding approach, and it has become apparent that the project would need to be phased differently to secure funding and complete the project in multiple steps. The proposed phasing approach for the project was as follows:

Phase 1

- Submit Public Works Board (PWB) application for \$10 million (maximum request) in August 2025.
- Bid Advertisement for Phase 1 Scope of Work upon receipt of PWB funding (anticipated in Fall 2025). If PWB funding was not awarded, Phase 1 would be delayed and bid with Phase 2.

Phase 2

- Submit Ecology funding application for the entire project amount of \$42 million in September 2025. It was expected that only \$32 million would be offered if the PWB application was selected for funding.
- Bid Advertisement for Phase 2 Scope of Work upon receipt of Ecology funding (anticipated Summer 2027).

The original Task Order 2023-04 anticipated that only a single equalization lagoon would be constructed; therefore, original references to Phase 2 were for the construction of a second equalization lagoon in the future, when it became necessary due to growth. The previously identified delays in construction due to funding difficulties have resulted in a situation where it was advisable to construct both lagoons, rather than delay construction and secure funding again. As such, references to Phase 1 and Phase 2 in the original Task Order were no longer accurate with respect to what was included in the new phasing. However, the original references to Phase 2 being included in a future Task Order amendment remain accurate.

Phase 1 of the project was estimated to cost \$12.6 million and was expected to include:

- New influent pump station
- New sludge holding tank
- Modification of existing sludge holding tank
- Modification of existing dewatering building
- New sludge hauling truck
- New storage building
- New ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system
- Associated electrical and control improvements

Phase 2 of the project was estimated to cost \$30 million and was expected to include:

- New headworks screen and coating of Euclid headworks structure
- New primary clarifier, waste sludge pump, and grinder
- Replacement of existing primary clarifier mechanism
- New intermediate clarifiers and scum pump station
- New biological treatment process train
- New lined flow equalization lagoons, including mixers and pump station
- Decommissioning of unlined lagoons
- Associated electrical and control improvements

Amendment No. 1 included changes to the project scope of work and schedule within the design phase, and the addition of construction engineering and administration services for Phase 1. No changes to the fee for design services were included in Amendment No. 1. This Amendment No. 1 was proposed in recognition that this phased approach was expected to require bidding services for Phase 2 to occur approximately two years after design completion, while the actual timeline would be determined by funding availability. This Task Order would be amended again in the future, once Phase 2 construction funding was secured, to include costs for advertisement services, bidding services, and construction engineering and administration services for Phase 2.

Staff recommended Council approve Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 2023-04 with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc., to provide professional engineering services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Diaz, the C.O.W. moved a resolution approving Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 2023-04 with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc., for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements to the August 12, 2025 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Barrientes – Yes
- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes

- Councilmember Rodriguez – Yes
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

C. Resolution accepting the Storm Drainage Improvements as complete

City Administrator Fisher explained that C&E Trenching, LLC, completed the Storm Drainage Improvements. Staff recommended Council accept the project as complete once the requirements in the July 15, 2025 letter from HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc., were satisfied.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Diaz, second by Councilmember Ozuna, the C.O.W. moved a resolution accepting the Storm Drainage Improvements as complete to the August 12, 2025 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Barrientes – Yes
- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Yes
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

D. Resolution accepting the Lower Yakima Valley Pathway Improvements as complete

City Administrator Fisher explained that American Rock Products completed the Lower Yakima Valley Pathway Improvements. Staff recommended Council accept the project as complete once the requirements in the August 6, 2025 letter from HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc., were satisfied.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Souders, the C.O.W. moved a resolution accepting the Lower Yakima Valley Pathway Improvements as complete to the August 12, 2025 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Barrientes – Yes
- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Yes
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

E. Ordinance amending Grandview Municipal Code Chapter 5.04 Business Licenses to increase the threshold for out-of-city businesses effective January 1, 2026

City Clerk Palacios explained that EHB 2005 required certain municipalities in Washington, including the City of Grandview, to adopt a model business license ordinance no later than January 1, 2019. RCW 35.90.080 required the City to adopt periodic amendments to the model business licensing ordinance developed by a model ordinance development committee formed by cities and the Association of Washington Cities (“AWC”). The model ordinance development committee amended the model business licensing ordinance, and the amendments must be adopted by the City and become effective no later than January 1, 2026. The main change in the update would make a one-time increase to a higher threshold to \$4,000 for out-of-city businesses from the current \$2,000 threshold. Pursuant to RCW 35.90.070, the City was required to provide the Business Licensing System seventy-five days’ notice of changes to its business licensing ordinance. In order that amendments to the City’s business license ordinance may become effective on January 1, 2026, the City Council must adopt an ordinance amending the business license ordinance to conform to the model business license ordinance no later than mid-October 2025.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Souders, the C.O.W. moved an ordinance amending Grandview Municipal Code Chapter 5.04 Business Licenses to increase the threshold for out-of-city businesses effective January 1, 2026 to the August 26, 2025 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Barrientes – Yes
- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Yes
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

F. 5-Year Strategic Plan

Due to time constraints, this item was moved to the regular City Council meeting agenda under City Administrator Reports.

4. CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND/OR STAFF REPORTS – None

5. MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Public Safety Committee – Councilmember Ozuna reported that the Police Safety Committee was in the process of confirming meeting dates with a representative from U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell’s office regarding police station funding.

Grandview School District – Mayor Lara attended the Grandview School District's new teacher welcome breakfast and active shooter training.

Together We Can Community Event – The Together We Can community event held on August 5th was well attended.

Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo – The Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo held at Country Park on August 6th – 9th was well attended.

6. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Rodriguez, the C.O.W. meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Mayor Ashley Lara

Anita Palacios, City Clerk