GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 13, 2026

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 Laura Flores, Ramona Garibay Rios, Bill Moore (Mayor Pro Tem), Robert Ozuna, Joan Souders

Present via teleconference: Councilmember David Diaz (6:10 p.m.)

Absent: Councilmember Javier Rodriguez

Staff present: City Administrator Shane Fisher, City Attorney Quinn Plant, City Treasurer Matt Cordray, Public Works Director John Simmons and City Clerk Anita Palacios

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution accepting the E. Elm Street Transmission Main Improvements as complete

Culbert Construction, Inc., completed the E. Elm Street Transmission Main Improvements. Staff recommended Council accept the project as complete once the requirements in the September 24, 2026 letter from HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc., have been satisfied.

Staff also recommended the C.O.W. move a resolution accepting the E. Elm Street Transmission Main Improvements as complete to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Ozuna, second by Councilmember Garibay Rios, the C.O.W. moved a resolution accepting the E. Elm Street Transmission Main Improvements as complete to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Diaz – Absent
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Garibay Rios – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Absent
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

B. Resolution authorizing the filing of the plat of Grandview Cemetery East Phase 1 with Yakima County

As of 2024, the Grandview Cemetery had approximately two years of remaining burial capacity. To address both near-term and long-term needs, the City has identified and designed improvements to three areas within the existing cemetery that could provide approximately two years of capacity. In addition, Phase 1 of the planned cemetery expansion on City-owned property was anticipated to provide approximately 10 years of additional capacity.

Staff recommended Council authorize the filing of the plat to allow for additional internments in the current cemetery.

Staff also recommended the C.O.W. move a resolution authorizing the filing of the plat of Grandview Cemetery East Phase 1 with Yakima County to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Souders, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the filing of the plat of Grandview Cemetery East Phase 1 with Yakima County to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:
- Councilmember Diaz – Absent
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Garibay Rios – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Absent
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

C. Resolution adopting a Current Expense Fund Balance Policy

A formal reserve policy establishes a clear financial safeguard, improves consistency in annual budgeting, and provides the City Council and public with an objective measure of the City's financial condition.

Washington municipal practice supports adoption of formal minimum fund-balance targets. The Washington State Auditor's BARS framework recognizes the Current Expense Fund as the principal operating fund. Washington jurisdictions use reserve policies to protect against revenue volatility, emergencies, cash-flow needs, and unforeseen expenditures.

The proposed policy establishes a minimum unassigned Current Expense Fund balance equal to 10% of annual adopted Current Expense Fund expenditures. If the balance falls below the minimum, the City Administrator and City Treasurer must prepare a restoration plan, with a

general goal of restoring the reserve within two fiscal years.

The policy also discourages use of reserves for recurring operating costs and provides guidance for the use of amounts above the minimum, emphasizing one-time expenditures, capital needs, equipment replacement, debt reduction, and other non-recurring purposes.

Adoption of the policy does not itself appropriate or expend City funds. It establishes a financial target that will guide future budget development and Council decisions. Each annual budget will identify the dollar amount necessary to satisfy the 10% minimum based on that year's adopted Current Expense Fund expenditures.

Staff recommended Council adopt a resolution establishing the City of Grandview Current Expense Fund Balance Policy with a minimum reserve equal to 10% of annual budget at the end of the fiscal year.

Staff also recommended the C.O.W. move a resolution adopting a Current Expense Fund Balance Policy to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Garibay-Rios, second by Councilmember Souders, the C.O.W. moved a resolution adopting a Current Expense Fund Balance Policy to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Diaz – Absent
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Garibay Rios – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Absent
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

D. <u>Resolution declaring certain City property from the Public Works Department as surplus and authorizing disposal by public auction, sale, trade or disposal</u>

The Public Works Department has several pieces of computer equipment (towers, monitors, keyboards, printers, etc.) which were no longer needed for City business and were being recommended for surplus.

Staff recommended the C.O.W. move a resolution declaring certain City property from the Public Works Department as surplus and authorizing disposal by public auction, sale, trade or disposal to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Garibay Rios, second by Councilmember Moore, the C.O.W. moved a resolution declaring certain City property from the Public Works Department as surplus and authorizing disposal by public auction, sale, trade or disposal to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Garibay Rios – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Absent
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

E. <u>Ordinance imposing an immediate one-year Citywide moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, review, and approval of applications to establish or expand data centers; and setting a public hearing</u>

At the September 22, 2026 C.O.W. meeting, Council discussed implementing a moratorium on data center development to allow time for study and consideration of potential impacts on the community. Councilmembers expressed concerns about rising electricity bills, noise levels, and limited community benefits from data centers, citing examples from other cities.

This ordinance would impose a moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, review, and approval of applications to establish data centers. Under the ordinance, the moratorium would remain in effect for a period of one year, beginning on the date of its adoption. During this period, the City would evaluate the impacts of data centers in the context of the City's Comprehensive Plan and economic development strategy. The ordinance directs the City to conduct a work plan and establish a Data Center Study Committee to evaluate the potential harmful impacts of data centers and consider the proper procedural requirements to protect health, safety, welfare and the natural environment. The ordinance sets a public hearing for the moratorium on Tuesday, November 10, 2026.

Staff recommended the C.O.W. move an ordinance imposing an immediate one-year Citywide moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, review, and approval of applications to establish or expand data centers; and setting a public hearing to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Discussion took place.

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Garibay Rios, the C.O.W. moved an ordinance imposing an immediate one-year Citywide moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, review, and approval of applications to establish or expand data centers; and setting a public hearing to the October 13, 2026 regular Council meeting for consideration.

Vote:

- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Garibay Rios – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Absent
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

City Attorney Plant requested that an agenda item be included on the next C.O.W. agenda regarding the formation of a committee to review data center zoning requirements.

F. 2026 Council Retreat Summary

On August 26, 2026, the Mayor, Council, City Administrator and Department Heads met with a facilitator for a full working day retreat. The primary objective was to move from shared reflection on prior-year progress into a concrete, forward-looking set of priorities with named owners and real deadlines.

Council identified four priorities with named champions, staff leads, and deadlines:

1. Finalize the EMT/Emergency Response Plan by November 1, 2026
   (Councilmember Moore/Fire Chief George Saenz
2. Continue momentum for the Police Station build
   (Councilmember Ozuna/Police Chief Kal Fuller
3. Police staffing and equipment aligned with the budget cycle
   (Councilmember Flores/Police Chief Kal Fuller)
4. Invest in irrigation infrastructure upgrades with real numbers by June 2027
   (Councilmember Joan Souders/Public Works Director John Simmons)

Discussion took place.

A recurring agenda item for monthly check-ins on the four Council priorities would be added to the agenda.

4. CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND/OR STAFF REPORTS – None

5. MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Meeting with Senator Patty Murray's Legislative Aide – A special meeting with Alex Hall, a new congressional aide with Senator Patty Murray's office, to discuss wastewater treatment infrastructure grants, the new police department, fire department equipment and other city projects was held on September 29, 2026.

Public Safety Committee – The Public Safety Committee would be meeting on October 14, 2026, 3:30 p.m. at City Hall.

AWC City Action Days – The Association of Washington (AWC) City Action Days was scheduled for February 10-11, 2027 in Olympia.

AWC District Meetings – The Association of Washington Cities (AWC) District Meeting for Region 4 would be held in Grandview on October 22, 2026 from 11:30 a.m., to 1:00 p.m., at the Community Center.

Irrigation Water – Irrigation water would be turned off for the season on October 15, 2026.

6. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Garibay Rios, the C.O.W. meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

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Mayor Ashley Lara Anita Palacios, City Clerk