

**City of Snohomish City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 6, 2026**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Aaron Hoffman called the Snohomish City Council Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 6, 2026. The meeting was held in hybrid format with in-person attendance at the Snohomish Carnegie, 105 Cedar Avenue, Snohomish, and remote online access via Zoom.

a. Roll Call

City Clerk Melissa Collins called the roll with the following Councilmembers Present:

Anup Deol, David Flynn, Gabe Jacobs, Judith Kuleta, Terry Lippincott, Tom Merrill, and Felix Neals.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Merrill shared a few words on behalf of the city staff and city council to recognize those volunteers that stepped up during the recent flood emergency.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments were made.

3. **APPROVE AGENDA Contents and Order**

Councilmember Jacobs proposed a motion to remove Action Item 5d, Establishing a Revised Speed Limit for Second Street (Resolution 1495), and bring it forward at the next meeting.

There being no second, the motion failed.

*Motion by Councilmember Flynn, second by Councilmember Neals to approve the agenda contents and order as presented. **Motion passed unanimously (7-0).***

*Motion by Councilmember Lippincott, second by Councilmember Kuleta to move Consent Item 4d to Action Items 5f. **Motion passed unanimously (7-0).***

4. **CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. APPROVE Minutes of the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting
- b. APPROVE Minutes of the December 23, 2025 Special Meeting
- c. APPROVE Vouchers and ACH Transactions
- d. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to Execute a Land Use Agreement with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for the Homestead Park Project (Removed from Consent Items and Moved to Action Items 5f*)
- e. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Snohomish County Public Defender's Association for Indigent Defense Services
- f. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to Execute a Grant Agreement with the Department of Ecology

*Motion by Councilmember Neals, second by Councilmember Kuleta to approve the Consent Items as amended. **Motion passed unanimously (7-0).***

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. ELECT City Council President

Mayor Hoffman introduced the selection process and opened the floor to nominations.

Councilmember Merrill nominated Councilmember Neals, seconded by Councilmember Lippincott. Councilmember Neals accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations.

There were no public comments.

*Motion by Councilmember Merrill, second by Councilmember Kuleta to elect Councilmember Neals as Council President. **Motion passed unanimously (7-0).***

b. APPOINT Elected Leader Liaisons

Mayor Hoffman shared a list of outside organizations requiring appointed elected officials and delegates, and the Council reviewed each and identified preliminary appointments based on interest.

Councilmember Flynn asked about reinstating Council Liaisons to Boards and Commissions, and City Administrator Heather Thomas-Murphy noted that the municipal code would need to be updated before any formal decisions could occur.

After brief deliberation, the Council selected the following appointments:

Lodging Tax Advisory Commission (LTAC) – Flynn
Community Transit – Merrill
Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) – Jacobs (primary), Mayor Hoffman (alternate)
Alliance for Housing Affordability (AHA) – Lippincott (primary), Deol (alternate)
Association of Washington Cities (AWC) – Kuleta, Flynn, and Neals

*Motion by Councilmember Merrill, second by Councilmember Jacobs to appoint Elected Official Leader Liaisons as identified. **Motion passed unanimously (7-0).***

c. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to Execute a Grant Agreement with the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board

Public Works Director Nova Heaton provided an overview of the Bickford Sidewalk Gaps Project and requested authorization for the Mayor to execute a Grant Agreement with the Transportation Improvement Board. A handout showing the project location was provided. The project will close missing sidewalk segments along Bickford Avenue and improve pedestrian safety and connectivity.

Director Heaton responded to questions from the Council.

Public comments were made.

Motion by councilmember Flynn , second by Councilmember Neals to authorize the mayor to execute a grant agreement with the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board.

Motion passed unanimously. (7-0)

- d. Establishing a Revised Speed Limit for Second Street - PASS Resolution 1495

Director Heaton presented the results of an Engineering and Traffic Investigation for Second Street and recommended reducing the posted speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph to better reflect downtown conditions, pedestrian and bicycle activity, and roadway context. The change would require installation of new signage at an estimated cost of \$500 from the Streets Fund.

Director Heaton responded to questions from Council. Chief Alanis will address this topic further in his quarterly report.

Public comments were made. Written comments were received and provided to the Council.

*Motion by councilmember Flynn, second by Councilmember Lippincott to pass Resolution 1495 establishing a revised speed limit for second street. **Motion passed (6-0). Councilmember Jacobs abstained.***

- e. CONFIRM Mayor's Appointment of Ken Klein as City Administrator

Mayor Hoffman read a statement requesting the appointment of Ken Klein and responded to Council questions. Mr. Klein also answered questions from the Council.

Public comments were made, and one written comment was received and provided to the Council.

During deliberations, Councilmember Merrill requested that performance criteria be established by the end of February and commented on additional expectations of the position.

*Motion by Councilmember Flynn, second by Councilmember Deol to confirm Mayor's appointment of Ken Klein as City Administrator and authorize the Mayor to execute the Employment Contract between the City and Mr. Klein as City Administrator. Councilmembers Kuleta, Neals, Merrill, Flynn, Jacobs, and Deol voted in favor, and Councilmember Lippincott voted against. **Motion passed (6-1).***

- *f. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to Execute a Land Use Agreement with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for the Homestead Park Project (Moved from Consent 4d to Action Item 5f)

Director Heaton provided clarification on Item #15 in Exhibit B and reviewed the Homestead Park project, including the BPA easement and related land use agreement.

Public comments were made.

*Motion by Councilmember Lippincott, second by Councilmember Kuleta to authorize the Mayor to execute a Land Use Agreement with Bonneville Power Administration for a Homestead Park Project. **Motion passed unanimously (7-0).***

6. OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATION ITEMS

Councilmember Kuleta requested an after-action report regarding the flooding. City Administrator Thomas-Murphy responded this is scheduled for an upcoming council briefing.

7. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmembers Lippincott and Kuleta welcomed Mr. Klein and Mayor Hoffman and noted that EvergreenHealth will open a primary care facility in Snohomish at the end of 2026.

Councilmember Merrill expressed appreciation for working with Director Heaton and City Administrator Thomas-Murphy and offered best wishes.

Councilmember Flynn thanked the community for its response during recent flooding, thanked Councilmember Merrill for serving as Council President, and expressed interest in collaboration between Green Snohomish and Parks staff.

Councilmember Jacobs requested updates on the Kikendall cabin and on planned bump-outs on Pine Avenue.

Councilmember Deol thanked Director Heaton and City Administrator Thomas-Murphy for their service and welcomed Mr. Klein.

8. COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S ITEMS/REPORTS

Council President Neals reported on the following:

- Snohomish County will hold a public hearing on annexation on January 20 at 6:00 p.m.
- Thanked the Council for their confidence in appointing him as Council President.

9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

City Administrator Thomas-Murphy commented on the following:

- The Wastewater Treatment Plant received the Outstanding Plant Award.
- Kikendall cabin briefing is scheduled for February.
- Provided updates on real estate agent agreements, including for the Water Treatment Plant properties in Granite Falls and the need to determine a de-annexation process.
- Update on the WSDOT project on the Bickford bridge.
- Expressed appreciation for her four years at the City.

10. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hoffman shared brief remarks regarding the start of his term as Mayor.

11. ADJOURN

There being no objection, the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

CITY OF SNOHOMISH

Aaron Hoffman
[Aaron Hoffman \(Feb 9, 2026 13:28:27 PST\)](#)
 Aaron Hoffman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Collins
[Melissa Collins \(Feb 9, 2026 13:44:11 PST\)](#)
 Melissa Collins, City Clerk

01.06.2026 REG Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-02-09

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