

City of Victoria
Council Minutes

July 20, 2026
Regular Meeting

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The Governing Body of the City of Victoria met in regular session on July 20, 2026, at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers of City Hall.

- Roll Call** Council Members Harland Rupp, Matt Sander, Andy Wellbrock, and Chris Dreiling were present. Ryan Lichter was absent.
- Presiding** Honorable Mayor John Schulte.
- Also Present** James Robben, Sean Rodger, Patrol Officer Ryan Mauch, City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger, and City Clerk Jamie Sterling. City Attorney Don Hoffman was absent.
- Pledge** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- Minutes** Minutes of the June 15, 2026, regular meeting were presented for review. Motion by Matt Sander, second by Chris Dreiling to approve the minutes as submitted.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Ordinance A-07-26** Ordinance A-07-26, consisting of bills against the City for the month of July was presented for review. Motion by Matt Sander, second by Andy Wellbrock that Ordinance A-07-26 be approved and all bills paid.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Agenda** Motion by Andy Wellbrock, second by Chris Dreiling to approve the agenda as presented.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Police Report** Patrol Officer Ryan Mauch gave the Police Department report. Officer Mauch stated it has been business as usual with all the summer activity of kids riding bikes, scooters and so forth. He stated as far as he knows, there are no purchases needed. Mayor Schulte did ask James Robben if he knew anything about the grant the Police Department received for a new vehicle. James stated he did not.
- City Superintendent Report** City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger gave his department report. Brad informed the council of streets that are in need of repairs. He stated 10th and Main has buckled and he is looking into milling or taking out and redoing North Iron Street. The county will not be chip sealing the streets, they will more than likely scrub seal them. Brad let council know the backhoe is down and needs a new module. Brad stated it will cost around \$1800.00 to fix it. There was discussion regarding the Crafcro Milling machine which will cost \$80,000.00. Brad did get the company to throw in \$3,000.00 worth of material if we buy it. Brad informed the council that it would be worth it to get a sewer camera instead of paying someone to inspect our sewers. He has priced cameras and one that goes on the sewer jetter is about \$14,000.00. There was discussion about recycling and if it will be feasible for the city to continue if we have to start paying for it. One of the recycling trailers is getting old and is rusted. Brad will get numbers from the City of Hays regarding recycling. Motion by Harland Rupp second by Matt Sander to allow \$2,000.00 for the backhoe module to be fixed.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
Motion by Harland Rupp, second by Chris Dreiling to purchase the Crafcro Milling machine for up to \$80,000.00.
Vote 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.

- Grow Hays** James Robben with Grow Hays was here to present the annual report. He also asked for an annual contribution. Motion by Chris Dreiling, second by Matt Sander to contribute \$5,000.00 to Grow Hays for fiscal year 2027.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Splash Pad** Council along with City of Victoria Endowment Fund board members spoke in regards to the splash pad project. James Robben spoke about the Patterson Family Foundation and applying for a grant through them. The City would need to pledge at least 60% of the money in order for the Patterson Foundation to grant us money, making up the remaining 40%. The City of Victoria and the Endowment Fund board would like to see the splash pad completed by May of 2027. Motion by Andy Wellbrock, second by Chris Dreiling to approve \$50,000.00 towards the splash pad project contingent on the receipt of the Patterson Foundation Grant.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Victoria Recreation** The name of Tyler Dougherty was given as a new member of the Victoria Recreation Commission. Motion by Harland Rupp, second by Matt Sander to approve Tyler Dougherty as a new VRC member.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Victoria Alumni Association** Motion by Andy Wellbrock, second by Chris Dreiling to donate \$200.00 to the Victoria Alumni Association.
Vote: 3 Ayes 0 Nays, 1 abstention, Motion declared carried.
- Citizen Comments** James Robben commented on how nice it has been to work with the City of Victoria. Sean Rodger brought up the idea of displaying American Flags along Cathedral Street during Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day.
- Mayor Comments** Mayor John Schulte discussed the possibility of a trash rate increase due to the trash fund being somewhat depleted. Mayor Schulte also informed the Council of a possible new Fire Station but indicated that it would be more likely occur towards 2030. He asked if there was a need for the Access Van to come to Victoria to pick up residents. Mayor Schulte will be attending the Access Van Task Force meeting later in July.
- Executive Session** Motion by Matt Sander, second by Chris Dreiling to go into executive session for the evaluation of City Clerk Jamie Sterling for 3 minutes.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Pay Increase** Motion by Matt Sander, second by Harland Rupp to give City Clerk, Jamie Sterling, a \$0.50 cent raise on top of the \$0.50 cent raise she received in May for a total raise of \$1.00 per hour along with retroactive pay for the \$0.50 cents back to the May City Council Meeting.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Adjournment** All business having been discussed, motion to adjourn the meeting by Chris Dreiling, second by Andy Wellbrock.
Vote: 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.

John Schulte, Mayor

Jamie Sterling, City Clerk