

City of Victoria
Council Minutes

March 16, 2026
Regular Meeting

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The Governing Body of the City of Victoria met in regular session on March 16, 2026, at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers of City Hall.

- Roll Call** Council Members Ryan Lichter, Harland Rupp, Matt Sander, Andy Wellbrock and Chris Dreiling were present. Don Hoffman was absent.
- Presiding** Mayor John Schulte.
- Also Present** Police Chief Cole Dinkel, City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger, Utility Billing Clerk Rachel VonFeldt, City Clerk Jamie Sterling, Sean Rodger, Danielle Karlin and Dusty Karlin.
- Pledge** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- Minutes** Minutes of the February 16, 2026, regular meeting were presented for review. Motion by Matt Sander, second by Harland Rupp to approve the minutes as submitted.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Minutes from the Victoria Fire Department were also reviewed.
- Warrant Ordinance A-03-26** Ordinance A-03-26 consisting of bills against the City for the month of March was presented for review. Motion by Andy Wellbrock, second by Chris Dreiling that Ordinance A-03-26 be approved and all bills paid.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Agenda** Motion by Matt Sander, second by Ryan Lichter to approve the agenda as modified adding discussion of the water tower removal.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Police Department Report** Chief Cole Dinkel gave his department report. He stated things are all going well at this point. He informed council that he will be attending his yearly KNOA training. Chief Dinkel also informed council he will be getting a new body camera as his quit working. The amount needed is under his spending authority.
- City Superintendent Report** Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger gave his department update. Brad informed council that he contacted Crafcoc in regards to leasing a crack seal machine to do the streets. He also ordered new light bulbs for the school zone signs. Brad as well as Terry and Jeff will be attending conference at the end of the month in Wichita. Brad let council know that everything is good to go regarding city wide cleanup the first weekend in May.
- Hearing of 810 Ash** Motion by Harland Rupp, second by Ryan Lichter to open the hearing for 810 Ash Street. Elizabeth Herman was not in attendance. The house and a shed has been taken down however the garage is still standing. Council asked that City Clerk Jamie Sterling contact Elizabeth Tuesday to ask what her plans are with the garage. Motion by Ryan Lichter, second by Matt Sander to continue the hearing until the April Council meeting.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.

- Victoria Rec Commission** Sean Rodger spoke on behalf of the Victoria Recreation Commission. He updated council regarding the pickle ball court as well as the basketball court at the school playground getting resurfaced. He also mentioned a dog waste station missing over on Maxwell. Sean did mention the storage container the Rec has inquired about getting for the ball diamond to keep a 4-wheeler they purchased in it along with other equipment. He asked council their thoughts on an archery range. He stated he is always brainstorming and looking for new ideas for various activities to do in our town. He is not sure where this would go. Council asked City Clerk, Jamie to contact Summer Nowlin in regards to insurance coverage on the archery range.
- BZA-V-26-01** There was a zoning meeting for a variance for Shane and Carly Bixenman regarding building a shed. The Planning Commission passed a recommendation to approve this variance. Motion by Andy Wellbrock, second by Chris Dreiling to approve BZA-V-26-01 regarding Bixenman's building a shed.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Lifeguard Pay Increase** Discussion was held regarding an increase to starting pay for lifeguards to \$10.00 per hour. This will also raise each returning lifeguard this year by \$1.00. Returning lifeguards will still receive the 50 cent raise each year upon return. Essentially, lifeguards returning this year will receive \$1.50 raise. Motion by Matt Sander, second by Ryan Lichter to raise starting lifeguard pay to \$10.00 per hour and increasing returning lifeguards by \$1.50 per hour.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Pool Manager Pay Increase** Motion by Matt Sander, second by Harland Rupp to increase pool manager, Karen Nowak's manager salary from \$3500.00 to \$3800.00 split over 3 months.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Substitute Trash Pay Increase** Motion by Chris Dreiling, second by Ryan Lichter to raise the trash truck substitute pay from \$100.00 net to \$125.00 net pay.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Jerry Schmidtberger Pay Increase** Motion by Ryan Lichter, second by Matt Sander to raise the hourly pay rate from \$16.00 per hour to \$17.00 per hour for Jerry Schmidtberger when he covers the office for Jamie and Rachel in their absence.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- John Schulte Pay Increase** Motion by Ryan Lichter, second by Harland Rupp to raise John Schulte's hourly pay from \$17.00 per hour to \$19.00 per hour.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Personnel Policy** The City of Victoria's personnel policy has not been updated since 1996. Mayor Schulte has reviewed and updated the policy. Motion by Matt Sander, second by Andy Wellbrock to approve the new Personnel Policy.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.

- Water Tower Removal Bid** City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger called for bids to dismantle the old water tower. Only one company that specializes in this type of removal gave a bid. The bid from Iseler Demolition, Inc out of Michigan gave a bid of \$62,000.00-\$67,000.00 to dismantle the old water tower. Motion by Ryan Lichter, second by Andy Wellbrock to accept the bid from Iseler Demolition, Inc.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.
- Citizen Comments** There were no citizen comments.
- Mayor Comments** There were no mayor comments.
- Adjournment** All business on hand having been discussed, Motion to adjourn by Chris Dreiling, second by Andy Wellbrock.
Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion declared carried.

John Schulte, Mayor

Jamie Sterling, City Clerk