



TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

April 14, 2026

PRESENT: Mayor Aletha Howes, Councilmembers Paula Dix, James McCarthy, Stacy Saal, Tom Stowe, and Brad Wheeler

EXCUSED: none

STAFF: Clerk/Treasurer Amy Myhre,

GUESTS: Bob Durr, BAV Resident, Julia Morse, BAV Resident, Representative Janice Zahn

Mayor Howes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM REPRESENTATIVE JANICE ZAHN:

Representative Zahn gave an update to Council on the 2026 legislative session and highlighted a few key topics. Legislation was revised to repeal new sales taxes on non-profits, school districts, and public libraries, which were inadvertently included in prior sales tax legislation. A workgroup was formed to help regulate electric motorcycles, since there are no standard definitions or regulations at the state level. Legislation passed to require AI chatbots to disclose that they are AI. Legislation did not pass to restrict social media for youth or ban cell phones in schools, but these will likely be revisited in future sessions. A new statute passed allowing certain manufacturers of electric vehicles to sell their vehicles directly to consumers, rather than through independent dealers. Representative Zahn worked to gather support to oppose the \$75 million sweep of the Public Works Assistance Account, but it passed. \$800 million of bonds were made available for transportation for preservation and maintenance.

Council updated Representative Zahn on the challenges the town faces with the Comp Plan review with the Department of Commerce. Clerk Myhre will send Representative Zahn the town's contact's information at the Department of Commerce so she can follow up and learn more.

MINUTES: Councilmember Dix moved to approve the March 10, 2026, minutes as amended. Councilmember Stowe seconded.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Councilmember Wheeler moved to approve the Final April 14, 2026, Claims Register for check numbers 16990 through 17005 in the amount of \$45,280.57.

Councilmember McCarthy seconded.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:

TOWN CLEAN UP EVENT: Reminder that the Town Clean Up event is on 4/18 from 9-12:30pm. Information on the event has been posted in the newsletter and on the website.

VILLAGERS' STREET LIGHT REQUEST AT THE JUNCTION OF 29TH ST. AND SOUTH ANGLE ROAD: PSE has replaced the light on the post at the junction of 29th Street and South Angle Road.

Councilmember Dix researched dark sky friendly lighting and contacted PSE to confirm they can provide this type of lighting. Lights can be programmed to dim during later hours, and estimated costs would be \$300 - \$500 more than a standard LED light for installation. There was no consensus from Council to pursue dark sky friendly lighting at this time, but it may be revisited in the future.

ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE SEARCH: Clerk Myhre is in the initial stages of researching possible accounting/billing software for the Town. She has reached out to other small cities in King County to find out which software they utilize and has reached out to get pricing from multiple companies. More information will be shared as she learns more.

REQUEST FOR ARBORIST EDUCATION EVENT: The Planning Commission has asked Council to consider hosting and funding an education event for Town residents with the Town Arborist. The event would give residents an opportunity to ask questions about proper tree maintenance and management and could be done during or after an already scheduled event, such as a town clean up or summer picnic.

Council was open to the idea but wants a more specific request from the Planning Commission detailing why this is necessary and what would be accomplished by holding such an event. It may be possible and more cost effective to make a video or FAQ document that could be shared with residents as a continuing resource, rather than holding a one-time event.

POTENTIAL CONTRACT FOR TREE CARE WORK: Councilmember Dix has requested that the Town enter into a contract with Thomas J Tree and Garden Care. Years ago, the Town contracted with one provider to do the Town tree work.

Conceptually, Council is not opposed to this idea, but a new contract needs to be drafted so it aligns with our procurement policy. Councilmember Saal volunteered to assist Councilmember Dix in writing a draft contract for Council and the Town Attorney to review.

COMP PLAN UPDATE: The town has not yet heard back from the Department of Commerce, so there is nothing to update currently.

RMSA TRAINING REMINDER: RMSA requires elected officials to take Elected Officials training within 90 days of taking office and every four years thereafter. Councilmembers should send proof of training to Clerk Myhre.

Q1 TREASURER'S REPORT: Clerk/Treasurer Myhre gave the Q1 2026 Treasurer's Report to Councilmember McCarthy for review and approval. The Q4 2025 and Q1 2026 Treasurer's Reports have been approved.

RACKSPACE EMAIL MIGRATION: Rackspace has finished exporting our archived emails. Clerk Myhre is in the process of downloading those into Outlook. Once the downloads are done, Councilmember Stowe has volunteered to help verify that information was transferred correctly.

MARSHAL'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

WATER REPORT: Water Superintendent Willard will provide a bid to fix a low spot in one of the town trails. Once received, Water Supervisor Antonelli will review and determine whether to go forward with the repair.

WABA REPORT: Nothing to report

APPEARANCES: None

REVIEW OF THE PROCUREMENT POLICY

Council reviewed the Town Procurement Policy at the March 2026 meeting and suggested potential changes to various amounts in Section 3, which outlines Delegation of Purchasing Authority, and Section 4, outlining Purchases of Equipment, Materials, Supplies or Purchased Services. These amounts have not changed in some time, and the suggested increases will be more in line with the increased costs of goods and services.

Town Engineer Schroeder updated the policy, but Council tabled the discussion to give more time for review of the policy. Council will revisit the policy at the May Council meeting.

REVIEW OF THE TOWN SURVEY – PHASE 2

Town Engineer Schroeder received a draft of phase 2 of the Town Survey from PACE Engineers in April. Council tabled the discussion of the survey review so Councilmembers could have more time to review. Council will revisit the survey review at the May Council meeting.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

ZOOM LINK FOR COUNCILMEMBERS: Councilmember Saal requested that a standing Zoom link be made available for Councilmembers who need to join Council meetings virtually. Clerk Myhre will create a link and provide it to Councilmembers prior to future meetings.

WATER METER RESEARCH: Councilmember Stowe, Water Supervisor Antonelli and Clerk Myhre met to discuss the discrepancy in the amount of water billed vs the amount of

water the town is showing as pumped. After investigating, the water billing is accurate, which means there may be an issue with the water meter on the town system. These discrepancies have occurred for years, and previous investigations were not able to solve the reason for discrepancies. Water Supervisor Antonelli will investigate the cost of a new meter and see if it is reasonable to replace.

SCA SMALL CITIES GROUP: Councilmember Stowe attended the first meeting of the SCA Small Cities Group. As the group continues, there's hope that the collection of small cities will work together to help each other deal with issues unique to small towns. Clerk Myhre will attend the AWC Small Cities Connector meeting in late April to continue to make connections with other small cities.

COMMERCE/HOUSING STUDY: Councilmember Stowe is part of a work group studying the potential of splitting housing away from the Department of Commerce. At this point, the split seems like a positive idea since Commerce is so large.

PAVING PROJECT: The paving work throughout the Village has been completed.

BELLEVUE WATER MAIN PROJECT: The Bellevue water main project is scheduled to begin May 4. Councilmember Wheeler will work with Town Engineer Schroeder to draft a message to notify residents of the upcoming work.

ILAS FOR SMALL CITIES: During the legislative session, the Interlocal Agreements (ILAs) for small cities were renegotiated, but this should not impact Beaux Arts Village.

KING COUNTY SHERIFF: The King County Sheriff's Department received a copy of the newly passed BAV Public Camping Ordinance 488. A representative from the sheriff's office has volunteered to attend the May Council meeting.

POSSIBLE SHARED SERVICES WITH MEDINA: The City of Medina may be willing to contract some services to Beaux Arts Village. Mayor Howes will meet with the city to learn more about costs. Contracting on an hourly rate for miscellaneous town projects could be helpful.

TOWN CLEAN UP: Send Marc Schaadt any requests for work to be accomplished at the Town Clean Up on April 18th.

USA 250th CELEBRATION: A celebration of the United States' 250th birthday will happen at the WABA new member's welcome party on Flag Day. The town will provide a cake to help celebrate.

UPCOMING COUNCIL TOPICS: The Procurement Policy and Town Survey will be discussed at the May Council meeting. A representative from the King County Sheriff's office is also scheduled to attend.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12,

2026, at Councilmember Saal's house.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session

ADJOURN: Councilmember Saal moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 pm.

Councilmember Stowe seconded.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Myhre
Clerk/Treasurer