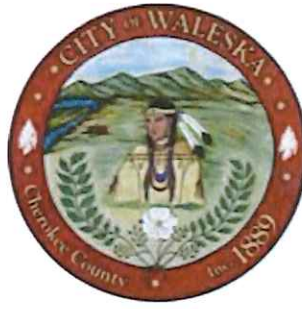




CITY OF WALESKA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 6, 2026

Present:

Mary Helen Lamb – Mayor

Dennis Cochran – Pro Tem

Walt Cook – Councilmember

Eddie Blackwell – Councilmember

Peter Brown – Councilmember

Michael Greene – Councilmember

Kristi Bosch – Councilmember

Lauren Garrett – City Clerk

Lamar Rogers – Engineer

Chris Lumpkin – Water Maintenance Manager

Absent:

Brandon Bowen– City Attorney

Item 1: Call to Order

Mayor Mary Helen Lamb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

Item 2: Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was delivered, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3: Five Minute Public Input

A resident of Darby Road addressed the Council regarding the streetlight fee being charged to residents on Darby Road where no streetlights currently exist. He also expressed concerns about the lack of response to inquiries submitted through the City's website and requested information regarding future roadway improvements and paving.

City staff explained that the website contact issues had recently been corrected, acknowledged the concerns regarding communication, and advised that the City is working to coordinate with the appropriate utility regarding installation of streetlights. Council discussed that portions of Darby Road were recently annexed into the City and noted they would follow up regarding any outstanding developer obligations related to infrastructure improvements.

Item 4: Consideration to Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes June 15, 2026

A motion was made by Councilmember Greene to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 5: Consideration to Approve the Called Meeting Minutes – June 23, 2026

A motion was made by Councilmember Cochran to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2026, Called Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Greene. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 6: Public Hearing #1 – 2026 Tax Digest and Proposed FY2027 Millage Rate

Mayor Lamb opened the public hearing regarding the 2026 Tax Digest and proposed FY2027 millage rate.

Rachel presented information regarding the proposed millage rate of 3.12 mills, explaining the required public hearing process, the rollback rate, property tax calculations, and the City's tax digest. She also reviewed the City's property value growth and explained why the proposed millage exceeds the rollback rate.

Public comments included questions regarding:

- The difference between City and County property taxes.
- The proposed millage increase and its financial impact.
- Property value growth and how it affects the City's budget.

Rachel answered questions regarding the rollback calculation and explained that the proposed increase would result in approximately \$52 annually for the average \$500,000 home.

There being no further comments, Councilmember Bosch made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran and passed unanimously. The public hearing was closed.

Item 7 : Yard of the Month

Councilmember Brown made a motion to name 7119 Reinhardt College Parkway, the July Yard of the Month. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 8: Water System Report

Council discussed ongoing water line construction and temporary water service interruptions associated with the project. Council expressed concerns regarding repeated daytime water outages. Staff advised they would coordinate with the contractor to minimize future disruptions and improve communication.

A resident requested information regarding increasing water pressure at a residence on Stonewood Trail. Discussion concluded that replacing the water meter would not resolve the issue and that additional engineering evaluation of the private service line may be necessary. Public Works Director Chris Lumpkin was asked to inspect the pressure at the residence.

Chris Lumpkin provided the Water Department report, including:

- Byrd Mountain Tank cleaning and maintenance had been completed and the tank returned to service.
- Repair of a two-inch water main break on Highway 140.
- Repair of a service line break on Sardis Road.

Council discussed scheduling future tank maintenance during lower-demand seasons whenever possible.

The City Clerk presented a draft customer notification regarding damage to MXU meter reading equipment. Council requested that a photograph of the MXU be included with the notice for customer reference. Staff will distribute the notice with utility bills and post it on the City's website and social media.

Discussion also occurred regarding emergency response procedures for future water main breaks. Council emphasized that customer water service is a priority and directed staff to take all necessary steps to restore service as quickly as possible.

Item 9: City Clerk's Report

None.

Item 10: City Attorney's Report

None.

Item 11: Mayor's Report

None.

Item 12: Council Remarks

Council discussed minimizing unnecessary water service interruptions during ongoing water line construction and emphasized the importance of maintaining reliable water service for residents.

Item 13: Adjourn Regular Council Meeting

Councilmember Greene made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting and enter Executive Session for Personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 14: Enter Executive Session

Following a unanimous vote, Council entered Executive Session for Personnel at 7:45 p.m.

Item 15: Adjourn Executive Session

Councilmember Greene made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 16: Enter regular Council Meeting

Council reconvened in Regular Session at 7:55 p.m.

Item 17: Adjourn Regular Council Meeting

Councilmember Greene made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED THIS 20 DAY OF July, 2026.

Mary Helen Lamb

Mary Helen Lamb, Mayor

Attest

Lauren Garrett

Lauren Garrett, City Clerk