

**COLFAX CITY COUNCIL**  
**May 5, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Retzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL:**

Golden, McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guenthner, Sevedge and Huntwork: Present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2025 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

**GOOD OF THE CITY:**

Summerfest meeting Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. at Wild Ember.

2025 Graduate banners are up.

The first Colfax Farmers Market was last Thursday; they will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month through September. There were 14 vendors and sales were good.

Chamber President Gary Young reported Serfes will participate with food for future markets and the Thrifty Grandmother's will open from 4p.m.- 7p.m. during the Farmers Market.

Shred Day will be held tomorrow May 6<sup>th</sup> in Rosauers Parking lot from 1-3.

Young thanked Mayor Retzer for removing the merry go round at Schmuck Park, after concerns for the safety of users.

**BILLS AND CLAIMS:**

A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Guenthner to approve all bills and claims as presented. Roll Call: All Yes.

<b>CLAIMS</b>	<b>PAYROLL</b>
#10770-10797 & EFT	#10737-10764, 10766-10769 & EFT 10765 Void
\$493,939.95	\$104,741.97

**GRAND TOTAL: \$598,681.92**

**CITIZENS REQUEST:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**COLFAX CITY COUNCIL**  
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**PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution 25-09-Bank Account for Xpress Bill Pay-**

Kramlich stated having a specific bank account for Xpress Bill Pay, which was previously approved by council for online transactions, will simplify the monthly reconciliation process.

A motion was entered by Mackleit, seconded by Huntwork to approve Resolution 25-09 Bank Account for Xpress Bill Pay. Roll Call: All Yes.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Police:**

Police Chief Mike Melcher reported the department will be going through an ACCESS Audit starting tomorrow.

Officer Cody Johnson has 3 weeks left of FTO.

The background investigation for one entry-level candidate is still in progress and should be completed shortly.

Melcher successfully arranged for the removal of a couple of junk cars from various locations around town.

April 26<sup>th</sup> Melcher assisted with the drug take back, the event brought in about 14 pounds of prescription medications.

**Public Works:**

City Administrator Matt Hammer stated they will be removing trees on Main Street, WSDOT will assist with traffic control.

WSDOT contacted Hammer to inform him that the SR 195/ SR 26 Bridge Project will be delayed by four years.

Hammer reminded the council that the FEMA open house is scheduled for Thursday, May 8th, at 6 p.m. at the Whitman County Public Service Building.

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### **Administration:**

City Clerk Lynda Kramlich and Deputy Clerk/Finance Amanda Link attended budget training in Wenatchee and are also scheduled to attend fraud training.

Link has been working on the annual report, which is due at the end of the month.

### **COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Sevedge inquired about potential actions the city could take concerning vacant and unmaintained downtown businesses and properties.

McRae mentioned attending the recent Inland Northwest Partners meeting, where guest speaker Rebecca Udem from Growing Small Towns addressed this topic. The discussion covered vacant building ordinances and strategies for dealing with issues such as properties falling into serious disrepair due to lack of maintenance. McRae noted that both Medical Lake and Spokane city councils have approved ordinances specifically addressing these concerns.

Retzer stated we need to proceed carefully with these issues, the city doesn't want to get in the business of telling property owner how to maintain their properties.

Retzer will have staff look into possible solutions to address the issue of vacant buildings.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

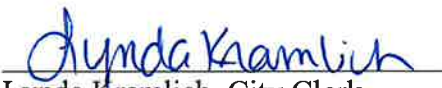
### **MAYORS REPORT:**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

  
Jim Retzer, Mayor

  
Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk