

TOWN OF St. JOHN PO BOX 298 St. JOHN, WA 99171-0298 (509) 648-3905

MEETING OF July 14, 2025

Mayor Webb called the meeting to order. Councilmembers Harrison, Howard, Bezdicek, Blumenshein, and Smick, Public Works Steve Gibson, community Members S Hale, L Miller, L Jensen, L & D Davis, J Hergert, C Voiselle, and the Town Clerk attended.

The June 23, 2025, meeting minutes were read and approved as read.

The payables were presented to the Council for review and discussion. Bezdicek moved, Harrison seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of the Council.

CL# & EFT's 15906-15927 \$ 96,126.04

PR#

L. Jensen introduced herself to the council and expressed an interest in exploring a nonprofit or for-profit entity that could house a senior center, the food pantry, and possibly afterschool programs. They would like to offer classes for seniors and the general public. They are in the early stages of planning and would like the council's input on what the community needs.

L. Davis brought to the council the proposal to paint a pickleball court on the existing basketball court in the park. She has offered to supply the paint and supplies, and a net, along with her knowledge of the game, to offer workshops to teach those interested in learning the game. She would also be willing to set up regular scheduled days to "host" games.

The representatives of the food pantry attended the meeting to learn what decision the Council had reached regarding the potential use of the old City Shop. The Council sincerely appreciates the work and mission of the food pantry and fully supports its efforts to serve the community. The Council determined that the building—unused for over 12–15 years—is currently not viable for occupancy. The cost to bring essential services such as water, sewer, electricity, heating, and restroom facilities up to code would be substantial and, unfortunately, beyond the Town's current budgetary capacity. The Council regrets that they are unable to offer the space at this time, but remains committed to exploring other ways to support the food pantry's important work. The council was informed that the food distribution for July and Aug would be at the park.

J. Hergert expressed her concern for the music being played in her neighborhood. She expressed her opinion that it was unacceptable and she was tired of nothing being done. She

stated that she went to the Mayor's house to make a complaint after she called his and other council members' homes with no answer. She acknowledged that the mayor did drive by and talk to the neighbor, but after the mayor left, nothing changed. She expressed her concern that until a code enforcement officer is present, it is the duty of the mayor. The mayor relayed that he has addressed each of her concerns with the offending parties when brought to his and the council's attention. The Mayor also asked that she do business appropriately and during business hours. Do not call or stop by council, Mayor, or clerk's house to make complaints. Reportable complaints in writing will be delt with.

She also expressed her concern with the condition of A. Nave's property. She stated there was garbage everywhere. The council agreed to revisit that property as well.

A bid for crack sealing was reviewed. Some of the road's bid were Wilson, Bryant Blvd, and Westview. Around the Park on Loomis and State needs to be widened to the grass. The areas around the park need to be widened, cut, and adjusted to grade to make sure the rain and excess water runs to the Storm drain. This all could be done mid-August. It was moved by Howard and seconded by Smick to crack seal Willson Rd and Westview. Approval for storm drain management and parking on the west and north side of the park was moved by Smick and seconded by Bezdicek.

Discussion on the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds set aside for the Park Pavilion project ensued. The Clerk asked to move SLFRF funds from the holding account to the general fund to help pay for the project. It was moved by Howard and seconded by Harrison to move the funds. The Pavillion is complete but the ridge caps have open spaces and the request to rectify the problem was presented to Dee's. The 10% retainage will be held until the project is complete. The dirt surrounding the pavilion needs to be transformed to grass. Options for SOD vs grass seed will be explored.

The council had a discussion on an EMS Levy. The Town will need to coordinate with the Volunteer Fire Department to educate the residents about the need for the EMS Levy.

The property at 204 E Oak has been sold, and the Lien has been paid. The cost to file the release is higher than anticipated. A motion to issue a check for the filing prior to the next meeting was approved by a motion from Smick and seconded by Harrison.

AWC is holding a budget workshop in August that the Clerk would like to attend. There is the opportunity to get the workshop paid for, but the lodging is not included. After the discussion, it was moved by Blumenshein and seconded by Bezdicek to approve the cost of the workshop and lodging.

With no further comments requested, Mayor Webb moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was officially adjourned at 7:26 PM.

F. Shani Hergert

CLERK-TREASURER

Michael G. Webb

MAYOR