

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, September 15, 2025

Attending: Council President James Miller, Councilors Steve Hahn, Chad Lohmeyer, Mary Jo Totten.
Matt Coppock was absent

Also attending: Marshal BJ Moyars, Town Supervisor Ron Holladay, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones

Guests: Carrie Lohmeyer, Kayla Morehouse, Aaron Brovont, John Pearl. Joe Kline attended via Zoom.us.

James Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Items were added to the agenda.

- a) Approve wage increase for the apprentice program
- b) Tree removal cost estimate
- c) Review Stormwater Utility fee appeal
- d) 2026 Budget review
- e) Town Hall renovation
- f) Solar array at waste treatment plant

Sidewalk project on High School Street

The Battle Ground Elementary Parent Teacher Organization has identified the two-block section of High School Street between the schools as an area that needs a safe sidewalk for the students' activities. Groups of students and adults walk between the schools daily.

Ron Holladay, Steve Hahn and Mary Jo Totten commented on the options previously identified for creating a sidewalk or path from the Elementary School to the Intermediate School. Their recommendation is to complete a partial sidewalk on the east side of High School Street from the Elementary School, which crosses to the west side of High School at Sherman, and joins with existing sidewalk at ball diamond "A" parking area. Mary Jo moved to approve up to \$50,000 for installation, with second of Chad Lohmeyer.

President Miller asked several questions to help the group evaluate costs and benefits.

Who will be responsible to clear the sidewalk after snowfall?

Is there any data on the number of people who currently walk between the schools daily?

Do teachers feel unsafe on the street, did they have complaints?

How much vehicular traffic is there during the day?

Have the impacted property owners been notified?

Have the property owners with trees that may be removed been spoken with?

As a curtesy, should all the property owners be included in discussions?

What is the residential parking impact?

Following approximately 30 minutes of discussion, there was call for the question. The motion passed with Totten, Hahn and Lohmeyer voting Aye, Coppock absent, and Miller abstained from vote.

Ron Holladay responded to a request for information about repairing cracks on the North Street sidewalk, south side. He advised the council the type of repair involves grinding the crack wider and filling it with caulk, which then requires annual maintenance. It was agreed that this section is part of the Primary School Corridor, which would be paid 100% with town funds and that repairs should be made. One contractor suggested the cost might be \$1000, no action was taken.

Wage increase for apprentice program

Jantzen Fields has completed 3,000 hours on the apprentice program and qualifies for the scheduled wage increase of \$.37 for the current payroll which started 9/7/2025. His new wage is \$23.71. Chad Lohmeyer moved to approve the increase, with second of Steve Hahn. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Tree removal cost estimate

The estimate from Elevate Tree Care for tree and limb removal for safety reasons is \$2900.

102 Jewett St	dead oak tree on abandoned property	\$1400
102 S Winans St	hollow tree and a dead tree on the street	\$1200
High School at Sherman	remove broken top from a tulip tree	\$ 300

Georgia Jones mentioned dead trees at town hall which could be included in the invoice. Ron Holladay will review those. Mary Jo Totten moved to approve up to \$3,500 for tree removal, with second of Steve Hahn. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Stormwater Utility fee appeal

An appeal was received from 504 Jewett Street. The council reviewed town ordinance requirements for the utility. No action was taken, deferred to October 13 in case the property owner wants to attend.

2026 Budget review - No discussion

Town Hall renovation

Chad Lohmeyer contacted an architect who would provide CAD drawings for use with a specification document to obtain quotes for rehabilitation of 100 College Street. The cost is \$100 per hour. Mary Jo Totten moved to approve up to \$2000 for drawings, with second of Steve Hahn. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Solar array at waste treatment plant

There is still opportunity to obtain a tax incentive for installing solar panels however construction must be started by December 31 and completed by December 2026. The initial estimate was \$345,000.

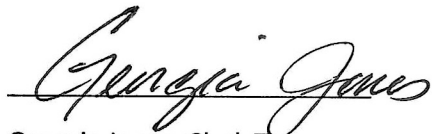
It is believed that \$200,000 may remain in the Hawks Nest BOT loan account after all expenses for the project are accounted for. The question is whether council desires to use the loan remainder for this purpose. Steve Hahn suggested the council look for professional advice on solar installations from someone other than the sales team for this solar product. There are professional resources for solar power at Tipmont, and their input will be requested for report at the October meeting.

Guest Comment


Ron Holladay will use the meeting room September 17 for employment interviews with candidates for the part time position.

The Tippecanoe Volunteer Fire Department Fall Festival is October 18. The department has not contacted the town marshal yet. Chad Lohmeyer offered to get in touch with the fire chief to arrange an information exchange regarding their plans.

Motion to adjourn 7:12 PM by Mary Jo Totten, with second of Steve Hahn.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Georgia Jones", written over a horizontal line.

Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James Miller", written over a horizontal line.

James Miller, Council President

Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance
Battle Ground Town Council

Date: September 15, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present

in Person: James Miller, Steve Hahn, Mary Jo Totten, Chad Lohmeyer

Via Zoom.us:

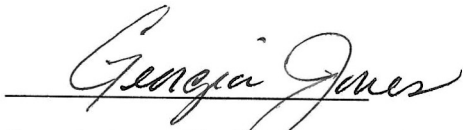
Also Present in Person: Ron Holladay, BJ Moyars, Georgia Jones

Guest Present in Person: Carrie Lohmeyer, Kayla Morehouse, Aaron Brovont, John Pearl

Guest Present Virtually: Joe Kline

Electronic Means of Communication Used For Members and Public: Zoom.us, Youtube.com

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Georgia Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Georgia Jones, Clerk-Treasurer, Financial Clerk