

**Building and Planning Department**

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## CHEHALIS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Regular meeting of November 16, 2023

@ 5:30 PM

Chehalis City Hall, 350 North Market Boulevard

Casey Forsman, Commissioner  
Jo Kuehner, Commissioner  
Jill McNaught, Commissioner  
Mitch Moeberg, Commissioner  
John Six, Commissioner

Kathy Smith, Commissioner  
Pete Hammer, Commissioner  
Laura Fisher, Permit Technician  
Malissa Paulsen, Planner

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the minutes for October 19, 2023
4. Citizen Business (This is an opportunity for members of the public to speak on items not listed elsewhere in the agenda.)
5. Commission Business
  - a. Old Business
    - i. Draft Chapter 2.66 Historic Preservation Ordinance
  - b. New Business
    - i. Historic Preservation Literature, now available at Community Development Department
      1. A Field Guide to American Houses by Virginia Savage McAlester
      2. Preservation Briefs
    - ii. Historic Preservation Binders, update.
      1. Please drop off preservation binders at Community Development Department or with Malissa Paulsen.
  - c. Other Business
6. Public Hearing

None.
7. Adjourn Meeting
  - a. Next meeting to be held Thursday, December 21, 2023

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82474552087>

**Historic Preservation Commission**

**Meeting Minutes October 19, 2023**

5:30pm Meeting called to order by Chair Peter Hammer.

In Attendance: Peter Hammer, Jo Ann Kuehner, Jill McNaught, Mitch Moberg, Kathy Smith

Approval of the meeting minutes from May 18, 2023. Jo Ann Kuehner motions to approve, Jill McNaught seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

There being no Citizen Business, Chair Peter Hammer moves to item 5 (a) on the agenda Commission Business.

Old Business Chapter 2.66 Historic Preservation Ordinance Update.

Planner Malissa Paulsen speaks to previous approval with conditions on the previous DRAFT ordinance which has not moved forward in the process. She plans to review it, then add the commissions conditions and bring it back to a meeting for it to be reviewed one more time. Her plan is to have Planner Ron Buckholt review it and Michelle Thompson with the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation to review it as well.

New Business Introduction of Malissa Paulsen, a new planner with the city of Chehalis and the new Historic Preservation Commission liaison. Chair Peter Hammer welcomes Malissa.

Malissa Paulsen shares with the commission her employment history and knowledge of Historic Preservation Commission.

Peter Hammer moves to discuss the letter he wrote on behalf of McFilers Chehalis Theater Letter of Support. He shares how appreciative McFilers is of this, and feels they have a good chance of getting this grant. He encourages the members of the commission to look out for other opportunities to help people in the district.

Item 5 (b) iii. Permit # BU-COM-23-033; 539 N. Market Blvd. Applicant proposes placement of metal siding for brick wall.

The applicant Jason Boettner with Mint City Coffee is present to discuss the permit with the commission.

Jo Ann Kuehner asks if Jason has looked into tucking rather than metal.

Jason Boettner explains that he did, and it would be substantially more money and didn't seem feasible.

Malissa Paulsen explains to the applicant that there is grant funding through the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation. She will send this information to Jason.

Peter Hammer entertains a motion to approve the project for the siding. Jo Ann Kuehner motions to approve. Mitch Moberg seconds the motion. There being no opposition, the motion was carried unanimously.

34 Malissa Paulsen shares that she has taken all of the residences she was able to find that were appointed  
35 to the local register and put them on a spreadsheet with addresses and parcel numbers making it easier  
36 to look them up when a new permit is applied for so that they can route them appropriately to Historic  
37 Preservation Commission.

38 Jill McNaught asks Malissa if they can get their books updated. The group agrees to bring in their  
39 books/binders for Malissa to review and update.

40 Kathy Smith asks for clarification on the process for cataloging the inventory.

41 Malissa Paulsen explains that they are typically done by a Historic Architect. Generally, a Historic  
42 Preservation Commission can get a grant and hire an outside consultant. She recommends doing an  
43 updated version as the last inventory was done in 1987.

44 Michelle Thompson with Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation presents the "Certified  
45 Local Government 101".

46 There being no Public Hearing Peter Hammer moves to Item 7 on the agenda to Adjourn Meeting.

47 Peter Hammer entertains a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jo Ann Kuehner moves to adjourn, Kathy  
48 Smith seconds the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

49

50 Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

51 Peter Hammer, Chair

52 Recorded by: \_\_\_\_\_

53 Laura Fisher, Permit Technician

## **Chapter 2.66**

# **HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 2.66.010 | Purpose  |
| 2.66.030 | Title  |
| 2.66.050 | Definitions  |
| 2.66.070 | Chehalis Historic Commission   |
| 2.66.090 | Chehalis Register of Historic Places                                   |
| 2.66.110 | Review of Changes to the Chehalis Register Properties                  |
| 2.66.120 | Review and Monitoring of Properties for Special Property Tax Valuation |

### **2.66.010 Purpose**

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide for the identification, evaluation, designation, and protection of designated historic and prehistoric resources within the boundaries of the City of Chehalis and preserve and rehabilitate eligible historic properties within the City of Chehalis for future generations through special valuation, a property tax incentive, as provided in Chapter 84.26 RCW in order to:

- A. Safeguard the heritage of the City of Chehalis as represented by those buildings, districts, objects, sites and structures which reflect significant elements of the City of Chehalis history;
- B. Foster civic and neighborhood pride in the beauty and accomplishments of the past, and a sense of identity based on the City of Chehalis history;
- C. Stabilize or improve the aesthetic and economic vitality and values of such sites, improvements and objects;
- D. Assist, encourage and provide incentives to private owners for preservation, restoration, redevelopment and use of outstanding historic buildings, districts, objects, sites and structures;
- E. Promote and facilitate the early identification and resolution of conflicts between preservation of historic resources and alternative land uses; and,
- F. Conserve valuable material and energy resources by ongoing use and maintenance of the existing built environment.

### **2.66.030 Title**

The following sections shall be known and may be cited as the “historic preservation ordinance of the City of Chehalis.

### **2.66.050 Definitions**

The following words and terms when used in this ordinance shall mean as follows, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

- A. The City of Chehalis Historic Inventory” or “Inventory” means the comprehensive inventory of historic and prehistoric resources within the boundaries of the City of Chehalis.
- B. “The City of Chehalis Historic Preservation Commission” or “Commission” means the commission created by CMC 2.66.070 herein.
- C. “The City of Chehalis Register of Historic Places”, “Local Register”, or “Register” means the listing of locally designated properties provided for in CMC 2.66.090 herein.

- D. “Actual Cost of Rehabilitation” means costs incurred within twenty-four months prior to the date of application and directly resulting from one or more of the following: a) improvements to an existing building located on or within the perimeters of the original structure; or b) improvements outside of but directly attached to the original structure which are necessary to make the building fully useable but shall not include rentable/habitable floor-space attributable to new construction; or c) architectural and engineering services attributable to the design of the improvements; or d) all costs defined as “qualified rehabilitation expenditures” for purposes of the federal historic preservation investment tax credit.
- E. A “building” is a structure constructed by human beings. This includes both residential and nonresidential buildings, main and accessory buildings.
- F. “Certificate of Appropriateness” means the document indicating that the commission has reviewed the proposed changes to a local register property or within a local register historic district and certified the changes as not adversely affecting the historic characteristics of the property which contribute to its designation.
- G. “Certified Local Government” or “CLG” means the designation reflecting that the local government has been jointly certified by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the National Park Service as having established its own historic preservation commission and a program meeting Federal and State standards.
- H. “Class of properties eligible to apply for Special Valuation in the City of Chehalis” means all historic properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places or certified as contributing to a National Register Historic District which have been substantially rehabilitated at a cost and within a time period which meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 84.26 RCW, until the City of Chehalis becomes a Certified Local Government (CLG). Once a CLG, the class of properties eligible to apply for Special Valuation in the City of Chehalis means all historic properties listed on the City of Chehalis Register of Historic Places which have been substantially rehabilitated at a cost and within a time period which meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 84.26 RCW.
- I. “Cost” means the actual cost of rehabilitation, which cost shall be at least twenty-five percent of the assessed valuation of the historic property, exclusive of the assessed value attributable to the land, prior to rehabilitation.
- J. A “district” is a geographically definable area urban or rural, small or large—possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites buildings, structures, and/or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development.
- K. “Emergency repair” means work necessary to prevent destruction or dilapidation to real property or structural appurtenances thereto immediately threatened or damaged by fire, flood, earthquake or other disaster.
- L. “Historic property” means real property together with improvements thereon, except property listed in a register primarily for objects buried below ground, which is listed in a local register of a Certified Local Government or the National Register of Historic Places.
- M. “Incentives” are such rights or privileges or combination thereof which the Chehalis City Council, or other local, state, or federal public body or agency, by virtue of applicable present or future legislation, may be authorized to grant or obtain for the owner(s) of Register properties. Examples of economic incentives include but are not limited to tax relief, conditional use permits, rezoning, street vacation, planned unit development, transfer of development rights, facade easements, gifts, preferential leasing policies, beneficial placement of public improvements or amenities, or the like.
- N. “Local Review Board”, or “Board” used in Chapter 84.26 RCW and Chapter 254-20 WAC for the special valuation of historic properties means the commission created in CMC 2.66.070 herein.
- O. “National Register of Historic Places” means the national listing of properties significant to our cultural history because of their documented importance to our history, architectural history, engineering, or

cultural heritage.

- P. An “object” is a thing of functional, aesthetic, cultural, historical, or scientific value that may be, by nature or design, movable yet related to a specific setting or environment.
- Q. “Ordinary repair and maintenance” means work for which a permit issued by the City of Chehalis is not required by law, and where the purpose and effect of such work is to correct any deterioration or decay of or damage to the real property or structure appurtenance therein and to restore the same, as nearly as may be practicable, to the condition prior to the occurrence of such deterioration, decay, or damage.
- R. “Owner” of property is the fee simple owner of record as exists on the Lewis County Assessor’s records.
- S. “Significance” or “significant” used in the context of historic significance means the following: a property with local, state, or national significance is one which helps in the understanding of the history or prehistory of the local area, state, or nation (whichever is applicable) by illuminating the local, statewide, or nationwide impact of the events or persons associated with the property, or its architectural type or style in information potential. The local area can include the City of Chehalis, Lewis County, or the southwest region of Washington, or a modest geographic or cultural area, such as a neighborhood. Local significance may apply to a property that illustrates a theme that is important to one or more localities; state significance to a theme important to the history of the state; and national significance to property of exceptional value in representing or illustrating an important theme in the history of the nation.
- T. A “site” is a place where a significant event or pattern of events occurred. It may be the location of prehistoric or historic occupation or activities that may be marked by physical remains; or it may be the symbolic focus of a significant event or pattern of events that may not have been actively occupied. A site may be the location of ruined or now non-existent building or structure of the location itself possesses historic cultural or archaeological significance.
- U. “Special Valuation for Historic Properties” or “Special Valuation” means the local option program which when implemented makes available to property owners a special tax valuation for rehabilitation of historic properties under which the assessed value of an eligible historic property is determined at a rate that excludes, for up to ten years, the actual cost of the rehabilitation. (Chapter 84.26 RCW).
- V. “State Register of Historic Places” means the state listing of properties significant to the community, state, or nation but which may or may not meet the criteria of the National Register.
- W. A “structure” is a work made up of interdependent and interrelated parts in a definite pattern of organization. Generally constructed by man, it is often an engineering project.
- X. “Universal Transverse Macerator” or “UTM” means the grid zone in metric measurement providing for an exact point of numerical reference.
- Y. “Waiver of a Certificate of Appropriateness” or “Waiver” means the document indicating that the commission has reviewed the proposed whole or partial demolition of a local register property or in a local register historic district and failing to find alternatives to demolition has issued a waiver of a Certificate of Appropriateness which allows the building or zoning official to issue a permit for demolition.
- Z. “Washington State Advisory Council’s Standards for the Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Historic Properties” or “State Advisory’s Council’s Standards” means the rehabilitation and maintenance standards used by the City of Chehalis Historic Preservation Commission as minimum requirements for determining whether or not an historic property is eligible for special valuation and whether or not the property continues to be eligible for special valuation once it has been so classified.

## **CMC 2.66.070 The City of Chehalis Historic Commission**

### **A. Creation and Size**

There is hereby established a City of Chehalis Historic Preservation Commission, consisting of seven (7) members, as provided in CMC 2.66.070(B) below. Members of the City of Chehalis Historic Preservation Commission shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council and shall be residents of the City of Chehalis except as provided in CMC 2.66.070(B)(2) below.

### **B. Composition of the Commission**

1. All members of the commission must have a demonstrated interest and competence in historic preservation and possess qualities of impartiality and broad judgement.
2. The commission shall always include at least three (3) professionals who have experience in identifying, evaluating, and protecting historic resources and are selected from among the disciplines of architecture, history, architectural history, planning, prehistoric and historic archaeology, folklore, cultural anthropology, curation, conservation, and landscape architecture, American studies, law, real estate, construction, or related disciplines. Two (2) positions shall be citizens at large with preference given to property owners with ownership of an historic structure.

The commission action that would otherwise be valid shall not be rendered invalid by the temporary vacancy of one or all of the professional positions, unless the commission action is related to meeting Certified Local Government (CLG) responsibilities cited in the Certification Agreement between the City of Chehalis represented by the City Manager, and the State Historic Preservation Officer on behalf of the State. Furthermore, exception to the residency requirement of commission members may be granted by the Mayor and City Council in order to obtain representatives from these disciplines.

3. In making appointments, the city council may consider names submitted from any source, which shall notify history- and development- related organizations of vacancies so that names of interested and qualified individuals may be submitted by such organizations for consideration along with names from any other source.

### **C. Terms**

Appointments for new terms shall be made for a three (3) year term. Vacancies shall be filled by the City Council for the balance of an unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

### **D. Powers and Duties**

The major responsibility of the Historic Preservation Commission is to identify and actively encourage the conservation of the Chehalis historic resources by initiating and maintaining a register of historic places and reviewing proposed changes to register properties; to raise community awareness of the city's history and historic resources; and to serve as the primary resource in matters of history, historic planning, and preservation.

In carrying out these responsibilities, the Historic Preservation Commission shall engage in the following:

1. Conduct and maintain a comprehensive inventory of historic resources within the boundaries of the City of Chehalis and known as the City of Chehalis Historic Inventory and publicize and periodically update inventory results. Properties listed on the inventory shall be recorded on official zoning records with an "HI" (for historic inventory designation). This designation shall not change or modify the underlying zone classification.
2. Maintain the Chehalis Register of Historic Places. This official register shall be compiled of buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts identified by the commission as having historic significance worthy of recognition and protection by the City of Chehalis and encouragement of efforts by owners to

maintain, rehabilitate, and preserve properties.

3. Review nominations to the Chehalis Register of Historic Places according to criteria in CMC 2.66.090 of this ordinance and adopt standards in its rules to be used to guide this review make a recommendation to the City Council for placement on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places.
4. Review proposals to construct, change, alter, modify, remodel, move, demolish, or significantly affect properties or districts on the register as provided in CMC 2.66.110, adopt standards in its rules to be used to guide this review and make a recommendation to the building official to issue a certificate of appropriateness or waiver.
5. Provide for the review either by the commission or its staff of all applications for approvals, permits, environmental assessments or impact statements, and other similar documents pertaining to identified historic resources or adjacent properties.
6. Conduct all commission meetings in compliance with Chapter 42.30 RCW, Open Public Meetings Act, to provide for adequate public participation and adopt standards in its rules to guide this action.
7. Participate in, promote, and conduct public information, educational and interpretive programs pertaining to historic and prehistoric resources.
8. Establish liaison support, communication and cooperation with federal, state, and other local government entities which will further historic preservation objectives, including public education, within the City of Chehalis area.
9. Review and advise the City of Chehalis on environmental assessments, land use, housing and development, municipal improvement, and other types of planning and programs undertaken by the city, other neighboring communities, the county, and the state or federal governments, as they relate to historic resources of the city and as required by the Environmental Protection Act (Chapter 43.21C RCW), the Historic Preservation Act (Chapter 27.34 RCW), the Indian Graves and Records Act (Chapter 27.44 RCW), the Rehabilitation Incentive Act (Chapter 84.29 RCW) and other historic conservation legislation.
10. Advise the City Council generally on matters of Chehalis history and historic preservation.
11. Perform other related functions assigned to the Commission by the Chehalis City Council.
12. Provide information to the public on methods of maintaining and rehabilitating historic properties. This may take the form of pamphlets, newsletters, workshops, or similar activities.
13. Officially recognize excellence in the rehabilitation of historic buildings, structures, sites and districts, and new construction in historic areas; and encourage appropriate measures for such recognition.
14. Be informed about and provide information to the public and Chehalis city departments on incentives for preservation of historic resources including legislation, regulations and codes which encourage the use and adaptive reuse of historic properties.
15. Review nominations to the State and National Registers of Historic Places and make a recommendation for approval or denial.
16. Investigate and report to the Chehalis City Council on the use of various federal, state, local or private funding sources available to promote historic resource preservation in the City of Chehalis.
17. Serve as the local review board for Special Valuation and:
  - a) Make determination concerning the eligibility of historic properties for special valuation;
  - b) Verify that the improvements are consistent with the Washington State Advisory Council's



Standards for Rehabilitation and Maintenance:

- c) Enter into agreements with property owners for the duration of the special valuation period as required under WAC 254-20-070(2);
  - d) Approve or deny applications for special valuation;
  - e) Monitor the property for continued compliance with the agreement and statutory eligibility requirements during the 10-year special valuation period; and
  - f) Adopt bylaws and/or administrative rules and comply with all other local review board responsibilities identified in Chapter 84.26 RCW.
18. The commission shall adopt rules of procedure to address items 3, 4, 6, and 17 inclusive.

## **E. Compensation**

All members of the commission shall serve without compensation.

## **F. Rules and Officers**

The commission shall establish and adopt its own rules of procedure and shall select from among its membership a chairperson and such other officers as may be necessary to conduct the commission's business.

## **G. Commission Staff**

Commission and professional staff assistance shall be provided by the City of Chehalis or other qualified professional as identified by the Council with additional assistance and information to be provided by other City of Chehalis departments as may be necessary to aid the commission in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under this ordinance.

# **2.66.090 Chehalis Register of Historic Places**

## **A. Criteria for Determining Designation in the Register**

Any building, structure, site, object, or district may be designated for inclusion in the Chehalis Register of Historic Places if it is significantly associated with the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or cultural heritage of the community; if it has integrity; is at least 50 years old, or is of lesser age and has exceptional importance; and if it falls in at least one of the following categories.

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of national, state, or local history.
2. Embodies the distinctive architectural characteristics of a type, period, style, or method of design or construction, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
3. Is an outstanding work of a designer, builder, or architect who has made a substantial contribution to the art.
4. Exemplifies or reflects special elements of the Chehalis' cultural, special, economic, political, aesthetic, engineering, or architectural history.
5. Is associated with the lives of persons significant in national, state, or local history.
6. Has yielded or may be likely to yield important archaeological information related to history or prehistory.
7. Is a building or structure removed from its original location, but which is significant primarily

for architectural value, or which is the only surviving structure significantly associated with an historic person or event.

8. Is a birthplace or grave of an historical figure of outstanding importance and is the only surviving structure or site associated with that person.
9. Is a cemetery which derives its primary significance from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events, or cultural patterns.
10. Is a reconstructed building that has been executed in an historically accurate manner on the original site.
11. Is a creative and unique example of folk architecture and design created by persons not formally trained in the architectural or design professions, and which does not fit into formal architectural or historical categories.

## **B. Process for Designating Properties or Districts to the Chehalis Register of Historic Places**

1. Only property owners may nominate a building, district, or place for nomination to the Chehalis Register of Historic Places. Members of the public, elected officials, or appointed commissioners may nominate a city owned building or place for inclusion on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places. In its designation decision, the commission shall consider the City of Chehalis Comprehensive Plan.
2. In the case of individual properties, the designation shall include the UTM reference and all features—interior and exterior—and outbuildings that contribute to its designation.
3. In the case of districts, the designation shall include description of the boundaries of the district; the characteristics of the district justifying its designation; and a list of all properties including features, structures, sites, and objects contributing to the designation of the district.
4. The Historic Preservation Commission shall consider the merits of the nomination, according to the criteria in CMC 2.66.090(A) and according to the nomination review standards established in rules, at a public meeting. Adequate notice will be given to the public, the owner(s) and the authors of the nomination, if different, and lessees, if any, of the subject property prior to the public meeting according to standards for public meetings established in rules and in compliance with Chapter 42.30 RCW, Open Public Meetings Act. Such notice shall include publication in a newspaper of general circulation in Lewis County and any other form of notification deemed appropriate by The City of Chehalis. If the commission finds that the nominated property is eligible for the Chehalis Register of Historic Places, the commission make recommendation to the Chehalis City Council to place the building, district, or site in the Chehalis Register of Historic Places and that the property be listed in the Register with the property owner's consent. In the case of historic districts, the commission shall consider a simple majority to be adequate for owner consent. Owner consent and notification procedures in the case of districts shall be further defined in rules. The public, property owner(s) and the authors of the nomination, if different, and lessees, if any, shall be notified of the listing.
5. Properties listed on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places shall be recorded on official zoning records with an "HR" (for Historic Register) designation. This designation shall not change or modify the underlying zone classification.

## **C. Removal of Properties from the Register**

In the event that any property is no longer deemed appropriate for designation to the Chehalis Register of Historic Places, the commission may initiate removal from such designation by the same procedure as provided for in establishing the designation, CMC 2.66.110(B) A property may be removed from the

Chehalis Register of Historic Places by the City Council with a recommendation from the Historic Preservation Commission and without the owner's consent.

#### **D. Effects of Listing on the Register**

1. Listing on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places is an honorary designation denoting significant association with the historic, archaeological, engineering, or cultural heritage of the community. Properties are listed individually or as contributing properties to an historic district.
2. Prior to the commencement of any work on a register property, excluding ordinary repair and maintenance and emergency measures defined in CMC 2.66.050(Q) the owner must request and receive a Certificate of Appropriateness from the commission for the proposed work. Violation of this rule shall be grounds for the commission to review the property for removal from the register.
3. Prior to whole or partial demolition of a register property, the owner must request and receive a waiver of a Certificate of Appropriateness.
4. As a Certified Local Government (CLG) the City's buildings, districts, or sites may be listed on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places may be eligible for Special Tax Valuation on their rehabilitation.

### **2.66.110 REVIEW OF CHANGES TO CHEHALIS REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTIES**

#### **A. Review Required**

No person shall change the use, construct any new building or structure, or reconstruct, alter, restore, remodel, repair, move, or demolish any existing property on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places or within an historic district on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places without review by the commission and without receipt of a Certificate of Appropriateness, or in the case of demolition, a waiver, as a result of the review.

The review shall apply to all features of the property, interior and exterior, that contribute to its designation and are listed on the nomination form. Information required by the commission to review the proposed changes are established in rules.

#### **B. Exemptions**

The following activities do not require a Certificate of Appropriateness or review by the Commission: ordinary repair and maintenance—which includes painting—or emergency measures defined in CMC 2.66.050.

#### **C. Review Process**

##### **1. Requests for Review and Issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness or Waiver**

The building or zoning official shall report any application for a permit to work on a designated building, district, or site found on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places Register property historic district to the commission. If the activity is not exempt from review, the commission or professional staff shall notify the applicant of the review requirements. The building or zoning official shall not issue any such permit until a Certificate of Appropriateness or a waiver is received from the commission but shall work with the commission in considering building and fire code requirements.

##### **2. Commission Review**

The owner or his/her agent (architect, contractor, lessee, etc.) shall apply to the commission for a

review of proposed changes on a Chehalis Register of Historic Places property or within a Chehalis Register of Historic Places historic district and request a Certificate of Appropriateness or, in the case of demolition, a waiver. Each application for review of proposed changes shall be accompanied by such information as is required by the commission established in its rules for the proper review of the proposed project.

The commission shall meet with the applicant and review the proposed work according to the design review criteria established in rules. Unless legally required, there shall be no notice, posting, or publication requirements for action on the application, but all such actions shall be made at regular meetings of the commission. The commission shall complete its review and make its recommendations within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of receipt of the application. If the commission is unable to process the request, the commission may ask for an extension of time.

The commission's recommendations shall be in writing and shall state the findings of fact and reasons relied upon in reaching its decision. Any conditions agreed to by the applicant in this review process shall become conditions of approval of the permits granted. If the owner agrees to the commission's recommendations, a Certificate of Appropriateness shall be awarded by the commission according to standards established in the commission's rules.

The commission's recommendations and, if awarded, the Certificate of Appropriateness shall be transmitted to the building or zoning official.

3. **Demolition**

A waiver of the Certificate of Appropriateness is required before a permit may be issued to allow whole or partial demolition of a designated Chehalis Register of Historic Places property or in a historic district. The owner or his/her agent shall apply to the commission for a review of the proposed demolition and request a waiver. The applicant shall meet with the commission in an attempt to find alternatives to demolition. These negotiations may last no longer than 45 calendar days from the initial meeting of the commission, unless either party requests an extension. If no request for an extension is made and no alternative to demolition has been agreed to, the commission shall act and advise the official in charge of issuing a demolition permit of the approval or denial of the waiver of a Certificate of Appropriateness. Conditions in the case of granting a demolition permit may include allowing the commission up to 45 additional calendar days to develop alternatives to demolition. When issuing a waiver the board may require the owner to mitigate the loss of the Chehalis Register of Historic Places property by means determined by the commission at the meeting. Any conditions agreed to by the applicant in this review process shall become conditions of approval of the permits granted. After the property is demolished, the commission shall initiate removal of the property from the register.

4. **Appeal of Approval or Denial of a Waiver of a Certificate of Appropriateness.**

The commission's decision regarding a waiver of a Certificate of Appropriateness may be appealed to the Chehalis Council within ten days. The appeal must state the grounds upon which the appeal is based.

The appeal shall be reviewed by the council only on the records of the commission. Appeal of Council's decision regarding a waiver of a Certificate of Appropriateness may be appealed to Superior Court.

## **2.66.120 REVIEW AND MONITORING OF PROPERTIES FOR SPECIAL PROPERTY TAX VALUATION**

### **A. Timelines**

1. Applications shall be forwarded to the commission by the assessor within 10 calendar days of filing.
2. Applications shall be reviewed by the commission before December 31 of the calendar year in which the application is made, unless received within seven (7) days prior to the December meeting.
3. Commission decisions regarding the applications shall be certified in writing and filed with the assessor

within ten (10) calendar days of issuance.

## **B. Procedure**

1. The assessor forwards the application(s) to the commission.
2. The commission reviews the application(s), consistent with its rules of procedure, and determines if the application(s) are complete and if the properties meet the criteria set forth in WAC 254-20-070(1) and listed in CMC 2.66.070 of this ordinance.
  - a. If the commission finds the properties meet all the criteria, then, on behalf of the City of Chehalis it enters into an Historic Preservation Special Valuation Agreement (set forth in WAC 254-20-120 and in CMC 2.66.120(D) of this ordinance) with the owner. Upon execution of the agreement between the owner and commission, the commission approves the application(s).
  - b. If the commission determines the properties do not meet all the criteria, then it shall deny the application(s).
3. The commission certifies its decisions in writing and states the facts upon which the approvals or denials are based and files copies of the certifications with the assessor.
4. For approved applications:
  - a. The commission forwards copies of the agreements, applications, and supporting documentation (as required by WAC 254-20-090 (4) and identified in 2.66.120(C) of this ordinance) to the assessor,
  - b. Notifies the state review board that the properties have been approved for special valuation, and
  - c. Monitors the properties for continued compliance with the agreements throughout the 10-year special valuation period.
5. The commission determines, in a manner consistent with its rules of procedure, whether or not properties are disqualified from special valuation either because of
  - a. The owner's failure to comply with the terms of the agreement or
  - b. Because of a loss of historic value resulting from physical changes to the building or site.
6. For disqualified properties, in the event that the commission concludes that a property is no longer qualified for special valuation, the commission shall notify the owner, assessor, and state review board in writing and state the facts supporting its findings.

## **C. Criteria**

1. **Historic Property Criteria:**  
As a Certified Local Government (CLG), the class of property eligible to apply for Special Valuation in the City of Chehalis means only buildings, districts, or sites listed on the Chehalis Register of Historic Places or properties certified as contributing to a Chehalis Register Historic District which have been substantially rehabilitated at a cost and within a time period which meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 84.26 RCW.
2. **Application Criteria:**  
Complete applications shall consist of the following documentation:
  - a. A legal description of the historic property,
  - b. Comprehensive exterior and interior photographs of the historic property before and after rehabilitation,
  - c. Architectural plans or other legible drawings depicting the completed rehabilitation work, and
  - d. A notarized affidavit attesting to the actual cost of the rehabilitation work completed prior to the date of application and the period of time during which the work was performed and documentation of both to be made available to the commission upon request, and
  - e. For properties located within historic districts, in addition to the standard application

documentation, a statement from the secretary of the interior or appropriate local official, as specified in local administrative rules or by the local government, indicating the property is a certified historic structure is required.

3. **Property Review Criteria:**

In its review the commission shall determine if the properties meet all the following criteria:

- a. The property is historic property;
- b. The property is included within a class of historic property determined eligible for Special Valuation by the City of Chehalis under CMC 2.66.120(C) of this ordinance;
- c. The property has been rehabilitated at a cost which meets the definition set forth in RCW 84.26.020(2) within twenty-four months prior to the date of application; and
- d. The property has not been altered in any way which adversely affects those elements which qualify it as historically significant as determined by applying the Washington State Advisory Council's Standards for the Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Historic Properties (WAC 254-20-100(1)).

4. **Rehabilitation and Maintenance Criteria:**

The Washington State Advisory Council's Standards for the Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Historic Properties in WAC 254-20-100 shall be used by the commission as minimum requirements for determining whether or not an historic property is eligible for special valuation and whether or not the property continues to be eligible for special valuation once it has been so classified.

**D. Agreement:**

The historic preservation special valuation agreement in WAC 254-20-120 shall be used by the commission as the minimum agreement necessary to comply with the requirements of RCW 84.26.050(2).

**E. Appeals:**

Any decision of the commission acting on any application for classification as historic property, eligible for special valuation, may be appealed to Superior Court under Chapter 34.05.510 -34.05.598 RCW in addition to any other remedy of law. Any decision on the disqualification of historic property eligible for special valuation, or any other dispute, may be appealed to the County Board of Equalization.