



# SCAPPOOSE *Oregon*

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Regular meeting 7:00 pm**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**33568 EAST COLUMBIA AVENUE**  
**SCAPPOOSE, OREGON 97056**

## **Call to Order**

Mayor Burge called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

## **Roll Call**

|                  |                   |                      |                                |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Scott Burge      | Mayor             | Alexandra Rains      | City Manager                   |
| Megan Greisen    | Council President | Steven Lougal        | Police Chief                   |
| Josh Poling      | Councilor         | Susan M. Reeves      | City Recorder                  |
| Brandon Lesowske | Councilor         | Laurie Oliver Joseph | Community Development Director |
| Peter McHugh     | Councilor         | Dave Sukau           | Public Works Director          |
| Tyler Miller     | Councilor         | NJ Johnson           | Planning Intern                |
| Jeannet Santiago | Councilor         |                      |                                |

Peter Watts                      Legal Counsel

**Remote:** Kim Holmes; Paul Fidrych; and Beth Rajaski

## **Approval of the Agenda**

Council President Greisen moved, and Councilor Poling seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed (7-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Greisen, aye; Councilor Poling, aye; Councilor Lesowske, aye; Councilor McHugh, aye; Councilor Miller, aye, and Councilor Santiago.

## **Public Comment ~ Items not on the agenda**

JJ Duehren handed out an award to the City of Scappoose for their hard work with the Movies by moonlight.

Councilor McHugh stated that Movies in the Park is a fabulous event.

Jason Moon, Director of Columbia County Small Business Center (SBDC), thanked the City of Scappoose for supporting the SBDC and his host institution, the Columbia Economic Team. For those that don't know, Columbia County SBDC is your Resource Center helping start, run and grow for small businesses here in Scappoose. SBDC offers free one-on-one confidential business advising business plan development and management, loan application packaging with access to capital. We offer marketing plan strategies, connecting to accounting services and resources, navigating business regulations, hiring, managing and retaining your team, succession planning and a lot more. He stated we're here to help businesses be the best business that they can. He went over some stats. The center officially opened in March, sort of under construction, but he finished some midyear reporting with the SBA and the State Office as well as the quarterly reporting that just happened, and they've already put in over 100 hours of business advising and many of those hours were right here for business owners in the City of Scappoose. He explained he is planning on launching a business management course and some training. Right now, they are starting off a little light with some marketing strategies that he is partnering with people and those classes will start to roll out next week. If you know of any businesses that are interested and sort of stepping up their marketing game, they still have some openings available in those classes. Part of the reason that he is here today is that he is embarking on what he is calling the listening roadshow. He is hitting up every City Council within the county to ensure that they feel represented by this SBDC. His ask is that he is going to e-mail each one of you shortly with a list of questions. The same questions are going to each city within the county. He wants to be able to take those responses to again ensure that he is managing expectations here in Scappoose and serving the businesses in Scappoose the best that he can. Currently he is a one person show. They are planning on hiring some business advisors here at the end of the year. He is also looking for advisory committee members. His hope is to have one representative from each city within the county. If you know a business owner or entrepreneur here in Scappoose, that will make a good advisory committee member send them his way. He stated he appreciates Councils time today. He will follow up with that e-mail and then hopefully he can get on the agenda for work session in October or November. He thanked Council.

Peggy LeBlanc, Scappoose, explained she would like to introduce Matt Sanchez. He is a certified arborist from Heritage Tree specialist, and she asked him here tonight to review a letter which you probably all have in regard to the tree proposal that Teragan's two arborist sent to them.

Matt Sanchez thanked Council for having him tonight. He explained he looks over the report and Teragan & Associates is an excellent firm. He explained there were some aspects of the report that he found somewhat concerning, mainly with the proximity that the disturbance that is being proposed in the Grabhorn Park extension is to the LeBlanc trees. Currently, there's a recommended 13-foot minimum area of disturbance in the trunk of the trees to where the area of constructions occurring. While that is outside of the physical drip line of these trees, he does

feel that it is very close and has potential for long term down the road impacts. He believes that there is a way to compromise and come up with a solution as arborist and with the parks and Rec department and other planners associated with this project to increase the protection of these trees. His report that he has followed through has details on going further with the fencing, changing locations of utilities, and increasing fencing height. He explained right now, we don't really have much information. He realizes that this is in a very early stage of the project, which I think is excellent. He thinks this is a great time to come in and encourage the protection of these trees. Parks are very important to every city. This is a blank slate of an area for a park, it's very obvious, but I think a very important part of parks is having trees. These trees, while they are on private property are very well established, they are very mature, and they offer a nice screen and anything that we can do to protect these and enhance these and maintain these trees during and after construction is very important. He would like to be a part of this on behalf of the LeBlanc family and communication with Teragan and the City of Scappoose would be highly requested.

Peggy LeBlanc stated she sincerely hopes that the City includes Harrity Tree Specialists enabling an equitable plan moving forward. She would like Harrity Tree to be the authorized arborist with any limbing, pruning, water spading or root cutting when construction begins involving a possible driveway, parking lot and utility trenching. She thanked Council for listening to Matt and myself tonight and she looks forward to their response and will hopefully include Harrity Tree Specialist collaborating with the City of Scappoose, 3J Consulting and Tergan Tree when formulating the plan for the Grabhorn area most impacting their incense cedar trees. She stated thank you very much for listening to us tonight.

Council thanked Peggy and Matt.

Marisa Jacobs, Scappoose, read her memo.

Mr. Mayor, Council and City Staff:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this evening as a citizen that is closely following the Grabhorn park development. One of the biggest pain points from the original draft design published in 2020 was the lack of community engagement on the overall design. This lack of transparency led to a Change.org campaign, requesting that the proposed design be properly vetted by the citizens. The GPAHC Ad-hoc committee was a solid step towards engagement and collaboration, with committee members reaching out to the community for feedback on the newest city park. After the committee presented their findings last September, there has been no updates provided by the city to the citizens or the Parks Committee. Any information that has come to light has been shared only after citizens have requested updates on the project. While council and staff continuously acknowledge the importance of transparency and collaboration with the citizens, I'm concerned the same process that was followed back in 2020 is being followed today. While no design updates have been shared, the City Manager has

noted on public record, specific design aspects such as a "long driveway that will run the length of the park to a parking area". Other design aspects were also mentioned in the arborist report specifying distance from trees "to the curb of a roadway". It appears there are many questions the arborist reports have raised as it relates to the suggested amenities provided by the Ad-hoc committee that will not be addressed until a final design is made available to the public. Why haven't potential park layouts been shared with the Parks Committee and our citizens? Renderings that could be vetted by the community before the expensive next step of actual engineering drawings? It's concerning over the past year, there has been little engagement with the Parks & Rec committee to flush out questions, concerns, design ideas and such. If the committee members serve at the leisure of council, then my question to council is, what is preventing you from instructing staff to engage and collaborate with the committee to design a park for the community? These committees were created to be conduits to our citizens. It appears it is the city staff's plan to release their park design only at final completion stage, with no public input as in 2020. As an engaged citizen of Scappoose, I ask that this process be questioned by council so that we can avoid disappointment as before.

Thank you,  
Marisa Jacobs

#### **Consent Agenda ~ August 8, 2022 Council Work Session minutes and August 8, 2022 City Council meeting minutes**

Councilor McHugh moved, and Councilor Santiago seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda ~ August 8, 2022 Council Work Session minutes and August 8, 2022 City Council meeting minutes. Motion passed (7-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Greisen, aye; Councilor Poling, aye; Councilor Lesowske, aye; Councilor McHugh, aye; Councilor Miller, aye and Councilor Santiago.

#### **New Business**

##### **Service Line Warranty Discussion**

Public Works Director Dave Sukau went over the staff report. In January of 2020 and February of 2022, the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program was presented to Council. This program offers residents a warranty for their water / sewer connections and home. This program would be provided by a third party called HomeServe. This program would require the endorsement of the city and use of the city's logo. Previous discussions have led to good discussions, but concerns of the logo use and endorsement and have made decisions inconclusive. Staff is seeking Council's direction on whether to continue these discussions on providing this service or not.

Legal Counsel Peter Watts explained if you are sending things out with the city logo it appears that this city is endorsing a specific product and there is also the risk that people believe that

the correspondence is actually from the city and the city is asking them to enroll. He explained there is at least one other company that provides this service.

Councilor Poling explained he doesn't support one that we have to put our logo on.

Council President Greisen replied she is not in favor as well.

Council consensus was to not go with this program.

Legal Counsel Peter Watts explained it might be good to let people know that they are responsible for the pipe that goes between the main and their house.

### **Ordinance No.904: An Ordinance Renaming 6<sup>th</sup> Street to SE 6<sup>th</sup> Court**

Planning Intern NJ Johnson went over the staff report. The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council rename 6th Street to SE 6th Court. An ordinance is attached for Council's consideration. The portion of 6th Street proposed to be renamed is northeast of the SE Elm Street and SE 6th Street intersection (see Vicinity Map, Exhibit 1 of the staff report). From their intersections with SE Elm Street, 6th Street and SE 6th Street are offset and discontinuous. The portion of 6<sup>th</sup> Street proposed to be renamed was dedicated as right of way as part of a 2-lot partition which was recorded in 1998. At the time this short section of road right of way was dedicated and given a name on the plat, the street name did not contain a directional indicator (see attached Partition Plat No. 1998-24, Exhibit 2 in PC staff report). Additionally, at the time Partition Plat No. 1998-24 was recorded it is likely that there was a plan for this section of right of way to extend to the north; however, subsequent land use decisions and the 2016 Transportation System Plan have made it clear that this section of right of way will not extend further north due to the off-set nature of this portion of 6th Street compared to the existing developed portion of SE 6th Street to the southwest of this right of way. Therefore, the road type used, "street", is inappropriate and would be confusing to emergency responders and others. According to the SMC (Scappoose Municipal Code), the characteristics of this section of 6th Street align with the requirements of a "court" road type (see SMC 12.24.020). The Scappoose Rural Fire District Chief has requested that the name be changed to SE 6<sup>th</sup> Court to properly indicate the road type for this portion of 6th Street (see Exhibit 4 in PC staff report). To clarify the road type and directional indicator and simplify emergency response, mail delivery, and other services, staff recommends that the City rename 6th Street to SE 6<sup>th</sup> Court. There are currently no structures with addresses on this portion of 6th Street; however, a 9-lot subdivision was recently platted along this section of right of way (Thompson Woods Subdivision, see Exhibit 3 in PC staff report) and the road and utilities are currently being constructed. Scappoose Municipal Code Chapter 12.241 sets forth the procedure and approval process for renaming streets. The procedure requires a recommendation from the Planning Commission to the City Council for the renaming of any existing street if the Commission feels there is a strong public need for the change, renaming is in the best interest of the City, and if the request meets the approval criteria contained in SMC12.24.020. Upon receiving the

Commission's recommendation, the Council is then required to schedule a public hearing to consider the matter. If Council wishes to approve the name change, they will adopt an ordinance to formalize the decision. Findings related to the approval criteria to rename an existing street from SMC 12.24.020 are contained in Exhibit 2 – the Planning Commission staff report. The Planning Commission considered the proposal on August 25, 2022 and recommended that the Council approve the street name change. Although the Planning Commission hearing was open to the public, no one submitted testimony. Notice of the Planning Commission and City Council hearings was published in the Spotlight and mailed to the affected property owners. Notice was also provided to City, County, and other public agencies and interested parties. No comments in opposition to the request have been received. Pursuant to Scappoose Municipal Code Chapter 12.24, staff requests that the Council open the public hearing on the proposed street name change and accept any testimony presented. Should the Council choose to approve the requested street name change, a draft ordinance adopting the street name is attached for Council's review. The fiscal impact of changing the street name would be minimal, consisting of mailing notices to affected property owners and agencies. The street name signs would be paid for by the developer of Thompson Woods subdivision. 1 ORS 227.120 sets forth the procedure and approval process for naming or renaming streets and SMC 12.24 follows this process but adds additional review criteria to consider. The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council rename 6th Street to SE 6th Court.

Mayor Burge opened the public hearing at 7:32pm and closed it due to no one wanting to speak on this matter.

Councilor Lesowske asked if there was a sign already installed there?

Community Development Director Laurie Oliver Joseph replied there was a sign installed and the sign says SE 6<sup>th</sup> Court. She explained this is a process that staff has been working on for a while and this would conclude the process and staff is hoping Council will approve this.

Councilor Santiago moved, and Councilor McHugh seconded the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No.904: An Ordinance Renaming 6<sup>th</sup> Street to SE 6<sup>th</sup> Court.

Mayor Burge read the ordinance for the first time ~ Ordinance No.904: An Ordinance Renaming 6<sup>th</sup> Street to SE 6<sup>th</sup> Court.

#### **Discussion on holding a hearing for complaint received**

Legal Counsel Peter Watts explained there had been a complaint and we had talked about the procedure for hearing that complaint. Council had decided that they preferred what's called a Hearing in Rem and that both participants be given the opportunity to be heard, etc. He explained the complainant has indicated that they do not want to appear in person, prosecute the complaint essentially, but also did not want to withdraw the complaint. He believes their

position was that Council had all the information that was out there in the emails and there was nothing additional to provide. That person also resigned from that committee. He stated the question for Council is whether you want to hear the complaint knowing that the complainant will not be participating.

Councilor McHugh replied he thinks it is a waste of time.

Councilor Santiago explained she thinks that there should be a process and procedure for it not to happen again.

Councilor Miller explained he agrees. He thinks this is an opportunity to learn and get something established to deal with these types of things going forward, but hopefully this doesn't happen again, but in case it does.

Legal Counsel Peter Watts replied there is so little in the City code about this that everybody is kind of guessing including himself. He stated he doesn't think there is any question about the validity of emails, everybody agrees that the emails were sent, it's just a question of would you as a Council believe you have enough information to make an informed decision and do you think not having the ability to ask questions would be enough of a barrier that would make you decide in this instance not to move forward.

Councilor Lesowske asked if the City for their own staff have a harassment policy?

City Manager Rains replied yes.

Councilor Lesowske stated he feels like this is where the opportunity exists is that we don't have continuity in holding our committees and our Council to the same policy that we would hold our city staff as they conduct business with the Community, and so he does see that there is an urgent need for us to identify how we address these particular issues when it's brought to our attention. From his understanding, all of the committees are by appointment with Council's approval, with the appointment proposed by the and so thinking of the current process of how we bring folks into the civic engagement committees and that is one thing that we want to be able to really boost in engaging with our community is that those people feel comfortable and confident to come into these spaces and be an active participant if we don't have a checks and balance to ensure business can be conducted in a safe and respectful environment because based on the email exchange that he sees, it is something that we do need to address because of retention of the particular committee members and also how it reflects on our community as a whole is something that he thinks we need to lift each other up and uphold each other. He was not present at these conversations so he would say it would be great to understand from all parties involved if they would like to explain anything that we would be giving them an opportunity to provide that input to Council.

Councilor Santiago agrees. She explained it is a volunteer opportunity in the community and we want people to volunteer and by having this type of behavior it is not encouraging a community member to volunteer and be a part of these committees.

Councilor McHugh stated he likes the idea that Isaac suggested of doing some kind of private resolution through the mayor. He doesn't know if that is a possibility or not, but that was his suggestion in his reply. He stated it just seems to him that these things can be resolved one way or another without making a public issue. He stated it is just going to discourage people from wanting to be volunteers in our City.

Council President Greisen stated unfortunately this isn't the only committee that has strife or issues currently, which just says to her if they are appointing people to participate in these committees then there needs to be some sort of method to which it's not a continual reminder that these are the bylaws that your committee committed. She asked how many times should staff members or chairs remind committee members that this is how they should engage themselves. She stated at some point if the chair or other members are coming to the staff member assigned to that committee and saying this isn't working, this is a toxic environment, this committee is not moving forward, and when the staff is asking the mayor for help that they are then setting up meetings with the individuals to try and solve the problem, then at some point it would come before Council for approval of removal, because Council approved that they are put on the committee to begin with.

Legal Counsel Peter Watts stated if Council is going to take more of a holistic vision of what are the core elements of what these kind of subject matter experts in some respects provide Council with, how do you want to convene them or how often and then making sure that they have expectations as far as things like attendance. He stated he doesn't think we have these issues with the well-defined committees, he thinks the issues are more with the ad hoc committees.

Council President Greisen replied she couldn't agree with that statement more and she thinks that it becomes very difficult for participants in the committee to work together in a positive manner when maybe certain committee members have interests, and they may not be goals of the entire group. She stated there is not a definition of what we are asking them to do. She would say there are things that Council would like these committees to do however, it might not require them to be meeting every month to do it and sometimes these committees, in her opinion, have ebbs and flows and there are certain times when there is a big project, and they might need to meet more. She feels Council needs to have a work session that defines committees, how they function, what individual committee looks like, how they are reporting to Council, and how they are functioning amongst themselves.



Councilor Santiago talked about the attendance piece of this and due to Covid there was the online option. She explained sometimes as a committee member she attended online versus in person because of the environment. She feels there should be some codes of requirements.

Mayor Burge feels the key is if you miss three meetings you are automatically off the committee.

Legal Counsel Peter Watts replied if you have three unexcused absence is pretty common language in different cities.

Mayor Burge feels they should work through a code of conduct. He stated there should be this expectation of people treating each other respectfully at all committee meetings.

Councilor Miller explained we really need to be clear with these committees what their scope is.

Councilor McHugh stated he really thinks it is important that the committee feel like they've got a role to play. He stated if we keep cutting back on what we don't want them to do he thinks we are going to lose some of our creativity, and he doesn't think that there is a committee out there that doesn't understand that they are an advisory committee. He has a concern that we are going to lose some of our volunteers because they don't feel like we are supporting them.

City Manager Rains explained staff has and does regularly point out the roles that the committees have been assigned in the bylaws, we have team agreements that the committees agree to every year. She doesn't really feel that the issue is a lack of staff communicating what their role is, at least to the best of our knowledge. She stated if Council wants something different she feels there needs to be direction from Council, they are your committees, they advise you. She explained all staff is really doing is providing support to them and then communicating anything we hear from Council back to them. She explained what staff is looking for tonight is if there are going to be any future steps on the actual complaint that was received.

Councilor Miller explained he doesn't think this moves forward. For him he thinks that just setting expectations very clearly in the beginning is what will prevent a lot of this, which is what I was trying to communicate during this whole time basically.

Councilor Poling agrees he doesn't think we can take this any further. He stated in the future, he thinks that having some more definition of roles and the possibility of looking at an escalation plan would be good just to have something in place.

Council President Greisen is not in favor of hearing any more about this complaint. She just hopes in future maybe if staff is observing certain behaviors in these settings and they report directly reporting to the mayor and the mayor is handling those issues until something gets adopted.

Councilor Lesowske replied he is really discouraged by the communication that was shared with the parties involved in this particular issue. He hopes that we do treat each other with kindness and respect and understanding and based on the dialogue and the exchange here, he questions that. He questions if that is what each and every person is bringing to that committee. He is okay with moving on and understanding where we are in regards to this particular situation but he would absolutely ask that staff take the time and resources to deliver to Council at least best practices to potentially adopt to create structure for our committees and unfortunately creating roles and responsibilities and understanding what the code of conduct is and performing as a part of the committee.

Councilor Santiago suggests just how the committee members are appointed in this case you could do the reverse action and for future we should have something in place documented.

City Manager Rains stated we will resume EDC meetings in October.

### **Announcements – information only**

#### **Calendar**

Mayor Burge went over the calendar.

#### **Updates: City Manager, Police Chief, Councilors, and Mayor**

City Manager Rains stated she just wanted to say that she is looking forward to seeing everybody on Saturday for Adventure Fest. The city will have a booth and we'll have staff members at that, and we'll have some information on the 50 year plan. She knows the chief will have some staff there and then she'll be there for part of the day as well and we'll have a couple other folks. She does want to thank the chief for all of his work for the movies in the park. She stated just in general also, she wanted to say specifically to the staff members in the room and also the ones that aren't, just that the staff is really, really dedicated, they work hard and they're professionals. They really take a lot of time and care with what they do. She stated sometimes she thinks there are things that are said about them in here that are really negative. She thinks it's hurtful to morale and she doesn't think it's reflective of the service they provide. So she wanted to really make it clear that she really appreciates them and they do great work.

Chief Lougal explained as of this month, we're up to 250 cases. They are moving along hiring, and now have two new officers, and they assisted the entire month at the movies, which was wonderful. Unfortunately, while we will be fully staffed, we won't be fully operational till next year. As it is right now, one of the new officers will be attending the academy in December and the other one in February. He explained they also have someone currently scheduled for their medical and psychological appointment soon and one is in backgrounds. He explained they have a candidate interview scheduled for this month which is a lateral position. He explained they did hire a Lieutenant, who is currently in backgrounds, and he hopes to have him on board very soon. They are speaking to the Union today, and they are looking to start fundraising for to purchase our first canine. They are trying to move the department forward and we'll offer opportunities He explained the Movies in the Park was the first time I've ever seen anything like that. They ran out of food the first night. Overall, they cooked over 1,000 hot dogs and hamburgers, it was just awesome. He explained he and the two new officers will be there at the Scappoose Adventure Festival. He explained they have been walking through the schools, and he is going to send them to the schools to have lunch with the kids until they go off to the Academy. He stated so we're moving along.

Public Works Director Dave Sukau explained our public works crews are currently, as you've seen, we've been doing some of the yellow striping. We received some bad news from the county. We typically partner with them for all of the yellow striping throughout. They just broke the news to us last week that they were late in getting their paint, they're just getting started, so they probably will not be striping for us this year. So we're doing the best we can with our little walk behind striper, just to get the stuff that's critical around intersections that's wearing. He stated the other thing is the candle was painted, that is the first of the utility work that we'll start now. We are communicating with the construction of the wick, which is about two months out, give or take, it's in the hands of a neon specialist right now who is very limited these days, so the candle is moving forward. He explained staff is also getting ready for Adventure Fest.

Community Development Director Laurie Oliver Joseph explained we did receive a grant from Business Oregon to complete the additional analysis related to the letter of map revision that the Scappoose Drainage Improvement Company is in the middle of working on, so that's great. We have the sign contracts today, so we'll get that work started. She explained Legal Counsel Peter Watts sent an e-mail earlier today in regards to some land use applications that will be coming to Councils. She stated just one point of clarification, one of the applications, in particular the Council, will be the approval body on. She would ask, please, that you are careful with conversations outside of this room. Ideally, we would have very little ex parte contact. If you do have contact that you would need to declare that on the record and let others know if you can remain impartial. She would just ask, if you have questions about that, there's an ethics commission at the state level, or you could always reach out to staff as well or to Peter. Her plan, because it is such a needy application for you all to review, she knows you're not land use planners, it's going to be a lot of information. The Planning Commission will hear the

application 1st and will make a recommendation to Council. To Councilor McHugh's point, the last time an application came to you, you felt like you didn't have enough time to adequately review it, and that is very legitimate, and she understands that. She thinks what we'll do for this one is at the time that the Planning Commission staff report is prepared and ready, that Council will get the staff report also. That will give Council about a month with it and that will give you a lot more time to look through it to formulate questions, to reach out, to staff or definitely here for you for that.

Councilor Miller stated to Chief Lougal it's great to see you're making really good progress on the hiring. He explained how the academy, DPSST works as far as getting officers in for training. He stated Adventure Fest is on Saturday, he is looking forward to it. He stated whoever is responsible for the advertising, social media, the billboards, everything, excellent job. He stated every time he goes to Facebook, it pops up with the advertisement and I don't know if that's Isaacs doing or Treadway.

City Manager Rains replied it is Treadway and Isaac has been working with them and that was part of the package and it is slowly been ramping up over time with the intent that it would be happening quite a bit right before the event like you're seeing.

Councilor Miller thanked Chief Lougal for everything he is doing, including the movies in the park. He gave an update to Council on where we're at with the Tate Radio Engineering. We're making good progress on that. The coverage mapping has been finalized and he is very pleased with what the engineers came up with. The design calls for 14 sites countywide and gives excellent coverage on all county roads, city streets and the highway. It also shows that no in-building special equipment will be needed to achieve reliable coverage in every single school building throughout Columbia County, as well as every government building, shopping venue such as Walmart, Fred Meyer and Safeway. We are on track to get all the agency interviews completed this month and the engineering completed in October. The goal is to pull all the public safety agencies, school administrators, 911 Board Members and other elected officials so we can facilitate a meeting that will completely be completely open to everyone where tape representatives can explain their engineering findings and recommendations. Just to be clear, the ultimate decision will be the nine one boards to make. However, this effort brings forward professional engineering and more information than it will board didn't previously have, which caused public safety and first responder safety concerns and taxation related concerns. He stated from what he has seen so far, the engineering will show that it is possible to meet all the first responders needs at a much lower cost. Lastly some information on the condition of the current public safety radio system that has and continues to cause safety concerns. For context, he stated first he wanted to play a short recording of a testimony that 911 Board Member Rob Anderson provided. Rob is also a first responder in our community. He stated this recording is from the 911 board meeting that took place last March, so over four to five months ago. He

stated he is not going to play the whole thing here, but it's very telling. (To hear the recording, please watch part 2 of the City Council video, section 0:57 to 3:26).

Councilor Miller stated about two weeks ago, he was told the executive director of 911 had the Bald Hill radio site turned off. Bald Hill is the name of the radio site that serves Scappoose and surrounding areas. It's the primary radio site serving South Columbia County. Turning the radio site off endangered and continues to endanger the public safety and the safety of our first responders. Significant parts of the city's and of most of Dutch Canyon Road and Scappoose Vernonia Highway are dead zones as a result of the site being turned off. The site was reportedly turned off because there is a tree on private property blocking the microwave path basically connects the site to dispatch and the site because it's microwave that has to be clear, there can't be anything in the way. He has firsthand knowledge that the tree issue has been known for over 8 years. There are multiple alternative connection paths possible from this radio site. He previously mentioned the coverage maps provided by the 911 consultant shows that there is no radio system coverage in or around several schools within the County. The consultant also reported that several of the first responders reviewed those maps and confirmed the coverage shown. He spoke with Fire Chief Pricher today who said that Scappoose fire personnel recently walked the Scappoose Schools and conducted radio testing. He said during their test dispatch was able to hear them, but at times they had trouble hearing the dispatcher. Chief Lougal and he are discussing the police department conducting testing in the schools on a police radio channel. As we heard from 911 Board Member Rob Anderson in the recording he played earlier, the coverage changes throughout different times of the day, which we need to be mindful of. He hears these changes almost daily as well when he listens to the radio. We need to be sure that our first responders have consistent and reliable coverage to safely do their jobs and receive the information they need to protect the public during emergencies. In several of his recent testimonials to the 911 Board, he stated that he has compatible radios to donate, and he will find the remaining funding needed to have receivers for the radio system installed at the high school. This installation would allow consistent, reliable transmissions from first responders inside and outside the schools in Scappoose, and if the Bald Hill radio site is turned back on the first responder's ability to reliably hear dispatch and other responders while they are inside the building would also be addressed. He wants to mention that Tim Porter, Scappoose School District Superintendent, has been great to work with. Tim Porter told him that he is currently checking with one of the tower owners at the high school to determine if we can install the needed antenna on one of the towers. He and Chief Lougal are meeting with Superintendent Porter on Thursday as well. Moving forward, we will need the 911 District to be involved and so far, after requesting they contact me or City Manager Rains to discuss for several months now, the 911 District has not reached out. We will need their cooperation to be able to connect to their system even if we do get the equipment installed and operational at the high school. He asks that the City and the School District continue to move forward on the work we can do at the high school and at some point, he

hopes Executive Director Fletcher at 911 Dispatch will collaborate with us and allow us to make the connection into 911 system. He stated thank you.

Councilor Poling explained he is excited for the upcoming Adventure Fest. He has seen all the advertising. He hopes everybody in the community is as excited about it and we get a great turn out. He stated this is a starting point for growth and hopes that we will continue to support this for the City of Scappoose. He thanked staff for all their hard work as well. They've done a phenomenal job of maintaining and pushing the city forward and he appreciates every single one of them. He stated on a side note, he has made the decision not to rerun for City Council, because he has a lot on his plate. He explained it was a hard decision because he really loves this City and will continue to support the city in any way possible.

Council President Greisen thanked Chief Lougal for his presence at Movies in the Park. She also thanked JJ and Jeff, she knows they and their whole group worked really hard to make those a reality. She mentioned back to school night was last week for our elementary schools and she had the pleasure of passing out otter pops. She explained it was great seeing the new Police Officers there. She appreciates Chief Lougal for making that a priority. She talked with several administrators that Chief Lougal has made personal connections in trying to make our building safe and helping them with questions they have for different procedures, and she appreciates that. She wanted to congratulate Alex on completing a very intense program. She just thinks her getting into that program and participating in it speaks volumes to her dedication of her profession, so thank you. She knows that it's a goal for Council to support her doing that. She appreciates it and is proud of her. She explained a lot of people are talking about Adventure Fest. It starts out with a late-night movie on Friday, then all-day Saturday with a late night concert, but also on Friday night is our first home football game on the turf field and dedication and retiring of Derek Anderson's number 14.

Councilor Lesowske explained he had the opportunity to meet a new PCC staff member, David Poole, who is the success coach at the PCC OMIC training facility. He explained one thing that he had the opportunity to speak to him on was about potential funding opportunities for students of all ages that live here in Columbia County so that they can start taking courses at our current OMIC facility. One of the highlights that he did indicate is that there are current programs for anyone that can identify that they are participant of SNAP. They can get fully funded for any credited classes, trainings, or associate degrees that they can seek. He thinks it is an extreme asset for our community to have one of the first higher education buildings in all of Columbia County. He explained when he was in high school, they were taking courses in the cafeterias from PCC. To know that we have a facility that will build a workforce that will help our economy and that it's in our own backyard, he would urge each and every one of you if you know somebody who is looking to get into the advanced mechanic and mechanic trades manufacturing trades to please reach out to him and he will put them in contact with PCC or just directing them over to the PCC's program so that we can ensure that folks have access to

this great resource. He stated in addition, Run with Neil is Saturday at 8:00am. He is excited to be at Adventure Fest. He stated kudos to Isaac and our contracted team on preparing for this event. He is really excited for the turn out and he really hopes that the community is excited by this as much as he is. He stated lastly, he just wanted to really reiterate value of our community members who stand up to the call to volunteer within our community or within our city committees. In addition to Council Members and the Mayor for your commitment and volunteering with that, he would just urge again for those that are participants that we treat each other with kindness, dignity and respect. As facilitators or co-chairs within these committees, he thinks that it is a responsibility that each and every one of us should hold in bringing a professional and mindful attitude in working to find solutions.

Councilor McHugh stated to Dave the parks look great. He has been around most of them in the last couple weeks and in addition the Crown Zellerbach trail looks really good. He stated that's a lot of work and it's really noticeable. He thanked Dave and his staff. He appreciates all the staff in the City and all that everybody does but it so happens that Dave's work is very noticeable. He also thanked Chief Lougal and all they're doing. He gets a great feeling what's happening with the Police Department and things that are going on. He appreciates all he is going and all his staff is doing. He would also like to thank Tyler for all he's doing with the radio communication. It's kind of a complicated issue, but it's really, really important that we get a handle on this and can do the best we can to protect our community and our students and do that as quickly as possible. It's not a quick fix, he can tell you that, there's a lot more to it than meets the eye. He just appreciates all that Tyler's is doing. He explained the Scappoose Historical Society are really busy and he really appreciates all they're doing. They have a lot of real energetic volunteers. He explained the Watts house will be open on Saturday from 12:00pm to 4:00pm for the Adventure Fest. Also, they're recognizing, we had a most prominent Rose Garden in all the State and one of the most prominent in the whole United States, Peterson & Dering roses from 1926 to 1965 or something like that and the Rose Garden in Portland is full of Peterson & Dering roses. The owner was internationally known and was a school board member here in Scappoose and his five children attended Scappoose schools. Some of those children are going to be at a dedication ceremony on Saturday the 24th at 12:00 o'clock, and they are donating some roses that are some of the original Peterson and Dering roses for our own Rose Garden here and there's going to be a brief ceremony and some refreshments. He thinks it will be a real nice event. He explained he appreciates what everybody does at the City.

Councilor Santiago explained she echoes what everybody said. She explained she gets emails from the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) and in one of their newsletters they mentioned that they have a DEI on-demand library, and she encourages Council to take advantage of that.

Mayor Burge talked about the Food Bank event that he participated in and won. It was a fundraiser that included the Scappoose Mayor, Rainier Mayor, and Saint Helens Mayor. He explained the money he raised stays in Scappoose. He reminisced on why he ran for Council

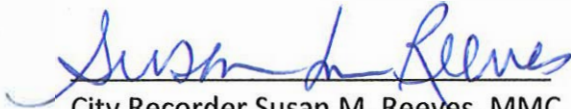
twenty-four years ago. He talked about being respectful, and once the decision has been made you move forward. He said it has been a great ride. He talked about the new turf field at the Scappoose High School. He stated he is really proud of everyone on the Council and everyone he has worked with over the last twenty-four years and the staff that we have. He stated the staff is great people and do great work.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Burge adjourned the Council meeting at 8:48pm.

  
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Mayor Scott Burge

Attest:

  
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City Recorder Susan M. Reeves, MMC