

MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES **REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS * 33568 EAST COLUMBIA AVENUE * SCAPPOOSE, OREGON 97056

Disclaimer: These minutes are intended to summarize the conversations that took place in this meeting rather than provide a full transcript. Anyone wishing to view the full conversation can find a recording of this meeting on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZVdl9hDGdY and www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4q1gN76i5k.

Call to Order

Mayor Backus called the July 15, 2024 City Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Joseph A. Backus Mayor

Dave Sukau Acting City Manager/Public Works Director

Tyler Miller

Council President

Excused: Councilor Marisa Jacobs and Councilor Ty Bailey.

Chris Fluellen

Police Lieutenant

Kim Holmes

Jeannet Santiago Councilor

Susan M. Reeves

City Recorder Laurie Oliver Joseph Community Development Director

Andrew Lafrenz

Councilor Councilor

(left at7:29pm)

Remote: Police Chief Brian Jensen.

Approval of the Agenda

Council President Miller moved, and Councilor Holmes seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed (5-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Council President Miller, aye; Councilor Santiago, ave: Councilor Holmes, ave; and Councilor Lafrenz, ave.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda ~ June 12, 2024 Special City Council meeting minutes; June 17, 2024 City Council meeting minutes; June 24, 2024 Special City Council meeting minutes; and June 27, 2024 Special City Council meeting minutes

Councilor Holmes moved, and Council President Miller seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda ~ June 12, 2024 Special City Council meeting minutes; June 17, 2024 City Council meeting minutes; June 24, 2024 Special City Council meeting minutes; and June 27, 2024 Special City Council meeting minutes. Motion passed (5-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Council President Miller, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; and Councilor Lafrenz, aye.

New Business

Presentation to Planning Commissioner Bill Blank

Mayor Backus presented a plaque to Bill Blank.

In Special Recognition of Bill Blank
For Your Outstanding Service,
Dedication and Commitment to the
City of Scappoose, Oregon
Planning Commissioner
February 1999 to June 2024
Thank you, Bill!



Thank you, Bill, for your many years of service!

Scappoose Summer Outdoor Festival

Mayor Backus presented a plaque to JJ Duehren for her hard work on the Scappoose Summer Outdoor Festival. Thank you, JJ!



JJ Duehren gave an overview of the 2024 Scappoose Summer Outdoor Festival. She stated none of this could have happened without the help from Jeff Weiss, with the Scappoose Public Library. She also thanked Council and staff for all of their assistance with the Summer Outdoor Festival. She explained they will be asking for funding for next year's event.

Jeff Weiss gave an overview of the events that the Scappoose Public Library puts on.

Mayor and Council thanked JJ and Jeff!

Meissner property donation

Acting City Manager/Public Works Director Dave Sukau went over the staff report. Over the past few years, Duane and Elizabeth Meissner have been considering donating their property to the City to be used as a City park. In May 2024, Duane and Elizabeth Meissner submitted a proposal to the City for the donation of their 1.91-acre property to be used as a nature preserve and playground. The Meissner property is located on Dutch Canyon Road behind the Columbia West shopping center in an area of town that is currently lacking in City park facilities. The

property consists of a natural wildlife area with no other improvements onsite. The Meissner's have placed some stipulations on the donation of their land.

The stipulations are:

- 1. The property is to be named Timee Nature Preserve, after Chief Concomly's daughter.
- 2. A plaque is to be displayed in the park with the following inscription:
- "This nature preserve and park are dedicated to the Native Americans who lived on this land for thousands of years in harmony with nature."
- 3. A six foot fence is to be erected in the park between their remaining property and the nature preserve property.

In addition, a deed restriction will be placed on the property stipulating that the property is not to be used for any purpose other than a nature preserve and children's playground. As stated previously, the Meissner property is located in an area of the City that is lacking in Park facilities. The addition of this property to the City's array of parks would help further the City's goal, outlined in the City's Parks Master Plan, of having a park facility within a 10-minute walk of all residents. While the property will be donated for free, the City will be responsible for making the upgrades stipulated by the Meissner's, including the fence, as well as adding a parking lot, restrooms and children's play area. In addition, there will be costs associated with upkeeping the property, such as mowing and weed eating. Staff recommends that Council approve the acceptance of the Meissner property donation to be used as a nature preserve and children's park.

Mayor, Council and staff had a future discussion regarding the property donation, along with the name of the property/park.

Council President Miller moved, and Councilor Holmes seconded the motion that Council approve the acceptance of the Meissner property donation to be used as a nature preserve and children's park. Motion passed (5-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Council President Miller, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; and Councilor Lafrenz, aye.

Announcements – information only

Calendar

Mayor Backus went over the calendar.

Updates: City Manager; Police Department; Councilors; and Mayor

Acting City Manager/Public Works Director Dave Sukau talked about issues with the fountain not functioning properly, which it now has been fixed. He explained they are working on having summer and winter hours for the fountain. He gave updates on some Public Works projects.

LT Fluellen gave updates on the Police Department.

Councilor Lafrenz thanked the Meissner's for the property donation.

Councilor Holmes thanked all the grant applicants that came before them to utilize the resources that we have for the community to improve particular businesses. She stated it's exciting to see all of them eager to engage with the City to improve their properties.

Councilor Santiago thanked the Economic Development Committee and Associate Planner NJ Johnson as they did a great job in processing the applications. She explained she attended the CET meeting and OBI presented on a new possible measure that is called Initiative Petition 17. She explained if you haven't heard about it, please go to Oregon Business and Industry (OBI). She stated please read on it and vote this November.

Council President Miller explained just to piggyback on what Councilor Santiago just said in regards to OBI presentation at the meeting was basically that it's disguised as a tax rebate and so it looks like it is beneficial to all Oregonians but it's approximately \$2,000. He stated it basically amounts to a very significant tax on businesses that have revenue over a certain amount. He believes it is 20 million, if he recalls correctly. He explained we all know when businesses sustain more operating costs that cost is inherently passes onto consumers. He stated the reality is that we're probably going to end up paying more than what the rebate check would be. He stated hopefully there's some good education on that when that ramps up and that measure is defeated. That is his opinion on it. He explained he feels the grant process went really well tonight, and that was great. He thanked Acting City Manager/Public Works Director Dave Sukau for addressing the fountain issue. He explained the Columbia County Fair is the 17th through the 21st.

Mayor Backus stated thank you again to Bill Blank for years and years of service. He stated thanks again to JJ Duehren and Jeff Weiss for their great work on the Outdoor Festival. He thanked the Meissner's for the property donation, as he is looking forward to that park. He explained he attended the City County meeting, along with the CET meeting.

Mayor Backus explained at the last City Council meeting the Council made a motion to adjust Dave Sukau's salary to compensate that of a city manager. He explained he is Acting City Manager at this time, so not only is he doing the city manager job, which there is a lot, he is also working in his own department (Public Works) which is very busy as well. He explained he would like to come up with a better number to really help compensate Dave for all the work he is doing this month and will be doing next month.

Council discussed the topic of adjusting Acting City Manager/Public Works Director Dave Sukau's salary.

Councilor Holmes moved, and Council President Miller seconded the motion that City Council approve an addition \$6,000 a month bonus to compensate the Acting City Manager/Public Works Director Dave Sukau's salary until September 1.

Council President Miller wants to clarify that this is in addition to what he normally makes, not in addition to what they approved at the last Council meeting.

Motion passed (5-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Council President Miller, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; and Councilor Lafrenz, aye.

Executive Session ~ ORS 192.660(2)(d) Labor Negotiations

Mayor Backus read the Executive Session statement and went into Executive Session at 7:48pm.

Present: Mayor Backus; Council President Miller; Councilor Santiago; Councilor Holmes; Councilor Lafrenz; Acting City Manager/Public Work Director Sukau; and LT Fluellen.

Remote: Police Chief Brian Jensen.

Excused: Councilor Marisa Jacobs and Councilor Ty Bailey.

Open Session

Mayor Backus closed the Executive Session and came back into open session at 8:49pm.

Adjournment

Mayor Backus adjourned the meeting at 8:49pm.

Mayor Joseph A. Backus

Attest:

City Recorder Susan M. Reeves, MMC