



SCAPPOOSE

Oregon

**MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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=X6CfPg8Jd6M.

Call to Order

Mayor Backus called the April 7, 2025 City Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Joseph A. Backus	Mayor	Benjamin Burgener	City Manager
Tyler Miller	Councilor President	Chris Fluellen	Police Chief
Andrew Lafrenz	Councilor	Susan M. Reeves	City Recorder
Joel Haugen	Councilor		
Marisa Jacobs	Councilor		

Excused: Councilor Santiago and Councilor Holmes

Remote: None

Approval of the Agenda

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

Council President Miller wished Mayor Backus a very Happy Birthday!

Public Comment ~ There were no public comments.

rate that has been paid since the levy was first passed in 2013/2014. He explained he understands the natural reaction to any tax measure is kind of repulsion, he gets that and he knows many of us are already balancing tight budgets. This is simply just a continuation of the current levy will allow us to keep our jail open, continue to hold offenders accountable. Our jail is more than just simple holding facility, part of a system that deals with growing challenges, including mental health crisis and substance abuse issues often land people in jail. With this levy we can continue to provide resources for rehabilitation programs, mental health care and substance abuse issues. It is going to help people turn their lives around and help reduce repeat offenders. When fewer people end up back in jail it creates a safer, more stable community for all of us. He talked about what this renewal actually means in practical terms. This measure will not raise your taxes at all. The extra money needed to make ends meet in the jail will be raised by renting out additional beds to the US Marshall Marshall's office. Keeping our jail open, safer streets, a justice system that works better for everyone. Finally, this levy is not just about keeping people in jail. It's about building a community where crime is less likely to happen in the first place. Addressing rehabilitation mental health services and crime prevention will reduce the burden on law enforcement and help keep our neighborhoods safe. When we invest in the infrastructure and services that make our communities safer, we all benefit. See fewer crimes, fewer victims and fewer families torn apart. This jail levy renewal is an opportunity for us to do just that. When you see measure 5-304 on the on your ballot, he urges everyone to not just think about the dollar value, the dollar amount, but about the broader picture. This is about creating a safer, stronger and more compassionate community. We all can thrive. He hopes the City of Scappoose will once again vote to endorse this upcoming jail levy renewal. He really appreciate the Councils time.

Mayor Backus, Council and Sheriff Pixley had further discussions on the jail levy.

Resolution 25-03: A Resolution in Support of Measure 5-304, A Measure brought by the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, for a Tax Levy to Renew the 4-Year Jail Operating Tax Levy at its Current Rate

Mayor Backus read the resolution and asked Council if they were interested in supporting this.

Councilor Haugen moved, and Councilor Jacobs seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 25-03: A Resolution in Support of Measure 5-304, A Measure brought by the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, for a Tax Levy to Renew the 4-Year Jail Operating Tax Levy at its Current Rate. Motion passed (5-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Council President Miller, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; Councilor Jacobs, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye.

Mayor Backus thanked Council President Miller for helping put the resolution together.

Sheriff Pixley thanked Council.

City Manager Burgener talked about staff having more discussion with Council to go over funding strategies.

Council President Miller thanked everyone who attended the Annual Town Meeting. He stated there was a pretty good turnout.

Mayor Backus also thanked everyone who showed up at the Annual Town Meeting. He explained we will probably want to discuss the Annual Town Meeting to see if that is how we want to host it again next year or if we want to make some changes.

City Manager Burgener explained the staff is looking at doing a survey to send out to the people who did not attend the ATM to find out what would interest them in coming to those meetings. He explained staff will also have a debriefing with Council on the Annual Town Meeting.

Executive Session ~ ORS 192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records exempt by law from public inspection

Present: Mayor Backus; Councilor President Miller; Councilor Lafrenz; Councilor Haugen; Councilor Jacobs; City Manager Burgener; and Police Chief Fluellen.

Remote: Councilor Holmes and Legal Counsel Ashleigh Dougill.

Mayor Backus read the opening statement and went into Executive Session at 7:35pm.

Open Session

Council came back into open session at 8:15pm.

Adjournment

Mayor Backus adjourned the meeting at 8:15pm.



Mayor Joseph A. Backus

Attest:


City Recorder Susan M. Reeves, MMC