



# SCAPPOOSE *Oregon*

**MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING 7:00PM  
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=nqO3LP8aSNA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqO3LP8aSNA).

## **Call to Order**

Mayor Backus called the June 16, 2025 City Council meeting to order at 7:00pm.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

## **Roll Call**

Joseph A. Backus	Mayor	Benjamin Burgener	City Manager
Kim Holmes	Councilor	Ron Larson	Police Sergeant
Andrew Lafrenz	Councilor	Susan M. Reeves	City Recorder/HR
Marisa Jacobs	Councilor	Laurie Oliver Joseph	Community Development Director
Joel Haugen	Councilor		

**Excused:** Council President Tyler Miller; and Chief Chris Fluellen

**Remote:** Councilor Jeannet Santiago; Public Works Director Dave Sukau; and Assistant to City Manager/City Planner N. J. Johnson (left at 7:38pm)

## **Approval of the Agenda**

Councilor Holmes moved, and Councilor Jacobs seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; Councilor Jacobs, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye.

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

There were no public comments.

**Consent Agenda ~ June 2, 2025 City Council meeting minutes; and Resolution No. 25-06: A Resolution of the City of Scappoose Repealing Resolution 24-08, and Extending Workers' Compensation Coverage to Volunteers of the City of Scappoose**

Councilor Haugen moved, and Councilor Holmes seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda ~ June 2, 2025 City Council meeting minutes; and Resolution No. 25-06: A Resolution of the City of Scappoose Repealing Resolution 24-08 and Extending Workers' Compensation Coverage to Volunteers of the City of Scappoose. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; Councilor Jacobs, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye.

**New Business**

**2025 Rate Increase for Garbage and Recycling Collection Services Provided by Waste Management**

Councilor Holmes recused herself and left the room.

Dave Huber, Waste Management Senior Manager – Public Sector Services, gave an overview of the annual CPI increase. He explained this increase is really in line with the disposal increase that Waste Management is going to see from the Columbia County Transfer Station on the solid waste disposal fee. He feels with the CPI increase that is going to keep them within that reasonable rate of return as we look forward. He went over the services that Waste Management provides.

Mayor, Council, Staff and Dave Huber discussed this agenda item further. The consensus of Council was not to have these rates retroactive. There was a discussion on what the rate increase would be, in addition there was a discussion on doing a rate review.

Dave Huber explained for the average customer the current rate is \$26.10 and would increase to \$27.35.

Councilor Jacobs moved, and Councilor Haugen seconded the motion that Council approve the 2025 CPI Rate Increase for Waste Management effective August 1, 2025, with the intent that Waste Management will notice at least 60 days to the residents of the rate increases for the effective August 1, 2025 date. Motion passed (4-1). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye. Councilor Jacobs, nay.

Dave Huber explained he will provide Mayor Backus and Council the reference information on rates.

Councilor Holmes came back into the room at 7:33pm.

Mayor Backus and the Council thanked Dave Huber.

## 2025 Community Enhancement Program Allocations

Assistant to City Manager/City Planner Johnson went over the staff report. The Community Enhancement Program (CEP) has been serving Scappoose for more than 20 years. Through a competitive application process, the City Council awards grants to qualifying organizations working within the Scappoose Urban Growth Boundary for specific programs or projects that can be implemented within a 1-year time frame and that provide a public benefit to the Scappoose community. There were 16 applications submitted for the 2025 Community Enhancement Program. All applications qualify for consideration of award, including having submitted interim or final project reports if they received a grant in the 2024 cycle. Representatives of each organization had the opportunity to present their application and answer questions from Councilors at the May 19, 2025 Council work session/meeting. The City now needs to allocate up to \$42,016 to the organizations whereas a total of \$65,775 was requested. At the June 2, 2025 City Council meeting, Council unanimously voted in favor of the "tier system" of allocating awards, which is described further below. Council also requested that Councilors who did not initially score the applications be given extended time to submit their scores and have them included in the final scoring averages of each application. Members of Council had the opportunity to score each application 0-5 and the average score was calculated for each grant request (see Exhibit B of the staff report). Based on those averages and Council's preference for the tier system established at the June 2, 2025 meeting, staff prepared an allocation package for Council consideration in Exhibit A of the staff report. Council may adjust this allocation during the meeting prior to approving a final package. The tier system distributes available funds by various percentages in each cluster or tier. The tiers are based on the average Councilor score of each grant request. The percentages and tiers have been slightly adjusted since the June 2, 2025 Council meeting to maximize the total grant award. The percent of requested funding each tier would receive can be seen in the table below.

Tier	Percent of requested funding received
Tier 1 (Scores 4.25-5.00)	100%
Tier 2 (Scores 4.01-4.24)	90%
Tier 3 (Score 4.00)	80.05%
Tier 4 (Scores 3.5-3.99)	50%
Tier 5 (Scores 3.40-3.49)	45.36%
Tier 5 (Scores 3.00-3.39)	45%
Tier 7 (Scores 0.00-2.99)	0%

Fiscal Impact: \$42,016 has already been allocated for the 2025 Community Enhancement Program. Staff will execute the awards with each applicant based on the funding package Council approves. Staff recommends that the Council approve the proposed allocation package

based on the tier system for the 2025 Community Enhancement Program award allocations, as presented in the staff report.

Councilor Haugen moved, and Councilor Lafrenz seconded the motion that Council approve the proposed allocation package based on the tier system for the 2025 Community Enhancement Program award allocations, as presented in the staff report.

Mayor Backus explained let's review how this year went from the changes and see if going forward if anything needs to be adjusted.

Councilor Santiago asked if NJ will be sending out letters whether they received funding or not.

Assistant to City Manager/City Planner N. J. Johnson replied yes he will be sending them out.

Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; Councilor Jacobs, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye.

#### **Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget**

#### **Hold a Public Hearing to determine if the City should elect to receive State Shared Revenues**

Finance Administrator Carol Almer explained the State Shared Revenue process.

Mayor Backus opened the public hearing at 7:40pm and closed due to no one wanting to speak on this matter.

#### **Resolution No. 25-07: A Resolution Certifying that the City of Scappoose Meets all Requirements to Receive State Shared Revenues for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

Finance Administrator Carol Almer gave an overview of Resolution No. 25-07.

Mayor Backus opened the public hearing at 7:42pm and closed due to no one wanting to speak on this matter.

Councilor Jacobs moved, and Councilor Holmes seconded the motion that Council adopt Resolution No. 25-07: A Resolution Certifying that the City of Scappoose Meets All Requirements to Receive State Shared Revenues for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; Councilor Jacobs, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye.

#### **Resolution No. 25-08: A Resolution Declaring the City's Election to Receive State Revenue for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for the City of Scappoose**

Mayor Backus opened the public hearing at 7:42pm and closed due to no one wanting to speak on this matter.

Councilor Jacobs moved, and Councilor Santiago seconded the motion that Council adopt Resolution No. 25-08: A Resolution Declaring the City's Election to Receive State Revenue for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for the City of Scappoose. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; Councilor Jacobs, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye.

#### **Adopting the City of Scappoose 2025-2026 Budget**

**Resolution No. 25-09: Adopting the City of Scappoose Budget, Making Appropriations, Declaring the Ad Valorem Tax Levy, and Classifying the Levy as Provided by ORS 310.060(2) for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

Finance Administrator Carol Almer gave an overview of Resolution No. 25-09 and went over the updates that were requested at the Budget Committee meeting.

City Manager Burgener and Public Works Director Sukau gave an overview of the budget.

Mayor Backus opened the public hearing at 7:59pm and closed due to no one wanting to speak on this matter.

Councilor Holmes moved, and Councilor Jacobs seconded the motion that Council adopt Resolution No. 25-09: Adopting the City of Scappoose Budget, Making Appropriations, Declaring the Ad Valorem Tax Levy, and Classifying the Levy as Provided by ORS 310.060(2) for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; Councilor Jacobs, aye; and Councilor Haugen, aye.

**Resolution No. 25-10: A Resolution Establishing all Fees and Charges for the City of Scappoose and Rescinding Resolution No. 24-13: 2025-2026 Fee Resolution**

City Manager Ben Burgener gave an overview of Resolution No. 25-10.

The Mayor, Council, and Staff discussed the fee resolution.

Councilor Holmes asked about the transportation system development charges and asked why are there significant discrepancy in the fees based on business types.

Community Development Director Laurie Oliver Joseph explained that all comes out of what's called the IT Code. She explained it is basically a transportation study that is done across the Country, and it establishes trips based on the land use.

There was a discussion on the business license fee increase.

City Manager Burgener explained we haven't raised that rate for a long time. He explained in 2000 the fee was \$45, in 2004 it was increased to \$55, then the City exempted the fee from 2010 to 2024 and then reinstated the \$55 fee. He explained the biggest reason is we wanted to streamline the process so we are working with a third-party company that will make it digital and make it easier for the business owners to apply and to renew their licenses. He explained right now we have a very manual process.

Councilor Haugen replied his notion here is that we are trying to encourage economic development and even though it is a small amount it still sends a message. He proposed other options.

Mayor, Council, and Staff discussed the business license fee in more detail.

Mayor Backus opened the public hearing at 8:27pm and closed due to no one wanting to speak on this matter.

Councilor Jacobs moved, and Councilor Holmes seconded the motion that Council adopt Resolution No. 25-10: A Resolution Establishing all Fees and Charges for the City of Scappoose and Rescinding Resolution No. 24-13: 2025-2026 Fee Resolution. Motion passed (5-0). Mayor Backus, aye; Councilor Santiago, aye; Councilor Holmes, aye; Councilor Lafrenz, aye; and Councilor Jacobs, aye. Councilor Haugen, abstained.

## **Announcements – information only**

### **Calendar**

Mayor Backus went over the calendar.

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

City Manager Burgener talked about the training he will be attending; talked about visiting the OMIC site and meeting with staff; gave an update on the EV charging station concerns; and gave an update on the Oregon Ethics Commission regarding meals during City meetings and how it is considered compensation of some type and in the future Staff will be bringing resolutions before Council regarding that. He explained Treatment Plant Supervisor Darryl Sykes will be retiring at the end of June. He thanked Carol for all her work on the budget and everyone else who was involved in the budget.

Sergeant Larson gave an update on the Police Department. He gave an update on the EV charging station.

Councilor Haugen gave an update on the School Board meeting. He also talked about having a youth council.

Councilor Jacobs wished everyone a good rest of the week.

Councilor Holmes gave an update on the 50 Year Plan and thanked the staff for all their hard work on that. She explained it will be coming before City Council during a work session.

Councilor Santiago thanked staff for working on the budget. She explained she wanted to address three critical issues that are facing our nation, and that's also impacting our community here in Scappoose. She stated first, this government and administration is dehumanizing people, especially people of color and people who just disagree with their tactics and when leadership strips away people's humanity and just talks about these rhetorics and you know and policies it creates fear in our communities, in our neighborhoods. So, these members hesitate to use essential city services and also engage in civil activity and beyond these policy, it's about respect. It's about respecting people, respecting humans, as with humanity and of course, all of our residents. Second, she stated we can't ignore the escalation of political violence this weekend in Minnesota. Sadly, there was assassination of State Representative Melissa Hortman and her husband and the shooting of State Senator John Hoffman and his wife. These were targeted attacks at elected officials and these people were in their homes and the person that shot and killed them portrayed himself as a police officer. She stated this is what happens when we dehumanize and use these rhetoric meets of political extremism. She stated her condolences to all the families of the people that were hurt. Third she wanted to share something that was very inspiring that she saw on Saturday, June 14th. Millions of Americans in over 2000 simultaneous events nationwide and even international participated in the peaceful protest in no King's Day. This movement was very inspirational and demonstrates that all Americans across the nation that we believe that no one's above the law, especially no President. So, democracy prevails when millions stand up and against those who try to undermine it. Here in Scappoose, we have a choice. We can either let the climate of hostility take root or we can actively counter it. Political violence has no place in our democracy and has no place in our city, so our decisions impact people's lives. Every vote we cast either fosters a safe, inclusive community or it doesn't. Let's ensure Scappoose is a place where we or everyone can fully feel safe and welcome, regardless of their background, undocumented status, or beliefs.

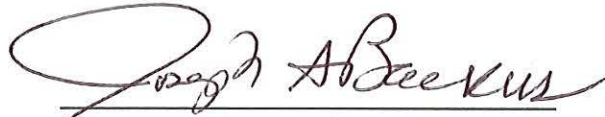
Mayor Backus thanked Department Heads for their department reports. He expressed his condolences to Peter Watts family as he recently passed away.

Councilor Lafrenz explained starting tomorrow he will no longer meet the residency requirements to be on the Council so tonight he is resigning. He stated it has been an amazing two and a half years. They are moving out of the City limits of Scappoose. He said it has been an honor and a pleasure to work with both staff and fellow Councilors. He does hope to see Council continue to have representation of young families.

Mayor Backus stated to Councilor Lafrenz thank you for your service.

## Adjournment

Mayor Backus adjourned the meeting at 8:55pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph A. Backus", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Joseph A. Backus

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Susan M. Reeves", written over a horizontal line.

City Recorder/HR Susan M. Reeves, MMC