



MINUTES

Coburg City Council Work Session

April 25th, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

91136 N Willamette Street

Hybrid Meeting in-person or via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Nancy Bell, John Fox, Cathy Engebretson, John Lehmann

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Anne Heath, City Recorder Sammy Egbert, Public Works Director Brian Harmon (via Zoom)

GUEST: Carrie Connelly, The Local Government Law Group (via Zoom)

RECORDED BY: Angela Kern, Lane Council of Governments (LCOG)

CALL THE WORK SESSION TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

WORK SESSION DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Homelessness

Ms. Connelly presented. She explained the city's legal obligations regarding the unhoused and answered Council questions.

Points covered included:

- Reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions applied to the use of public spaces for sleeping or camping
- Established camps required 72-hour notice before removal; personal possessions must be stored for 30 days
- All rules and restrictions on the uses of public space still applied
- Coburg's definition of "park" was broad and could be redefined

Chief Larson spoke, stating that the police force followed Lexipol-approved policies. In response to Council questions, he said that the length of the average stay was a few days and that he had not noticed any increase in the number of unhoused visiting the city.

Ms. Heath presented the potential sites: Roberts Road for car camping and Trail's End for tent or bedroll camping. It was noted that neither location would be managed or officially designated a campsite. Sanitation facilities would be provided at Trail's End. The parking lot of City Hall was also proposed as a potential campsite.

After discussion, Ms. Connelly suggested that power be given to the City Manager to allocate public space for camping as needed.

Ms. Heath suggested a designated officer liaison to monitor camping and deliver 72-hour notices.

Ms. Connelly reminded the Council that local businesses and charities could partner with the City to offer alternatives.

Councilor Lehmann suggested the IOOF parking lot as an alternative site. Ms. Heath said permission would be required.

Councilor Engebretson brought up the lack of affordable housing.

Ms. Connelly left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Bell requested that Staff revise the applicable ordinances as per the recommendations made by Ms. Connelly, to be ready for public hearing by May 9th, with a draft for Council to review prior.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Bell adjourned at 7:31 pm.

APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Coburg on this 9th day of May, 2023.

Nancy Bell, Mayor of Coburg

ATTEST: _____
Sammy L. Egbert, City Recorder