



CITY COUNCIL & URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2026

Mayor Primmer called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Roberts, Myers, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and McCarthy. Councilor Hayward and Barron were excused. City Staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, City Attorney Richard Tovey, Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, Police Chief Jason Edmiston, Planning Director Clint Spencer, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Hearing no protests, the Council moved Agenda item 11B- Review, Discussion, and Next Steps of Charter Review Committee Results to 10 per the request of Mayor Primmer.

Proclamation- National Day of Prayer

Hermiston National Day of Prayer Coordinator Amy Palmer presented information (attached) regarding the many new churches that have signed up to participate in events throughout the City that constituents can attend, as well as a new location in the City of Umatilla. Mrs. Palmer thanked all those who have and will continue to participate.

Mayor Primmer read aloud the National Day of Prayer Proclamation and encouraged all those to participate.

Presentation- I Love My City

Oasis Vineyard Church Pastor, Dan Mahon, representing the I Love My City Preparation and Planning Committee, presented information regarding the I Love My City Celebration and Recycling Work-Day event scheduled for Saturday, May 16th from 9am to noon. This year the Committee partnered with Code Enforcement to focus on graffiti removal and cleaning up areas that are facing code violations, as well as usual partnerships with the Parks and Recreation Department, Wal-Mart, Amazon, and local service organizations such as Kiwanis and Rotary, and area churches to provide free haircuts, diaper drive, prayer tents, and more. Free lunch will be provided at noon at McKenzie Park with Eastern Oregon First-Responders Chaplains Association in attendance for special blessings to first responders. The community is encouraged to sign up to volunteer at lovehermiston.com or just come the day of the event.

Councilor Kelso stated he will be once again working at the recycling workday event at New Hope Church and wants to inform the community that there is a drop off limit of 10 tires with no rims.

Mayor Primmer thanked all those who participated in this amazing community event.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

Leah Stockard, Umatilla Resident- Spoke regarding her support for Kim LaPlant's Carnegie Library Art Proposal, stating she had lived in Hermiston most of her life with a background as an art teacher, artist, and designer and worked on many projects in Hermiston and around the region. Ms. Stockard spoke regarding the many communities who have turned their Carnegie Library buildings into Art Centers and other neighboring communities who do not have Carnegie Libraries but do have Art Centers, and how the City can enhance and promote Hermiston by designating an area where people can view art and performing arts as this is an overall benefit to the community.



CITY COUNCIL & URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2026

R.B. Dorrان, Hermiston Resident- spoke regarding his effort to try to establish another large event at EOTEC besides the Annual Fair, Rodeo events, and private parties, this will be done by hosting a CarTunes Music Festival (information attached) which will host a car show and music festival seating 8,000 people without modification in the rodeo grounds. Mr. Dorrان spoke regarding wanting to make Hermiston a destination city to bring people in and would like the City's support with engagement and participation and encouraged the community to participate, consider sponsorship opportunities, or by participating as a vendor as many different vendors as still needed.

Consent Agenda Items

Councilor Linton asked to remove Consent Agenda items C & D and Councilor Roberts asked to remove Consent Agenda item F. Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Roberts seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A, B, & E, to include:

- A. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- B. Appointment Confirmation for Janizee Serrano to the Hispanic Advisory Committee Position #1 ending June 30, 2029
- E. Minutes of the April 13, 2026 Work Session & Regular City Council Meeting

Motion carried unanimously with Councilors McCarthy, Roberts, Myers, Duron, Linton, and Kelso voting in favor.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

- C. Liquor License Application Recommendation to: Mi Bello Estado LLC located at 425 W. Hermiston Ave

Councilor Linton asked if liquor would be served around children or if they would close at a certain time frame for minors so alcohol can be served, or if they have to go to another room to consume it. City Manager Smith stated this license would be just like all other restaurants in the City, and believes Councilor Linton may be thinking of businesses that have other areas for gambling and/or bars.

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Roberts seconded to approve Consent Agenda item C. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, and Kelso in favor.

- D. Right of Way Construction Acceptance - NE Aspen Drive

Councilor Linton asked what the purchase price ended up being. City Planner Clint Spencer stated about 2 million.

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Roberts seconded to approve Consent Agenda item C. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, and Kelso in favor.

- F. Reschedule the City Council Meeting of Monday, May 25th, 2026

Councilor Roberts asked if Council members would be present on this day then perhaps it would be best to consider holding the meeting on its regularly scheduled day.

After some discussion, Councilor Myers moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to move the meeting from the Memorial Day Holiday of Monday, May 25th to Tuesday, May 26th. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, and Kelso.



CITY COUNCIL & URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2026

Review, Discussion, and next Steps of Charter Review Committee Results - City Manager Byron Smith presented information (PowerPoint Presentation attached) regarding how and why the Charter Review Committee was formed, members who were appointed to this Committee and their process for reviewing the Charter, receiving public input, and their recommendations.

City Manager Smith answered questions from the Council regarding:

- Charter changes effective date would be January 1, 2027 if passed by voters in this year's general election,
- Code of Ordinance would be most appropriate dealing with problematic barnyard animals inside of City limits,
- Changing ward boundaries and only allowing members from each ward boundary to vote for candidates in their ward instead of the entire community voting for all ward boundary candidates as these changes would head off potential lawsuits,
- Considering term limits as some members of the public do not want to run against incumbents was never brought up or discussed during meetings.

Charter Review Committee Chair David Drotzmann spoke regarding the diverse group of individuals who applied, were appointed, and thoroughly reviewed the entire Charter over six meetings. Municipal Court Judge Cameron Bendixsen also attended and spoke and all meetings were public with some topics yielding lengthy and lively discussions but the recommendations in front of you all had unanimous voting that the Committee gave their best efforts on and confirmed that term limits were never spoken about.

Municipal Court Judge Cameron Bendixsen stated he attended and appreciated being asked to speak at one of the Charter Review Committee Meetings and gave his thoughts on Appointed vs Elected Municipal Court Judge Positions, stating he believes there are benefits to both and asked that the Council consider the public perception when judges are appointed vs when they are elected and the knowledge that the driving factor behind appointed vs elected is that there is a shortage of attorneys and allowing appointed vs elected would possibly yield a larger pool of applicants.

Councilor Barron arrived at 8:17pm, stated he was listening to the meeting online to be up to speed when he arrived and thanked the Charter Review Committee for all the work they did putting this recommendation forward and Municipal Court Judge Cameron Bendixsen for speaking as well.

The Council discussed in length the pros and cons regarding:

- The Municipal Court Judge being appointed vs elected and vice versa,
- Council President Appointed Term staying a two-year term vs as one-year term
- Term limits for Council Members and the Mayor,
- Ward Boundary changes

Mayor Primmer and the Council thanked the Committee for their efforts during this process and Mayor Primmer spoke regarding how all Committee members were very involved in this process and their commitment helped make determinations on what would be recommended to the Council. As the Committee's liaison, he attended all meetings and heard the many lively debates, one of which was that regarding appointed vs elected Municipal Court Judge; the Committee determined the change to



CITY COUNCIL & URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2026

appointed would be the best benefit to the community as it is very difficult to hire attorney's, even when trying to conduct legal matters via phone or other electronic methods. Mayor Primmer spoke regarding his experience as Council President and thoughts on keeping the two-year term instead of the recommended change of a one-year term, as well as not having term limits as Council experience on how government works goes along way.

After answering Council questions regarding voting procedures,

- Councilor Roberts moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to direct staff to return to the Council with information regarding potential term limits. Motion carried 6-1 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, and Kelso in favor, and Councilor Barron against.
- Councilor Duron moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to keep the Charter Review Committees recommendation to change the Municipal Court Judge from an elected position to an appointed position. Motion carried 6-1 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron in favor, and Councilor Linton against.
- Councilor Kelso moved and Councilor Linton seconded to keep the Charter Review Committees recommendation to change the Council President Appointment from a two-year term to a one-year term. Motion passed 4-3 with Councilors Roberts, Duron, Kelso, and Barron in favor, and Councilors Myers, McCarthy, and Linton against.
- Councilor Duron moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to table further Council discussions and vote until staff returned with additional information requested. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron in favor.

Resolution No. 2420- Approve Intergovernmental Agreement for IT Services with the West Extension Irrigation District- City Manager Smith presented the Council with information from the agenda packet regarding providing IT Service to the West Extension Irrigation District and affirming that the current IT department will be able to accommodate this additional contract without additional personnel added.

After a brief discussion, Councilor Duron moved and Councilor Roberts seconded to approve Resolution No. 2420 and lay upon the record. Motion passed unanimously with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron in favor.

Resolution No. 2421- Approve Intergovernmental Agreement to Operate the Practical Assistance though Transitional Housing (PATH) Program- City Manager Smith presented the Council with information from the agenda packet regarding continuing the intergovernmental agreement to

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Roberts seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2421 and lay upon the record. Motion passed unanimously with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron in favor.

March 2026 Monthly Financial Report

Councilor Myers moved and Councilor Roberts seconded to accept the March 2026 Monthly Financial Report as presented (PowerPoint Presentation attached) by Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, City



CITY COUNCIL & URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2026

Manager Byron Smith, and Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron in favor.

Committee Reports

Library Board- Councilor Roberts spoke regarding the Committee's review of the Library's bylaws, strategic planning, circulation materials, the constant use of the study rooms, as well as establishing a system for coordinating and reserving these spaces as they are constantly in use. Successful programming, like Little Wiggles, statistics showing 1,000 more books have been checked out in the last year, new Library statue will be unveiled soon with a date TBD, and Library Director Mark Rose has announced his retirement effective September 1, 2026.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee- Councilor Myers stated the Committee met for a short meeting.

Public Safety Committee- Mayor Primmer and Councilor Duron gave information regarding crime statistics, building remodel, accreditation, and all the work being done by the department.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Primmer spoke regarding:

- Thanked Charter Review Committee for all their work
- League of Oregon Cities Spring Conference in Pendleton held April 23-24, which was well attended and featured City Manager Smith, Councilor Duron, and himself as presenters
- Encouraged all to participate in the I Love My City Event, and the National Day of Prayer events

Council Presidents Report

Councilor McCarthy spoke regarding:

- Candidate Forum on April 16 and how every Council seat is being contested
- Last day to register to vote is April 28th
- My Hermiston App notification that the intersection lights on Highland and HWY 395 would be flashing red indicating a 4-way stop tomorrow from 9am to 2pm

Council Reports

Councilor Linton spoke regarding her attendance at the LOC Conference and attending a session presented by LOC Executive Director Patti Mulvihill where Ms. Mulvihill spoke regarding the need for Council compensation, as if sufficient compensation was not earned, the only council members that would be able to run and serve would be wealthy individuals and retirees- and encouraged those who have questions regarding this topic to reach out to Ms. Mulvihill directly. Councilor Linton stated the Conference was very well done and enjoyed hearing updates regarding a neighboring city that is having a lot of engagement and success using their Facebook page to get information out to the public in a fun way.

Councilor Duron stated she also attended the LOC Conference and thanked the City of Pendleton for hosting as well as the LOC Conference Committee for allowing the City to present information on our Enterprise Zone and for allowing her the opportunity to present and learn new things.



CITY COUNCIL & URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2026

Councilor Kelso stated he wanted the community to know that he is a man of his word and has stopped receiving the Council Monthly Stipend and has repaid all monies received from the stipend he previously received as well. Councilor Kelso spoke regarding the events at EOTEC to include the Rock & Gem Show and Cinco de Mayo.

Councilor Barron thanked the Police Department for the work they do during lock down drills and their great response and professionalism especially when working with students, with special recognition to Resource Officers Nava, Williams, and all those who participated.

Youth Advisory Report

No Youth Advisors were present.

Manager's Report

City Manager Smith spoke regarding:

- Marijuana Initiative Petition has been filed and the community can expect to see canvassers trying to collect about 1,600 valid signatures for the initiative to be on the general election ballot this year
- Religious leaders from the City of Hillsboro will be attending the I Love My City event as they are interested in logistics and how they can also inspire their city in a similar manner

Adjourn City Council Meeting and Convene Urban Renewal Agency Meeting

There was no other City business and Mayor Primmer adjourned the regular meeting and convened the Urban Renewal Agency Meeting at 9:29pm.

HURA Resolution No. 25- Amending Text of North Hermiston Urban Renewal Plan detailing land acquired for the NE Aspen Drive Project- Planning Director Clint Spencer spoke regarding HURA Resolution No. 25 as outlined in the agenda packet.

After a brief discussion, Member Duron moved and Member Roberts seconded to approve HURA Resolution No. 25 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously with Members Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron in favor.

Adjourn Urban Renewal Agency Meeting

There was no other business and Chair Primmer adjourned the Urban Renewal Agency Meeting at 9:32pm.

SIGNED:

Doug Primmer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder

GLORIFY GOD AMONG THE NATIONS



The Prayer at Valley Forge
©1975 First Freedom Art Company

SEEKING HIM IN ALL GENERATIONS

1 CHRONICLES 16:24 NASB

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

75TH

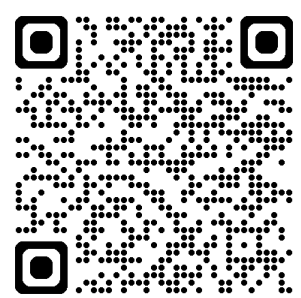


75th ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY of PRAYER

Join us as we pray for our nation
in various locations and times
in Hermiston and the City of Umatilla

Oasis Church Prayer Walk	10:00 AM	–	11:00 AM
Hermiston Nazarene Church	11:00 AM	–	12:00 PM
Hermiston City Hall	12:00 PM	–	1:00 PM
Good Shepherd	12:00 PM	–	1:00 PM
Rocky Heights Elementary	5:00 PM	–	8:00 PM
Harrison Park Elementary	5:00 PM	–	8:00 PM
Hermiston Seventh-day Church	5:00 PM	–	6:00 PM
Grace Baptist Church	5:00 PM	–	6:00 PM
Living Fatih Church	6:00 PM	–	7:00 PM
Armand Larive Flagpole	6:00 PM	–	7:00 PM
Catholic Church Prayer Walk	7:00 PM	–	8:00 PM
Umatilla Business Center	7:00 PM	–	8:00 PM

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
SCAN THE QR CODE
OR GO TO:**



www.nationaldayofprayerhermiston.org

EASTERN OREGON TRADE & EVENT CENTER
HERMISTON, OREGON



MUSIC FESTIVAL & CAR SHOW

FRIDAY 12TH JUNE	SATURDAY 13TH JUNE	YEAR 2026	CLOSES 9 PM
----------------------------	------------------------------	---------------------	-----------------------

2026 LINEUP

CONCERT TICKETS REQUIRED • GROUNDS FREE

HEADLINER - SATURDAY JUNE 13 • 9:30 PM

GREAT WHITE
HARD ROCK

9:30 PM

HEADLINER - FRIDAY JUNE 12 • 9:30 PM

CHAYCE BECKHAM
COUNTRY

9:30 PM

SUPPORTING ACTS

(SATURDAY • 7PM)
LOS LONELY BOYS
TEXICAN ROCK & ROLL

(SATURDAY • 4:30PM)
TWO WOLF
SOUTHERN HARD ROCK

(FRIDAY • 4:30PM)
BRASS FIRE
CHICAGO STYLE HORN BAND

(FRI 7PM • SAT 2PM)
HER WAY TO HELL
FEMALE AC/DC COVER BAND

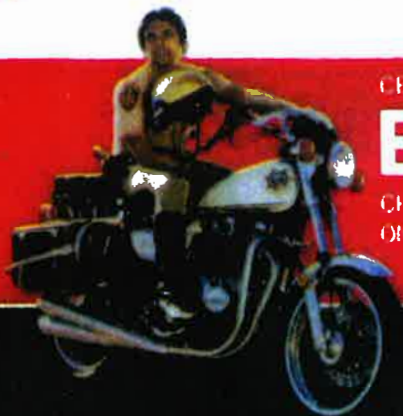
MORE ARTISTS TO BE ANNOUNCED

CELEBRITY GUEST • CAR SHOW • SATURDAY JUNE 13

ERIK ESTRADA

CHIPS STAR ERIK ESTRADA WILL BE ON-SITE SATURDAY FOR THE CAR SHOW

- LIVE MUSIC (2 DAYS)
- CAR SHOW (BY EOC)
- 6-7 ZONE (KIDS AREA)
- FOOD & VENDORS
- ALL AGES WELCOME



GET CONCERT TICKETS

CARTUNESFEST.ORG

FESTIVAL GROUNDS FREE ENTRY	CONCERT TICKET REQUIRED	PARKING \$10 / VEHICLE	RV SITES AVAILABLE
---------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------

A PORTION OF EVERY TICKET DONATED TO LOCAL CHARITIES • CABINS FOR KIDS & PEO WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND
PROUD TO GIVE BACK TO HERMISTON

GOLD



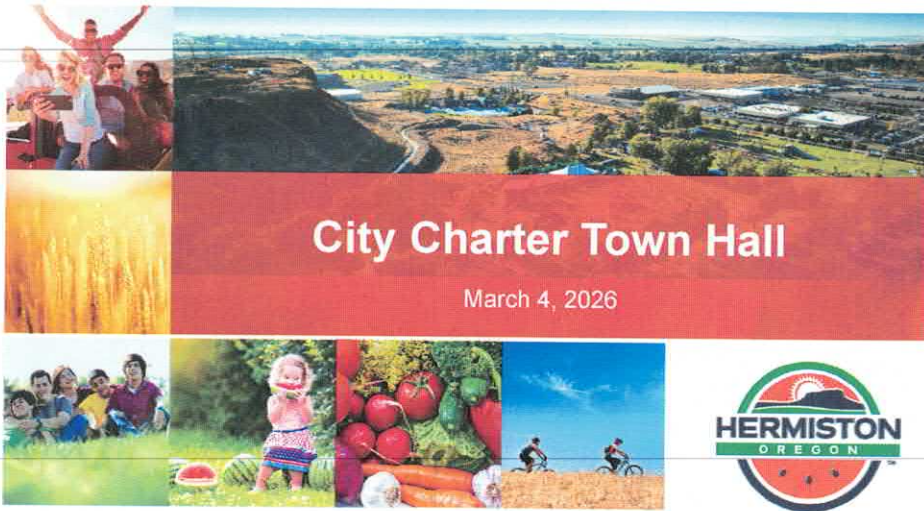
BRONZE



<https://cartunesfest.org>

R.B. Dorran
Founder - CarTunes Music Festival LLC
541-720-0670
cartunesmusicfestival@gmail.com





Outline

- Process
 - **Resolution No. 2382**
- Review Proposed Changes
- Public Comments/Discussion
- Committee Discussion/Business
- Possible Recommendation to City Council



Resolution 2382

- Begin meetings in 2025 (First Meeting – October 2025) (4 Mtgs)
- Complete Review within 6-9 months
- Hold a Publicly Advertised Public Hearing
- Seven city electors with staff support
- City Council Liaison – Mayor Primmer
- Recommendations to Council
- Potential Ballot Measure



Resolution 2382

- Review the entire Charter
- Specific Sections to Review
 - **Geographic representation for Council Members**
 - **Ward Boundary Adjustment**
 - **Elected vs. Appointed Municipal Judge**
 - **City Manager Residency Requirement**
 - **Ordinance Adoption Process**
 - **City Attorney Supervision/Hiring**





Charter Review Process

- Review Committee
 - David Drotzmann, Chair
 - Kyndra Stone, Vice Chair
 - Monique Brandley
 - Karyn Jones
 - Paul Wolverton
 - Rod Hardin
 - Val Hoxie

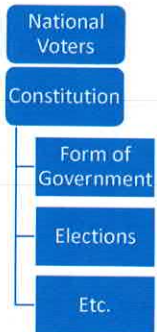


City Charter?

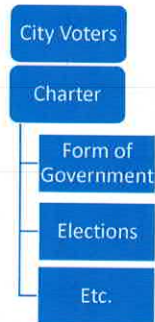
Where Life is Sweet

City Charter

United States



City of Hermiston

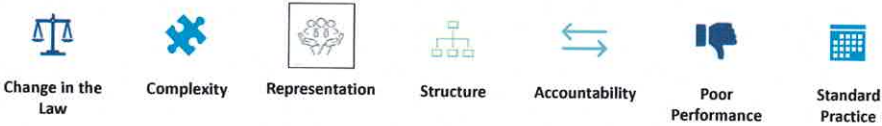


City Charter

- History of Hermiston Charter
 - **Original Adoption on March 15, 1910**
 - **Modified by several amendments on the following dates:**
 - January 24, 1943
 - July 26, 1965
 - May 24, 1966
 - April 3, 1967
 - October 14, 1970
 - March 2, 1976
 - March 8, 1977
 - December 20, 1977
 - November 2, 1982
 - November 8, 1960
 - May 1, 1959
 - May 18, 1956
 - May 18, 1999
 - November 2, 1954
- **Current Charter Adopted 2015 After a Comprehensive Review**



Why Charter Review?



Adopted Council Goal 10 Year's Since Adoption Review ≠ Change



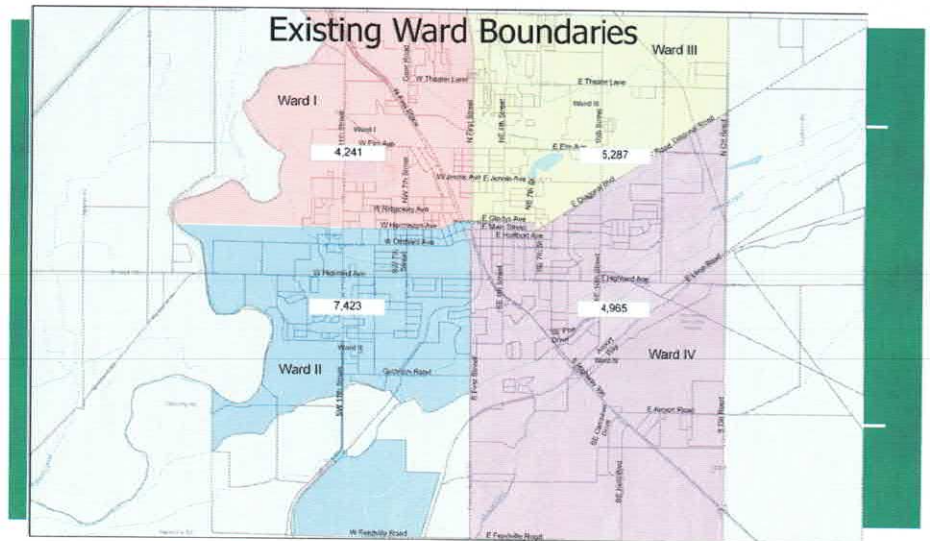
Recommended Changes

- Changes recommended in four areas:
 - Elections
 - Elected Official Roles
 - City Manager Role
 - Charter Maintenance



Recommended Changes

- Elections
 - Redraw City Council Ward boundaries



Recommended Changes

- Elections
 - Change the election of ward councilors to be elected only by the electors in the individual wards



Recommended Changes

- Elected Official Roles
 - Changing to an appointed municipal court judge

 - Changing the selection of city council president to every year from every other year



Recommended Changes

- City Manager Roles
 - Allowing a newly hired city manager up to 12 months to move inside city limits

 - Clarifying day to day supervision of the city attorney lies with the city manager



Recommended Changes

- City Charter Maintenance
 - Requires a review of the charter at least once every 10 years.

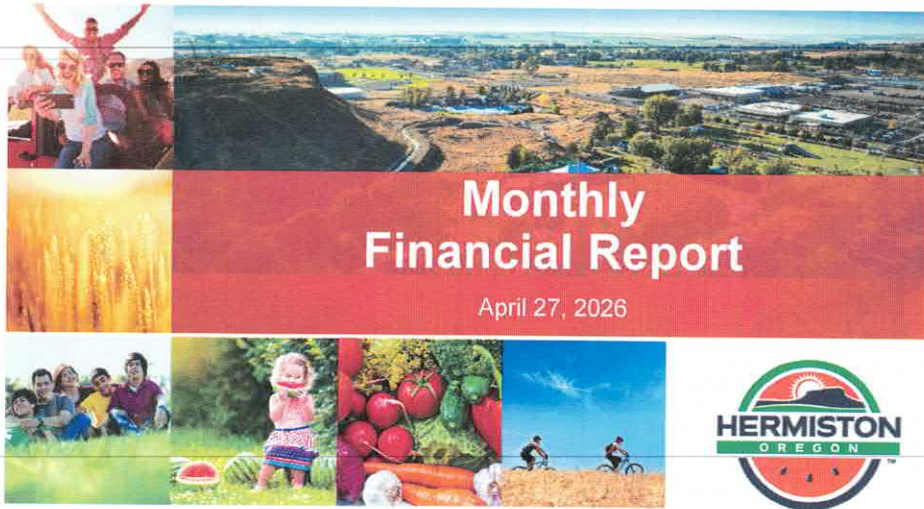
 - Makes various minor language changes to align the charter with the League of Oregon Cities Model Charter.





COMMENTS/QUESTIONS??

Where Life is Sweet™



Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency (HURA)

- Hermiston URA
 - 75% through current fiscal year
 - Property tax receipts - 100%+
- North Hermiston Urban Renewal Area – ROW appraisals complete with anticipated bidding this spring.



General Fund

- Seventh month (or 75.0%) of 2025-26 fiscal year
- Monthly Revenues ended over projection by ~\$1.9 million
 - Primarily due to receipt of property taxes and franchise fees
 - Received 100% of budgeted property taxes
 - Revenue reclassification



General Fund

- Monthly Expenses were under projection by ~\$237k
 - Several Departments are 'over' projected budget (City Council, Finance, PS Center & Non-Departmental) and were further evaluated
 - City Council and Non-Departmental are over budget due to annual LOC membership and transfer to building inspection fund, respectively.
 - Public Safety Center over budget due to single time purchases for PD building.



Special Revenue Funds

- Observations:
 - **EOTEC**
 - revenues reflect partial reimbursement from campground project
 - RV project underway



Utility and Street Funds

- Observations
 - Regional Water Fund ~\$154k under revenue projections



Capital Projects

- A number of projects in design:
 - Geer/Harper Realignment – contract awarded, construction anticipated early summer
 - N. 1st Place - additional ROW with UPRR has begun
 - RWS Backup Generators – purchase contract awarded, install 2027 estimated install
 - Orchard Water Line replacement – project anticipated Summer through Fall
 - Well #6 Chlorination Structure – contract awarded, construction through 2026
 - Dogwood Street – construction anticipated end of 2026 construction season
 - SE 10th Street Bridge – anticipated construction during winter '26-'27 during off-season water usage
 - E. Evelyn Avenue gravity sewer line – anticipated early summer construction
 - Aquifer Storage/Recovery – ASR testing has begun
 - 2nd Street Paving – anticipated construction through Fall
- TBD (budgeted and part of CIP):
 - Well #4 Controls – delays may require rescheduling project
 - Lift Station #5 – design to begin
 - Lift Station #7



Capital Projects

- Sherman Park – Bid package to be released
- Public Safety Center – Move in underway





**Discussion
Questions?**

Where Life is Sweet