



Where Life is Sweet

CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2026

Mayor Primmer called the regular meeting to order at 7:01pm. Present were Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron. City Staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, City Attorney Rich Tovey, Police Chief Jason Edmiston, Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Artz, Court Administrator Jillian Viles, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

Marianne Tagney, (Umatilla County Resident)- Stated she lives on the corner of Powerline and Bridge Road and is supportive of the proposed bridge at Punkin Center Rd (Resolution No. 2406) as this would help alleviate traffic, if built, as her residential area is very busy.

Consent Agenda Items

Councilor Hayward moved, and Councilor McCarthy seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-C, to include:

- A. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- B. Minutes of the December 8th Public Infrastructure Committee
- C. Minutes of the January 26th Regular Meeting of the City Council

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

Resolution No. 2406- Umatilla River Bridge at Punkin Center Intergovernmental Agreement

Assistant City Manager Morgan reviewed information from the agenda packet and presented additional information (PowerPoint Presentation attached) regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Umatilla and Umatilla County for a proposed Umatilla River Bridge Crossing.

Public Comment

Tamara Mabbot, Zimmer Lane (Umatilla County Resident)- Commended the City's and County for the work they've accomplished so far and suggested that public engagement begin now to have better public buy-in as there will be impacts to private property.

Councilor Myers stated this item is not new, it has been in discussion since the late 1990's and remembers having a meeting with the Department of Defense Staff who were interested in this project, along with City Manager Ed Brookshier, Councilor Rod Hardin, and others to discuss a crossing in this area.

Councilor Barron commended the partnerships and project and suggested a potential partnership with the CDA.

After additional discussion, Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Hayward seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2406 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron in favor.



Where Life is Sweet

CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2026

Resolution No. 2407- Agape House Storage Buildings Contract Award

City Manager Smith reviewed information from the agenda packet regarding Resolution No. 2407 to award the Agape House storage building construction contract to Banlin Construction.

After addressing Councilor questions and additional discussion, Councilor Hayward moved and Councilor Myers seconded adopt Resolution 2407 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron in favor.

January 2026 Quarterly Investment Report

After addressing Councilor questions and additional discussion, Councilor Hayward moved and Councilor Duron seconded to accept the January 2026 Quarterly Investment Report as presented (PowerPoint presentation attached), by Finance Director Ignacio Palacios. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Linton, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Committee Reports

Faith-Based Advisory Committee- Councilor Hayward gave information regarding Stepping Stones Alliance, I Love My City Event, Food Insecurity Meeting, and free lunches being provided throughout the week throughout the City.

Library Board- Councilor Roberts spoke regarding the increase of book and e-book circulation, computer use is down, volunteer hours are up, and the announcement from Library Director Mark Rose of his retirement this year. The Board suggested Mr. Rose complete the update to the Library Strategic Plan before his retirement.

Airport Advisory Committee- Councilor Roberts stated there was not a quorum but those present did hear updates regarding, the budget being on track, fuel sales are down, new hangars are being occupied quickly, and information regarding jet airport parking for the Superbowl.

Public Infrastructure Committee- Mayor Primmer and Councilor Roberts gave updates regarding Backflow Prevention Program, industrial pretreatments, FOG (Fats, Oils, & Grease) compliance updates, aquaporin reservoir updates, cooling discharges, Geer & Harper realignment, Gettman Extension updates, and more.

EOTEC Advisory Committee- Councilor Barron spoke regarding HERO updates, Operations and Financial updates, Masterplan updates, RV Park, new Hotelier representative on the Board, water rights update, and road updates.

Vacancy Review Board- Mayor Primmer stated the Board will be recommending appointments to various committees at the next meeting.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee- Councilor Myers stated the Committee will meet on Thursday.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Primmer stated it has been a busy few weeks and spoke regarding:

- City officials met with the Senior Center Board to review their contract. It was a great meeting and that contract will be coming before the Council soon
- Seahawks won Super Bowl LX

Council Presidents Report

Councilor McCarthy spoke regarding:

- Chamber of Commerce Speed Networking luncheon on Feb 18th at the Community Center
- HHS Grease Performance



Where Life is Sweet

CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2026

Council Reports

Councilor Roberts stated he recently attended the Umatilla County Board of Commissions meeting where Commissioners recognized many dispatchers for a variety of wonderful accomplishments, stating it was a great reminder to the public of the outstanding job dispatchers do for their community, and congratulated new Hermiston Police Department and Umatilla County Sheriff Department Officers for their DPSST Graduations.

Councilors Hayward stated he and Councilor Kelso attending the Hermiston Education Fundraising Dinner and mentioned it was greatly attended.

Councilor Duron spoke regarding attending a recent LOC Board Meeting where they reviewed upcoming bills and more and spoke regarding the LOC Spring Conference which will be held in Pendleton.

Councilor Kelso thanked the new Code Enforcement Official for the work he is doing, stating he has received many accolades from the public. Encouraged members of the community to apply to be on the Hispanic Advisory Committee as it's his favorite Committee to be involved in. Encouraged the public to join him and the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation at 8am on Monday at Hermiston Drug to put up flags on Main Street in recognition of President's Day. Thanked the City and EOTEC for allowing the Hermiston Amateur Radio Club to use EOTEC for their Annual Winter Field Day Exercise to try to contact as many people around the world as possible to build relationships in case of an emergency.

Youth Advisory Report

None present.

Manager's Report

City Manager Smith spoke regarding:

- Hotelier Cari Shafer joining the EOTEC Advisory Committee
- Charter Review Committee will hold a Town Hall meeting on March 4th at 5:30pm in Council Chambers. A dedicated webpage and additional advertisement of this event will be pushed out to the public with a final recommendation coming before the Council after this Town Hall meeting.
- LOC Legislative Calls are every Friday at noon. Please reach out to him if you are not getting the invitations and would like join.

Adjourn

There was no other business and Mayor Primmer adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 7:53pm.

SIGNED:

Doug Primmer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder

Resolution 2406- Bridge IGA
City Council: February 9, 2026

Resolution 2406

- IGA for Umatilla River Bridge design
- Mayor Letter of Support for Grant Application



Background

- Bridge to I-82 Included in TSP since 1990's
- 2 Bridges Shown (Punkin Center or Elm)
- Comparison Report 2022 Chooses Punkin
 - Lower Cost (\$44M vs \$48M)
 - Higher Positive Impacts
 - Fewer Negative Impacts



PER vs 30% Design

- Preliminary Engineering Report
 - Identifies
 - Scope of Project
 - Key Challenges
 - High Level Cost
- 30% Design
 - Refines Scope/Challenges/Costs





Next Steps

- Apply for 30% Design Grant Funding
- Complete 30% Design
- Future
 - **Decide Partner Funding Commitments for Construction**
 - **Apply for Construction Grant Funding**



QUESTIONS?

Where Life is Sweet™



Quarterly Investment Report

December 31, 2025



Quarterly Investment Report Changes

- Investment report summary presented
 - This summary provides the city's total investment on a quarterly basis
 - The 'Change' column summarizes investment maturity and/or redemption
 - The 'Net Gain (Loss) or Interest' reports earnings for the period reported
 - The 'Fees' column presents associated fees (transaction, advisory, etc.)
 - The '% of Portfolio' column reports the ratio of each investment type in the city's investment holdings



Investment Summary

- Total investments ending December 31, 2025, were approximately \$35.1 million, which includes \$25.1 million held in the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP).
- \$6.8 million was deposited into LGIP representing property tax remittances for both city and HURA.
- Continue to draw funds from LGIP reserves for construction projects
- Interest earnings for the quarter ending December 31, 2025, totaled \$372k (Fidelity - \$125k and LGIP - \$247k, respectively).
- The average interest earned totaled 1.3%.



Discussion

Questions?

Where Life is Sweet