



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Sandy City Hall and via Zoom

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The City Council met in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i)

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Kathleen Walker
Council President Don Hokanson
Councilor Chris Mayton
Councilor Laurie Smallwood
Councilor Rich Sheldon
Councilor Kristina Ramseyer
Councilor Lindy Hanley

ABSENT

Councilor Chris Mayton

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

It was the consensus of the Council that the Municipal Judge appointment should be moved to immediately after Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute limit)

Austin Ernesti: he expressed thanks for the Special Service Contract Program grant provided for the SICC forest festival, and he noted his organization's intentions to assist with invasive species removal along the Tickle Creek Trail corridor. Discussion ensued about the City's existing contract with the Clackamas River Watershed Council for this work pursuant to the Consent Decree, and whether volunteer assistance is appropriate.

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS

(none)

PRESENTATIONS

1. Municipal Judge Appointment

The City Manager provided an introduction and an overview of Ms. Lundquist's qualifications, and summarized the Municipal Judge recruitment process. Ms. Lundquist introduced herself and expressed her willingness to serve the City. Mayor Walker and Councilor Ramseyer summarized their experience as part of the interview panel, praised Ms. Lundquist's ideas and intended approach, and recommended her appointment. The possibility of an oath of office was discussed; staff stated they would review the City's legal requirements and determine whether an oath is required.

MOTION: Approve the agreement between the City of Sandy and Kyndre Lundquist for the Municipal Court Judge position

Motion made by Councilor Sheldon, Seconded by Councilor Ramseyer.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Smallwood, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

2. Audit Presentation - Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

Tim Gillette and Colleen Belford with TKW were present to present the City's audit; they provided hard copy handouts of slides that are attached to these minutes. Discussion ensued on the following topics:

- Findings related to public notice for the supplemental budget and plans for future process improvements
- Clarification related to spending above the appropriation in the Telecommunications Fund and plans for future process improvements at the end of the fiscal year
- Discussion related to the three material weaknesses identified for reporting of debt, capital assets, and federal grant revenue, as well as plans for future process improvements
- Emphasis on the importance of the audit as an independent assessment of the City's finances and reporting
- Suggestion to provide more plain language explanations of findings and proactive corrective actions in the future for the benefit and understanding of the Council

CONSENT AGENDA

3. City Council Minutes: January 5, 2026
4. Resolution 2026-01: Audit Corrective Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2025

Note: Due to discussion requested by Councilor Hanley, the purchase authorization for the Meinig Park pavilions was removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: Adopt the consent agenda

Motion made by Councilor Smallwood, Seconded by Council President Hokanson.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Smallwood, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**NEW BUSINESS****5. Purchase Authorization: Pavilions for Meinig Park Renovation**

Lisa Snider with the Sandy Mountain Festival was invited to share her input regarding the pavilion plans, including that her initial impression was that the proposed price was too expensive compared to the possibility of renovating the existing pavilions, but that after speaking with City staff before the meeting her concerns were lessened and she understood the recommendations of staff. She expressed appreciation for the planned park improvements and the collaborative relationship between her organization and the City. Further discussion ensued about the details of the City procurement process and the most constructive times for public input. The City Manager clarified that the suggested motion simply authorizes the City Manager to execute a purchase order, and that a separate urban renewal board meeting is not necessary.

MOTION: Authorize the City Manager to execute a purchase order for three owner-provided and installed pavilions for the Meinig Park renovation project, in an amount not to exceed \$400,974, as included in the meeting packet

Motion made by Councilor Hanley, Seconded by Councilor Ramseyer.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Smallwood, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**6. Contract Award: Revenue Avenue Reservoir Treatment Improvements**

The Public Works Director summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. Discussion ensued on the following topics:

- Details and chemistry of the water disinfection process, particularly with regard to chlorine versus chloramine
- Overview of the bidding process; note that the engineering estimate was on target and the project is on budget
- Video display of the project schematics and site plan
- The following discussion points related to a proposed redundant pump:
 - Discussion related to whether a proposed redundant pump is necessary
 - Explanation from staff on the reasons for the proposed redundant pump

- Discussions regarding the tradeoffs between system resilience and cost consciousness
- Discussion regarding the need to respect the expertise of engineers
- Discussion regarding the importance of minimizing the impact on ratepayers

MOTION: Authorize the City Manager to execute a construction contract with R.L. Reimers Company for the Revenue Avenue Reservoir Treatment Improvements project for a maximum total fee of \$1,359,463

Motion made by Councilor Sheldon, Seconded by Council President Hokanson.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Smallwood, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Government relations update from Nellie DeVries:
 - Observations on the political landscape as the short session of the Legislature approaches, including potential governor campaigns and opportunities for bipartisan support
 - Discussion of the amount of funding to request from the Legislature for Sandy's wastewater infrastructure needs
 - Note of the upcoming meeting with Senator Drazan
 - Discussion of the uncertainty concerning available state revenue
 - Discussion of possible legislation to fix problematic rulings from OGEC related to serial meetings
 - Suggestion from the Council to make government relations a regular recurring agenda item
- Recognition of the Finance Director for his accomplishments on the budget and audit
- Note of his 11th anniversary as a member of staff
- Note of his recent ICMA-CM certification
- Report that there were 39,000 attendees at Meinig Park during Winterfest

COMMITTEE / COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President Hokanson

- Reflections on the substantial progress made and challenges overcome as part of the drinking water system reinvestment program
- Reflections on the role he has played on the Council as a long-standing member of the water/wastewater oversight subcommittee; emphasis on the importance of respecting the expertise of engineers, being willing to hear difficult news, and ignoring politics

Councilor Hanley

- Appreciation for the Senior Planner's efforts to liaise with the Mountain Festival; note that this year's festival theme is 1776

- Praise for the Library's fundraising for the mobile library
- Congratulations to the new Parks and Recreation Director

Councilor Ramseyer

- Overview of the Planning Commission's recent public hearing regarding the Deer Pointe Park covered basketball structure
- Note that Linda Malone is the new Planning Commission Chair and Jerry Crosby is the new Vice Chair
- Congratulations to the new Parks and Recreation Director

Councilor Sheldon

- Congratulations to the new Parks and Recreation Director
- Appreciation for the Police Department's efforts to combat human trafficking and child abuse
- Overview of the recent C-4 meeting, including the relative lack of funding requests for the Legislature, concern about rulings from the OGEC, and discussion of possible future tolling
- Emphasis on the need to increase the involvement of the full City Council with regard to wastewater issues, to ensure all Councilors have a full understanding of the issues, costs, decisions being made, and specific anticipated financial impact on ratepayers
 - After discussion, it was agreed that the wastewater facilities plan would be discussed during Council meetings this spring, and that staff briefings with all Councilors will be conducted in the coming weeks to ensure everyone is up to speed with the same information

Councilor Smallwood

(none)

Mayor Walker

- Agreement that full Council involvement is needed on the wastewater issue as soon as possible
- Emphasis on the importance of understanding the specific impact of project costs on rates and system development charges
- Reflections on the most recent wastewater subcommittee meeting and concerns about projected costs continuing to increase; concerns about the way information was delivered by the consultants and the lack of advance notice. It was suggested by Council President Hokanson that the subcommittee should be disbanded and the matter should be handled by the full Council
- Reminder of the County's current TSP update process
- Suggestion to identify needed code updates, particularly development requirements for parks and open space
- Reminder of the Deer Pointe Park ribbon cutting
- Recognition of the Police Department officer of the year
- Congratulations to the new Parks and Recreation Director

- Concern regarding the City's contract with the Clackamas River Watershed Council for Tickle Creek restoration required under the Consent Decree, and whether volunteer assistance is appropriate
- Reminder of the need for a report from the Chamber of Commerce on their most recent grant

STAFF UPDATES

Monthly Reports: <https://reports.cityofsandy.com/>

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