



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Sandy City Hall and via Zoom

MINUTES

WORK SESSION – 6:00 PM

1. Discussion: Deer Pointe Park Covered Basketball Court

The Parks and Recreation Director summarized the staff report in the meeting packet, and provided an overview of the history of the project. Brian Martin and Kurt Lango with Lango Hansen delivered a presentation to the Council; slides were also included in the packet. Clarification was provided on the timing of the cost estimates that were gathered, as well as the components included in the quotes. It was noted that the quotes included steel frames, with Sandy Style elements providing decorative elements.

Council discussion ensued on the following topics:

- The size of the structure relative to the rest of the park
- Considerations for a neighborhood park versus a community park, and the appropriateness of this structure at this particular location
- The height of the peak of the proposed roof
- The prominence of the shelter from Hwy 26
- Challenges related to grade changes on the site
- Park development priorities in the Parks and Trails Master Plan, as well as project timing estimates
- Whether Bornstedt park would be an appropriate site for covered basketball; clarification on the features planned for the second phase of that park's development; parking needs and space considerations at Bornstedt Park
- The amount of land necessary for a sports complex
- Playground features and appropriate age levels
- The roof pitch of the picnic shelter
- Parking impacts on the neighborhood
- Considerations around half court versus full court basketball and the expectations of the community, which already provided input on the project
- The need for continuity with past Council decisions; recognition of the fact that the Council had previously asked for more information on covered basketball costs
- Concern about noise impacts on adjacent neighbors
- Concerns about wind and the ability of a structure to remain stable
- Timing of the project relative to the City's budget cycle
- The need for covered courts and the notion that future parks would be ill-suited for covered basketball

- Opportunities to be flexible with regard to Sandy Style
- SDC projections and potential impacts with regard to other park improvements, including at Meinig Park
- Remaining funds in the Council's contingency
- The importance of Deer Pointe Park for that area of town
- Possibilities for street parking adjacent to the park
- The degree to which low bids are realistic and accurate
- Past discussions regarding roof pitch flexibility for other projects
- The potential to construct footings for the structure now, while waiting to complete the cover in the future
- Possibilities for installing extra paved surface now, and installing footings and a roof structure in the future
- Recognition that the Council can address this issue during the upcoming budget process
- Suggestion to gather further public input on the covered basketball proposal
- Suggestion to view covered basketball courts in nearby communities

Recap of stormwater drainage problems at the Base Camp pump track:

The Parks and Recreation Director provided an update on the avenues being pursued by the City to remedy the drainage problems, noting that the contractor acknowledges that certain infrastructure is not performing as intended. The solution will be to install hard drainage pipe and develop a rain garden. Resolving the matter is a top priority, and the contractor will be bearing financial cost. It was noted that the adjacent stormwater main does not have sufficient capacity to handle the runoff, and that the raingarden solution is more feasible.

The Council offered reflections on the contractor's original plans and the lack of adequate performance, and that rather than attempt to improve the dry wells the hard piping approach is being implemented instead. It was noted that areas of the park will need to be closed while repairs are constructed. It was also suggested that the City should consider whether any long term damage to the infrastructure was caused by the flooding, and that the extent of the City's protection under warrantee terms should be clarified.

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Councilor Chris Mayton

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

(none)

PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute limit)

Ben Koster: thanks and appreciation for Sandy's parks; encouragement for the City to prioritize youth sports access to City fields and other facilities, particularly for Cal Ripken baseball; support for the covered basketball concept at Deer Pointe Park

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS

The City Manager indicated that staff met with the parties interested in developing a childcare facility who spoke at the previous meeting, and that possible solutions are being developed to allow the project to proceed. He noted that it is the intention of staff to be solution-oriented. He also noted that the Police Department is looking into the reported parking challenges at the intersection of Gary and Langensand, and that enforcement and other potential future solutions are being explored.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. City Council Minutes: January 6, 2025
3. Resolution 2025-02: Updating Bank Signatories

MOTION: Adopt the consent agenda

Motion made by Councilor Smallwood, Seconded by Councilor Ramseyer.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

PRESENTATIONS

4. Audit Presentation - Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Colleen Belford and Tim Gillette with TKW were present to present the most recent audit to the Council. They thanked the City for its cooperation throughout the process. Documents reviewed included to Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, financial statements for the Urban Renewal Agency, and the Single Audit. Required communications and disclosures were provided, and the applicable accounting standards were noted.

Discussion ensued on the audit findings, which consisted of two recording errors, as well as an internal control issue related to a phishing attempt. It was noted that now policies have been implemented to avoid similar phishing attempts in the future, and that the funds had been recovered.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Update: Sandy Funding Request for 2025 Oregon Legislative Session

The City Manager summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. Nellie deVries was present to provide an overview of the City's effort to secure state funding support during the legislative session.

Council discussion ensued on the following issues:

- The degree to which the \$14 million request is in line with other cities' requests
- Expectations that this session will follow a more traditional capital project funding process
- Staff efforts to identify other grant funding opportunities
- Expected emphasis during the session on transportation projects
- The importance of state revenue projections
- Messaging of the City's request with regard to housing development and environmental protection; concern that the environmental aspect is not sufficiently featured
- Intentions to tailor messaging to individual legislators
- Timing and expected cost of necessary engineering studies to confirm Gresham's system capacity

Councilor Smallwood expressed reservations about the proposed direction of sending wastewater flows to Gresham for treatment, and emphasized that the City should explore alternative options for wastewater discharge and/or reuse. In response, other Council Members stated that a variety of alternative solutions have already been studied to no avail, and that the Consent Decree and associated timelines and penalties make it infeasible to delay any further. It was also stated that partnering with Gresham provides advantages in terms of economies of scale and regional resources, as well as an ability for the City to remove itself from the wastewater treatment business and exposure to future regulatory requirements.

It was emphasized that unity on this issue would be to the City's advantage and that perhaps an additional work session on this issue would be helpful. Concern was expressed that the City would be in a very difficult position if financial assistance for the Gresham project is not secured. It was also stated that the full Council needs better and more frequent communication with respect to the wastewater project, and that newer members of the Council should receive further briefings.

The Council asked staff to develop and provide a consolidated document detailing the various discharge alternatives that have been analyzed, including the reasons that other alternatives proved to be infeasible.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Recap of the recent code enforcement issue on Barker Ct
- Further details on the City's warrantee protections with regard to the Base Camp pump track

COMMITTEE / COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President Hokanson

- Suggestion that a specific growth strategy should be developed for SandyNet

Councilor Hanley

(none)

Councilor Ramseyer

- Recap of the recent land use training provided for the Planning Commission
- Recap of recent grand opening of Sauter Timber; suggestion to pursue possible economic development opportunities for related industries

Councilor Sheldon

- Suggestion to pursue improvements to parking regulations in the municipal code, especially related to emergency access and safety

Councilor Smallwood

(none)

Mayor Walker

- Recap of recent grand opening of Sauter Timber and possible economic development opportunities
- Recap of updated Council liaison assignments
- Request for Council Members to send in their ideas for goals in advance of the goal setting meeting
- Suggestion to meet with Oregon Trail School District on facility and park needs
- Encouragement for Council Members to pursue and receive all the relevant information necessary to make informed policy decisions

STAFF UPDATES

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

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