



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Sandy City Hall and via Zoom

MINUTES

WORK SESSION – 6:00 PM

1. Code Update Discussion: Chapter 8.36 Outdoor Burning

The City Manager summarized the staff report in the meeting packet, with additional introductory remarks from the City Attorney.

Discussion ensued on the following points:

- Enforcement procedures for this new code language, including the respective roles of the City, Clackamas Fire, and Oregon DEQ
- Input received on the proposed code language from the Sandy Police Department and Clackamas Fire
- The role of Sandy Code Enforcement staff in enforcing this code language
- Dispatch procedures and the impact of the separation of the systems used by police and fire
- Clarification on the materials that are burnable and those that are not
- Details on the number of lots that are larger than one acre, and the number of residents who typically burn materials
- The role of DEQ in enforcing illegal burning of materials
- Discussion of the intention to rely on education of as much as possible when violations occur, because stopping inappropriate behavior is the primary intention
- Discussion of the need to inform Clackamas Fire that Sandy has the ability to enforce with citations if this code language is adopted
- Concern that the maximum allowable size of burn piles for agricultural and backyard burning are both inappropriate
- Discussion related to the City's chipper program, which is currently on hiatus because of broken equipment and serious concerns from the City's insurance provider. Staff indicated that a new program is being developed to provide quarterly chipping services in different areas of the community rather than letting individuals borrow and use the chipper directly. Opportunities may also exist to work with community partners to provide assistance to individuals in need. Concern was expressed about cost and staff capacity to administer this new program, and staff should present information to the Council documenting its feasibility.
- Discussion as to whether the one acre minimum for backyard burning and the stipulated setback minimums are appropriate, given the health hazards of burning in residential areas. After discussion, the consensus was to keep the one acre language.
- Note that staff will continue to proactively assist following storm events

As a result of the discussion, the Council provided the following direction to staff:

- Bring the outdoor burning code amendments back for a public hearing before the Council, with the following edits:
 - Regarding agricultural burning, change three feet in height to six feet in height.
 - Regarding backyard burning, change ten feet in diameter to seven feet in diameter, and change three feet in height to five feet in height.
 - Specify that burning shall not occur on slopes or under electrical transmission lines
 - Clarify the subsection headers in Section 8.36.020

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 Lindy Hanley

ABSENT

Councilor Kristina Ramseyer

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Council agreed that there would be an update from the City's government relations consultant, Nellie deVries, following public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute limit)

Catherine McMullen: speaking as the Clackamas County Clerk she recognized National Voter Registration Day, encouraged all eligible voters to register, and cited the requirements and procedures for registering. She provided statistics on Sandy's registered voters, and encouraged voters to verify their registration status and update their information if necessary. She encouraged voters to sign up for the 'track your ballot' service, make a plan to vote, and mail their ballot well in advance of election day. She also expressed praise for election officials, workers, and volunteers. A memorandum regarding National Voter Registration Day was provided, which is attached to these minutes.

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS

The City Manager indicated that staff will continue to update wastewater information on the City's website as discussed by Ms. Skinner at the previous meeting, and that an email response had been provided to Mr. Exner addressing the concerns he raised at the previous

meeting. It was the consensus of the Council that the email to Mr. Exner should be attached to the August 18, 2025 minutes for the record.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Ms. deVries provided an update related regarding the recent OGEC ruling about serial meetings, and conversations currently underway about possible bills to remedy the concerns raised by local governments. It was noted that a partial remedy might be proposed during the 2026 session, with a more comprehensive bill proposed in 2027. The Council discussed the possibility of providing official input to OGEC on this matter, and it was also noted that the Legislature appears to not follow the same requirements purportedly being imposed on cities. The City Attorney suggested that local government representation on the OGEC could be helpful, and he agreed to provide their working document on serial meeting enforcement policy.

Further discussion ensued related to the transportation special session, the resignation of Senator Bonham and possibilities for filling vacant seats, expectations for the upcoming 2026 short session, possibilities for claiming appropriations that were vetoed by the Governor, and strategies to ask for further City infrastructure funding support in 2026.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. City Council Minutes: August 18, 2025
3. Resolution 2025-33: Authorizing City of Sandy to Apply for a Local Government Grant From the Oregon Department of Energy
4. Resolution 2025-34: Updating the City of Sandy Transit Title VI Program
5. Contract Amendment: TriMet Subrecipient Agreement No. GG230851EVL for disbursement of Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds to City of Sandy

MOTION: Adopt the consent agenda, with the amendment that the City Manager's email response to Mr. Exner is to be attached to the August 18, 2025 minutes

Motion made by Councilor Smallwood, Seconded by Councilor Mayton.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

OLD BUSINESS

6. PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance 2025-17 - Alternative Wastewater Systems Code Additions (File No. 25-031 DCA)

Abstentions
(none)

Conflicts of Interest
(none)

Staff Report

The City Attorney summarized the staff report in the meeting packet, and provided an overview of the code options provided by staff.

Public Testimony

(none)

MOTION: Close the public hearing

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Council Discussion

- Overview of the differences between the two code options provided by staff, including elements of the alternative version that are more restrictive than the original version and elements that are less restrictive
- Concerns regarding publicly-facing retail businesses proposing portable toilets, and the possibility that a future Council might approve such a proposal
- Acknowledgement that the Council would retain decision-making authority under the proposed code and could deny undesirable wastewater proposals
- Emphasis on the desire not to be overly-regulatory
- Note that a wide variety of portable restroom facilities exist, including some that are much higher quality than typical facilities
- Clarification on the language related to screening plans

MOTION: Approve the second reading of Ordinance 2025-17, incorporating the document titled "Code Amendments: Revised Alternative 9-8-25" as Exhibit A

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Congratulations to Chief Huskey for graduating from the FBI National Academy; thanks to Lt. Craven for his leadership while the Chief was away
- Thanks to the Public Works staff who organized the recent tour of the wastewater treatment plant
- Updates on the pavement management projects currently underway

- Note that meetings are being set up with the school district to address traffic impacts from the high school and middle school during student pickup time

COMMITTEE / COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor President Hokanson

- Concern that Meinig Ave between Pioneer and Procter may need more substantial long term repair
- Overview of the recent SandyNet Advisory Board meeting, including proposed edits to the CBX construction IGA with Clackamas County
- Suggestion to leverage staff expertise in other departments to assist with the SandyNet facility construction initiative
- Remarks on SandyNet rural expansion
- Thanks for the work thus far on the outdoor burning code

Councilor Hanley

- Update on the mobile library fundraising efforts

Councilor Sheldon

(none)

Councilor Smallwood

(none)

Councilor Mayton

- Remarks on the Meinig Park grant and the Parks and Recreation Director recruitment
- Discussion of Winterfest event dates
- Recap of the wastewater treatment plant tour; suggestion to open similar tours for the public

Mayor Walker

- Recap of recent ribbon cutting for a new business
- Thanks for the pavement repair work
- Emphasis on the need to address the traffic impacts from the high school and middle school
- Mention of recent conversations with the City's economic development consultant and new urban renewal program proposals
- Appreciation for the recent bridge repair using salvaged wood from a tree that fell during a winter storm
- Appreciation for work performed at Jonsrud Viewpoint
- Concern regarding the potential project cost increases related to making Meinig Park trails ADA accessible; staff responded that the scope changes are minimal
- Reminder of the upcoming volunteer recognition event
- Recap of the Special Service Contract Program subcommittee review process
- Recap of the wastewater treatment plant tour

- Recap of the recent meetings of Clackamas County's Library District Task Force, and the relative lack of support for increasing funding for rural cities

STAFF UPDATES

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

ADJOURN

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

DRAFT