



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 03, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Sandy City Hall and via Zoom

MINUTES

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

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

(none)

PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute limit)

Austin Ernesti: spoke on behalf of the SICCC Forest Fest event, which is entering its third year and is continuing to grow. Over 3,000 people attended the last event. Mr. Ernesti asked the City Council for \$15,000 in financial support for the 2025 event. He stated that support would allow for increased advertisement for the festival outside of town, driving further interest and commerce to local businesses. In response to Council questions, he stated he would be developing the program over the next month and would return to the City with further details on what the proposed \$15,000 would accomplish. A scholarship program dinner was also discussed.

Jim Gaithner: Stated that the City had not responded to his recent emails concerning the proposed development project on Sunset St. Stated that he had revised plans as requested by staff but no further communication was received, which is concerning because of his looming deadlines. Stated that the City cannot zone a property out of existence. In response, staff summarized recent efforts to facilitate between Mr. Gaithner and the adjacent property owner regarding potential easements, which is an unusual service for the City to provide. Staff stated that additional follow up information would be provided as soon as possible.

Following public comment, the Council discussed options to provide easier methods for members of the public to contact the Council as a group, along with the City Manager, to ensure that matters are attended to in an efficient and responsive manner.

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS

(none)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Minutes: January 21, 2025

The Council noted that the discussion in the minutes about the Deer Pointe Park covered basketball concept should have included a clear statement that the matter will be further addressed and decided upon during the upcoming budget process.*

MOTION: Adopt the consent agenda as amended*

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

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

Abstaining: Councilor Mayton

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0-1

ORDINANCES

2. PUBLIC HEARING – Ordinance 2025-03: Business License Code Modifications (SMC Chapter 5.04)

Abstentions

(none)

Conflicts of Interest

(none)

Staff Report

The Development Services Director summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. It was noted that business licenses are important for transit tax collection, they facilitate courtesy building department and fire safety inspections, and they also allow for important statistical reporting related to the audit.

Public Testimony

(none)

MOTION: Close the public hearing

Motion made by Councilor Sheldon, Seconded by Councilor Ramseyer.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Council Discussion

- Note that fine amounts are the same regardless of business size
- Discussion of the rationale for selecting a Class C violation rather than a higher level; clarification on enforcement procedures and incentives for compliance
- Discussion on age exemptions for minors
- Request to receive further information on the City's transit tax in the future
- Discussion on the residential rental property license process, particularly regarding whether it is desirable to charge \$85 for each lot of record plus \$6 for each unit within. It was suggested that this arrangement can be further evaluated during the next review of the City's fee schedule

The Council requested two amendments* to the proposed ordinance text, as outlined below:

- Provide clarity in section 5.04.140(D)(1) that while the uses listed therein are exempt from residential rental property license requirements, they must still obtain business licenses
- Switch the order of sections 5.04.020(A) and (B)

MOTION: Approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-03 as amended*

Motion made by Councilor Mayton, Seconded by Councilor Ramseyer.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

3. PUBLIC HEARING – Ordinance 2025-04: Chronic Nuisance Properties Code Modifications (SMC Chapter 8.22)

Abstentions

(none)

Conflicts of Interest

(none)

Staff Report

The Development Services Director summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. It was noted that further Council discussion would be needed to add additional non-criminal nuisances.

Public Testimony

(none)

MOTION: Close the public hearing

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Council Discussion

- Agreement on the need for a future work session discussion to identify additional nuisances; it was suggested that the public safety / livability task force can take on this task
- Discussion as to the City Manager's role in evaluating the appropriateness of a search warrant

It was suggested that while ideally the entire chapter should be rewritten for clarity in the future, these amendments should be adopted for now.

The Council requested three amendments* to the proposed ordinance text, as outlined below:

- The period listed in section 8.22.10(A) should be changed from 30 days to 6 months.
- Animal cruelty should be included in section 8.22.10(C)
- Clarify the notification procedures listed in section 8.22.30 (B) and (C), and ensure property posting takes place concurrently with other notifications.

MOTION: Approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-04 as amended*

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

NEW BUSINESS

4. Update - Memorandum of Agreement: Sandy Police Sergeants

The City Manager summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. He clarified that the sergeants are joining the existing union, rather than forming a new organization.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- City Council photos will be taken in advance of the next meeting
- Recap of the recent goal setting process; staff will consolidate the draft goals and provide them to the Council for review

- Note that a funding package for the City's drinking water projects will be presented to the Council very soon

COMMITTEE / COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President Hokanson

- Thanks for the recent goal setting meeting

Councilor Hanley

- Thanks for the recent goal setting meeting
- Library Advisory Board meeting on 2/5

Councilor Ramseyer

- Thanks for the advocacy efforts at City Day at the Capitol

Councilor Sheldon

- Recap of City Day at the Capitol

Councilor Smallwood

- (none)

Councilor Mayton

- (none)

Mayor Walker

- A representative is needed for the Mt Hood Economic Alliance board
- Seeking a seat on the prospective library task force being organized by the County
- Recap of City Day at the Capitol, including a meeting with the Mayor of Gresham
- Recap of meeting with Mt Hood Community College president
- Recap of meeting with Senator Wyden aide
- A meeting is upcoming with Commissioner Savas
- Will send out water/wastewater oversight committee slides to the rest of the Council
- Wants a full overview of water and wastewater projects for public communication, including what options were considered, funding strategies, plans for implementation, and other important details

STAFF UPDATES

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

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