



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 21, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Sandy City Hall and via Zoom

MINUTES

WORK SESSION – 6:00 PM

1. Ordinance 2025-15: Amending Conduct and Exclusion Rules in the Sandy Municipal Code

The Parks and Recreation Director summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. Council discussion ensued on the following topics:

- Details on the appeal process, and the meaning of the terms 'invalid' and 'improper'
- Rationale for including the relative vague purpose language in 12.12.010, and reflections on the City's ability to exercise its police powers
- Concern about whether the term 'equal access' may lead to unintended consequences; explanation of the intention to ensure everyone has equal opportunity to enjoy parks, subject to the established rules
- Discussion about the lack of a general definition of 'exclusion'
- Suggestion to move all definitions to the beginning of the chapter
- Clarification on the definition of qualified exclusion; suggestion to remove criteria from the listed definition
- Concern that there may be too much ambiguity on who has the authority to make exclusion decisions
- Discussion on distinctions between public land, public parks, and open space
- Suggestion to ensure consistency of capitalization throughout the chapter
- Concern about the amount of discretion for staff to determine length of exclusions; discussion on the importance of clear internal policies
- Suggestion to establish clear exclusion length guidelines to ensure consistency of enforcement; discussion of the appeal process and the role of the Municipal Judge
- Suggestion to state "or other 'agent of the City' specifically authorized by the City Manager" in 12.12.020(A)
- Discussion on the need to update the code in the event the City moves away from operating its own municipal court after the current Municipal Judge retires
- Discussion related to special events in parks, and the need to clearly define 'commercial activity'
- Note of section numbering typos in 12.12.050, 12.12.065, and 12.12.070
- Discussion related to battery-powered transportation devices
 - Suggestion to clearly define Class 1 e-bike
 - Concern that 'combustible and throttle' are ambiguous terms that need better definition
 - Discussion of whether e-scooters, especially those with low power used by children, should be allowed in parks

- Suggestion to regulate based on speed versus type of device
- Suggestion that e-bikes may not need to be regulated
- General concern related to trail damage, which occurs with non-powered bikes as well
- Suggestion to add remote controlled cars to 12.12.050(DD), but to provide a designated area in which they would be allowed
- Discussion about drones in parks; suggestion to allow their use in a certain designated area, similar to the approach for remote controlled cars
- Discussion related to park hours, especially given extended darkness during winter; suggestion to retain the proposed hours but to add the language 'unless otherwise posted'
- Suggestion to use the harassment and intimidation language from 12.12.070 in the park rules section as well
- Discussion related to profanity and what constitutes protected speech versus disruptive and threatening speech
- Suggestion that weapons permitted under ORS 166.173(2) should be allowed on transit as they are in parks
- Suggestion that the rules should address paintball guns as well
- Discussion of next steps for ordinance adoption

The consensus of the Council was that staff should perform further research on the unresolved issues and provide options for the Council to consider. These outstanding issues include:

- Whether e-scooters should be allowed, which kinds should be allowed, and where they should be allowed
- Whether e-bikes should be allowed, which kinds should be allowed, and where they should be allowed
- How to address guns/weapons in the code, including whether and how to apply the same exceptions (concealed carry, etc.) to transit that currently apply to parks
- Whether and how to regulate remote control cars in parks, and whether they should be allowed in a specific park or portion thereof
- Whether and how to regulate drones in parks, and whether they should be allowed in a specific park or portion thereof
- How to approach park hours, including considerations around seasonal daylight changes, safety, and neighbor concerns

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Kathleen Walker

Council President Don Hokanson

Councilor Chris Mayton

Councilor Rich Sheldon

Councilor Kristina Ramseyer
Councilor Lindy Hanley

ABSENT

Councilor Laurie Smallwood

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Councilor Ramseyer requested the addition of an agenda item pertaining to the proposed construction of covered basketball infrastructure at Deer Pointe Park. The Council concurred and the Mayor placed the item at the end of New Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute limit)

Nicole O'Neill: representing the Sandy Historical Society; thanked the City for its past support; stated the organization's intent to develop new exhibits and establish collaborations with regional partners; provided an update on the effort to digitize the Sandy Post archives

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS

(none)

CONSENT AGENDA

2. City Council Minutes: April 7, 2025
3. Scales Avenue Road Closure Request – Mount Hood Farmers Market (AntFarm)

MOTION: Adopt the consent agenda

Motion made by Councilor Sheldon, Seconded by Councilor Hanley.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

NEW BUSINESS

4. Contract Amendment Approval: Meinig Park Improvements Phase 2

The Parks and Recreation Director summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. Discussion ensued on the accuracy of the Phase 1 and Phase 2 costs listed in the staff report; extra costs for design in Phase 1 were noted. Clarification was provided on the specific elements that would and would not be included in Phase 2; elements discussed included Fantasy Forest and lighting along pathways on the west end of the park. Staff agreed to follow up with information regarding pathway connectivity through private property to the northwest of the park.

MOTION: Authorize the City Manager to execute Contract Amendment No. 1 with Lango Hansen Landscape Architects in the amount of \$179,400 resulting in a not-to-exceed contract total of \$219,890 for the Meinig Park Improvement Project

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

5. Discussion on Covered Basketball for Deer Pointe Park

The City Manager explained the need for the discussion and the staff's need for clear direction from the Council as to whether to proceed with an initial 20% down payment toward the purchase of covered basketball infrastructure for Deer Pointe Park. It was noted that timing factors prevent this direction from being provided during the Budget Committee process. The total project cost, including purchase and installation, was cited at between \$300,000 and \$350,000. It was noted that there are sufficient funds to cover the cost between the remaining City Council contingency in the current budget and excess general revenue identified in the 2025-27 proposed budget.

Additional Council discussion ensued on the following issues:

- Continuing concerns regarding noise from covered basketball
- Continuing concerns regarding parking availability
- Complications related to project timing and coordination with the neighboring development
- Recognition that this park is likely the only viable opportunity to build covered basketball in the foreseeable future
- Discussion of the need for covered basketball given local weather
- Suggestions for constructing the cover in a manner that helps mitigate highway noise
- Suggestions for mitigating parking concerns including angled parking and encouraging bicycles
- Discussion related to the results of the recent neighborhood survey

Following the discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that staff should proceed with the 20% down payment for the court cover.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Note that the City has retained Praxis to assist with wastewater communications; discussion ensued on the rationale and expected benefits for using the firm, including being able to better explain the City's wastewater challenges to the public in a digestible manner. Discussion also related to whether the firm would be able to assist with the City's funding request efforts.
- Note that the 2025-2027 Proposed Budget has been published and that the Budget Committee will convene on April 28th.

COMMITTEE / COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President Hokanson

- Suggestions related to police officer oaths and public comment handouts used by the City of Canby

Councilor Hanley

- Recap of recent Library strategic planning stakeholder meeting

Councilor Ramseyer

- Remarks on a recent conversation with local Deer Pointe resident
- Concerns related to homeless individuals camping on Industrial Way, where several RVs and various types of litter/debris are evident; emphasis on tightening enforcement especially if individuals are not interested in receiving services; desire for improvement when new the community service officer begins work

Councilor Sheldon

- Agreement on the concerns raised about homelessness
- Thanks to staff for the work related to facilities, parks, and transit rules

Councilor Mayton

- Note of recent Mt. Hood Economic Alliance grant
- Reminder on the upcoming Sportsman's Breakfast

Mayor Walker

- Recognition of the newly hired communications firm
- Recognition of the newly hired economic development firm
- Recap of recent meeting with Michael Maiden related to his façade improvement plans
- Note of her recent article in the Sandy Post; recognition of everyone's efforts in helping achieve the accomplishments thus far
- Recap of recent Community Livability Task Force meeting; discussion on direction and goals related to homelessness; offer to send meeting notes to the rest of the Council; suggestion to engage the public in the task force in the future
- Reminder of the upcoming SOLVE cleanup; Sportsman's Breakfast, and Arbor Day celebration
- Questions were raised about possible lack of enforcement under the municipal code related to vehicles on Industrial Way; the Mayor indicated the topic was discussed at length by the new Community Livability Task Force and will be further discussed at a future Council meeting

STAFF UPDATES

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

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