

City of St. Helens
Consent Agenda for Approval

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Presented for approval on this 20th day of December, 2023 are the following Council minutes:

2023

- Work Session, Executive Session, and Regular Session Minutes dated November 15, 2023

After Approval of Council Minutes:

- Scan as PDF Searchable
- Make one double-sided, hole-punched copy and send to Library Reference
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COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl
Council President Jessica Chilton
Councilor Mark Gundersen
Councilor Russell Hubbard
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator	Suzanne Bishop, Library Director
Kathy Payne, City Recorder	Kolten Edwards, Police Officer
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder	Tina Curry, Contracted Event Coordinator
Gloria Butsch, Finance Director	Bill Monohan, Contracted City Attorney

OTHERS

Ron Trommlitz	Brady Preheim
Steve Topaz	Autumn
Colleen Ohler	Scott Jacobson
Eddie Dunton	

CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER – 2:00 pm

VISITOR COMMENTS - *Limited to three (3) minutes per speaker*

- ◆ Colleen Ohler. The Queen of Halloweentown spoke of this year's Spirit of Halloweentown being a phenomenal year, the best organized and most fun. She met attendees from other countries like France who had the event on their bucket list. The only downside was the parade, and she was most bothered that Heather and her organization were treated poorly by the Police Chief. She addressed the Chief's recent statements before the Council which she characterized as lies and an attack on Heather who had given so much to the community. She encouraged Mayor Scholl to take over the parade.
- ◆ Ron Trommlitz. Ron stated the City administration had never responded or contested statements concerning the rehabilitation of the 2-million-gallon water reservoir which is a notice of agreement by the City that the statements are factual. He continued to present facts referenced from the City's own records and spoke about the Walker Report investigating the reservoir's rehabilitation failure and how he requested it but was denied. City Administrator John Walsh did not want the report released. During the November 16, 2022, Council meeting, Mayor Scholl told him there was no smoking gun and he would not discuss it. He addressed being threatened during the 4:00 pm break at the same meeting for probing the reservoir rehabilitation failure and writing about the incident in a letter to the Spotlight. The situation would be continued noting the parties involved.

- ◆ Brady Preheim. Brady addressed the plaque that had been placed on the property showing a building being built at the location. He was concerned because the Council chose not to present the proposal. The dirt was there. He asked who would pay for it. The Council would have to figure something out and make the solution public. He thanked the Tourism Director for a great Spirit of Halloweentown this year and agreed with Colleen about the Police Chief and the parade. What the Chief said during the recent meeting was factually false. The Council had the records and emails and needed to address the matter with the Chief.
- ◆ Steve Topaz. Steve distributed his record to the Council. He said the minutes of October 18, 2023, were a lie. His free speech rights were violated because 85 percent of what he said was removed including comments critical of the City and the Council and the ability for the public to review what he said was removed. He spoke about how the local news announced that a large sum of money was given to the City to hold a piece of property but no public meeting had been held stating the City property was surplus or what it was worth. He talked about how the money appeared to be a bribe to eliminate proper procedures for selling City property, that a portion of the subject property had been under litigation, and that no public statement had been made about how much money the City had received for a portion of the property. No one was more hated than he who speaks the truth. When one has something to say, silence is a lie.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Employee Length of Service Recognition - Kolten Edwards - 5 Years

Police Officer Kolten Edwards was honored for his five years of service. The Council expressed their appreciation of Officer Edwards.

Mayor Scholl announced agenda items two and three would be switched.

2. Semi-Annual Report from Tourism Contractor - Tina Curry, E2C Corp.

Contracted Event Coordinator Tina Curry reviewed her report, a copy of which was included in the archive packet for this meeting, noting the report was from August to the end of the year. Key items highlighted included:

- Tourism had finally received the water taxi which had gotten positive reviews.
- Spirit of Halloweentown:
 - The Haunted House had positive guest reactions.
 - The Halloween Hunt in the Houlton District resulted in the positive outcome of increased traffic to stores of the people involved.
 - The After Dark Experience of a decorated home tour of 4th Street, the big tent, and the haunted house was a good value for families.
 - The Alien Museum added William Shatner to the experience.
 - Upcoming billboards included the anticipated opening of the Alien Museum and the Museum of Oddities in the January/February timeframe for visitors during off-Halloween time.
 - Their sponsors included Laurelwood Brewing Co. this year.
- Late summer through fall highlights included electricity upgrades and Council Chambers door lock upgrades; increased Sand Island reach this year; progress on completing the Par 3 Golf Course; new retail and business buildings; new camera equipment and printers; a new photo booth for Christmas Ships; upgrading the train and the train experience; new props; new Halloween installations and signage; entertainment more weekends than ever; Disney was in the city for their D23 VIP event; a new 40 x 100 tent for the Halloween experience; new volunteer opportunities to raise money for various groups; no restroom problems with waits under five minutes for portables; penny press and the vending machine were in the black; the

off-site parking with the bus was very expensive; and they appreciated Cascades allowing use of their parking lots.

- Christmas props in the Plaza and Santa coming with the Christmas Ships would be coming soon.
- Tourism's increased social media presence.
- The film crew completed filming for Spirit of Halloweentown and was currently in post-production.
- She thanked everyone for their help to make guest experiences happen.

Council President Chilton asked when the Council would see a financial report. City Administrator Walsh said it would be in the audit which was just wrapping up. Ms. Curry added that last year the City got a check for almost \$100,000 from tourism, and it should be similar this year. The City would get 10 percent of all the ticket proceeds. She explained as the contractor, they were responsible for 100 percent of the revenue and 100 percent of the bills. Mr. Walsh clarified the ticket proceeds went into a trust account managed by E2C. Ms. Curry stated no money came from the City to Tourism at this point or the last few years. Mr. Walsh said where the tourism tax would go is something to discuss in a new contract.

Mayor Scholl emphasized that tourism was not funded from the General Fund but out of an extra tax placed on the hotel or Airbnb visitors to the area. He thanked the community for their patience this year with the construction going on and Halloweentown coming.

Mr. Walsh pointed out that E2C's contract would expire this year.

The Council thanked Ms. Curry for her hard work.

3. Communications Semi-Annual Report - *Crystal King, Communications Officer*

Communications Officer Crystal King presented via PowerPoint the semi-annual report from May to October, a copy of which was included in the archive packet for this meeting. Key items highlighted included:

- Spirit of Halloweentown media and communications:
 - *The Oregonian* paid campaign metrics and Kids Out and About campaign.
 - Media coverage (not including the City's own social media) with articles in India, France, and Malaysia and appearing in Yahoo, People magazine, and USA Today.
 - The City's social media statistics of reaching 800,000 people and engaging about 100,000 and workload snapshot.
- She reviewed other work done by Communications including staff's duties, the biggest projects of Waterfront Redevelopment and Spirit of Halloweentown, and highlights of other projects/focused efforts such as becoming a de facto cooling center organization for St. Helens. Other work included press releases, website updates, all the City's photos and videos, assisting with events the City holds, social media posts, news media contacts/requests, and newsletters, and community partnerships/events.
- She thanked Councilor Sundeen for helping man the Trick or Treat booth at the Sheriff's Office.
- Several grants came in.
- Coming up next were the Christmas Ships Parade and the tree lighting.
- Communications would work to educate the public on getting their voice heard with Councilors and how government projects work.

Mayor Scholl encouraged Communications to get a presence or collaborate with an influencer on TikTok. Ms. King noted doing so would cost more for archiving services to comply with public records and retention laws since the accounts were City-owned.

Mr. Walsh talked about the growth of Communications over the years.

Mayor Scholl spoke of how well St. Helens handled Communications compared to even bigger cities. Council President Chilton agreed and commended Ms. King.

4. Request for Donation to Toy N Joy Auction

City Administrator Walsh and the Council discussed the request for donation to the Toy 'N Joy Auction, which would be held December 2 at 4:00 p.m.

The consensus of the Council was to get two tables in order for the entire Council to attend with some seats available for staff and donate two \$100 utility bill gift cards out of the Council funds.

5. Report from City Administrator John Walsh

City Administrator Walsh provided his report as follows:

- The Veterans Day celebration at McCormick Park was held on Saturday. The City should be proud of the investments and grants upgrading Veterans Memorial Plaza. He thanked Councilor Sundeen who was recognized for his work in doing research.
- Rainier recently passed a resolution opposing Measure 110. Betsy Johnson was leading the reform. Mayor Scholl noted there was no movement at the state level to repeal Measure 110 and most people agreed it was not working.
- Project Sprint, the solar opportunity at the mill site, continued to be a consuming effort. Partners continued to meet and discuss what it would take to land the big opportunity which would be transformational as far as job creation, tax base, and utility consumption. Mayor Scholl pointed out the 90-day letter of intent was not a purchase or sale agreement. It was doing due diligence of looking at the property to see if the project was feasible with the infrastructure. He clarified in 90 days the City would have a clear direction if the Project Sprint team would move forward. Mr. Walsh noted the City had not identified any fatal flaws other than not meeting their energy requirements, and everybody was working on it.
- With Cascades' closure, he was working with Finance Director Gloria Butsch to get an idea of how it would affect the budget. He reviewed a memo listing the estimated revenue loss including an approximate \$570,000 loss to the Sewer Fund.

Mayor Scholl asked if a temporary barrier could be put within the lagoon or a filtration system at the end to not run as many agitators. Mr. Walsh said his understanding was the agitators were running at a minimum now and clarified looking at the possibility of damming up half of the oversized lagoon was part of the lagoon repurposing effort.

He addressed how the Urban Renewal Agency was also impacted by the loss of project funding and how the federal support the City had received the last three years would be ending and reviewed the 2023/2024 budget forecasts, changes due to the Cascades closure, and potential expenditure reductions to address the difference. If the City made no changes to the budget, all its reserves would be completely depleted. Ms. Butsch clarified the American Rescue Plan Act funds were budgeted through the City's Fiscal Year 2024. Mr. Walsh addressed consideration of what it would take to have new revenue.

He urged an immediate focus on the matter to find a solution.

The Council and staff discussed the possibility of using timber revenue to make up the losses.

Council President Chilton suggested putting a subcommittee together to discuss problem solving for the effects the Cascades closure would have on the City's budget.

Mayor Scholl spoke about how this was a good opportunity to sell some of their assets because the timing was right. Although it would be one-time money, it would allow the City to supplement its budget.

Councilor Hubbard noted cuts would make it harder for people to develop due to increasing system development charges, and growth would stop.

Mayor Scholl emphasized the effects on the budget were mainly because of Cascades, not mismanagement of funding. It was the way government worked.

Councilor Hubbard noted it was the effect of all the capital improvements on the budget. Mr. Walsh spoke about Urban Renewal servicing the debt on such improvements. Councilor Hubbard talked about getting utilities in the Waterfront property to market it to developers.

Mayor Scholl requested an appraisal of the City's assets.

Councilor Hubbard and Mayor Scholl volunteered to serve on the subcommittee addressing the effects Cascades' closure would have on the City's finances. Council President Chilton suggested Mr. Walsh have the department heads meet as well, even just a video meeting, to get the ball rolling.

ADJOURN – 3:29 pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Real Property Transactions, under ORS 192.660(2)(e); and
- Consult with Counsel/Potential Litigation, under ORS 192.660(2)(h)

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Rick Scholl, Mayor

City of St. Helens
CITY COUNCIL

Executive Session Summary

November 15, 2023

Members Present: Rick Scholl, Mayor
Jessica Chilton, Council President
Mark Gundersen, Councilor
Brandon Sundeen, Councilor
Russell Hubbard, Councilor

Staff Present: John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
William Monahan, City Attorney with Jordan Ramis PC

Others: None



At 3:34 p.m., Mayor Scholl opened the Executive Session pursuant to the ORS numbers listed below and then gave Council roll call. Other than Labor Negotiator Consultations, representatives of the news media, designated staff, and other persons as approved shall be allowed to attend the Executive Session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the Council Chambers. Representatives of the news media were specifically directed not to report on or otherwise disclose any of the deliberations or anything said about these subjects during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision may be made in executive session. Any person in attendance, including the news media, who has a recording device is directed to turn it off.

- **Consult with Legal Counsel/Litigation, under ORS 192.660(2)(h)**
 - Discussion regarding Cascades Tissue possible terms for closing the mill and ending the lease.
- **Real Property Transactions, under ORS 192.660(2)(e)**
 - Update on the potential sale of property off of Kelley Street.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.



ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Rick Scholl, Mayor

Audio recording started at 3:50 p.m. (City Recorder forgot to start it at the beginning of the session.)



COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl
Council President Jessica Chilton
Councilor Mark Gundersen
Councilor Russell Hubbard
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder
Suzanne Bishop, Library Director
Tina Curry, Contracted Event Coordinator
Jeremy Howell, Police Officer
Dylan Gaston, Police Officer

Bryan Cutright, Police Officer
Jamin Coy, Police Officer
Kolten Edwards, Police Officer
McKenzie McClure, Police Officer
Adam Hartless, Police Officer
Luke Marshall, Police Officer

OTHERS

Adam St. Pierre	Drew Layda
Nick Hellmich	Jenni Gilbert
Brady Preheim	Eddie Dunton
Steve Toschi	Jim Coleman

CALL REGULAR SESSION TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ST. HELENS POLICE ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

Officer Bryan Cutright, resident and Vice President of the St. Helens Police Association (SHPA), reminded the Council that they were here in 2022 with their attorney pleading for the Council to prepare for the upcoming retirements. Council had promised two positions in 2022, one position in 2023, and one position in 2024. Since then, two officers have left and they have hired three. They should still hire three officers but were told they would not be filling the positions. It's already too late to begin the process to fill the vacancies that will be created with next year's retirements. The City desires 24-hour coverage but does not want to staff appropriately. A staffing study done in 2012 showed the need for 25 officers, not including supervisors, but they only have 13 officers now and three are in training. Officers work countless hours of overtime and are tired. The City adds housing, continues to host events expecting coverage, but does not properly staff the Police Department. Again, they need more officers.

Officer Jamin Coy addressed stats. Over the last two years, domestics have increased 7.8%; suicide threats have increased 16%; suicide attempts have increased 40%; juvenile problems have increased 77.3%, which may be associated with not having a school resource officer; unwanted calls have increased 10.4%; and alarm calls have increased 87.6%, which requires two officers. Most of their

shifts only have two officers on. If they're on one call that requires two officers, they may have to wait. Between 2021 and 2023, traffic stops reduced from 2,100 to 2,000 and 1,240 this year. That is a 38% decrease. Traffic stops are the number one sign of proactivity, whether they're issuing a citation or warning. He compared the data to Portland reports, which showed a decrease in traffic stops resulted in an increase of violent crime and traffic deaths. So far this year, they have worked 5,047 hours of overtime. There has only been one week the entire year that they didn't have to cover a shift. They already have people signed up for next month. Compared to other cities similar in size, they are in the middle for the number of officers they have. They have three trainees right now, but statistically one will not be successful, and there is a possibility of four or five retirements next year, which will move them to the lowest in the State. He likes overtime but is experiencing burnout. No days off for three weeks is too much. Officers have a low age expectancy for life. They need more officers.

Officer Kolten Edwards reported that Detective Matt Smith was planning to be here, but due to the reduction of detectives from two to one, he is attending to a priority call. Speaking as an employee and resident, he thanked Council for their dedication and willingness to listen. His daughter and wife are also here supporting him as they do every day. He aspires to become a detective and has assisted with cases that the Council has been made aware of through social media and department reports. Unfortunately, due to the staffing crisis he was not able to reach that goal. Once next year's retirements occur, there will not be enough officers to fill those shifts. He needs the Council's assistance to explain why help will not arrive when emergencies occur in the middle of the night. Council has known about the retirements since last year but has not created a plan. He made a promise to his family that he would come home safely every day. The job is becoming more dangerous and they need Council's help. Community members have continuously been coming to ask for more staffing and they're not doing it. The City approves growth but not increased police services to accommodate that growth. They are tired of working overtime to cover shifts, injuries, and training to be successful at their jobs. They are tired of asking for help and not getting it. He pleaded with the Council to give them more officers and enable them to be the best they can be.

Officer Dylan Gaston, former school resource officer, former detective, resident, and Vice President of the SHPA. Reported that SHPA has been trying to raise awareness about the staffing crisis since 2021, which resulted in the City cutting a position. Since then, the City has added a substantial number of apartments and events. It's not working to expect more service from fewer officers. They appreciate that a new police station is being built but it can't replace staffing. He had hoped that all SHPA members would be in attendance tonight, but some simply said, "they don't care and won't do anything." The mental health of working in a stressful environment for so many hours is real. City administration doesn't seem to see how bad it is. Do these concerns align with the City's goals? He wants the Council to be honest if they are not going to hire or plan to make further cuts. The officers and their families need to make decisions whether this is where they want to be.

Mayor Scholl said they need to look at this with management. He respects them and understands the burnout. Since he has been mayor, the police budget has increased from \$2.4 million with 16 officers to \$5.6 million now with 20 officers. Cutright pointed out that he is counting the chief, lieutenant, and sergeants, but they do not patrol the streets. Mayor Scholl responded that they used to patrol the streets. They all need to work together. They're hearing something different from SHPA than the chief and lieutenant.

Council President Chilton talked about reducing 24-hour coverage. Police are overworked and she wants to keep them safe. They have also lost \$1.4 million from the Cascades closure. Gaston agreed that may be a short-term option.

Councilor Gundersen reported that he is investigating a levy to increase officers in the May election.

Council expressed their appreciation of the officers and their work.

VISITOR COMMENTS – *Limited to three (3) minutes per speaker*

- ◆ Jenni Gilbert remarked on the Police Department and SHPA warning the Council about police staffing issues since 2021. Had the issue been taken care of sooner, they could have had officers on the road and kept the second detective. The City has increased apartment buildings and events yet neglects the public and officer safety. They are overworked and argued with when they ask for help. They must do better. Not all City departments are equal. Libraries are not essential but police staffing is essential. Thanked Council for their support of the new police station and encouraged them to staff the Police Department.
- ◆ Drew Layda understands the situation and appreciates hearing from the officers. Thanked Councilor Gundersen for leading the levy endeavor.
- ◆ Brady Preheim is opposed to the police station because of funding. It's illegal to put whatever they want on the utility bill and needs to be done through a levy. What the police station really needs is storage space for equipment and evidence. It's going to be a costly fight at the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) over the proposed location. They need to use the added utility billing fee to immediately hire police.
- ◆ Jim Coleman remarked on the Big Halloween Parade and having a great time. The organizers informed him they are not doing it again due to lack of support from the City. They submitted their application but the police did not sign-off and were not involved. The Police Chief lied to them saying he didn't know there was going to be a parade, which is untrue. They don't need a police station, they need officers. The land deal for the dirt is a joke. The dirt is already there but they denied the sale. The City is broke and they're spending \$12 million on a new police station with not enough officers. Councilor Gundersen recently told people to come to meetings to address their concerns and not just complain on social media. The mayor attacks people who come here by threatening them with jail if he doesn't like what they are saying. That is why people don't come. They need to tell the mayor that behavior is not tolerated during meetings. Mayor Scholl informed Jim that was done during a public hearing when they were out of order.
- ◆ Nick Hellmich gave a shoutout to Contracted Event Coordinator Tina Curry for doing a great job with Spirit of Halloweentown.
- ◆ Steve Toschi appreciates Council President Chilton's comments about wanting to do things legally. However, the City is not getting correct answers to legal problems. There are serious management problems. He addressed budget concerns at a Budget Committee meeting in 2021, he ran on that and will run on that again. All the numbers in the budget are estimates and they are promising money they don't have. The mayor's statement that the budget doesn't lie is not true. He is requesting Mayor Scholl's resignation as a friend and citizen. The faster he gets out, the better they'll be. He is doing things up there that are shocking and against his nature. He suggests they start looking at building the police station in its current location. They are not going to win the appeal.
- ◆ Adam St. Pierre pointed out a local bond that was drastically defeated. A Council person in that city criticized citizens who voted against it, saying they needed to be re-educated. It's important to poll and talk to constituents about what they want. Police funding is huge. Not every department is equal and should be reflected in the budget.

- ◆ Adam Hartless, St. Helens Police Officer and resident, thanked everyone for covering for him while he's out of town. He moved to St. Helens for the 24-hour coverage, which was not available in other areas of the county. He doesn't think that anyone wants to go to less than 24-hour coverage but it's a concern and has been discussed. The burnout is real. Officers sometimes work 60 hours a week. Population and the level of calls is increasing. Having worked in other jurisdictions, St. Helens has some of the best officers and the best level of service. They need to take the upcoming retirements seriously. The burnout and wanting to be with families will make people leave.

ORDINANCES – Final Reading

1. **Ordinance No. 3297:** An Ordinance to Amend the City of St. Helens Comprehensive Plan Map for Certain Property from Light Industrial (LI) Designation to the General Commercial (GC) Designation and the Zoning District Map from the Light Industrial (LI) Zone to the General Commercial (GC) Zone

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No. 3297 by title. **Motion:** Motion made by Councilor Sundeen and seconded by Mayor Scholl to adopt Ordinance No. 3297.

Discussion. Councilor Hubbard is voting no because the facts, including traffic studies and employment, did not match what was presented. They said they'll never sell it but that can change. He also did not see a plan of what they're going to do.

Vote: Yea: Mayor Scholl, Councilor Sundeen; Nay: Councilor Hubbard; Abstaining: Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen

APPROVE AND/OR AUTHORIZE FOR SIGNATURE

2. Appeal AP.2.23 Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law for New Police Station

Motion: Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Gundersen to approve '2' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen; Abstaining: Councilor Hubbard

CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

3. City Council Work Session, Public Hearings, and Regular Session Minutes dated October 18, 2023
4. OLCC Licenses
5. Accounts Payable Bill Lists

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Sundeen and seconded by Council President Chilton to approve '3' through '5' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

WORK SESSION ACTION ITEMS

Toy N Joy Auction Request

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Gundersen and seconded by Council President Chilton to donate two \$100 gift certificates to the Toy N Joy Auction. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council President Chilton reported...

- Met with Communications to talk about videos sharing information and educating the public.
- Honored to participate in the Veterans Day ceremony with her daughter. The new veterans' plaques are almost done and look nice.

- The attack on the police chief identifying a problem with the parade permit process was wrong. This is a big parade that is more than the City should take on. They don't have the police to manage what they already have.
- When they discussed the levy at the Budget Committee meeting, they didn't say they would bring a levy, they said they would investigate it. Councilor Gundersen is doing that now.
- Utility bill fees are not illegal. Cities do it all the time. Oregon is one of the most under taxed states.

Councilor Sundeen reported...

- He recognized the high school students in attendance.
- Thanked the officers for being here. He wishes they could do more. He is happy to share ideas with them any time.
- Thanked Officer Edwards for his five years of service with the City.
- Acknowledged the passing of Columbia City Mayor Sue Ziglinski. He did not know her well, but was impressed with her style, spunk, and love for her community.
- Unfortunately, the grant for the Warrior Rock lighthouse replica was not funded. That project is on hold for a while.
- It was a great Veterans Day program on Saturday. Thank you to the veterans for their service.
- Successful work party at Nob Hill Nature Park.
- Parks & Trails Commission met on Monday. They have been reviewing park fees and special use permits. Recommendations for consistency:
 - Change verbiage in SHMC Section 8.08.060 from \$1 million to \$2 million.
 - Remove the verbiage referring to dogs being licensed at City Hall in SHMC Section 8.08.130(4). Dogs are no longer licensed at City Hall.

Councilor Gundersen reported...

- Planning Commission met on Tuesday.
 - He encouraged Council to continue the joint meetings with the Planning Commission. The next one is December 13.
 - Commissioner Carlson has noticed a lot of new plants and trees that are not being watered in the summer and are dying.
- Thanked Officer Edwards for his service.

Councilor Hubbard reported...

- Attended his first Library Board meeting on Monday. They are very energetic about their programs.

MAYOR SCHOLL REPORTS

- Condolences to the family of Columbia City Mayor Sue Ziglinski. He enjoyed her sparkling and sassy attitude.
- Encouraged the Council to correct public testimony when they hear things that are not true. He would never have someone arrested for public comment. There was an incident at a public hearing with the applicant's rebuttal being interrupted. He warned the person multiple times that they would be trespassed and removed. He does not appreciate Jim Coleman saying that. He is getting his information from Steve Toschi, who wants to be mayor.
- He wants to help people and move projects along. There are no hidden agendas. They try to make the best decision with the information in front of them. They do their best to be fiscally responsible. They need to sit down collectively to figure it out. It needs to be on every agenda until they figure it out.

- The proposed police station location has never flooded. There used to be four houses there. It's out of the 100-year floodplain. He is tired of people pushing half-truths and lies. He is always available for an in-person conversation but will not respond on social media.
- Looking forward to:
 - The possibility of new industry
 - Waterfront redevelopment and investment
 - New Sewer Master Plan and a plan to improve sewer capacity
- Every dollar is budgeted and audits occur every year. The city has predominantly been a wood industry mill town, which has caused them to be where they're at now. Cascade Tissue leaving is a \$1.4 million loss.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN – 8: 17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Rick Scholl, Mayor