

City of St. Helens

Consent Agenda for Approval

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Presented for approval on this 2nd day of April, 2025 are the following Council minutes:

2025

- Special Session Minutes dated March 17, 2025
- Work Session, Executive Session, Special Session, and Regular Session Minutes dated March 19, 2025

After Approval of Council Minutes:

- Scan as PDF Searchable
- Make one double-sided, hole-punched copy and send to Library Reference
- Minutes related to hearings and deliberations get copied to working file
- Save PDF in Minutes folder
- Update file name & signature block on Word document & copy Word document into Council minutes folder in Shared Drive
- Upload & publish in MuniCode
- Email minutes link to distribution list
- Add minutes to HPRMS
- Add packet and exhibits to HPRMS
- File original in Vault
- Update minutes spreadsheet



COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION

Monday, March 17, 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jennifer Massey
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
Ashley Wigod, Contracted City Attorney

OTHERS

None

CALL SPECIAL SESSION TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Discussion regarding Council Governing Policy

Overview of Current Governing Policy

Contracted City Attorney Ashley Wigod provided an overview of the City's current Council Governing Policy and form of government. She explained that St. Helens has a council-manager form of government, which is common for cities with populations over 2,500. In this form, the Council retains decision-making authority while delegating administrative responsibilities to a city administrator.

Wigod presented a document comparing St. Helens' current governing policy to recommended changes. She noted that the City's current policy differs slightly from a typical council-manager form in areas like hiring, firing, and supervision responsibilities.

Hiring Process

The Council discussed potential changes to the hiring process for department heads. Currently, the Council hires department heads, but the recommendation was for the city administrator to select candidates for Council confirmation.

Mayor Massey expressed concern about completely relinquishing control over department head hiring. The Council debated the merits of having the city administrator select candidates versus the full Council being involved in interviews and selection.

Councilor Gundersen suggested trusting the city administrator to conduct the process and present a candidate, while still allowing Council confirmation. City Administrator John Walsh noted the challenges of finding qualified applicants in the current job market.

Supervision and Discipline

The Council agreed that they should not be involved in employee disciplinary actions or terminations due to potential legal risks. Mayor Massey stated she did not want Council participating in those processes to avoid exposure to employment lawsuits.

Performance Evaluations

There was extensive discussion about implementing a more robust and consistent performance evaluation process. Council President Chilton emphasized the importance of having regular evaluations, noting they had not been happening consistently.

The Council debated whether to specify evaluation criteria in the governing policy or keep it more general. They discussed potentially using 360-degree reviews and having Council input on evaluation criteria.

City Administrator Walsh explained some of the challenges in conducting frequent evaluations with his current workload. The Council recognized the need for additional Human Resources support to properly implement and maintain an evaluation system.

Human Resources (HR)

The Council identified a need for dedicated HR support, either through hiring an HR manager or contracting with an outside firm. They discussed the potential benefits of having HR expertise to handle evaluations, policy updates, and other personnel matters.

Mayor Massey and others expressed interest in exploring options for HR support, recognizing it as a potential way to reduce liability and ensure consistent personnel practices. Walsh agreed to gather information on HR firms and options to present to the Council.

Next Steps

Wigod summarized the key points of agreement:

- The legal recommendations were generally acceptable with some modifications
- Performance evaluation language would be updated to have the city administrator evaluate department heads, with Council determining evaluation criteria
- Evaluations would occur at minimum annually for all employees
- Wigod would research standardized evaluation criteria used by other similar-sized cities
- Walsh would gather information on HR support options

The Council agreed to move forward with updating the governing policy based on the discussion, with Wigod to draft a revised version for review.

OTHER BUSINESS**ADJOURN – 6:55 p.m.**

Respectfully transcribed by ClerkMinutes and submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Jennifer Massey, Mayor



COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jennifer Massey
Council President Jessica Chilton
Councilor Mark Gundersen
Councilor Russell Hubbard
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator	Jose Castilleja, Police Sergeant
Kathy Payne, City Recorder	Jeremy Howell, Police Sergeant
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder	Everardo Medina, Code Enforcement Officer
Joe Hogue, Acting Police Chief	Ashley Wigod, Contracted City Attorney
Suzanne Bishop, Library Director	

OTHERS

Dustin King	Kellie Jo Smith	Robert Braud
Brady Preheim	Steve Topaz	Ron Trommlitz
Reed Hjort	Greg Boswell	Jenni Gilbert
Richard Mason	Mitzi Ponce	

CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER – 3:00 p.m.

CLEARING CONFUSION AND SETTING THE FACTS STRAIGHT

Mayor Massey addressed three items from the March 5 visitor comments:

1. Definition of news media: Mayor Massey explained that while public media law does not define representatives of news media, the City's news media policy adopted on February 19, 2025, implements guidance from the Attorney General's office.
2. Councilor bringing forward the police position: Mayor Massey clarified that any city councilor or the mayor may direct an item to be placed on the City Council agenda, as per Council Operating Rules and Procedures. In this instance, Councilor Gundersen requested the topic be added to the agenda.
3. Law firm representation: Mayor Massey confirmed that Jordan Ramis represents the City of St. Helens as a public agency but does not represent the school district or any of its individual board members.

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

- ◆ Dustin King, former police officer with the St. Helens Police Department (SHPD), here in support of Acting Police Chief Hogue. King began by making it clear that his words were his own and not influenced by SHPD. He expressed that SHPD was at a critical junction, reflecting on past missteps, particularly the improper hiring process of a former chief which led to ethical violations and a hostile work environment, causing numerous tenured officers, including himself, to leave.

He praised Hogue's 20 years of loyal service at SHPD, noting his wide-ranging experience as an investigator, patrol supervisor, and leader. King stressed Hogue's role in mentoring officers, asserting, "some have stayed, some have gone on to have extremely successful careers elsewhere due to his guidance." He highlighted Hogue's contributions to restoring the department's reputation and emphasized his respect among surrounding agencies. King argued there was no need for further evaluation and urged the Council to appoint Hogue as the permanent chief. He concluded by stating that Hogue embodies the ethical and professional leadership that the community demands.

- ◆ Kellie Jo Smith and Robert Braud. Advocated for the installation of bocce ball courts in City parks, highlighting the recreational benefits for the community. Smith introduced bocce ball by comparing it to shuffleboard or bowling but noted that it is played outside. She suggested that it could easily be installed into one of the parks. Braud, who plays bocce ball in the Special Olympics, also shared his enthusiasm for the sport, describing it as fun. They left informational flyers with the Council members to further promote their advocacy.
- ◆ Brady Preheim. Expressed strong support for Hogue's appointment, agreeing wholeheartedly with King who spoke earlier. He also took the opportunity to make a direct appeal for accountability, insisting that Mayor Massey owes City Administrator Walsh an apology. Preheim sharply criticized the Council's management of executive session access, asserting that they were in breach of executive session laws. He highlighted a recent decision by the Oregon Department of Ethics, indicating that the attorney's guidance was incorrect. He warned the Council of possible fines for denying access to news media representatives. Any repeated violations would be taken seriously by the Ethics Commission, which he suggested could result in escalating fines. He emphasized that the Council does not have the authority to independently determine who can attend these sessions.
- ◆ Steve Topaz. Expressed concerns regarding freedom of speech and the limitations placed on public comment periods during City meetings. He referenced a quote from an American General, stating, "If any of my speech is taken away, then the dumb and silent will be led like sheep to the slaughter," as a metaphor for how speech limitations could lead to broader suppression of public expression. Topaz criticized the varying rules for public comment across different communities in Oregon, arguing that inconsistent speech regulations might conflict with federal law. He highlighted the issue of time restrictions on comments, stating that when someone is told their time is up, it effectively limits an individual's freedom of speech. He also pointed out that the rules around public comments, like needing to provide contact information, might deter people from expressing their views freely.
- ◆ Ron Trommlitz. Discussed issues related to the 2MG water reservoir rehabilitation project. Trommlitz recalled an incident from April 2017, where Sue Nelson denied the reservoir was leaking 74,000 gallons a day. He criticized the engineering process, highlighting that the project relied on old photos and historical drawings without allowing interior access, which he considered a significant issue. Trommlitz pointed out the lack of concrete testing, attributing this to a failure of due diligence. He accused the City of misleading information, which led to future failures, emphasizing the importance of testing prior concrete surfaces to prevent such outcomes. Trommlitz expressed frustration over the lack of transparency regarding the Walker Consultants' report, which he suggested would have addressed the causes and responsibilities for the reservoir's failure, though he claimed his requests to view it were denied. Despite Walsh's claim of client privilege, Trommlitz argued that this was an abuse of public trust, designed to conceal

evidence and protect reputations. Additionally, he shared an incident from November 2022 where he was told to stop investigating the reservoir failure due to the risk of being sued. Trommlitz warned of potential litigation resulting from the City's apparent lack of oversight and accountability, mentioning a settlement agreement where Western Partitions was absolved of liability, despite Trommlitz's belief in the company's involvement in the failure.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

2. Review Draft Monthly Report to Council Template - *City Administrator John Walsh and City Recorder Kathy Payne*

City Recorder Payne presented a revised draft of the monthly report template for Council. The template was narrowed down based on management team discussions and includes sections on general operations, staffing changes, ongoing and upcoming projects, and important dates. Mayor Massey confirmed that department heads had reviewed and accepted the template. The Council agreed to implement the new template starting from the next meeting.

3. Report from City Administrator John Walsh

- Columbia Economic Team: Walsh highlighted the team's success in economic development, including industrial recruitment, local business support, and tourism efforts.
- Budget preparation: Walsh mentioned ongoing meetings with department heads to prepare for the upcoming budget proposal.
- Urban Renewal meeting: An upcoming meeting on April 2 will address administrative matters and budget amendments.
- DEQ meeting: Walsh reported progress on environmental issues related to Project Arcadia, with an expected transaction time in May.
- PGE and Business Oregon meeting: Discussions were held regarding a substation project at the mill, involving a potential \$15 million loan/grant.
- Union negotiations: Kick-off meetings for negotiations with both unions were mentioned.
- Compensation analysis: Walsh noted that a firm has been engaged to conduct a market analysis of wages and benefits.
- Central Waterfront Project: A special meeting will be held tonight to discuss the wastewater lagoon repurposing project.
- Riverwalk and street projects: Plans for a grand reopening celebration are in progress.
- Water caucus: City representatives will attend a meeting in Salem to advocate for resources for the reservoir and water capacity needs.

RECESS - 3:29 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 3:31 p.m.

- Real Property Transactions, under ORS 192.660(2)(e)
- Exempt Records/Confidential Attorney-Client Privileged Memo, under ORS 192.660(2)(f)
- Consult with Counsel/Potential Litigation, under ORS 192.660(2)(h)

RECONVENE – 5:44 p.m.

DISCUSSION TOPICS - CONTINUED

1. Discussion of Police Chief Position - *Councilor Gundersen*

Mayor Massey disclosed a potential conflict of interest, noting that her husband is a police officer within the City of St. Helens. Councilor Gundersen suggested moving the discussion of the police chief position to an action item for the regular session. The Council members briefly acknowledged the procedural aspect of the discussion before transitioning the topic to the regular session.

ADJOURN – 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully transcribed by ClerkMinutes and submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Jennifer Massey, Mayor

City of St. Helens CITY COUNCIL

Executive Session Summary

March 19, 2025

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

Staff Present: John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Others: Ashley Wigod, City Attorney with Jordan Ramis PC



At 3:31 p.m., Mayor Massey 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.

Mayor Massey disclosed that she could have a possible conflict of interest because her husband works for the City as a Police Officer.

- **Real Property Transactions, under ORS 192.660(2)(e)**
 - Update on negotiations for property at 1771 Columbia Blvd.
 - Update on the 10th Street bluff property sale.
 - Update on the Millard Road property sale.
- **Exempt Records/Confidential Attorney-Client Privileged Memo, under ORS 192.660(2)(f)**
 - Discussion regarding Police Chief position.
- **Consult with Legal Counsel & Potential/Pending Litigation, under ORS 192.660(2)(h)**
 - Nothing was discussed under this provision.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.



ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Jennifer Massey, Mayor

An audio recording of this meeting is archived at City Hall.



COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jennifer Massey
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
Mouhamad Zaher, Public Works Director
Sharon Darroux, Engineering Manager
Aaron Kunders, Water Quality Manager
Ashley Wigod, Contracted City Attorney

OTHERS

Seth Otto, Maul Foster & Alongi
Kathy Lombardi, Maul Foster & Alongi
Brady Preheim
Steve Topaz
Art Leskovich

CALL SPECIAL SESSION TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Central Waterfront Project Update - *Maul Foster & Alongi*

City Administrator John Walsh introduced representatives from Maul Foster & Alongi, including Seth Otto and Kathy Lombardi, who have been involved with the Central Waterfront Project for over a decade. Walsh explained that the project began as a vision to repurpose the lagoon, stemming from SDAT work that identified community desires for parks, fields, and other amenities.

Principal Planner Seth Otto provided an overview of their work with St. Helens over the past decade, including waterfront master planning and environmental cleanup. He emphasized that the purpose of the presentation was to inform the Council about the ongoing work and seek their input.

Principal Engineer Kathy Lombardi mentioned her involvement since 2015-2016 and expressed excitement about discussing the project's challenges and opportunities.

Project Timeline and Funding

Otto presented a timeline of the project, highlighting key milestones:

- 2015: Riverfront master planning (funded by EPA grant)
- 2016: Initial market analysis (funded by Business Oregon)
- 2017-2020: Governor's office funding for design consideration and site characterization

- 2020-2023: FEMA grant for additional geophysical and environmental investigation
- 2023-2024: State legislature funding for current phase, including updated market analysis and further investigations

Key Findings and Challenges

The presenters discussed several important findings from their investigations:

1. Depth to bedrock: Highly variable, with a significant drop-off under about half of the lagoon filled with alluvial silt prone to liquefaction.
2. Flood risk: The 100-year floodplain elevation runs through part of the lagoon, posing potential risks to a future landfill.
3. Berm stability: Concerns about the stability of the berm, particularly in seismic events.

Conceptual Design and Market Analysis

Lombardi presented a conceptual design for the landfill, dividing the lagoon into multiple cells. The updated market analysis in 2024 showed that the project remains financially viable, with options for keeping or relocating the wastewater treatment plant.

Environmental Considerations and Safety

The presenters addressed concerns about contamination and safety, explaining that the facility would only accept approved materials. They emphasized that the design would be vetted and permitted by DEQ, covering the entire lifespan of the facility.

City Responsibilities and Options

Discussion ensued about the City's potential responsibilities in operating the landfill. Lombardi explained that the City has options, including owning and operating the facility or pursuing a public-private partnership.

Timeline and Capacity

The estimated timeline for filling the landfill was discussed, with projections of 10-15 years based on an intake of 200,000 cubic yards per year. The facility could potentially accommodate material via barge, rail, or truck.

Council Discussion and Concerns

Council members engaged in a detailed discussion about various concerns regarding the Central Waterfront Project:

- **Potential Contamination Risks:** Councilor Hubbard queried about the potential contamination risks in the event of a major earthquake or flood. He emphasized the importance of ensuring the lagoon's berm is stabilized to prevent contamination of the Columbia River. This led to further explanations by the presenters that the existing contaminants in the lagoon currently pose risks similar to those of future landfill development. The proposed landfill would be designed to mitigate such risks, with measures to secure the berm and prevent leaching through effective lining and engineering solutions.
- **Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity:** The capacity of the current Wastewater Treatment Plant was another concern highlighted by Council members. Kunders explained that the existing lagoon system is increasingly challenged by stringent DEQ requirements. While a lagoon system is cost-effective, it doesn't meet modern treatment standards. Council members recognized the

necessity for updating the treatment process or moving to a state-of-the-art facility to handle future growth and potential industrial demands.

- **Testing Reports and Data Availability:** Mayor Massey specifically requested detailed testing reports and data related to the project, emphasizing the need for comprehensive understanding before making any decisions. Otto mentioned the existence of extensive reports, some already available on the website, and assured that complete documentation would be provided to the Council. Otto and Lombardi indicated a commitment to transparency and thorough assessment of the site's conditions, ensuring Council members are well-informed.

This robust discussion reflected the Council's dedication to addressing environmental safety, planning for future infrastructure needs, and ensuring all decisions are based on complete and accurate information.

Next Steps

City Administrator Walsh concluded that this presentation was an introduction to the project and its variables. He stated that they would continue to work on refining alternatives and bringing more detailed information to the Council for future decision-making.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN – 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully transcribed by ClerkMinutes and submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Jennifer Massey, Mayor



COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jennifer Massey
Council President Jessica Chilton
Councilor Mark Gundersen
Councilor Russell Hubbard
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator	Evin Eustice, Police Sergeant
Kathy Payne, City Recorder	Jeremy Howell, Police Sergeant
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder	Kolten Edwards, Police Officer
Joe Hogue, Acting Police Chief	Ashley Wigod, Contracted City Attorney
Jose Castilleja, Police Sergeant	

OTHERS

Brady Preheim	Rochelle Russell
Steve Topaz	Jenni Gilbert
Art Leskowich	Tresa Edwards
Mitzi	Dustin King

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AWARD BID/CONTRACT

1. Award Bid and Authorize Mayor to Execute Contract with Stateline LLC for St. Helens Dock Repair and Debris Boom Project No. M-541 in the amount of \$190,500

Motion: Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to approve '1' above.

Councilor Hubbard expressed curiosity about the spread in the bids received. City Administrator Walsh explained that it was a grant-funded project by the Marine Board, and while there was a wide range from high to low bids, the scope of work was well-defined. Mayor Massey added that some contractors seemed to focus on rebuilding rather than stabilizing the loading and dock fingers.

Vote: Yea: Mayor Massey, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

2. Appoint Nick Flory to Parks and Trails Commission

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Sundeen and seconded by Councilor Gundersen to appoint Nick Flory to the Parks and Trails Commission. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Massey, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ACCEPTANCE

3. Library Board Minutes dated February 10, 2025
4. Planning Commission Minutes dated February 11, 2025

Motion: Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to approve '3' and '4' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Massey, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

5. City Council Minutes dated March 5, 2025
6. Staff Monthly Report to Council Template
7. OLCC Licenses
8. Accounts Payable Bill Lists

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Sundeen and seconded by Council President Chilton to approve '5' through '8' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Massey, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

WORK SESSION ACTION ITEMS**Police Chief Position**

Mayor Massey disclosed a potential conflict of interest due to her husband being a St. Helens Police Officer.

City Administrator Walsh provided an update on the interim police chief position. He explained that at the previous Council meeting, a motion was made to offer Chief Hogue the interim chief role, subject to a mutually acceptable agreement. However, an agreement could not be reached.

Walsh outlined two tracks for filling the position: an internal candidate track and an external track. He noted that the Council expressed a desire to follow the City's process for employment recruitment, which typically involves opening the position for a minimum period, allowing interested employees to apply, reviewing applications, and conducting interviews before making an appointment.

Contracted City Attorney Wigod clarified that the previous motion to appoint Chief Hogue as interim chief was subject to a mutually agreeable employment contract, which was not achieved.

Motion: Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to open the Chief of Police position to an internal recruitment process for a 10-day period and appoint Joe Hogue to the Interim Chief of Police.

Councilor Sundeen thanked community members for their feedback and fellow Council members for their effective discussion during the earlier session. He expressed hope that the motion would be a good compromise and work out for the best, emphasizing his objective to do what's best for the community and its citizens.

Council President Chilton explained her stance, focusing on promoting consistency within the City, following procedures, and maintaining a process that is consistent across all departments. She emphasized that her decision was not personal and aimed to allow for unbiased decision-making in the future.

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

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

- ◆ Jenni Gilbert. Expressed that she was unable to hear the Council's discussion clearly, prompting her request for a summary or recap of what had just transpired. She addressed her concerns to Mayor Massey, stating that Massey was violating ethics laws by discussing the chief's position. Gilbert contended that Mayor Massey was named in a police investigative report and asserted that as a result, she should not be involved in discussions about appointing the police chief. Gilbert also emphasized that Mayor Massey should not be making decisions that could affect her family's finances, suggesting potential personal interest in the matter due to familial ties with the Police Department. She announced her intention to report the perceived violation to the Ethics Commission.

- ◆ Brady Preheim. Accused the Council of violating executive session rules, pointing out that the employment topic was not mentioned in the executive session agenda, which Preheim claimed was a violation. Preheim warned that denying access to executive sessions could result in personal fines for the Council members. Additionally, Preheim was critical of the Council's handling of the police chief situation, stating that Mayor Massey should not be involved due to potential personal interests, as her husband is a City Police Officer. Preheim highlighted concerns about the allocation of tourism revenue, specifically questioning what happened to the \$463,000, which he argued should be transferred to the City's General Fund and subsequently used to support the Police Department. Preheim recalled discussions with the Council, emphasizing that the purpose of the new tourism contract was to channel revenue to the City, and demanded an explanation for why the allocation was not being discussed or acted upon.

- ◆ Art Leskowich. He recalled the Special Session that took place earlier concerning waste disposal from Portland Harbor. He expressed significant concerns about various aspects of the project that had not been adequately addressed. Among his primary worries was the potential impact on the City's drinking water intake, which is located just a mile downstream from where the discharge is planned. Leskowich pointed out that the shoreline in the Multnomah Channel, where the unloading of barges is proposed, is currently contaminated, raising further issues. He noted that despite these concerns, there has been no substantial discussion on how to mitigate such risks. Leskowich also criticized the logistics of engineering a landfill near a wetland, considering it remarkably unrealistic to expect the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to approve such a plan. He suggested that there were issues with a lack of options for disposal other than a landfill and insisted that other solutions should be considered. He proposed exploring the possibility of cleaning up Area C and using parts of Areas A and B, which are deemed suitable, for disposal of the City's waste. This approach, he argued, would also address the issue of the contaminated lagoon used by the Fire Department for dumping training materials with PFAS constituents for years. He also brought up discussions about possibly working with the State of Oregon, which has notable financial stakes or liabilities in the cleanup of Portland Harbor. He stressed the importance of examining these potential partnerships further, given the implications they have for the area's cleanup efforts. Leskowich concluded his comments by requesting copies of the technical reports referred to in the earlier discussion, underscoring the need for all involved to conduct comprehensive research and review all available data before making any decisions about pursuing the landfill project.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councilor Sundeen reported...

- Thanked the Police Department for their hard work.
- Expressed appreciation for Acting Chief Hogue.

- Reported on the Parks and Trails Commission:
 - Discussed the Milton Creek Woodland Reserve.
 - Announced upcoming work parties at Nob Hill and McCormick Park Japanese Gardens on April 5.

No further reports from Council members were made.

MAYOR MASSEY REPORTS

- Thanked City Recorder office staff for their hard work in providing information and keeping the City running.
- Expressed gratitude to the Police Department employees, Public Works employees, and other City employees.
- Announced plans to include positive community activities in her future reports to encourage public participation.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN – 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully transcribed by ClerkMinutes and submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

Jennifer Massey, Mayor