



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2026, 6:30 PM
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Susan Coleman
Council President Thorstad
Councilor Aaron Hegge (virtual)
Councilor Dylan Richards
Councilor Angelita Sanchez

ABSENT

Councilor Chelsea Augsburger
Councilor Ken Bronson

STAFF

Jason Ogden, City Manager / Police Chief
Cecily Hope Pretty, Deputy City Manager
Blair Larsen, City Attorney
Angela Clegg, Planning & Building Manager
Megan Dazey, Library Services Director
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager
Greg Springman, Public Works Advisor

MEDIA

Sarah Brown, The New Era

GUESTS

Lynn Coon, Junction City, OR 97448
Karen Norton, 235 Owasso Drive, Eugene, OR 97404
Les Poole, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Consent Agenda

- a) Request for Council Action – Approving the Renewal of CIS Insurance Policies
- b) Approval of Minutes:
 - 2026-06-09 City Council Executive Session Minutes
 - 2026-06-09 City Council Work Session Minutes
 - 2026-06-09 City Council Meeting Minutes

Councilor Richards moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council President Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

ABSENT: Augsburger, Bronson

Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of Petitions

Lynn Coon spoke of the value of the Lions of Oregon and expressed his interest in bringing a Lions Club to Sweet Home.

Karen Norton spoke of the value of service through the Lions of Oregon and expressed her interest in a new Lions Club in Sweet Home.

Les Poole expressed support for the Lions Club. He noted that he was impressed with the turnout in Linn County against the proposed gas tax. He expressed concern with how social media was used by elected officials when speaking about political candidates.

New Business

- a) Request for Council Action – Authorizing the Purchase of 1211 Long Street

City Manager Ogden stated that the property in question was the former Garden Center and the purchase was proposed for \$85,000. He noted that the location was in a strategic location downtown and would primarily be used for library programming, as well as complementing the City's proposed Festival Street.

Councilor Sanchez asked of the source of the funding. Director Dazey stated that the funds were received as a donation to the library and there was no taxpayer money needed for the purchase.

Council President Thorstad moved to approve the purchase as proposed. Councilor Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

ABSENT: Augsburger, Bronson

Ordinance Bills

Request for Council Action & First Reading of Ordinance Bills

- a) Request for Council Action – Ordinance No. 2 for 2026 – Repealing SHMC 5.08 Bicycle Dealers & Amending SHMC 5.24 Social Games, SHMC 5.28 Taxicabs & SHMC 5.32 Secondhand Dealers

City Manager Ogden stated that the proposal was to modernize existing Municipal Code and remove sections that were no longer relevant or needed. He provided a summary of the changes. He stated that the intent was to remove regulations and administrative burden while preserving public safety.

Councilor Sanchez asked if the proposed changes would affect businesses with lottery or gambling services. Deputy City Manager Pretty replied that they would not.

Council President Thorstad asked of the relationship between secondhand dealers and law enforcement in terms of recordkeeping. City Manager Ogden replied that businesses provide logs to law enforcement regarding their inventory for any related investigations.

Council President Thorstad moved to conduct a first reading of Ordinance No. 2 for 2026. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

ABSENT: Augsburger, Bronson A reading of Ordinance No. 2 for 2026 was completed.

A reading of Ordinance No. 2 for 2026 was completed.

Second Reading of Ordinance Bills

Councilor Sanchez moved to conduct a second reading of Ordinance No. 2 for 2026 by title only. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

ABSENT: Augsburger, Bronson

A reading of Ordinance No. 2 for 2026 by title only was completed.

Councilor Richards moved to conduct a third reading of Ordinance No. 2 for 2026 by title only at the following City Council meeting. Council President Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

ABSENT: Augsburger, Bronson

Reports of Committees

Administration, Finance & Property Committee – President Pro Tem Thorstad

Community Health Committee – Councilor Bronson

Library Advisory Board – Councilor Augsburger

Park & Tree Committee – Councilor Hegge

- 2026-05-19 Park & Tree Committee Meeting Minutes

Planning Commission

- 2026-05-21 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Area Commission on Transportation – Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Bronson (alternate)

Chamber of Commerce – Councilor Hegge

Council of Governments – Councilor Bronson, Councilor Sanchez (alternate)

Solid Waste Advisory Council – Councilor Richards

There were no reports to be heard. Mayor Coleman thanked Councilors for attending their respective Committee meetings and the Planning Commission for their work.

Department Reports

Library

- Library Report – May 2026

Planning & Building

- Planning & Building Report – May 2026

Public Works

Finance

Police

- Police Department Report – May 2026

City Attorney

City Manager Ogden stated that traffic enforcement had increased with the return of a dedicated Traffic Enforcement Officer. He highlighted decreases across several crime categories over the previous year and an increase in crimes cleared.

Director Dazey stated that 75 people participated in the last event with the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History and invited the public to the next event at Sankey Park at 10 AM on Friday.

Reports of City Officials

a) City Manager's Report

City Manager Ogden thanked all involved in the Safety Fair. He recognized everyone who attended the ribbon-cutting for the new mural on 13th Avenue and who provided financial support for the project. He stated that Dumpster Days with free dumpster service were underway through the end of the week.

b) Mayor's Report

Mayor Coleman thanked staff for their organization of the Safety Fair and for the return of Dumpster Days.

Council Business for Good of the Order

Councilor Sanchez expressed her gratitude to live in the United States and recognized its 250th anniversary.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder