



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 11, 2025, 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
President Pro Tem Josh Thorstad
Councilor Chelsea Augsburger
Councilor Ken Bronson
Councilor Aaron Hegge
Councilor Dylan Richards
Councilor Angelita Sanchez

STAFF

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

PRESS

Sarah Brown, The New Era

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes:

- a) 2025-02-25 City Council Work Session Minutes
- b) 2025-02-25 City Council Meeting Minutes
- c) 2025-03-03 City Council Executive Session Minutes

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

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburger, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of Petitions

There were no visitors to be recognized.

New Business

- a) Request for Council Action – Resolution No. 7 for 2025 – Approving the City Manager Employment Agreement

City Manager Pro Tem Pretty provided an overview of the City Manager recruitment process to date and stated that Police Chief Ogden had been selected as the top candidate. She stated that approval of the Resolution would include approval of a contract for Chief Ogden to serve in a dual role as both City Manager and Police Chief.

Councilor Richards moved to approve Resolution No. 7 for 2025. Councilor Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburger, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

City Manager-Select Ogden was honored with applause.

- b) Request for Council Action – Approving a Memorandum of Understanding for Managed Outreach & Community Resource Facility (FAC)

City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that the previous Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Family Assistance and Resource Center (FAC) had expired in 2024 and had been operating in holdover status since its expiration. She noted that the main change between the previous and proposed MOU was that in the former, the City committed to funding 100% of nighttime security. She stated that the proposed MOU would phase out the City's support for this service over the next three years. She noted that the services FAC provided to the homeless population had relieved a significant burden on Public Works and the Police Department.

Councilor Sanchez asked of the procurement process for security services. City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that there was a current contract for security services that would continue and FAC would be billed for their portion of the costs.

Councilor Richards moved to approve the MOU with FAC as proposed. Councilor Bronson seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburger, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

Ordinance Bills

Request for Council Action and First Reading of Ordinance Bills

- a) Request for Council Action – Ordinance No. 2 for 2025 – Adopting Camping Regulations

City Attorney Larsen stated that the Police Department served as a dedicated site for those homeless individuals who could not or would not stay at FAC. He noted that the State required a formalized policy to address camping on public property. He stated that the proposed Ordinance was modeled from that adopted by Albany, Oregon and adapted to reflect current practices in Sweet Home.

Mayor Coleman

Councilor Sanchez asked of the legal requirements to implement a camping policy via Ordinance and expressed concern based on legal action in Grants Pass. She requested that the item be delayed for further investigation with City/County Insurance Services (CIS).

There was consensus to postpone Ordinance No. 2 for 2025 to a future Council meeting to allow for dialogue with CIS.

Second Reading of Ordinance Bills

There was no second reading.

Reports of Committees

Administration, Finance & Property Committee – President Pro Tem Thorstad

Community Health Committee – Councilor Bronson

- a) 2025-02-26 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes
- b) Community Resource List

Library Advisory Board – Councilor Augsburger

Park & Tree Committee – Councilor Hegge

Planning Commission

Public & Traffic Safety Committee – President Pro Tem Thorstad & Councilor Richards

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

Chamber of Commerce – Councilor Hegge

Charter Review Committee

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

Solid Waste Advisory Council – Councilor Richards

Councilor Bronson stated that the Community Health Committee had drafted goals for the coming year. He stated that he had attended the Cascade West Oregon Council of Governments Public Transportation Advisory Committee and received updates from partner members. He noted that the group decided what to support and prioritize in terms of public transportation. He highlighted the purchase of an additional shuttle for the Senior Center utilizing match funds and State funding.

Department Reports

Library Services Director

- a) Library Director Report – February 2025
- b) SHPL March 2025 Newsletter

Public Works Director

- a) Public Works Director Report – February 2025

Finance Director

- a) Finance Department Report – February 2025

Director Dazey highlighted the upcoming Green Peter and Foster Jamboree on March 28th and 29th to gather history about the area before the construction of the dams.

Director Springman stated that the street sweeper was back in service.

Reports of City Officials

City Manager's Report

City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that the Beautification Committee had established their weeding and planting schedule and invited interested volunteers to contact the City. She noted that there was still a vacancy on the Budget Committee and asked residents to apply. She thanked City Council for the opportunity to serve as City Manager Pro Tem.

Mayor's Report

Chief Ogden was sworn in as City Manager by Mayor Coleman. He was honored with a standing ovation.

Council Business for Good of the Order

There was no business to be heard.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder

DRAFT