



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 28, 2023, 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 and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Susan Coleman
President Pro Tem Mahler
Councilor Lisa Gourley
Councilor Dylan Richards
Councilor Angelita Sanchez
Councilor Josh Thorstad
Councilor Dave Trask

STAFF

Kelcey Young, City Manager
Matt Brown, Finance Director
Megan Dazey, Library Services Director
Blair Larsen, Community & Economic Development Director
Adam Leisinger, Communications Manager
Jason Ogden, Police Chief
Cecily Hope Pretty, Administrative Services Director
Robert Snyder, City Attorney
Greg Springman, Public Works Director

MEDIA

Ethan Hoagland, The New Era

GUESTS

James Corley, 1408 45th Avenue, Sweet Home, OR 97386
Robert Egner, 28628 Ridgeway Road, Sweet Home, OR 97386
Ben Roche, 2551 Boston Street SE, Albany, OR 97322

City Manager Young announced a Water Quality Question and Answer Session to be held on December 5, 2023 at 5:30 PM at the Jim Riggs Community Center.

The location of the meeting is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, advanced notice is requested by notifying the City Manager's Office at 541-367-8969.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes:

- a) 2023-11-13 City Council Executive Session Minutes (4:30 PM)
- b) 2023-11-13 City Council Executive Session Minutes (5:30 PM)
- c) 2023-11-13 City Council Minutes

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by President Pro Tem Mahler. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of Petitions:

Ben Roche spoke of affordable housing and concerns with City Code regarding Accessory Dwelling Units and manufactured homes. He asked City Council to consider modifications to the Code to eliminate multi-section limitations and size restrictions.

James Corley thanked the City Council and staff for hosting the Water Quality Information Session on November 20, 2023.

Robert Egner thank the City Council and staff for hosting the Water Quality Information Session and expressed concerns regarding the City's legal involvement.

Councilor Trask entered at this time.

Old Business:

There was no old business to be heard.

New Business:

- a) Request for Council Action – Approving Resolution 34 to Declare a Continuous Commitment to Water Quality

City Manager Young stated that staff had been investigating legal options regarding the Green Peter Reservoir drawdown. She noted that Sweet Home was at the forefront of building a coalition with community partners and legislators. She stated that she was in communication with multiple law firms and final decisions regarding litigation would be brought before the City Council for consideration.

A motion to approve Resolution 34 was made by President Pro Tem Mahler. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- b) Request for Council Action – Ordinance No. 17 for 2023 Granting Franchise Renewal to Comcast for Cable Service

City Attorney Snyder presented the Ordinance to approve a Franchise Agreement with Comcast for ten years. He noted that the City would receive 5% of Comcast's gross revenues for cable services.

Ordinance Bills

Request for Council Action and First Reading of Ordinance Bills

A motion to conduct the first reading of Ordinance Bill No. 17 for 2023 was made by President Pro Tem Mahler. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The first reading of Ordinance Bill No. 17 for 2023 was conducted.

Second Reading of Ordinance Bills

A motion to conduct the second reading of Ordinance Bill No. 17 for 2023 by title only was made by President Pro Tem Mahler. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The second reading of Ordinance Bill No. 17 for 2023 by title only was conducted.

Reports of Committees:

Ad Hoc Committee on Health

Mayor Coleman stated that the Ad Hoc Committee on Health would be formalized as an official standing committee effective January 2024. She noted that the Committee would meet quarterly.

Reports of City Officials:

City Manager's Report

City Manager Young noted that she held open office hours for the public every Thursday from 1:00 to 2:30 PM and stated that she was available to meet by appointment outside of those hours. She announced that she would be on leave beginning December 8, 2023. She recommended the following interim City Manager assignments:

- 12/8-12/15 – Director Larsen
- 12/16-12/25 – Chief Ogden
- 12/26-1/1 – Director Dazey

She stated that all directors would be available in January but she would also likely be available and did not recommend a formal interim for that time. She also reminded City Council of the City's Christmas Tree Lighting on December 1, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Coleman stated that she would be out of town for the remainder of the week and inquiries should be directed to President Pro Tem Mahler. She expressed her gratitude to community members who attended the Water Quality Information Session and noted that the City was collaborating with multiple partners to address the effects of the Green Peter Reservoir drawdown.

City Attorney Snyder requested a vote regarding the interim City Manager schedule.

A motion to approve the recommended schedule was made by Councilor Trask. President Pro Tem Mahler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Department Director's Reports

Community & Economic Development

- a) Community & Economic Development Department Monthly Report for October 2023

Director Larsen stated that the City would host an open house regarding updates to the Transportation System Plan on November 29, 2023.

Director Dazey highlighted a visiting author event at the library on December 2, 2023 discussing books set in Sweet Home.

Council Business for Good of the Order

Councilor Sanchez highlighted the upcoming Hanukkah holiday.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder