



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 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
President Pro Tem Josh Thorstad
Councilor Chelsea Augsburger
Councilor Ken Bronson
Councilor Aaron Hegge
Councilor Dylan Richards (virtual)

ABSENT

Councilor Angelita Sanchez

STAFF

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

GUESTS

Henry Brewer, Student Honoree
Lagea Mull, Executive Director, Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce
Bob Dalton, Vice Chair, Community Health Committee
Gary Jarvis, 2941 Foothills Drive, Sweet Home, OR 97386

Councilor Augsburger moved to excuse Councilor Sanchez from the day's Work Session and Regular Session. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Sanchez

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes:

- a) 2026-02-24 City Council Work Session Minutes
- b) 2026-02-24 City Council Meeting Minutes

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

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Sanchez

Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of Petitions

- a) Student Honoree

Mayor Coleman stated that Henry joined an initiative with Raising Men Lawn Care Service to mow 50 lawns per year, which he achieved in 2025. She noted that he signed up to participate again in 2026 and thanked him for his service to the community. She presented him with a Sweet Home challenge coin.

- b) Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce Annual Report

Mayor Coleman recognized Lagea Mull, Executive Director of the Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Mull thanked those who attended the Chamber's recent Annual Banquet. She stated that the Chamber handled the Visitors' Center on behalf of the City by contract. She reviewed the current board members. She stated that the Chamber had an 83% increase in in-person visits in 2025 over the prior year. She noted that many callers to the Chamber requested information regarding local services, including City services. She reviewed the most popular components of the Chamber's website. She highlighted the promotional success of her press release regarding the installation of the A&W Burger Family, including over 80,000 views on Facebook.

Mayor Coleman thanked Ms. Mull for the Chamber's assistance with visitors and the services they provide on behalf of the City.

- c) Community Health Committee Annual Report

Mayor Coleman recognized Bob Dalton, Vice Chair of the Community Health Committee.

Vice Chair Dalton stated that the Committee had been meeting for approximately 10 years and members viewed themselves as ambassadors to the healthcare community on behalf of Sweet Home. He reviewed the mission of the Committee, including addressing "the quality of care through access to care." He highlighted the Committee's 2025 accomplishments, including the annual Health Fair, hosting service provider presentations, bringing suicide prevention awareness to the local Rotary Club, actively participating in community-wide planning sessions, and supporting a grant request for Strawberry Park improvements. He presented the Committee's goals for 2026 of providing presentations and education to City Council, expanding public education, working with City Council to identify and include health goals, increasing attendance at the Health Fair, and supporting fundraising for local health-related initiatives.

Mayor Coleman recognized those registered to speak.

Gary Jarvis thanked City Council for their consideration of the Charter amendments and thanked staff for their work to prepare the documents for the election referral.

New Business

- a) Request for Council Action – Committee & Commission Appointments & Reappointments

City Manager Ogden stated that there were recommendations for appointments and reappointments to the Park & Tree Committee and Planning Commission.

President Pro Tem Thorstad moved to approve the appointments and reappointments as proposed. Councilor Hegge seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburg, Bronson, Hegge, Richards

NAY: None

ABSENT: Sanchez

- b) Request for Council Action – Resolution No. 4 for 2026 – Referring a Charter Amendment to the Electors of the City & Adopting a Ballot Title & Explanatory Statement

City Manager Ogden stated that the Resolution would refer the proposed Charter revisions to voters for the May 26, 2026 election. He noted that there was a deadline of March 18th to refer an item to the ballot for May.

Councilor Bronson moved to approve Resolution No. 4 for 2026. President Pro Tem Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburg, Bronson, Hegge, Richards

NAY: None

ABSENT: Sanchez

Reports of Committees

Administration, Finance & Property Committee – President Pro Tem Thorstad

- a) • 2026-02-23 Administration, Finance & Property Committee Meeting Minutes

Community Health Committee – Councilor Bronson

- a) • 2026-02-25 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

Library Advisory Board – Councilor Augsburg

Park & Tree Committee – Councilor Hegge

Planning Commission

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.

Department Reports

Library

- Library Report – February 2026

Public Works

- Public Works Report – February 2026

Finance

- Finance Report – February 2026

Police

- Police Department Report – February 2026

City Manager Ogden stated that traffic stops increased significantly and crime was down overall for the year to date.

Director Dazey thanked those who attended the QPR Suicide Prevention at the library the previous day. She highlighted the work of volunteers to sort seeds for the Seed Library.

Reports of City Officials

City Manager's Report

- Monthly Newsletter

- Water Management Conservation Plan

City Manager Ogden stated that there was currently a vacancy on the Budget Committee and invited applicants within City limits. He highlighted a new event at Sankey Park, Blooms & Brews, on April 25th to celebrate Arbor Day.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Coleman thanked meeting attendees.

Council Business for Good of the Order

Councilor Bronson recognized the Sweet Home wrestling teams and cheer squad for their recent performance in state and national competitions.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder