



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 26, 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

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 Director

GUESTS

Milt Moran, Cascade Timber Consulting
Bob Dalton, Former Park & Tree Committee Member, Vice Chair of Community Health Committee
Sean Tate, Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes:

- a) 2025-08-12 City Council Meeting Minutes

President Pro Tem Thorstad moved to approve the Consent Agenda. X 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

Mayor Coleman recognized those registered to speak.

Milt Moran stated that Cascade Timber Consulting (CTC) owns the Hill Timber Company Partnership (?) and manages land on behalf of the Hill family. He noted that Bill Marshall, a 42-year employee of CTC, recently passed away and his family wished for donations towards the Sankey Park Phase III Project. He presented the City with a check in the amount of \$66,200 in Mr. Marshall's memory.

a) Service Recognition

Mayor Coleman invited Bob Dalton to come forward and recognized him for his contributions to Sankey Park and years of service on the Park & Tree Committee and continuing service on the Community Health Committee.

b) Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition

Mayor Coleman invited Sean Tate to present on his work with the Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC).

Mr. Tate stated that he was the lobbyist for SMAC during the previous legislative session. He spoke of the importance of advocacy on behalf of cities. He noted that 211 of Oregon's 241 cities had populations under 20,000. He stated that he ran House Bill 3654 regarding infrastructure grant affordability for small cities, which did not pass and spoke of the challenges to its passage. He highlighted the participation of over 50 cities who partnered on the legislation and noted that despite its failure to pass, the effort brought attention to the issue of grant affordability. He explained the importance of establishing legislative priorities, engaging with other communities on shared priorities, and showing up as local officials.

Councilor Sanchez asked if there was a fiscal for the bill. Mr. Tate replied that there was none because the bill did not propose to request new funding.

Ordinance Bills

Third Reading of Ordinance Bills (Roll Call Vote Required)

a) Request for Council Action – Ordinance Bill No. 8 for 2025 – Ordinance No. 1337 – City Property Exclusion Ordinance Amendment

Ordinance No. 1337 was read by title only.

Councilor Richards moved to approve Ordinance No. 1337. President Pro Tem Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAY: None

Reports of Committees

Community Health Committee – Councilor Bronson

Park & Tree Committee – Councilor Hegge

Planning Commission

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

a) CWA 2025 Meeting Calendar

Chamber of Commerce – Councilor Hegge

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

Solid Waste Advisory Council – Councilor Richards

Councilor Bronson stated that the next Community Health Committee would take place the following day at 4:00 PM.

Mayor Coleman thanked the Community Health Committee for their work on the Community Health Fair.

Department Reports

Code Enforcement

- a) Code Enforcement Report – July 2025

Finance

- a) Finance Department Report – July 2025

City Attorney

There were no reports to be heard.

Reports of City Officials

City Manager's Report

City Manager Ogden stated that the Police Department was going through autism-friendly training and certification. He recognized the Sweet Home Fire District and partner agencies for their response to the recent Rice Road fire. He thanked the City Council and the community for their participation in National Night Out and celebrated the first activation of Festival Street for the event. He stated that Harvest Festival would take place on October 4th at Sankey Park. He reminded the community that the Mayor hosts Coffee with the Mayor each Thursday. He noted that the City received a tentative offer to purchase a surplus generator. He stated that Community Services Consortium established an emergency resiliency box behind City Hall with supplies that could be used in case of emergency needs.

Councilor Bronson asked of the offer amount for the generator. City Manager Ogden replied that it was around \$40,000.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Coleman echoed City Manager Ogden's comments regarding the fire. She highlighted Furniture Share in Albany providing furniture to veterans in need. She noted the success of the annual backpack giveaway in conjunction with the Community Health Fair.

Council Business for Good of the Order

Councilor Richards recognized those who organized and participated in the recent rodeo.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder