



# CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 26, 2021, 6:30 PM  
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

WiFi Passcode: guestwifi

PLEASE silence all cell phones – Anyone who wishes to speak, please sign in.

## 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.

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## Meeting Information

The City of Sweet Home is streaming the meeting via the Microsoft Teams platform and asks the public to consider this option. There will be opportunity for public input via the live stream. To view the meeting live, online visit <http://live.sweethomeor.gov>. If you don't have access to the internet you can call in to 541-367-5128, choose option #1 and enter the meeting ID to be logged in to the call. Meeting ID: 226 531 982#. The phone lines will open 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time.

This video stream and call in options are allowed under Council Rules, meet the requirement for Oregon Public Meeting Law, and has been approved by the Mayor/Chairperson of the meeting.

## Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Mayor Mahler read a statement regarding compliance with the OSHA mask mandate and stated masks are available.

## Roll Call

### PRESENT

Mayor Greg Mahler  
President Pro Tem Diane Gerson  
Councilor Dave Trask  
Councilor Lisa Gourley  
Councilor Susan Coleman  
Councilor Angelita Sanchez  
Councilor Dylan Richards

### STAFF

City Manager Ray Towry  
Finance Director Brandon Neish  
Communications Specialist Lagea Mull  
Administrative Services Manager Julie Fisher  
City Attorney Robert Snyder  
Library Services Director Megan Dazey  
Community and Economic Development Director Blair Larsen

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*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.*

**MEDIA**

Benny Wolcott, The New Era

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by President Pro Tem Gerson, Seconded by Councilor Coleman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Gourley, Councilor Coleman, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

**Approval of Minutes:**

- a) 2021-10-12 City Council Minutes

**Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of Petitions:**

Vince Adams, 809 Mt. View Road. Thanked Chief Lynn and CSO Morgan who met with Mr. Adams and gave him additional information on the homeless camp. Mr. Adams volunteered for the committee.

Vince Adams also raised a traffic concern regarding vehicles parking along the street in the wrong direction on Elm Street.

- a) Police Department Swearing In Ceremony

Captain Ogden introduced Ben Pinnegar. City Manager Ray Towry swore in the new officer.

**Old Business:**

- a) Request for Council Action - Intergovernmental Agreement for ODOT US 20/OR 228 ADA Curb Ramps Project and Presentation on Current ODOT Projects

Brennon Burbank, ODOT answered questions regarding easements needed to build the ADA ramps, some of those easements are temporary and will only last during the project construction.

Motion made by Councilor Coleman, Seconded by Councilor Richards.

Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Gourley, Councilor Coleman, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

- b) Request for Council Action - Intergovernmental Agreement for ODOT US 20 53rd – 60th Avenue Sidewalk Project

Christine Hildebrandt, ODOT stated the tree clearing would begin fall and spring and actual construction will begin in February and completion October 15, 2022.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to sign an amended contract document if the bids are received above the Statewide Transportation Information Plan (STIP) amount, the City would have concurrence with the bid.

Motion made by Councilor Gourley, Seconded by Councilor Coleman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Gourley, Councilor Coleman, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

**New Business:**

- a) Request for Council Action - Resolution No. 25 for 2021 - Library Advisory Board Recommendations to Temporarily Wave Late Book Fees

Motion to approve Resolution No. 25 for 2021 made by President Pro Tem Gerson, Seconded by Councilor Richards.

Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Gourley,

Councilor Coleman, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

- b) Request for Council Action - Resolution No. 26 for 2021 - A Resolution Adopting a Year-End Supplemental Budget for 2021

Motion to approve Resolution No. 26 for 2021 made by by President Pro Tem Gerson, Seconded by Councilor Richards.

Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Gourley, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

Voting Abstaining: Councilor Coleman (relative would benefit from the decision)

- c) Discussion Only - Rural Development Initiatives Youth Leadership Development Program  
City Manager introduced the Rural Development Initiatives Youth Leadership Development Program. Funding is necessary for RDI to return and run the program this year. RDI is seeking grant funding that would offset any City costs. Consensus of the Council regarding the program was to move forward.
- d) Fiscal 2022 1st Quarter Financial Update  
Finance Director Neish presented a fiscal update for the 1st quarter which he reported as healthy.

### **Ordinance Bills**

Request for Council Action and First Reading of Ordinance Bills

- a) Request for Council Action - Amended Beekeeping Ordinance

Motion to read Ordinance Bill No. 8 for 2021 for first reading made by President Pro Tem Gerson, Seconded by Councilor Richards.

Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Gourley, Councilor Coleman, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

Ordinance Bill No. 8 for 2021 was read in its entirety.

Motion to move Ordinance Bill No. 8 for 2021 to second reading made by made by Councilor Gourley, Seconded by Councilor Coleman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Gourley, Councilor Coleman, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

Second Reading of Ordinance Bills

None

Third Reading of Ordinance Bills (Roll Call Vote Required)

None

### **Reports of Committees:**

Administrative and Finance/Property

Councilor Trask reported an Administrative, Finance, and Property Committee meeting was held to interview for the Budget Committee and Planning Commission vacancies. The Council Rules are being reviewed and amendment recommendations are forthcoming.

### **Reports of City Officials:**

Mayor's Report

Mayor Mahler reminded the Council regarding a meeting with County Commissioners to discuss the Mill Property will be scheduled once all Councilors have responded to the Doodle Poll.

Mayor Mahler urged everyone to be safe during the Halloween weekend.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Towry included an article related to mental health in the State of Oregon. Linn County is working on having a dedicated Crisis Councilor available for Sweet Home, however they are having a difficult time finding staffing.

City Manager Towry reviewed the City Manager Evaluation forms and explained the process.

City Manager Towry reported on the homeless situation at the old City Hall, the possibility of a temporary site at the current Public Works facility, and the goal of a more permanent managed facility.

Interested stakeholders have approached the City regarding the old mill property. Staff will have a report when available.

**Department Director's Reports** (2nd meeting of the Month)

Finance Director

- a) September 2021 Monthly Report

A written report was included in the packet.

Police Chief

- a) Police Department Monthly Report

A written report was included in the packet.

City Attorney

No Report

**Council Business for Good of the Order**

None

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder