



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 11, 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.

Meeting Information

The City Council will hold a Regular City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 3225 Main Street. In order to protect residents, staff, and elected officials due to the novel COVID-19 virus, individuals attending public meetings in person will be required to maintain appropriate social distancing, (6-ft.) and be free of symptoms related to COVID-19. The City of Sweet Home City Council 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 City Council meeting live, online visit live.sweethomeor.gov. If you don't have access to the internet you can call in to 541-367-5128 and you'll be asked to choose option #1 to be logged in to the call. Meeting ID: 473 954 605#

This video stream and call in options are allowed under Council Rules, meet the requirements for Oregon public meeting law, and has been approved by the Mayor as Chairperson of the meeting.

Cell phones should not be used in the Council Chambers by city staff or Council during this meeting for any reason, including text messages, emails, or phone calls. If a member of the public needs to utilize their cell phone for a call, please exit the Council Chambers.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Roll Call

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Councilor Lisa Gourley

STAFF

City Manager Ray Towry

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.

Community and Economic Development Director Blair Larsen
Finance Director Brandon Neish
Police Chief Jeff Lynn
Public Works Director Greg Springman
Communications Specialist Lagea Mull
Administrative Assistant Juile Fisher
City Attorney Robert Snyder

MEDIA

Benny Wolcott

Motion to approve Councilor Gourley's absence made by Councilor Trask, Seconded by Councilor Coleman.

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

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Councilor Coleman, Seconded by Councilor Sanchez.

Roll Call Vote: Voting Yea: Mayor Mahler, President Pro Tem Gerson, Councilor Trask, Councilor Coleman, Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Richards

- a) Request for Council Action – Appointment to the Planning Committee

Approval of Minutes:

- a) 2021-04-27 City Council Meeting Minutes
- b) 2021-05-06 City Council Special Minutes

Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of Petitions:

- a) Municipal/Community Court Update - Judge Larry Blake. Jr.

Judge Blake and Carol Moffet, Court Administrator, gave an update on Sweet Home's Community Court. The program especially benefits those with mental health issues, are experiencing homelessness, or may need other services. During Community Court, various services are available to the individuals, and once the program is completed, the charges or fines may be dropped or dismissed.

Truancy Court was also discussed. Judge Blake reports he also visits students that are involved in Truancy Court at school once per month.

Judge Blake spoke to some of the issues they have experienced during COVID-19.

Larry Angland spoke regarding Ironwood Street. He was concerned about the pot holes. Mr. Angland reported he also drives school bus. He stated the Police Department is doing an excellent job, however he is concerned about the amount of traffic that does not stop for school busses. He requested Council address the issue of the vehicles not stopping for the busses. Mayor Mahler agreed there is an ongoing issue of speeding traffic.

Chief Lynn responded stating the Police Department will focus on the effort on Main Street in the after school hours. City Manager Towry stated the City has pushed an educational announcement on social media.

The speed signs are working, however are on stealth mode and currently gathering info.

Old Business:

- a) Request for Council Action - Resolution No. 13 for 2021 - Storm Water Rate Increase

Finance Director Neish and Public Works Director Springman explained the request for an additional \$2 on the stormwater rates which is currently \$1 and has not been revised since inception. The need for a Stormwater Capital Plan was presented with the request of the increase.

There was discussion among the Council.

Motion to approve the stormwater increase made by President Pro Tem Gerson, Seconded by Councilor Trask.

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

Voting Nay: Councilor Richards

- b) Debt Information for Capital Project Funding

Finance Director Brandon Neish presented on the viability of incurring debt for funding capital projects. Finance Director Neish reported the interest rate for a AA Rate Community is 1.05% and that rate has held. Staff is assuming 1.3% interest rate for any debt incurred. Rates are lower than they have been in 20 years. Finance Director gave a scenario of a self funded bond debt and repayment options.

Consensus of the Council was to continue to investigate a debt option for capital projects.

New Business:

- a) FY2021 Q3 Financial Update

Finance Director Neish reported the 3rd quarter financial update is healthy. It was noted System Development Charges saw a 383% increase.

Ordinance Bills

Request for Council Action and First Reading of Ordinance Bills

- a) Request for Council Action - Ordinance Bill No. 4 for 2021

Motion made by Councilor Coleman, Seconded by President Pro Tem Gerson to move Ordinance Bill No 4 for first reading.

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

Ordinance Bill No. 4 for 2021 was read in its entirety.

Motion made by Councilor Coleman, Seconded by President Pro Tem Gerson to move Ordinance Bill No. 4 to second reading by title only during the current meeting.

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

Second Reading of Ordinance Bills

Ordinance Bill No. 4 for 2021 was read by Title only.

Motion made by Councilor Trask, Seconded by Councilor Coleman to move Ordinance Bill No 4 to Third and Final reading May 25, 2021.

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

Third Reading of Ordinance Bills (Roll Call Vote Required)

Reports of Committees:

Ad Hoc Committee on Health

Administrative and Finance/Property

Area Commission on Transportation

Chamber of Commerce

Charter Review Committee

Council of Governments

Legislative Committee

Library Advisory Board

Park and Tree Committee

Solid Waste Advisory Council

Youth Advisory Council

Reports of City Officials:

Mayor's Report

Mayor Mahler reminded the Council of the next Budget Committee meeting.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Towry reported on May 19 there will be time for an All Staff training and facilities will be closed. There will be a City Council Training on the 19th at 4:30pm as well.

Department Director's Reports (1st meeting of the Month)

Library Services Director

Community and Economic Development Director

- a) CEDD Monthly Report, April 2021 (pg 56)

Public Works Director

- a) Public Works Monthly Report of Activities - April 2021 (pg. 61)

City Attorney

Council Business for Good of the Order

Finance Director Neish reported water shut off for non payment is scheduled for tomorrow.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder