



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 22, 2024, 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
Councilor Lisa Gourley
Councilor Dylan Richards
Councilor Angelita Sanchez
Councilor Josh Thorstad

ABSENT

President Pro Tem Greg Mahler
Councilor Dave Trask

STAFF

Jason Ogden, Police Chief / City Manager Pro Tem
Cecily Hope Pretty, Assistant City Manager Pro Tem
Angela Clegg, Planning & Building Manager
Megan Dazey, Library Services Director
Blair Larsen, City Attorney
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager
Greg Springman, Public Works Director

GUESTS

Robert Egner, 28628 Ridgeway Road, Sweet Home, OR 97386
Gary Jarvis, 2941 Foothills Drive, Sweet Home, OR 97386
Terry Martin, 2812 Fir Court, Sweet Home, OR 97386
Dawn Miller, 331 8th Avenue, Sweet Home, OR 97386
Nancy Patton, 3041 Foothills Drive, Sweet Home, OR 97386
Ben Roche, 2551 Boston Street SE, Albany, OR 97322
Kandyce Stirman, 38961 River Drive, Lebanon, OR 97355

Mayor Coleman noted that President Pro Tem Mahler was absent due to a family emergency.

Consent Agenda

- a) Request for Council Action – Phase 2 Police Department Upgrades
- b) Request for Council Action – Board & Committee Appointments

Approval of Minutes:

- a) 2024-10-01 City Council Work Session Minutes

- b) 2024-10-08 City Council Work Session Minutes
- c) 2024-10-08 City Council Meeting Minutes

Councilor Richards moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Gourley, Richards, Sanchez, Thorstad
ABSENT: Mahler, Trask

Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of Petitions

Mayor Coleman invited those registered for Public Comment.

Ben Roche of the Linn County Republican Party noted that the political signage in Sweet Home was not affiliated with their organization and that they did not support the Linn County Conservative Alliance.

Robert Egner, expressed concern with campaign finance actions related to the Linn County Conservative Alliance and wanted to ensure voters knew that they were different from the Linn County Republican Party and did not share the same endorsements.

Dawn Miller discussed the importance of nonpartisanship in the City Council race and expressed concern that City Council did not consider public input.

- a) Public Hearing – City Manager Recruitment

Mayor Coleman opened the public hearing at 6:41 PM.

Nancy Patton expressed support for a City Manager that would take their time to ensure projects were ready to go and for improved communication. She added that she was supportive of a local hire.

Kandyce Stirman stated that she was the new Executive Director at the Family Assistance and Resource Center (FAC) and stated that a majority of FAC staff and residents were supportive of Chief Ogden as City Manager.

Gary Jarvis expressed support for beginning with a local recruitment and asked that the City Council allow the recruitment to proceed without a delay due to the upcoming election and incoming City Councilors.

Terry Martin expressed support for Chief Ogden as City Manager due to his character and skills and asked that the recruitment proceed without delay. He noted that Chief Ogden has a good relationship with the School District.

Dawn Miller expressed support for Chief Ogden as City Manager and noted his proactive approach in Sweet Home.

Mayor Coleman closed the public hearing at 6:52 PM.

New Business

There was no new business to be heard.

Ordinance Bills

Third Reading of Ordinance Bills (Roll Call Vote Required)

- a) Request for Council Action - Ordinance No. 3 for 2024 - Abandoned Shopping Carts

City Manager Pro Tem Ogden read Ordinance No. 3 for 2024 by title only.

Councilor Richards moved to approve Ordinance No. 3 for 2024. Councilor Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Gourley, Richards, Sanchez, Thorstad
ABSENT: Mahler, Trask

- b) Request for Council Action - Ordinance No. 4 for 2024 - Parks Master Plan

City Manager Pro Tem Ogden read Ordinance No. 4 for 2024 by title only.

Councilor Richards moved to approve Ordinance No. 4 for 2024. Councilor Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Gourley, Richards, Sanchez, Thorstad
ABSENT: Mahler, Trask

- c) Request for Council Action - Ordinance No. 5 for 2024 - Franchise Agreement with Ziplly Fiber Pacific, LLC

City Manager Pro Tem Ogden read Ordinance No. 5 for 2024 by title only.

Councilor Gourley moved to approve Ordinance No. 5 for 2024. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Gourley, Richards, Sanchez, Thorstad
ABSENT: Mahler, Trask

Reports of Committees

Ad Hoc Committee on Arts & Culture – Councilor Gourley

Administration, Finance & Property Committee – Councilor Trask

Community Health Committee – Councilor Gourley & Mayor Coleman

Library Advisory Board – President Pro Tem Mahler

Park & Tree Committee – Councilor Trask

Public & Traffic Safety Committee – Councilors Richards & Thorstad

Youth Advisory Council – Councilor Sanchez

Councilor Richards reported that the Public & Traffic Safety Committee did not meet. Mayor Coleman noted that the Committee did not meet due to lack of quorum and encouraged residents to get involved through City Committees.

Department Reports

Library Services Director

- a) System of Care Grant Award

Planning & Building Manager

- a) Planning & Building Manager Report – September 2024

Director Dazey stated that the Library received a grant to provide hygiene products and new games.

Planning & Building Manager Clegg stated that the Transportation System Plan open house would be held on October 30th at 5:00 PM.

Reports of City Officials

City Manager's Report

City Manager Pro Tem Ogden stated that the Nandina Overlay Project would be underway to make street improvements between 9th Avenue and 13th Avenue and reviewed staff outreach to the neighborhood. He stated that speed changes on Long Street had occurred between Mountain View and 49th Avenue and 18th Avenue and Mountain View. He stated that the Police Department had been awarded a grant from the Linn County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$17,438 to upgrade their radio system to be able to tie into the County's radio system. He noted that the radio coverage area would be significantly enhanced. He stated that the City had filed a tort claim in the amount of over \$11 million against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in response to the negative impacts of the Green Peter Drawdown and to ensure future protections to the local water supply. He stated that the City would host a public retirement party for former City Attorney Robert Snyder on October 24th at 2:00 PM.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Coleman thanked those who attended the City Council Candidate Forum and the Sweet Home Community Foundation and the New Era for organizing and hosting. She noted that the City could not

provide campaign information and recommended voters seek out campaign information from other local sources. She reviewed an article noting the financial impacts of a combined City Manager and Police Chief role. She thanked those who engaged with the City to provide their input.

Council Business for Good of the Order

Councilor Sanchez asked of the impacts of the emergency declaration related to the drawdown. City Manager Pro Tem Ogden stated that the City would coordinate with Linn County on emergency response efforts if it was deemed necessary. She thanked the coordinators and attendees for their participation in the City Council Candidate Forum. She noted that Taylor Made Cakes would host a candidate event on October 23rd at 9:00 AM.

Councilor Thorstad thanked the coordinators of the City Council Candidate Forum. He requested that staff investigate the creation of an app to enhance public communication. He asked that additional information be provided to the public regarding the City Manager Pro Tem assignment and the City Manager recruitment.

Mayor Coleman directed the public to the City’s website to sign up for various email notifications.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Manager Pro Tem – Ex Officio City Recorder