



## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING FOR APRIL 08, 2024

Present: Mayor Frank Bubenik, Council President Valerie Pratt, Councilor Bridget Brooks, Councilor Maria Reyes, Councilor Cyndy Hillier, Councilor Christen Sacco, Councilor Octavio Gonzalez

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Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

### **1. Parks Bond Projects Update.**

Parks Planning and Development Manager Rich Muller and Parks Project Manager Kira Hein presented an update on the Parks Bond Projects. Manager Muller provided a brief overview of the bond's history and priorities since its passage in 2022, emphasizing a phased approach with planning and design in phase 1 until 2026. Manager Hein showcased recent park acquisitions in the Basalt Creek area, presenting concept plans for river access and upgrades underway at the Veterans Plaza. Completed enhancements at Atfalati and Ibach Park, as well as lighting upgrades at Tualatin Community Park, were highlighted. She also discussed upcoming projects such as improvements to the Nyberg Creek Trail and athletic fields in partnership with the school district. Additionally, she mentioned utility fee projects on various trails, a facility assessment, and American Rescue Plan Act projects in Las Casitas and Basalt Creek, along with grant-funded initiatives on the Tualatin River Greenway Trail Extension. Manager Hein shared communications efforts, including website updates, email newsletters, and social media posts, were also detailed.

Councilor Brooks inquired about the electronic play area at Atfalati Park. Manager Hein explained that they are sensory play objects incorporating sound.

Councilor Brooks also raised a question regarding restroom upgrades at city parks. Manager Mueller clarified upgrades are being considered as part of an assessment funded by utility fees.

Councilor Sacco sought clarification on the school district partnerships for athletic fields and whether funds would cover additional field purchases. Manager Mueller explained that the focus is on improving existing fields to enhance usability, with discussions about additional fields to come.

Councilor Hillier requested confirmation that youth leagues are being consulted regarding sports fields. Manager Mueller affirmed that stakeholder meetings will include discussions about improvements benefiting both school districts and youth leagues.

Councilor Gonzalez expressed concerns regarding Jurgen's Park and maintenance of synthetic fields. Manager Mueller highlighted the longer warranty and reduced maintenance required for these surfaces. Councilor Gonzalez further mentioned concerns about moss growth on synthetic surfaces.

Council President Pratt inquired about the Nyberg Creek Trail and where the underpass beneath I-5 will happen. Manager Mueller indicating it will cross near the south end of the trail.

## **2. Veterans Plaza Service-Inspired Art Update.**

Recreation Manager Julie Ludemann provided an update on the Veterans Plaza Service-Inspired Art project. She stated the project began in 2019 with community meetings to define core themes and site selection. In August 2022, the Council adopted the Veteran's Plaza Plan and Design Report. Manager Ludemann stated the selection committee convened in March 2023 and issued a request for qualifications for artists. Final artist presentations and proposals took place in February 2024.

Manager Ludemann stated three sculptures will be installed as part of the project and shared a map indicating their locations. The final art proposal presentations occurred over two days, resulting in the unanimous selection of Sculptor Douwe Blumberg by the committee. The proposed pieces include Flames of Honor, Wings of Freedom, and Wings of Peace. Manager Ludemann noted that the contract for this project is on the consent agenda for this evening, with sculptures expected to be installed by Memorial Day 2025.

Councilor Brooks acknowledged staff and the selection committee for all their work on this project. She spoke highly of the selection process.

Councilor Sacco stated she was part of the initial subcommittee and is happy to see that these pieces really reflect the initial desires of the committee.

## **3. Council Meeting Agenda Review, Communications & Roundtable.**

Mayor Bubenik reviewed the meeting agenda. Due to a lack of time communications will happen at the regular meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

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