



TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL

OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
FOR JANUARY 12, 2026

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

ABSENT: Councilor Maria Reyes

Call to Order

Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Announcements

1. New Employee Introduction- Planning Manager Teresa Montalvo

Community Development Director Aquilla Hurd-Ravich introduced Planning Manager Teresa Montalvo. The Council welcomed her.

2. New Employee Introduction- Climate Action Program Manager Amanda Watson

City Manager Sherilyn Lombos introduced Climate Action Program Manager Amanda Watson. The Council welcomed her.

Public Comment

B.J. Park stated that he was not reappointed to the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Advisory Committee and that he believed the decision was discriminatory and related to his position on the land acknowledgment.

Chris Paul provided a point of clarification, stating that Park's term had expired and believes the decision not to reappoint him was unrelated to his stance on the land acknowledgment. Paul stated that Mr. Park had been absent from several meetings and had not regularly participated.

Consent Agenda

Motion to adopt the consent agenda made by Council President Pratt, Seconded by Councilor Brooks.

Voting Yea: Mayor Bubenik, Council President Pratt, Councilor Brooks, Councilor Hillier, Councilor Sacco, Councilor Gonzalez

1. Consideration of Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2025

2. Consideration of Approval of a New Liquor License Application for Marilyn's Café Inc dba Miller's Homestead Restaurant

3. Consideration of **Resolution No. 5940-26** Authorizing the City of Tualatin to Accept a Grant Award from the State of Oregon (by and through its Oregon Water Resources Department) and for the City Manager to Execute a Grant Agreement to Fund the City's Tualatin Water Reservoir Seismic Valves Project

Special Reports

1. Outside Agency Grant Presentation- Pili Group

Community Engagement Coordinator Betsy Rodriguez-Ruef and Pili Group Leader Marilou Serrano presented information on the Pili Group. Ms. Serrano thanked the Council for its investment in the group and for its generosity and commitment to the community. She stated that the group offers activities that support personal growth and community building. Ms. Serrano explained the origin of the group's name, stating that Pilar was the group's original founder who brought many women together and later passed away from cancer. She stated that funds from the Outside Agency Grant had been used for presenters, facility fees, and activity supplies.

Anjes Morales shared testimony regarding her experience with the Pili Group.

Councilor Brooks expressed appreciation for the group and the valuable work it is doing in the community.

Councilor Gonzalez thanked the group for its work and encouraged members to continue supporting their community during this challenging time.

Councilor Sacco thanked the group for its advocacy and service.

Council President Pratt stated that the work being done by the group is important.

Mayor Frank Bubenik thanked the group for its contributions to the community.

2. IDEA Advisory Committee Annual Report

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Advisory Committee Chair Chris Paul and Committee Member Erin Stimson presented the committee's annual report. Chair Paul provided an overview of the committee's purpose, stating that the committee focuses on advancing inclusion, diversity, equity, and access across City policies, programs, and services.

Member Stimson stated that the committee completed and began implementing its work plan, which included establishing priorities and identifying areas for engagement and education. Chair Paul shared the committee's 2025 accomplishments, which included community outreach, participation in City initiatives, and providing an equity lens on Council priorities. He stated that the committee is made up of a diverse group of community members who bring a wide range of lived experiences and perspectives.

Member Stimson stated that the committee is present in the community by participating in events and engaging with residents to better understand community needs. Chair Paul stated that the committee also works to elevate voices that have historically been underrepresented and to support inclusive decision-making.

Member Stimson stated that in the coming year, the committee plans to continue work related to culture and identity, education, and community connection. Chair Paul stated that the committee will focus on strengthening community engagement efforts. Member Stimson stated that the committee will also focus on public safety by learning about community safety services and understanding how safety impacts different populations.

Chair Paul stated that the committee is recommending that the Council incorporate accessible public transportation, affordable housing, and community gathering places as part of long-term planning efforts. He thanked the Council for its ongoing support.

Council President Pratt asked about the diverse makeup of the committee and the communities represented. Chair Paul stated that the committee includes members with varied backgrounds and experiences, which allows the group to bring a wide array of lived experiences to its discussions.

Councilor Brooks thanked the committee members for their service. She asked what the committee viewed as its biggest gap and how the Council could help address it. Chair Paul stated that improved communication channels would help the committee better hear from community members. He stated that the Council's adoption of a Transgender Day of Visibility proclamation had a meaningful impact on the community and demonstrated visible support.

Councilor Hillier encouraged the committee to consider transportation challenges for individuals with unseen disabilities and stated that it is important for the committee's voice to be included in those discussions.

Councilor Sacco thanked the committee for its work and stated that she appreciates the group's passion and commitment.

General Business

1. Consideration of **Resolution No. 5939-26** Awarding and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Kittelson & Associates for Phase 1: Concept Evaluation of the Tualatin-Sherwood Road / Boones Ferry Road / Portland & Western Railroad Intersection Improvement Project

City Engineer Mike McCarthy and Engineering Associate Abby McFetridge presented the concept evaluation for the Tualatin-Sherwood Road, Boones Ferry Road, and Portland & Western Railroad intersection improvement project. Engineer McCarthy shared a map showing the project location and stated that Phase 1 of the project will focus on determining the City's priorities for the area. He reviewed the proposed project timeline, stating that if the consultant contract is approved, the consultant will review various improvement options for Council consideration. He outlined potential project schedules and explained that Phase 1 will include a high-level analysis of grade-separated options, review of existing conditions, development and evaluation of multiple concepts, narrowing the list to three options, conducting a deeper evaluation of finalist options, and providing a final presentation of recommended options to the public and Council.

Council President Pratt asked for clarification on the evaluation process. Engineer McCarthy stated that the first step will be identifying and evaluating feasible options before narrowing the list for further analysis.

Councilor Brooks stated that the work is important to address the City's most acute intersection. She stated that she would like to better understand the history that led to the intersection becoming the most problematic location. Engineer McCarthy stated that the intersection's constraints are the result of growth over time, increasing traffic volumes, and the presence of the railroad crossing, which limits available improvement options.

Mayor Bubenik asked about the level of involvement from the railroad. Engineer McCarthy stated that the city has reached out to the railroad and that representatives have expressed support for a grade-separated solution. He stated that the railroad will be invited to participate in meetings throughout the project.

Councilor Brooks asked about the length of trains that pass through the intersection and the impact on traffic. Engineer McCarthy stated that train lengths vary and can contribute to traffic delays and congestion, which is one of the reasons grade separation is being evaluated as a potential solution.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 5939-26 awarding and authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Kittelson & Associates for Phase 1: Concept Evaluation of the Tualatin-Sherwood Road / Boones Ferry Road / Portland & Western Railroad Intersection Improvement Project made by Council President Pratt, Seconded by Councilor Brooks.

Voting Yea: Mayor Bubenik, Council President Pratt, Councilor Brooks, Councilor Hillier, Councilor Sacco, Councilor Gonzalez

MOTION PASSED

2. Consideration of Recommendations from the Council Committee on Advisory Appointments

Council President Pratt and Councilor Sacco shared the names of the recommended committee appointments.

Motion to adopt the recommendations as presented made by Councilor Sacco, Seconded by Council President Pratt.

Voting Yea: Mayor Bubenik, Council President Pratt, Councilor Brooks, Councilor Hillier, Councilor Sacco, Councilor Gonzalez

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Brooks mentioned if candidates don't get reappointed, they are encouraged to apply again in the future.

Council Communications

Councilor Brooks referenced a recent Supreme Court decision related to the use of Roundup. She encourage residents to be aware of the decision and its potential implications.

Councilor Brooks also shared information regarding an application for development on a federal wildlife preserve located off Highway 99W near Tualatin. She stated that the proposed project would include overhead wires near a bird sanctuary and expressed that she wanted residents to be aware of the application.

Mayor Bubenik announced that TriMet will be hosting a public feedback session regarding proposed service cuts on January 22 at the Tualatin Library Community Room.

Mayor Bubenik also shared that Washington County Commissioner Pam Treece will be hosting an open house on January 22 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Marquis Center.

Councilor Brooks asked whether additional education and information could be provided to the community regarding the Evening of Impact meeting and the resources available to residents.

Council consensus was reached to place the item on a future agenda in order to better understand the topic and available resources.

Adjournment

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

_____ / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

_____ / Frank Bubenik, Mayor