



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING FOR DECEMBER 11, 2023

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

Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 5:53 p.m.

1. Washington County Supportive Housing Services Update.

Washington County Supportive Housing Services Program Manager Katherine Galian provided an update on their services. She stated over the last two years, they have served 2,522 people, including 1,385 housing placements for homeless individuals, 1,137 eviction preventions with emergency rent assistance, 84 project-based apartments, and doubled shelter bed capacity to 220.

Manager Galian shared housing goals for the housing case management system, rapid housing, and eviction prevention, noting they met and exceeded all their goals. She stated they have built a system of care with 144 case managers, a shelter capacity of 426, and housing capacity for 2,510. Manager Galian stated the shelter program now offers over 400 year-round beds, and construction on another shelter in Beaverton is set to begin, offering 60 more shelter pods. She stated the Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program currently provides 84 homes, with 28 more planned.

Manager Galian stated this past year they have been working on better systems alignment, including medical case conferencing, housing liaisons, and partnerships with landlords. She stated the programs focused on equity by investing in the workforce and expanding culturally specific services. An overview of their finances for the last two years was provided. Manager Galian stated next year, their third year, the program will focus on quality improvements, expanding evaluations and monitoring, building system efficiencies and cross-sector alignment, and planning for large system investments.

Councilor Sacco inquired about the impact of the supportive housing services on homelessness—whether there has been a reduction or if the numbers are still growing due to new individuals experiencing homelessness. Additionally, she asked about the demographic reach of the program, specifically whether it serves only those in Washington County or extends to individuals outside the county. Manager Galian stated that based on the point-in-time count, there has been a decrease in unsheltered homelessness. She added that the program predominantly caters to individuals experiencing homelessness in Washington County.

Councilor Hillier inquired about the average age of individuals in the program and the duration of their participation. Manager Galian explained that it is still early in the program to determine the average duration of participation in the program.

Councilor Brooks inquired about whether there is data available regarding the number of Tualatin residents served. Manager Galian explained that it is challenging to determine the

geographic distribution of those served as individuals experiencing homelessness often relocate frequently.

Councilor Brooks asked about advocacy for people at risk of homelessness. Manager Galian stated that eviction prevention work is primarily carried out by Community Action and Central Cultural.

Council President Pratt asked about the security arrangements for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units. Manager Galian confirmed the presence of security and supportive services housing staff onsite.

Councilor Reyes emphasized the importance of obtaining specific data related to Tualatin and inquired about the nonprofit partners involved. Manager Galian clarified that they collaborate entirely with community partners on their programs.

Mayor Bubenik asked about the evaluation process for their programs. Manager Galian explained that they conduct agency assessments based on the goals and deliverables outlined in their agreements.

Mayor Bubenik asked about the additional dollars being budgeted for and the impacts it will have on the amount of people served. Manager Galian stated some of those funds are one time investments in capital to increase shelter capacity and some additional increased capacity for amount of people served.

Mayor Bubenik inquired whether all the supportive housing services funds have been distributed for the current bond period. Manager Galian explained they will continue to collect funds over the upcoming years, and that projections are becoming more stable the longer funds are collected.

2. Water Service Reconnection Fee Discussion.

Assistant City Manager Don Hudson addressed reconnection fees related to water service accounts, highlighting two existing fees: the delivery notification fee and the service restoration fee. Both fees, set annually, have remained unchanged since 2010, with \$10 for the delivery notification fee and \$30 for the service restoration fee. He stated these fees cover the costs associated with completing the relevant actions. Manager Hudson explained there are four contact points before shut-off, including bill receipt, delinquent notice, a door hanger at the residence, and an email/phone contact from staff regarding shut-off. He expressed concern that the service restoration fees can pose challenges for those already struggling to pay, and he proposed that the council consider eliminating this fee. Manager Hudson suggested next steps include the council's consideration of a code change and an update to service fees.

Councilor Sacco expressed support for eliminating the service restoration fee.

Councilor Gonzalez inquired about the potential lost revenue to the city. Manager Hudson indicated it would be less than \$3,600 in lost revenue. Councilor Gonzalez voiced support for eliminating the fee.

Councilor Brooks supported the elimination of the fee and inquired about national trends in regard to this. Manager Hudson mentioned he wasn't sure about the national average.

Councilor Reyes expressed support for eliminating the service restoration fee.

Council President Pratt asked about the duration it takes for someone to pay to restore service. Manager Hudson stated that payment and restoration of service happens by the end of the day.

Mayor Bubenik also supported the elimination of the additional penalty.

3. Council Meeting Agenda Review, Communications & Roundtable.

Councilor Gonzalez asked for corrections to his statements in the work session minutes on consent agenda.

Councilor Sacco stated the first IDEA Committee meeting was held.

Councilor Reyes stated The Posada will be held December 13, 6-8pm, at the Library.

Councilor Gonzalez stated he attended the Washington County Coordinating meeting, the Chamber networking event, the Chamber meeting, and the Commercial CIO meeting.

Councilor Brooks stated she attended the Comprehensive Addiction Crisis webinar hosted by the League of Oregon Cities.

Council President Pratt stated she attended the Clackamas County Tolling sub-committee meeting and the R1 ACT meeting. She stated the Tualatin Police Foundation will be hosting their annual Shop with a Cop event next week.

Mayor Bubenik stated he attended the Borland Free Clinic event, Sheriff Garrett's retirement event, the Comprehensive Addiction Crisis webinar hosted by the League of Oregon Cities, the Holiday Lights Parades, the Washington County Coordinating Committee retreat, the Commercial CIO meeting, the Metro Mayors meeting, and the Washington County Coordinating Committee meeting.

Adjournment

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

_____ / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

_____ / Frank Bubenik, Mayor