



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL 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

Call to Order

Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Len Schaber suggest the Council request Metro Funds to complete a traffic and facilities study on the Borland area due to the I-205 expansion.

Consent Agenda

Councilor Gonzalez requested an amendment to the work session minutes for November 27, 2023. He requested adding "with reservations on how the plan is presented" to the end of the last sentence of his statement regarding the Climate Action Plan.

Consensus was reached to approve the amendment.

Motion to adopt the consent agenda as amended made by Council President Pratt, Seconded by Councilor Sacco.

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

MOTION PASSED

1. Consideration of Approval of the Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023
2. Consideration of **Resolution No. 5744-23** Authorizing an Agreement with Republic Services to Subcontract Regulated Medical Waste
3. Consideration of **Resolution No. 5745-23** Authorizing the Manager to Execute a Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release; Execute Documents Necessary to Purchase Right-of-Way for the Construction of the Boones Ferry Corridor Sidewalk and Bike Lane (Phase 3) Project

General Business

1. Consideration of Recycle+ Expanded Recycling Service, Provided by Republic Services

Management Analyst Lindsey Marshall and Republic Services Municipal Contract Manager Travis Comfort provided an overview of the Recycle+ expanded recycling program. Analyst Marshall explained the standardized recycling process and highlighted Republic Services as the solid waste and recycling provider for Tualatin. She mentioned the current two-sort system for curbside recycling, emphasizing the need for additional programs to recycle more items.

Manager Comfort introduced the Recycle+ program, an optional curbside solution for responsibly recycling challenging items. He stated the service covers stretchy plastic film/bags, clear plastic clamshell containers, textiles, compact fluorescent light bulbs, and special seasonal items. Manager Comfort stated the program is available for single-family homes through four-plexes. He stated in addition to the bi-weekly service they host quarterly reuse collection drives for items like household goods. Manager Comfort shared details about the program's components, including rates, pick-up opportunities, driver benefits, and material destinations. He stated the monthly base rate is \$2.50, with a \$9.25 pickup fee for curbside service.

Analyst Marshall emphasized that Recycle+ is tailored to meet customers' needs and budgets while offering environmental benefits through increased recycling and reuse. She stated the service can be implemented immediately upon Council approval.

Councilor Gonzalez inquired about Republic's willingness to host yearly events for individuals who don't generate enough materials to justify this monthly fee. Manager Comfort stated they are exploring seasonal and drop-off events in Tualatin.

Councilor Gonzalez asked if Republic is open to collaborating with Homeowners Associations (HOAs) on this service. Manager Comfort affirmed that they offer this service to HOAs and are willing to work with any interested parties.

Councilor Sacco sought clarification on the special collection drives and where the collected items go. Manager Comfort explained that reusable items are donated to Community Warehouse.

Councilor Hillier inquired about the non-curbside rate and the possibility of waiving it for individuals unable to accommodate that service. Analyst Marshall clarified that the fee can be waived for those with disabilities.

Council President Pratt asked about the process for arranging a pick-up. Manager Comfort explained that customers need to call or email to schedule a pick-up.

Councilor Reyes inquired about the recycling events held in the Las Casitas neighborhood. Analyst Lewis stated that event is held once a year through grant funds acquired through Metro.

Mayor Bubenik inquired about the sturdiness of the bin, specifically regarding its ability to withstand weather conditions. Manager Comfort assured him that the bin's lid snaps shut and is designed to endure various weather conditions.

Council consensus was reached to move the program forward.

2. Consideration of **Resolution No. 5739-23** Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Community Action Organization to Provide Eligibility Verification for a Low-Income Utility Bill Assistance Program

Assistant City Manager Don Hudson presented the a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Community Action Organization to facilitate eligibility verification for a Low-Income Utility Bill Assistance Program. He outlined that Community Action would manage the application and eligibility processes, subsequently transmitting eligibility compliance details to the City. Manager Hudson reviewed the criteria for eligibility, emphasizing a \$300 credit per fiscal year for qualified individuals. He stated the MOU is initially set to expire on June 30, 205, with the option for annual renewal. Manager Hudson detailed the program's costs, including a one-time setup fee of \$1,250 and a \$7,800 fee for the first 225 screenings. He stated that funds for the program are available in the American Rescue Plan Act Fund and the water and sewer operating fund.

Councilor Brooks asked what happens to the credit if someone moves. Manager Hudson stated the funds would go back into the program.

Councilor Brooks asked if the program is only available to residential properties. Manager Hudson stated the bill has to be in their name.

Council President asked how the program could be communicated to residents. Manager Hudson stated it will be noted on the bill and flyers will be sent to residents.

Councilor Gonzalez asked how the success of the program would be tracked. Manager Hudson stated Community Action would send weekly reports.

Councilor Gonzalez asked what the current need is for this program. Manager Hudson stated Community Action has processed over 200 applications for Tualatin residents this year for other services.

Councilor Gonzalez asked about the long-term viability of this program. Manager Hudson stated this could be a long-term program that is built into the utility funds. He noted that the program is at the discretion of the Council.

Councilor Brooks asked if there would be a logo to identify the program. Manager Hudson stated there would not be at this time.

Councilor Reyes asked if feedback would be collected from those who receive services from Community Action. Manager Hudson clarified that the City will be administering the program, and Community Action will only be providing the eligibility verification.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 5739-23 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Community Action Organization to provide eligibility verification for a Low-Income Utility Bill Assistance Program made by Council President Pratt, Seconded by Councilor Sacco.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Council Communications

Councilor Hiller congratulated the Tualatin Robotics and Cheer teams on their recent successes at their competitions.

Councilor Reyes invited everyone to the Posada on December 13 from 6-8 pm at the Library.

Council President Pratt announced that the State Tolling Sub-Committee would be meeting on December 14 at Wilsonville City Hall at 5 pm. She stated residents can provide comments on tolling.

Mayor Bubenik asked if the Council would like to send a letter regarding Grimm's request to change how they handle composting to Metro. There was a consensus among the Council members to send a letter.

Mayor Bubenik requested to schedule time during an upcoming work session to discuss the Stafford Area and potential concept planning for the area. There was a consensus to add the item to a work session for further discussion.

Adjournment

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

_____ / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

_____ / Frank Bubenik, Mayor