



MINUTES
City Council Meeting
Monday, December 21, 2020 6:00 PM

COUNCIL PRESENT: Stan Pulliam, Mayor, Jeremy Pietzold, Council President, John Hamblin, Councilor, Laurie Smallwood, Councilor, Jan Lee, Councilor, Carl Exner, Councilor, and Bethany Shultz, Councilor

COUNCIL ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Jordan Wheeler, City Manager, Jeff Aprati, City Recorder, Mike Walker, Public Works Director, Kelly O'Neill, Development Services Director, Tyler Deems, Deputy City Manager / Finance Director, Greg Brewster, IT/SandyNet Director, David Snider, Economic Development Manager, Ernie Roberts, Police Chief, Andi Howell, Transit Director, and David Doughman, City Attorney

MEDIA PRESENT:

1. MEETING FORMAT NOTE

The City Council conducted this meeting electronically using the Zoom video conference platform. A recording of the meeting is available on the City's YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbYEclgC6VW_mV2UJGyvYfg

2. SANDY URBAN RENEWAL BOARD MEETING - 6:00 PM

2.1. Facade Program Amendment: Permanent Outdoor Covered Structures Grant Program

Staff Report - 0353

Note: Chief Schneider and Executive Director Jones were also present for the Urban Renewal Board meeting.

The **Economic Development Manager** summarized the staff report. The proposed program is an extension of the existing Facade Improvement Program. It employs an 80% City - 20% business cost-sharing structure, and includes an option for businesses to make installment payments given the current economic difficulties. The City would pay for up-front costs, with businesses responsible for reimbursing their share. Staff will explore the possibility of using any future stimulus funding to potentially cover a greater cost percentage. Outdoor seating infrastructure would assist businesses

during the COVID-19 public health restrictions, and would also provide long-term amenities for the community.

Councilor Shultz asked about renovation of existing structures rather than new structures. Staff responded that this would be possible. She asked about the processing time for structure proposals. Staff stated this will depend on whether they use their own designs, but generally it would be a matter of several weeks. **Mayor Pulliam** stressed that the City should find ways to move as quickly as possible.

Council President Pietzold thanked staff for their efforts and expressed optimism about enjoying such structures in the future.

Councilor Lee asked about setback constraints. Staff responded that such restrictions are minimal in the downtown area.

Councilor Exner asked about eligibility for food carts and businesses other than food service. Staff responded that the intention is not to be restrictive based on business type. **Councilor Exner** asked about the impact to the urban renewal budget. Staff indicated that it is possible that budget adjustments could be necessary in the future depending on the demand.

Councilor Smallwood moved that the Urban Renewal Board approve the proposed amendment to the Facade Program, creating the Permanent Outdoor Covered Structures Grant Program. The motion was seconded by **Executive Director Jones**. The motion carried unanimously.

Approve the proposed amendment to the Facade Program, creating the Permanent Outdoor Covered Structures Grant Program.

CARRIED.

3. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION - 6:30 PM

3.1. Resiliency Action Plan

Staff Report - 0352

Councilor Lee presented an overview of the Resiliency Action Plan and the work accomplished by the committee over the past year. The committee recommends several possible next steps, including Council acceptance of the draft of the Resiliency Plan, requesting staff to develop a process to implement the plan for internal City use, continuing work with the Geo Institute city

cohort, determine whether a community-wide task force should be established, and considering incorporation of a City effort into the Clackamas County's "Climate Action Plan."

Mayor Pulliam stressed the importance of being prepared with necessary plans in place should the state require such measures as a condition of receiving future funding.

Councilor Exner asked about implementation priorities. **Councilor Lee** stated that implementation priorities would occur at a future stage.

4. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING - 7:00 PM

5. Pledge of Allegiance

6. Roll Call

7. Changes to the Agenda

8. Public Comment

Kevin Moss, 24600 SE Three Cedars St, Damascus: expressed support for the outdoor seating structures grant program.

David Breames, 18390 Meinig Ave: asked whether residents could be informed of when street sweepers will clean each neighborhood, and raised frustration over areas that are not cleaned due to unmoved cars. Raised the need for a sign informing drivers of the ability to turn left onto the one way street at the intersection of Meinig and Hwy 26.

Greg Becker, 14585 Bluff Rd: asked when the community would see the benefits of the Public Safety Fee. Raised the need for traffic enforcement officers. **Councilor Smallwood** indicated that a hiring process for two police officers is currently underway.

Steve Klein, 6382 SE 32nd Terrace, Gresham: owner of Scooter's Restaurant, asked whether businesses outside of the downtown area would be eligible for the permanent outdoor seating grant program. **Council President Pietzold** indicated that Scooters is within the Urban Renewal District.

9. Consent Agenda

9.1. City Council Minutes

9.2. **Transit Advisory Board Term Establishment; New Member Appointment**

Staff Report - 0345

Moved by Bethany Shultz, seconded by Jan Lee

Staff Report - 0345

Approve the Consent Agenda.

CARRIED. 7-0

Ayes: Stan Pulliam, Jeremy Pietzold, John Hamblin, Laurie Smallwood, Jan Lee, Carl Exner, and Bethany Shultz

10. Resolutions

10.1. **PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution 2020-26**

Master Fee Schedule Update

Staff Report - 0349

Staff Report

The **Deputy City Manager** summarized the staff report, which was included in the agenda packet.

Public Comment

Greg Becker, 14585 Bluff Road: given the dire economic circumstances, a rate increase on basic necessities at this time is inappropriate. He asked that the increase be delayed.

Staff Recommendation: approve the recommended increases, which are gradual and phased, to avoid needing larger increases in the future.

The Public Hearing was closed at this point. Motion included below

Council Discussion

Council President Pietzold stressed the importance of gradual increases, to avoid needing larger increases in the future, especially given the pressing needs of the wastewater improvement project.

Councilor Smallwood stated that given the difficult economic conditions, the challenges facing local businesses, and elevated unemployment, the Council should defer the proposed increases on wastewater rates while approving the other proposed fee changes.

Councilor Hamblin agreed that this is not the right time for wastewater rate increases, though he did support the other proposed changes.

Councilor Exner stressed the importance of regular, gradual increases, but agreed that raising the wastewater rates at this time would be too difficult for the community. He proposed waiting for six months and reevaluating at that time, given the urgency of financing the needed wastewater improvements.

Councilor Lee agreed, and noted that COVID-19 was unforeseeable when the rate schedule was originally developed. She supported the other proposed changes.

Councilor Shultz concurred given the economic challenges facing the community.

Mayor Pulliam agreed, stating that rate payers are in a difficult position at this time, and that DEQ has recently taken a less teammate-oriented approach. He also stated that a certain amount of community growth is necessary to fund needed infrastructure. He stated that staff in past years did not keep the Council sufficiently apprised of the shortcomings in the wastewater system.

Moved by Carl Exner, seconded by Jeremy Pietzold

Close the public hearing.

CARRIED. 7-0

Ayes: Stan Pulliam, Jeremy Pietzold, John Hamblin, Laurie Smallwood, Jan Lee, Carl Exner, and Bethany Shultz

Moved by John Hamblin, seconded by Laurie Smallwood

Adopt Resolution 2020-26, excluding the proposed increases identified in Sections 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, 8A, and 8B of Exhibits A and B. The Council will review and reconsider the excluded increases no later than June 30, 2021.

CARRIED. 7-0

Ayes: Stan Pulliam, Jeremy Pietzold, John Hamblin, Laurie

Smallwood, Jan Lee, Carl Exner, and Bethany Shultz

10.2. **PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution 2020-27**

Findings for Modified Construction Manager / General Contractor Project
Delivery Method

Staff Report - 0350

Staff Report

The **Public Works Director** summarized the staff report, stating that working under this project management framework would allow the improvements to be operational by November 2021. He stated that the question before the Council was only whether to approve the contracting method; the Council would have an opportunity to review contractor proposals at a future meeting.

Councilor Exner asked how much time this contracting method would save over the standard approach. The **Public Works Director** stated it would save approximately one year.

Public Testimony: none

Staff Recommendation: adopt Resolution 2020-27

Moved by John Hamblin, seconded by Laurie Smallwood

Close the public hearing.

CARRIED. 7-0

Ayes: Stan Pulliam, Jeremy Pietzold, John Hamblin, Laurie
Smallwood, Jan Lee, Carl Exner, and Bethany Shultz

Moved by Jeremy Pietzold, seconded by John Hamblin

Adopt Resolution 2020-27.

CARRIED. 7-0

Ayes: Stan Pulliam, Jeremy Pietzold, John Hamblin, Laurie
Smallwood, Jan Lee, Carl Exner, and Bethany Shultz

11. Report from the City Manager

The **City Manager** mentioned the large flows in the wastewater system due to the recent rainfall. Flow monitors are gathering useful data. He mentioned recent

successful meetings with watershed groups. Staff will meet to review wastewater project financing options in light of the Council's decision delaying the rate increase. He reminded the Council of the upcoming goal setting process. He referenced the recent distribution of the small business relief grants. He also offered thanks and appreciation for the service of Councilors Hamblin, Lee, and Shultz.

12. **Committee /Council Reports**

Councilor Shultz thanked the Council for their support on childcare policy, and stated it has been an honor to serve the community as a City Councilor.

Councilor Exner expressed thanks and appreciation for the service of **Councilors Hamblin, Lee, and Shultz**. He asked about the wheelchair ramp improvements proceeding in the southern portion of the City. He stated that the Tickle Creek Trailhead would benefit from similar improvements. He stated the recent watershed meeting was successful and thanked the groups for their support. He stated the Parks Board interviews went well. He expressed frustration regarding the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on local businesses, and suggested that the Council take a formal position to that effect.

Councilor Lee expressed gratitude and appreciation of fellow Council members and staff.

Councilor Hamblin also expressed gratitude and appreciation of fellow Council members and staff.

Councilor Smallwood also mentioned the recent watershed meeting. She referred to the Parks Board interviews and noted the increased number of board applicants. She noted the continuing challenge of homeless encampments in the community. She referred to recent Open Oregon meetings and encouraged Council members to appreciate the concerns of business owners.

Council President Pietzold expressed thanks and appreciation for the service of **Councilors Hamblin, Lee, and Shultz**.

Mayor Pulliam stressed that staff should follow up with communication to business relief grant applicants who did not receive funds. He also suggested that some degree of leniency may be appropriate regarding unpaid transit taxes and grant eligibility. He stated that during the upcoming goal setting process, he would like to know what the budgetary impact would be of a fully-funded Police Department that can fully address homelessness and other emerging issues. The **City Manager** and **Police Chief** provided an update on the hiring process for new police officers. **Mayor Pulliam** provided an overview of his views regarding the Governor's COVID-19 restrictions and

the need to reopen businesses. He suggested that the City should explore all possible options to assist local businesses.

13. COUNCILOR RECOGNITION

13.1. **Recognition of Outgoing Council Members**

Councilor Hamblin; Councilor Lee; Councilor Shultz

Mayor Pulliam and Council members delivered remarks recognizing and thanking Councilors Hamblin, Lee, and Shultz for their service to the City. The three outgoing Councilors also received certificates of recognition and engraved, framed photographs of Jonsrud Viewpoint. Slideshow retrospectives of the three Councilors were also shown on the screen.

14. Staff updates

14.1. [Monthly Reports](#)

15. Adjourn

16. CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Sandy City Council met in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e).



Mayor, Stan Pulliam



City Recorder, Jeff Aprati