

CITY OF McMinnville  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Held via Zoom Video Conference and at the Kent L. Taylor Civic Hall on Gormley Plaza  
McMinnville, Oregon

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Presiding: Remy Drabkin, Mayor

Councilors:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
	Adam Garvin, Council President	Chris Chenoweth
	Kellie Menke	Jessica Payne
	Zack Geary	
	Sal Peralta	

Also present were City Manager Jeff Towery, Interim City Attorney Walt Gowell, City Recorder Claudia Cisneros, Finance Director Jennifer Cuellar, Public Works Director Anne Pagano, Police Chief Matt Scales, Community Development Director Heather Richards, Special Project Manager Jody Christensen, Court Supervisor Jason Carbajal, Human Resources Manager Vicki Hedges, City Engineer James Lofton, *members of the News Media Kyle Dauterman, McMinnville Community Media, and Scott Unger, News-Register.*

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Drabkin called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
  
Councilor Peralta led the pledge of allegiance.
3. PROCLAMATIONS
  - 3.a. Extra Mile Day  
  
Mayor Drabkin read the proclamation declaring November 1, 2023, as Extra Mile Day.
  - 3.b. World Polio Day  
  
Mayor Drabkin read the proclamation declaring the week of October 24, 2023, as World Polio Week.  
  
Tom Zirk, Rotary Board President, presented the Mayor with an End Polio Now pin and spoke about how they were eradicating polio.
  - 3.c. McMinnville Industrial Promotions (MIP) Day  
  
Mayor Drabkin read the proclamation declaring October 24, 2023, as McMinnville Industrial Promotions Day.

MIP representatives thanked the City for the proclamation.

4. INVITATION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

City Recorder Cisneros said the Council received two emails from Natalie McPhillips and Dave and Kathy Haugeberg.

Amanda Westfall, McMinnville resident, spoke about the need for better bike lanes in the City. She suggested painting them a different color to make them more visible. She also thought maps of bicycle routes would be helpful.

5. ADVICE/ INFORMATION ITEMS

5.a. Reports from Councilors on Committee & Board Assignments

Councilor Peralta reported on the Council of Governments legislative breakfast and quarterly meeting. He then reported on the MCM-TV Committee.

Councilor Geary said the RFP had gone out for the DEI assessment consultant. He reported on the Stormwater Utility Advisory Committee meeting.

Councilor Menke said the Bypass project would be discussed in legislative session in November. She gave an update on YCAP.

Mayor Drabkin read notes from Councilor Chenoweth on the MEVLC and Parkway Committee meetings.

Council President Garvin gave an update on the Fire District.

Mayor Drabkin met with Childrens Institute and attended their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary lunch. She reported on the Willamette Valley Medical Center withdrawal program, housing bill in the upcoming legislative session, McMinnville Water & Light Commission meeting, Sweep the Streets, service days with the School District, and committee openings. She thanked Interim City Attorney Gowell for his work as this was his last Council meeting.

Interim City Attorney Gowell thanked the Council and staff.

5.b. Department Head Reports

City Manager Towery would serve as an ex officio member on the Board of MissionSquare. The new City Attorney would start next week.

Interim City Attorney Gowell said the City received the title to the NW Rubber company property on Monday. Possession of the property was deferred until January 1 for personal property to be removed. They had received a certificate of liability insurance from NW Rubber relating to the

temporary license they had in order to retain possession of the property. The City had been named as an additional insured on the policy.

Police Chief Scales said they were awarded an emergency management grant. He reported on the Air Show and gave hiring updates.

Public Works Director Pagano said they had received a grant to update the Emergency Operations Plan and were working on hiring an Emergency Manager.

Community Development Director Richards discussed committee vacancies and open planning positions.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Consider **Resolution No. 2023-60**: A Resolution awarding the contract for the City Facility Janitorial Services contract.

*Councilor Geary MOVED to adopt the consent agenda as presented; SECONDED by Councilor Peralta. Motion PASSED unanimously.*

7. RESOLUTIONS

- 7.a. Consider **Resolution No. 2023-56**: A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to sign grant award letters for the Business Assistance Grant Program recipients for a total amount not to exceed \$115,000 for the Program.

Community Development Special Projects Manager Christensen said the City received \$750,000 in ARPA funding. The MEVLC had discussed how to use the funds in the best way possible for businesses who were still dealing with the impacts of COVID. She explained how the program was created and the process where they learned how to better reach underserved businesses. They had 26 applications and 25 met the criteria. They narrowed that number down to 12 who had not received any COVID response funding and 10 were moving forward for consideration.

There was discussion regarding using the rest of the ARPA funding and prioritizing those that had received no COVID funds before.

*Council President Garvin MOVED to adopt Resolution 2023-56; SECONDED by Councilor Peralta. Motion PASSED unanimously 4-0.*

- 7.b. Consider **Resolution No. 2023-61**: A Resolution adopting a budget amendment for fiscal year 2023-24 in the General Fund.

Finance Director Cuellar said this budget amendment would line up with the funds already approved for the Third Street project contract. She explained the extra funds were coming from ARPA funds.

Community Development Director Richards explained the reasons the contract came in higher than originally anticipated were environmental discoveries and a larger focus on infrastructure improvements.

*Councilor Menke MOVED to adopt Resolution 2023-61; SECONDED by Councilor Geary. Motion PASSED unanimously 4-0.*

- 7.c. Consider **Resolution No. 2023-62**: A Resolution adopting no rate increase for City Service Charge in calendar year 2024.

Finance Director Cuellar said they had established a City Service Charge last year with an automatic increase based on a CPI calculation. After review of the fund, they had received \$90,000 higher than what they thought would come in and it looked like they would receive \$37,000 higher for this fiscal year. She suggested not moving forward with a rate increase for 2024.

There was discussion regarding financial hardship options, need for the fee, phasing out of the fee with the increase in property taxes, public trust, and noting the City's budget problems had not been solved.

*Councilor Geary MOVED to adopt Resolution 2023-62; SECONDED by Councilor Menke. Motion PASSED unanimously 4-0.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

- 8.a. Consideration on banning public drug consumption.

Police Chief Scales gave a background on Ballot Measure 110, drug use in the community, and gaps in the code to combat the crisis. They would have to put resources in place before the implementation of any ordinance and needed to continue to partner with local agencies. It might take a sizable investment. He would be testifying on November 6 in front of a state committee about the City's experiences since the measure passed.

Court Supervisor Carbajal said they would need an increase in staffing and implementation of a brand new program if an ordinance was enacted. There needed to be thoughtful preparation.

Mayor Drabkin said it was unclear if reform would come directly through the legislature or through the ballot box. There could be implications for how it was rolled out that could affect the way the City was able to carry out the law. They would need to work with the County to make sure as they arrested people that they would go into a prosecutorial system and not just releasing them immediately. It could affect municipal court if they implemented it locally and a program would need to be created. They were still insisting loudly for reform at the state level.

There was discussion regarding next steps, giving staff the authority to start the process, looking at the County's crisis intervention model, creating regional treatment centers, timeline to develop a program, need for

partnerships, what had been done before Measure 110, budget analysis, and moving the process back to circuit court rather than municipal court.

There was consensus to move forward with working with the city departments and county to find solutions.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Drabkin adjourned the Regular City Council Meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Claudia Cisneros  
Claudia Cisneros, City Recorder