



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (CIC)

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, 625 Center Street, Oregon City
Monday, March 04, 2024 at 7:00 PM

This meeting was held online via Zoom as well as in person at City Hall Chambers in Oregon City.

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: 9 - Dennis Anderson, Dan Berge, Karla Laws, Dorothy Dahlsrud, Sara Peterson, Denise Beasley, Tim Powell, Steve VanHaverbeke, Bob LaSalle,

STAFFERS: 4 - Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist; Patty Nelson, Public Works Project Manager; Tony Konkol, City Manager; Commissioner Adam Marl

PRESENTATIONS

1. Introduction to Assistant City Manager Alex Rains

City Manager Konkol introduced Alex Rains as the new assistant city manager. She was previously the city manager of the city of Scappoose, Oregon. This is a new position in Oregon City, and she has been spending the last month setting it up and getting acquainted with her direct reporting departments that include Human Resources, IT, Parks and Recreation, and the library. She will also be involved in special projects such as DEI.

Assistant Manager Rains was able to answer questions from the committee. Scappoose did not have a CIC equivalent, but they had a very active community with a strong social media presence, committees, and community events. Concerning climate action plans, this was not a Council identified priority, but there were many projects around preserving open spaces. She addressed infrastructure challenges Scappoose faced and how they planned for and funded those updates.

2. City Manager Update – Tony Konkol

They recently reviewed the 2-year budget cycle that started on July 1, 2023. In February and March the Commission reviewed previous goals and set future biennium goals with one being a focus on DEI. The city will be working on several infrastructure projects for water, sewer, and IT. A recent ransomware cyber attack was contained because of attention and work done around technical assets. About \$33 million in water projects have been secured for the next several years that include replacing older pipes and focus on reducing Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) in the sanitary sewer system. Funding for these projects come from federal loans, ARPA funds, existing city reserves, and I&I program help from Water Environmental Services (WES).

The city will have continue to build community through events such as City Celebration, Beer Fest, and concerts and movies in the park with a plan to add a Fourth of July event.

A grant fund of \$100,000 has been set aside for community organizations to apply for to create events.

The Youth Advisory Committee has had a successful start. They put on a mental health fair, went to Salem for a youth council, and will be reviewing entries for the "Mayor for a Day" contest.

Homelessness has been an area of work for the city. The Homeless Solutions Coalition of Clackamas County received about \$10 million and will renovate or rebuild the Miles Fiberglass building with the intent to create a space to centralize resources with room to add more. The coalition presented to the Commission recently, held an open house at Pioneer Center, and will host another presentation in 6-7 weeks. Oregon City submitted two proposals for Supportive Housing Funds: Reimbursement of about half of what the city has paid for their homeless liaison, behavioral health specialist, and case manager that was previously paid for out of the general fund as well as funding for the creation of a local community court out of the city's municipal court. Karla Laws verified that the nonprofits are not receiving city funds and that they are earning their own funds which is correct.

There is consideration for creation of destination marketing or management organization to take on the role of marketing Oregon City and its assets such as tourism, retail, and restaurants. This will be partially funded through the transient room tax.

An option will be available for parents to get their children a library card right when they sign up for school. Their school ID will serve as their card.

The Parks and Recreation master plan is expected to go before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in April or May. Two big items of focus are the pool and the End of the Oregon Trail Museum.

The city is trying to get a bid for the Cayuse Five memorial on the McLoughlin Promenade. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was put out but no bids were received. They are reviewing any concerns the bid request may have and moving forward.

With the urban renewal funding ballot measure not passing, the Urban Renewal Commission is focusing on two projects: Blue-green algae at The Cove and redeveloping the Stimson property. For the property, some discussion was had about what they would like to see, and ideas are trending towards a hotel with a small residential area, retail, or a conference component.

Bob LaSalle asked about the Willamette Legacy Project. There are current conversations happening with the Confederate Tribes of Grand Ronde. The tribe is working on amending the zoning master plan for the site and will submit their work in the next 3-4 months. They received \$2 million in federal funds for infrastructure work for the first block which will be a new Water Street down to 4th Street and over to Main Street. The city and the tribe both contributed four core values each for the project such as having public access, historical and cultural interpretation, and returning the site to nature.

With regard to the attempt for fund approval for some new city vehicles, Bob LaSalle asked if the city had an organization system to update vehicles in the city fleet. City Administrator Konkol let him know they have a complete list of every vehicle with their maintenance cost and life expectancy.

3. Molalla Water Transmission Main – Patty Nelson

Work is beginning on \$33 million worth of water projects. Patty Nelson gave a presentation on the first transmission project which is Molalla. They will be tying in a 30-inch transmission main at the pump station out by Mountain View Road. At Beaver Creek, they will construct 4,600 linear feet of large-diameter pipe and replacing 3,800 linear feet of older main lines. The project is over budget right now, so she is working with a team to value engineer to bring down some costs. They are in the design phase currently and will start construction in the fall which will take about a year. These projects are crossing major roadways, so an extensive traffic plan has been created. Funding for this project is covered by taking a Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan, \$5.6 million in ARPA funds, System Development Charge (SDC) funds, and water revenue. Impacts to the public are dust; noise; and diversions for traffic, pedestrians, and bikes. There is a project webpage where the public can go to stay informed, and there will be a couple open houses as the project moves forward.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE

MEETING MINUTES

A correction was made to the February 5, 2024 meeting minutes that this is not Dennis Anderson's second term as secretary. He has had several terms.

Bob LaSalle made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for February 5, 2024. The motion was seconded by Sara Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

STAFF LIAISON UPDATES

Hannah Schmidt let the committee know the new Trail News has been mailed. Division Fire Chief John Adams asked if the storage area for the neighborhood associations at Fire Station 15 was still in use, and it was confirmed that it is. He offered up a field trip to the space for any committee members who are interested in knowing where it is at. Habitat for Humanity's Restore reached out to see if the neighborhood associations would like to collaborate for a donation drop-off event on a Saturday in April, May, or June. The Restore will provide a branded and staffed truck and flyers for the event. Hannah sent CIC members a list of dates to choose from, and they would need to provide a location. A new contract with Eagle Web Press has been signed by the city for neighborhood meeting postcards. The switch will save the CIC a little over \$3,600. There has been no big change in the number of email subscribers, but there could be a jump after the Spring Forward event in April. Hannah met with Patty Stewart, an administrator for the police who specifically works with neighborhood watches. If anyone would like to start a watch, they would need to contact the neighborhood association and create a crew who will need to be able to hold and host independent meetings. The city liaison officer will offer training and resources. Patty also asked the CIC members to mark their calendars for August 6th, National Night Out, so the CIC can have a presence.

4. CIC BUDGET

Hannah checked in to make sure everyone saw the updated budget. She pointed out that Canemah, McLoughlin, and Elyville are over their assigned postcard budget but that the CIC still has \$15,000 in the budget to use before the end of June. She let the committee know that Rivercrest, South End, and Hazel Grove do not have active neighborhood associations at this time.

Bob LaSalle made a motion to approve the use of inactive neighborhood association funds to allow active neighborhoods to use those funds for any postcard deficit until the end of June 2024. The motion was seconded by Steve VanHaverbeke. Motion was passed unanimously.

ROUNDTABLE

For more information on upcoming neighborhood association meetings and contacts please visit: <https://www.orcity.org/community/neighborhood-associations>

Park Place – Steve VanHaverbeke & Bob LaSalle

Bob will give the CIC yearly update to the Commission. The neighborhood had a general meeting on February 26th with about 20 people in attendance. They had a presentation from Chief Davis. There was a discussion about the Park Place Park Grant where the new parks director wants the trail that was just installed changed. There was another meeting to discuss the Clackamas Heights Redevelopment Project that will install 500 new homes in the area. Their next steering committee meetings will be in March and April and a general meeting will be in May with a presentation from Willamette CERT on how to evacuate the neighborhood in the event of a fire or other nature event.

McLoughlin – Denise Beasley & Tim Powell

They have a meeting on March 7th with a representative present from National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI) and another representative from Need for Narcan. They will also get updates from Fire and Police. They started the new year with a work plan that has three subcommittees and some new people on their steering committee.

Hillendale – Sara Peterson

They have a steering committee on March 5th. Their chair, Dan Scott, would like to initiate a cleanup potentially along Molalla Avenue. Karla Laws offered to announce this at the Elyville meeting as well since they are close to the area. Their next general meeting is April 2nd.

Elyville – Karla Laws & Dorothy Dahlsrud

They will have a meeting in the near future when Karla is back in town. There will be elections on the 12th. Jerry Herman will come to one of their meetings to give a history on the two rivers coming together and the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) will come and discuss neighborhood updates. They would like to do an ivy cleanup at Atkinson Park on April 6th.

Canemah – Dennis Anderson

Their last meeting at the library was well attended with Hannah giving a presentation. Their next meeting is on April 18th. There is interest in recovering damaged headstones at the Pioneer Cemetery. They will be requesting a grant for historic cemeteries in hopes of receiving some funds to help keep the cemetery clean and maintained.

Caulfield – Dan Berge

They are working on getting more members in. Their last meeting was hybrid. There is a lot of interest in what is happening at the Beaver Creek Road and Molalla Avenue intersection. They will be voting on a secretary and police liaison at a future meeting.

Commissioner Adam Marl

Commissioner Marl also addressed the Homeless Solutions Coalition of Clackamas County presentation at the last Commission meeting. There was good attendance. They will have another meeting in the future. He is working on community events and is excited to bring back an Independence Day celebration. He introduced a resolution that was approved by his colleagues and will be on the November ballot. This resolution is in connection to Measure 109 which was passed by the state that allows cities to opt out of allowing psilocybin facilities in their communities.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.