



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM

CONVENE WORK SESSION AND ROLL CALL

Mayor McGriff convened the meeting at 6:03 PM.

PRESENT: 5 - Commissioner Adam Marl, Commissioner Frank O'Donnell, Commissioner Mike Mitchell, Commissioner Rocky Smith, Mayor Denyse McGriff

STAFFERS: 10 - City Manager Tony Konkol, Parks and Recreation Director Kendall Reid, City Recorder Jakob Wiley, Police Captain Bill Kler, Finance Director Matt Zook, Library Director Greg Williams, Economic Development Manager James Graham, Economic Development Coordinator Ann Griffin, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Denise Conrad

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. List of Future Work Session Agenda Items

Tony Konkol, City Manager, reviewed upcoming work session agenda items to include park fees, code enforcement complaints, inflow and infiltration lateral improvements, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for downtown public restrooms, community survey results, City-designated speed limits, and street design standards. In March there will be a joint meeting with the Planning Commission.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Charter Park Designations Update

Denise Conrad, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, discussed issues related to designating the Ermatinger House, Dement Park, Sportcraft Landing, McLoughlin Promenade, and Clairmont Way as Charter Parks.

Clairmont Way contains Bonneville Power Administration and Portland General Electric easement overlays with restrictions on what is allowed or can be developed on the property. A consensus was reached to leave Clairmont Way as-is due to street traffic, power lines, and development restrictions.

Dement Park has steep slope overlays and does not meet the minimum park standard at 0.4 acres. A consensus was reached to designate it as a Charter Park and reach out to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and the Rivercrest Neighborhood Association for input and ideas.

A consensus was reached to create a lot line adjustment to designate the Ermatinger House as a Charter Park. The lot line adjustment would match the historic registry lot designation.

Commissioner Smith suggested McLoughlin Promenade should be a charter park so that the Bluff remains a public place. Hurdles such as significant private encroachments, utility easements, the historic use of other jurisdictions, and the maintenance of historic features were discussed. A consensus was reached to get more information on private encroachments before moving forward.

A consensus was reached to leave Sportcraft Landing as-is due to third-party lease options.

3. Review of the Economic Development Strategic Plan

James Graham, Economic Development Manager, and Ann Griffin, Economic Development Coordinator, gave a review of the Economic Development Strategic Plan, including its history, achievements, and next steps.

Mr. Graham reviewed challenges related to tourism, including programming and volunteer capacity for non-profit sites and adversarial politics. Due to these challenges, Mr. Graham suggested using transient lodging tax to contract with a Destination Management Organization (DMO) as quickly as possible.

Mayor McGriff requested information on the collaboration between City staff, the Downtown Oregon City Association (DOCA), and the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Griffin said she speaks with staff at both agencies on a regular basis and that the city promotes Chamber programs and DOCA events.

Commissioner Smith asked how the DMO would come about and where it would be housed. Mr. Graham said the DMO would be housed outside the city and paid for with transient lodging tax.

Commissioner Smith asked for clarification on the \$76,000 encumbrance for the Concierge Institute. Mr. Graham said \$24,000 was for a grant to purchase merchandise, \$40,000 was to hire a Volunteer Coordinator, and the remainder would pay for part-time facility interns.

Commissioner Mitchell suggested changing the name of the Concierge Institute because the institute does more than train people. He supports contracting with a DMO and suggested there may not be enough time for a DMO to support local events this summer and suggested that the city support local events this summer.

Discussion occurred over how to cover tourism services until a DMO is hired. Mayor McGriff suggested hiring a temporary position for this role.

Commissioner Mitchell suggested that relationships with DOCA and the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce should be strengthened so that all organizations are on the same page.

Commissioner Marl asked if the part-time Volunteer Coordinator position could be combined with the part-time Community Engagement Coordinator position to create a full-time role. Tony Konkol, City Manager, said this could be discussed as part of the budget process and mentioned that the role of Volunteer Coordinator would not exist with the establishment of a DMO.

Commissioner O'Donnell said he is concerned that there is no product available for tourism, and suggested that common staffing, operating hours, and ticketing occur. He said the city's river assets should be taken advantage of and suggested creating partnerships for land opportunities to attract large businesses. Mayor McGriff said small businesses comprise 95% of Oregon business and that all paths for economic development should be taken.

A consensus was reached that the Economic Development Plan would return to the City Commission for approval following goal setting and budgeting and that the city would handle marketing and support of summer events before contracting with a DMO.

The commission took a break from 8:17 PM to 8:28 PM.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Konkol provided information on upcoming meeting dates for the budget process. A consensus was reached to release the budget document on April 5, 2023 with approximately one week in between budget meetings.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. Commissioner Smith

- Clackamas Heritage Partners
- Oregon City Tourism Stakeholder's Group
- South Fork Water Board

Commissioner Smith had nothing to report, as the committees had not recently met.

6. Commissioner Marl

- Citizen Involvement Committee Liaison
- Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4)
- Clackamas County I-205 Tolling Diversion Committee

Commissioner Marl said he requested a parks fees conversation in which neighborhood associations are included to discuss who to charge for City facility reservations. He commended City staff for their work on finding meeting spaces for Citizen Involvement Committee meetings.

C4 approved a Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP) letter. Commissioner Marl ensured the items from Oregon City's RMPP letter were included in the C4 RMPP letter.

The Tolling Diversion Committee reviewed ODOT's proposed mitigation strategies for impacted intersections in 2027 and 2045. He said the changes would not be paid for by the city but that they were safety improvements and not diversion improvements. He said there was a high reliance on TriMet transit, but that TriMet is lacking in opportunities and staff. He added that ODOT's studies are based on traffic counts from 2015.

7. Commissioner Mitchell

- Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) – Metro Subcommittee
- Clackamas County I-205 Tolling Diversion Committee (alternate)
- Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) (alternate)

Commissioner Mitchell said the C4 Metro Subcommittee also heard the ODOT presentation for proposed mitigation strategies. He said their position is that by 2045 I-205 will be so good that no one will be using 7th and Main. He said some of their responses to the mitigation concerns on 7th and Main included "it's still being looked at," "the ultimate solution has not been arrived at yet," and they are "still running simulations of downtown." Commissioner Mitchell said there seems to be no resolution for 7th and Main mitigation without property acquisition.

8. Mayor McGriff

- Clackamas Water Environment Services Policy Committee
- Clackamas Heritage Partners (alternate)
- Downtown Oregon City Association Board
- Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC)

- Oregon City Tourism Stakeholder's Group
- South Fork Water Board
- Willamette Falls and Landings Heritage Area
- Willamette Falls Legacy Project Liaisons

Mayor McGriff reported that the upcoming Water Environment Services (WES) meeting would review upcoming programming for the year, including a proposal with SOLVE, discussions of inflow and infiltration, and a budget review.

Funding expired in December for the Downtown Oregon City Association's Clean and Safe staff member.

MPAC met mid-December and discussed a property exchange with the City of Tigard, which Clackamas County did not support. Vice Chair Vince Jones-Dixon will take Mayor Joe Buck's position as Chair.

South Fork Water Board staff are working to set up a meeting room for in-person meetings.

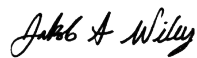
The upcoming Willamette Falls and Landings Heritage Area retreat will discuss how to bring more people to the table, including other tribes, and conduct an internal DEI review, including website changes and hiring an intern to document the influence of Chinese Americans on the area.

Oregon City is hosting the Clackamas Cities Association Dinner on January 26, 2023. The theme will be Oregon City birthdays.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGriff adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jakob S. Wiley, City Recorder