



CITY OF OREGON CITY CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MEETING MINUTES

Hanlon Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION

1. CONVENE MEETING AND ROLL CALL

Mayor McGriff convened the meeting at 7:11 P.M.

PRESENT: 5 - Commissioner Mike Mitchell, Commissioner Rocky Smith, Commissioner Scott Wilson, Mayor McGriff

EXCUSED: 1 Commissioner Adam Marl

STAFFERS: 7 - City Manager Tony Konkol, Assistant City Manager Alex Rains, City Recorder Jakob Wiley, Police Chief Shaun Davis, Parks and Recreation Director Scott Archer, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director Tom Kissinger, Economic Development Manager James Graham

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. CEREMONIES AND PROCLAMATIONS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Shaun Davis, Police Chief, gave a statement about immigration enforcement concerns.

Tara Wanstall, business owner on Main Street, spoke about the impact of event-related closures on Main Street and the gaps in the current permitting process that left local businesses vulnerable. Event applications were largely approved automatically with no vetting process to make sure the event was aligned with the City's mission or economic goals. Many events did not communicate with businesses and brought in external vendors who directly competed with local storefronts. She suggested creating clear evaluation criteria for event related closures which included business impact and required involvement with the businesses with a verifiable notification process.

William Gifford, resident of Oregon City, discussed a redesign of the City's flag and how NAVA, North American Vexillological Association, would be happy to help organize the design process for free. NAVA had similarly helped other cities across the country and world in the same way.

Amy Mitchell, resident of Oregon City, spoke about Oregon City Indivisible and their stand on constitutional rights. She thought police officers needed to protect citizens and document violence and illegal acts by ICE. They needed to use their professional equipment and voice to match and overpower the intimidating energy of ICE and be on the side of the people they served.

Mike Stencil, resident of Tualatin but grew up in Oregon City, read a statement about ICE and how they were arresting people with no warrants, identification, or probable cause. He did not think their actions should be allowed. They needed to stand up for the people who were being abducted without due process.

Jen Mess, resident of Oregon City, discussed how her neighbors had organized a volunteer escort system for those who were fearful of ICE actions. This was not what a safe and inclusive community looked like. She asked the Commission to pass a resolution that clearly stated Oregon City would uphold their sanctuary laws.

5. PRESENTATIONS

a. Oregon Department of Forestry Presentation on Emerald Ash Borer

Tom Kissinger, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director, introduced the topic.

Kat Bethea and Matt Mills, Emerald Ash Borer Specialists with Oregon Department of Forestry, gave a presentation on managing Emerald Ash Borer in Oregon 2025 updates. They explained what the Borer was, US detections and rate of spread by year, five infested counties in Oregon, the infestation timeline, impact on the urban forest, dangers of dying Ash, financial implications, policy proposals, quarantine on potentially infected materials, highlights for communication with the public, and available state resources.

There was discussion regarding species that could kill the Borer, where the Ash population was in Oregon City, taking Ash off the approved street tree list, and effective treatments.

b. Updates from Seth Henderson, Level Development NW, on the Redevelopment of the Courthouse Property on Main Street

Seth Henderson, Level Development NW, gave an update on the Oregon City five story mixed-use building and Liberty Plaza project. He explained the proposed program and concept, schematic concept, highlights of where they were currently in the process, and steps to begin construction in 2027.

There was discussion regarding retail on the first floor, height restrictions downtown, the future of Liberty Plaza, and scheduling future updates.

6. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Mayor McGriff, Commissioner Mitchell, Commissioner Wilson, and Commissioner Smith

- a. Resolution 25-36, Updating the Appointment Process for Planning Commission, Historic Review Board, and Urban Renewal Commission**
- b. DMMO's Coordination and Marketing Plans**
- c. Investment Policy Annual Reapproval**
- d. Personal Services Agreement with AKS Engineering & Forestry, LLC for design and engineering at Clackamette Park**
- e. Personal Services Agreement with Mowreader Computer Consulting LLC for Police Information Technology Services**
- f. Minutes of the September 10, 2024 City Commission Work Session**
- g. Minutes of the February 19, 2025 City Commission Regular Meeting**
- h. Minutes of the March 04, 2025 City Commission Special Interview Meeting**
- i. Minutes of the March 05, 2025 City Commission Regular Meeting**

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Adaptive Re-Use Historic Facade Improvements Update - 703 Main Street

James Graham, Economic Development Manager, said the applicant was seeking assistance for the project at 703 Main Street. The Commission deemed this a project of interest but wanted more information about the façade which the applicant presented at the last meeting. The Commission requested a revision of the façade renderings, and it was being brought back to tonight's meeting.

Derek Metson, representing the applicant, reviewed the project location, existing street view, historic photos of the original façade, proposed street façade with the adjusted rendering, proposed view looking south, proposed view looking north, proposed alley view, and project vision.

There was discussion about the adaptive reuse criteria and making sure frosted glass was not used across the whole storefront.

Motion by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Mayor McGriff, to authorize staff to move forward with the next step in the grant process. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Mayor McGriff, Commissioner Mitchell, Commissioner Wilson, and Commissioner Smith

b. Ordinance 25-1016 - An ordinance of the City of Oregon City amending the Oregon City Municipal Code creating section 9.36 Civil Exclusion Zone applicable within the Downtown Core Area, establishing procedures and penalties

Shaun Davis, Police Chief, said at the September 09, 2025, Work Session the Commission discussed civil exclusions in the downtown core area. The Commission directed staff to bring back an ordinance amending the municipal code and a draft map of the boundaries in the downtown core area. He reviewed the history of park exclusions in the City and the proposed changes. This would be similar to what was done for park exclusions and had enforcement and an appeals process.

There was discussion regarding staff training, how there were separate exclusions for the library and parks, how repeat offenses would be handled, allowing the Chief to authorize law enforcement personnel not employed by the city to issue exclusions, how a person who had been excluded could still obtain services at the Caring Place, and staff bringing back a report on how the program was going

Commissioner Mitchell wanted to ensure that the Chief would only be allowed to authorize outside law enforcement to issue exclusions in times of emergency. There was discussion about how best to define what would qualify as an emergency. This change should not be taken as a requirement that the Commission or City Manager would need to issue an emergency declaration. Commissioner Mitchell only wanted to ensure that the Chief would not be able to use this on a routine basis.

The Commission agreed that the last sentence of Section 9.36.040 should be amended to read "In emergency situations, the Chief of Police shall have the ability to authorize law enforcement personnel other than that employed by the City to enforce the terms of this chapter."

Motion by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the first reading of Ordinance 25-1016, an ordinance of the City of Oregon City amending the Oregon City Municipal Code creating section 9.36 Civil Exclusion Zone applicable within the Downtown Core Area, establishing procedures and penalties, as amended above. The motion carried by the following vote:

YES: Mayor McGriff, Commissioner Mitchell, Commissioner Wilson, and Commissioner Smith

10. COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager – None

Commissioners

Commissioner Mitchell suggested a discussion of downtown street closures and special events impacts on businesses as a future Work Session topic.

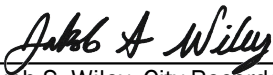
Mayor

Mayor McGriff said the police stuffy dogs were back. The Giving Tree was up at the Pioneer Community Center.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGriff adjourned the meeting at 9:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Jakob S. Wiley, City Recorder
Date Approved: July 15, 2026