



COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

City Hall Council Chambers, 10501 SE Main Street
& Zoom Video Conference (www.milwaukieoregon.gov)

2415th Meeting

MINUTES

DECEMBER 3, 2024

Council Present: Councilors Will Anderson, Adam Khosroabadi, Rebecca Stavenjord, and Council President Robert Massey, and Mayor Lisa Batey

Staff Present: Joseph Briglio, Assistant City Manager
Tanya Battye, Civil Engineer
Jennifer Garbely, City Engineer
Justin Gericke, City Attorney
Emma Sagor, City Manager
Scott Stauffer, City Recorder

Mayor Batey called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Native Lands Acknowledgment.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Batey announced upcoming activities, including information sessions on the Transportation System Plan (TSP) and floodplain code updates, the city's Umbrella Parade and Winter Solstice events, the ongoing leaf drop off event, the opening of a new downtown Milwaukie business, and the reopening of Scott Park.

Mayor Batey read an Umbrella Parade themed haiku poem.

3. PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS

A. Outstanding Milwaukie High School (MHS) / Milwaukie Academy of the Arts (MAA) Student – Award

Kim Kellogg, MHS Principal, introduced MAA student Stella Gaydos and Council congratulated them on their academic and extracurricular activities.

B. Christmas Ships – Proclamation

Stauffer commented on the Ship's 2024 sailing season and the city's winter events at Milwaukie Bay Park. **Mayor Batey** proclaimed Christmas Ships Days in Milwaukie.

4. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. None Scheduled.

5. COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Mayor Batey reviewed the comment procedures. **Sagor** noted there was no follow-up from the November 19 comments and reported that court staff had responded to November 5 comments related to a traffic citation.

Amy Ryman, Milwaukie resident, commented on an ongoing noise nuisance situation and asked for the city's help in resolving the issues.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Anderson noted a scrivener’s error in the November 5, 2024, regular session minutes. **Stauffer** confirmed the error would be fixed.

It was moved by Councilor Khosroabadi and seconded by Councilor Stavenjord to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. City Council Meeting Minutes:**
 - 1. November 5, 2024, work session, and**
 - 2. November 5, 2024, regular session.**
- B. Resolution 62-2024: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Milwaukie, Oregon, authorizing an increase in the project authorization for a public improvement contract with Tapani, Inc. for the Meek Street Pipe Installation North Phase (CIP-2016-Y11).**

Motion passed with the following vote: Councilors Anderson, Khosroabadi, Massey, and Stavenjord and Mayor Batey voting “aye.” [5:0]

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Monroe and Washington Greenway – Update

Garbely and **Battye** provided an update on the greenway project, noting the location of curb, sidewalk, and crosswalk improvements, where the roadway would shift and where trees would be removed or built around, and plans to install signage. They discussed how on-street parking would be impacted and how the city and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) would engage the community and impacted homeowners.

Councilor Khosroabadi, Battye, and Garbely remarked on how driveways along the greenway that are not in compliance with the city code would be rebuilt by the project.

Battye reported on project scope reductions that had been made due to a lack of funding, and suggested the project would be under construction by summer 2026.

The group commented that the project was at risk of losing more funding due to how long it had taken to get to the construction phase, what elements of the project might be restored if additional funding was secured, and that based on the current project timeline the construction open house would be in spring 2026.

Mayor Batey reviewed the comment procedures.

Bernie Stout, Milwaukie resident, asked if Garrett Drive was part of the city’s planned Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements and requested that a flashing beacon be installed on Washington Street. **Mayor Batey** confirmed that staff planned to add a beacon if extra funding was secured.

Dennis Tarr, Milwaukie resident, asked about the bicycle pathway along the greenway from downtown to the Seven Acres Apartments. **Mayor Batey** noted that part of the greenway would be designed in 2026. They also noted the part of Washington Street currently under construction would be resurfaced before the project was completed.

Karin Levine, Milwaukie resident, remarked that the project engagement plan had failed to communicate to residents and suggested the city didn’t listen to residents’ comments. **Mayor Batey** noted that the public could communicate with Council directly by emailing ocr@milwaukieoregon.gov.

Battye confirmed that a flashing beacon at Washington Street and 37th Avenue would be added to the project if additional funding was secured. **Mayor Batey** and **Garbely** noted that flashing beacons cost around \$50,000.

Battye confirmed that the downtown to Seven Acres segment of the greenway had not been designed yet. **Battye** and **Garbely** noted how staff had distributed project information to the community.

8. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Quarterly Fee Schedule Revisions – Resolution

Call to Order: **Mayor Batey** called the public hearing on the proposed fee schedule revisions, to order at 7:46 p.m.

Purpose: **Mayor Batey** announced that the purpose of the hearing was to receive a staff update and consider a resolution adopting fee schedule changes.

Conflict of Interest: No Council member declared a conflict of interest.

Staff Report: **Briglio** explained that the city had previously received a request from Reliable Credit to reduce the quarterly parking permit rate to encourage better use of the available public parking spaces. **Sagor** added that staff would review the entire fee schedule in 2025 and explained that the parking permit change had been brought forward now to ensure the lower permit fee was available to all parking customers. **Sagor** and **Briglio** reported that the lowered fee had resulted in more permits being purchased. Staff would monitor the permit purchases in the coming months and adjust the fee as necessary.

Mayor Batey remarked that the permit prices had been set to match the cost of a monthly TriMet transit pass to encourage people to use public transit instead of personal vehicles. **Batey** and **Briglio** remarked on how many additional passes had been purchased by downtown businesses since the fee had been lowered.

Councilor Stavenjard asked if the permit system tracked whether the employee using the permit worked full- or part-time. **Sagor** and **Briglio** confirmed the permit system did not track employment status and suggested staff would investigate the permit system.

Council President Massey, Briglio, and Sagor noted that Reliable Credit owned much of the block their building was located on, that per a change in the code nine years ago they had one more year to employ the option to demolish the existing storefronts to make a parking lot for their employees, and that the city had no assurances from Reliable Credit that they would not tear down the storefronts.

Councilor Khosroabadi expressed concern about Reliable Credit leveraging the lowered permit price against the city. The group noted that the city did not control the development of private property and **Mayor Batey** explained how Reliable Credit had received the 10-year timeframe to consider demolishing Main Street storefronts.

Councilor Anderson remarked on balancing downtown parking and environmental concerns with the desire for a lively downtown.

Correspondence: **Sagor** reported that one email had been received regarding downtown parking from the Business of Milwaukie (BOM) group.

Conduct of Hearing: **Mayor Batey** reviewed the comment procedures.

Audience Testimony: No audience member wished to speak to Council.

Close Public Comment: **It was moved by Councilor Khosroabadi and seconded by Councilor Stavenjord to close the public comment part of the fee schedule revision hearing. Motion passed with the following vote: Councilors Anderson, Khosroabadi, Massey, and Stavenjord and Mayor Batey voting “aye.” [5:0]**

Mayor Batey closed the public comment part of the hearing at 8:05 p.m.

Council Discussion: **Mayor Batey** remarked on balancing previous Council direction to encourage public transit and helping businesses encourage their employees return to in-person work. **Batey** noted plans for Council conversations about the Harrison and Main parking lot and the parking fee schedule at future meetings.

The group discussed the city’s position in encouraging Reliable Credit to not tear down storefront businesses and how big of an impact the permit fee reduction would have on revenue and the environment.

Mayor Batey believed the fee change would have less of a revenue impact, would encourage employees to come back to work, and would impact climate goals.

Councilor Stavenjord, Briglio, and Sagor remarked that permits were assigned to vehicles and not individuals and what the city could look at doing with the permit system in the future. They commented on how to construct a parking permit system that would encourage the use of public transit.

Councilor Anderson left the meeting at 8:15 p.m. and returned at 8:16 p.m.

Councilor Anderson agreed with Councilor Stavenjord about structuring the permit system, noted the need for a larger discussion about downtown parking, and agreed with the staff recommendation.

Councilor Khosroabadi and Mayor Batey suggested the new businesses coming to downtown would increase the demand for parking.

Council Decision: **It was moved by Councilor Khosroabadi and seconded by Councilor Stavenjord to approve the resolution revising Section 4 of the Fee Schedule for downtown parking. Motion passed with the following vote: Councilors Anderson, Khosroabadi, Massey, and Stavenjord voting “aye” and Mayor Batey voting “no.” [4:1]**

Resolution 63-2024:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKIE, OREGON, REVISING SECTION 4 OF THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR DOWNTOWN PARKING.

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

A. Quarterly Council Budget Review – Report

Sagor noted why Council had requested regular updates on its budget in a public meeting and suggested the regularity of the updates could be reduced. **Stauffer** provided a brief report on Council expenses in the current fiscal year to-date and asked for Council input on using funds designated for lobbying.

Mayor Batey and Sagor remarked on the need for Council to discuss how Council members can use their education and training budget.

Mayor Batey suggested the city should spend lobbying money in support of the Kellogg Creek Dam removal project. **Councilor Stavenjord** suggested Council discuss its overall legislative priorities and how lobbying funds could be used to support those priorities. The group discussed the city's participation in the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) 2025 legislative priorities process, the need for Council to discuss legislative priorities, and the need for brief talking points to support the Council's legislative goals.

B. Council Goal Setting Process – Check-In

Sagor reviewed Council's goal setting discussion at the November mini retreat, presented a draft of possible Council goals, and asked for Council feedback.

Council President Massey, Mayor Batey, and Sagor commented on how the public would weigh-in on the potential goals. **Massey** observed that the city would work on some of the proposed goals anyway and **Batey** believed making an issue a goal would help ensure it gets worked on.

Councilor Anderson remarked on the possibility that some goal ideas could be doubled-up into a single goal and whether the city prioritizing certain big projects would make a difference in achieving the project. **Sagor** remarked on how the public engagement materials would be worded to best structure public feedback.

Council discussed whether any of the proposed goals should be removed from consideration and how to best get feedback on the goals from the public. It was Council consensus to not remove any of the proposed goals.

Mayor Batey proposed wording changes to the parks, financial stability, and help Milwaukians most in need goals. **Councilor Stavenjord, Batey, and Sagor** commented on how to word the goals.

Sagor summarized the plan to hold a goal setting town hall on January 7, 2025, and have Council set new goals during the annual retreat on January 31 and February 1.

The group discussed rewording the affordability goal.

C. Council Reports

Council President Massey reported on a recent North Clackamas Watershed Council (NCWC) meeting that featured updates on the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) system plan and the Kellogg Creek Dam removal project.

Councilor Anderson reported on recent Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) project prioritization work, Governor Tina Kotek's recent statewide housing report, and recent neighborhood district association (NDA) meetings.

Councilor Khosroabadi reported on a recent North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce meeting that looked at ways to make Oregon a more business-friendly state, and a meeting with Island Station neighborhood residents about the Sparrow Site.

Councilor Stavenjord reported on escorting Millie the Goose on Small Business Saturday and thanked the businesses who participated in the event.

Mayor Batey reported on Metro's supporting housing services (SHS) bond measure and noted that an update on the city's ongoing parks governance discussion was scheduled for a future Council meeting.

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Sagor provided an update on traffic speed data collected along the 29th Avenue Greenway at Boyd Street, noting that daily maximum vehicle speed traveled had dropped since additional signage had been placed by the city. The group discussed what the speed data confirms about comments from the community about vehicle speeding experiences along the greenway.

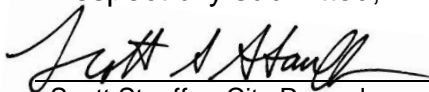
Councilor Stavenjord shared photos of Millie the Goose on Small Business Saturday.

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Stavenjord and seconded by Councilor Khosroabadi to adjourn the Regular Session. Motion passed with the following vote: Councilors Anderson, Khosroabadi, Massey, and Stavenjord and Mayor Batey voting “aye.” [5:0]

Mayor Batey adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Stauffer, City Recorder