



Minutes of the Molalla City Council Meeting

Molalla Adult Community Center
315 Kennel Ave., Molalla, OR 97038
March 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The Molalla City Council Meeting of March 10, 2021 was called to order by Mayor Scott Keyser at 7:00pm

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

Mayor Scott Keyser, Council President Leota Childress, Councilor Elizabeth Klein, Councilor Terry Shankle, Councilor Jody Newland, Councilor Crystal Robles, Councilor Steve Deller.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Dan Huff, City Manager; Gerald Fisher, Public Works Director; Chaunee Seifried, Finance Director; Mac Corthell, Planning Director; Christie DeSantis, City Recorder.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, CEREMONIES

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Todd Gary, Molalla resident. Mr. Gary addressed the Council regarding SDC's for Food Carts. Mr. Gary acknowledged that Food Carts are something new for cities to create Ordinances and policies for, as carts currently do not have City guidelines. He requested when Council is considering SDC's for Food Carts, that it be considered a stand alone item, and not grouped in with a brick and mortar restaurant or drive-thru restaurant.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilor Newland to approved the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilor Shankle. Vote passed 7-0 with all Councilors voting Aye.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Finance Director Seifried explained to Council that it is time to update our Worker's Compensation Policy for City volunteers. The Resolution presented takes care of those updates.

A motion was made by Councilor Newland to adopt Resolution No. 2021-07, Extending Worker's Compensation to City Volunteers, seconded by Councilor Robles. Vote passed 7-0 with all Councilors voting Aye.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Planning Director Corthell revisited the Mobile Food Unit (MFU) Ordinance that has been under review. Mayor Keyser asked how Council could lower the costs of SDC's for Food Carts. Mr. Corthell explained that the SDC's for Food Carts are separate from the Ordinance itself.

Council President Childress stated that she was not willing to approve the MFU Ordinance while the SDC's were so high. Council Shankle reminded her that SDC's for carts were already in place. After further discussion from Council regarding Mobile Food Units vs. SDC's, Mr. Fisher joined the conversation.

Mr. Fisher explained to Council that there are two separate issues going on. Council is going to talk about Transportation SDC's at the next Work Session (March 24, 2021). That session will highlight what SDC's are going to be kept for current projects, and also discuss which will be removed, as that sets costs for SDC's per trip. He shared that Council has the ability to reduce or eliminate SDC's for certain projects. Mr. Fisher also cautioned Council that if they were to make that decision, they would be asked by others to reduce or eliminate their fees.

Councilor Deller asked what classification the permanent MFU's fall under for SDC's. Mr. Corthell stated that it would fall under Mobile Food Units. This classification is still in process. He also asked who is in charge of the setting the SDC standards. Mr. Fisher answered that it is from the ITE Manual, which is a Transportation Engineering manual. He also stated that it is the National Standard.

Councilor Klein stated that after reviewing how other cities are implementing MFU policies, it appears confusing for everyone. She shared that what may work for Happy Valley may not work for a city like Wilsonville. Councilor Klein wants us to be mindful that the plans we put in place represent Molalla. She also requested that Staff and Council move quickly to fast track this situation. Mr. Fisher stated that he could not provide an SDC ordinance for MFU's until the Transportation SDC portion had been completed, as it sets the dollar amount. Councilor Klein asked if there was a possibility of working on these items simultaneously, in order to come to a conclusion faster. Mr. Fisher said that he will try. He reminded Council that if something has an impact on any of the public systems it gets charged SDC's. He also stated that council has authority to change that if they wish to.

Mr. Huff addressed the Council, asking them to refer to Mr. Corthell's memo regarding the timeline for MFU's. The timeline was to have a discussion at this meeting, a discussion at the March 24th meeting, and an Ordinance presented at the April 14th meeting. One of the items Mr. Huff felt was obvious by Council discussion is the concern about how much a Mobile Food Unit will be charged in SDC's. SDC's are not a Land Use decision that is made, the Land Use part of it simply states that there will be a charge for an SDC.

Staff recognizes the issue for Council is the amount of the SDC fee proposed for Mobile Food Units. Handling Mobile Food Unit SDC's through Land Use regulations is not appropriate. Staff will rework the timeline and process and bring a revised decision back to Council at a future meeting.

Mr. Huff presented an updated Council Goals spreadsheet from the Council Retreat in January. Council had previously requested that items be grouped together by department. Mr. Huff requested that Council give any updates or revisions to him either after the meeting, or via email once everyone has had a chance to review. The final draft will be brought back for Council approval.

Mr. Huff shared a letter he had written to Clackamas County regarding Molalla's participation in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Racial Research Program. The letter has not been mailed at this time. Mr. Huff stated that in his time as City Manager, the City has fought hard to be represented in Clackamas County, and that it is important to continue to do so.

Council President Childress was in favor of the letter. Councilor Newland asked what prompted the letter. Mr. Huff stated that he drafted the letter after a conversation with the County Administrator. Councilors discussed the option of making a donation at a later date.

Councilor Robles was concerned that Council sent the wrong message to the community by saying we would not participate on a financial level. She thinks it is important to note that there is difference between a language barrier in the community, and a race issue in a community. Councilor Robles acknowledged that there are under-served communities in every city or community. The message that she received from the minority communities is that the City should participate fully, in order to see what opportunities will come from Clackamas County.

STAFF REPORTS

Planning Director Corthell shared a document regarding Mobile Food Units. He also shared that Economic Development Action Teams are beginning to meet. He also invited community members to contact him if they would like to participate.

Finance Director Seifried had nothing to report.

Public Works Director Fisher informed the Council that he is reading through an avalanche of House Bills that are coming through. He is paying special attention to anything that will affect the City of Molalla. He also shared his concern about heavy traffic and kids going back to school. He encouraged drivers to slow down and watch for students. Mr. Fisher reminded the community that if they have a Public Works concern, to please contact the City. People can come to City Hall to fill out a Citizen Concern Form, or they can also fill out the form electronically on the City's website.

Councilor Newland asked Mr. Fisher to explain to the community why Clark Park is still closed. Mr. Fisher explained that there is still a lot of tree debris from the ice storm. An arborist is assessing tree damage, and they are preparing to remove the last of the debris. Public Works has been very busy with clean-up around town, so Clark Park will be closed until they can properly clean it so it is safe for park users.

City Recorder DeSantis reminded community members that Friday, March 19th is the final day to submit Budget Committee applications. Applicants are being interviewed by Council on Wednesday, March 24, 2021.

City Manager Huff had nothing to report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Deller relayed a story of a church that had set-up a Relief Fund during the Wildfire event. The church was able to assist 72 families during that time. There was so much money donated, that they were able to create four \$30,000 grants to local Fire Districts with the remaining funds. Recipients are Colton, Molalla, Yoder, and Scotts Mills Fire Departments.

Councilor Robles shared that the Molalla Public Library is holding a soft opening, re-enstating browsing hours.

Councilor Newland announced that a plaque ceremony is being held at the Fire Department on Saturday, March 13, 2021 to honor everyone that helped during the wildfires in September.

Councilor Shankle had nothing to report.

Council President Childress and former Mayor Swigart attended a meeting recently regarding low-income housing options in Molalla. The meeting was based on questioning what Molalla's needs are in regard to homeless housing, Veteran's housing, low-income housing, etc. No decision has been made, but the overall discussion was in favor of low-income housing.

Councilor Klein had nothing to report.

Mayor Keyser reported that the Molalla Aquatic Center is serving as many people as possible each day. He asked that the community be patient while they are reopening. Mayor Keyser also asked about a Parks Fundraiser, in order to get equipment replaced. Mr. Huff replied that there is a public fundraiser line item in the budget for people to donate to, so that would be fine. Molalla Cares held a final Debris Day last Saturday, that Mayor Keyser felt was a big success.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Keyser recessed Regular Session at 8:07pm. Executive Session was held pursuant to Oregon Public Record Law, ORS 192.660(2):

(e) To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

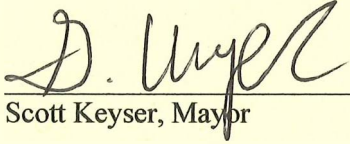
(h) To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

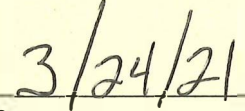
Regular Session was reconvened by Mayor Keyser at 8:45pm.

ADJOURN

As there was no further business, the City Council meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.



Scott Keyser, Mayor



Date

ATTEST: 

Christie DeSantis, City Recorder