



City of Molalla
City Council - Regular Meeting
Minutes – September 25, 2024
Molalla Civic Center | 315 Kennel Ave. | Molalla, OR

CALL TO ORDER

The Molalla City Council Meeting of September 25, 2024 was called to order by Mayor Scott Keyser at 7:00pm.

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Scott Keyser, Council President Jody Newland, Councilor Leota Childress, Councilor Terry Shankle, Councilor Eric Vermillion, Councilor RaeLynn Botsford, and Councilor Darci Lightner.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Dan Huff, City Manager; Mac Corthell, Assistant City Manager; Bobby Call, Lieutenant MPD; Crystal Robles, Records Specialist.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. City Council Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2024

ACTION:

Councilor Botsford moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Councilor Vermillion seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

AYES: Vermillion, Shankle, Childress, Newland, Botsford, Lightner, Keyser.

NAYS: None.

ABSENTIONS: None.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, CEREMONIES

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug Gilmer, City Council Candidate: Doug Gilmer began by thanking the audience for the opportunity to speak, introducing himself as a candidate for City Council. He shared the news of his full endorsement from Clackamas County Commissioner Chair Tootie Smith and expressed his pride in being a lifelong resident of Molalla. He recalled significant challenges, like the 2020 Fires just as he remembered the Timber Bomb and its downfall in the 1980's and 1990's due to the Spotted Owl. He emphasized his deep connection to the community during both good and difficult times. Witnessing young and seasoned community members come together to overcome great challenges time and time again. Gilmer is committed to preserving Molalla's small-town values and highlighted his experience in volunteering, serving on boards, and building relationships with community leaders and residents. He pledged to be a collaborative and responsive council member with a vision for Molalla that includes: improving infrastructure, fostering small business growth, enhancing public services and promoting events that highlight this city. He believes in listening to the community while working addressing important community concerns by making thoughtful decisions based on facts and values. Mr. Gilmer stressed the importance of listening to residents and has a goal of ensuring Molalla continues to thrive. He further noted he was eager to work together to make Molalla an even better place to live, work, and raise families. He concluded by thanking everyone for their time and consideration and looks forward to contributing to Molalla, expressing his passion and commitment to serving and his eagerness to contribute to the City's future.

Amy Williams, Mayoral Candidate: reintroduced herself as a candidate for Mayor of Molalla. She shared her journey of moving to Molalla in 2020 but emphasized her deep connection to the community, which began in 2009 when she served on the Molalla Buckeroo Rodeo Court. Ms. Williams highlighted her extensive community service experience, which she balanced while working full-time as a medical assistant and earning a degree in Human Development and Family Science from Oregon State University...GO Beaves! She discussed her involvement in local organizations in addition to her previous work as a case manager and adult protective services worker, where she gained valuable insights into safeguarding seniors and individuals with disabilities. She shared her experience as a small business owner and her family background in farming. As a working mother,

Williams expressed confidence in her ability to balance family and public service, noting working mothers bring valuable perspectives and strength to our community. She emphasized her commitment to supporting small businesses, promoting community activities, and ensuring a bright future for Molalla, while bringing passion and progress to the role of mayor. She expressed gratitude for raising her child in Molalla, a community that provides a safe environment and enriching activities, including the local library and park. Williams concluded by stating that she would be honored to serve as mayor, pledging to strengthen community ties and work toward a bright future for all residents. She conveyed her passion for maintaining the small-town charm of Molalla while driving continued progress.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. CCPOA Sergeant Contract (Long)

City Manager Huff began by noting that the CCPOA Contract was originally scheduled for discussion at the Council Meeting on September 11, 2024 but was presented at tonight's meeting. Although Chief Long was absent, Lieutenant Bobby Call was present to address any questions regarding the contract, sergeants, and/or the differences between sergeants and police officers.

Mr. Huff explained that a recent change in state law now allows sergeants to unionize, which was not the case previously. Molalla Police Department Sergeants are now Unionized under the same Union as Police Officers, however in a different unit. The contract was anticipated and budgeted for; negotiations did not begin until August 2024, missing the July 1st Budget deadline. Nevertheless, the anticipated funding was close to the adopted budget. Mr. Huff informed the Mayor and Council that the contract needs to be ratified and direction given for the the City Manager to CCPOA Contract.

Councilor Botsford asked about the difference between a Sergeant and a Police Officer? Lt. Call explained Sergeants hold a first-line supervisor role, often the first to respond when a citizen requests a supervisor on the scene. They command higher-profile incidents and receive additional training and certifications. Additionally, sergeants assume direct supervisory responsibilities over patrol officers. Further answering Molalla currently has four sergeants, who handle administrative tasks, scheduling, and patrol work. Adding the city maintains a fair ratio of sergeants to patrol officers, with no plans to add more sergeants under the current staffing. City Manager Huff added Sergeants also cover shifts and extended absences. Lt. Call confirmed that the sergeants are satisfied with the new contract. in response to a question from Councilor Childress.

Mr. Huff added to Councilor Childress's question by confirming there was no discord with the Police Association, and only minor contract adjustments were made to mirror in alignment with what officers have received previsouly.

ACTION:

Councilor Vermillion moved to approve the CCPOA Sergeant Contract; Councilor President Newland seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

AYES: Vermillion, Shankle, Childress, Newland, Botsford, Lightner, Keyser.

NAYS: None.

ABSENTIONS: None.

B. Library Director Report (Hadley)

Mr. Huff directed Council to Library Director Hadley's report that was provided in the packet, for Mayor and Council review. Councilor Botsford mentioned it was an important Report as a new D&D (Dungeons and Dragons) Group was started at the Library. Short discussion was had further expanding on what D&D stood for. 😊

STAFF COMMUNICATION

- **Lt. Bobby Call** was excited to be back in Council Chambers, happy to see everyone. He is excited about the MPD ground breaking and seeing the progress.
- **Records Specialist Crystal Robles:** No Report

- **Assistant City Manager Mac Corthell:** Apologized he did not have the quarterly report ready but promised to present it at the next council meeting. He explained he had been managing double duties as the wastewater treatment project was at a peak in administrative work, particularly around contract timing. He mentioned that Section Street, Ona Way, and the Library parking lot had all been repaved, with striping still pending due to weather conditions, on hold until there are a few drier days. He provided an update on the cross-section at Hwy. 211 in front of 1000 W. Main, which is beginning to take shape with sidewalk installations. Regarding the Wastewater Treatment Project, Mr. Corthell noted there were no significant updates, but the project is progressing appropriately. A groundbreaking is expected sometime in mid to late October, with a pre-construction conference planned for more details. Early work, such as erosion control and fencing to protect wetlands, is anticipated to begin in the next week or two.
 - **Mayor's Comment:** Expressed delight with the repaving of Section Street, sharing residents had given positive feedback. He was pleased that large trucks would no longer have to navigate potholes, and homes would no longer shake from the vibrations.
- **City Manager's Closing:** The City Manager thanked everyone and acknowledged his appreciation for his staff, especially when he is on vacation (does not occur often); sharing a humorous photo of Assistant City Manager Corthell having fun in his office while he was away, which prompted laughter and enjoyment from City Council and staff.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

- **Councilor Lightner:** No report.
- **Councilor Botsford:** Reported the last Chamber meeting had 27 attendees, one of the largest she's seen, which she attributed in part to Office Manager Jill and her dedicated efforts. She highlighted several upcoming events, including the "Fourth Friday" event, where local downtown businesses will offer babysitting services alongside a scavenger hunt called "The Harvest". Botsford reminded viewers next month the Downtown Trick-or-Treating event is coming up.
- **Councilor Vermillion:** Announced Operation Santa Open House Pancake Breakfast will take place on November 16th at 8 AM at the Molalla Fire Station. Further details can be found on their website.
- **Councilor Shankle:** Provided an update on the swimming pool, which was originally scheduled to open on October 1st, unfortunately the new opening date is October 6th, due to delays in plastering.
- **Councilor Childress:** No report.
- **Council President Newland:** Announced Fall Sign Class for the Parks CPC is scheduled for Saturday, September 28th, from 2-4 PM at the Molalla Library. Registration is still open, and participants can choose to create either a pumpkin or candy corn sign for \$35. She shared another Krispy Kreme donut fundraiser is set for October 12th from 9AM to noon (or until sold out), encouraging pre-orders to avoid disappointment after the success of the last event.
- **Mayor Scott Keyser:** Reminded everyone the Moose Lodge Car Show taking place this Saturday from 8 AM to 3 PM at Heckard Field, which continues to grow each year. He mentioned that he would be assisting the DJ at the event.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Keyser made an announcement that City Council will be returning to Executive Session 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. Recessed at 7:25 PM for an Executive Session.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Keyser reconvened Regular Session at 8:09pm and announced that no decisions were made during Executive Session.

ADJOURN

Mayor Keyser adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:10pm.

[For the complete video account of the City Council Meeting, please go to YouTube
"Molalla City Council Meetings – September 25, 2024"](#)



Scott Keyser, Mayor

PREPARED BY:



Crystal Robles, Records Specialist

ATTEST:



Christie Teets, CMC, City Recorder