



Minutes of the Molalla City Council Meeting

Molalla City Hall
117 N. Molalla Avenue, Molalla, OR 97038
February 23, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The Molalla City Council Meeting of February 23, 2022 was called to order by Mayor Scott Keyser at 7:08pm.

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Scott Keyser, Council President Jody Newland, Councilor Elizabeth Klein, Councilor Leota Childress, Councilor Terry Shankle, Councilor Crystal Robles, and Councilor Eric Vermillion.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Dan Huff, City Manager; Christie Teets, City Recorder.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2022

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

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, CEREMONIES

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Higginbotham, Molalla resident, attended a Molalla River School District Board Meeting recently, that Mayor Keyser also attended. Mr. Higginbotham felt it was inappropriate for Mayor Keyser to represent himself as the Mayor during his comments, as the remainder of the Council was not present. Mr. Higginbotham stated that the City Council and MRSD School Board are two separate entities and should remain as such.

Lisa Borowzak, Molalla resident and MRSD employee, stated that she was speaking on her own behalf regarding the recent School Board meeting. Ms. Borowzak had concerns regarding the Mayors statements at the meeting. She quoted that he stated "Council was sitting at a planning meeting, and I started getting blown up over drama going on in the school district" and "this community has a huge lack of confidence in the superintendent and the leadership he is providing our schools" and "if something doesn't happen soon the City's confidence will be failing in the School Board". Ms. Borowzak stated that although the City and School District do not always see eye to eye, that a professional courtesy has been provided to one another. She felt that both groups goal is to help our city and community be the best that we can be. She asked Council if they felt the same way as the Mayor, or was he speaking on his own behalf.

Councilor Shankle asked City staff if it was alright for Council to respond. As this was a Council issue, the answer was yes.

Mayor Keyser addressed Mr. Higginbotham and Ms. Borowzak, stating that his comments were his own and that he was not representing City staff. He stated that his remark regarding the City was directed towards representing the community, not staff or Council. He apologized for his actions.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Ordinance No. 2022-02: Amending MMC Chapter 5.24 – Business License Update

City Recorder Teets presented the Staff Report to Council for Ordinance 2022-02, explaining that it is amending Ordinance 2021-11. The due date for renewing Business Licenses needs to match the deadline for submitting Exemptions, which is January 15th.

Mayor Keyser opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2022-02 at 7:20pm. There was no one to speak for or against the Ordinance, therefore the Public Hearing was closed at 7:21pm.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance No. 2022-02: Amending MMC Chapter 5.24 – Business License Update

A motion was made by Council President Newland to hold the First Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-02 by title only, seconded by Councilor Childress. Vote passed 7-0, with the following Councilors voting Aye: Mayor Scott Keyser, Council President Jody Newland, Councilor Elizabeth Klein, Councilor Leota Childress, Councilor Terry Shankle, Councilor Crystal Robles, and Councilor Eric Vermillion.

A motion was made by Councilor Klein to hold the Second Reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-02 by title only, seconded by Councilor Robles. Vote passed 7-0, with the following Councilors voting Aye: Mayor Scott Keyser, Council President Jody Newland, Councilor Elizabeth Klein, Councilor Leota Childress, Councilor Terry Shankle, Councilor Crystal Robles, and Councilor Eric Vermillion.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. House Bill 2560: Public Meetings and Remote Public Participation (Teets)

City Recorder Teets explained the recent House Bill and how it relates to the Public Meeting process. Sessions that are videoed and livestreamed through social media are Work Sessions, regular City Council meetings, Planning Commission, and Budget Committee meetings. Executive Sessions are still held in private.

B. Molalla Area Vision and Action Plan – 2022 Goals (Huff)

City Manager Huff presented the Council Goals that were created by staff and Council during the January Goal Setting Conference. The document has been updated to reflect the goals, expectations, and accomplishments for 2022. Mr. Huff requested approval, in order to place the document with the upcoming Budget information.

A motion was made by Council President Newland to approve the 2022 Goals, seconded by Councilor Shankle. Vote passed 7-0, with all Councilors voting Aye.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

- **City Recorder Teets** reminded citizens that Budget Committee applications are being accepted until March 4, 2022 at 4:30pm.
- **City Manager Huff** explained the new “Did You Know?” page on the Molalla Current. Citizens are encouraged to sign up for the monthly newsletter and push notifications.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

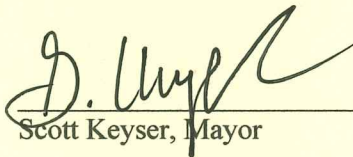
- **Councilor Vermillion** stated that the School Board had met twice since the last Council meeting. The topic has been lifting the mask mandate. The Board voted 6-1 to lift it on March 3, 2022, opposed to the Governor’s March 31st deadline. This gives the Teachers Union 14 days to appeal. The Chamber held a Brown Bag meeting recently, where Community Development Director Corthell gave a presentation.
- **Councilor Robles** encouraged the community to take advantage of all that the Library has to offer. There are multiple activities going on, including a Tree Give Away in honor of Earth Day in April.
- **Councilor Childress** reported that the Beautification and Culture CPC met the night before, and they have finalized the Art Contest rules, regulations, and sponsorship forms. More information will be brought to the March 9, 2022 Council meeting. Councilor Childress also assured the community that Mayor Keyser was not representing her or her opinions, during his comments at the recent MRSD Board meeting.
- **Councilor Shankle** had nothing to report.

- **Councilor Klein** shared her concerns regarding the blood shortage. She encouraged people that can to donate, as we are in a shortage crisis. Discussion took place regarding having the Red Cross visit Molalla with a mobile unit during Celebrate Molalla.
- **Council President Newland** asked City Recorder Teets how many Budget Committee applications had been received, which is one. Ms. Teets informed Council that Budget Committee and the Budget process will take place whether there is a full committee of seven members or not. Council President Newland also reminded the community to pick up blank maps for Chief Yelkus Park, with suggestions of what they would like to see.
- **Mayor Keyser** had nothing to report.

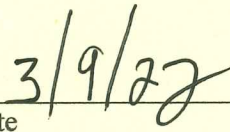
For the complete video account of the City Council Meeting, please go to YouTube
"Molalla City Council Meetings – February 23, 2022"

ADJOURN

Mayor Keyser adjourned the meeting at 7:53pm.



Scott Keyser, Mayor



Date

ATTEST:



Christie Teets, City Recorder