

MINUTES

Eugene City Council Meeting Eugene, Oregon 97401

February 13, 2023
7:30 p.m.

Councilors Present: Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Lyndsie Leech, and Randy Groves

Councilors Absent: Alan Zelenka and Greg Evans

Mayor Vinis opened the February 13, 2023, meeting of the Eugene City Council in a hybrid in-person and virtual format at 101 W. 10th Avenue, Suite 114, Eugene, OR 97401.

1. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Vinis read proclamations for Black History Month and International Mother Language Day.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Mayor Vinis – noted that the State of Oregon will be applying for federal funding to electrify highways.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR 1

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

- January 9, 2023 Meeting
- January 17, 2023 Public Hearing
- January 18, 2023 Work Session
- January 23, 2023 Work Session
- January 23, 2023 Meeting
- January 25, 2023 Work Session
- January 30, 2023 Special Meeting

B. Approval of City Council Tentative Agenda

C. Appointment to the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve the items on Consent Calendar 1.

VOTE: PASSED 6:0

4. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Lin Woodrich – spoke in favor of a public health overlay zone in West Eugene.
2. Aya Cockram – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
3. John Crowder – spoke against the ban on fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.

4. Dennis Reynolds – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
5. Rich Locke – spoke against the ban on fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
6. Linda Kelley – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
7. Anne Pernick – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
8. Dylan Plummer – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
9. Bethany Cotton – thanked Council for the fossil fuel infrastructure and noise ordinances.
10. Danny Noonan – asked Council to respond to misinformation about the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
11. Timothy Williams – suggested a fund for displaced folks who want to return home.
12. Thomas Newman – suggested various climate change mitigation ideas.
13. Wayne Martin – spoke about the treatment of the houseless in the City.
14. Tomoko Sekiguchi – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
15. Joshua Korn – spoke about wireless safety and broadband infrastructure.
16. Charles Areford – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
17. Roy Miller – spoke against the ban on fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
18. William Smith – spoke about wireless safety and broadband infrastructure.
19. Sid Baum – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
20. Katharine Hunt and Raging Grannies – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
21. Carolyn Partridge – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
22. Michael Carrigan – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.
23. Bill O'Brien – spoke about the land swap proposal between the City of Eugene and the University of Oregon.
24. Charlie Rojas – spoke about the City's commitment to justice, equity, and inclusion.
25. Debra McGee – thanked Council for passing the ordinance banning fossil fuel infrastructure in new residential construction.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Keating – expressed his condolences to Lin Woodrich for the passing of her father.
- Mayor Vinis – encouraged Timothy Williams to speak to staff at the end of the meeting.

5. ACTION: An Ordinance Concerning the Skinner Butte Height Limitation Area, Amending Section 9.6715 and Figure 9.6715(3) of the Eugene Code, 1971.

Mayor asked Councilors to declare if they read any testimony that came in after the close of the record.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Leech – noted that she had received an email, but it did not influence her decision.
- Councilor Groves – noted that he had received an email, but it did not influence his decision.
- Councilor Semple – noted that she had received and responded to an email, but it did not influence her decision.
- Councilor Clark – noted that he had received an email, but it did not influence his decision.

Assistant City Attorney Lauren Sommers asked Council to confirm their ability to make an impartial, unbiased decision on the proposed ordinance based only on the applicable approval criteria and the evidence and argument that are included in the record for this application.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to reject all testimony received by the City regarding the proposed Skinner Butte Height Limitation Ordinance following the close of the record for that application on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

VOTE: PASSED 6:0

MOTION: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to adopt An Ordinance Concerning the Skinner Butte Height Limitation Area, Amending Section 9.6715 and Figure 9.6715(3) of the Eugene Code, 1971, included as Attachment A to this AIS.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Semple – noted concerns that new, higher buildings will limit views of the butte; noted that she was not in support of the ordinance.
- Councilor Clark – asked staff when the City had passed the initial Skinner Butte height limitation; noted that it was passed before our focus shifted to increasing density in the downtown core.
- Councilor Groves – noted that there is a strong need for housing; noted that city streets provide view corridors to Skinner’s Butte; noted his support for the ordinance.
- Councilor Leech – noted her support for the ordinance.
- Councilor Keating – noted aesthetic and environmental concerns about the ordinance; stated that he was not in support of the ordinance.

VOTE: PASSED 4:2 (opposed by Councilors Semple and Keating)

Council Discussion

- Mayor Vinis – noted that this ordinance is in line with the City’s goals of increased housing and increased density.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Katie LaSala". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Katie" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "LaSala".

Katie LaSala
City Recorder

(Recorded by Cherish Bradshaw)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).