

MINUTES

Eugene City Council Meeting and Eugene Urban Renewal Agency Meeting and Eugene City Council Public Hearing Eugene, Oregon 97401

June 26, 2023
7:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Vinis opened the June 26, 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. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

In honor of Independence Day on July 4, Deputy Chief Christopher Heppel led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and recited the Bill of Rights.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Councilor Groves – spoke about potential fire dangers near Wild Iris Ridge.
- Councilor Keating – noted recent bear sightings in South Eugene; noted he attended the Oregon Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Ceremony on June 13; noted that Councilor Leech will be replacing him on the Human Rights Commission.
- Councilor Clark – noted Mayor Vinis recently attended the Northeast Neighborhood Association meeting in his ward; asked how the Intergovernmental Relations Committee voted on House Bill 3414, and would like to know how the City of Eugene was represented at the State on this bill; noted that he received an answer from staff on his recent question about how many acres are in the Residential Buildable Lands Inventory and also in the Willamette River Greenway; shared with Council that the answer is 113 acres.
- Mayor Vinis – noted that she would be leading the Mayor’s Fitness Walk during the Butte to Butte challenge on July 4.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR 1

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

- May 17, 2023 Work Session
- May 22, 2023 Work Session
- May 22, 2023 Meeting

B. Approval of City Council Tentative Agenda

MOTION: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve the items on Consent Calendar 1. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

4. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Faye Rachford – spoke in favor of maintaining the library budget.
2. Dana Fleming – spoke in favor of maintaining the library budget.

3. Moriah Roth – spoke about speeding issues on Hawkins Lane in the southwest hills.
4. Gerilyn VanPykeren – spoke in favor of the City establishing more safe sleep sites.
5. Joshua Korn – spoke about vaccine safety.
6. John Roberts – spoke about potential effects of proposed Phase II renter protections.
7. Linda Ague – spoke in in favor of maintaining the library budget.
8. Stefan Strek – spoke about credit scores and student loan payments.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – agreed that speeding is a problem on Hawkins Lane and throughout the city; noted that traffic enforcement and traffic engineering have worked on the issue; encouraged people to drive slower, raise awareness about traffic safety, and connect with neighborhood groups.
- Councilor Zelenka – noted his appreciated for the evening’s speakers, particularly the library supporters; asked staff to clarify if tenants qualify for rental assistance if they do not express their intent to renew to their landlord 30 days prior to the end of their lease.
- Councilor Keating – stated that he has also observed unsafe driving in Eugene; noted that there may be a motion tonight to address unsafe driving on a specific street in the community.
- Mayor Vinis – noted her appreciation for the evening’s speakers, including the library supporters.
- Councilor Keating – noted his appreciation for Linda Ague’s testimony for the library.

5. PUBLIC HEARING and ACTION: Resolution Adopting a Supplemental Budget; Making Appropriations for the City of Eugene for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 and Ending June 30, 2023.

Mayor Vinis opened the Public Hearing.

City Manager, Sarah Medary, introduced the topic and provided background information.

1. Renee Buchanan – spoke in favor of the proposed resolution.
2. Kaarin Knudson – spoke in favor of the proposed resolution.
3. John Barofsky – spoke in favor of the proposed resolution.

Mayor Vinis closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to adopt a Resolution Adopting a Supplemental Budget; Making Appropriations for the City of Eugene for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 and Ending June 30, 2023. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

6. PUBLIC HEARING and ACTION: A Resolution Adopting the Budget and Making Appropriations for the 2023-2025 Biennium Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2025; A Resolution Determining, Levying and

Categorizing the Annual Ad Valorem Property Tax Levy for the City of Eugene for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024; A Resolution Electing to Receive State Revenue Sharing Funds Pursuant to Section 221.770 of Oregon Revised Statutes; A Resolution Certifying that the City of Eugene Provides the Municipal Services Required by Oregon Revised Statutes Section 221.760 in Order to Receive State Shared Revenues.

Mayor Vinis opened the Public Hearing.

City Manager, Sarah Medary, introduced the topic and provided background information.

1. John Barofsky – spoke in favor of the proposed resolution.

Mayor Vinis closed the Public Hearing.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – noted that the fire station was able to stay open due to reallocated Community Safety Funding and increased efficiencies within the department.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve Resolution Electing to Receive State Revenue Sharing Funds Pursuant to Section 221.770 of Oregon Revised Statutes. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve a Resolution Certifying that the City of Eugene Provides the Municipal Services Required by Oregon Revised Statutes Section 221.760. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

MOTION: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve a Resolution Adopting the Budget, with the Addition of the City Manager’s Proposal to Add \$160,000 to the Community Safety Payroll Tax Fund for Prevention and Youth-Related Programming and Materials, and Making Appropriations for the City of Eugene for the Biennium Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2025.

MOTION TO AMEND: Councilor Clark, seconded by Councilor Yeh, moved to amend the 2023-2025 Budget to move \$50,000 from the Road Fund to the Transportation Capital Project Fund to provide funding for a traffic calming project on Holly Avenue between Gilham and Norckenzie roads.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Clark – spoke about the safety issues posed by the high levels of traffic on Holly Avenue.

- Councilor Keating – noted his support for the amended motion; noted there are other spots in the city that would benefit from traffic calming; asked for an update to Council on traffic calming projects throughout the city.
- Councilor Zelenka – asked how many traffic calming projects are currently in process or planned; asked how long it will take to complete all planned projects given current funding; asked where the Holly Avenue project is on the list; asked about the funding source for the Holly Avenue project; asked Councilors Clark and Yeh why this project should be moved higher on the list.
- Councilor Groves – noted the importance of making streets safer through speed reduction; noted his support for the amended motion.
- Councilor Yeh – noted that while this traffic calming project will help the issue of speeding cars, it is still a danger to have cars, pedestrians, and bicyclists using the same street.
- Councilor Evans – noted that a staff presentation about traffic safety would be a good work session topic for Council.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: 8:0 PASSED

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: 8:0 PASSED

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve a Resolution Determining, Levying and Categorizing the Annual Ad Valorem Property Tax Levy for the City of Eugene for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

7. PUBLIC HEARING and ACTION: A Resolution of the Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Eugene Adopting the Budget and Making Appropriations for the Biennium Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2025; A Resolution Declaring the Amount of Tax to be Certified for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024.

Mayor Vinis closed the meeting of the Eugene City Council and convened a meeting of the Eugene Urban Renewal Agency.

Agency Director, Sarah Medary, introduced the topic and provided background information.

1. Todd Boyle – spoke against the proposed resolution.
2. John Barofsky – spoke in favor of the proposed resolution.

Mayor Vinis closed the Public Hearing.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – stated that the downtown area is blighted; noted that urban renewal money is not only spent on new buildings, but also on infrastructure that promotes safety.

- Councilor Clark – stated that the downtown area is blighted; stated that housing will be an essential part of renewing the downtown area; noted that the administrative costs may need to be reconsidered.
- Councilor Zelenka – noted that the referenced spike graph is not a measure of blight but rather indicates amount of dollars invested per square foot.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve a Resolution of the Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Eugene Adopting the Budget and Making Appropriations for the Biennium Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2025.

VOTE: 8:0 PASSED

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to approve a Resolution of the Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Eugene Declaring the Amount of Tax to be Certified for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024.

VOTE: 8:0 PASSED

Mayor Vinis closed the meeting of the Eugene Urban Renewal Agency and convened a meeting of the Eugene City Council.

8. ACTION: An Ordinance Adopting Hazardous Substance User Fees.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Keating – asked if there has been any move by the state to change the capped fee that is part of ORS 453.370(2)(b).

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to adopt An Ordinance Adopting Hazardous Substance User Fees as provided in Attachment A to this AIS. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala
City Recorder

(Recorded by Cherish Bradshaw)

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