

# MINUTES

## Eugene City Council Virtual Meeting Eugene, Oregon 97401

July 12, 2021  
7:30 p.m.

**Councilors Present:** Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Claire Syrett, Randy Groves

Mayor Vinis opened the July 12, 2021, meeting of the Eugene City Council in a virtual format.

### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG AND READING OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Holli Johnson-Keeton and Anna Johnson led the reading of the Bill of Rights and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag in honor of Independence Day on July 4.

### 2. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

#### Council Discussion

- Councilor Keating – reported on the groundbreaking for the Very Little Theater and the impacts of the recent heat wave, noting the need for a robust collaborative effort to establish a cooling center system.
- Councilor Clark – announced the Cal Young Neighborhood Association meeting; said that unfounded, uninformed criticism of councilors is frustrating.
- Councilor Semple – encouraged respectful communication from constituents, voiced concern about tree trauma due to construction.
- Councilor Yeh – gave an update on the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission and its work replanting and repairing areas affected by the Holiday Farms fire and its advocacy of House Bill 2344, which requires labeling of non-flushable items.
- Councilor Zelenka – agreed that bullying and demonizing those you disagree with is an ineffective way to communicate; reported that Police Commission is reviewing recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee on Police Policy.
- City Manager Medary – announced the postponement of the joint Homeless Systems Transformation meeting with Lane County and reported that a work session on the Steam Plant deal points was being delayed until after council break.
- Mayor Vinis – discussed the upcoming visit from Rep. Peter DeFazio and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg to tour local transportation facilities and projects; announced her appointment to the Regional Solutions Board representing the mid-valley and coast.

### 3. CONSENT CALENDAR 1

#### A. Approval of City Council Minutes

- February 8, 2021, Work Session

#### B. Approval of City Council Tentative Agenda

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

#### 4. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Danny Noonan – opposed the renewal of the franchise agreement with NW Natural.
2. Kaarin Knudsen – encouraged forward-thinking leadership as it relates to housing.
3. Jim Neu – voiced climate concerns and encouraged immediate action.
4. Carolyn Partridge – expressed concern NW Natural is not negotiating with the City in good faith.
5. Lydia Valentine - expressed concern NW Natural is not negotiating with the City in good faith.
6. Patty Hine - expressed concern NW Natural is not negotiating with the City in good faith.
7. Dylan Plummer - expressed concern NW Natural is not negotiating with the City in good faith.
8. Seth Sadofsky – voiced frustration that a majority of council is unwilling to act on ADUs.
9. Martha Bryson – said she felt the ordinance requiring RVs to move is discriminatory.
10. Sophia Trotter – discussed climate concerns and supported demands for NW Natural compliance.
11. Anne Pernick - discussed climate concerns and supported demands for NW Natural compliance.
12. Sahara Valentine - discussed climate concerns and supported demands for NW Natural compliance.
13. Matthew Yook – discussed rental assistance and multi-zoned housing.
14. Debra McGee – voice opposition to the NW Natural franchise extension request.
15. Peter Dragovich – spoke about threats and impacts of severe climate change.
16. Charles Areford – spoke about the deadly heat wave and other impacts of climate change.
17. Ed McMahon – spoke about the Construction Excise Tax.

#### Council Discussion

- Councilor Syrett – appreciated the diversity of topics covered by speakers; clarified discussion of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee regarding rental assistance for those affected by COVID.
- Councilor Keating – inquired about extending the Public Forum sign-up deadline to 7:40 p.m.; supported scheduling a CAP2.0 Update work session as soon as possible, noting the urgency of climate action work.
- Mayor Vinis – agreed that a work session on the CAP2.0 is needed soon after the council returns from summer break.

#### 5. **ACTION: An Ordinance Amending the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan Diagram and the Whiteaker Plan Land Use Diagram to Redesignate the Property Identified as Assessor’s Map 17-04-25-41, Tax Lot 7000 and Assessor’s Map 17-04-25-42, Tax Lot 100 from Light-Medium Industrial to Mixed Use and Rezone the Property from I-2 Light-Medium Industrial with /SR Site Review Overlay to S-W Whiteaker Special Area with /SR Site Review Overlay**

**MOTION AND VOTE:** Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to adopt the Ordinance, included as Attachment B to this AIS, amending the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan Diagram and the Whiteaker Plan Land Use Diagram to redesignate the property identified as Assessor’s Map 17-04-25-41, Tax Lot 7000 and Assessor’s Map 17-04-25-42, Tax Lot 100 from Light-Medium Industrial to Mixed Use and rezone the property from I-2 Light-Medium Industrial with /SR Site Review Overlay to S-W Whiteaker Special Area with /SR Site Review Overlay. **PASSED 8:0**

#### 6. **ACTION: An Ordinance Vacating Slocum Drive, Songbird Loop, and Public Utility Easement**

**MOTION AND VOTE:** Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to adopt the Ordinance, included as Attachment C to this AIS, vacating Slocum Drive, Songbird Loop, and Public Utility Easement. **PASSED 8:0**

**7. ACTION: Authorize the City to Acquire the MGP Site**

**MOTION AND VOTE:** Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to authorize the City Manager to sign a purchase and sale agreement for the City's acquisition of the MGP site for \$400,000 using Riverfront Urban Renewal funds and that includes as one of the conditions of closing the City Council's adoptions of amendments to EC 2.196. **PASSED 8:0**

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

**8. URA ACTION: Authorize the Urban Renewal Agency to Pay for the MGP Site**

**MOTION AND VOTE:** Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to authorize the expenditure of \$400,000 of Riverfront Urban Renewal funds for acquisition of the MGP site. **PASSED 8:0**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Forrest  
City Recorder

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