

MINUTES

Eugene City Council Virtual Meeting Eugene, Oregon 97401

July 26, 2021
7:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Vinis opened the July 26, 2021, meeting of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Council Discussion

- Councilor Semple – shared that as liaison for McKenzie Watershed Council she saw Holiday Farm fire aftermath; noted how hard the different agencies have worked since the fire and to keep water safe; thanked them and stated City staff arborists and engineers contributed to these efforts.
- Councilor Groves – shared that as a member of the Metropolitan Policy Committee he participated in a tour of regional state transportation projects; noted the Lane Transit District (LTD) electric bus has impressive power; spoke of meeting with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) director Chris Strickland about local projects, particularly regarding safety; stated need for space for electric vehicles.
- Councilor Clark – noted the passing of Gretchen Hult Pierce; shared her contributions to the community and influence on the construction of the Hult Center.
- Councilor Syrett – thanked Councilor Groves for meeting with ODOT director and talking about the importance of Vision Zero work in Eugene; spoke about her positive experience using new Avelo Airlines from the Eugene Airport; reported a sighting of Eugene-based company Arcimoto’s vehicles in Los Angeles.
- Councilor Keating – thanked Eugene/Springfield firefighters for BBQ event for the final candidates for Fire Chief; met with Springfield City Council members and Mayor; attended symphony event at the Cuthbert and thanked organizers for locating his lost wallet; discussed the recent firearm discharge incident at the Lane County Fair and appreciated the individuals who responded appropriately.
- Councilor Evans – noted two brushfires in west Eugene; stated those that don’t believe in climate change need to look out their window as conditions will only get worse unless something is done.
- Councilor Zelenka – spoke of attending the symphony event in the park and it was a great showcase of the wealth of talent in Eugene; encouraged everyone to attend the next event since tickets are free; stated it was good to be back in person at community events.
- Mayor Vinis – reiterated comments made by other councilors; noted tour with ODOT director was an opportunity for Eugene to showcase leadership in state transportation initiatives in this area; stated need for funding for infrastructure and Eugene’s priority on reduction of greenhouse gases and investment in biking and

pedestrian transportation; shared her experiences at the symphony, ballet, and the excitement of performers; spoke of inspiration and pride in arts organizations and the City for investing in them.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR 1

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes
 - March 10, 2021, Work Session
 - April 12, 2021, Work Session
 - April 28, 2021, Work Session
 - July 19, 2021, Public Hearing
- 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**

3. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Lucas Scott – provided an update about the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council.
2. Sofia El-Shammaa – spoke about YAC’s plans for upcoming year.
3. Marty Wilder – shared disappointment in Council’s inaction on Ad Hoc recommendations.
4. Debbie McGee – supported 350 Eugene engagement for needed climate action plan.
5. Matthew Yook – said the City is falling short on addressing hate and bias crimes.
6. Brooklyn – shared the needless killing of Landon Payne in the County jail.

Council Discussion

- Mayor Vinis – shared her excitement about the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) and appreciated them coming to the meeting; noted that Council’s direction to the City Manager on Ad Hoc recommendations was to come back with a framework and the matrix will be filled out in September on the City’s website.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR 2

- A. Approval of a Resolution Annexing Land to the City of Eugene (Assessor’s Map 17-04-24-24; Tax Lot 10100; Located Near Southeast Terminus of Oakleigh Lane) (City File: Henderson, David and Janice; A 21-5)
- B. Approval of a Resolution Annexing Land to the City of Eugene (Assessor’s Map 17-04-02-43; Tax Lot 1200; Located at 3514 River Road) (City File: Vreim, Christopher; A 21-6)
- C. Approval of a Resolution Annexing Land to the City of Eugene (Assessor’s Map 17-04-12-20; Tax Lot 900; Located at 801 River Loop 1) (City File: Kendall & James Homes, LLC; A 21-7)

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to approve the items on Consent Calendar 2. **PASSED 8:0**

5. ACTION: An Ordinance Concerning Commercial Setbacks and Amending Sections 9.0500, 9.2170, 9.3125, 9.4290 and 9.4530 of the Eugene Code, 1971, and Providing an Effective Date

MOTION: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to adopt an Ordinance Concerning Commercial Setbacks Standards included as Attachment A in the AIS provided for this item (An Ordinance Concerning Commercial Setbacks and Amending Sections 9.0500, 9.2170, 9.3125, 9.4290 and 9.4530 of the Eugene Code, 1971, and Providing an Effective Date).

Council Discussion

- Councilor Zelenka – appreciated votes by Council and Planning Commission to move this forward; stated intent of the item is to have more livable and green streets in the city; asked staff if ordinance applies to new buildings or those that increase their façade by 100 percent and if landscaping area will be done to the basic landscape standard; noted Section 4(b)(2) on setback requirements and asked if parts of certain current projects would be allowed under this new code; asked staff for clarification of Section 3(b) setbacks; inquired what the process to go to zero lot lines would be; encouraged fellow councilors to vote to adopt this ordinance; stated Council can modify if there are unintended consequences.
- Councilor Clark – wondered if it was fair to define the item as differing from current code regarding floor area ratio and footprint; stated his understanding that increasing the floor area ratio makes things more expensive; noted places downtown where minimum floor area ratio was differentiated, and asked staff if this is something that will still exist; suggested staff look at this if it creates places where it becomes prohibitively expensive to build as an unintended consequence of the ordinance.

VOTE: PASSED 8:0

6. ACTION: An Ordinance Vacating Portions of Mill Alley and Easements Located Within the Boundaries of the Plat of Town Run

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to adopt the Ordinance included as attachment B to this AIS Vacating Portions of Mill Alley and Easements Located Within the Boundaries of the Plat of Town Run. **PASSED 8:0**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brooke Freed
City Recorder (AIC)

(Recorded by Julie Adams)

Webcast of meeting available [here](#).