

# MINUTES

## Eugene City Council Meeting Eugene, Oregon 97401

May 13, 2024  
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 May 13, 2024, meeting of the Eugene City Council in a hybrid in-person and virtual format at 101 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 114, Eugene, OR 97401.

### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

In honor of Memorial Day on May 27, Park Ambassador Alan Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Vinis read proclamations for Mental Health Awareness Month, Public Works Week, and World Day of Cultural Diversity.

### 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Councilor Groves – noted his attendance at Birds, Bees, and Turtles, OH MY!, a community event held in the Golden Gardens park; noted his attendance at an emergency planning workshop held by the Churchill Area Neighborhood Association; noted his appreciation for the efforts to better the community made by Churchill Area Neighbors, Beyond Toxics, and Active Bethel Community.
- Councilor Yeh – noted the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission received a grant for a recycled water project.
- Councilor Keating – congratulated Travis Knudsen for his recent appointment to the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency as Executive Director; noted his attendance at the Booked for the Evening fundraising event hosted by the Eugene Public Library Foundation.
- Councilor Semple – encouraged participation in the upcoming primary election on May 21, 2024.
- Mayor Vinis – noted May 19-25 was Emergency Medical Services week.

### 4. CONSENT CALENDAR 1

#### A. Approval of City Council Minutes

- March 12, 2024 Joint Public Hearing
- March 13, 2024 Work Session
- April 8, 2024 Work Session
- April 8, 2024 Meeting
- April 10, 2024 Work Session

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

**C. Ratification of FY 2024-25 Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) Regional Wastewater Program Budget and Capital Improvements Program**

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

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Zelenka – pulled Item 4C, Ratification of FY 2024-25 Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) Regional Wastewater Program Budget and Capital Improvements Program, from the Consent Calendar.

**VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Zelenka – asked for information about the renewable natural gas project; asked if it provides a financial net benefit; asked if it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR 2**

- A. Approval of a Resolution Annexing Land to the City of Eugene (Assessor’s Map 17-04-02-34, Tax Lot 05800 Located on Irvington Drive West of River Road) (City File: Irvington Drive; A 24-1)**
- B. Approval of a Resolution Annexing Land to the City of Eugene (Assessor’s Map 17-04-04-44, Tax Lot 00100 and Assessor’s Map 17-04-03-33, Tax Lot 01700, Located at 29960 East Enid Road) (City File: A 24-2)**

**MOTION:** Councilor Keating, seconded by Councilor Groves, moved to approve the items on Consent Calendar 2.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Clark – asked about the order of items on the agenda; stated the value of the public having an opportunity to comment on a proposed annexation before council votes.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated the value of the public having an opportunity to comment on a proposed annexation.
- Councilor Keating – noted he has previously advocated for Consent Calendar items to be read for the public’s benefit.

**VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

**6. Action: A Resolution Adopting A Neighborhood Recognition Policy And Model Charter Repealing Resolution No. 2554, Resolution No. 3745, Resolution No. 3746, Resolution No. 5140, And Resolution No. 514,1 And Amending Resolution No. 4705.**

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

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Clark – noted concerns from residents about an increase in the complexity of the neighborhood association application process.
- Councilor Groves – stated he has not received negative feedback about the proposed resolution from neighborhood groups within his ward; stated his support for the resolution.
- Councilor Yeh – noted neighborhood associations provided her with a pathway to community service; stated her support for the resolution.
- Councilor Semple – noted her appreciation for the work of staff; stated concerns about the requirement for a minimum number of addresses; encouraged the community to participate in their neighborhood associations.
- Councilor Keating – noted the Southeast Neighborhood Association elections were being held May 14.

**MOTION:** Councilor Keating, seconded by Councilor Groves moved to approve a Resolution Adopting a Neighborhood Recognition Policy and Model Charter, Repealing Resolution No. 2554, Resolution No. 3745, Resolution No. 3746, Resolution No. 5140, and Resolution No. 5141, and Amending Resolution No. 4705. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Jack Dodson – spoke in favor of upgrading the university boiler system to renewable energy.
2. Michael Carrigan – spoke in favor of electrification policies.
3. Stefan Streck – spoke about property taxes and concerns about Wayne Morris Free Speech Plaza.
4. Adrienne Rizzo – spoke in favor of electrification policies.
5. Bill O'Brien – spoke about the needs of unhoused community members.
6. Carolyn Patridge – spoke in favor of electrification policies.
7. Milla Vogelesang-Liu – spoke in favor of upgrading the university boiler system to renewable energy.
8. Charlie Rojas – spoke about affordable housing in the City.
9. David Igl – spoke about local historical figures.
10. Joshua Korn – spoke against the installation of smart meters.
11. Logan Page – spoke in favor of electrification policies.
12. Cecilia Luzi – spoke in favor of electrification policies.
13. Alan (Alfredo) Gormezano – spoke against the installation of smart meters.
14. Janet Ayres – spoke about a diesel generator in use at a shelter in her neighborhood; spoke in favor of cleaning up railroad properties from camping.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – noted the difficulties coordinating a response to clean up the rail lines; stated it is a significant issue.
- Councilor Keating – stated his support for transitioning the university boiler system to renewable energy.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 8:44 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](#).