

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Harris Hall, 125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**September 28, 2016
12:00 p.m.**

Councilors Present: George Brown, Betty Taylor, George Poling, Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Chris Pryor

Councilors Absent: Alan Zelenka, Clair Syrett

Mayor Piercy opened the September 28, 2016, meeting of the Eugene City Council.

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Council discussion:

- LCOG report: making good progress; in the middle of contract negotiations.
- Cascades West Economic Development Group met on and workforce development.
- St. Vincent de Paul application for runaway teen housing has been submitted to HPB.
- Human Rights Commission: supports Standing Rock resolution, creating strategic plan.
- Human Services Commission: beginning work on its budget.
- Enterprise Zone Task Force: looking at previous task force recommendations.
- LRAPA: reduced fine for contractors burning asbestos.
- Multi-unit housing on at 32nd and Hilyard is a good idea; neighbors concerned about height.
- Eugene Sand and Gravel and Santa Clara neighbors have met for bike path work.
- Northeast Neighbors plan on using SDC credits for development of Striker Field Park.
- McKenzie Watershed Council: planning all-day retreat on goals and plans for the future.
- Annual report from Travel Lane County was given to Board of County Commissioners.
- LOC annual meeting in Salem: Chief Kerns will help develop a follow-up session with Whiteaker Neighbors around public safety concerns.
- Welcome Whole Foods to the community.
- Howard Elementary School and Roosevelt Middle School ribbon-cutting ceremonies a success.
- Welcome to all foreign students attending the University of Oregon.
- Olive Plaza Grand Opening.
- Eugene Opera's 40 year anniversary celebration.
- RAIN strategic planning retreat.
- Interfaith dialog about homelessness.

2. WORK SESSION: Zone of Benefit / Reimbursement District for Privately Funded Public Improvements and Equivalent Assessments for Street Improvements.

City Engineer Mark Schoening provided an overview of two changes to Chapter 7 of the Eugene Code on privately funded public improvements.

Council discussion:

- Would like to hear experiences from communities that have this: what works, what doesn't?

- Side-by-side comparison for similar ordinances and cost analysis would be helpful.
- Unjust to resident have to pay for repairs brought on by new development.
- Further discussion needed of the impacts of new development and annexed properties in areas served by unimproved roads.
- Need to be more intentional and be clear about growth.
- Important for Council to clearly communicate to the public what its goals and intentions are on this issue.

3. WORK SESSION: Downtown High-Speed Fiber Project Update

Economic Development Planner Anne Fifield and Department Budget Coordinator Pavel Gubanikhin gave a PowerPoint presentation with updates on the high-speed fiber project and the City's submittal of a federal grant applications.

Council discussion:

- Great deal of enthusiasm from many government entities; easy to track where money goes.
- Will help pay for the most advanced technology available; state-of-the-art at low cost.
- Arguably the most important infrastructure project that the City has taken on recently.
- Proposal represents enormous giveaway of public funds; private contributions need to be higher.
- Goal should be to have every property in the city hooked up.
- Too easy to spend money out of public view, needs to be done in the public.
- Money received from Comcast should be used to make this a community-wide project.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Evans, seconded by Councilor Taylor, moved to authorize the submittal of the grant application to the EDA for funds to construct a publicly owned fiber network in the downtown. **PASSED 6:0**

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chuck Crockett
Deputy City Recorder