

MINUTES
Eugene City Council
Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401

May 13, 2026
12:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Knudson opened the May 13, 2026, Eugene City Council Work Session in a hybrid in-person and virtual format at 500 E. 4th Avenue, North Building, Eugene, OR 97401.

1. WORK SESSION: Police Auditor's Office and Civilian Review Board Annual Reports

Craig Renetzsky, the Independent Police Auditor introduced the topic and provided background on the purpose of the annual report and the structure of police oversight in the City of Eugene.

Councilor Discussion: Police Auditor's Office Annual Report

- Councilor Evans – asked about complaints related to federal immigration activity and how complaints are routed when they involve agencies outside Eugene's authority; asked who handles follow-up when complaints involve other jurisdictions or agencies; stated concern about actions occurring within city limits but outside city authority and emphasized the need for clear public understanding of oversight boundaries; asked how off-duty or out-of-jurisdiction officers could be reviewed if misconduct occurs within Eugene; stated appreciation for timely communication from the Auditor regarding recent high-profile incidents; asked what tools exist to uncover unacceptable behavior; asked how limitations on reporting timelines may hinder accountability and noted interest in expanding reporting timeframes; stated the public often cannot tell the difference between agencies involved in enforcement; noted confusion about federal versus local authorities and stated the importance of improving public awareness; stated interest in exploring changes to ensure non-sworn personnel can be reviewed through civilian oversight.
- Councilor Zelenka – asked for more detail about trends in complaint volume and whether the increase was related to specific issues such as immigration or technology; asked for clarification on Oregon's sanctuary law and what local law enforcement agencies can and cannot do; stated interest in preparing public-facing educational materials to help residents understand these laws; asked if staff could prepare simple resources that clarify where state and federal boundaries lie.

- Councilor Kashinsky – stated appreciation for consistent communication from the Auditor’s Office; asked what factors lead to dismissal of complaints during the review process; asked whether complaints about other jurisdictions’ officers are identified and removed early in intake.
- Councilor Yeh – asked about emerging trends in police oversight and how new technologies might influence future work; asked how the Auditor’s Office tracks broader cultural issues, including internal workplace dynamics; asked whether trends related to gender equity or internal treatment of employees could be included in future tracking; stated the Police Commission values the liaison role with the Civilian Review Board.
- Councilor Groves – stated appreciation for rapid communication from the Auditor during recent incidents; noted the importance of strong relationships between local and federal partners for public safety; stated that city resources and information are often available online and encouraged the public to use them; stated interest in continued improvements to communication between oversight systems and the community.
- Councilor Keating – asked whether officers have a mandatory reporting obligation if they witness misconduct by another officer; asked for clarification on where the relevant reporting requirements appear in policy; stated interest in reviewing policy language with the Auditor to better understand reporting expectations.
- Mayor Knudson – stated appreciation for the Auditor’s accessibility and for the professional and collaborative approach of the office; noted appreciation for the efforts of the Attorney General’s Office and specifically for Attorney General Rayfield’s accessibility; stated the public portal for reporting concerns about federal government actions is an important resource for gathering information and protecting community members’ rights; stated interest in strengthening a culture of inclusion within the City organization, especially in supporting the advancement of women in leadership; noted the need for continued attention to how the City can encourage a more inclusive workplace culture; stated fostering inclusion strengthens the work of the organization and supports community trust.

Elise Josephson, chair of the Civilian Review Board, introduced the annual report and outlined the Board’s role in the police oversight system.

Councilor Discussion: Civilian Review Board Annual Report

- Councilor Keating – asked how the Civilian Review Board (CRB) handles complaints involving off-duty officers; asked how complaints against officers acting in a personal capacity would be processed.
- Councilor Evans – stated concern about a gap in oversight regarding non-sworn personnel; asked whether a structural change should be considered so the CRB could review complaints involving community service officers and other non-sworn staff; stated willingness to discuss potential charter revisions with colleagues.

- Mayor Knudson – stated she reflected on public comment earlier in the week and also on the publicly circulated video involving the now-resigned officer; noted the investigation into that incident is ongoing; stated the work session highlighted the value and strength of the oversight systems the City has built over many years; noted many residents are not aware of these oversight systems or how effective they are; stated other cities, including Portland, are only now beginning to set up similar structures; asked how the public can most effectively share information when they witness or document concerning incidents, including situations similar to what was seen over the weekend; stated in this case the information became public before the Auditor’s Office received it, which changed the sequence of events and led to the officer’s departure within hours; asked how information of this kind should reach the City so that community trust, safety, and lawful practice can be supported.
- Councilor Clark – asked whether officers are required to report misconduct even when it occurs off duty; asked to review the policy sections that describe reporting expectations.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala
City Recorder

(Recorded by Rosa Roach)

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