

## GLADSTONE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Milch at 6:31 P.M. – (Via Zoom and In Person)

### **ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Michael Milch, Councilor Alexander, Councilor Garlington, Councilor Huckaby, Councilor Reichle, Councilor Roberts, Councilor Cook

### **ABSENT:**

None

### **STAFF:**

Jacque Betz, City Administrator; Hayley Kratz, Office Assistant; Cathy Brucker, Financial Consultant; John Schmerber, Police Chief and Chad Jacobs, City Attorney

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Mayor Milch called the meeting to order. He explained that the City is abiding by guidelines set forth in House Bill 2560, which requires that they make all meetings accessible remotely, through technologic means and provide the opportunity for the public to participate to the best of their ability. This meeting will be open to the public, both in person and virtually, using the Zoom platform. The Council members and staff will be in person, as well as those citizens who wish to attend in person. He went over the procedures that will be followed for the meeting and the meeting agenda. He said that public announcements will be at the beginning of each meeting and public comments will still be at the end.

He said they acknowledge the Clackamas, Chinook, and Kalapuya native peoples on whose ancestral homelands they gather tonight. We honor them as a vibrant, foundational, and integral part of our community. We recognize their accomplishments as the native stewards of these lands, as well as the diverse and vibrant native communities who make their home here today. We thank those who have connection to this land and serve as stewards, working to ensure our ecosystem stays balanced and healthy. He said without a full representation of everyone's experience we will never be able to design and develop a better future.

### **AGENDA ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS:**

None.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Approval of September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of August Bank Balances
3. Budget Report for Period ending 8-31-2023
4. Approval of August Check Register
5. Legal Costs on Projects for July
6. Department Head Monthly Reports for September 2023
7. Consider Approval of Resolution 1224 – Authorizing the City to submit a request for funding assistance from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to establish a Climate-Friendly Area and Metro 2040 Town Center in Gladstone

*Councilor Alexander made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilor Huckaby. Ms. Kratz took a roll call vote: Councilor Huckaby – yes. Councilor Alexander – yes. Councilor Reichle – yes. Councilor Cook – yes. Councilor Roberts – yes. Councilor Garlington – yes. Mayor Milch – yes. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

**8. RECOGNITION – AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE (AMR) NORTHWEST:**

Ms. Betz said the Cities of Gladstone and Oregon City have property interests/parcels directly adjacent to the Clackamas River in the area popularly known as High Rocks. This area has traditionally been used by the public for recreational purposes. In recognition of the dangerous characteristics of the Clackamas River at this location, and because of the unfortunate history of drownings and near-drownings at the site, the cities have actively discouraged swimming/diving at these locations and have warned the public through appropriate signage. However, because of budget restrictions the cities have never had the ability to provide active lifesaving support at this site. In 2002 AMR approached the cities and proposed to implement a pilot program called The River Safety Program at High Rocks where they would have an appropriate number of on-site AMR employees to perform river rescue responsibilities between Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend at no charge to the cities. They remain committed to the River Safety Program. We appreciate their work and dedication and are fortunate to have highly trained and professional medical personnel providing this service to the Gladstone Community. We are especially grateful that no drownings occurred this past year and they had less than normal calls for law enforcement and emergency medical services this year. She introduced four AMR representatives. They thanked all the sponsors who helped support the program. Mayor Milch read the certificate of recognition.

**9. REPORT FROM CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1:**

Assistant Chief Brian Stewart said that last year AMR decided to start staffing the program early, which speaks to the commitment that AMR and the River Rescue Program have to the community.

He said there was the Camp Creek Fire outside of Sandy that kept everyone busy for a couple of weeks.

He said that fire and the Otty Road fire were good training exercises for them.

Last month was Disaster Preparedness Month – they had a great opportunity to work with their partners and exercise some of the practices they have in place.

They started their first academy of the levy-funded firefighters – they are in the 16-week academy. They are looking forward to those firefighters being able to add additional staffing to the fire stations soon. This week is Fire Prevention Week. He said that cooking safety starts with you. Councilor Garlington said it's a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Asst. Chief Stewart said if the detectors are more than ten years old to please replace them.

They have open houses this month – one is the Halloween open house in Gladstone.

He spoke regarding the process of investigating arson fires.

Councilors Cook and Roberts said they enjoy the social media content. Councilor Roberts thanked the crews who go to the high school football games – there is great positive community interaction.

**10. PRESENTATION – METRO COUNCILOR CHRISTINE LEWIS:**

Ms. Lewis shared information about some of their programs.

RID Patrol – when garbage is dumped illegally on public property you can contact them and RID will come and remove it. Their response time is down to one day.

Growth Management Decision – every six years the region goes through a process to make sure that the Urban Growth Boundary has enough land for the next 20 years of growth. They evaluate for housing needs as well as industrial/economic development needs. They work with residents, elected leaders, community groups, and researchers. She went over the process they go through.

Affordable Housing – they have two types of housing programs. The affordable housing bond passed at the ballot in 2018. In two years nearly 1,000 apartments have opened. Tukwila Springs was one of the first investments that was made region-wide and it has been quite successful in meeting the goals of the bond. They are on track to exceed their goals. By the end they expect more than 14,000 people to be housed through this bond program. Supportive Housing Services Program – this measure passed in 2020. The three counties are moving forward with their own individual plans on how best to serve their communities. Clackamas County has 140 new shelter beds, has helped 643 people avoid eviction/homelessness, and has placed 840 people into permanent housing.

Regional Transportation Plan – Metro will be evaluating a proposed regional transportation plan update to make sure they have a system that cuts congestion, supports clean air/environmental goals, and also improves safety across the region.

Oregon Zoo – they have completed updates to approximately half of the campus. They have a campus plan that's basically the vision for how to make sure they continue to stay on the cutting edge. Expo Center – they are examining the feasibility of using it as a facility to host sports competitions. They would like to make it a place where recreational and youth sports can host competitions and get more use out of the facility.

**11. PRESENTATION – RINEARSON NATURAL AREA:**

Gary Howard from Columbia Restoration gave an update on the project. They constructed it five years ago and it's slowly growing and coming to fruition. The Portland Harbor Clean-up and Restoration Overview – the cleanup process is overseen by the EPA and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The Trustee Council consists of five tribes, NOAA, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Department of the Interior. He went over the assessment overview – the list of potentially injured natural resources that were identified (fish/birds/mammals, etc.). The Trustee Council started in 2007. Rinearson is the only outer harbor project. He went over the partners that are involved, the project location/map, target species, non-target species, pre-construction habitat, completed restoration, etc. He gave a summary of the five goals. He shared some photos of the project.

He explained that they fenced the area and put up signage to say that it is a viewing area only. They had to clean up camps/garbage in the past. Councilor Garlington thanked the neighbors in that area for keeping a watchful eye on the property.

**12. GLADSTONE CITY EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Councilor Garlington said the Dog Fest will be held on Saturday from 12 – 3 at the Gladstone Nature Park. Pets have to be on a leash. They will have a costume contest, photo booth, beer/food garden, samples, honey, etc.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**13. ORDINANCE 1526 – AMENDING GLADSTONE MUNICIPAL CODE (GMC) CHAPTER 12.24 – UTILITY SERVICES – CONDITIONS OF UTILITY USE IN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY IN GLADSTONE:**

Ms. Betz said a lot of work has gone into this. Ms. Brucker went over the staff report. They are requesting approval of this ordinance to update and clarify the terms/conditions of utility use of the public rights-of-

way. Chapter 12.24 regulates the use of the City's rights-of-way for use by other utilities. It requires all utilities that own facilities, such as power poles or water lines, to obtain a license authorizing the use, along with the terms/conditions for related work and payment of the appropriate license fee. This also applies to utilities that use other entities' facilities, such as an attachment on another company's cell tower to register with the City so that they can track provided services to our residents. Due to recent changes in use and an impending franchise agreement expiration, staff recommends revising the chapter to update/clarify the terms/conditions of this chapter. Staff worked with attorney Nancy Werner to draft the updates as submitted. She went over the proposed changes. If approved, staff will request approval for an update of Master Fees and Charges, reflecting the changes. Staff will request approval of Resolution 1229, addressing retention of certain ROW fees within the General Fund. Ms. Werner said the fee structure stays the same.

Councilor Garlington had a question regarding page 13-19, paragraph (a) – Ms. Werner said the language was duplicative so that section was deleted, but it is addressed below that.

Councilor Alexander wanted to clarify that there will be no additional cost to citizens – that is correct.

*Councilor Alexander made a motion to approve Ordinance 1526, an ordinance amending Gladstone Municipal Code (GMC) Chapter 12.24 to update and clarify the requirements of utilities using the public rights-of-way in the City. Motion was seconded by Councilor Roberts. Discussion: Councilor Garlington was still not clear regarding page 13-19/underground utilities. Ms. Werner said what would now be subsection a - this language is broader than what was deleted in (a). Ms. Kratz took a roll call vote: Councilor Huckaby – yes. Councilor Alexander – yes. Councilor Reichle – yes. Councilor Cook – yes. Councilor Roberts – yes. Councilor Garlington – yes. Mayor Milch – yes. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

**14. RESOLUTION 1228 – ADOPTING A REVISED MASTER FEE SCHEDULE AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 1220 – RATE CHANGES FOR RIGHTS-OF-WAY FEES:**

Ms. Brucker said this would eliminate the existing ROW license fee of \$50, retain the ROW license application fee (\$150), but will more adequately cover City staff time for review, and adds the new annual registration application fee for \$100. This would become effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 if approved.

Councilor Alexander clarified that this will not cost the citizens anything.

*Councilor Roberts made a motion to approve Resolution 1228, repealing Resolution 1220 and adopting a new Master Fee Schedule. Motion was seconded by Councilor Huckaby. Ms. Kratz took a roll call vote: Councilor Huckaby – yes. Councilor Alexander – yes. Councilor Reichle – yes. Councilor Cook – yes. Councilor Roberts – yes. Councilor Garlington – yes. Mayor Milch – yes. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

**15. RESOLUTION 1229 – FORMALIZING ALLOCATION OF REVENUE COLLECTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY USE FEE:**

Ms. Brucker said this is adopting the allocation of the right-of-way fees collected, previously known as franchise fees, to the General Fund Administration. In 2019 City Council adopted Resolution 1158, where we allocated all of the ROW fees across a combination of General Fund administration, water, sewer, and storm fees, along with the street fund. These allocations will all remain intact. Some existing franchise revenues may move under the ROW ordinance at the time of agreement expiration. This Resolution will allow those revenues to remain dedicated as a General Fund Administration resource. Staff requests approval of Resolution 1229 to ensure current franchise fee revenues will remain designated to the General Fund Administration should they transition to GMC Chapter 12.24.

*Councilor Roberts made a motion to approve Resolution No. 1229 formalizing the revenue collected for Right of Way Fees, in conjunction with Resolution No. 1158, previously adopted in April, 2019. Motion was seconded by Councilor Alexander. Ms. Kratz took a roll call vote: Councilor Huckaby – yes. Councilor Alexander – yes. Councilor Reichle – yes. Councilor Cook – yes. Councilor Roberts – yes. Councilor Garlington – yes. Mayor Milch –yes. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

**BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD:**

**BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

None.

**BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

**Councilor Cook:**

They attended Indigenous Peoples Day this weekend with Councilor Huckaby. They appreciated the generosity of Clackamas County for hosting the event, but more importantly the native people who were there to share their stories/voices. They and their children enjoyed the stories.

**Councilor Reichle:**

She attended the Parks & Rec Board meeting last night. Ms. Betz and Ms. Jory discussed the Metro Greenway Trail project that includes the area between Charles Ames Park and Dahl Beach. Metro is in the process of reviewing that to complete the trail section there. They will come to the meeting next month to go over it. She said the Dog Fest will be happening this weekend at the Gladstone Nature Park. Representatives from FGNP came to the meeting and talked about naming the trails and posting signs to make the park more user friendly, especially for emergency responses. They are progressing through their goals. She thanked the members of the Board for their time/dedication to the community.

**Councilor Roberts:**

He said in regard to the Public Works monthly report – he thought it was cool seeing that we get some funding assistance with some of the projects they do and that they track the amount of time/work put in. He said he has seen the Vactor truck everywhere in the community – he said that seems like a great purchase because it's been put to use.

He and Councilor Alexander went on a Clackamas River Water Provider tour on Saturday. They heard presentations at the Estacada City Hall, went to the fish hatcheries in Estacada, and got to learn more about our watershed.

The high school will be having their homecoming football game on October 19<sup>th</sup>. He invited everyone to attend.

**Councilor Alexander:**

He said he also enjoyed the tour.

He said he went to three Oregon City parks and outside their restrooms they have the dark dome cameras – he asked Chief Schmerber if there is any way to get cameras in Gladstone to prevent people from damaging our restrooms. Chief Schmerber said they are looking at camera systems.

**Councilor Garlington:**

She is looking forward to attending the League of Oregon Cities State Conference this weekend in Eugene.

She asked if the drone footage of Rinearson pond was available – Ms. Betz doesn't believe it's on the website, but she can send it to the City Council.

**Councilor Huckaby:**

She said she had a pleasant interaction with Officer Gilliam yesterday – there was a petty theft outside her home. She said he was professional and personable, and they had a good discussion regarding the Department.

She echoed what Councilor Cook said regarding the Indigenous People's event. She had the opportunity to volunteer for some of that. There was delicious food, vendors, story time, beautiful scenery, trails, etc. She and Mayor Milch participated in interviewing seniors for part of their courses – they present a resume and cover letter for positions that they want to apply for, and they go through mock interviews. She said it was fun and energizing. They will be doing it two more times this year, so she encourages the rest of the Council to participate.

She is also excited to attend the League of Oregon Cities Conference for the first time.

**Mayor Milch:**

He said that if the trail around Ames/Dahl Beach is completed they could include some interpretive materials that educate the public about some of the historic connections there were to the indigenous people in this area.

He said there is a new School Board member who has strong connections to our business community and the School District has made a request that we try to have some liaison between the School Board and Gladstone businesses. He said they have made economic development a strong goal of this Council and he is grateful that we have Marci Jory on staff for that purpose, that we have our own Planner on staff to accelerate the process for approval of new development in the community, and Councilor Cook has done a wonderful job as liaison for that purpose. He is grateful to see that interconnection between elected officials at different levels of government working together in Gladstone to make this a good place to live, to do business, and a good place to learn how to prepare for those.

He said Ms. Betz just returned from a convention in Austin, Texas. She said she has been a member of ICMA for almost twenty-four years. This conference had over 5,100 city managers from the United States. A lot of the focus/themes were geared toward creating good partnerships with your elected officials, with staff, and investing in your employees. She enjoyed networking with peers from other cities of similar size – they all have the same issues. She said it was learning about how to be a better city manager and taking care of our employees. They will have a department head retreat in December and she is going to take some of the handouts from the conference and discuss them there. She is happy to be in Gladstone. We have some great things that we are accomplishing now, we have a great Council, and we have a great staff. She said we are on the right track, headed in the right direction, and making great strides, not only as a city, but as a county.

Mayor Milch asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

*Councilor Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilor Alexander. Ms. Kratz took a roll call vote: Councilor Huckaby – yes. Councilor Alexander – yes. Councilor Reichle – yes. Councilor Cook – yes. Councilor Roberts – yes. Councilor Garlington – yes. Mayor Milch – yes. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 P.M.

Approved by the Mayor this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

ATTEST:

  
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Michael Milch, Mayor

  
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Tami Bannick, City Recorder

