



**CITY OF WASHOUGAL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, November 18, 2024
5:00 PM**

MEETING INFORMATION

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81364493488>

VIDEO I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro tem Suggs called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor David Stuebe, and Councilmembers Michelle Wagner, David Fritz, Molly Coston, Ernie Suggs, and Tia Robertson **Absent:** Councilmember Julie Russell and Student Representative Emily Bishop

Staff:

David Scott, City Manager
Joe Walsh, Strategic Initiatives Manager
Trevor Evers, Director of Public Works
Daniel Layer, Finance Director/City Clerk
Wendi Steinbronn, Police Chief
Monie Holmes, Assistant Finance Director
Rose Jewell, Community Engagement Manager
Amanda Goulding, Assistant City Clerk & Accounting Specialist

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Larry Keister commented on Saturday's Comprehensive Plan Carnival.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

VIDEO A. Finance: Fire Station Bond Ordinance

Daniel Layer presented the following:

- Background
 - Ordinance #1979 - purpose, terms, and payoff
- Bond Ordinance Details
 - Unlimited Tax General Obligation (UTGO) - 2025
 - Issuance and sale of UTGO
 - Purpose, form, authority, disposition, and sale
 - Assumptions: series, date, maturities, true interest cost, and terms
- Next Steps
 - Ordinance on the December 2nd regular agenda

VIDEO B. City Manager's Office: Proposed 2025 CDBG Application for Sidewalk and Stormwater Improvements Phase 1

Dave Scott presented the following:

- Public Facilities and Neighborhood Improvements
 - Community Center, Social Services, and Emergency Shelter
 - Street/Sidewalk, Water/Sewer, and Parks/Recreation Improvements
- Asset and Economic Development
 - Homeownership - new construction, assistance, and land acquisition or infrastructure
 - Microenterprise development
- Affordable Housing and Homelessness
 - New construction or rehab of multi-family
 - Acquisition of existing units or land for multi-family
 - Conversion of existing for affordable housing
 - Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Programs
- CDBG Awards over the last 10 years
- Project Considerations
 - Sidewalk infill
 - Sidewalk and stormwater infrastructure
 - Max award \$400,000
 - Phased approach
- Project Area
 - Includes 33rd, 34th, 35th, A and B Streets in the Addy Neighborhood
 - Starting with 35th Street, connecting to transit stop on Addy Street
- Discussion ensued on right-of-way, stormwater mitigation, water retention, high water in the area, and cost estimates.
- Next steps: A public hearing will be held on December 2nd.

VIDEO

C. Police: Camping Ordinance Update

Chief Wendi Steinbronn presented the following:

- Martin v. Boise 2018 - 9th Circuit decision on camping ordinance
- Blake v. Grants Pass - 2020 Eight Amendment violation Blake v. Grants Pass upheld
- U.S. Supreme Court Ruling - 2024 determination
- Existing Procedure - current ordinance allows camping in public property 9:30 pm - 6:30 am
- Proposed Procedure - city to use enforcement tools to address trespass and camping consistent with SCOTUS Grants Pass Decision
 - Written warning and referral to services
 - Available resources in the community were reviewed
 - Notices will be posted for campsite requiring clean-up
 - RCW 9A.52.070 or 9A.52.080
 - NO shelters within the city limits
- This ordinance will be on the December 2nd council agenda
- Discussion ensued regarding the current issues, amendments to the ordinance, other jurisdiction's ordinances and resources, time parameters, and resources available in the county.

VIDEO

D. City Manager's Office: Regional Fire Authority (RFA) Plan

David Scott presented the following:

- Background
 - The Amalgamation Process
 - Phases: Cooperation, consolidation, and integration
 - RFA Planning Committee Appointment as prescribed by statute started in

March 2024 with Councilmembers Russell, Wagner, and Coston

- Composition and subcommittee structure and process
- Proposed RFA Plan
 - Overview of Plan Components
 - Jurisdictional Boundaries
 - Finances
 - Transfer of Assets
 - Governance must be predetermined either Election or Appointed Elected Official. This decision permanent unless changed by a super majority of the governing board,
 - Organizational Structure
 - Operations and Services - Fire, ambulance, code management, and public education
- Enhanced Services proposal - three-person engine by 2027 and no out of pocket expense for ambulance services for Camas and Washougal residents
- Property Tax Implications - 2026 levy rate, EMS levy recommendation, general 2026 levy, and current levy lid lift for fire/ems
- Next Steps
 - December 2, 2024, Council meeting: Joint Resolution with Camas to adopt the RFA Plan and place the formation of an RFA on the April 22, 2025, special election ballot
 - April 22, 2025: Special Election date
 - May – August 2025: Transition planning, including development of necessary interlocal agreements between the two cities
 - RFA to facilitate the transition (to be approved once RFA is effective)
 - September 1, 2025: Official effective date of RFA
- Discussion ensued regarding the tax implications, service enhancement, special ballot, RFA sustainability, and benefits of the RFA,

V. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. CITY MANAGER

David Scott reported on:

- The need for the Appointments Committee to convene prior to the December 2nd meeting
- Next meeting on December 2nd
- AWC City Action Days in February

B. MAYOR

Deferred to the regular meeting.

C. CITY COUNCIL

Deferred to the regular meeting.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended 6:25.

David Stube

Mayor

Daniel Lauer

City Clerk