

**COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Solesbee called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

ROLL CALL

City Recorder Mindy Roberts called the roll. The following were

PRESENT IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS: Mayor Solesbee, Councilors Greg Ervin, Mike Fleck, Dana Merryday, Kenneth Michael Roberts, Chalice Savage and Jon Stinnett.

PRESENT VIA GOTOMEETING:

COUNCIL ABSENT:

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE: Kadence Solesbee

STAFF PRESENT IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS: City Manager Richard Meyers, Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone, City Recorder Mindy Roberts, Public Works & Development Director Faye Stewart, Finance Director Roberta Likens and Interim Police Chief Jeff Groth

STAFF PRESENT VIA GOTOMEETING:

CITY ATTORNEY: Mark Wolf

MEDIA PRESENT: Cameron Reiten - KNND, Ryleigh Norgrove -The Chronicle and Gerald Santana - Cottage Grove Sentinel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

American Legion, Calvin Funk Post 32 posted the colors and led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATHS OF OFFICE

City Recorder Mindy Roberts gave the Oath of Office to Mayor Solesbee and Councilors Dana Merryday, Chalice Savage and Mike Fleck.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Solesbee presented her State of the City Address which is attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A".

ITEMS ADDED TO THE AGENDA

None

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Dennis Prociw 127 Tyson Drive, Cottage Grove, Oregon spoke as a representative of the Middlefield Estates community. He expressed concern about recent break-ins in the neighborhood and asked for a representation from the City to attend Wednesday's board meeting at 4:00 pm to explain the trespass notification letters and answer questions.

Mike Borke 310 N Douglas, Cottage Grove, Oregon expressed concern about having a homeless camp by a residential neighborhood.

Venice Mason 28 South 6th Street Unit 3, Cottage Grove, Oregon read a poem out loud to Council titled *I'm the Indian in your living room*.

Alexandra Kaul Row River Rd, Cottage Grove, Oregon declined to speak and indicated that the previously speaker said what needed to be said.

Bruce Kelsh 783340 Halderman, Cottage Grove, Oregon was not able to make a clear connection virtually to be able to speak.

ROLL CALL JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD MEETING.

The joint meeting was called to order by Mayor Solesbee.

Those in attendance virtually and in person were Mayor Solesbee, Councilors Ervin, Fleck, Merryday, Savage, Stinnett, and Roberts.

Staff present virtually and in person were City Manager Richard Meyers, Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone, City Recorder Mindy Roberts, Public Works & Development Director Faye Stewart, Finance Director Roberta Likens and Interim Police Chief Jeff Groth.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- (a) Public Hearing Exempting Public Improvement Project from Competitive Bidding Requirements for the Bio Solids Drying Equipment

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart explained that the joint public hearing is to receive testimony regarding exempting competitive bidding requirements for a sole source procurement of bio solids drying equipment to be used at the City's Water Reclamation Facility. He explained the equipment that is being considered, the process that would be used and the reduction in energy consumption and chemical use. He added that the dried bio solids would be used as fertilizer at Middlefield Golf Course, City Parks and facilities. He provided printed materials to Council that compared the bio force dryer to natural gas dryers.

Mayor Solesbee opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak.

Kathleen Matteson spoke in favor of not using electricity to run the equipment.

Mayor Solesbee closed the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION

- (a) A Resolution Exempting Public Improvement Project from Competitive Bidding Requirements for the Bio Solids Drying Equipment

Public Works and Development Director explained that this is the time for Council and the Contract Review Board to consider the resolution.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR ERVIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2087.

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called for further discussion.

Councilor Ervin said that he supports the project and it will be a benefit to the City and residents. He added that he is excited to see what could be done with the soil amendments and added that he hopes the City can look for ways to reduce the bills associated with Wastewater Treatment.

Public Works and Development Director explained that the City could go through testing of the bio solids product to get it certified as a fertilizer, but until that happens it will be referred to as a soil amendment.

Councilor Fleck said it concerns him that we have to spend money to get the 30% design phase, but he does feel it will be a benefit to the community.

Councilor Merryday reassured Council that the process is natural and strong. Mayor Solesbee called for further discussion. Seeing none she called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

**ADJOURNMENT OF JOINT MEETING
RESUME REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- (a) Approval of December 9, 2022 Agenda Session Minutes
- (b) Approval of December 12, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ERVIN TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- (a) Resolution Supporting a Grant Application to the Oregon Community Paths Grant Program for the Lincoln Middle School Path

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart presented background information regarding approval of a pre-grant application to the Oregon Community Paths Grant Program.

He said the grant would allow us to construct a new path along the Coast Fork River connecting Hayes Ave to Lincoln Middle School and Phase II would extend the path from the school to 6th Street connecting with Bohemia Park. He added that this is being recommended as a resolution because this is a new project and not currently in a transportation system plan.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2088.

Mayor Solesbee called for discussion.

Councilor Savage said she supports the grant application and she appreciates that a privacy fence was put up for the residents in the area.

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(b) Second Vote on Ordinance No. 3167, as Amended, Amending Chapters 9.28 and 12.24 of the Cottage Grove Municipal Code Regarding Offenses by or Against Minors and City Parks and Public Playgrounds

City Manager Richard Meyers reminded Council that this ordinance was previously presented and amended by changing the form of the word “camp” to mirror the wording used by the courts of “sleeping, lying, sitting, keeping warm and dry”. He presented to Council an amended version with the changes highlighted in yellow. He discussed the changes and indicated to Council, if the ordinance meets the needs of the Council, they would need to adopt the ordinance as presented with the amendments.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3167 AS AMENDED.

Councilor Ervin said that he has not been able to read the ordinance and would like to postpone the vote.

Councilor Fleck asked if the motion maker and the second can withdraw the motion until next week.

There was open discussion about how to proceed.

Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone referenced Robert’s Rules of Order and indicated that a withdraw of the motion is allowed before the question is stated.

Councilor Fleck said that he will withdraw the motion and the second agreed to do the same.

- (c) Second Vote for Ordinance No. 3168 Vacating 198 Square Feet of Right-of-Way Located at the Southeast Corner of the Intersection of South 7th and East Fillmore

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart presented to Council Ordinance No. 3168 for a second vote and adoption. He reminded Council that the first vote took place on December 3, 2022, following a public hearing, at which time no comments were received.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3168.

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

BUSINESS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

- (a) Election of Council President

City Manager Richard Meyers reminded Council that at the first meeting of the year, Council is charged under the Charter to elect a Council President. He said the Council President would act in place of the Mayor if they are unavailable or unable to perform the duties. He added, in the past two years, Councilor Fleck was the Council President.

Councilor Roberts nominated Councilor Ervin.

Councilor Fleck nominated Councilor Savage and added that he could support either candidate.

Mayor Solesbee said that she would like to second the nomination of Councilor Ervin.

There was open discussion as to whether a nomination or motion is required.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR SOLESBEE TO ELECT COUNCILOR ERVIN AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(b) City Council Subcommittee and Liaison Appointments

Mayor Solesbee said that she would like to leave the assignments as they are.

Councilor Fleck asked about Mayor Gowings’ commitments.

Mayor Solesbee said that she will be taking Mayor Gowings’ commitments.

Councilor Merryday said that he would prefer no additional Monday meetings.

(c) Planning Commission Appointments

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart indicated that the subcommittee held interviews for two Planning Commission vacancies and asked chair, Councilor Roberts to share the recommendation.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK TO APPOINT JEFF GOWING AND TOM MUNROE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Councilor Fleck encouraged Steve Thoemmes to stay involved and interested in serving the City.

Mayor Solesbee called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(d) Urban Forestry Committee Appointments

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart indicated that the subcommittee held interviews for the Urban Forestry Committee vacancies and asked chair, Councilor Ervin to share the recommendation.

Councilor Ervin thanked all of the applicants and encouraged those that were not chosen to continue to stay involved.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR ERVIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR SAVAGE TO APPOINT SUSAN JOHNSON AND MARK MCCAFFERY TO THE URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE FROM JANUARY 9, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2025.

Mayor Solesbee called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(e) Vacant City Councilor At Large Position

City Manager Richard Meyers explained that the Councilor At Large position will be vacant at the conclusion of tonight’s meeting, as Councilor Roberts will be stepping down. He said the City Charter states that Council is charged with filling vacancies and it is up to Council to decide if they want to appoint, select or get recruitments for the position. He added that Staff would like to get started right away because Council has a lot to do in the next couple of months.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR SAVAGE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK TO TAKE APPLICATIONS FOR THE VACANT CITY COUNCILOR POSITION.

Councilor Ervin said taking applications makes sense and asked what the other options are.

City Manager Richard Meyers said Council could name someone tonight. He added that Council has to decide by majority vote but the options are wide open. He said the easiest way, is to take applications and have Council interview the candidates.

Councilor Roberts said that is how he got to be a Councilor and he would like to see the community have the same opportunity.

Councilor Stinnett asked for details about how fast this should be done based on Council having lots to do.

City Manager said there are seven worksessions that are being scheduled over the next three months, and he outlined what some of them are.

Councilor Stinnett asked for a timeline if Council decides to advertise and take applications.

City Manager provided a timeline of advertising, taking applications and scheduling of the interviews. He said Council could have it done by the February 13th meeting.

Councilor Fleck confirmed that applicants would need to be a registered voter and live within the City for one year.

City Manager replied that it is an At Large position and applicants would need to be a qualified elector and can live in any Ward.

Councilor Savage asked to clarify the timeline.

THE MOTION WAS AMENDED BY COUNCILOR SAVAGE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK TO ADD THAT THE APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 23, 2023.

Councilor Stinnett asked if the City is confident that we can get the word out in two weeks.

City Manager replied that the word has been out for three or four weeks since Councilor Roberts made the announcement. He said with two more weeks, we will get applications.

Councilor Fleck said if we didn't get applications, the date could be extended.

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(f) Municipal Court Judge Contract Renewal and Amendments

City Manager Richard Meyers reminded Council that Judge Fisher has given his annual report and Council has conducted his evaluation. He said the employment contract has been amended to extend for one year and is available for Council consideration.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR ERVIN TO EXTEND THE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE CONTRACT FOR ONE YEAR

Councilor Roberts said the last report was very informative and that Judge Fisher did a good job.

Councilor Savage said she appreciated the email invitation from Judge Fisher to view Court in session and also appreciated the kindness and compassion that he showed.

City Manager reminded Mayor Solesbee that there needs to be a second to the motion before any discussion.

Councilor Fleck pointed out that the motion did not include authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract.

MOTION WAS AMENDED BY COUNCILOR ERVIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE CONTRACT AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(g) City Council Approval of East Regional and North Regional Park Trail Grant Support Letters

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart provided background information regarding two approved pre-applications for grants. He asked for City Council to approve the North and East Regional Park grant application support letters to be included with the official State construction grant applications. He provided information regarding the cost associated with preparing the application and the potential 30% match if approved.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL ERVIN TO APPROVE THE NORTH AND EAST REGIONAL PARK GRANT APPLICATION SUPPORT LETTERS TO ODOT’S OREGON COMMUNITY PATH PROGRAM.

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called for discussion.

Councilor Ervin said that he is excited for the path to be redone.

Mayor Solesbee called for further discussion. Seeing none she called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(h) Setting Worksession Dates

City Manager Richard Meyers outlined a number of worksessions that need to be scheduled for City Council over the next few months. He presented topics and potential dates for the meetings, taking into consideration dates that the City Attorney is available.

Discussion was held amongst the Council Members as to when the meetings should take place and Council set dates that would work for their schedules.

City Manager said that if there is a consensus on the dates and time, Staff will provide them with a notice and do the notice requirements for the meetings.

(i) Concerns from Council

Councilor Ervin reported about two grants that are coming available. He said one is a statewide emergency small business and micro enterprise grant program that will help businesses that were in business prior to March 2019 that can document COVID impact. He said the other opportunity is a grant for certified childcare facilities and in home child care providers to help improve their facilities. He also brought up the possibility of having the marijuana facilities in the business corridor being required to keep the smell down.

Councilor Savage reported that the Chamber of Commerce has hired Georgia as the CEO. She congratulated Councilor Ervin for being selected as Council President and thanked Councilor Roberts for his service to the community. She encouraged people to apply for the Budget committee if they are interested in getting involved in municipal government.

Councilor Savage asked the City Manager for details about applying for the All-America City Hall of Fame.

City Manager replied that the Hall of Fame applications are available and have the same deadline as the All-America City Award application. He added that the Hall of Fame award is a little less time consuming and is meant for communities that have received multiple awards.

Councilor Savage briefed Council on a meeting that she attended at Governor Kotek’s office about homelessness and behavioral health issues.

Councilor Savage congratulated Mayor Solesbee and thanked her for everything that she has done and will do.

Councilor Fleck addressed previously made comments about Beds for Freezing Nights (BFN) and talked about the huge undertaking that it takes to organize the process. He said BFN needs more help and capacity to run.

Councilor Merryday announced that his Boy Scout Troop was working towards the Citizenship in the Community Badge and was able to attend the Council meeting tonight to see him take office. He added that he was very proud to see Troops 140 and 4140 present and that they were able to see government in action.

Councilor Stinnett asked when the last time there was a madam Mayor.

City Manager replied that it was Mayor Jean Sinclair in the 1980's.

Councilor Stinnett said that he asked publicly to acknowledge the history and to congratulate Mayor Solesbee.

Councilor Roberts asked Council to consider dedicating the structure that will be put in Prospector Park to Jeff Gowing, for his years of service in the community.

Councilor Roberts said that he loved his role on Council and encouraged them to bring back the unity in the community that Cottage Grove is known for. He said that he will miss them, the community and he is proud of what he accomplished.

Mayor Solesbee said that it was honor to be sworn in as Mayor with her granddaughter by her side.

BUSINESS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- (a) Approval of West Yost Task Work Order 2023-1 for Engineering Services for Cottage Grove Water Reclamation Facility Bio Solids 30% Design Documents

Public Works and Development Director reminded Council that bio solids equipment was discussed in detail during the public hearing. He said this is a proposal to approve a task work order allowing West Yost to create the 30% design documents. He added that Sandy, Oregon is currently going through the same process, which will give us an opportunity to check in to see how things are going.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS TO APPROVE TASK WORK ORDER 2023-1 FOR THE PROPOSAL FROM WEST YOST FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO DEVELOP 30% DESIGN DOCUMENTS FOR THE COTTAGE GROVE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY'S SOLIDS PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$161,353 AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE TASK WORK ORDER.

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called for discussion.

Mayor Solesbee asked how long Sandy has been using the system.

Public Works and Development Director said Sandy is about one month ahead of us in the same process.

Mayor Solesbee called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(b) City Council Approval of Purchase of a Used 800 KW Caterpillar Generator

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart recapped information regarding the engine failure of the backup generator at the Water Reclamation Facility. He outlined the cost of the leased backup generator, the cost to have to have the failed engine repaired and the cost of new and used generators.

He said after considering all of the options, staff recommends that the City purchase the used generator in Denver, and he continued by explaining City Public Contracting Rule E-15.

Councilor Fleck asked if there is an estimate for the local CAT or Denver CAT dealer to evaluate the generator.

Public Works and Development Director said that information will be available tomorrow.

Councilor Fleck asked if that should be included in the motion.

City Manager said the cost of that service does not need to be included since it is not part of the price of the unit.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ERVIN PENDING REVIEW OF THE EQUIPMENT, COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE NECESSARY AGREEMENT AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS TO PURCHASE THE 2002 USED CATERPILLAR GENERATOR FROM GENERATOR SOURCE FOR \$175,000, PLUS SHIPPING ESTIMATED AT \$7,500, AND ANY SEPARATE CONTRACT REQUIRED FOR INSTALLATION (ESTIMATED AT \$18,000), PENDING LEGAL COUNSEL REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Councilor Ervin said this seems to be the right path forward and asked what the KW rating is on the other two City generators.

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart said this is the largest backup generator that we have. He said the generator at the Water Treatment plant is 600 KW and the one at City Hall is 150 KW.

Councilor Ervin said he would be in favor of the City potentially rebuilding the existing generator to have as a backup, rented out or resold. He asked how long has the generator been on the market.

Public Works and Development Director said he is not sure how long it has been on the market. He was told that it was acquired from San Antonio and it was a backup generator at a prescription drug manufacturer warehouse.

Councilor Ervin outlined the benefits to rebuilding the existing generator.

Public Works and Development Director said that he will do some additional research and get back to Council. He added that there may be some opportunities in emergency management to apply for some grant funding to replace our current generators.

Councilor Merryday asked if the vendor offers a satisfaction guarantee.

Public Works and Development Director indicated that satisfaction would be gained by sending professionals to the site, running tests on the generator and getting oil samples so that we can determine that there are no internal issues with the engine. He added that there is no warranty on the engine.

Councilor Merryday asked if anyone else could buy it off the lot or do we have an agreement with the vendor.

Public Works and Development Director said that it is possible, but General Source understands that Council is reviewing the purchase at this meeting.

Mayor Solesbee announced the motion with a second and called the vote.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Merryday	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Solesbee
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(c) Report from City Manager

City Manager Richard Meyers informed Council on a variety of topics:

- He reminded Council of City Hall day at the Capital on January 25th, and he asked if anyone else is interested.
- He presented to Council the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) schedule with Council assignments. He said if changes need to be made, let Staff know.
- He informed Council that business cards have been updated for each of them and will be ordered soon. He asked Council to review their contact information this evening before they leave so that the cards can be printed.
- He announced that the new iPads have arrived and asked Council to turn in their current iPads so they can be repurposed.
- He reminded Council to give their biographies to Staff for the City website and informed them that we are currently coordinating with a professional photographer to take headshots for their page.
- He informed Council about upcoming childcare workshops that are taking place for people interested in getting started in the childcare business and added that the information is available in last week's Friday Update.
- He announced that applications for the City Council position and the Budget Committee are available on the City website, under jobs and volunteers.

City Manager presented Councilor Roberts with a plaque made from original 1931 flooring from the Armory. He thanked him for his dedicated service and expressed appreciation for his work for the City of Cottage Grove and with Staff.

BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY

(a) Report from City Attorney

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

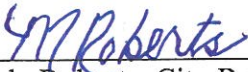
Mayor Solesbee recessed the meeting at 9:56 pm to go into Executive Session.

Council reconvened at 10:38 pm

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Solesbee adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 10:40 pm.

The next regular City Council Meeting will be held January 23, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.



Mindy Roberts, City Recorder



Greg Ervin, Council President

EXHIBIT A

I am both honored and humbled to have been elected as the new Mayor of Cottage Grove. In the face of my upcoming duty, I feel privileged and grateful for the trust you have put in me. In the next two years, I will strive in every way, to be worthy of your confidence. I promise to hold this position, representing the citizens of Cottage Grove with honesty and integrity.

It is my goal to bring City leadership and citizens together. Your ideas, suggestions, and your voices are important. The belief that every person has something to offer in a community, is at the core of what makes Cottage Grove, a twice recipient of the All-America City Award; so special.

I am aware that our city leadership is built on pledges of trust and the absolute knowledge that any power that the council has, is delegated to it by the citizens of Cottage Grove.

As I reflected on 2022 for this years State of the City address, one of Cottage Grove's successes stood out.

I am going to start with acknowledging a big one. The City of Cottage Grove was awarded \$5 million dollars for the Downtown refinement plan, by the department of commerce for economic development administration (EDA). It was the second largest award in the nation in 2022. The grant was prepared by Lane Council of Government staff working closely with City staff. The city will match with \$1,250,000 for a total project funding of \$6,250,000. The award was made on August 30, 2022. The grant is for new sidewalks, paving, lighting, fiber optic, water and sewer lines, landscaping, and furnishings from 8th Street west to the Main Street Bridge. The project will extend down 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Streets approximately 50 feet north and south of Main Street. Construction is planned to start late 2023 with a completion expected by the end of 2024.

On September 22, 2022, the EDA announced a \$1,097,807 grant for the Bohemia Park Entry Plaza Project. On September 15, 2022, the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department announced approval of a \$346,500.00 grant to the City of Cottage Grove for the Bohemia Park Entry Plaza Splash Pad. An additional \$231,000 match from the Bohemia Foundation and City will go to the project for a total of \$1,675,307. The funding is to build the Bohemia Park Entry Plaza which includes a steel historic replica water tower for an interactive water feature, including 3 water splash areas, concrete railroad walk path, 6 historical interpretive pillars, 6 art stations, 1700 feet of concrete walk paths, benches, swing set, and landscaping including utilities and irrigation. Lund Development, Christina Lund and staff prepared both Bohemia Park grant applications for the Bohemia Park project. The City Council has approved having the city manage the grant for the Bohemia Foundation. Construction is expected to start in the summer of 2023 and be completed by the winter of 2023 or early 2024. If you combine the grant awards for downtown and Bohemia Park, it is the largest award to any single community in the United States for 2022! Quite an achievement. It is believed that part of the reason for Cottage Grove's success attaining these grants, was through the teamwork of many individuals and

support of organizations. Both grants received statements of support from the CG Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Cottage Grove, EBID, Cottage Grove Community Foundation, and numerous local businesses.

The Oregon Department of Transportation is making some significant improvements in our community. The Highway 99 Urban Upgrade project will bring about \$6,300,000 of improvements to highway 99 between the bridge over the Coast Fork Willamette south to the Woodson Bridge. The improvements will change the roadway to one lane each direction with a center turn lane; build new sidewalks and bike lanes to current ADA standards; install a new Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) and pedestrian crossing sign between N. Chamberlain and Geer Avenue; replace the traffic signal at the Woodson Place intersection; install new and enhance existing streetlights. The project completion time is estimated to be July of 2023.

The second ODOT project is refurbishment of the bridge on the Cottage Grove Connector. The ODOT Connector project is scheduled to start January 2023. The project will rehabilitate the connector embankments and bridge. It will also include new pedestrian sidewalks on both sides of the Connector. The estimated project cost is \$3,250,381.86 and the estimated completion time is August 31, 2023.

In 2021-22 the City of Cottage Grove spent \$82,693.91 for further processing of the Water Reclamation Facility's bio solids by shipping the solids to a farm in Sutherlin. In December of 2022 the City received a 25% increase effective December 15, 2022 for biosolid processing. The estimated 2022-23 cost is \$90,000. The increase is due to labor and fuel costs. City Council will be considering a proposal from West Yost, City Engineer of Record for the water and wastewater treatment plants, to complete 30% design for a biosolids dryer for the treatment facility. The goal is to save the City funds by processing it ourselves. Additional savings will come from reductions in chemical and electricity used currently at the facility. An estimated treatment plant cost savings would be more than \$125,000 per year. Additional savings will come from reducing the purchase of fertilizers at the Golf Course and City parks. The dried biosolids will be used to replace most fertilizer expenses.

The Snap House is getting a new pavilion, graciously donated by Weyerhaeuser. City staff have started preparations to remove the donated log picnic shelter from Weyerhaeuser property and transport to its new home at Prospector Park. A permit has been applied to rebuild the structure. Staff will have the structure disassembled by the end of February 2023 and plans to have it rebuilt by the end of summer 2023.

As a result of the partnership between the City and South Lane School District to develop a warm water therapy pool as a part of the Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic center our community has attracted the attention of the Tamarack Foundation Board of Directors. Members of the Tamarack Foundation visited the Aquatic Center and discussed the future for the facility with Joshua Norton the pool manager. In December, board members from Tamarack Foundation

presented a grant of \$50,000 for additional improvements to the warm water therapy pool. The grant will fund the addition of an access ramp and decking.

On December 12th City council approved the purchase of body cameras and new tasers for the Police Department. The City manager and interim Chief Groth applied for and was awarded a grant from City/County insurance services for \$15,000. This grant will pay for 40% of this year's overall cost. The cameras have been ordered and should arrive by February. Some training has already begun on policies and procedures for use of the new body cameras and tasers. The city estimates the new equipment will be in use by officers in the community by the end of March.

The police department is currently recruiting for new and lateral officers. Applications are coming in and interviews will be starting shortly. The recruitment has already begun for the captain position. Applicants have been received and interviews will be starting soon. The goal is to have the new Captain in the position by February 2023. Captain Nelson will be returning to the Eugene Police department in February. We are so appreciative of Eugene Police Department and their willingness to assist our department at no cost. The Lane County Sheriff Department has also been a great help through our transition.

The Police Chief recruitment has unofficially begun with personal contact to possible candidates and other experienced individuals around the state. The official recruitment will begin in May after the 2023-24 Budget is approved. The new Police Chief should be on staff by August.

With all our successes in 2022 we have not been without our challenges. We have seen our community stressed with homelessness, division, and an economic downturn. However, 2023 is a new year. Let us try to bridge the gaps, be honest with each other... even when it's difficult. Let's say goodbye to what is not working and embrace what is. I want to acknowledge the fact that we have had a great influx of attendance to council meetings this last year. Citizens have been sharing their concerns; with many passionate speeches given from the podium in 2022. Thank you for showing up, getting involved, and caring for this community... our home.

MAYORAL CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION:

Presented to

Peter and Michele Rose

*Small business Owners

* Peter is the Curator of Opal Theatre and Michele is the Executive Director

* They are heavily involved with the Trashion Show

* Earth day in April

*Summer Art camps k-12

* Michele is a Board member for Downtown Cottage Grove

* Artwalk Coordinator

* You will often see Peter out blowing the leaves off the sidewalks in his free time.

In Recognition and appreciation for countless volunteer hours. Thank you for furthering Cultural arts, beautification, and dedication to the community.

MAYORAL CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION:

Presented to

KNNR Radio

*Hosted and enhanced many community events over the years

Some of which are...

Rock, Roll and Rumble

Concerts in the Park

Bohemia Mining Days

*Keeping the citizens informed with talk radio Beeper show

HOSTING

State representatives/politicians

County Commissioners

Police

Fire

Local Mayors

Councilors

City Manager

Cameron also heads up the legislative committee for the Chamber of Commerce to assist in Legislative and Judicial changes to keep the public informed.

In Recognition and appreciation for your support of the community through knowledge, education, entertainment, and countless volunteer hours.