

CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA SESSION MINUTES
July 22, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gowing at 8:30 am.

Those in attendance virtually and in person: Mayor Gowing and Councilors Solesbee, Savage, Fleck, Ervin and Roberts.

Staff present virtually and in person: City Manager Richard Meyers, Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone, City Recorder Mindy Roberts, Public Works & Development Director Faye Stewart, Police Chief Scott Shepherd and Finance Director Roberta Likens

Items to Be Added to the Agenda

None

Public Hearing

None

Consent Agenda

- (a) Approval of June 27, 2022 City Council Minutes
- (b) Approval of July 8, 2022 Agenda Session Minutes
- (c) Approval of July 11, 2022 City Council Minutes

Resolutions and Ordinances

- (a) Second Vote on Ordinance No. 3161 Adopting Chapter 8.40 Overnight Camping Program

City Manager explained that this item is the second vote on the Ordinance. He said there have been no changes to the Ordinance and it would go into effect 30 days from adoption.

Councilor Solesbee asked if the Ordinance could be amended to require that RV's in the driveways would have to be operational.

City Manager replied that some will be trailers and non-motorized vehicles. He said Staff can look into how something could be applied to all types.

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart asked if the City's Nuisance Code would apply to the need to keep it operational and in good shape.

City Manager said the Nuisance Code does not indicate operational.

Mayor Gowing indicated that repair work is allowed in the driveway but not in the street and it would need to be equitable for everyone.

City Manager said Staff will look into it and put together some ideas.

Councilor Solesbee said she wants to make sure neighbors are protected.

Councilor Savage suggested it be addressed as a safety concern and if a vehicle is jacked up on cinder blocks it may not be safe.

Councilor Fleck said that would create a problem for people who are working on their vehicles in their own driveway.

City Manager said it potentially could be addressed in the application process rather than the Ordinance.

Councilor Ervin said in this situation, it is likely that people would be sited for other nuisances.

City Manager said Staff will also look at the possibilities from a safety concern.

(b) Second Vote on Ordinance No. 3162 Declaring a Ban on Psilocybin Service Centers and the Manufacture of Psilocybin Products

City Manager said there is a proposed change to the Ordinance in the sixth "WhereAs" in the recitals. He pointed out the changes and read the current and amended version to Council. He added that the other correction is on the second page of the Ordinance in Section One, correcting the ORS number from 275A to 475A.

Mayor Gowing called for discussion.

(c) Resolution Calling an Election on November 8, 2022, to Refer to the Voters an Ordinance Prohibiting Psilocybin Businesses within the City of Cottage Grove, Oregon and Adopting a Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement

City Manager explained that this Resolution would put the item on the ballot. He said it includes an Explanatory Statement although Lane County will not be publishing a Voters Pamphlet and the statement is not necessarily needed.

Mayor Gowing called for discussion.

Councilor Ervin asked if this will be the only item on the ballot for Cottage Grove.

City Manager replied yes, other than the Elections for Councilors and Mayor.

Business from City Council

(a) 2023 League of Oregon Cities Legislative Priorities

City Manager reminded Council to bring their top five choices from the League of Oregon Cities Legislative Priorities. He said all of the issues are important to cities but cannot all be addressed in one Legislative Session.

Mayor Gowing asked if they need to prioritize their top five choices.

City Manager said it would be helpful in case there is a tie.

Councilor Fleck expressed disappointment with the list that was provided. He said as an example, Property Tax Reform does not include a Reset on Sale, which is the number one problem with our Property Tax.

City Manager said the Reset on Sale is a top priority for the League. He added that Property Tax items are a very complex issue and some of the details may have been left out of the descriptions.

Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone added that if an opportunity arises to Reset at Sale, the League of Oregon Cities would definitely support it.

(b) Concerns from Council

Councilor Savage announced that Shauna Neigh has resigned from the Chamber of Commerce and her last day is August 12th.

Business from City Manager

(a) Approval of and Authorization for City Manager to Enter into Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Laborers Local No. 737 Laborers Unit

Mayor Gowing stated at this point of the meeting on Monday, Council will go into Executive Session and discuss Labor Negotiations.

(b) Report from City Manager

City Manager asked Council to share with others that the Eugene Symphony will perform at Bohemia Park on Monday, August 1st at 7:30 pm.

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart gave an update on the chip seal project taking place on East Main Street and River Road. He provided Council with an explanation as to why these streets were chosen and information on how to answer questions from residents.

Councilor Savage asked if this project was the one that the City partnered with the City of Creswell.

Public Works and Development Director replied yes.

Councilor Ervin asked about the intersection of 10th and Main and the possibility of installing a traffic signal.

City Manager replied that ODOT encouraged the City to eliminate the left turn off of 10th on to Main during the restoration of the railroad crossing. He added that it is not feasible to install a traffic signal because of the railroad and the other signals in the area. He said eventually, as traffic warrants, a median would be installed to prevent a left turn off of 10th.

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart informed Council that Branch Engineering will start surveying Main Street in anticipation of the EDA Grant.

City Manager said while at Conference other City Managers were offering congratulations regarding the grant although we have not been officially notified. He added that he has overheard that Cottage Grove is receiving the largest EDA Grant in the Region and potentially in the Country.

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart informed Council that dust abatement will be put on all City gravel roads next week. He added that it is 100 % environmentally safe vegetable pulp.

Business from the City Attorney

None

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None

Executive Session

- (a) Executive Session Held Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(d) to Deliberate with Persons Designated by the Governing Body to Carry on Labor Negotiations

Mayor Jeff Gowing adjourned the meeting at 8:55 am.

Mindy Roberts, City Recorder

Jeffrey D. Gowing, Mayor