



Harrisburg City Council Minutes July 22, 2025

Mayor: Robert Duncan, Presiding
Council President: Mike Caughey, Present
Councilors Present: Kimberly Downey, Charlotte Thomas and Dana Henry (via phone)
Councilors Absent: Randy Klemm and Cindy Knox
Staff Present: City Administrator Michele Eldridge, Finance Director/Deputy City Recorder Cathy Nelson and City Recorder/Municipal Court Administrator Lori Ross
Meeting Location: Harrisburg Municipal Center Located at 354 Smith St

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Robert Duncan

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL by Mayor, Robert Duncan

CONCERNED CITIZEN(S) IN THE AUDIENCE. (Please limit presentation to two minutes per issue.)

THE MATTER OF MEETING WITH A MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE FROM LCSO IF ONE IS AVAILABLE: Sergeant Frambes stated that LCSO was 6.5 hours short in June, and they are working hard to make up the hours in July by offering overtime for patrol and traffic. Sergeant Frambes reviewed the June 2025 Report. Some of the highlights included:

- All arrest were warrants served with the exception of one DUI and one Driving While Suspended Misdemeanor charge.
- A utility trailer was stolen from Grocery Deals. Downey asked if Citizens Bank had any video footage that would assist Grocery Deals. Sergeant Frambes responded that the bank won't release video footage without a subpoena or a warrant. LCSO is currently working on it.
- There were around 100 motorcyclist that caused a disturbance at the Voo and in other parts of the county. They were asked to leave, and they did.
- One person was cited, after several warnings, for parking on the gravel bar and will be appearing in Municipal Court.

- LCSO has been busy this summer with major investigations including death investigations, both natural and suicide, and well as a teenage vehicle accident resulting in a fatality. Sergeant Frambes encouraged Council to visit the LCSO social media pages to find out what is happening in other cities.
- Sergeant Frambes added that LCSO will soon be using unmarked patrol cars in Harrisburg and surrounding areas to be less visible.

THE MATTER OF REVIEWING THE 2025 2ND QUARTER CRIME RESULTS FOR THE CITY OF HARRISBURG: Eldridge reviewed the 2025 2nd Quarter Crime Report. Some of the highlights included:

- There were 3 person crimes which included a juvenile assault and a sex offense.
 - Property crimes are down.
 - Traffic offenses included one DUII and one hit and run.
 - Eldridge noted that Harrisburg is ahead of all other cities compared to this time last year.
- Downey asked Sergeant Frambes how he felt the 4th of July went. Sergeant Frambes thought it went well with just minor things which included a few dog issues. Sergeant Frambes stated that activity on the gravel bar was minimal this year, due to cooler temperatures.

THE MATTER OF MEETING WITH A MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT IF ONE IS AVAILABLE: Chief Larson reviewed the 2nd Quarter Report as shown in Exhibit A.

- Downey asked Chief Larson how he felt the 4th of July went. Chief Larson thought it went well and commented on an issue they had with a family with young kids walking on the train tracks when a train was coming. Nobody was hurt.

THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING AN INTERIM FINANCING CONTRACT FOR A SPECIAL PUBLIC WORKS FUND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR \$3.5 MILLION, BY APPROVING RESOLUTION NO 1307 “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HARRISBURG, OREGON AUTHORIZING A LOAN FROM THE SPECIAL PUBLIC WORKS FUND BY ENTERING INTO AN INTERIM FINANCING CONTRACT WITH THE OREGON INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY.” Eldridge informed Council, the City has already spent \$14M on the Water Bond Project. Eldridge reviewed the following:

- Exhibit A on page 47, the summary of the reward including the bond fee which is already budgeted for this fiscal year.
- Exhibit B on page 49, is the official contract that will be sent to the IFA Board (Infrastructure Financing Authority) for approval.
- Exhibit C on page 67, is the legal opinion from Sean Kidd which was a requirement for the loan.
- Exhibit D on page 68, is the disbursement schedule created by Scholz at a total cost of \$3.5M which was inflated by \$1M as a contingency fund.
- Eldridge informed Council the City recently used \$1M from HRA funds to pay a contractor which leaves about \$450,000 plus possibly another \$534,000 if needed before we reach the maximum indebtedness.
- Eldridge noted that Resolution No. 1307 on page 69 includes an Exhibit 1, which is the Exhibit B, on page 49 and an Exhibit C, which is the project description on page 65.
- Projected date for completion is December of 2026 which is expected to be significantly earlier than the three year deadline. Once the project is finalized, the formal contract will be created to replace the interim at a lower interest rate.
- Mayor Duncan thanked staff for their continued support and hard work.

- Downey was hopeful that the \$1M contingency will be enough funding. She also thanked staff for their hard work.
- Caughey agreed with Mayor Duncan and Downey and doesn't think it would have happened without the staff.
- Thomas is happy to have the project back on track without having to go to the voters.
- Henry asked if the completion delay from July of 2026 to December of 2026 was due to unexpected findings. Eldridge stated that it was along with requirements from the State of Oregon requiring corrosion removal equipment at the new water plant.
 - Thomas **motioned to approve Resolution No. 1307, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HARRISBURG, OREGON AUTHORIZING A LOAN FROM THE SPECIAL PUBLIC WORKS FUND BY ENTERING INTO AN INTERIM FINANCING CONTRACT WITH THE OREGON INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY"** and was **seconded by** Caughey. **The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 4-0.** (Yes: Thomas, Caughey, Downey and Henry. No: None.)

THE MATTER OF DECLARING AN EMERGENCY BY ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 1308, IN RELATION TO BANK EROSION ON THE EAST SIDE OF BANK OF THE WILLAMETTE RIVER, AT THE NW CORNER OF CITY LIMITS, ADJACENT TO 15S04W0900605, AND ADJACENT TO CITY PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15S04W0900700: Eldridge spoke of the history of the Willamette River and how we got to where we are today. Eldridge also reviewed the issues the City had with attempting to fix the boat ramp after we received approval. Eldridge reviewed the staff report.

Highlights included:

- Eldridge estimates the City has lost over 36 feet of bank which is equivalent to 1.4 acres and believes Life Bible has had more dramatic loss of bank, which includes 24 feet at one location and 35 feet at another.
- Eldridge stated the wastewater facility is currently about 600 feet from the erosion and believes it to be about 10 years before its impacted.
- Mayor Duncan asked Cari Malpass, the Administrator for Life Bible Church, if their engineer gave them a time frame. Malpass noted the original building next to the hotel is 30 feet away from the riverbank and they had to shut down the office. Malpass added that the DEQ, DSL and ACE have all begun reaching out to the church and they are working with Commissioner Will Tucker who thought grant funding might be easier to obtain by the City.
- Mayor Duncan voiced his concern for Life Bible. He feels if it was just a church and not a profitable business, they might have more of a challenge.
- Downey commented about Liz VanLeeuwen's visit to Council many years ago where she spoke about dredging that portion of the river due to the erosion issue. Downey would like staff to research those minutes for Life Bible by chance they can use that information.
- Henry stated that she has a vested interest from the church's perspective. She's glad to see this partnership between the church and the City and is very supportive of the declaration.
- Russ Hayworth, Harrisburg business owner, asked about building the revetment prior to it falling into the river. Mayor Duncan commented that it's illegal now and further commented that Chris Erickson, the previous resort owner, spoke about the resort previously doing that, but couldn't recall where it was placed.
- Malpass stated that the plan is to have phase 1 completed in the fall. They currently have a meeting set for August 20th and once approved should have everything in place to move forward which includes an architectural firm evaluating the property. Phase 2

is a three to five year project and will begin next summer which will include 100 yards of fill to direct the river back to where it was.

- Thomas **motioned to approve Resolution No. 1308, “A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF HARRISBURG IN RELATION TO SEVERE BANK EROSION ON THE EAST BANK OF THE WILLAMETTE RIVER” and was seconded by Downey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 4-0.** (Yes: Thomas, Downey, Caughey and Henry. No: None.)

THE MATTER OF APPROVING, AMENDING, OR DENYING A REQUEST FOR A SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE FOR HAYWORTH ESTATE WINES DURING REMAINING SUMMER SOUNDS CONCERTS: Eldridge informed Council Hayworth Estates Winery will be attending the Business Expo on July 24th as well as the remaining Summer Sounds Concerts. She noted that Hayworth has their own license and OLCC permit.

- Caughey was concerned about local bars wanting to serve alcohol as well at the event. Thomas didn't think it was an issue as we don't double up on the same type of vendor for events. She also noted the business would have to have a separate license to sell alcohol outside of their establishment.
- Caughey **motioned to approve the request for a Special Event License for Hayworth Estate Wines on July 31, and August 7th and was seconded by Thomas. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 4-0.** (Yes: Caughey, Thomas, Downey and Henry. No: None.)

THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE CONSENT LIST: Henry noted on page 85, the street she was referring to about the RRFB was on Smith St and not LaSalle St. No other comments or concerns.

- Thomas **motioned to approve the consent list as amended and was seconded by Downey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 4-0.** (Yes: Thomas, Downey, Caughey, and Henry. No: None.) Motion to approve the consent list approved the following:
 - Minutes from the June 10, 2025 City Council Meeting
 - The Payment Approval Report for June 2025.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR VERBAL REPORT:

- Eldridge informed Council there was some field damage from the firework's fire, but more damage from spectators. HRFD is currently working with the farmer but feels it won't be expensive, and they don't plan on turning in a claim at this time. Eldridge noted they will be posting no trespassing signage next year and are still planning on having a fireworks show and not a drone show.
- The Biz Expo is this Thursday from 3pm to 6:30pm.
- Harvest Festival is August 1st and 2nd.
- Staff is currently working on pricing for a sound/amplification system for the Municipal Center. Cobalt believes they can do the installation, however, we will need to purchase new sound equipment, as ours is now obsolete.

With no further business, the City Council Meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:00pm to begin the HRA Board Meeting.

Mayor

City Recorder