



## **TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL**

### **OFFICIAL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

### **FOR JANUARY 12, 2026**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Frank Bubenik, Council President Valerie Pratt, Councilor Bridget Brooks, Councilor Cyndy Hillier, Councilor Christen Sacco, Councilor Octavio Gonzalez

**ABSENT:** Councilor Maria Reyes

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Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

#### **1. Board & Committee Summit Summary Report.**

Deputy City Manager Megan George presented the Boards and Committees Summit summary report. She stated that the first event of this type for the city was held on December 10, with 37 board and committee members in attendance. Manager George outlined the goals of the event, which included providing the City Council with information directly from board and committee members who advise the Council on matters of interest to the City, connecting board and committee members to the City Council's 2030 Vision, providing opportunities for interaction among board and committee members and the City Council, and showing appreciation for board and committee members while strengthening the sense of community and service in Tualatin. Manager George stated that small group activities were held during the summit, during which participants responded to questions related to Tualatin and its governance. She also described the Human Spectrum exercise and shared a summary of the results from that activity.

Council President Pratt stated that the event was well received and that she appreciated the opportunity to make connections with board and committee members. She stated that she would be open to holding the event again in the future.

Councilor Sacco stated that the event was validating for the work being done by the city and that she found the Human Spectrum exercise helpful.

Councilor Brooks stated that she would have liked to hear more directly from members of the Spanish-speaking community.

Councilor Hillier stated that she enjoyed the opportunity to connect with community members in that forum.

Councilor Gonzalez stated that he appreciated seeing all the committees come together and expressed interest in holding the event again in the future.

Mayor Bubenik stated that the validation provided by board and committee members was helpful and that he was encouraged to hear that the community is willing to take more risks.

#### **2. City Council 2025 Priorities Update.**

City Manager Sherilyn Lombos presented an update on the City Council's 2025 priorities and reviewed progress across the seven focus areas. She stated that work is underway or ongoing in most areas, with several items completed, and provided an overview of progress related to

neighborhood engagement, housing, economic development, transportation, environmental initiatives, parks, and culture and identity.

Manager Lombos reported that neighborhood engagement efforts include completed street tree inventory work, ongoing sidewalk maintenance programs, continued coordination with Community Involvement Organizations, neighborhood investment programs, and ongoing Community Emergency Response Team training. Housing-related work includes an active housing capacity analysis, completed legislative updates, and ongoing efforts to address housing instability and homelessness through advocacy and regional coordination.

Manager Lombos stated that economic development priorities are focused on downtown revitalization, which is in early stages, with policy discussions anticipated later in the year. Work continues on business retention and expansion, stakeholder engagement, and exploration of destination signage. Transportation priorities include a completed Transportation System Plan update, ongoing work to prioritize projects and funding, continued advocacy through the City's lobbyist, and regular updates to Council.

Manager Lombos reported that environmental priorities include implementation planning for the Climate Action Plan, the recent hiring of a Climate Action Program Manager, secured funding for seismic valve installation, and ongoing programmatic initiatives. Parks priorities include continued communication on projects and programs, ongoing review of recreation program access and sustainability, completion of park projects, implementation of new attendance tracking tools, and exploration of funding options for long-term maintenance. Culture and identity efforts include continued IDEA Committee coordination, progress on trauma-informed training, early work on a City Communications Plan, development of a new City website, and ongoing efforts to strengthen strategic planning skills across the organization.

Councilor Brooks asked when Council will see the results of the Gaps and Needs Analysis. Manager Lombos stated that staff are still working through the analysis and that it will be brought forward to Council once complete.

Council President Pratt thanked staff for the refresher on the Council's goals and priorities.

Councilor Gonzalez asked questions related to parks maintenance funding as a priority, water conservation efforts within the Climate Action Plan, including irrigation credits and internal operational practices, the status of a potential food cart incubator program, parking availability for residential apartments, and whether outdated zoning in the Leveton area may be acting as a deterrent to development. He also asked about CIO involvement and collaboration with committees, bid processes without change orders, and how these issues align with Council priorities.

Councilor Hillier asked how Councilors should submit ideas for new goals to be discussed. Manager Lombos stated that ideas may be shared by email and that there will be dedicated time to discuss priorities during the Council Advance.

### **3. *Pre-Approval of Proclamations for 2026.***

City Manager Lombos presented the proposed list of proclamation approvals for 2026 and explained the City's tiered proclamation policy. She stated that Tier 1 proclamations relate directly to the City of Tualatin organization and City-sponsored programs and do not require prior Council

approval to be placed on an agenda. Tier 2 proclamations originate from another branch of government or from organizations that receive City funding and do not require prior Council approval. Tier 3 proclamations are requests from community partners and require prior Council approval before being placed on an agenda. Tier 4 proclamations include all other requests and likewise require prior Council approval.

Councilor Hillier asked whether National Mental Health Awareness Month, observed in May, should be added to the proclamation list.

Councilor Sacco requested adding Transgender Day of Visibility in March. Manager Lombos stated that the IDEA Committee would discuss the request and bring a recommendation forward.

Councilor Brooks supported pre-approving the presented proclamation list. She stated that she would like all proclamations issued in the prior year to be considered for inclusion in future lists and agreed that Mental Health Awareness Month should be included.

Councilor Gonzalez asked whether certain proclamations could be consolidated, such as combining Pride Month and Transgender Day of Visibility into a single proclamation.

Mayor Bubenik summarized the discussion and stated that Mental Health Awareness Month should be added as a Tier 4 proclamation and that Juneteenth could be reclassified as a Tier 1 proclamation.

Councilor Sacco expressed concern that proclamations not included on the list could be overlooked and miss recognition.

Councilor Hillier asked whether proclamations could still be requested outside of the approved list. Manager Lombos stated that proclamations may still be added throughout the year as requests are received.

Council consensus was reached to add Mental Health Awareness Month to the proclamation list.

#### **4. *Request for Proclamation.***

Councilor Brooks spoke in support of the proclamation and stated that she appreciated the opportunity to recognize the work being done and the importance of acknowledging the issue through a formal proclamation.

Councilor Hillier asked whether there were direct ties between the proclamation and the Tualatin community and whether the organization or effort had a local connection. Councilor Gonzalez similarly asked whether community members are involved with or represented by the organization associated with the proclamation, noting the importance of local relevance.

Council President Pratt spoke in support of the proclamation and stated that she supported adding it to a future agenda for further consideration and discussion.

Council consensus was reached to add the proclamation to a future Council meeting agenda.

#### **5. *Council Meeting Agenda Review, Communications & Roundtable.***

City Manager Sherilyn Lombos presented her Manager's Report. She stated that the city is preparing an application for the Community Development Block Grant requesting funding for rapid flashing beacons, she noted that a presentation related to the application will be coming before the Council. Manager Lombos stated that picnic shelter reservations are now open for the upcoming summer season. She stated that the Police Department lobby will be closed from January 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> to accommodate a remodel. Manager Lombos shared that the Sustainable Cities program in partnership with the University of Oregon is underway and that students recently visited downtown Tualatin as part of their coursework. She announced that Volunteer Coordinator Jackie Konen is retiring and stated that the City received more than 200 applications for the position.

Councilor Gonzalez stated he attended the Immigration Support Meeting for Cities and Counties, which focused on coordination and support efforts related to immigration issues.

Councilor Brooks stated she attended the Council Advance preparation meetings, met with Explore Tualatin Valley, attended a Policy Advisory Board meeting, and participated in a presentation by Representative Bohman regarding the state's budget shortfall.

Councilor Sacco stated she attended the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee meeting, the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting, and the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee meeting.

Councilor Hillier stated she attended the Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency meeting.

Council President Pratt stated she attended the City's Employee Appreciation Breakfast, the Tualatin Police Foundation Shop with a Cop event, the housing forum, and a community holiday event hosted by the Latino Wellness Association and Tualatin Together, the Clackamas County Business Association meeting, and the League of Oregon Cities Women's Caucus meeting.

Mayor Bubenik stated he attended the Metro Mayors Consortium meeting, the Washington County Coordinating Committee meeting, a Washington County presentation on transportation gaps, a League of Oregon Cities regional meeting, the Joint Policy Advisory Committee meeting, and the Washington County Mayors and Chair meeting, the Core Opportunity and Reinvestment Area meeting, the launch of the University of Oregon Design Studio project, and the Aging Task Force meeting.

## **Adjournment**

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

Nicole Morris / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

Frank Bubenik / Frank Bubenik, Mayor










# CC WS Minutes 1-12-26

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**ABSENT:** Councilor Maria Reyes

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### **Call to Order**

Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Announcements**

#### **1. New Employee Introduction- Planning Manager Teresa Montalvo**

Community Development Director Aquilla Hurd-Ravich introduced Planning Manager Teresa Montalvo. The Council welcomed her.

#### **2. New Employee Introduction- Climate Action Program Manager Amanda Watson**

City Manager Sherilyn Lombos introduced Climate Action Program Manager Amanda Watson. The Council welcomed her.

### **Public Comment**

B.J. Park stated that he was not reappointed to the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Advisory Committee and that he believed the decision was discriminatory and related to his position on the land acknowledgment.

Chris Paul provided a point of clarification, stating that Park's term had expired and believes the decision not to reappoint him was unrelated to his stance on the land acknowledgment. Paul stated that Mr. Park had been absent from several meetings and had not regularly participated.

### **Consent Agenda**

Motion to adopt the consent agenda made by Council President Pratt, Seconded by Councilor Brooks.

Voting Yea: Mayor Bubenik, Council President Pratt, Councilor Brooks, Councilor Hillier, Councilor Sacco, Councilor Gonzalez

#### **1. Consideration of Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2025**

#### **2. Consideration of Approval of a New Liquor License Application for Marilyn's Café Inc dba Miller's Homestead Restaurant**

3. Consideration of Resolution No. 5940-26 Authorizing the City of Tualatin to Accept a Grant Award from the State of Oregon (by and through its Oregon Water Resources Department) and for the City Manager to Execute a Grant Agreement to Fund the City's Tualatin Water Reservoir Seismic Valves Project

## **Special Reports**

### **1. Outside Agency Grant Presentation- Pili Group**

Community Engagement Coordinator Betsy Rodriguez-Ruef and Pili Group Leader Marilou Serrano presented information on the Pili Group. Ms. Serrano thanked the Council for its investment in the group and for its generosity and commitment to the community. She stated that the group offers activities that support personal growth and community building. Ms. Serrano explained the origin of the group's name, stating that Pilar was the group's original founder who brought many women together and later passed away from cancer. She stated that funds from the Outside Agency Grant had been used for presenters, facility fees, and activity supplies.

Anjes Morales shared testimony regarding her experience with the Pili Group.

Councilor Brooks expressed appreciation for the group and the valuable work it is doing in the community.

Councilor Gonzalez thanked the group for its work and encouraged members to continue supporting their community during this challenging time.

Councilor Sacco thanked the group for its advocacy and service.

Council President Pratt stated that the work being done by the group is important.

Mayor Frank Bubenik thanked the group for its contributions to the community.

### **2. IDEA Advisory Committee Annual Report**

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Advisory Committee Chair Chris Paul and Committee Member Erin Stimson presented the committee's annual report. Chair Paul provided an overview of the committee's purpose, stating that the committee focuses on advancing inclusion, diversity, equity, and access across City policies, programs, and services.

Member Stimson stated that the committee completed and began implementing its work plan, which included establishing priorities and identifying areas for engagement and education. Chair Paul shared the committee's 2025 accomplishments, which included community outreach, participation in City initiatives, and providing an equity lens on Council priorities. He stated that the committee is made up of a diverse group of community members who bring a wide range of lived experiences and perspectives.

Member Stimson stated that the committee is present in the community by participating in events and engaging with residents to better understand community needs. Chair Paul stated that the committee also works to elevate voices that have historically been underrepresented and to support inclusive decision-making.

Member Stimson stated that in the coming year, the committee plans to continue work related to culture and identity, education, and community connection. Chair Paul stated that the committee will focus on strengthening community engagement efforts. Member Stimson stated that the committee will also focus on public safety by learning about community safety services and understanding how safety impacts different populations.

Chair Paul stated that the committee is recommending that the Council incorporate accessible public transportation, affordable housing, and community gathering places as part of long-term planning efforts. He thanked the Council for its ongoing support.

Council President Pratt asked about the diverse makeup of the committee and the communities represented. Chair Paul stated that the committee includes members with varied backgrounds and experiences, which allows the group to bring a wide array of lived experiences to its discussions.

Councilor Brooks thanked the committee members for their service. She asked what the committee viewed as its biggest gap and how the Council could help address it. Chair Paul stated that improved communication channels would help the committee better hear from community members. He stated that the Council's adoption of a Transgender Day of Visibility proclamation had a meaningful impact on the community and demonstrated visible support.

Councilor Hillier encouraged the committee to consider transportation challenges for individuals with unseen disabilities and stated that it is important for the committee's voice to be included in those discussions.

Councilor Sacco thanked the committee for its work and stated that she appreciates the group's passion and commitment.

## **General Business**

1. Consideration of **Resolution No. 5939-26** Awarding and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Kittelson & Associates for Phase 1: Concept Evaluation of the Tualatin-Sherwood Road / Boones Ferry Road / Portland & Western Railroad Intersection Improvement Project

City Engineer Mike McCarthy and Engineering Associate Abby McFetridge presented the concept evaluation for the Tualatin-Sherwood Road, Boones Ferry Road, and Portland & Western Railroad intersection improvement project. Engineer McCarthy shared a map showing the project location and stated that Phase 1 of the project will focus on determining the City's priorities for the area. He reviewed the proposed project timeline, stating that if the consultant contract is approved, the consultant will review various improvement options for Council consideration. He outlined potential project schedules and explained that Phase 1 will include a high-level analysis of grade-separated options, review of existing conditions, development and evaluation of multiple concepts, narrowing the list to three options, conducting a deeper evaluation of finalist options, and providing a final presentation of recommended options to the public and Council.

Council President Pratt asked for clarification on the evaluation process. Engineer McCarthy stated that the first step will be identifying and evaluating feasible options before narrowing the list for further analysis.



Councilor Brooks stated that the work is important to address the City's most acute intersection. She stated that she would like to better understand the history that led to the intersection becoming the most problematic location. Engineer McCarthy stated that the intersection's constraints are the result of growth over time, increasing traffic volumes, and the presence of the railroad crossing, which limits available improvement options.

Mayor Bubenik asked about the level of involvement from the railroad. Engineer McCarthy stated that the city has reached out to the railroad and that representatives have expressed support for a grade-separated solution. He stated that the railroad will be invited to participate in meetings throughout the project.

Councilor Brooks asked about the length of trains that pass through the intersection and the impact on traffic. Engineer McCarthy stated that train lengths vary and can contribute to traffic delays and congestion, which is one of the reasons grade separation is being evaluated as a potential solution.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 5939-26 awarding and authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Kittelson & Associates for Phase 1: Concept Evaluation of the Tualatin-Sherwood Road / Boones Ferry Road / Portland & Western Railroad Intersection Improvement Project made by Council President Pratt, Seconded by Councilor Brooks.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Bubenik, Council President Pratt, Councilor Brooks, Councilor Hillier, Councilor Sacco, Councilor Gonzalez

MOTION PASSED

## 2. Consideration of Recommendations from the Council Committee on Advisory Appointments

Council President Pratt and Councilor Sacco shared the names of the recommended committee appointments.

Motion to adopt the recommendations as presented made by Councilor Sacco, Seconded by Council President Pratt.

Voting Yea: Mayor Bubenik, Council President Pratt, Councilor Brooks, Councilor Hillier, Councilor Sacco, Councilor Gonzalez

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Brooks mentioned if candidates don't get reappointed, they are encouraged to apply again in the future.

## **Council Communications**

Councilor Brooks referenced a recent Supreme Court decision related to the use of Roundup. She encourage residents to be aware of the decision and its potential implications.

Councilor Brooks also shared information regarding an application for development on a federal wildlife preserve located off Highway 99W near Tualatin. She stated that the proposed project would include overhead wires near a bird sanctuary and expressed that she wanted residents to be aware of the application.

Mayor Bubenik announced that TriMet will be hosting a public feedback session regarding proposed service cuts on January 22 at the Tualatin Library Community Room.

Mayor Bubenik also shared that Washington County Commissioner Pam Treece will be hosting an open house on January 22 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Marquis Center.

Councilor Brooks asked whether additional education and information could be provided to the community regarding the Evening of Impact meeting and the resources available to residents.

Council consensus was reached to place the item on a future agenda in order to better understand the topic and available resources.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

 / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

 / Frank Bubenik, Mayor












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