

# City Council Meeting Minutes

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023 – 6:00 PM  
COLUMBIA CITY, CITY HALL – 1840 SECOND STREET  
CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

**AGENDA ITEM 1**      **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

**CONVENED:**

Mayor Susan Ziglinski called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Susan Ziglinski  
Council President Gordon Thistle  
Councilor Rob Forman  
Councilor Katrina Claridge  
Councilor Jeff Reinan

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Kim Karber, Interim City Administrator/Recorder  
Micah Rogers, Public Works Superintendent  
Gerald Bartolomucci, Police Chief

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

None

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

**AGENDA ITEM 2**      **CITIZEN INPUT:**

Rosemary Jeffrey, 1420 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Life Vests for Children, continued her discussion about placing a life vest kiosk at Pixie Park and the importance of having information down there so people understand the dangers of the Columbia River at Pixie Park.

John and Teresa Knight, 1700 1<sup>st</sup> St. John said he called and talked to Sandy Roberts the fire marshal and public information officer for Albany, and she said they have had 5 life vest loaner stations for 16-18 years and have had no accidents, liabilities, or lawsuits. They have liability waivers at kiosks, which people are encouraged to fill out but not required to. Their stance is human life is more important than liability. They inventory/inspect the life vests and don't always get them all returned. They are not promoting swimming, but they are promoting safety. They suggested partnering with businesses to underwrite a portion of the expenses that may be incurred and said there are opportunities to apply for grants for life vests with different organizations.

Paulette Lichatowich, representing the Friends of the Library, thanked the City for helping with the City Celebration. It was a fun time for all.

Councilor Forman came back to the subject of a life vest kiosk during 'other business' and stated he had done some research and found there are multiple jurisdictions that have kiosks and you can find a map at Oregon.gov. He is in support of trying to find a way to get one at Pixie Park.

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No other citizens provided input to the City Council.

**AGENDA ITEM 3      COUNCIL REPORTS:**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 4      STAFF REPORTS:**

**4.1      Activity Report from the Police Chief**

The Council reviewed the staff report submitted by the Police Chief.

**4.2      Activity Report from the Public Works Superintendent**

The Council reviewed the staff report submitted by the Public Works Superintendent.

**AGENDA ITEM 5      CONSENT AGENDA:**

**5.1      Bills paid with check numbers 34441 through 34487 during the month of July 2023**

COUNCIL APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

**AGENDA ITEM 6      UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**6.1      Review, discussion, and consideration for approval of recommendations from the City Planner, Lauren Scott, for adoption of planning goals from the Housing Study recommendations.**

Helen gave a presentation about what the grant is for since Lauren was unable to attend. She explained this is a voluntary research project in participation with other cities, not a requirement. If we sign on to participate in the grant project we aren't obligated to implement the goals we signed up for, but it will help offset some of the costs of research for updates and changes to our codes. Before anything goes into effect, it would still need to go through the normal process of approval through planning commission and council.

MOVED (CLARIDGE), SECONDED (FORMAN) AND VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRANT PROJECT.

**AGENDA ITEM 7      NEW BUSINESS:**

**7.1      Audited Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2022**

MOVED (THISTLE), SECONDED (FORMAN) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022.

**7.2      Consideration of salary recommendation for Gerald Bartolomucci, Chief of Police, as submitted by the interim City Administrator**

MOVED (REINAN), SECONDED (THISTLE) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCREASE CHIEF BARTOLOMUCCI'S BASE SALARY TO \$83,356.60 PER YEAR RETROACTIVE TO JULY 24, 2023.

**7.3      Discussion and consideration of the City's continued maintenance of Ruth Rose Richardson and Pixie Park**

It was the consensus of the Council to table this discussion, since a letter was received today that the D.A.R. is interested in donating Pixie Park to Columbia City, and a meeting will be scheduled to discuss the possible donation.

**7.4 Council Bill No. 23-970; Resolution 23-1306-R: A resolution adopting a job description for the City of Columbia City, Oregon**

MOVED (THISTLE), SECONDED (CLARIDGE) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 23-970.

**7.5 Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding for Kim Karber as Interim City Administrator.**

MOVED (THISTLE), SECONDED (FORMAN) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCREASE KIM KARBER'S SALARY TO \$6,933.33 PER MONTH RETROACTIVE TO JULY 24, 2023 AS INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR.

**7.6 Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding for Leahnetta Rivers as Part-Time, Temporary Employee Assisting and Training the Interim City Administrator.**

MOVED (CLARIDGE), SECONDED (REINAN) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO PAY LEAHNETTE RIVERS \$75.00 PER HOUR RETROACTIVE TO JULY 26, 2023, AS A PART-TIME, TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE ASSISTING AND TRAINING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR.

**AGENDA ITEM 8      OTHER BUSINESS:**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 9      ADJOURNMENT:**

9.1 There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

APPROVED:

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Susan Ziglinski  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kim Karber  
Interim City Administrator/Recorder