



CITY OF LA PINE, OREGON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
La Pine City Hall: 16345 Sixth Street, La Pine, Oregon 97739

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Earls called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Council

Mayor Earls

Council President VanDamme

Councilor Shields

Councilor Morse

Councilor Curtis

Staff

Geoff Wullschlager – City Manager

Steven Emerson – Utility Billing Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Earls led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

City Manager Wullschlager added to the agenda an intermediate procurement for Public Works.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. 03.25.2026 City Council Meeting Minutes
 - a. Public Comment Form – M. Baker
 - b. Public Comment Form – J. Heylin
 - c. Public Comment Form – P. Henninger
 - d. Public Record Submission – P. Henninger
2. Financial Reports
 - a. Financial Summary – December 2025

- b. Interest Report – December 2025
 - c. Financial Summary – January 2026
 - d. Interest Report – January 2026
 - e. Financial Summary – February 2026
 - f. Interest Report – February 2026
3. Financial Reports from the Chamber of Commerce
- a. Letter to the City
 - b. Profit and Loss Report – 3rd Quarter

Council President VanDamme made a motion to approve the consent agenda. *Councilor Shields seconded the motion.*

Council President VanDamme – Aye

Councilor Shields – Aye

Councilor Morse – Aye

Councilor Curtis – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proclamation 2026-01 International Dark Sky Week

City Manager Wullschlager explained that the City had been asked to formally recognize April 13–20, 2026, as Dark Sky Week. He clarified that adoption of the proclamation would serve as a formal recognition only, and would not impose any regulatory requirements on residents.

Councilor Morse made a motion to approve Proclamation 2026-01 to declare April 13th-20th, 2026 as Dark Sky Week. *Councilor Curtis seconded the motion.*

Council President VanDamme – Nay

Councilor Shields – Aye

Councilor Morse – Aye

Councilor Curtis – Aye

Three Aye, One Nay. Motion passed with majority vote.

OTHER MATTERS

Other matters were discussed prior to new business.

City Manager Wullschlager explained the intermediate procurement process for Public Works purchases. He noted that the City purchased a road grader last year to assist with maintenance of the City’s unpaved roads. He further explained that additional equipment is needed to properly maintain these roads, some of which is currently being rented.

He identified a water truck as a necessary piece of equipment, noting that in addition to road maintenance, it would have multiple uses for Public Works operations.

City Manager Wullschlager reviewed the applicable Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) related to intermediate procurement, explaining that for purchases under \$250,000, the City is required to make a reasonable effort to obtain at least three bids to ensure the best value. He stated that staff has made such efforts in this case.

He requested preliminary approval to authorize him to place a deposit on a water truck in order to secure the purchase, with the understanding that a formal agreement for the full purchase will be brought before the City Council for approval at the next meeting.

Council President VanDamme made a motion to permit city administration to make efforts to secure intermediate procurement for and through it's public works department for the purchase of identified necessary equipment not to exceed \$70,000.00 subsequent to ORS 279.070. *Councilor Morse seconded the motion.* Mayor Earls asked for a roll call vote:

Councilor Morse – Aye

Council President VanDamme – Aye

Councilor Shields – Aye

Councilor Curtis– Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mik Lee Faughly Jr., a resident of William Foss Road, addressed the Council regarding concerns with the neighboring business, Autotrendz. He stated that dust from the business operations is being blown into his home.

Mr. Faughly reported that he has contacted the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office and was informed that no laws are currently being violated. He also stated that after consulting with a private attorney, he was unable to pursue legal action.

He expressed concern that the dust may contain various chemicals and indicated that exposure has resulted in health issues, including nosebleeds and the need to use inhalers. Mr. Faughly brought this matter forward to the Council for awareness and consideration.

STAFF COMMENTS

Utility Billing Clerk Emerson did not have any comments.

City Manager Wullschlager provided an update on the Urban Renewal Agency archway project. He explained that with the proposed new location of the archway, there are discrepancies regarding property ownership, as the transit center and a portion of the archway site are located on property owned by ODOT. He also noted that an electrical switch box previously believed to be a transformer is not suitable for providing power to the archway for illumination.

Due to the need for a reliable power source, the Agency may need to fund the installation of a new transformer. The City's contract engineer is currently investigating whether any easements exist for

the transformer located on the south side of 4th Street that would allow the archway to connect to it. If no such easement exists, the Agency will need to request easements from adjacent property owners to establish a connection. Additionally, City Manager Wullschlager stated that he is working to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the project design. He noted that resolving the electrical component is the final outstanding issue before the project can proceed.

City Manager Wullschlager also reported that recruitment for the new Community Development Director position is closing soon, after which administration will begin reviewing qualified applicants. He added that current Community Development Director Bybee will assist in the hiring process and help transition ongoing projects once a new director is selected.

Regarding the DANCO project, he stated that construction is substantially complete. He has submitted materials to the County Assessor for the requested exemption from the developer, and aside from finalizing the Certificate of Occupancy through Community Development and the installation of a crosswalk, the project is nearing completion.

Lastly, City Manager Wullschlager addressed concerns raised by citizens regarding speed limits on Huntington Road. He explained that while the City has jurisdiction, Deschutes County owns the roadway. He referenced a prior speed study, which included a recommendation from ODOT not to reduce the speed limit. While the City may request a speed zone review, ODOT has the authority to make final determinations regarding speed limits. He also shared information from the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office regarding traffic stop activity and trends within the City.

Mayor Earls clarified for a citizen that the City cannot independently change speed limits on roads it does not own. Mr. Wullschlager also noted that while the discussion focused on Huntington Road—due to the presence of a school zone, businesses, and new residential development—law enforcement efforts are not limited to that area, and the City remains aware of concerns in other parts of the community.

City Manager Wullschlager added that law enforcement presence has additionally increased in other areas of the City under neighborhood patrols.

MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Morse thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Council President VanDamme did not have any comments.

Councilor Shields did not have any comments.

Councilor Curtis did not have any comments.

Mayor Earls thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

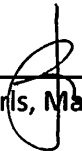
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Earls adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW



Jeannine Earls, Mayor

Date: 5-13-2024

ATTEST:



Amanda Metcalf, City Recorder

Date: 5-13-2024