



CITY OF LA PINE, OREGON REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

La Pine City Hall: 16345 Sixth Street, La Pine, Oregon 97739

Available online via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836918749>

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Council

Mayor Earls

Council President Ignazzitto

Councilor Shields

Councilor Morse

Councilor Curtis

Student Councilor Marston

Staff

Geoff Wullschlager – City Manager

Brent Bybee – Community Development Director

Amanda Metcalf – City Recorder

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Earls led the Pledge of Allegiance

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

City Manager Wullschlager added to the agenda a draft letter to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

CONSENT AGENDA

1. 05.14.2025 Regular City Council Minutes

Council President Ignazzitto made a motion to approve the consent agenda. *Councilor Shields seconded the motion.* Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:**1. Three Rivers Mosquito & Vector Control – Mr. Ed Horvath**

Ed Horvath, the owner of Three Rivers Mosquito and Vector Control, gave a presentation on the services his business provided for the City. He outlined his professional background and described the areas currently serviced by his company. He discussed his goals as a city-contracted vector control provider and presented a map indicating the areas he regularly fogged. Additionally, he outlined future plans and initiatives, which included increasing public education, relocating their office to La Pine, incorporating aerial support, and working towards the establishment of a mosquito control district.

There were no questions or concerns raised by the Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Earls requested City Manager Wulschlager to present his added agenda item to the Council. City Manager Wulschlager introduced a draft letter addressed to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), emphasizing persistent public safety concerns regarding wildfire risks. He read the letter aloud, noting that the BLM had recently closed 40 acres of land between Bend and Redmond as a preventative measure against human-caused fires. He urged the Council to support a similar regulatory strategy for the City of La Pine, aligning with comparable actions taken across Deschutes County. He also recounted the City's previous efforts in wildfire mitigation, including past initiatives and clean-up operations aimed at minimizing fire hazards. The Council discussed the letter and decided in favor of supporting it.

City Manager Wulschlager answered a question from the Council regarding previous requests to BLM. He stated that the previous requests had gone unanswered by BLM.

Mayor Earls asked Lieutenant Spano if the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office had also made the same request to BLM. Lieutenant Spano stated that he had made similar requests, and they were told that BLM would not close the federal land for fire mitigation.

Councilor Morse made a motion to sign the letter to BLM. *Council President Ignazzitto seconded the motion.* Motion passed unanimously.

1. Review of Public Hearing Procedures

Community Development Director Bybee informed the Council that a public hearing for the comprehensive plan update would be held in June. He emphasized the importance of reviewing public hearing procedures in advance to ensure the Council was prepared for the upcoming meeting. He outlined the procedural steps and the specific verbiage mandated by the City's land use code that the Council would need to use during the hearing. He concluded by explaining the proper process for making a motion during a meeting and stressed the importance of using precise and appropriate verbiage.

OTHER MATTERS

Other matters were discussed in New Business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

STAFF COMMENTS

City Recorder Metcalf did not have any comments.

Community Development Director Bybee gave an update on long-range planning. He explained that June 25th was scheduled for the public hearing with the City Council for the comprehensive plan update. He stated that staff had not received any testimony in opposition; however, staff did receive a comment from DLCD, and the comments were incorporated into the plan and approved by the Planning Commission, which had made a recommendation for approval to the City Council. He clarified that two public hearings were scheduled for the 25th, one for the comprehensive plan and one for the comprehensive plan map. Additionally, two ordinances would need to be presented to the Council for adoption.

He also provided an update regarding the Transportation System Plan (TSP) update, noting that a consultant had been chosen and they were working on the final stages of the agreement. He stated he would keep the Council updated and was hopeful that the TSP update would be kicking off soon.

He informed the Council that he had been coordinating with Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW), which had been working on overall recommendations for the City. Although they had issues with their federal funding, they had secured enough private funding to keep moving forward. He stated that at the next City Council meeting, he would present the recommendations to the Council.

Director Bybee gave an update on current planning applications, stating that staff had received quite a few that were incomplete. The spec building in the Newberry Business Park had finished its appeal period and received final approval. For Type II applications, staff had received partitions in the Cagle Subdivision; four were incomplete and two were waiting for payment. Lastly, for Type IV applications, there was a text amendment proposal.

City Manager Wullschlager stated that he was currently reviewing contracts. The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) was under review, and he noted that there would be a slight annual inflation increase from 5% to 6%. He also is reviewing the annual Republic Services franchise agreement, stating that they were requesting a 6% fee increase compared to the usual 3% from the previous year. He was in discussions with Republic Services regarding the reason for the higher increase.

He provided an update on the construction easement for the Newberry lift station and the land purchase from Deschutes County. He confirmed that all documentation was recorded and that Anderson Perry was serving as the construction management firm. A new 10-inch main would relieve the other lift station, and the Public Works Department would no longer need to pump the lift station at night.

He stated that he attended the city managers meeting on the 15th, which this year was limited to managers from Deschutes County. He noted that La Pine was given equal attention and consideration throughout the discussions.

Lastly, on the 16th of the month, he met with the contractor for the city-owned spec building. He expressed satisfaction with the meeting and the progress of the project.

MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Student Councilor Marston gave an update that both the baseball team and track team would be going to the state playoffs. He stated that seniors would be released from school early and noted that this would be his last City Council meeting. He asked the Council if there was anything they would like him to bring to the school on their behalf. Council President Ignazzitto asked if prospective students could send in letters explaining why they would want to be the next student councilor.

Councilor Morse did not have any comments.

Council President Ignazzitto did not have any comments.

Councilor Curtis thanked everyone for the work they had done.

Councilor Shields stated that he appreciated the time Mr. Horvath had dedicated to Vector Control. Councilor Curtis asked if the Council could encourage citizens to implement mosquito mitigation on their properties. City Manager Wulschlager stated that he was currently updating the City's website with informative pages regarding mosquito control and information from Three Rivers.

Mayor Earls thanked City Manager Wulschlager for delivering the Memorial Day speech in her absence. She also mentioned that she was a voting member of the Oregon Mayor's Association for their means and bylaws.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: per ORS 192.660 if necessary

ADJOURNMENT


Mayor Earls adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.



Courtney Ignazzitto, Council President

Date: 6/12/25

ATTEST:



Amanda Metcalf, City Recorder

Date: 6/12/25