



CITY OF LA PINE, OREGON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

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

Available online via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89833039927>

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 – Absent (Excused)

Councilor Curtus

Staff

Geoff Wullschlager – City Manager

Ashley Ivans – Finance Director

Brent Bybee – Community Development Director

Jason Wood – Public Works Director

Amanda Metcalf – City Recorder

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Works Director Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

Finance Director Ivans added an engineering contract to the agenda, and Council President Ignazzitto's letter of resignation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Colleen Scott, who lives on Murray Drive, spoke on behalf of Council President Ignazzitto's resignation and explained that they had started serving on the Council together in 2021. She stated that she was grateful to have worked with her and that she would be missed.

Daerek Merrill, who lived on Lasso Lane, made a comment on behalf of the Sunriver Observatory regarding Dark Sky Oregon. He explained that La Pine was fast growing and that it was important to preserve its' dark skies, noting that La Pine had the image of being the gateway to the outdoors. He stated that dark skies were becoming rarer and that the ability to see the stars as clearly as they could at the observatory was uncommon. He further stated that dark skies were easy to lose and that the reduction of visible stars was not in La Pine's favor. He expressed a desire to begin the conversation to ensure that La Pine maintained its dark skies as the population continued to grow.

Community Development Director Bybee stated that with the upcoming text amendments, the City would be passing a dark skies ordinance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. 10.12.2025 City Council Meeting Minutes
 - a. Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet TA-25-0001
 - b. Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet TA-25-0002
 - c. Public Record Submittal – L. King
 - d. Public Comment Form – S. Martinez
 - e. Public Comment Form – E. Holsey
2. Financial Report
 - a. Financial Summary – November 2025
 - b. Interest Report – November 2025
3. Financial Report from the Chamber of Commerce
 - a. Letter to the City
 - b. 2025 Year End Partner Report – Craterlakecountry.com
 - c. Profit and Loss Report – 2nd Quarter

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

Council President Ignazzitto – Aye

Councilor Shields – Aye

Councilor Curtis – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION:

1. Wildfire Neighborhood Coalition of DC – ORSC R327

Les Adams with the Wildfire Neighborhood Coalition of Deschutes County introduced himself as the La Pine representative and provided background information on himself and the coalition.

Robin Church with Project Wildfire presented to the Council on R327, which would require new dwellings to incorporate wildfire protection measures by mandating more wildfire-resilient homes. She listed surrounding cities that had expressed support for R327 and explained the benefits of the code, including reducing economic losses and displacement, and helping to create a more resilient community.

Director Bybee stated that R327 included building code standards and that the City did not have a building department. He went on to explain that the City could coordinate adoption of R327, and that if the Council agreed, the Planning Department could work with wildfire partners to move forward with the adoption. The Council asked Director Bybee to move forward with this process.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:**1. Procurement of Vactor Trailer**

Finance Director Ivans presented a staff report for the intermediate procurement of a vactor trailer. She explained that the City's 1989 Vac Truck had experienced a mechanical failure in which the vacuum motor exploded. Due to the mechanical nature of the failure, the damage was not covered by the City's insurance. She stated that staff solicited outside repair options and determined that repairing the vehicle was too costly given its remaining value, in addition to the difficulty in locating parts due to the age of the vehicle.

She stated that the Public Works and Finance Departments initiated a search for replacement equipment and obtained two quotes for a new vactor trailer, with an unsuccessful attempt to secure a third quote. She addressed the two quotes and stated that the City had initiated an intermediate procurement under ORS 279B.070. After attempting to solicit bids as required, she presented the purchase of the quoted Ditch Witch HX50A Model for Council consideration.

Council President Ignazzitto made a motion for the city to accept the quote from Ditch Witch, for the purchase of the HX50A Model, at a cost of \$129,680. *Councilor Shields seconded the motion.* Mayor Earls asked for a roll call vote:

Councilor Curtis – Aye

Councilor Shields – Aye

Council President Ignazzitto – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

2. 2024-2025 City of La Pine Audit Plan of Action

Finance Director Ivans presented the staff report for the FY 2024–2025 City of La Pine audit plan of action. She stated that there were findings related to internal controls that were consistent with those typically identified in a smaller agency. She explained that because the City was the recipient of federal funding for the water and wastewater expansion, the way these findings were reported differed from findings the City had encountered in the past. She stated that the City was required to report the findings as a corrective action plan within the audit report and submit a plan of action to the Secretary of State. She presented the letter to the Council for review and approval.

Council President Ignazzitto made a motion to approve the City of La Pine's Plan of Action to be submitted to the Oregon Secretary of State. *Councilor Shields seconded the motion.* Mayor Earls asked for a roll call vote:

Councilor Curtis – Aye

Councilor Shields – Aye

Council President Ignazzitto – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Planning Commissioner Appointment

Community Development Director Bybee presented to the Council the staff report regarding a Planning Commissioner appointment. He stated that one of the Planning Commissioner's terms ended on December 31, 2025, and that the City had received two applications, one from the incumbent, Anthony Accinelli, and the other from Mr. James Little. Director Bybee read each application for the Council highlighting their special skills and achievements.

Mayor Earls asked each applicant to give testimony as to their candidacy for the appointment.

Mr. Accinelli stated that he would like to be reappointed so that he could finish the projects he had started, including the text amendments, the Transportation System Update (TSP), and other ongoing business with the Commission. He stated that he had positively contributed to the Commission and that he was one of the driving forces in moving decisions forward with the Commission.

James Little explained that he had been in La Pine since 2018 and that he was working on a development project for a beer garden within the City. He stated that he was a local contractor and understood how to read development plans, which he believed would be helpful to the Planning Commission. He also stated that he would like to assist local business owners and developers in moving their plans more efficiently through the planning process, noting that it could be a lengthy process.

There was a discussion regarding the two applicants.

Council President Ignazzitto moved to appoint Anthony Accinelli for a 4-year term on the Planning Commission. *Councilor Curtis seconded the motion.* Mayor Earls asked for a roll call vote:

Councilor Curtis – Aye

Councilor Shields – Aye

Council President Ignazzitto – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER MATTERS

Finance Director Ivans presented to the Council an engineering services agreement from Anderson Perry & Associates for improvements to 2nd Street between Huntington Road and Morson Street. She explained that the road improvements on 2nd Street would require the removal of old growth trees located on the perimeter of Heritage Park. She stated that in order to preserve these trees, which were used for shade during many community events, the City would need to hire Anderson Perry & Associates to engineer alternative plans for contractors at a cost of \$42,080.

There was a discussion regarding the condition of the trees and whether it would be cost effective to preserve them, as they were nearing the end of their life cycle. It was decided not to proceed with the contract with Anderson Perry & Associates to save the trees. It was noted that prior to the trees being

removed, public outreach would be required to inform the community of the removal and the reasons for it.

City Manager Wullschlager presented to the Council, Council President Ignazzitto's letter of resignation. He presented Council President Ignazzitto with an award in recognition of her outstanding dedication to the City.

Mayor Earls spoke highly of Council President Ignazzitto, expressed sincere appreciation for her leadership, commitment, and years of service to the City, acknowledged the positive impact she had on the Council and the community, and stated that she would be greatly missed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Colleen Scott, who lives on Murray Dr, thanked the Council for ensuring that public outreach would occur regarding the removal of the trees on 2nd Street.

STAFF COMMENTS

City Recorder Metcalf did not have any comments.

Finance Director Ivans thanked Council President Ignazzitto for her dedication to the City and stated that it had been amazing to work with her.

She also stated that the City had hired a new Public Works Director, Jason Wood, and that he had already begun taking on Public Works projects and had started training sessions with the Public Works Department for licensing.

She additionally reported that the audit had been completed on time for the last audit period.

Lastly, she stated that the budget session would begin soon.

Director Bybee stated that the Community Development Department had officially held a kickoff meeting for the Transportation System Plan update, which was projected for adoption in early 2027. He explained that traffic counts had already been conducted on Highway 97 and that the consultant team had begun work and was underway.

Public Works Director Wood did not have any comments.

City Manager Wullschlager provided updates on several projects. He stated that the Newberry Lift Station was expected to be completed within the next couple of months and that he was working with Anderson Perry on the project.

He stated that the Urban Renewal Agency would move forward with the archway project over 4th Street; however, the design had been sent back to Open Concept Architecture to reduce the overall cost.

He explained that the City-owned spec building was expected to break ground in early spring and was anticipated to be completed in September 2026.

He informed the Council that he and Mayor Earls would be traveling to Tigard for an award ceremony, as the City had been nominated for an award related to the water and wastewater expansion project.

He stated that due to the resignation of Council President Ignazzitto, an open Council seat was now available for appointment. He explained that the vacancy would be advertised on the City's website and that all applications would be presented to the Council.

He additionally reported that the Urban Renewal Agency also had two open seats, one due to the resignation of Agency member Scott Asla and one seat requiring appointment of a Council Member. He explained that the Agency member seat would also be advertised on the City's website.

He explained that the legislative short session would begin soon and that the State would be budgeting within the reported framework of reduced federal funding.

Lastly, he shared that in April, Republic Services would present to the Council regarding their annual fee increase request.

MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Curtis said goodbye to Council President Ignazzitto and stated that she made a great impression and wished her luck.

Councilor Shields gave Council President Ignazzitto a heartfelt thank you.

Council President Ignazzitto stated it was an honor to serve the City of La Pine and she welcomed Public Works Director Wood.

Mayor Earls stated that with the resignation of Council President Ignazzitto, the Council would need to review its goals and Council appointments to various committees. She also stated that the Mayor's position would be up for election this year and that it would be a significant year with many changes. She thanked staff for their hard work, especially Finance Director Ivans, for her efforts on the audit.

She explained that she and City Manager Wullschlager were continuing to work diligently with other governing bodies on wildfire prevention efforts.

Lastly, she asked for an update on Starbucks. Community Development Director Bybee stated that the most recent update from the developer indicated there had been a corporate restructuring and that construction had been halted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: per ORS 192.660 if necessary

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Earls adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW



Jeannine Earls, Mayor

Date: 2/11/2026

ATTEST:



Amanda Metcalf, City Recorder

Date: 2/11/2026