

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday January 27th, 2026, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday January 27th, 2026, at 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was held at City Hall in the Council Chambers and on Zoom.

Present: Mayor Ken Williams
Council Member Terry Schuster
Council Member Melanie Cozzi
Council Member Tim Krug
Council Member Josiah Flanagan
City Manager Darin DeHaan
Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton
City Attorney Paul Chadwick

Also Present: Bill Covell, John Dickson, and Josh Pickering.

Mayor Ken Williams called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Council Members Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, and Mayor Williams answered roll call. A quorum was present.

Council Member Terry Schuster started the pledge of allegiance.

Presentations
None.

Proclamations, Commendations, Swear In, Etc.
None.

Public Comment
None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve January 13th, 2026, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$68,629.84 and the current warrants as listed:

Amazon Capital Service, Inc	\$106.99
Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$4,915.00
Axon Enterprise, Inc	\$11,440.00
Butitta Bros. Automotive - Oregon	\$279.33
Caspers Home Inspection LLC	\$1,550.00
City of Oregon	\$5,500.00
Coliseum Museum Art, Antique & American	\$3,454.00

Comcast	\$951.03
Comcast	\$1,031.25
ComEd	\$10,444.36
Ecolab	\$150.00
Ehmen	\$270.00
EM Benefits	\$1,822.66
Fearer, Nye & Chadwick	\$6,294.17
Fehr Graham	\$5,000.00
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$70.88
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$1,119.97
Fischer's	\$63.08
Frontier	\$115.18
Julie, Inc	\$808.50
Kaleel's Clothing	\$22.00
Ken Williams	\$50.00
Kevin Most	\$18.52
Manheim Solutions	\$981.75
Melanie Cozzi	\$50.00
NAPA	\$100.95
Nicor	\$604.43
Oregon Community Unit School District #220	\$10,081.29
Polo Cooperative Association	\$5,820.57
Postmaster	\$815.57
Quill	\$316.68
Region 1 Planning Council	\$625.00
Steve Benesh & Sons	\$1,200.00
Tim Brechon	\$16.59
Verizon	\$722.69
Visa	\$1,373.40
Water Solutions Unlimited, Inc	\$2,505.00
Zoro Tools, Inc	\$43.79
	\$80,734.63

Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Ordinances

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Ordinance 2026-001 amending the City Code and Public Body Rules of Procedures regarding Remote Meeting Attendance, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said a technical change was made at the state level to include active military duty.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

1st Reading – 2026-002 Regulation of Video Gaming: City Manager Darin DeHaan said the ordinance as it is written leaves room for the City Council to make changes. The City Council discussed removing references to truck stops, number of video gaming establishments, percent of sales received from other sources other than video gaming, and the number of allowable terminals

per establishment. Mayor Ken Williams asked the City Council to review the ordinance. He said let's take our time with this, it may be what we have works fine.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Ordinance 2026-003 Prohibiting Electronic Sweepstake Machines in the City of Oregon, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams explained how video gaming machines work compared to sweepstake machines. He said there are no regulations over sweepstake machines, and they can be put into any business. He explained to the City Council how the machines worked during his experience. He said the games are by chance, there is no skill involved. After gameplay, winnings are shown, a receipt is printed and then paid out in cash at the register of the business. There seems to be no state regulations tracking the amount of money that goes in and out of the machine. Mayor Ken Williams recommended prohibiting sweepstakes machines in the city of Oregon. Council Member Terry Schuster asked if the ordinance can be amended if new information becomes available. Mayor Ken Williams said absolutely. Council Member Tim Krug said if sweepstakes machines become state regulated the city can amend the ordinance. Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked how the city handles the businesses who currently have these machines. City Attorney Paul Chadwick will research these types of machines and provide an answer to the City Council.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Resolutions

None.

Motions

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve a Special Use Permit for a Short-Term Rental located at 305 N. Mix Street parcel #16-04-279-008 submitted by Tyler Hagemann, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: The Planning Commission unanimously approved the request.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve Appropriation Reallocation of Funds – from Street and Alley Contingency 21-00-9100 to Street and Alley Personnel Services Overtime, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: Historically, appropriations for overtime in the street department have been very close to actual expenses. Unexpected expenses this fiscal year for snow, storm events, and water main breaks have contributed to the overage.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve City of Oregon Employee Policy/Handbook and authorize the City Manager to make any non-substantive changes as needed, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said a large portion of the changes are state and federal law. He also stated he has heard incredibly positive feedback from other communities who allow employees to donate sick time to other employees.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Discussion Items

2026 Marketing: The City Council discussed continuing marketing with a5 Branding and Digital. City Manager Darin DeHaan said last year the city received a grant to use towards marketing. He said the city has secured a grant in the amount of thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars to use towards tourism and marketing. Council Member Terry Schuster said it is important to maintain and continue putting Oregon in people's minds. He said the city saw a lot of return from the marketing efforts and they should be continued. Council Member Melanie Cozzi said she would like to see a new proposal from a5 for the upcoming year. She also said she would like to discuss how the city can begin to do this internally in the future.

Replacement of Downtown Christmas Lights: City Manager Darin DeHaan thanked Bill, Jordan, and Josh for working on this project. The snowflakes on the downtown light poles are in bad shape and need to be replaced. He presented the City Council with recommended replacements and costs. There could be significant cost savings if the city orders them soon.

Board & Commission Reports

None.

Department & Officer Reports

Public Works Director Bill Covell: Thanked the police department for allowing the public works department to help with taser training.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: Working with the VFW to install honorary banners around the courthouse.

Council Reports

None.

Mayor Ken Williams said the City Council will be entering Executive Session to discuss employee compensation. No action will be taken after.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to enter Executive Session to discuss employee compensation at 6:38pm., Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Flanagan, Krug, Schuster, Williams. No Nays.

Adjourn: 7:07 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk