

**CITY OF SILVERTON
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**



Council Chambers 421 S Water Street and Zoom Web Conference Platform

March 4, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

I. OPENING CEREMONIES – Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call

Mayor Freilinger called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. The City Council and staff were present both in person and through the virtual meeting platform Zoom.

Present	Absent	
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Mayor Jason Freilinger
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Council President Elvi Cuellar Sutton
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Jess Miller
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	April Newton
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Eric Hammond
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Marie Traeger
<u> </u>	<u>Excused</u>	Matt Gaitan

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Cory Misley, Deputy City Manager Kathleen Zaragoza, Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu, Police Chief Jim Anglemier, Police Captain Todd Engstrom, Public Works Director Travis Sperle, Assistant to City Manager/City Clerk Jamie Ward.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Sutton moved to approve the February 5, 2024, Regular Session Meeting Minutes, the February 6, 2024, City Council Goals Meeting Minutes, and the February 26, 2024, Work Session Minutes. Councilor Newton seconded. Councilor Hammond abstained from voting on the February 26, 2024, Work Session Minutes due to not being present at the meeting. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Dahlem, Silverton Oregon and Mary DeSantis, Silverton Oregon,

Ms. Dahlem and Ms. DeSantis presented Council with information (attachment A) regarding the placement of a statue in honor of Stu Rasmussen. Ms. Dahlem stated that she visited Portland and toured the studio of Martin Eichinger, whom they would like to have construct the statue. They are seeking Council permission to move forward with placing the life-size statue on the corner of North Water and Oak Streets, near the stop sign outside of the Place Theatre. Ms. Dahlem indicated that she had reached out to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and received a response stating that the portion of Oak Street between 1st Street and Water Street has been eliminated from the state highway system and relinquished to the City of Silverton for its jurisdiction, control, and maintenance.

Councilor Traeger inquired about the dimensions of the statue asking if it was life size. Ms. DeSantis answered saying it would be life size plus ten (10) percent and would be placed on a pedestal.

Councilor Newton inquired whether this description accurately reflects the proposed location for the statue and if it could be relocated if necessary for sidewalk improvements. Ms. Dahlem stated that she is unsure of how that will work at this point in the process.

Councilor Sutton asked if the dimensions would still allow for ADA accessibility on the sidewalk. Ms. Dahlem answered yes, and it shouldn't take up any more space than the tables that were previously placed on the sidewalk.

Councilor Traeger asked Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu if there were any specific regulations that the City would need to follow regarding the sidewalk, and if Ms. Dahlem had discussed these specifics with the City. Ms. Dahlem responded, stating that she had reviewed the City's ordinances, and according to them, there must be pedestrian access.

City Manager Mисley noted that this was the first time he had seen this proposal and mentioned that he had inquired with Director Gottgetreu about whether the City had any existing public art programs related to the placement of statues.

Director Gottgetreu reiterated that during his initial conversation with ODOT, they expressed reluctance to permit non-frangible items, such as statues, to be placed in the right of way due to the potential for interaction with vehicles. He emphasized that objects in the right of way are typically designed to withstand being struck by a car, and it's crucial to consider the safety implications if a collision were to occur. Consequently, ODOT initially declined permission for a statue within their jurisdiction's right of way for these reasons. Director Gottgetreu further explained that this is the first time he's heard that ODOT has transferred jurisdictional control of the right of way to the City. However, he emphasized that safety considerations regarding the placement of non-frangible items in the right of way still need to be thoroughly evaluated by the City before proceeding with any plans.

Council expressed interest in the project and directed staff to collaborate with Ms. Dahlem and Ms. DeSantis to determine the necessary steps to move forward with it.

IV. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Silverton Sustainability in Action Presentation – Republic Service Municipal Relationship Manager Cindy Rogers and Republic Service Municipal Contract Administrator Travis Comfort.

Ms. Rogers and Mr. Comfort introduced themselves to Council and presented the PowerPoint presentation that was included in the packet, which reviewed essential services provided for the City of Silverton in 2022.

There were technical issues with the video recording during this section of the meeting. The full PowerPoint presentation can be found in the March 4, 2024, City Council packet.

Ms. Rogers and Mr. Comfort highlighted that Republic Services operates with 14 drivers serving 3,224 homes in Silverton. In addition, the company sponsors various local events such as the Silverton Pet Parade, Silverton Fire Department Mother's Day Breakfast, Homer Davenport Days, Silverton Arts Fine, Silverton Christmas Tree Lighting, and contributes monthly to the Santiam Canyon Wildfire Relief Fund. Additionally, Republic Services organizes two leaf hauling events annually in November and December and participates in the Silverton High School Career Expo.

Ms. Rogers provided a brief overview of the statement of income, highlighting that they concluded 2022 with an operating income of 2.2% of revenue and a net income of 1.4% of revenue. She also presented a table of expenses, noting that they paid the city over \$150,000 in franchise fees. Ms. Rogers explained that since 2018, they have experienced a notable increase in the cost to process recycling, and since 2020, the cost of labor has also risen due to the labor shortage.

Mr. Comfort provided a comprehensive overview of the accepted recycling list for the different carts provided by Republic Services. Additionally, he discussed the Saturday recycling program, noting that one of the Silverton Environmental Management Committee's initial tasks was to review the program, and this information has been included in the annual reports.

Mr. Comfort elaborated on the waste disposal process, explaining that Oregon counties have jurisdiction over waste management destinations. In Marion County, waste is designated to Covanta Marion Inc. He further mentioned that their operating agreement with the State of Oregon is set to expire in June. They are currently in discussions for a 5-year extension but have not received any updates yet. He assured Council that they will provide further information once they hear back regarding the extension.

Mr. Comfort highlighted that a substantial amount of his time has been devoted to crafting compliance reports in accordance with the State of Oregon's regulations, especially those related to the Opportunity to Recycle Laws and directives from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). He mentioned that he has been working closely with Public Works Director Travis Sperle and City Manager Misley on these reports, seeking the City's approval. Mr. Comfort informed the Council that they have recently wrapped up the 2022 report with DEQ, which is currently undergoing final review by the City. Additionally, he emphasized that all Oregon cities with a population over one hundred thousand (100,000) are subject to the same DEQ requirements. Mr. Comfort discussed new legislation and laws set to take effect in Oregon on July 1, 2025, and outlined their implications for municipalities like Silverton.

Ms. Rogers concluded the presentation by informing the Council that Republic Services will return to discuss the Recycling Modernization Act, propose a rate adjustment in the Spring, and conduct a review of 2023 in late 2024. She assured the Council that they will coordinate with staff to schedule these presentations. Additionally, Ms. Rogers mentioned Republic Services' charitable foundation, which donates to nonprofit organizations annually, and encouraged Silverton nonprofit organizations to reach out to her for potential support.

4.2 Silverton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Stacy Palmer
Mayor Freilinger stated that Mrs. Palmer is out of town and will not be doing a monthly report but wanted to share that 6 local businesses were selected to the digital boost program.

V. DISCUSSION/ACTION

5.1 Ordinance No. 24-02 – An Ordinance of the Silverton City Council Granting a Term Extension for the Extension Non-Exclusive telecommunications Franchise with Lightspeed Networks, Inc., Declaring an Emergency and Stating an Effective Date – City Manager Cory Misley.

City Manager Misley provided a concise overview of the staff report, noting the previous passage of a franchise agreement with LS Networks by the City Council on March 5, 2018, through Resolution 18-07. He highlighted that both parties have continued to adhere to the terms of this agreement and intend to extend it for an additional two years, expiring on March 5, 2024. Misley added that the emergency declaration language in the agreement aims to ensure its immediate effect rather than waiting for the standard 30-day period.

Mayor Freilinger asked if LS is one of the utility companies currently doing upgrades throughout the City.

Councilor Miller would like to see Ordinances include a requirement to remove all unused cable that is left in the ground.

Councilor Hammond inquired about the purpose of adding the verbiage "Declaring an Emergency" and asked what conditions would classify a situation as an emergency.

City Manager Misley reiterated that the inclusion of the emergency declaration language was intended to ensure the immediate effect of the ordinance. Ordinarily, there is a 30-day waiting period after an ordinance is passed, but this language bypasses that waiting period, allowing the ordinance to take effect immediately upon passage.

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton to have the first reading of Ordinance No. 24-02, by title only. Councilor Newton seconded the motion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, and Newton voted aye, Hammond voted nay; the motion carried (5-1-1). Councilor Hammond that it could be read but he was not intending on voting for it.

Council clarified that the vote needed to be unanimous for the Ordinance to pass tonight.

City Manager Misley stated it would be brought back if it is not unanimous.

Mayor Freilinger also expressed interest in gathering more information about the services provided by Lightspeed Networks, Inc., for the City of Silverton, as well as the number of customers they serve. He suggested that having this information brought back for discussion at the next meeting would be acceptable to him.

City Manager Misley sought clarification from Council regarding what specific information they were requesting. He indicated that depending on their needs, he could bring back the requested information for further discussion and clarification at a future meeting.

Councilor Hammond expressed concerns regarding the declaration of an emergency and questioned the necessity of such a measure. He doesn't feel we should be using an emergency declaration to get a contract.

Councilor Newton asked if it was a tool because the contract had expired and that allowed the City to move forward.

City Manager Misley acknowledged Councilor Hammond's concerns about declaring the ordinance as an emergency. He noted that he had been involved in several ordinances adopted under emergency circumstances, and he admitted that none of them were technically what one would categorize as emergencies.

Council held a discussion on striking the language declaring an emergency from the title of the Ordinance and decided to move forward with this amendment.

The original motion was rescinded.

A motion was made by Mayor Freilinger to have the first reading of Ordinance No. 24-02, by title only. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

City Manager Cory Misley read Ordinance No. 24-02 as amended by title only.

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton to pass Ordinance No. 24-02 on its first reading striking the language declaring an emergency. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton to have the second reading of Ordinance No. 24-02, by title only. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

City Manager Cory Misley provided the second reading of Ordinance No. 24-02.

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton to adopt Ordinance No. 24-02 on its second and final reading as amended. Councilor Hammond seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

5.2 Ordinance No. 24-03 – An Ordinance of the Silverton City Council Adding Chapter 12.49 to Adopt Limitation of Liability for Certain Claims Arising From the Use Of Trails Or Structures Within Public Easements and Unimproved Rights Of Way Under ORS 105.668 – City Manager Cory Misley.

City Manager Misley provided an overview of the staff report, indicating that it was shared by the City Attorney, Ashleigh Dougill, concerning recreational immunity. He mentioned that he had provided additional information via email, detailing the background on the shifting legal landscape and erosion of recreational immunity. This immunity has historically served as a fundamental protection for public entities regarding public open spaces, imposing limitations on liability claims.

Councilor Hammond requested information regarding the content of the "whereas" statements, particularly questioning the inclusion of specific details such as the one related to population.

City Manager Misley stated that is an Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) citation that this Ordinance relates to.

Councilor Miller asked about the scope and if it would include sidewalks.

City Manager Misley responded that the proposed ordinance would not include sidewalks because they are considered transportation facilities rather than public open spaces.

A motion was made by Councilor Miller to have the first reading of Ordinance No. 24-03, by title only. Councilor Newton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

City Manager Cory Misley read Ordinance No. 24-03 by title only.

A motion was made by Councilor Miller to pass Ordinance No. 24-03 on its first reading. Councilor Newton seconded the motion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

A motion was made by Councilor Hammond to have the second reading of Ordinance No. 24-03, by title only. Councilor Newton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

City Manager Cory Misley provided the second reading of Ordinance No. 24-03.

A motion was made by Councilor Hammond to adopt Ordinance No. 24-03 on its second and final reading. Councilor Newton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

5.3 Resolution No. 24-02 – Approving of Fiscal Year 2024-25 City Council Goals – City Manager Cory Misley. City Manager Misley concluded by stating that he doesn't have any additional comments to add, and that staff is currently focused on preparing the budget for the upcoming season.

A motion was made by Councilor Miller to adopt Resolution 24-02 – Approval of Fiscal Year 2024-25 City Council Goals. Councilor Sutton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

5.4 Update on City Hall and Change Order Request Ratification – Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu.

Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu explained that change order request ratifications, which were previously placed as consent items on the agenda, will now be discussed under Discussion/Action to provide more updates on the new City Hall project to both the Council and residents.

Director Gottgetreu provided an update on the ongoing work in the new City Hall project. This week's activities include the installation of staircase railings and the generator pad. However, progress on electrical gear is hindered by supply chain issues, particularly the delay in shipping the manual transfer switch needed for final occupancy. Interior finish work is progressing well, with carpet installation completed and plumbing underway for sinks and restroom facilities. Council Chambers are taking shape, with accent walls installed and plans to install the dais within the next two weeks. Acoustics are also being installed to minimize disruptions during dais installation. Additionally, audiovisual equipment is being installed, and television units are being set up in the Police briefing rooms and Council Chambers.

Director Gottgetreu elaborated on the importance of reviewing the changes in person rather than solely relying on paper documents. He emphasized the significance of making adjustments to ensure a well-designed project in the end. Director Gottgetreu mentioned there were issues with the faucets in the restroom not aligning correctly over the basin as expected. Consequently, they were returned and reordered, leading to an additional deposit requirement. He emphasized that while these adjustments may incur extra costs, they are essential for ensuring a more functional building in the long run.

Councilor Hammond asked about the manual transfer switch or the generator stating he assumed it would be an automatic transfer switch.

Director Gottgetreu answered yes there will be a manual transfer switch although he is unclear how it will play into the system.

Councilor Sutton reiterated that it is a building code requirement to have both manual and automatic switches.

A motion was made by Councilor Newton to ratify the City Manager amendments to the construction contact with Corp Inc. from \$15,361,941.84 to \$15,414,889.04, an increase of \$52,947.20. Councilor Sutton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

5.5 Discussion on "20 is Plenty" Speed Limit Reductions from 25 MPH to 20 MPH on Local Residential Streets – City Manager Cory Misley.

City Manager Misley went over his staff report mentioning in 2019, the State Legislature granted cities the authority to designate speed limits five (5) miles per hour lower than statutory limits on non-arterial streets in full residential districts. He noted that some cities have utilized this reduction, which has been coined as "20 is plenty," indicating that 20 miles per hour is considered fast enough for vehicles on local residential streets to travel, particularly in terms of associated safety benefits.

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) briefly discussed this concept at their January 29th meeting. While there was partial support for the concept, many questions were raised regarding the area it would cover, associated costs, and the tangible impact it would have. There was a suggestion to have Council consider the concept further and decide whether to proceed, potentially directing TAC to delve deeper into the parameters of the potential shift.

City Manager Misley went on to explain the graphs provided in the staff report regarding statistics of visual clearance and survival rates at various speeds.

Mayor Freilinger asked what happens if a street has commercial on one side and residential on the other.

City Manager Misley stated that he was not sure, but his guess was that it would not apply. Councilor Sutton inquired if a street that did not fall under these requirements could be included in this initiative.

City Manager Misley responded, noting that as Council recently experienced with the reduction requests and studies associated with South Water, it's a complicated and prescriptive process even for local streets. Prior to the legislation, cities couldn't lower speed limits below 25 mph, and even with the new legislation, certain parameters still apply. If the City wanted to pursue this approach, it would likely involve applying a blanket speed limit reduction across all local streets it applied to. City Manager Misley added that this would be a systemic change that requires time and energy in terms of signage and other considerations, and it will take some time to roll out.

City Manager Misley stated staff is seeking to determine if Council is interested in pursuing this initiative further and if they would like the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) to conduct a more in-depth analysis within certain parameters to ascertain its feasibility and applicability to Silverton.

Councilor Sutton asked if this would add extra pressure to the Silverton Police Department.

Silverton Police Chief Anglemier emphasized that the implementation of this initiative would require an initial focus on educating residents through public service announcements and warnings rather than issuing citations right away.

Council engaged in a brief discussion regarding the effects of the speed reduction on South Water Street.

Councilor Traeger inquired about the availability of funds in the "20 is Plenty" initiative for this project, highlighting the expense for new signage stating the need for budgetary consideration.

City Manager Misley mentioned that there isn't any state, federal, or nonprofit funding associated with the initiative, but he agreed that other than staff time, the primary cost for implementation would be signage.

Councilor Miller expressed full support for the initiative, citing the clear evidence of injury reduction associated with lower speed limits. He noted that the Council has heard a lot from residents about this issue. However, he also emphasized the importance of considering individuals who commute through or around the area, as the lower speed limits may slow them down.

Council agrees and would like to move forward with this idea.

City Manager Misley asked how in-depth Council would like TAC to spend on this.

Councilor Miller added that he would like the information to come back to TAC written as an ordinance.

City Manager Misley sought clarification on the appropriate response if the TAC requests more information or statistics on the matter. He suggested that his response to them would be, no, that Council sees value in the initiative, even if it only results in a slight reduction in speeds.

Councilor Newton sought clarification on the specific aspect that Council is asking the TAC to weigh in on at this point, given that Council has already decided to move forward with the initiative.

Councilor Miller suggested that the only task for the TAC would be to wordsmith the ordinance, similar to the one implemented by Tigard.

Council reached a consensus not to send this matter to the TAC but to provide them with an update indicating that Council supports the initiative, and that implementation will proceed.

VI. CONSENT

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton to approve the Consent Agenda including agenda items 6.1-6.2. Councilor Miller seconded. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

6.1 Transfer Resolution No. 24-03 – A Transfer Resolution to Increase the Facilities Maintenance Appropriation.

6.2 Extension of Agreement with Silverton Area Seniors Inc. (SASI)

VII. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Freilinger conducted interviews with candidates for various committees, including the Transportation Advisory Committee, the Affordable Housing Task Force, the Budget Committee, and the Tourism Promotion Committee. Based on these interviews, he recommended the following candidates for appointment:

- Carl Krigbaum for the Transportation Advisory Committee.
- Rebecca Delmar for the Affordable Housing Task Force.
- Peter Hulseman for the Budget Committee.
- Becky Ludden for the Silverton Chamber Seat on the Tourism Promotion Committee.
- Norm English for the Mural Society for the Tourism Promotion Committee.

Mayor Freilinger added that there are two positions on the Tourism Promotion Committee that he is still working on and will bring his recommendations back in April. Adding that all of these positions end on December 31, 2026

A motion was made by Councilor Miller to appoint Carl Kirgbaum to the Transportation Committee, Rebecca Delmar to the Affordable Housing Task Force, Peter Hussleman to the Budget Committee, Becky Ludden to the Tourism Promotion Committee, and Norm English to the Tourism Promotion Committee with terms ending in December 2026. Councilor Sutton seconded. There was no discussion. Freilinger, Traeger, Sutton, Miller, Newton, and Hammond voted aye; the motion carried (6-0-1).

VIII. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Misley expressed his opinion that it would be beneficial to have the City Attorney, Ashleigh Dougill, continue to attend some meetings. He highlighted the potential benefits of her input and the importance of building rapport with her in the context of a new arrangement. Additionally, he mentioned that she is planning to participate in the joint meeting with the Planning Commission.

City Manager Misley continued by expressing his observation that there has been a significant amount of turnover, and certain ongoing projects, such as those related to the Oregon Gardens or the Pettit Lake area, have roots stretching back decades. He emphasized that there is a lack of alignment regarding the current status and future direction of these projects among stakeholders. Misley stressed the importance of taking significant time to become familiar with the history of these projects to establish a better baseline before moving forward with any efforts. Misley added that he is unsure about the timing of when these tasks will be undertaken but emphasized the significant amount of staff time required to compile the necessary information for these work sessions. To facilitate this, he would like to continue scheduling meeting dates as both work sessions and regular sessions. This approach allows for in-depth discussions on various topics, providing education while still ensuring that items can be approved, similar to the upcoming Joint City Council and Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for March 18th.

City Manager went on to state the City did get out an Request For Proposals (RFP) for the Pickleball and Pettit Trail design and received four (4) proposals in response and have scored them and have been in negotiations with the top scoring firm. Although they had tentatively planned to bring the contract to this meeting, additional discussions were needed around the scope and associated price it is slated to come before Council during the March 18, 2024, meeting.

City Manager Misley mentioned that the joint Silver Falls School Board meeting scheduled for April 8, 2024, is still on the agenda. He is actively working to schedule a meeting with the Superintendent, Chair, and/or Vice Chair to discuss potential agenda items for the upcoming joint meeting.

City Manager Misley added we are continuing to work on staffing, filling vacancies, and ensuring that our team is running smoothly to handle the workload. However, we are currently at a fragile point in terms of bandwidth and capacity, trying to navigate all the ongoing tasks and prepare for the upcoming year.

Councilor Sutton proposed the idea of inviting former councilors to discussions or conversations as an educational tool to provide historical context and bring current councilors and staff up to speed on projects such as Pettit Trails and Pickleball.

City Manager Misley responded, expressing that while inviting former councilors could provide valuable historical context and perspectives, it could also introduce additional viewpoints and memories that might cloud the current council's authority to make decisions. He implied that while the input could be beneficial to some extent, it's essential to maintain clarity and focus on the current council's responsibilities and decision-making process. Misley gave an example of Pettit Lake and pulling out the history of what exactly the family conveyed when it changed hand from the family to the City.

Councilor Newton asked City Manager Misley who determines how City Council meetings operate, particularly in reference to Misley's suggestion of treating each meeting as both a work session and a regular meeting rather than solely one or the other.

City Manager Misley stated that the guidelines for City Council meetings are outlined in the Council Rules and Procedures. However, Council has the authority to modify and update these rules as needed. He mentioned that in Sisters, the usual practice was to allocate an hour for a work session followed by a regular meeting. However, the duration of each segment can vary depending on the complexity of the agenda items being discussed.

Councilor Newton asked if that change was something that Council could discuss.

Mayor Freilinger affirmed that the Mayor's role involves collaborating with the City Manager to develop the agenda. He noted that according to council protocols, there is typically a general meeting followed by a work session. Mayor Freilinger acknowledged that City Manager Misley has proposed splitting the meetings, and while he is open to the idea, he wanted to gauge Council's readiness for this change. He expressed that he sees potential efficiency gains but wanted to ensure Council's agreement before proceeding.

City Manager Misley suggested that this could be an opportune time, following the League of Oregon Cities training, to convene a work session to discuss the Council Rules and Procedures, possibly during the 18th of March meeting. This would allow for dialogue and ensure that Council is in agreement with the proposed changes. He suggested aiming for this discussion sometime in the Spring, indicating that it would be an appropriate time to consider implementing any adjustments to the meeting structure.

Council engaged in a discussion about how to incorporate public comment effectively into meetings without causing

residents to wait for extended periods or disrupting the flow of the meeting. Council also discussed the importance of balancing the need for public input with the efficiency of the meeting process.

Councilor Traeger asked if there was an update regarding the lease with the community center.

City Manager Misley said he has been in continuous communication with the current tenants but has not received a response yet from the Oregon Military Department. He will follow up on this matter and bring it back to the next meeting.

IX. COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Council Traeger said there is a Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow and the Silverton girls' basketball team has made it to State. They play on Thursday at 1:30 p.m. at Linfield University.

Councilor Miller would like direction and city staff whether it could be appropriate for the TAC meeting to take on the adopted Council Goals and look at the Transportation Master Plan to see if they recommend revision of the properties.

City Manager Misley expressed his belief that any substantial changes to the pedestrian infrastructure should be made carefully and thoughtfully, in collaboration with Public Works, the City Engineer, and other transportation partners. However, in the short term, he mentioned a concept that has been discussed, which is the pedestrian crossing flag program, stating that if the TAC is interested in exploring this further, it could be beneficial.

Mayor Freilinger asked when the next TAC meeting is scheduled for.

City Manager Misley mentioned that during the TAC meeting on January 29th, they discussed not meeting in February but meeting in March, and not meeting in April but meeting in May. This aligns with the approval of the goals and occurs after the budget meetings. Misley further elaborated that he believes this is one of the conversations that needs to be had, similar to discussions about the frequency of work sessions and the structure of meetings. It's essential to determine how items between the commission, subcommittees, and the Council can work together efficiently.

City Manager Milsey and Councilor Miller will work together on this.

Councilor Newton stated that the Meals on Wheels is back up and running out of one of the churches.

Councilor Sutton said the 6th grade girls' basketball team are second time state champions.

Mayor Freilinger expressed his recognition of the challenges the city staff has faced with turnover over the past few years, which has impacted operational efficiency. He thanked City Manager Misley and the Department Heads for their efforts in addressing these challenges and navigating through changes together. He acknowledged the hard work and dedication of the staff in overcoming obstacles and expressed gratitude for their commitment to the city's efficiency and success.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/Jamie Ward – Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk